Welcome to the new year newsletter 2016!

Launch of Version 3 (V3) BRIDGE!

The soft launch of V3 BRIDGE is about to begin. Shortly you will receive a link to the first set of V3 materials. Congratulations to all the contributors and funders. Let the celebrations in the BRIDGE community begin!

All V3 materials will be released in stages over the coming two years and all will be considered to be in DRAFT until the BRIDGE community has had time to engage with the materials. The BRIDGE Office and BRIDGE Partners want to reassure you that all current BRIDGE materials will remain available and accessible as we transition to the new structure and modules that will make up V3 BRIDGE.

As previously announced: “analysis has led to a drive to reorder the content of modules and lessen the number of active modules resulting in a restructure of content and intent.”

BRIDGE Partners have decided to update, tighten and partly restructure the BRIDGE Curriculum. We are now happy to announce the new DRAFT BRIDGE Curriculum family structure and indicate which modules will be updated in the coming years to establish V3 BRIDGE.

Most modules will be updated to be more accurate and timely (e.g. Electoral Systems, Media, Polling), others will be merged (such as Voter Information and Civic Education), some reorganized (like the Strategic Planning module which will no longer include financial aspects), some renamed (like Access to Electoral Processes), some newly developed (like Electoral Costs and Finances and Institutional Strengthening and Professional Development), and some will be archived and no longer part of the BRIDGE Curriculum. Those that are not changed will be archived, but still accessible to the BRIDGE community.

Here's the new DRAFT Curriculum family structure:
This list is not yet definitive – some modules may still be added and some modifications may continue to be made to module names and content.

A major change will occur in all V3 modules which will remove the generic, BRIDGE-specific front- and back-end in all modules and concentrate on the subject matter substance only. A new overarching document currently entitled ‘Preparing and Conducting BRIDGE Module Workshops’ will instead cover all facilitators’ pre- and post-workshop tasks, as well as activities to be carried out during the first and last day of any BRIDGE workshop. The content of modules will be modernised and streamlined and presented to facilitators in a newly restructured manner over the next two years.

Continued............
V3 BRIDGE Facilitators

BRIDGE is now in its teenage years and as with all teenagers change is intrinsic!

In the many reviews, feedback and day-to-day experience of the BRIDGE Office over 15 years one of the issues to create the most confusion, uncertainty, misunderstanding, misinterpreted reporting and sometimes utter puzzlement is the Facilitator Categories.

The BRIDGE Partners have made a critical decision to simplify the nomenclature attributed to facilitators in response to these repeated issues over time. As a key part of the launch of V3 BRIDGE a new description of facilitators will be released. There will in future be only two kinds of facilitators – Workshop Facilitators and Accrediting Facilitators. The terms Semi-Accredited Facilitator and Expert Facilitator will no longer be used. The facilitator database will be amended so that all existing facilitators at Workshop and above level will be renamed accordingly and a new category will be added to the database described as TtF Complete.

Key things to know:

The BRIDGE community will still be able to search the database under these three headings – Workshop, Accrediting and TtF Complete

All existing people on the database will remain on the database – just their title will change – Workshop will stay the same, Accrediting and Expert will become Accrediting, Semi-Accrediting will become TtF Complete

Future participants in a TtF will receive a Certificate of Completion, be given access to the curriculum materials and added to the database – just as now – but when the BRIDGE Office reports on how many ‘facilitators’ there are in the world, it will only include people who are fully accredited facilitators – Workshop and Accrediting – able to deliver workshops.

The TtF will be updated to V3 in the coming months and will be released to the BRIDGE community as soon as possible. This facilitator change will be implemented as V3 of the TtF is updated and made available. Anyone wishing to conduct a TtF from now on should be in touch with the BRIDGE Office to receive the latest DRAFT documents.

The Partners are keen for the BRIDGE community to engage with the V3 materials and to contribute and raise issues wherever they arise. We value the BRIDGE community and know that BRIDGE survives and continues to be effective in a changing world because of the strength of the BRIDGE community.

We encourage your feedback through the forum, our facebook page, emails to the BRIDGE Office and we value greatly your input, encouragement, bright ideas and constructive criticisms as V3 is released over the coming two year period. We look forward to our successful and enlivening future together in BRIDGE.
First BRIDGE Course in Somalia: A New Dawn – A Ray of Hope

It is Tuesday, August 4, 2015. My colleagues, 22 in all and I at the Ministry of Interior and Federal Affairs (MoIFA) in Mogadishu - Somalia, have been waiting for this day with excitement and anticipation. This is the day we will be taken through a BRIDGE training course. None of us had ever attended any such training in Somalia or anywhere else. This would be the first of its kind. The suspense we have gone through from the day we were invited to this training has been intense and aroused curiosity in all of us.

