



# BRIDGE Project

Building Resources in Democracy,  
Governance & Elections

[www.bridge-project.org](http://www.bridge-project.org)

bridge project

Building Resources in Democracy, Governance & Elections



# The BRIDGE Project partners are:



# So what is the BRIDGE Project?

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

# The History of BRIDGE

- First Expert Advisory Group (EAG) meeting in 1999
- Project first implemented in 2001 in East Timor
- Till that point there had been few formal opportunities available for comprehensive professional development in electoral administration.

# 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

# Potential New BRIDGE Audiences

- Electoral Commissioners
- EMB Staff
- Members of the Media
- Political Parties
- Parliamentarians
- Security Forces
- Civil Society Groups
- Academics and University Students

# BRIDGE Content is Authoritative and Comprehensive

- Based on:
  - Case Studies from the field
  - ACE Knowledge Network
  - International IDEA Handbooks
  - Resources developed by other partners
  - Regular updates



# International Writers & Editors



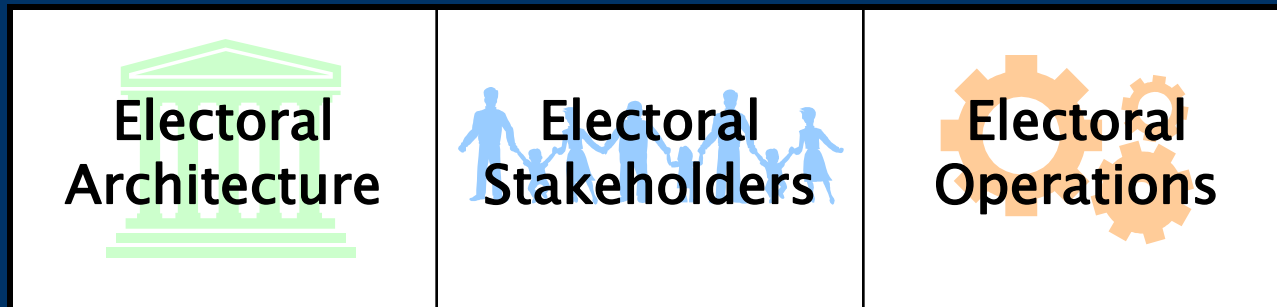


# BRIDGE Methodology

- 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
- Is based in a “Make It Happen” approach

# Thematic Groups

- Over-arching Foundation Modules
- Three thematic groups:



- 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**
- Electoral **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
- Electoral **Security**

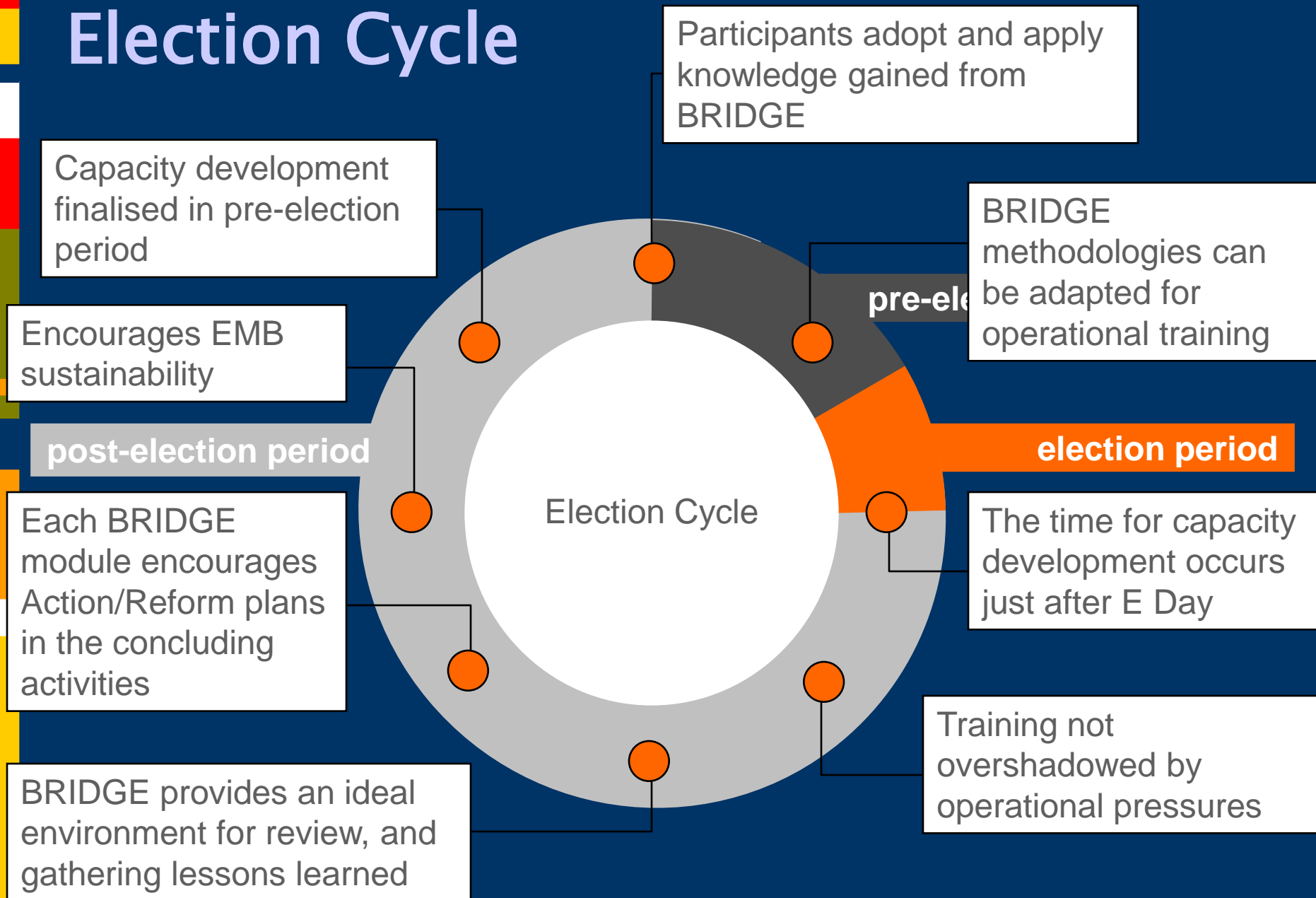
# Sustainability and Quality Control

- The accreditation process comprises two phases:
  - **Successful completion of a two-week TTF program**
  - **Successful completion of supported training in the field**

# 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 post-elections periods of the Election Cycle

# Election Cycle



# How BRIDGE has been conducted

- Modules for the nationals of one country;
  - E.g. Australian Electoral Commission
- Modules for an international or regional group;
  - E.g. Melanesian Countries in Vanuatu Feb 2007
- Facilitating conferences



# BRIDGE Project Statistics

- To date BRIDGE has been conducted:
  - In 30 countries
  - For over 2500 people from more than 90 countries
- There are now:
  - Over 150 Fully Accredited BRIDGE Facilitators

# Want to know more?

## Contact:

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# Thank You!

