

## **UniFiji Bridging Nursing Programme Extends to the South Pacific**

The University of Fiji in collaboration with the World Health Organization, Pacific Open Learning Health Net (POLHN) will soon commence including the Bachelor of Nursing Bridging programme to other Pacific Region.

The bridging programme is fully online for students in the Pacific region. The programme allows Pacific nurses to upgrade their skills, knowledge, and education.

Speaking about the programme, Nursing Coordinator, Ms. Iloi Rabuka, stated that the online programme allowed nurses to better skill themselves, and opened opportunities for convenience and ease of access bringing the courses to the students' door steps.

"Upon completion of the programme, the nurses will be able to align themselves to higher standards of nursing practices and we will have better-trained, competent, and well-qualified nurses in the region," she commented.

The online programme has many other benefits including being effective in cost reduction for students' obligations and a good community outreach. The theoretical component are put online while clinical component are done by selected focal coordinators on site throughout the selected Pacific in the countries. This builds a solid base for better outreach into communities in the region as well as act as a marketing tool.

The programme will commence proper in Trimester 3 towards the end of August.