



Asian Productivity Organization “The APO in the News”

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Page: p. 1-2



Director Town and Country Planning, Ministry of Local Government, Housing and Environment, Ms Losana Rokotuibau (*gartanded*), FNU Chancellor Mr Ikbai Jannif (*5th from left*) with participants at the Green Productivity training.

FNU Commits to Greener Fiji

Around 600 practitioners, consultants, trainers, instructors, environmental officers have been trained by the National Training and Productivity Centre (NTPC) in the areas of Green Productivity and Environmental Management.

Fiji National University Chancellor Ikbai Jannif said NTPC aimed to train as many as possible to the extent that it has also sent participants from Fiji to be trained overseas in the Asia Productivity Organisation (APO) member countries.

He said NTPC has placed a strong emphasis on the development of “Green Productivity for Green Inclusive Development: A Commitment today for a greener tomorrow” not only in Fiji but the Pacific as a whole.

“We are very conscious that this event is principally designed to strengthen the understanding of Green Productivity (GP) and

its suitability for Sustainable Development,” he said.

“I am confident we will witness lots of positive developments and steps forward initiated in this training organised by the APO and the NTPC.”

According to the International Standards Organisation (ISO) statistics, in Fiji, there were 24 ISO 9001 certified companies, 5 ISO 22000 certified companies and 3 ISO 14000 certified companies.

“I am certain that Fiji can do much better than this to meet the aims and objective of the National Green Growth Framework that was launched by the PM of Fiji last year,” he said.

“I realise and am sure we will also take time to enjoy the company and networking with colleagues from different institutions present here today.

Mr Jannif said however, the world summit on sustainable development identified three

(Continued on pg 2)

FNU Commits to Greener Fiji

(Continued from pg 1)



primary objectives in realising sustainable development, namely:

- Efficient productive use of resources
- Environmental protection
- Poverty reduction

He said in achieving the above, the key prerequisites include:

- Shifting away from the sectoral approach and adopting an integrated approach to development by recognising the cross-cutting nature of key development challenges we are facing
- Adopting an inclusive approach in each facet of development from planning to implementation to monitoring and evaluation
- Fostering genuine partnerships amongst all stakeholders
- Creating ownership of development initiatives
- Ensuring that solutions proposed are relevant to the local context, and

- Creating a conducive environment that encourages innovation.

Mr Jannif said although the world has made a lot of progress, it acknowledges that hot spots exist and are emerging in its development path.

"I am also honoured to note the support and recognition given to this program of study to meet the diverse people working in the disciplines of Green Productivity, Environmental Management, Quality assurance and the same, to share ideas and find new and more effective techniques that will help us propagate GP as the way forward," he said.

The FNU Chanceller said the Green Productivity was launched in 1994 in line with the 1992 Earth Summit recommendations that both economic development and environmental protection would be key strategies for sustainable development. He said with the support from the

government of Japan, the APO introduced GP as a practical way to answer the challenge of sustainable development.

The APO pledges to continue the progress in the Asia-Pacific Region and through cooperation extend GP to accelerate a growing green global marketplace.

Mr Jannif made the comments as he welcomed 26 delegates from 17 different APO member countries across Asia course together with 3 observers from Colombia.

The workshop was overseen by three experts from Malaysia, Singapore and India and a representative from the Asian Productivity Organisation, Japan.

This Training Course was conducted to increase knowledge of the participants as GP trainers/practitioners in resource management focusing on the strategic and production levels so that they will be able to better promote Green Productivity through training and consultancy.