“eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance”

UNDP/EC/IDEA Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance

Brussels, 1-5 December 200

Antonio Spinelli
International IDEA

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

The "electoral cycle" approach has been endorsed at policy level by the major electoral assistance providers

It significantly contributed to a policy shift in the way electoral assistance is designed and the way in which related support project are formulated and implemented

This shift entailed moving the focus of support from the election day to the entire process that precedes and follows an election

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

substantial work still remains to be done to further influence electoral assistance policy, particularly at a **regional level**, and in terms of policy adoption and actual implementation at a **national** level

broader dissemination to regional organisations of the general principles derpinning "effective ctoral assistance"

uct of face-to-face ng courses for EC-UNDP officers, bilateral eration agencies and idual EMBs

evelopment of an eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

The "eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance" is a spin-off activity, originating from the "Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance", the series of 5-day, face-to-face training events designed and implemented by International IDEA, the United Nations Development Programme and the European Commission since 2006

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

September 2006:
Brussels, Belgium

November 2006:
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

October 2007:
Brussels, Belgium

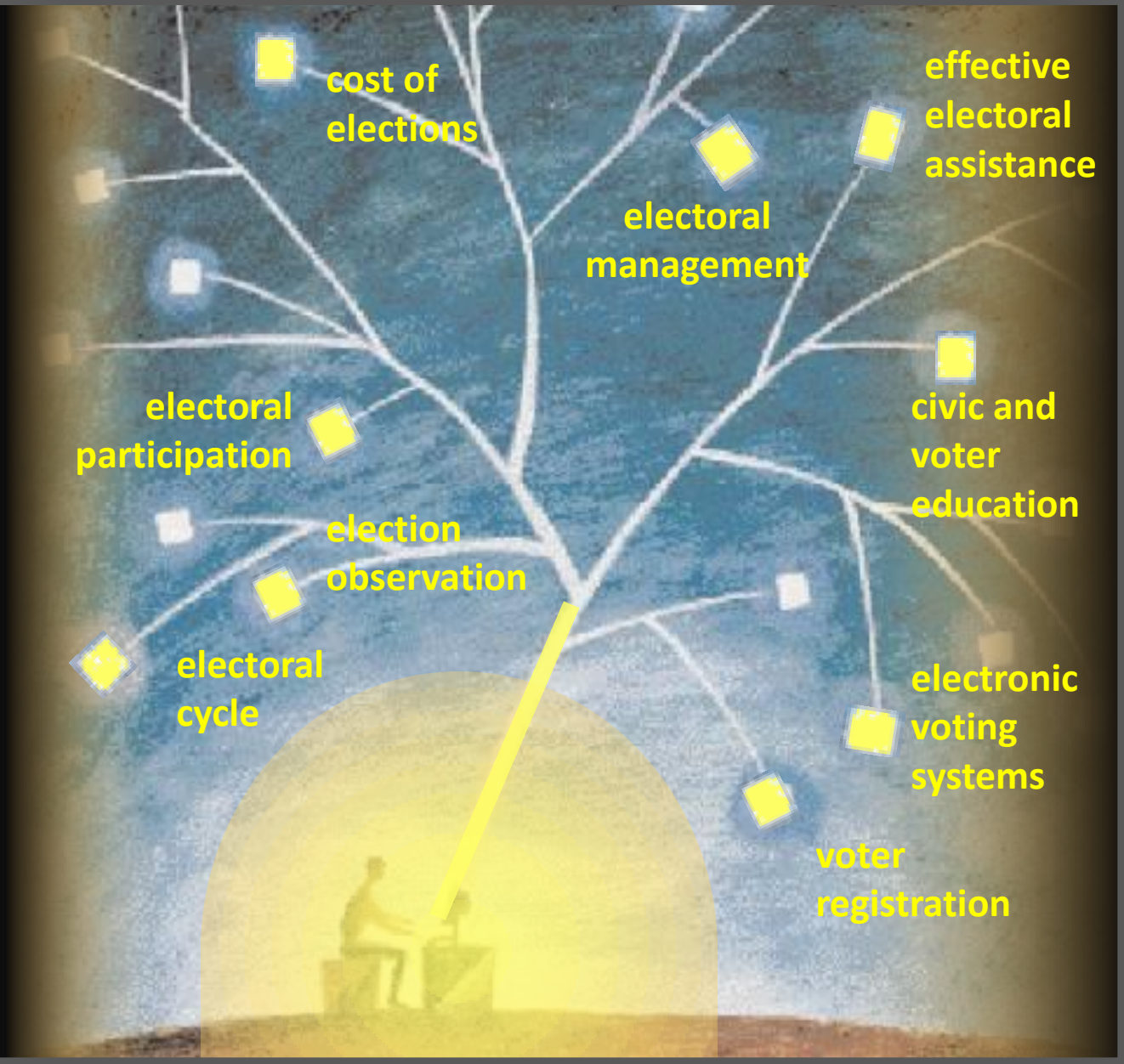
February 2008:
Milan, Italy

June 2008:
Maputo, Mozambique

December 2008:
Brussels, Belgium

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

