GLOBAL ELECTORAL TOOLS: ACE & BRIDGE

How to Use and Benefit from BRIDGE in the Field

By
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Building Resources In Democracy, Governance and Elections
The Comprehensive Election Administration Training Curriculum Using Adult Learning Teaching Methodology
Grew in response to capacity development needs for the East Timor referendum in 1999
Original Aims of BRIDGE

- to strengthen election administrators’ capacity to conduct their work in an effective and efficient manner
- to enhance electoral administrators’ professionalism
- to build teams and networks both within electoral administrations and with the broader community
So what is BRIDGE?

+ An important tool for building the capacity and professionalism of those responsible for managing aspects of the electoral processes.

+ A curriculum in electoral processes because:
  
  • to achieve effective, sustainable electoral cultures, the development of the capacity of the EMB staff and other stakeholders needs to be prioritised

  • without the appropriate skills, knowledge and dispositions in place, election processes can be undermined
Transformed from Version 1 to Version 2

- 1200 pages to 5000+ pages
- 12 weeks to 50 weeks
Partners

UNITED NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL IDEA

UNDP

International Foundation for Electoral Systems

Australian Electoral Commission
OBJECTIVE

“to give insights into the principles, skills and challenges involved in the conduct of properly run elections.”
BRIDGE Methodology

• uses content developed by electoral experts from around the world
• is not prescriptive, it encourages participants to develop creative and appropriate solutions to challenges
• is activity-based and focuses on practical issues
• is flexible and adaptable
How People Learn

Hear only = 20%

See only = 30%

Hear and See = 50%

Hear, See and Talk = 70%

Hear, See, Talk and Do = 90%
Courses Types

- 3-day Implementation Workshop
- 10-day Train The Facilitator
- Field work

Customisable

23 Modules
Thematic Groups

• Over-arching **Foundation Modules**
• Three **thematic groups:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Electoral Architecture</th>
<th>Electoral Stakeholders</th>
<th>Electoral Operations</th>
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• All modules are **allocated** to a particular thematic group
Version 2

FOUNDATION
- Introduction to Electoral Administration
- Strategic & Financial Planning

ARCHITECTURE
- Legal Framework
- Boundary Delimitation
- Electoral Systems
- Electoral Management Design
- Electoral Technology

STAKEHOLDERS
- Access to Electoral Processes
- Voter Information
- Civic Education
- Electoral Contestants
- Election Observation
- Media & Elections
- Electoral Assistance
- Gender & Elections
- Electoral Dispute Resolution

OPERATIONS
- Voter Registration
- Pre-election Activities
- Electoral Training
- Polling, Counting & Results
- Post-election Activities
- External Voting
- Security

Organized within: TrainDev
In collaboration with: CIDA Canadian International Development Agency, IOM International Organization for Migration, OAS Organization of American States
Potential BRIDGE Audiences

• Electoral Commissioners
• EMB Staff
• Members of the Media
• Political Parties
• Parliamentarians
• Security Forces
• Civil Society Groups
• Academics and University Students
When to conduct BRIDGE?

- Pre-election period
- Election period
- Post-election period
When to conduct BRIDGE

• BRIDGE should not be seen as a “quick fix” for electoral management bodies and their stakeholders

• It is a long-term, capacity development tool

• BRIDGE is best conducted in the evaluation and planning periods of the Election Cycle
Election Cycle

- **Capacity development** finalised in pre-election period

**post-election period**

- Each BRIDGE module encourages Action/Reform plans in the concluding activities
- BRIDGE provides an ideal environment for review, and gathering lessons learned

**pre-election period**

- Participants adopt and apply knowledge gained from BRIDGE
- BRIDGE methodologies can be adapted for operational training
- The time for capacity development occurs just after E Day
- Training not overshadowed by operational pressures
- Encourages EMB sustainability
- BRIDGE provides an ideal environment for review, and gathering lessons learned
BRIDGE Content is Authoritative and Comprehensive

Based on:

- Case Studies from the field
- ACE Knowledge Network
- International IDEA Handbooks
- Resources developed by other partner
- Regular updates
International Writers & Editors

QuickTime™ and a decompressor are needed to see this picture.
BRIDGE is making an impact world-wide

BRIDGE exists in 11 full or partial translations

BRIDGE depends heavily on Accredited Facilitators (203)

More than 200 BRIDGE courses have been run (incl 36 TtFs)
Bridge Around the World

... for 4000+ participants from 93 countries...

Aug 2008
650+ African election practitioners attended a BRIDGE course

BRIDGE Host Countries
- Mozambique
- South Africa
- Botswana
- Angola
- Ghana
- Senegal
- Sierra Leone
- Liberia
- Egypt
- Burkina Faso
- Ethiopia
- Sudan
- DRC
- Malawi
- Zimbabwe
- Kenya
- Tanzania (Zanzibar)
Pictures from the BRIDGE World
Want to know more?

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