



## Asian Productivity Organization “The APO in the News”

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### Workshop for rural upgrade

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DAMAGE to the land and environment stems from a combination of ignorance, bad planning and the selfish pursuit of short-term gains by some entrepreneurs.

Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations Jioji Konrote said this while addressing a rural entrepreneurship training workshop in Nadi on Monday.

The meeting is facilitated by the Asian Productivity Organisation and the Fiji National University.

Mr Konrote said the Government was very much aware of this problem in Fiji.

"It is, therefore, very supportive of such an Asian Productivity Organisation training course which is primarily aimed at addressing the issue to improve awareness," he said.

Alongside awareness, Mr Konrote said participants would also be able to understand the applications of various tools and techniques in strategic planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of rural entrepreneurship development projects.

He said rural development is a challenging issue.

"For small island economies like ourselves, with limited resources and market size and faced with the challenges of globalisation and the impacts of climate change, the problems and threats to our ability to compete with developed countries are indeed very real and acute."

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*Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations Jioji Konrote says rural development is a challenging issue. Picture: FT File*