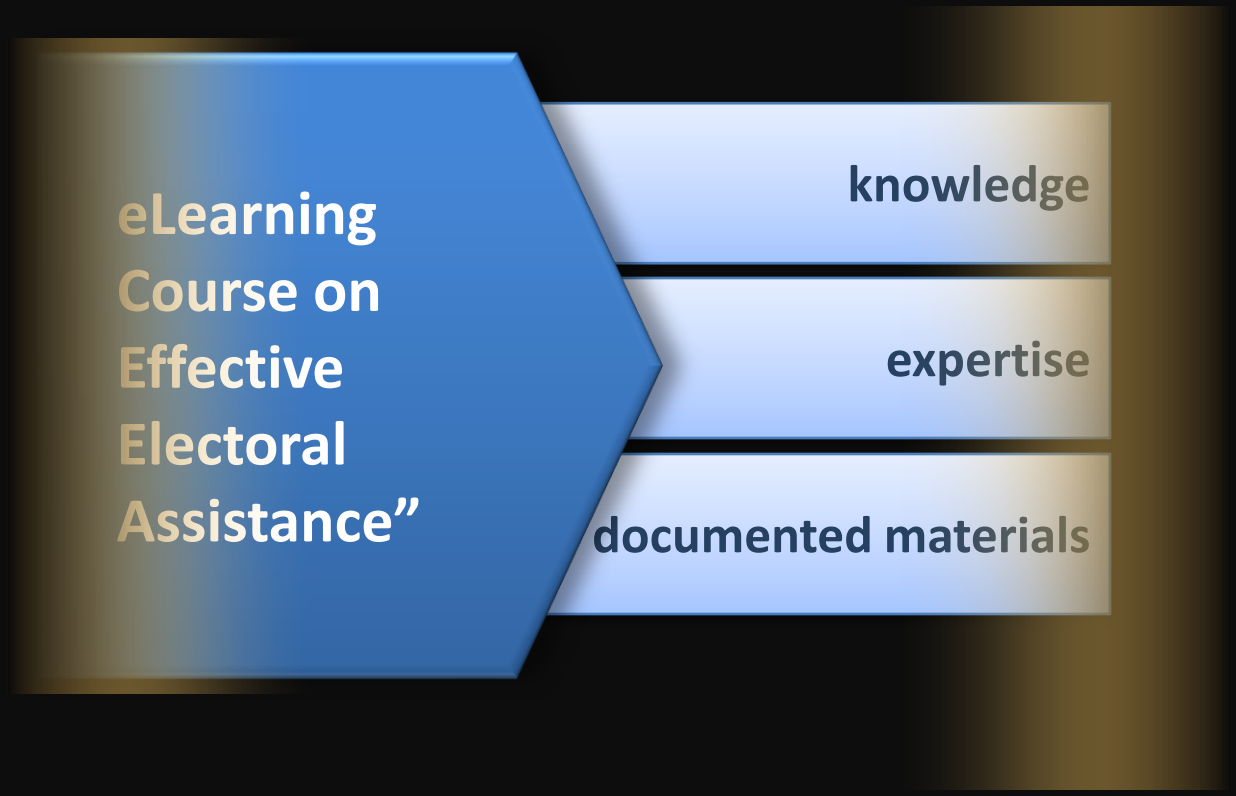
As already for the Joint Training, the "eLearning Course" builds on a number of activities and election-related projects implemented by the three organizations.



a joint approach

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

Such a joint approach has allowed incorporating in the work of conceptualisation of the eLearning Course a wealth of knowledge, expertise and documented materials acquired and produced by the three organisations over the last few years as part of these projects.



eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

The rationale behind the conceptualisation and development of the eLearning project is to produce an interactive distance learning tool to complement both the face-to-face training events and the Training Manual resulting from the Joint Training events.

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

The development of the eLearning Course is work in progress

The pilot is expected to be completed in April 2009

First module nearly completed.

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

The development of the eLearning Course has followed a process unfolding in three sequential stages:

STAGE 1 covered the process of **DEFINITION**, focusing on the development of the **structure** and the **content** of the Course

STAGE 2 was about the process of **DESIGN**, in which the design of two fundamental elements of the Course, namely the **structure** and the **content** of the Course came together

STAGE 3 is the last stage and where we currently are. We have defined the final texts, recorded background narrating voices, produced the various frames for each Module and synchronised the text with the narration. We are now in the process of inserting the video materials and creating visual effects, quizzes/tests and other interactive eLearning features

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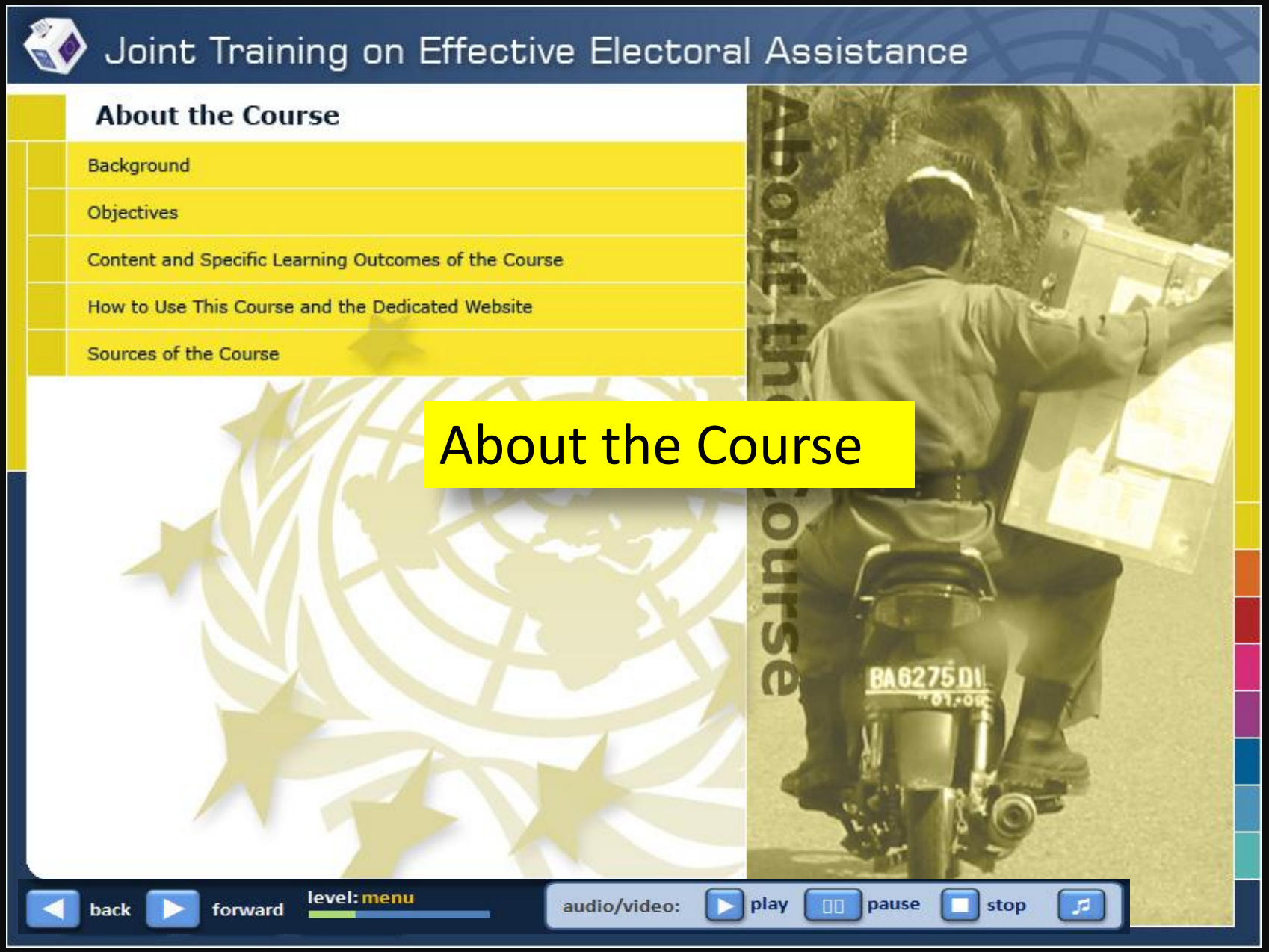

