

U.K. survey looks at violence in Samoa's villages

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An English university will start its survey of 10 Samoan villages as part of research to develop an indigenous approach to preventing violence against women.

It is called the E.V.E Project (Evidence for Violence Prevention in the Extreme) and will specifically target eight villages in Upolu and two in Savai'i.

Lead researcher Dr. Jenevieve Mannell of University College London conducted a training workshop for enumerators referred from the Samoa Bureau of Statistics (SBS) to administer the Samoa Village Health Survey.

The workshop was for the enumerators to learn about the purpose of the survey, to understand the roles and responsibilities of being an enumerator, and to discuss safety and ethical concerns relating to the survey. A memorandum of understanding was also signed between the Samoa Victim Support Group (S.V.S.G.) and the Samoa Bureau of Statistics (S.B.S.) to ensure that the survey will be administered in accordance with the Samoa Statistics Act 2015.

The purpose of the survey is to understand the effectiveness of an intervention designed through the work of the E.V.E. Team. A combination of male and female enumerators will be divided into two teams to administer the survey mid-De-



ember 2022.

According to the S.V.S.G. President Siliniu Lina Chang the objective of the survey is to understand and eliminate violence against women and data collection is very important.

She said the project will also provide answers to the cultural approaches and what intervention methods would be used.

"The training of the enumerators for the Samoa Village Health Survey is part of S.V.S.G.s 16 Days of Activism activity given the importance of the data collected from this survey and its contribution to the development of an intervention to reduce violence and improve the lives of women in Samoa," Siliniu said.

The E.V.E. Project is a research study led by the University College London and implemented in Samoa by the S.V.S.G. together with the National University of Samoa (N.U.S.) and the S.B.S.

The project is funded by UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) in the United Kingdom. The survey will take 20 days in total and is spread over a two-month period (end of November 2022 - January 2023).

Enumerators being trained by English university on Saturday.
Photographer: Supplied