

NCLB in the Pacific: Issues on Accountability, Relevance and Sustainability

Pacific Comprehensive Center

Webinar

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The Promises & Challenges of NCLB in the Pacific

- Accountability/Feasibility
- High Quality/Value-based, Unequal Starting point
- Equity/Socio-economic conditions, Multiple development needs
- Policy-Making/National priorities, Lack of consultation, Reliance on external support

Relevance and Sustainability

- Pacific priorities/NCLB priorities
- Competition/Cooperation
- Externally norm-based standardized tests/indicators of real progress in learning
- Language issues/Testing in vernacular
- Test-focused environment/student focused environment

NCLB Accountability: Impact on the Child

- Who is really accountable in NCLB
- Subtle impact of competition and sanctions
- Progress in two subjects at expense of other equally important subjects
- Are there NCLB-like choices in Pacific context?

Our Voice in NCLB-Like Initiatives

- Can we translate NCLB-like initiatives to better suit our needs?
- Regional vs individual dialogue with US ED or Congress?
- Are the leaders aware/involved?

Suggested Studies

- Teachers perspectives on immediate and long-term NCLB Impacts
- Interview leaders on their national priorities in relation to NCLB priorities
- Evaluate standards and alignment with assessments and NCLB mandates across entities
- Student attitude toward paper-pencil tests and their performance
- Assess progress and issues in meeting 2013-14 timeline across entities

Si Yu'us Ma'ase/Thank you

- Participants
- Pacific Comprehensive Center: Hilda Heine, Marilyn Low, Bernadette Eshima
- Colleagues
- Information resources (print and non-print)

(Feedback to improve my next Webinar will be very much appreciated. Pls email me at cemicronesia@gmail.com)