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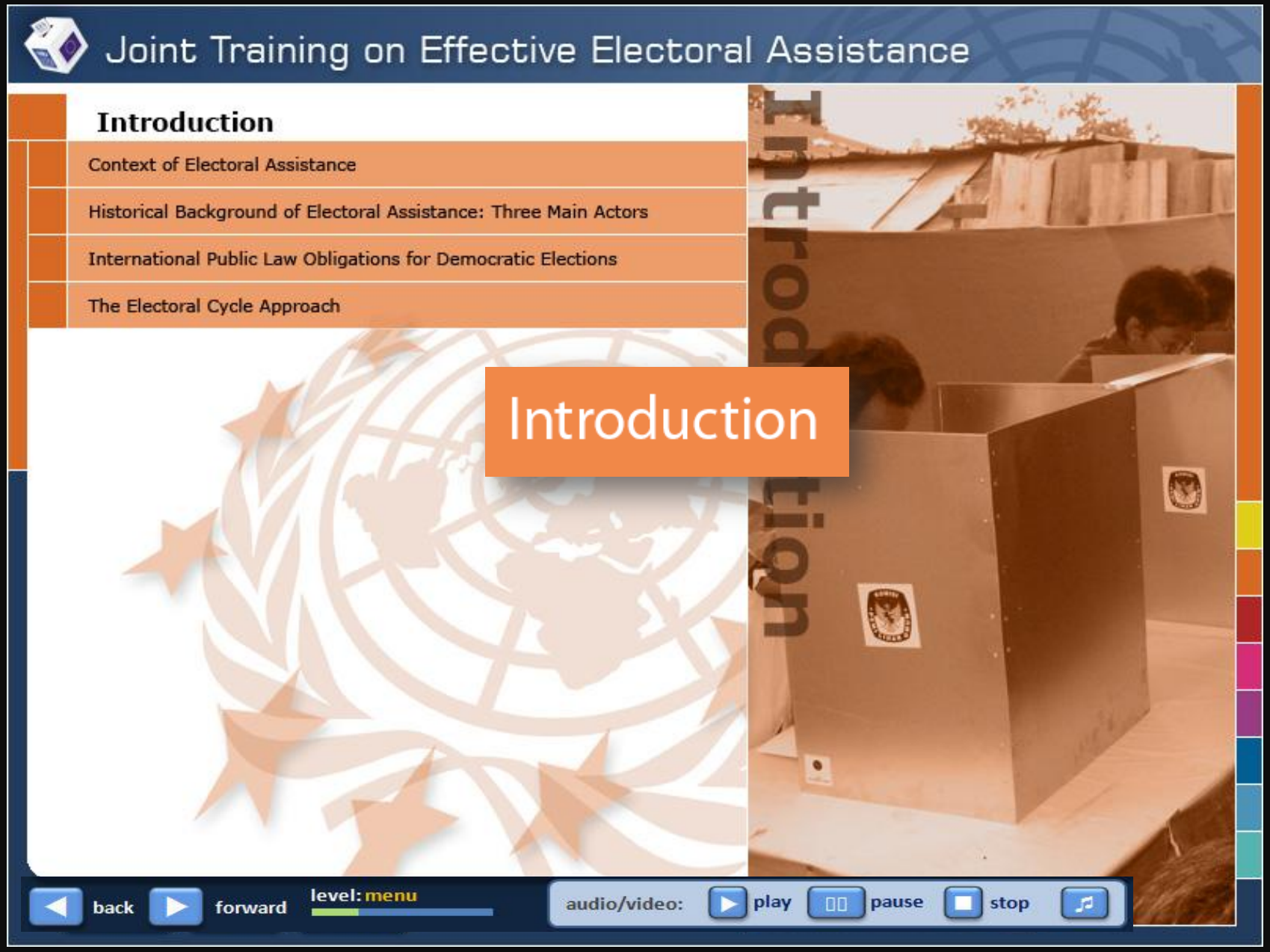

