

BRIDGE

Building Resources In Democracy, Governance & Elections

www.bridge-project.org



The BRIDGE Project partners are:



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So what is the BRIDGE?

- A professional development course in electoral processes because...
 - Capable and professional election administrators are essential for organising elections, and without the skills in place, election processes can be undermined
 - to achieve effective, sustainable electoral administrations, the development of the capacity of the staff needs to be prioritised.





Potential BRIDGE Target Groups

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



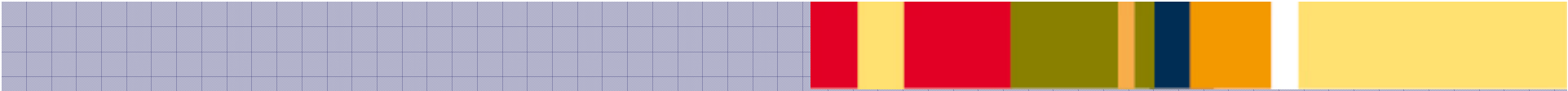


A Professional Development Tool

Aims

- to strengthen capacity to conduct their work in an effective and efficient manner using best practice
- to enhance electoral administrators professionalism and build confidence
- to build teams and networks





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, not designed to be used “off the shelf”





BRIDGE Project statistics

- BRIDGE started in 2000
- To date BRIDGE has been conducted:
 - In about 20 countries
 - For over 2000 people from more than 90 countries
- There are now:
 - Over 400 people who have attended Train the Facilitator programs
 - Over 120 Fully Accredited BRIDGE Facilitators



Tailored to institutional and individual needs

- BRIDGE is carefully tailored to the needs of participants and organisations
 - by developing BRIDGE in partnership with local bodies that can contribute and drive the process to ensure ownership
 - Case Study: Nepal 2007
- Harmonised approach
UNDP–IDEA–IFES
3 year strategy





Quality assurance

- BRIDGE can only be conducted by facilitators accredited by the BRIDGE Project partners
- 2 phase of accreditation process:
 - 10-day Train-the-Facilitator Program
 - Final accreditation achieved after running a module in the field and supervised





How/where to run BRIDGE?

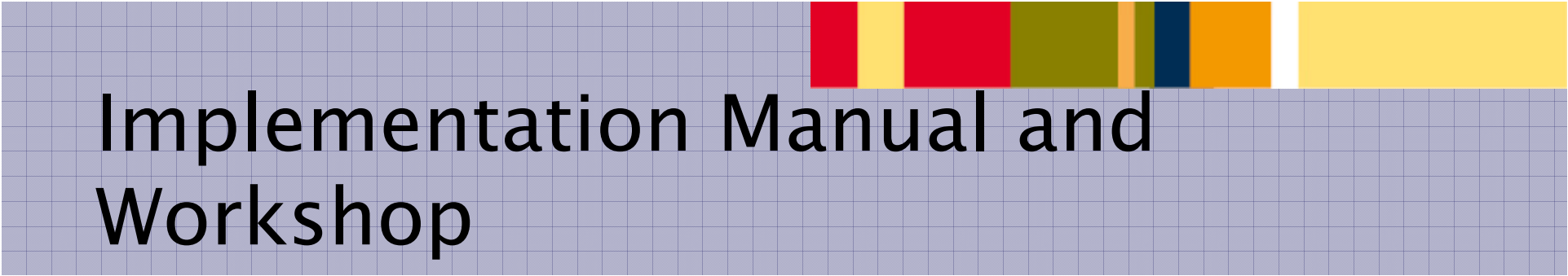
- for the national programme
- for a regional network – EMB meetings, ACE Regional Resource Centres
- for development partner/international organisation – dissemination, advocacy, project management



More International Writers and Editors



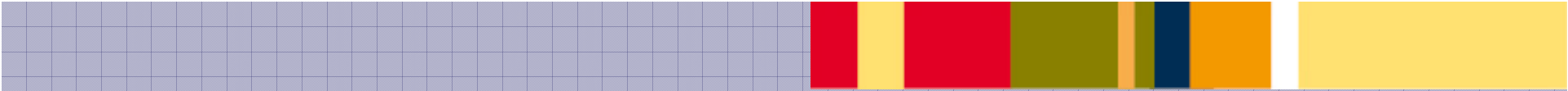
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Implementation Manual and Workshop

- Greater implementation guidance and support for organisations wanting to use and adapt BRIDGE material and courses
- Implementation Workshop (2-day) course to assist implementers, project managers and facilitators (for different courses) to implement BRIDGE in the most effective way





How to include BRIDGE in an electoral assistance programme?