We had not had such heavy rainfall for a while, ironically we woke up to a downpour on this long-awaited day. This indeed was a good sign – seeds of knowledge that we were about to receive would be nourished – a new hope for Somalis as we prepare to unleash latent potential in building our nation for a brighter future. We walked into the Conference Centre with open hearts and minds. Our facilitators, Joanne Cheah, Tomsie Dlamini and resource persons, Gerald Mitchell and Filip Warnants, did not fail us as we moved through the three-day course – which felt like only a day.

The course covered thematic areas on guiding principles of democracy, international standards and instruments, introduction to electoral systems and public outreach in the most practical of ways which resonated with our context in Somalia. The course assisted us in understanding the critical role we play in supporting the newly established National Independent Electoral Commission (NIEC) of Somalia by drafting legislation essential for the institution to conduct democratic elections ensuring inclusive participation for all citizens as required by law. This modular course was delivered at an opportune time considering the developments taking place in the Horn of Africa. The team opined that sessions on electoral systems and public outreach will need to be given special attention as we go through the transition and democratisation of our beautiful east African coastal country. The emphasis on public outreach is essential because MoIFA is tasked with public consultations and engagements demanding tactful skills in fusing public opinions into legislation while striking a balance of the divergent opinions from various sectors of our communities. Indeed, we trust that the United Nations in Somalia and the UNDP will assist us in building on this foundation and bridge the gap as we work through repositioning Somalia on a democratic path.

MoIFA embraces these initiatives of developing a cadre of professionals, to propel our country to great heights. We are committed to placing our country on the global map of emerging democracies with profound zest. May we have more BRIDGE courses and watch us bear desired fruits of democracy. May we walk this path together for a bright Somalia!

Thank-you-BRIDGE Modular Course: Introduction to Electoral Administration
MoIFA Participants
Fun with BRIDGE
Some great feedback from the BRIDGE family!

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that I’m so happy to receive your email! Thank you so much for this wonderful and useful information that you shared with me. I’m so glad and proud of myself and I still hope that I will have other opportunities to move up to the next level.

Keep it up BRIDGE Office Team!

Thank you and wish you a great big hug for success of the project

Hope to hear from you again for next edition!

Dear Sir / Madam,
Many thanks for your meaningful E-mail that I appreciated so much.
Warm regards from Cotonou!

Thanks for information. Fine newsletter published

It has been a great experience for us, really you transform our life, our future, our idea. Thank you so much to the facilitators team. Hope you will continue to give us that opportunity to continue on this journey we have started. God bless you all

“Wherever I will have to give a training, I will make sure that I use the BRIDGE methodology, which is based on generosity, group work, mutual respect and humility” - Kabobo Shukrany wa Katiti

“I thank the facilitators and EISA from the bottom of my heart... they have made me a new person!” - Daphrose Bitungwa

“BRIDGE just planted new seeds in its garden. May these not be forgotten. May these be promoted through many modular trainings, so that they can grow and reach maturity” – Patrice Botende
The BRIDGE partners and the BRIDGE Office would like to congratulate the following people that have become BRIDGE Semi-Accredited, Workshop and Accrediting Facilitators!

**Accrediting**

Vake Blake  
Asenaca Naviriba Kolinivala  
Edna Koskey  
Shuhub Ahmad Najib  
Emma Togba  
Dorra Tanfous

**Workshop**

Ujang Durahman  
Euloge Aidasso  
Heather Oke  
Brett Lambden  
Aileen Duke  
OLIVE KANSANGA  
FAITH MUTESI  
PELAGIE UWERA  
Adama Dera  
Qais Irshaidat  
Tareq Bataineh  
Fatoumata Fafa BALDE  
Sala Yavaca  
Don Kadir  
Ana Mataiciwa  
Samuel Atuobi  
Suhair Rahhal  
Ahmed ALLOUCH  
Shyam Kumar Yadav  
Hem Raj Aryal  
Cristina Cucurudza  
Inza Diomande  
Bamba Awa  
Ganin Ngoran  
Sadie Mushiete  
Denise Mbuilu  
Christian Mulume  
Ibrahim Assoumani  
Cyrille Ebotoko  
PELAGIE Makiedika  
Issa Kassambara  
Onesime Kukatula  
Paul Monzambe  
Etienne Muhiya  
Amita Prasad  
Azad Khan
Facilitator Accreditations

The BRIDGE partners and the BRIDGE Office would like to congratulate the following people that have become BRIDGE Semi-Accredited,