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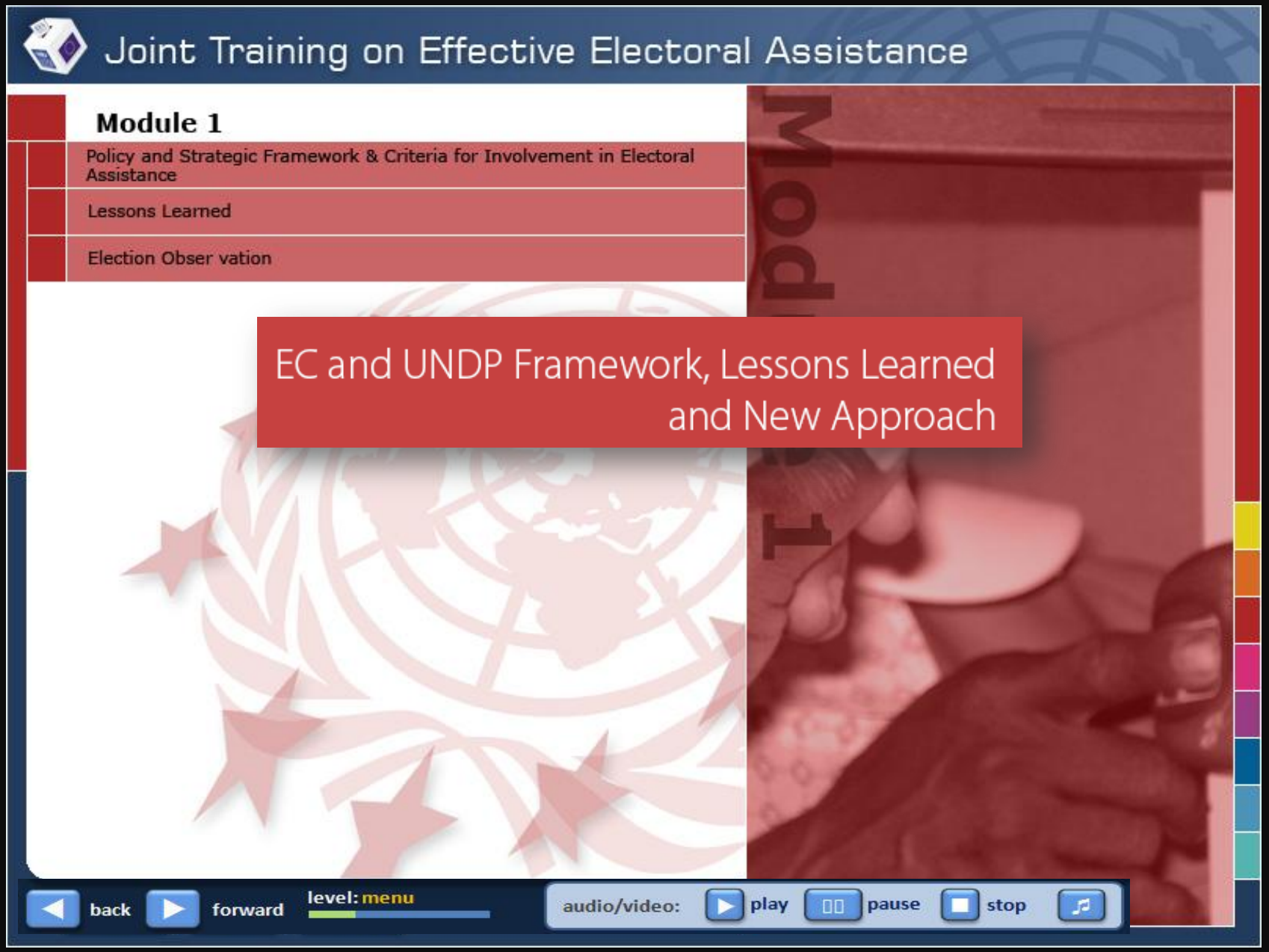

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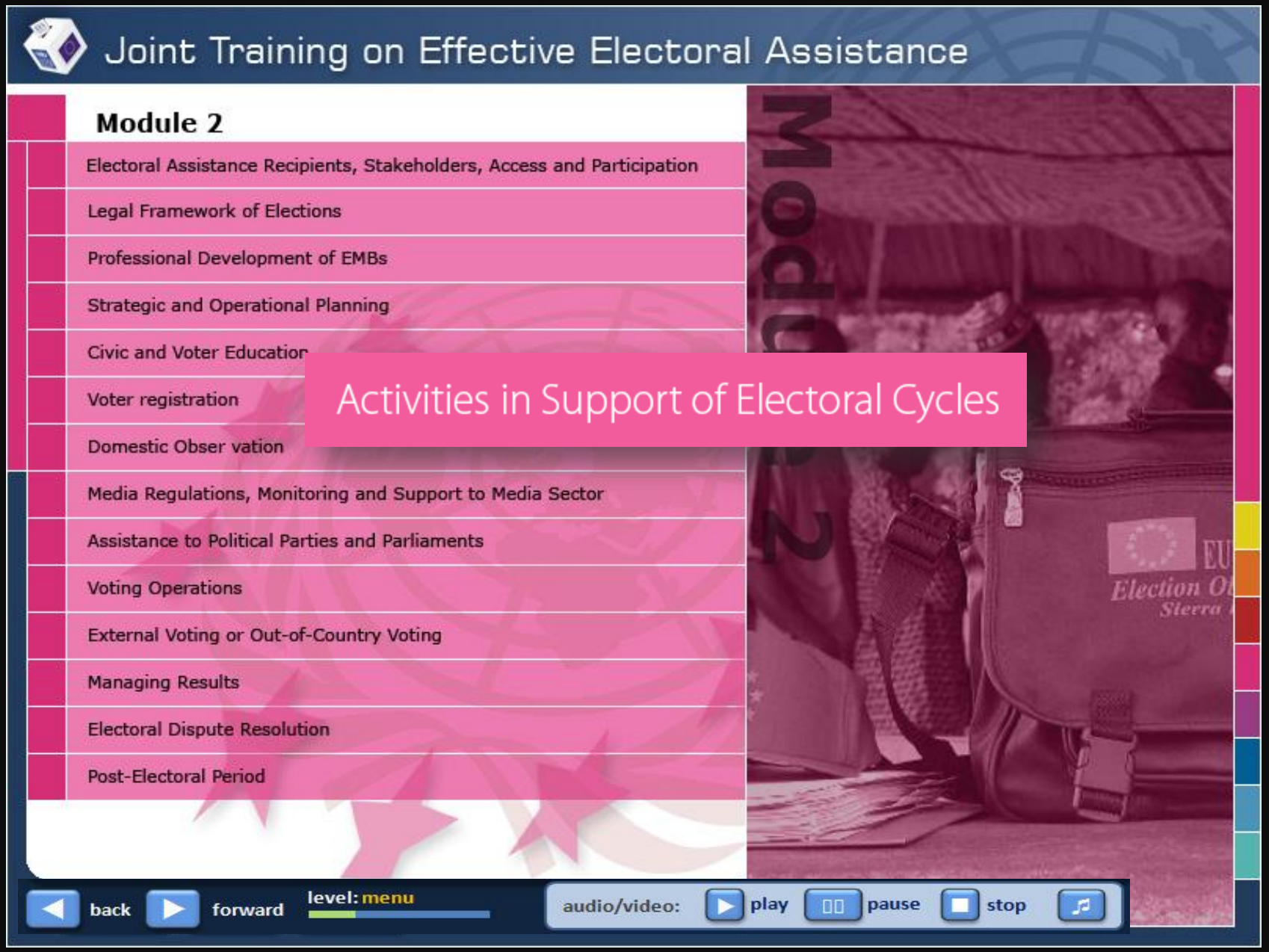