- BRIDGE is best suited to post-election or “in between” elections period in the electoral cycle
- Consultation with EMB and stakeholders to identify needs and design a project with a BRIDGE expert
- Showcase for advocacy and fundraising
- Translation (*french, spanish, portuguese, arabic, nepalese, indonesian*) and Customisation (*to suit local context – legislation & practice*)
- Train-the-Facilitator to create a pool of national facilitators
- National programme – locally owned and driven for professional development or induction for new staff
- Long-term evaluation – surveys, assessing impact



FOUNDATION MODULES

Introduction to Electoral Administration

Strategic & Financial Planning

ELECTORAL ARCHITECTURE

Legal Framework

Boundary Delimitation

Electoral Systems

Electoral Management
Design

Electoral Technology

WORKING WITH ELECTORAL STAKEHOLDERS

Access to the Electoral
Process

Voter Information

Electoral Contestants

Electoral Observation

Media & Elections

Electoral Assistance

Gender & Elections

Electoral Dispute
Resolution

Civic Education

ELECTORAL OPERATIONS

Voter Registration

Pre-election Activities

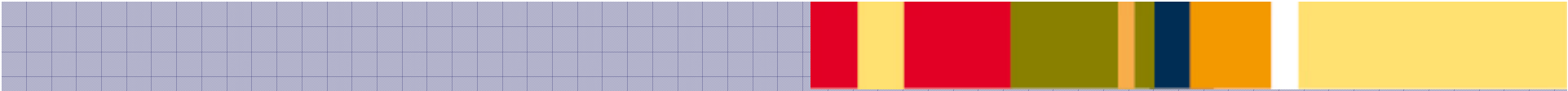
Training of Electoral
Officials

Polling, Counting &
Results

Post-election Activities

External Voting

Security



Each Module...

- reiterates elections in the context of **Democratic Governance** and **Development Goals** and is underpinned by Electoral **Standards & Principles**
- is based on **best practice** from experienced practitioners and current **leading publications** *e.g ACE Topics and various Handbooks, Guides and Practice notes from IDEA, UNDP, IFES and European Commission*
- refers to the **Electoral Cycle** in the context of that module e.g Gender & Elections looks at gender implications throughout the cycle
- includes a **Synopsis, Key Understandings, Case Studies, Glossary & Cross-cutting Considerations:** *Access, Gender, Conflict Management, Integrity, Technology, Sustainability, Environment*
- encourages **Action/Reform Plans** in the concluding activities



BRIDGE What's Next?

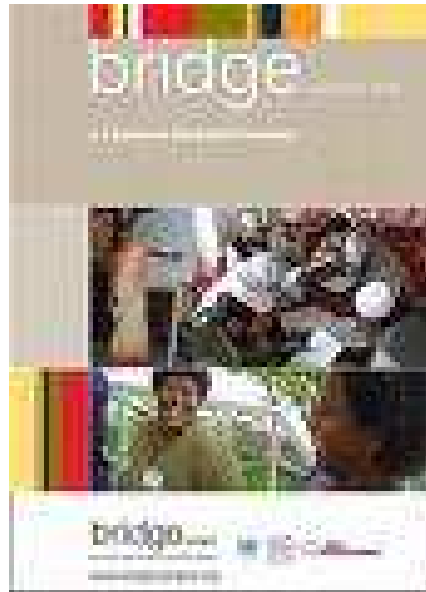
- BRIDGE made more accessible by translating it into various languages through country projects...
- **ACE Resource Centres** will become regional hubs for BRIDGE as part of fostering EMB networks
- **e-BRIDGE** – development of online learning of all modules, linked and accredited to university courses including selected reading from ACE/IDEA Handbooks, quiz, video, scenarios, interactive classroom, assignments, professional certification
- **Governance BRIDGE** – expanding BRIDGE beyond elections – new pilot project 2008
- *“demanding better governance/ civic engagement and participation”*



