

Flows Like Water

An employee's story – Siatua Lautau,
Revenue Agent, Watercare Services

Siatua Lautau's name flows just like water. And so has her search for a job here in New Zealand which thanks to New Kiwis service, has seen her make the seamless transition from working with an organisation providing watercare services in Samoa, to her new position with Watercare Services Ltd, here in Auckland.

Siatua immigrated to NZ with her nephew, partner and younger sister just before Christmas 2014 and they are now living with her older brother and older sister who had migrated to NZ earlier.

Siatua's parents have remained in Samoa but now that she and her sister are here, her younger sister can go to school in New Zealand.

To make sure that they would be secure in New Zealand, Siatua began applying for jobs from July while she was still in Samoa. She attended an ARMS workshop in February where she learnt about the New Kiwis programme.

"I found the CV templates to be especially useful because they helped me to present my CV in a way that kiwi employers wanted. In Samoa the standard way to write your CV is to have lots of words – the more words the better because it shows you are more competent in using and speaking English! But New Kiwis taught me that I needed to be much more specific and targeted in the information I presented and it had to relate to the job I was applying for. The best thing was that after I had reviewed and re-written my CV on the New Kiwis template I got my first interview!"

Siatua adds, "Cheng helped me prepare for the interview as I was very nervous. Also, I was very keen to work for Watercare because I had worked in a similar organisation in Samoa, so it was important to me to do really well.

One of the best things since I started working for Watercare has been seeing that all the things we were working so hard to establish in Samoa are already up and working here in New Zealand – it feels great to know that we were on the right track!"

Siatua explains that since starting work she is still in her trial period. She feels like she is just sponging up as much information as she can from everyone she meets.

"I am determined they will like me and keep me on after my three months is up!"

Interview with Siatua Lautau conducted by Rebecca Hendl-Smith, Auckland Chamber of Commerce, in April 2014.



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The New Kiwis website and service is a nationwide employment initiative designed to connect new and returning Kiwis with employers via the Chamber of Commerce brand and networks. The website can be used autonomously or additional support and services for both job seekers and employers can be accessed by calling **0800 709 907** or email newkiwis@chamber.co.nz.

New Kiwis initiative is a partnership between Immigration New Zealand and the Auckland Chamber of Commerce.