

between the lines

NZ Product Accelerator

^{NZ} Product Accelerator is a MBIE funded programme

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Pushing back the frontiers ..

Transforming Waste in the Pacific with 3D Printing

Victoria University School of Design, a key member of NZProduct Accelerator is at the forefront of 3D printing technology and now one of their students is applying this new technology to revolutionise recycling in Samoa.

In a project developed by a Victoria University of Wellington student, IT and digital technology classrooms in lowerdecile schools will be taught innovative ways to help the Samoan economy and environment.

The project, entitled *Renewing Materials* was inspired by a trip to Samoa by Lionel Taito-Matamua, a Masters Student, after witnessing the huge and dangerous impact plastic waste is having on the island. Inadequate machinery to process and recycle materials added to the 760,000 tonnes of recyclable waste that goes untreated.

Lionel will implement the year-long project starting with year 9 and 10 students from Taita College. If the initial lesson plans are successful then Lionel's project will see a nationwide roll-out within the next two years.

The technology and skills help to better their community, and Lionel is hoping these will also inspire more students to seek tertiary education in science and design.

More info:

<http://www.mindfood.com/article/local-schools-turn-to-the-digital-world-to-curb-plastic-waste-in-samoa/>



Collaboration gets it done..

Product Accelerator Team-Key Contributors to the National Science Challenge

Science and Innovation Minister Stephen Joyce recently launched the National Science Challenge for Technical Innovation at the University of Auckland Newmarket campus.

The challenge is the seventh of NZ's 11 National Science Challenges to be launched and it aims to develop new and innovative technologies to create commercially successful breakthrough products.



Many of our network members are involved in this challenge particularly utilising 3D printing technologies with biopolymers. Full Press Release

<https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/national-science-challenge-technological-innovation>

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