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More Information on BRIDGE

BROCHURE:



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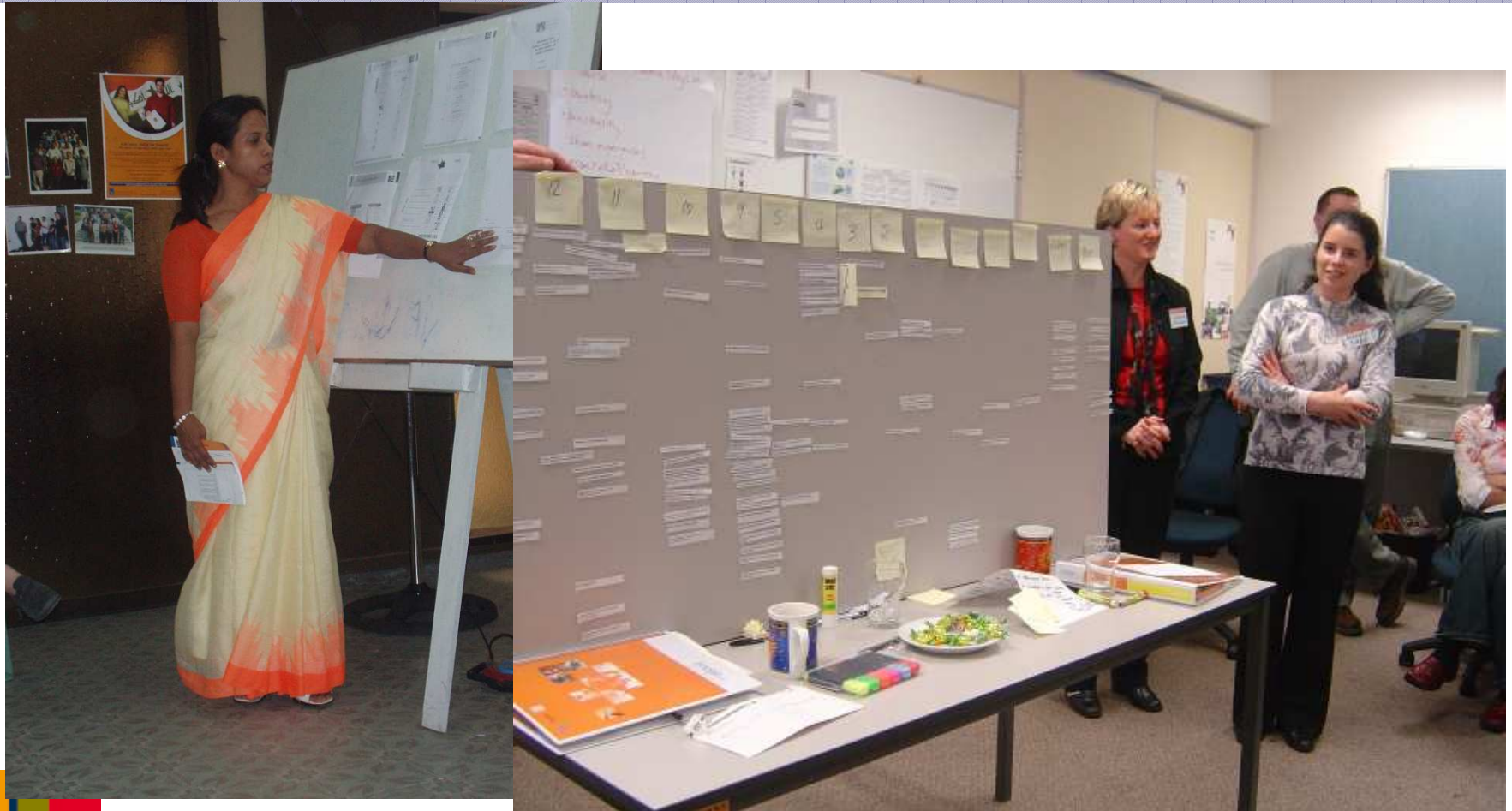
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The BRIDGE Project is fun, whilst



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... the hard work is being done



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Thank you!



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