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## **ASG Department of Homeland Security and the Cyber Security and Infrastructure Agency Host Territory's First Regional Resiliency Assessment Program**



On Wednesday, January 24, 2024, the American Samoa Government (ASG) Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in partnership with the Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) hosted American Samoa's first ever Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP).

The Regional Resiliency Assessment Program (RRAP) is a voluntary, cooperative, and holistic assessment of specific critical infrastructure that identifies a range of security issues with regionally or nationally significant consequences. The goal of the RRAP is to generate greater understanding and action among public and private sector partners to improve the resilience of a region's critical infrastructure.

The program began with special remarks delivered by Governor Lemanu P. S. Mauga as he noted that "For the people of American Samoa, this is a test to bring new insight into the territory to aid in building stronger communications regarding the resilience levels of local infrastructure." The remarks were followed by CISA/DHS representative of American Samoa Gen Tamura's opening keynote speech. In his speech, Representative Tamura congratulated American Samoa stating that "...American Samoa was selected this year, and it is an opportune time for us to understand and scope out the projects properly, and provide a product to American Samoa that is useful."

The RRAP was designed to help better understand the importance of cybersecurity in the hopes that the findings can be applied to the territory's services. To accomplish this, the RRAP:

- Resolves infrastructure security and resilience knowledge gaps
- Informs risk management decisions
- Identifies opportunities and strategies to enhance infrastructure resilience
- Improves critical partnership among the public and private sectors

The culminating result of RRAP activities, research, and analysis is presented in a Resiliency Assessment report documenting project findings that will highlight key knowledge gaps and respective potential solutions.

The program helped establish a coordinated environment for all attendees and encouraged engagement in elaborate discussions addressing many possible scenarios that would challenge American Samoa's cybersecurity framework. During the program, attendees were able to ask questions and apply aspects of the island's safety measures as decision-making tools that will help them navigate future cybersecurity challenges.

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