



# BRIDGE

Building Resources In Democracy, Governance & Elections

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

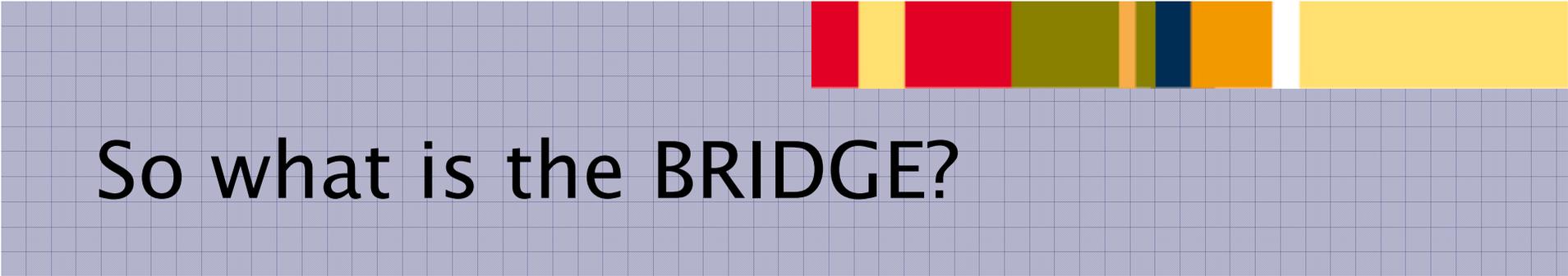


bridge<sub>project</sub>  
Building Resources In Democracy, Governance & Elections

