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Press Release

Sustainable Livelihood Project Graduation

More than 60 students graduated under Fiji National University's Sustainable Livelihood Project last week at Vunisea Secondary School.

Special Assistant to the Vice Chancellor, Alifereti Cawanibuka said the graduation marked an important and historical occasion for the people in this beautiful Island of Kadavu.

"This is the first graduation ceremony for students who have successfully completed a two week course under Sustainable Livelihood Project and received their certificates in OHS Electrical Safety, Cooks Refresher Stage One, Small Engines repair and Basic Carpentry," he said.

He said the above four courses are now offered at the FNU Centre based at Vunisea Secondary School. In addition some requests have been received by the Manager, Sustainable Livelihood Project, Mr Seru Mataidrau to include Fibre Glass Repairs at the Centre.

"We are working in collaboration with the Ministry of Education through Vunisea Secondary School as part of the University's Sustainable Livelihood Project," he said.

The project which is supported by the Government will establish short term livelihood training in 70 different livelihood skills for people in rural and maritime areas throughout Fiji.

"The training in Kadavu is the first of its kind involving qualified staff from Fiji National University to actually come and deliver the courses to the participants who have responded to the Training Need Analysis Forms distributed by the Kadavu Provincial Office and Vunisea Secondary School," he said.

Mr Cawanibuka said FNU was using Kadavu as a pilot project.

"The Sustainable Livelihood Project is going to benefit the people of Kadavu in their new initiatives towards economic development," he said.

According to Mr Cawanibuka, there will be no charges for most of the courses offered and students are only required to get their own materials for training and making their own arrangements for accommodation.

"The provision for technical education and training to the Rural/Island dwellers in the form of short term is tailor-made to their needs. This would help them to take advantage of the opportunities that are available to them for their sustainable development which ensures a bright future," he said.

He said the training would also be geared towards empowering the trainees with skills to become meaningfully self-employed.

For comments, please contact Mr Alifereti Cawanibuka on (9768000) or Mr Seru Mataidrau on 9049933