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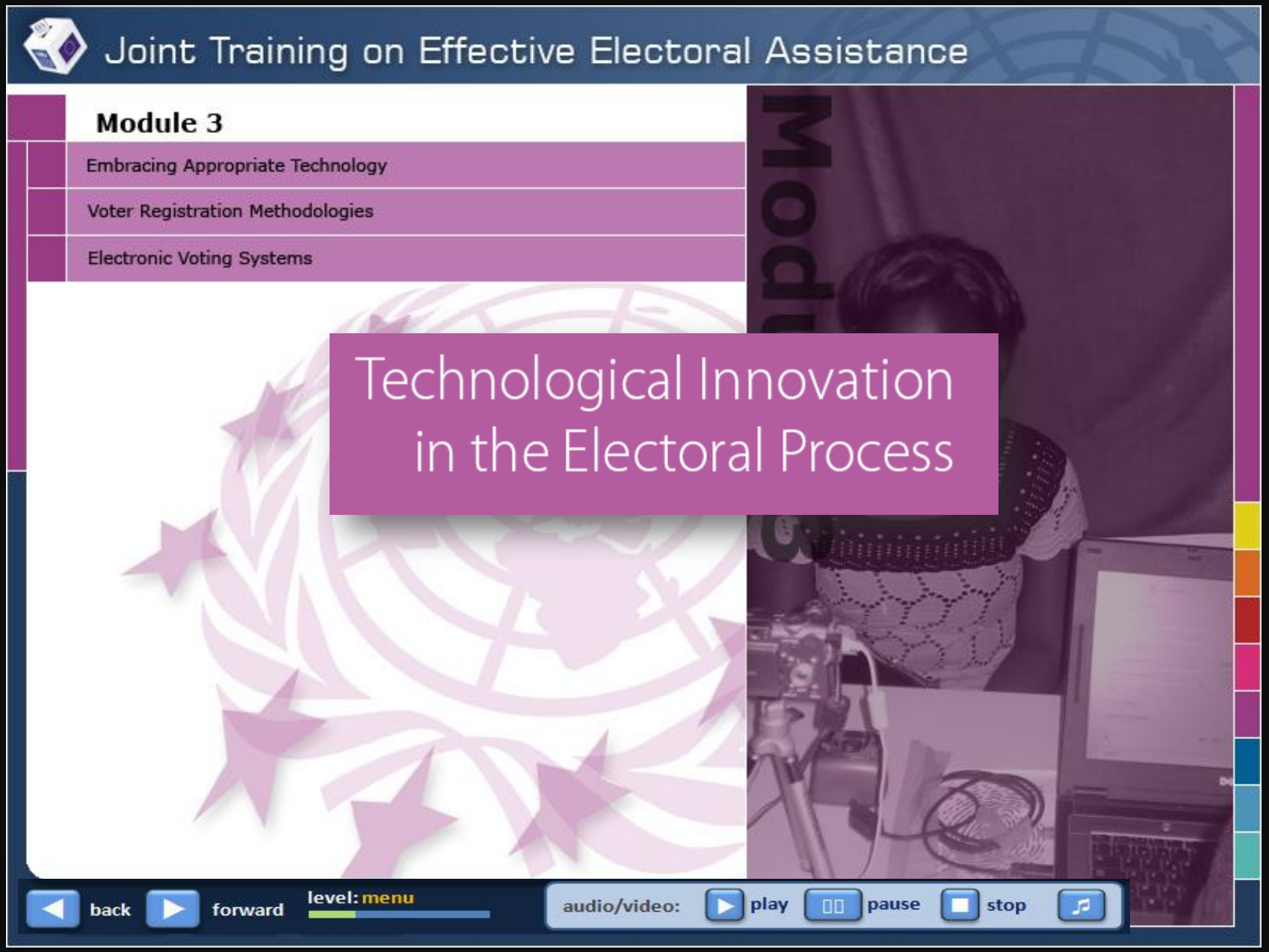

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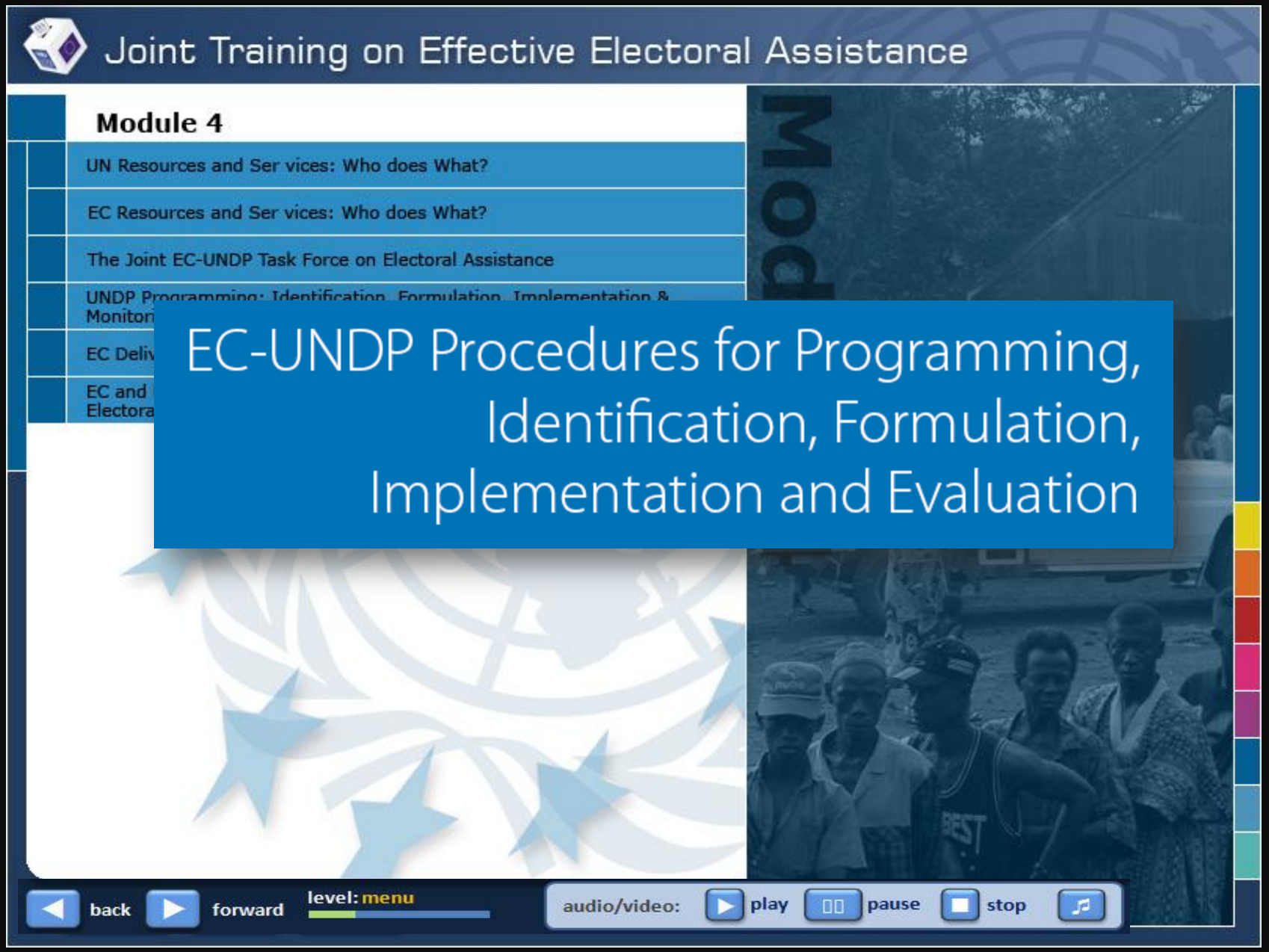