# The BRIDGE Project partners are:



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PROJECT



# 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.

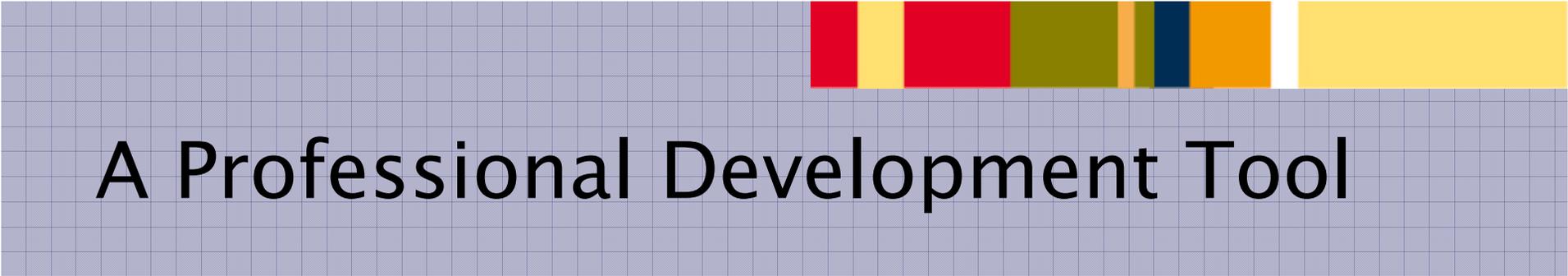




# Potential BRIDGE Target Groups

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



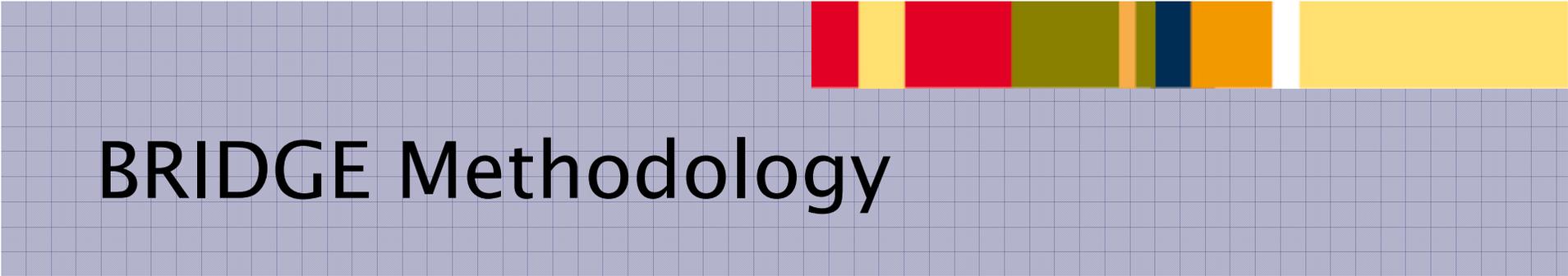


# A Professional Development Tool

## 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

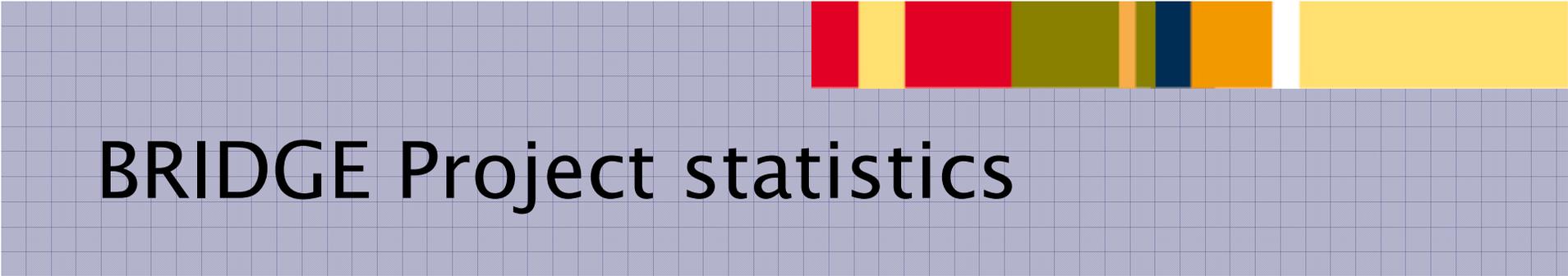




# BRIDGE Methodology

- 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

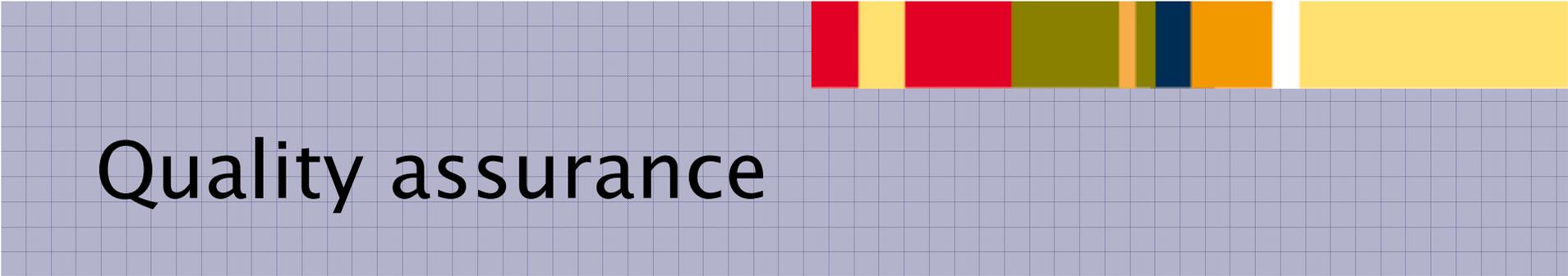
▪ Case Study: Nepal 2007

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





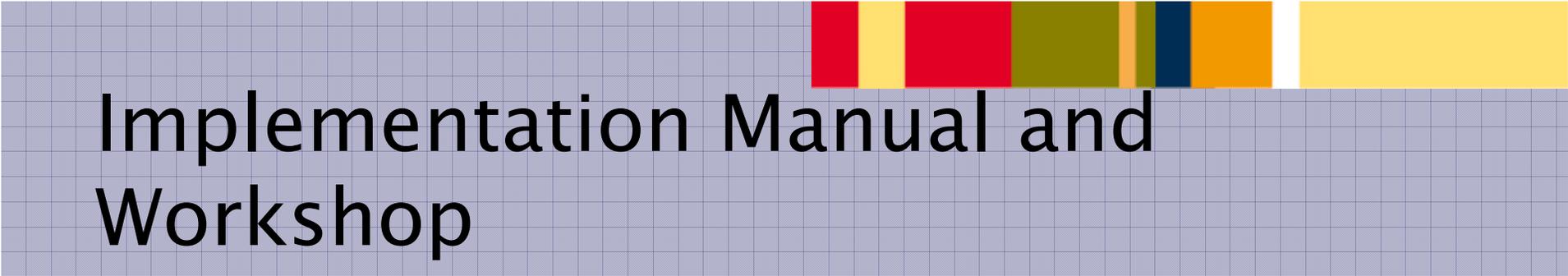
# How/where to run BRIDGE?

