

## FRIEND Calls For Pesticide Law Review



Participants during the launch of pesticides regulation launch at Holiday Inn Suva yesterday. Photo: Shahani Mala.

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by Shahani Mala, SUVA

In a bid to create awareness on the use of pesticides, the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND), launched its campaign for the review of regulations on Pesticides for Public Health at the Holiday Inn Suva, yesterday.

FRIEND associate director Jone Hawea said: “The reason for this launch is to start the campaign against the usage of pesticides in Fiji.

“Existing regulations need to be reviewed and we want to get to the Prime Minister’s Office to act on these regulations.

“The use of pesticides is a major concern because there is high usage by people and there is no monitoring institution.”

He claims there was no regulation on the use of pesticides either for health or environment in Fiji.

“These pesticides cause cancer and other non-communicable diseases.”

FRIEND is said to be the first non-government organisation here to observe that there is extensive use of pesticides in communities and lack of awareness on its health effects.

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