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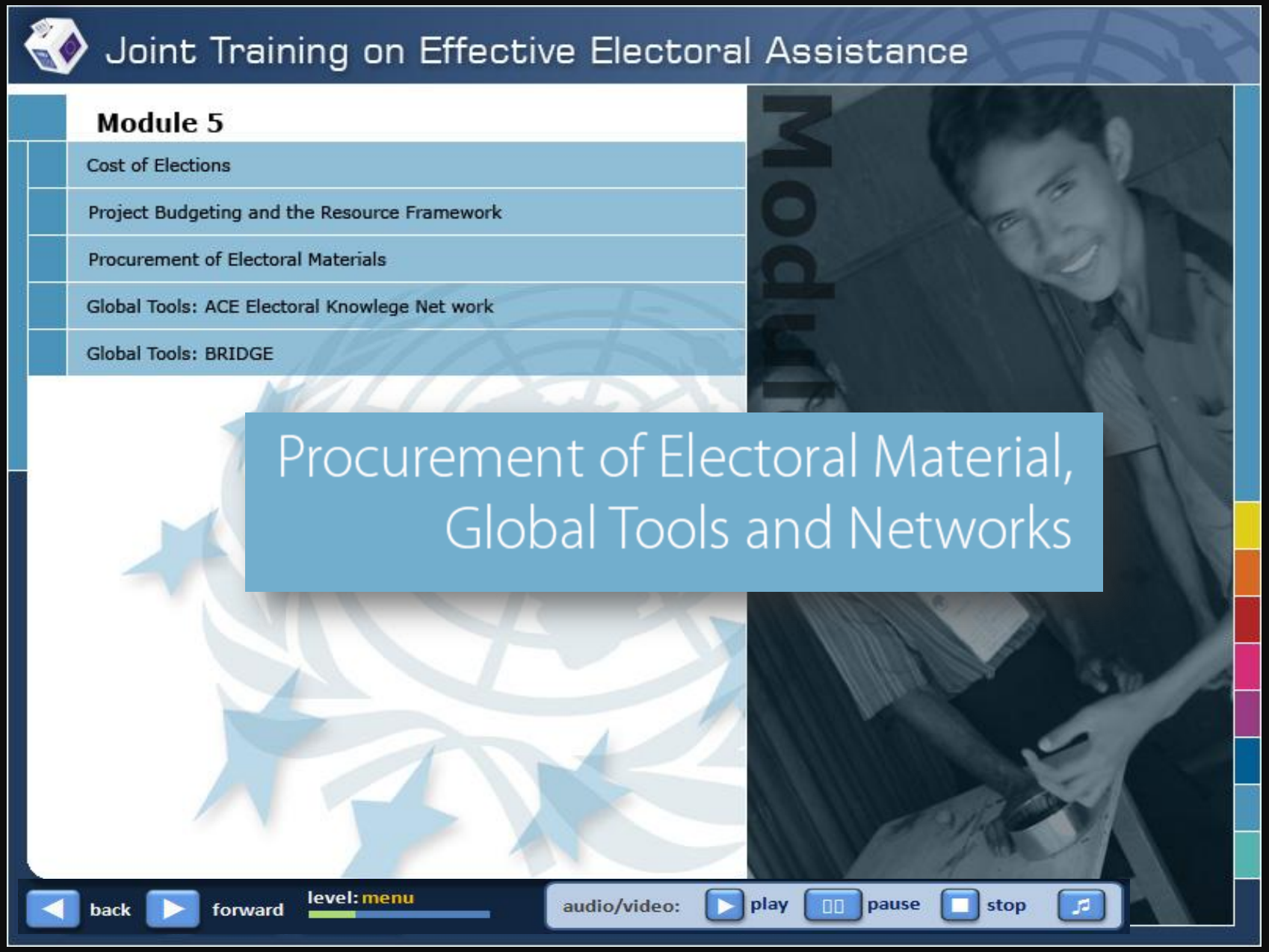

