

## NGO, villages team up to plant trees

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THE Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND) has teamed up with a number of villages in Lautoka for a new tree planting exercise that focuses on protecting communities from soil erosion.

FRIEND director Sashi Kiran said the planting of tavola trees was carried out in two communities last Friday to mark World Environment Day 2016.

Yesterday, a similar program was organised in Naviyago Village.

"Tavola is a wild nut that grows well near water systems and the tree is also known as wild almond in Fiji and its trunk is widely used for Fijian lali," she said.

She said the project had been received favourably by men, women and youth of the different villages.

"The planting campaign is just a start and other interested communities will also be accommodated in the coming weeks."