

## **WORLD OZONE DAY: 15<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017**



The commemoration of the World Ozone Day 2017 saw a partnership between the Department of Environment (leading & implementing agency of Ozone Protection), various stakeholders ranging from Customs and Technicians and the avid young people of Niue Primary School and Early Childhood Education.

The theme "Leveki mo e Puipui e tau mena MOMOUI OTI i lalo he Laā" loosely translated as 'Protection of all living things under the sun' was the theme of the activities for the day.

Ozone Protection has been one of the primary focal areas of the Department of Environment. As it is a primary concern for the welfare of all citizens now and the future, an integration of education is an important component in raising awareness and educating the young people of this issue.

The day was coordinated and facilitated by the Ozone Officer Ms. Emeline Laufoli with support from the Director and staff of the Department of Environment and the key stakeholders of Ozone Protection in Niue.



Posters were on display highlighting the understanding of the young people regarding the protection of the ozone layer. This is particularly important as the protection of the ozone layer and the environment does not only involve the key government agencies responsible for driving and implementing the work, but also village and community groups in which the children are a part of.



The songs, poems and dances of the day was centred around the children's' understanding of the ozone layer and ways of protecting it.



This basic knowledge embedded into their learning not only educates the young people in protecting the ozone layer but also in terms of understanding the consequences of their actions such as the burning of plastics, the use of substances that releases greenhouse gas and so forth.



Protecting the ozone layer is also a reflection of Niue's climate change work and their efforts to address greenhouse gas emissions. Although we do not emit as much greenhouse gas emissions, we are committed to our pledge under the Paris Agreement and are determined to ensure a sustainable future for our young people.

**Acknowledgements:** Sauni Tongatule (Director, Environment), Eme Laufoli (Ozone Project Coordinator), Logo Seumanu, Department of Environment, Ministry of Natural Resources, ECE/Niue Primary School, Village Communities, Government Partners, Government of Niue, UNEP (United Nation Environment Programme) . National Ozone Officer sincerely thanks the UNEP for continuing provide fund for management the Ozone International Day.