

## **Unit Trust of Samoa (Trust) – The Trust and the Unit Trust of Samoa (Management) Limited**

An article published on the 5<sup>th</sup> of May 2019 titled “*Unit Trust of Samoa’s profit drops by \$78,628*” by the Samoa Observer stands to be corrected. The headline of the article should have been more correctly worded as “Unit Trust of Samoa (Management) Limited’s profit drops by \$78,628”. This seems to be a common misconception between the two - Unit Trust of Samoa (Trust) and Unit Trust of Samoa (Management) Limited.

The Unit Trust of Samoa (Trust) or UTOS as it is commonly known was established under the Unit Trust Act 2008. The Act states that any Unit Trust must have a Manager and a Trustee. The Manager is UTOS (Management) Limited. The Trustee is an Independent Trustee Company.

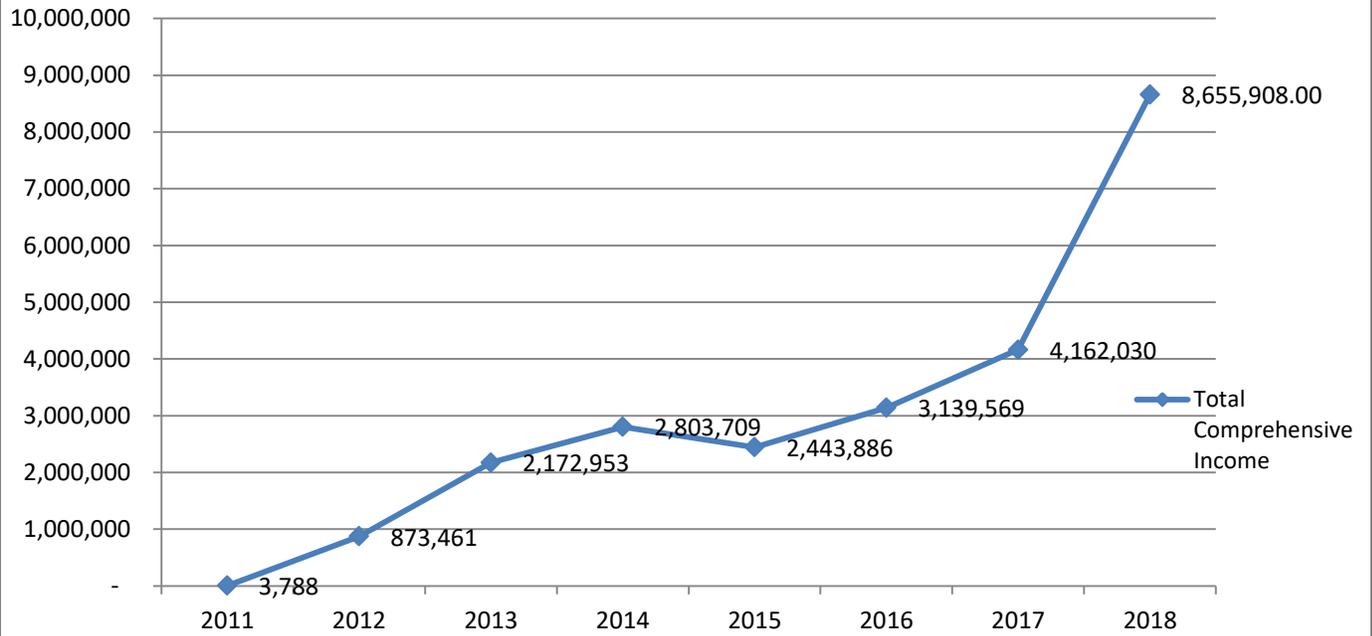
UTOS (Management) Limited is a government state owned enterprise (SOE) that has been tasked to manage UTOS (the Trust). UTOS (Management) is responsible for the trading of units, enticing Samoan nationals to buy units, and prudently investing unitholder funds with the goal of managing a diversified portfolio of investments.

UTOS (Trust) is a private trust owned by the unitholders with its assets entrusted to a Trustee Company which holds in trust the funds of the unit holders. These funds are invested in a diversified portfolio of assets ranging from term deposits, government securities and shares in privately owned companies. Its social objective is inclusivity; allowing for accessible and affordable investment for ordinary Samoans. Its commercial objective is to generate returns for the unit holders.

For the information of all UTOS stakeholders; the article in question did not clearly state as to which entity its performance was being reported on. A brief overview of the performance of both entities related to the Unit Trust of Samoa are detailed below.

**The Unit Trust of Samoa (Trust):** The UTOS (Trust) recorded a Total Comprehensive Income for the year ending June 2018 of \$8,655,908 compared to the \$4,162,030 recorded in financial year ending June 2017 which reflects a 107.97% increase in profitability. The profitability of the Trust Fund has continued to provide unitholders with satisfactory returns on their investment with the fund having declared a 10 sene dividend distribution last year in June 2018, which was an increase from 9 sene paid out in 2017.

### Unit Trust of Samoa (Trust) Financial Performance



**The Unit Trust of Samoa (Management) Ltd:** The UTOS (Management) Ltd recorded the net profit drop of \$78,628. This was mainly due to an increase in expenditure by 19% compared to 2017 thus impacting net profit for the financial year ending June 2018. The expenses relate directly to improvement in systems required to provide a more efficient and effective level of service to the unitholders.

