Introduction

Welcome to the first edition of *The Facilitators Bulletin*!

This will be a quarterly bulletin that has replaced the previous ‘Election BRIDGE Newsletter’. The aim is to provide updated information about what is going on around the world - the BRIDGE world that is. It is also a new method of networking and an opportunity for your ideas, information and humour to be shared with your fellow colleagues internationally.

We welcome all comments, suggestions and feedback. You can do so by emailing the BRIDGE Office at projectoffice@bridge-project.org. We also strongly encourage interesting BRIDGE or electoral related articles from Facilitators for future bulletins.

Watch out – each edition we will be randomly selecting facilitators from all around the world to star in our Facilitator Bio’s article.

The BRIDGE Office Team
January 2011

Recent Events

**Georgia Electoral Training**

*Dates:* 8 – 12 December 2010  
*Location:* Batumi, Georgia  
*Hosted by:* UNDP/Georgia project Promoting Dialogue and Capacity for Effective National Electoral Processes

**CEC Georgia BRIDGE Showcase**

*Date:* 4 – 6 December 2010  
*Location:* Batumi, Georgia  
*Hosted by:* UNDP/ European Union
BRIDGE Train the Facilitators Course on the shores of Lake Tanganika

Dates: 6 – 17 December 2010  
Location: Bujumbura, Burundi  
Hosted by: IFES

BRIDGE for Youth in Jordan and Lebanon

Dates in Jordan: 26 – 27 November 2010  
Dates in Lebanon: 4 – 5 December 2010  
Location: Amman, Jordan and Beirut, Lebanon  
Hosted by: IFES/ Friedrich Naumann Foundation

Australian Electoral Commission (AEC) and Papua New Guinea Electoral Commission (PNGEC) Twinning Project – Not One But Two!

Dates: 15 November – 2 December 2010  
Location: Canberra and Brisbane, Australia  
Hosted by: AEC/PNGEC/AusAID

Upcoming Events

Georgian EA and Observers BRIDGE

Dates:  
28 – 31 January 2011  
3 – 6 February 2011  
9 – 12 February 2011  
Location: Batumi, Georgia  
Hosted by: UNDP/Georgia project Promoting Dialogue and Capacity for Effective National Electoral Processes  
Description: UNDP in Georgia, with the financial support of European Union, continues support of capacity building of Election Administration of Georgia through the BRIDGE program. The BRIDGE Showcase will be facilitated by Lead facilitator Natia Kashakashvili, workshop facilitator Giorgi Sharabidze and semi-accredited facilitator Tamar Zhvania.
**EMD Workshop for PIANZEA Network**

**Dates:** 22 – 24 February 2011  
**Location:** Titikaveka, Cook Islands  
**Hosted by:** AEC and Cook Islands Ministry of Justice  
**Description:** The PIANZEA Secretariat will be hosting the Electoral Management Design workshop for Polynesian Members of the PIANZEA Network in Rarotonga, Cook Islands from 22-24 February 2011. The workshop will provide an opportunity for participants to discuss, amongst other things, challenges faced by EMBs in delivering elections, types of EMBs and the guiding principles for EMBs. This workshop will be funded by the Australian Government through the support of AusAID.

**BRIDGE TtF**

**Dates:** 7 – 18 February 2011  
**Location:** Conakry, Guinea  
**Hosted by:** IFES  
**Description:** IFES/Guinea will be hosting a BRIDGE TTF for 20 members of the CENI (Electoral Commission), MATAP (Ministry of Territorial Administration and Political Affairs), members of Guinean CSOs and IFES local staff. The event will take place in Kindia and will be facilitated by Kamissa Camara (IFES), Corneille Nangaa (IFES), Jacques Gbonimy (Guinea CENI), Ibrahima Niang (Gorée Institute).

**BRIDGE TtF**

**Dates:** 10 – 21 January 2011  
**Location:** Zambia

**Jobs**

**IFES/Lead BRIDGE Facilitator – Burundi**

The Lead BRIDGE facilitator will work with the Supporting BRIDGE Facilitator, IFES/Burundi international and local staff to coordinate and facilitate two “four days Bridge training workshops” from January 30 to February 19, 2010. Specific tasks and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Attend meetings with the Commission on Elections, civil society and others, as scheduled, to present the training program, negotiate content and participants and adapt to country context;
- Participate in the selection and adaptation of the BRIDGE training material to be used in the IFES/Burundi training
- Prepare, in collaboration with the Supporting facilitator and the IFES/Burundi staff, workshop content materials, including participants’ folders, training presentations, handouts and other materials as needed;
- Ensure all workshop materials are in place according to the workshop outline and supporting materials (handouts, books, articles);
- Serve as lead facilitator for IFES/Burundi’s BRIDGE training, running the training and adapting the content and schedule as necessary;
- Participate with the Supporting facilitator in the evaluation of the training;
- Write a final report evaluating workshop training, results, and next steps upon completion of the workshop;
Qualified applicants will meet the following criteria:

- “Accrediting Facilitator” level or above;
- Extensive electoral experience, including 7+ years field work;
- Specialized knowledge of the training content areas
- Regional knowledge and French language skills;
- Proven diplomacy, tact, mentorship capacity and effective communication ability;
- Dynamic and effective training skills;
- Excellent organizational skills including the capacity to employ the BRIDGE methodology and curriculum appropriately (customizing, translating, preparing and facilitating module workshops, etc).

Expressions of interests are to be sent to Suzanne Abdallah, Program Officer
SAbdallah@ifes.org

**IFES/Supporting BRIDGE Facilitator- Burundi**

The Supporting BRIDGE facilitator will work with the Lead BRIDGE Facilitator, IFES/Burundi international and local staff to coordinate and facilitate two “four days Bridge training workshops” from January 30 to February 19, 2010. Specific tasks and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Establish early contact with the IFES/Burundi field and DC program team to ensure adequate resource allocation, advance translation of materials, appropriate needs assessment in partnership with COP.
- Participate with Lead Facilitator, COP and training partner in the selection and adaptation of the BRIDGE training material to be used in the IFES/Burundi training;
- Prepare, in collaboration with the Lead Facilitator and the IFES/Burundi staff, workshop content materials, including participants' folders, training presentations, handouts and other materials as needed;
- Ensure all workshop materials are in place according to the workshop outline and supporting materials (handouts, books, articles);
- Serve as co-facilitator for IFES/Burundi’s BRIDGE training, running the training and adapting the content and schedule as necessary;
- Participate with the Lead Facilitator in the evaluation of the training;
- Assist in writing of final report evaluating workshop training, results, and next steps upon completion of the workshop;
- Submit copies of i) training agendas, ii) scoping documents, iii) trip reports, and iv) evaluations to the responsible Program Officer and to the IFES BRIDGE coordination office at bridge@ifes.org; and
- Complete other tasks as assigned by the IFES/Burundi Chief of Party and the Deputy Chief of Party.

Qualified applicants will meet the following criteria:
• “Accrediting Facilitator” level or above
• 4+ years electoral experience, including field work;
• Basic knowledge of the training content areas,
• French language skills, regional experience is preferred;
• Dynamic and effective training skills;
• Excellent organizational skills including the capacity to employ the BRIDGE methodology and curriculum appropriately (customizing, translating, preparing and facilitating module workshops, etc).

*Expressions of interests are to be sent to Suzanne Abdallah, Program Officer SAbdallah@ifes.org*

## Recently Accredited Facilitators

Congratulations to the following Facilitators that have been accredited in the month of December 2010.

### Expert category

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Workshops</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gabrielle Bardall</td>
<td>American</td>
<td>Kinshasa, RDC, Civic Education Feb 2010; Bujumbura, Burundi, Introduction, March 2010; IFES-DC BRIDGE; Burundi BRIDGE; IFES Burundi TtF</td>
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### Accrediting category

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<thead>
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<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Udi Prayudi</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>TTF for KPU Staff; BRIDGE Curriculum Trial; KPU Curriculum Pilot; Modules Workshop 1 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 2 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 3 – Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nur Syafaat</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>Modules Workshop 1 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 3 – Indonesia; Implementation Training-Indonesia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mareska Mantik</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>TTF for KPU Staff; KPU TTF; KPU BRIDGE Curriculum Development; Curriculum Development Workshop; BRIDGE Curriculum Trial; KPU Curriculum Pilot; Modules Workshop 1 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 2 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 3 – Indonesia; Modules Workshop 4 - Indonesia</td>
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## Workshop category

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lisa Bradford</td>
<td>Australian</td>
<td>PNGEC/AEC Twinning Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jenny Pettigrove</td>
<td>Australian</td>
<td>PNGEC/AEC Twinning Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lasha Meladze</td>
<td>Georgian</td>
<td>Georgia Electoral Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Giorgi Sharabidze</td>
<td>Georgian</td>
<td>Georgia Electoral Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barbara Unusu</td>
<td>Solomon Islands</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Elections Solomon Islands</td>
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<td>Markus Krisdiono</td>
<td>Indonesian</td>
<td>Modules Workshop 3 Indonesia</td>
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<td>Mohamad Najib</td>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
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<td>Dian Hepirasnidasari</td>
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<td>Arif Endang D. Wahyuni</td>
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<td>Partono Samino</td>
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## Facilitator Bio’s