Semi Accredited

Desmond Havnie Tsianai
Ahmed Sayed Hussein
Jiv Sekhon
Au Kau Story Palale
Vitilevu Simati
Mareta Katu
Tuaine Junior Unuia
Lesieli Nai
Maopa Otuafi
Charles Vatu
Reuben Rongomea
Bernard Grundler
Elenita Bennie Brel
Tepaukie Satoga Paape
Bouataake Tengkam
Mufida Oun
Salwa Farhat
Amed El Assal
Fathia El Madani
Noura Hadad
Salima Algbali
Canedla Haddia
Karima Ragab
Lutfia Tabib
Hamida Abuzwida
Fatma Zahra Agili
Hoda Madhi
Nour Khalifa
Bahia Canon
Asma Imtiar
Fredah Joses

Dorra Chaouachi
Eddine Mohammed Reda
Fouad Boustenji
Guilnard Asmar
Hala Omar
Hazem Ebrahim
Hiba Merheb
Hossam ELamoy
Moataz Ezzeldin
Mohammed Shoshar
Mohamed Bensdik
Mohammed Elmelaiji
Reem Al Faouri
Samiha Moubarak
Zoubida Ziani
Ahmed Adel Hassan
Saif Uddin Ahmed
Romina Akter
Shammin Sultana
Shahida Parvin
Farhad Ahmed
Esmot Ara Easmin
Raghu Nath Raha
Rafayet Ara
Kazi Shahidul Islam
Amitabha Ghosh
Md Zakaria
Jharna Barai
BM Nazim Mahmud
Sharmin Akhter
Mohium Khatun Munni
Jana Goswami
Mithu Dibra
Md Kamrul Hasan
Farhana Fatema
Facilitator Accreditations

The BRIDGE partners and the BRIDGE Office would like to congratulate the following people that have become BRIDGE Semi-Accredited:

**Semi Accredited cont**

Chababane Letsitsi
Mapheello Nkopane
Mpati Setlaeaa
Motlohi Sekoala
Teboho Nalane
Alice Moshoeshoe Ramaema
Maseara Fosa
Manthati Salemane
Kamohelo Chobokoane
Tseliso Motki
Ponto Kobo
Mathentoa Selebalo
Mantsane Mahlatsi
Mathuso Mareka
Moleboheng Tsolo
Bokang Nthinya
Thabo Lenka Letlatsa
Francis Faku
Moeketsi Nkoe
Malekaota Nkotsi
Thato Patience Moeti
Idrissa Kamara
Paye M Toekpei
Thomas G Du
Oscar Bloh
Muana S Ville
Eric A B Fredericks
Esther A Barkon
Lamin Lighe
Senesee G Freeman
Saye W Zelabah
Nuwoe A D Scott
Deddeh M Buway
Abdulatef Elhabib
Abdulghani Daaboub
Alfitouri Meloud
Ahmed.K. Aamer Elsanose
Farj Alrabai
Fathi Almuqteef
Gabril Elmasrati
Galal Soheb
Entisar Eznd
Mahmoud Alsaiti
Mahmoud Shaer
Mohamed Aboulkasm
Mohamed Albokhr
Mubarakah Khalleefah
Nadiyah Alnakoua
Najat Elshari
Shokri Alwuhishi
Sleman Abdrlahim
Taha Elmasllati
Taha Orayeth
Usama Ibrahim
Zahrah Abeeed
Josiah F JOEKAI Jr
J. Roosevelt ZayZay Sr
Alfred W Tokpa
Isaac Williams
Sebastian Gaye
Leisel Y Talery
Moses G Clarke
Miatta T Johnson
Lafayette E O Gould
Woninyian Bryant
Mienapeh M. Domah
Faustin KATANGA
Ali ISMAILA MUSAZI
David LUHAKA
Jean-Paul MIHIGO
Célestin SUMANENDE
Jean-Paul AUNUTUTU
Augustin KABANGU
Henry MUWAWA KAKUNGU
Albertine LIKOKE LIKULA
Martine KALIZA MIRINDI
Linda Joëlle BAUMA
Patrick ZABURI
Aimée BALIBUNO
David NGABOYEKA
Patrice BOTENDE
Kabobo SHUKRANY
Azile TANZI
Béatrice YALALA
Agathe FURAHA
Pacôme-Honoré BISIMWA
Joseph BATUBENGWA
Daphrose BITUNGWA
Carmen GARCIA
Baruti MUNDA
Régine MBUYU
Gina TSHOMBA
Sriré MIHONA
Jean-Pierre MAKAKARO
GAMBALI
Brigitte SHABABI MAWAZO