- 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

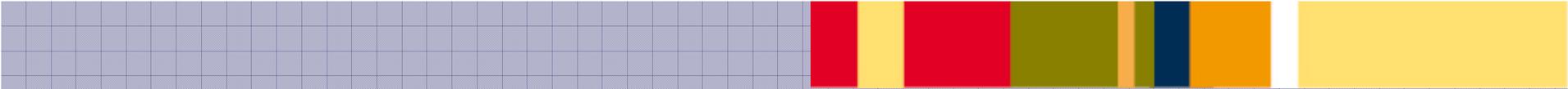




# Implementation Manual and Workshop

- 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

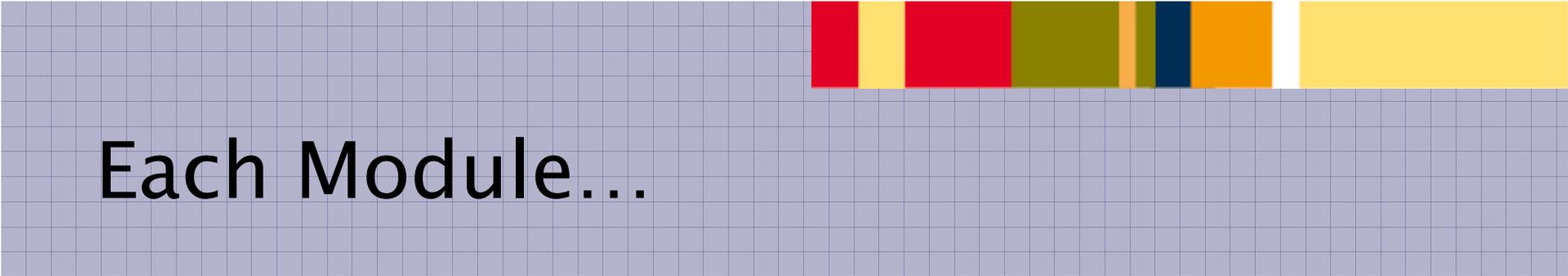
Training of Electoral Officials

Polling, Counting & Results

Post-election Activities

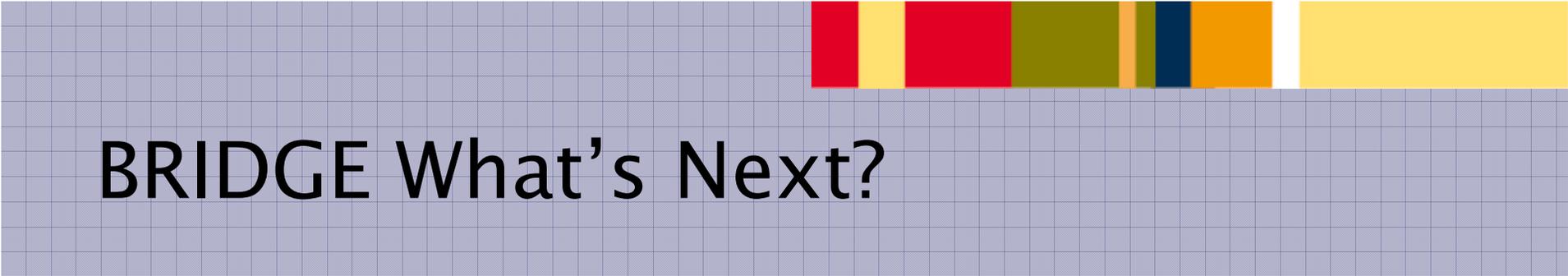
External Voting

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”*

# More Information on BRIDGE

**BROCHURE:**



**WEBSITE:**

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

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**bridge**

Building Resources in Democracy, Governance & Elections  
A Course in Electoral Administration

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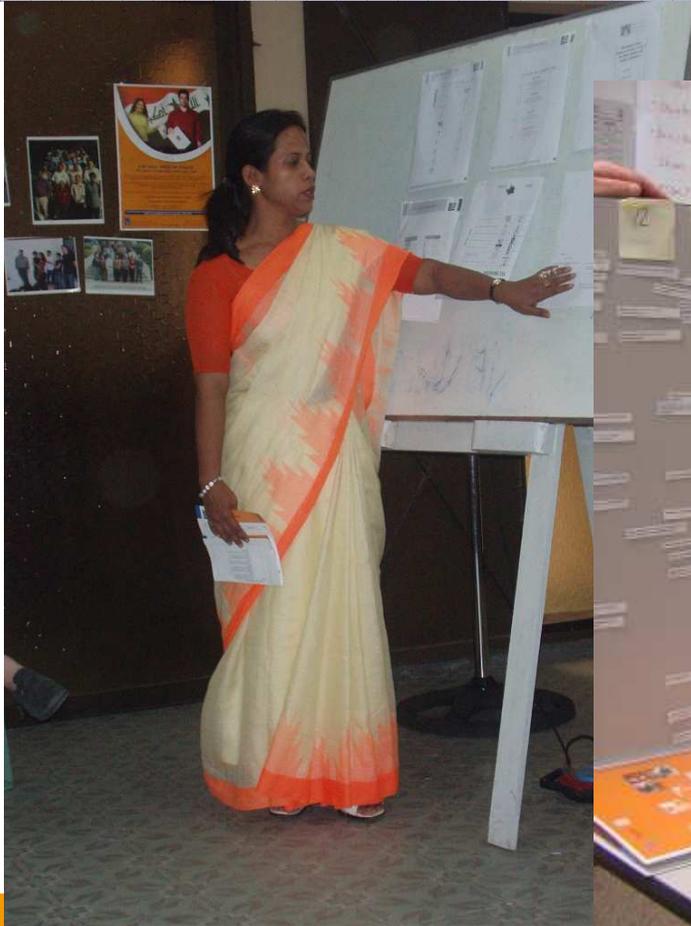
Name

# 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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