



# Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises & Development

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## MEDIA RELEASE

The theme ‘ Lets Go Wild for Life’ this Environment Day works well in promoting biodiversity in our communities that will encourage sustainable resource management including food production.

To mark the World Environment FRIEND has launched its ‘Farm to Table Organic project’ in partnership with Pacific Organic and Ethical Trade Community (POETCom).

The project funded by UNDP will train 300 youths in organic farm management in the Western division and will work towards livelihood with short and medium crops.

A key part of organic farming is to encourage biodiversity in weed control and pest management FRIEND Founder/Director Sashi Kiran says, “This is all about building on increasing the bio diversity of crops, farmers are growing in the country. Fiji has a land rich for agriculture and the more we are able to grow, this will mean variety for food sustainability, better soil and water management as well as strong biodiversity that could help manage weed and pests giving a helping hand in organic agriculture .”

Community consultations for this project has begun and youths who express interest will start receiving technical support by next month.

Farm to Table Project is part of the two year project implemented with the support of UN Sustainable Development Goal Fund and IFAD. Engaging youth in Fiji, Samoa and Vanuatu in Organic Farming is the only SDF-F project in the Pacific Islands.

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