

University takes conservation lead role

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THE University of Fiji says it will continue taking a lead role in advocating environment awareness and conservation.

This comes as the institution celebrated World Environment Day by organising a tree-planting session and a clean-up campaign at its Saweni campus yesterday.

Project co-ordinator Priyatma Singh said World Environment Day was set aside for people to think about their environment and take action to make a positive difference.

"Some people take their environment for granted, which is why I think it is important to take time out to talk about environmental issues and become agents of change," she said.

"It is celebrated as a way to raise awareness about things that affect the world and the environment. I feel this is an important thing to do as it provides a chance for us to show what kinds of things we can do as individuals and groups to protect our environment."

Throughout the celebration, students and staff were educated on endangered species found in the country by the university's biodiversity and conservation students.

Participants also planted tavola trees in partnership with the Foundation for Rural Integrated Enterprises and Development (FRIEND).

Ms Singh said tavola trees were planted to reduce soil erosion.