

Overview of ICTs in Pacific Education

To Pacific ICT Officials

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Presented by
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Introduction - TERECE



- Teachers Education Resources and e-Learning Centre – USP Suva
 - Established 2011
 - Tasked to support MOEs in e-Learning strategies, policies, training, pilots and projects
 - Strong focus on improving teaching and learning with ICTs
 - Currently working with 8 MOEs on e-Learning strategies, policies and pilots
 - Co-Managers
 - An engineer and USP education lecturer
 - Ian Thomson and Shikha Raturi

ICT for Education Overview



- Regional ICT Policies from 2002 called for focus on ICT for Education
- Education Ministers meeting 2010 prioritised ICT
- ICT for Education Regional Framework adopted in 2012
- Progress?
 - Only one national program has been funded (ADB)
 - Lots (and lots) of pilots
 - Most Polynesian secondary schools have ICT labs and teach IT
 - Melanesia and Micronesia just starting

Schools Sector

- Leaders in use of ICTs are
 - Samoa School Net – All secondary schools - ADB
 - Cooks – Supported by NZ
 - Fiji – Pacific Knowledge Hub strategy
 - OLPC in 75 Primary schools – self funded
 - Indian Govt donated 5,000 tablets
 - All secondary schools have a self developed web page and computer labs
 - Vanuatu 25 pilot sites - supported by DFAT
 - We are also working with
 - Tuvalu, Samoa – Primary and Kiribati

University sector

- USP is a clear leader in use of ICTs
 - Strategic Plan calls for transforming through ICTs
 - All campuses connected to USP Net
 - Rapidly converting courses to Flexible/Online Learning
 - Dedicated Flexible Learning Centre (44 staff)
 - Experimenting with mLearning, Flipped Classroom, Tablets, Smart Classrooms, Edutainment, Online diagnostics
 - Working on Open Learning, OERs and MOOCs

Challenges



- We are not preparing our youth for the world we know exists
 - The Information Society
 - The Knowledge Economy
- We need to ramp up modernisation of education systems
 - We have started, BUT
 - We need more modern tools and resources in classrooms
 - We need to scale up
 - We need sustainable models

Thoughts

- Like most, we have learnt a lot about what not to do
 - List of 10 worst practices
- Avoid doing “ICT projects”
 - Just “adding ICTs” doesn’t work
 - Embed ICTs into education improvement projects
- Need both online and off line solutions
- Education really struggles to plan for ICT
 - Limited capacity and other priorities
 - They need to focus on changing the system, not the tech

The way forward

- We have leadership commitment, strategies, policies, pilots, good practice and proven technical solutions.
- There seems to be a gap in ICT capability and capacity in Education. They need your help.
- We need to scale up – no more pilots.
- Universal Access projects wont be enough
- We need to work out how to sustain efforts financially and technically

Thanks for your attention



- Any questions?
- Contact details
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