



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT**

December 8, 2022

**GENERAL MEMORANDUM NO. 239 – 22**

To: Secretary of Samoan Affairs, CEOs, President and Executive Directors of Authorities, Directors, Agency and Office Heads

From: Governor of American Samoa

Subject: Indo-Pacific Climate Change Risks

The U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) has initiated Engagement Code 106236 on addressing climate change risks in the Indo Pacific region. The Chairmen of the House Committees on Natural Resources and on Foreign Affairs along with several Representatives including Uifaatali Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen have tasked the work to begin, as authorized by 31 U.S.C. §717. The engagement will review what assistance the U.S. Government has provided to Bangladesh, the Maldives, Pacific Island countries and U.S. Territories in the Pacific; the effectiveness of U.S. assistance; and what additional actions the U.S. can take to provide support combatting climate change risks.

The standard entrance call is scheduled for 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, in the Governor's Office Conference Room. Pursuant to Executive Order 10-21, the Resilience Commission Chaired by Lieutenant Governor will lead this engagement. Resilience Commission members are hereby notified to be present for this call. I ask for your coordinated efforts to ensure timely response to meet the federal requirements of this GAO notice.

LEMANU P. S. MAUGA  
Governor

Encl: Letter from U.S. Government Accountability Office



441 G St. N.W.  
Washington, DC 20548

December 1, 2022

The Honorable Lemanu Palepoi Sialega Mauga  
Governor  
American Samoa

Dear Governor Mauga,

This letter is to inform you of a new U.S. Government Accountability Office engagement on Indo-Pacific Climate Change Risks—code 106236. The enclosure provides information on the engagement and points of contact for the engagement. If we determine it is necessary to visit locations other than those specified in the enclosure, we will advise you.

We would appreciate your notifying the appropriate officials of this work. The next step will be to set up an entrance conference. At that meeting, we will request that your office identify a point of contact for this engagement.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jason Bair". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke above the name.

Jason Bair  
Managing Director, International Affairs and Trade

Enclosure

cc: Tuimavave Tauapa'l Laupola, Governor's Office  
Joseph Pereira, Governor's Office  
Blanche Lulu Barber, American Samoa Economic Development Authority

Enclosure

Information on New Engagement

Engagement subject: Indo-Pacific Climate Change Risks

Engagement code: 106236

Source for the work: GAO's work is done pursuant to its authority under 31 U.S.C. § 717. GAO is beginning this work in response to a request by Chairman Raul M. Grijalva of the House Committee on Natural Resources; Chairman Gregory W. Meeks of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs; and Representatives Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan, Katie Porter, Aumua Amata Coleman Radewagen, Michael San Nicolas, and Ed Case.

Preliminary Issue(s) under review/Objective(s)/Key question(s):

1. What, if any, assistance have U.S. government departments and agencies provided to assist Bangladesh, the Maldives, Pacific Island countries, and U.S. territories in the Pacific in addressing climate risks?
2. What is known about the effectiveness of U.S. government assistance to Bangladesh, the Maldives, Pacific Island countries, and U.S. territories in the Pacific to address climate risks?
3. What additional actions can U.S. government departments and agencies take to support Bangladesh, the Maldives, Pacific Island countries, and U.S. territories in the Pacific in combatting climate change risks?

Agencies and anticipated locations (HQ and field) to be notified: Departments of the Interior and State, and the U.S. Agency for International Development, Washington, D.C. We anticipate contacting additional agencies as the work progresses

Other territories to be notified: The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and Guam

Estimated start date for the work: Immediately

Time frame for holding the entrance conference: As soon as possible

GAO Team(s) performing the engagement: International Affairs and Trade

GAO contacts:

Latesha Love-Grayer, Director, 202-512-4409, [lovegrayerl@gao.gov](mailto:lovegrayerl@gao.gov)  
Joseph Carney, Assistant Director, 202-512-5605, [carneyj@gao.gov](mailto:carneyj@gao.gov)  
Su Jin Yon, Analyst-in-Charge, 202-512-3693, [yons@gao.gov](mailto:yons@gao.gov)  
Rachel Girshick, Senior Analyst, 202-512-4462, [girshickr@gao.gov](mailto:girshickr@gao.gov)