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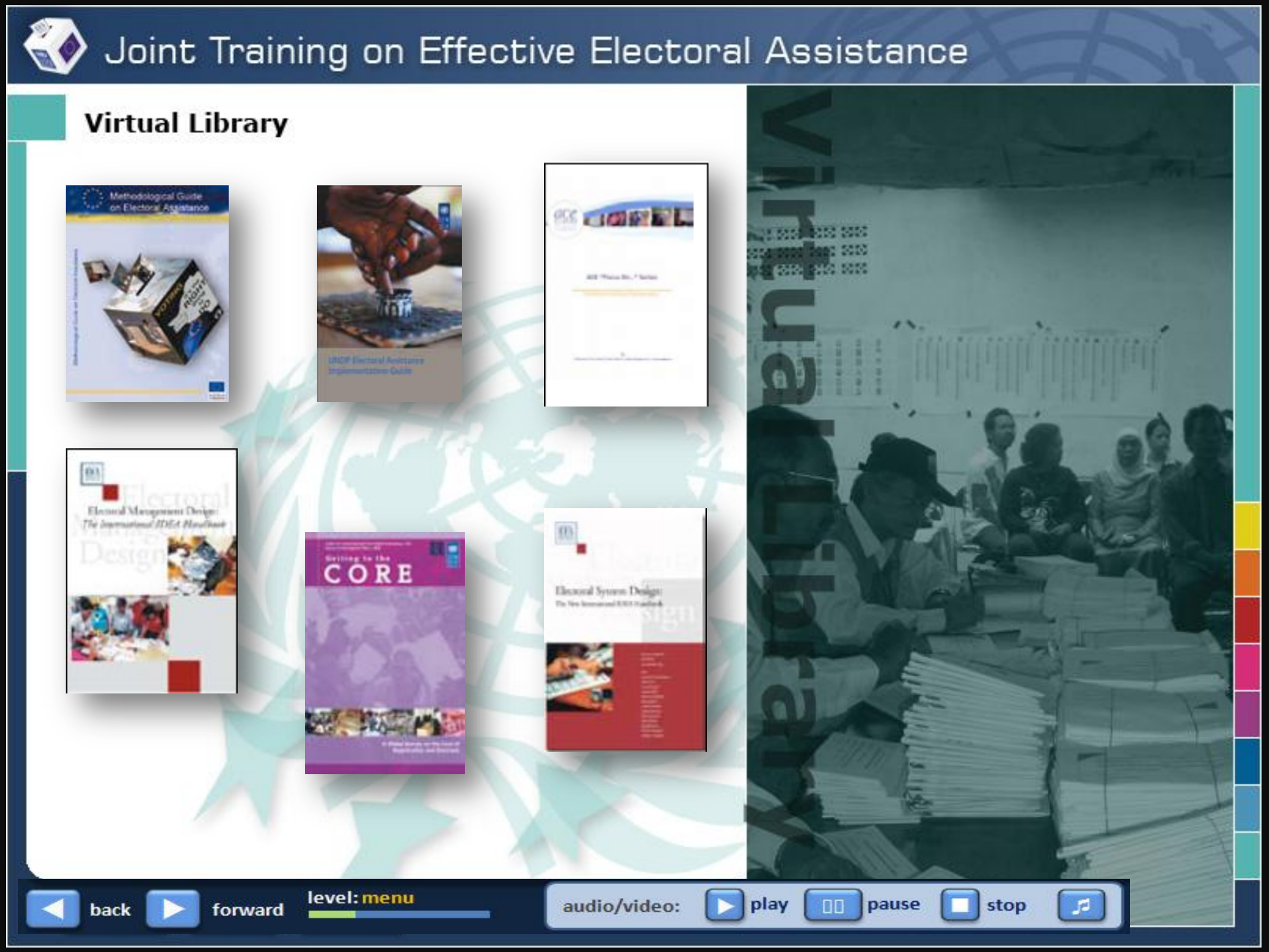

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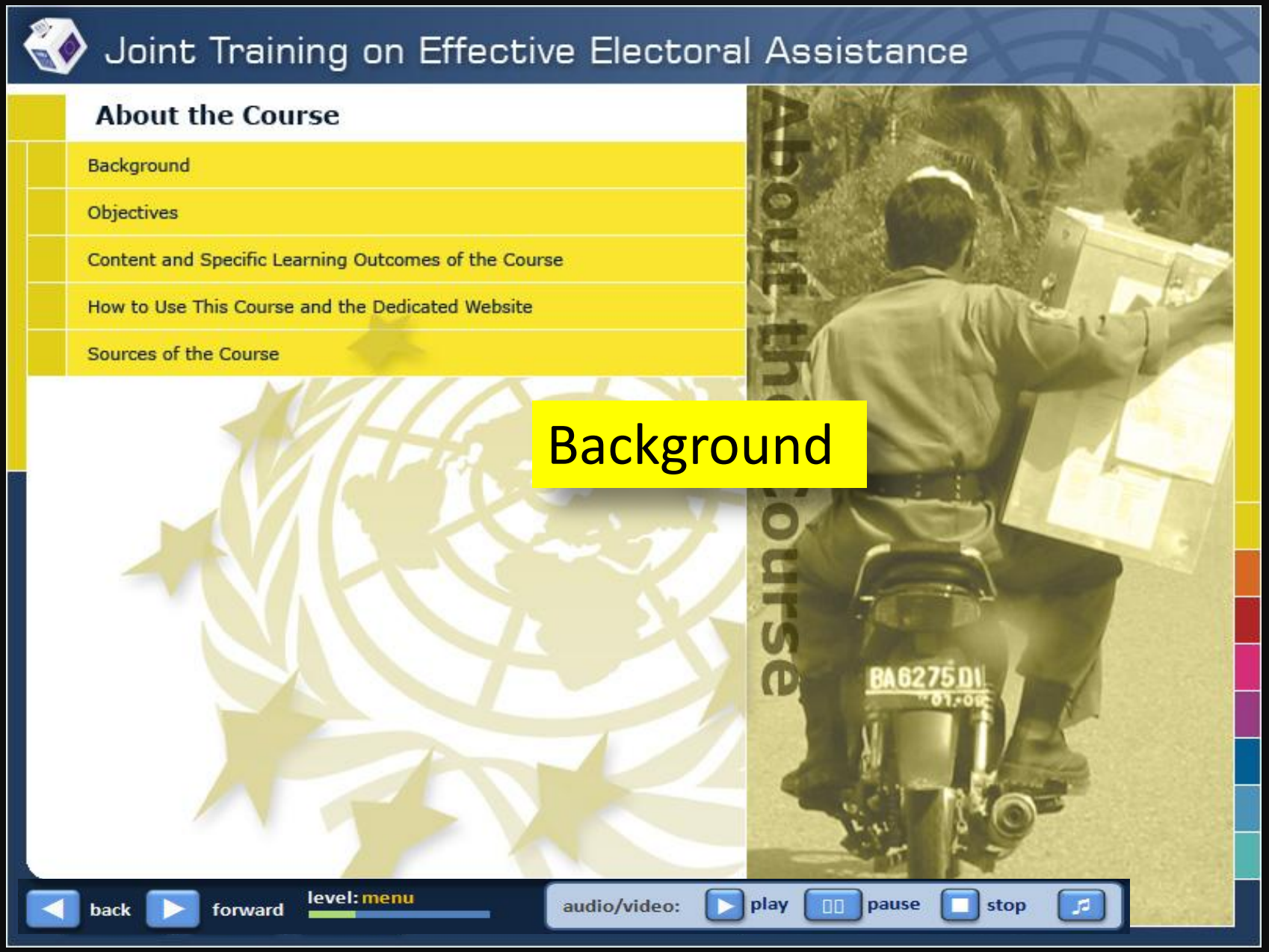

eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance

Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance

About the Course

Background

Welcome to the eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance.

This eLearning Course is the result of sustained cooperation efforts undertaken over the last years by the **European Commission**, the **United Nations Development Programme** and **International Institute for Democracy Electoral Assistance (International IDEA)** in the field of electoral assistance. The Course has been created on the basis of the content and the structure of the Training Manual of the "**Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance**", a global training initiative developed and launched by the three institutions.

As already for the Training Manual, the eLearning Course on Effective Electoral Assistance primarily draws on the content of the following four core sources:

- the **EC Methodological Guide on Electoral Assistance**;
- the **UNDP Electoral Assistance Implementation Guide**;
- **International IDEA's Handbook on Electoral Management Design**; and
- the **ACE Focus on Effective Electoral Assistance.**

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Joint Training on Effective Electoral Assistance

About the Course

Background

More in particular, the MoU focuses on democratic governance (including elections, parliament and governance indicators), conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction setting the conditions for regular policy dialogue, enhanced programme collaboration at all levels.

Additional progress was achieved in 2006, when EuropeAid Director General, Koos Richelle, and the UNDP Associate Administrator, Ad Melkert, signed the EC/UNDP "**Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of Electoral Assistance Programmes and Projects**". These Guidelines outline a number of practical measures for further strengthening and supporting the already established partnership and cooperation between the EC and the UNDP in the field of electoral assistance.

The EC-UNDP Partnership represented a breakthrough both for its scope and for the type and level of the initiatives involved, which are all geared towards ensuring a more sustainable and effective electoral assistance.

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Module 1

Policy and Strategic Framework & Criteria for Involvement in Electoral Assistance

Policy and strategic framework: UN and UNDP

According to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, elections are to be considered a human right:

"…the will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections…" (Art 21 Universal Declaration of Human Rights)

UN electoral assistance has two primary goals:

- To assist member states in their efforts to hold credible and legitimate elections in accordance with electoral standards in international and regional instruments
- To contribute to building, in the recipient country, a sustainable institutional capacity to organise democratic elections that are genuine and periodic and have the full confidence of the contending parties and the electorate

The primary entry point for UNDP to advance these goals is by either fostering the creation of a strong, professional and independent Election Management Body (EMB) and related public institutions, or by enhancing the independence and credibility of such institutions if they already exist.

Module 1

Policy and Strategic Framework & Criteria

Post-conflict elections often take place in countries where the UN has either a peacekeeping or a political mission. Under these circumstances, there is normally a Security Council resolution that gives the mission the mandate to lead or coordinate electoral assistance under the guidance of EAD/DPA. UNDP works in close collaboration with EAD/DPA in supporting the electoral component of the UN mission according to an agreed division of labour. UNDP support could include traditional technical electoral assistance to the electoral authorities, management of a 'basket fund' on behalf of donors, and/or discrete projects supporting political party development or enhancing women's participation.

Post-conflict elections typically involve extremely high costs due to the number of activities that need to be carried out for the first time as well as the higher costs associated with securing the integrity of the vote and the safety of the voters. Tight deadlines, lack of adequate infrastructures and assets, and a volatile security environment can further drive up costs.

UNDP SUPPORT

- electoral assistance
- management of a donor 'basket fund'
- political party development
- enhancing women's participation

Module 1: EC and UNDP Framework

Policy and Strategic Framework & Criteria

In general, the UN provides electoral assistance in two circumstances :

2) There is a request by the national government of a UN member state

Video: "Criteria for the UN for involvement in Electoral Assistance"

In this video, Craig Jenness, Director of the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD) – Department of Political Affairs (DPA), explains the circumstances under which the UN typically provides electoral assistance and the process to formalise and implement such assistance.

Video length: 02:42

Module 1

Review Point

Check the correctness of each of the following statements:

		True	False
1	The primary entry point for the UNDP in the electoral assistance field is to foster strong and independent EMBs.	○	○
2	The EAD makes the final decision whether UN will provide electoral assistance to a requesting country.	○	○
3	Direct short-term electoral support is linked to capacity building.	○	○
4	According to EC policy, electoral assistance and observation creates valuable synergies.	○	○

Submit

Module 1

Review Point

Drag and drop the connectors to match each role with its right definition:

ELECTION SUPERVISORS… →	… gather information and make informed judgments without interfering
ELECTION OBSERVERS… →	… observe the electoral process and to intervene if laws are being violated
ELECTION MONITORS… →	… certify the validity of the electoral process

Submit

Module 1

Review Point

Below are listed the various components of a typical timeline for an EU Election Observation mission. Drag and drop the various items to follow the right sequential order:

General briefing & STO deployment	1
General post-observation follow up	2
EU EOM preliminary report	3
Follow up of appeals & closing of EU EOM	4
EU EOM final report	5
HQ briefing & core team deployment	6
Final debriefing in the country	7
LTO briefing & deployment	8
Debriefing in Bxl	9
ELECTION DAY	10
Initial briefing after election	11

Submit

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T H A N K Y O U