

**Tuesday 5 June, 2018**

**PRESS RELEASE**

**FNU Natabua Campus pledges to become environmental friendly**

**Lautoka, Fiji Islands.** “Nature’s gifts are rare and cannot be purchased. It is important that each one of us realize this before it’s too late.”

This was the message delivered by Rupeni Mario, Specialist in Climate Change Mitigation at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Program (SPREP), during the World Environment Day celebrations held at the Fiji National University (FNU), Natabua Campus today.

Mario said over the years, human activities have caused massive pollution and degradation that has harshly affected our delicate eco-system.

“The damage has become so severe, that the whole world has come together to stop any further damage as our continued survival is at risk,” said Mario.

Fiji is proud to be the President of COP23 that leads the fight against climate change and ensures that the voices of vulnerable Island nations are heard on the global stage.

Mario stressed that everyone plays a role, whether they reside in a first or third world nation, if we are to ensure that our planet remains habitable in the future.

“Life can be very simple and fulfilling if we follow certain principles; these simple formulas cost no money and involve no hassles yet prove to be very effective,” said Mario.

The FNU Natabua Campus staff and students took a pledge to become a sustainable and environmentally friendly university campus in Fiji and the South Pacific.

The committee has pledged to:

- Reduce our energy consumption and associated carbon emissions
- Minimise our use of water
- Implement a waste minimization strategy and maintain a high recycling rate
- Organise and maintain native tree afforestation and man-grove forest rehabilitation
- Organise and lead campus clean up campaigns on a quarterly basis
- Promote and support sustainable developments and projects on campus
- Put procedures in place to implement sustainable construction and green procurement
- Preserve and enhance the biodiversity of the estate
- Empower and motivate staff, students and stakeholders through appropriate environmental education and communication.

Acting Dean, College of Humanities and Education, Professor Unaisi Baba encouraged students to be environmentally conscious and pledge to keep it safe for our future generations.

“The environment should be taken care all through the life and this is only possible if we are active to bring some positive changes within ourselves and environment,” she said.

For more information contact: **Saleshni Chaudhary** | Marketing & Events Officer - West | P: +679 666 7355 | Ext: 7097 | [saleshni.chaudhary@fnu.ac.fj](mailto:saleshni.chaudhary@fnu.ac.fj)

**About the Fiji National University:** The Fiji National University (FNU) was established through the merger of 7 government-owned tertiary institutions in Fiji, and commenced operations from 1 January 2010. The constituent institutions are found at over 40 different locations across Fiji, and collectively offer Certificates, Diplomas, Advanced Diplomas, Degrees, Postgraduate qualifications and Skills Upgrading for those who are already in employment. Approximately 30,000 students pass through the University each year. Over the last six years of its operations, the University has registered major achievements with regard to new programme delivery, quality improvements and contribution to research and publications via its 5 Colleges: The College of Humanities & Education (CHE), the College of Medicine, Nursing & Health Sciences (CMNHS), the College of Engineering, Science & Technology (CEST), the College of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry (CAFF), the College of Business, Hospitality & Tourism Studies (CBHTS) and the National Training & Productivity Centre (NTPC).