

Plan to restore Pacific forests

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A grand plan to restore forests throughout the Pacific

A grand plan to restore forests throughout the Pacific has begun with attempts to re-establish forests on Nauru and Solomon Islands.

The Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC) is attempting to raise the profile of Pacific forests and trees this year to coincide with the International Year of Forests.

Cenon Padolina, regional Forest Genetical Resource Officer with SPC has told Radio Australia's Brian Abbott, it is vital to raise awareness of the role of trees and forests to the wellbeing of the Pacific community.

He said first step is involving the local community in forestry projects.

"Just like in any other part of the world, forestry is very important socially and environmentally in the pacific islands," he said.

"That's why we have been promoting the sustainable management of this very important resource in the Pacific."

Now the government is trying to implement community planting, where they involve the villages and communities to do planting of important tree species like teak, eucalyptus and mahogany to be able to restore the forestry landscape.".

SOURCE: RADIO AUSTRALIA/PACNEWS