

International recognition strengthens role - Fiji Times Online



Vilisi Raga, left, and Losana Dioi with their handicraft items during this year's National Women's Expo at the Vodafone Arena, Suva. Picture: SOLOMONE RABULU

MORE than 250 women from the rural outskirts of Lautoka gathered on Thursday to mark International Day of Rural Women at the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND) Fiji headquarters in Tuvu.

The women marked the special day with information sessions and human rights workshops hosted by the Fiji Human Rights Commission.

FRIEND Fiji founder and director Sashi Kiran said it was important to always recognise the value of a rural woman.

"Sometimes they don't think of themselves as important but they really are very important in any given society because of their contribution towards the development and upbringing of a community," she said.

"Women are generally important but urban women have more venues to voice their issues."