**Gabrielle BARDALL**

**Country:** Born in America and resides in Canada  
**Organisation:** International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES)  
**Facilitator category:** Expert  
**Brief history:** I worked with a women’s civic organization in El Salvador for my undergraduate thesis, and I’ve studied or worked on elections and democracy in developing countries ever since. My six years with IFES offered countless opportunities such as the chance to be a part of election technical support programs in the DRC, Burundi and Guinea and to facilitate BRIDGE trainings around the world. I have also benefited from a unique training in election administration with Elections Canada during their federal elections. Today, I’m back at a university for my PhD, taking the time to reflect on these experiences.

**What BRIDGE workshops have you facilitated in?** Sierra Leone (PPRC , 2008), Jordan (Interior Ministry, 2009), DRC (CEI, 2010), Burundi (CENI/CEPI, February and April 2010), Washington DC (IFES/Georgetown University 2010), Burundi Train the Facilitators Course (CENI + International and National CSOs, Dec. 2010), 2 upcoming workshops in Burundi 2011 (CENI/CEPI). I was also IFES’ BRIDGE coordinator from August 2009 – August 2010.

**What do you like most about being a BRIDGE Facilitator?** I really enjoy being a part of a long-term capacity development program like BRIDGE. At IFES, I loved collaborating on the ‘big picture’ and designing BRIDGE programs that could be used independently by election commissions for years to come. However, I enjoy the implementation side best. Being a part of sustainable processes, achieving long-term goals and enjoying the rich friendships that develop over time are the most rewarding parts of being a BRIDGE facilitator for me.

**What are your hobbies and interests?** I love being outdoors and spend as much time as possible gardening, biking, hiking, cross-country skiing and, more recently, learning to kayak
and sail. I love playing flute duets with friends. I’m also a nuisance with my camera, and am excited to have some of my pictures appear on National Geographic’s website and in the publications of various organizations including UNDP, IFES and Freedom House.

Tell us about a time in your BRIDGE journey that stands out in your memory: One of my favourites is the IFES-CENI workshop on electoral dispute resolution in Rutana, Burundi last spring. With the help of the IFES-Burundi team, we were able to take the workshop outside of the classroom and into the community. As part of the training, the BRIDGE participants attended a village-square performance of a spirited community theatre production about election-related disputes along with several thousand local residents. Standing shoulder-to-shoulder under the hot sun watching tensions of election disputes come to life while the townspeople responded to each staged scenario was a really unique learning device. It enriched the classroom study of the different issues and brought the participants in touch with the down-to-earth realities of electoral fraud and disputes as they happen on and before polling day. At the end of the same training, the participants also partook in the launch of an electoral education campaign for transparency and peaceful dispute resolution, complete with traditional drummers, dancers and musicians.

Cate THOMPSON
Country: Australia
Organisation: Australian Electoral Commission (AEC)
Facilitator category: Expert
Brief history: At my heart I have always been, and I always will be, a teacher. My original qualification was a Diploma of Education and my post graduate study focussed on the acquisition of literacy and numeracy. I’m a dedicated, life-long educator and my work has taken on many guises including working with children as young as five, adults at the end of their working lives and everything in between. I have taught in local schools, Indigenous communities, senior colleges, universities and community organisations. I have functioned in many physical circumstances: under the comforting shade of a leafy tree, inside a tin shed in pouring rain, around kitchen tables working with family members from several generations, in the luxury of government Minister’s offices and in the historic beauty of Australia’s Old Parliament House in Canberra as the AEC’s Manager of the Electoral Education Centre. I have taught conventional classes in schools, cross-curriculum courses to Indigenous adults, disability advocacy to undergraduates, electoral education to thousands of school students and many hundreds of adults – and I have loved every minute of it! I worked on my first election when I was 18 years old and that’s several decades ago now!

What BRIDGE workshops have you facilitated in? I began my BRIDGE association in 2002 and became a workshop facilitator in the second stream of people accredited in Australia. Through my permanent work at the AEC I have had the opportunity to work with inspiring colleagues in delivering BRIDGE in many countries in the world – Australia, Fiji, New Zealand, East Timor, Papua New Guinea, Austria and Bhutan. Over the past few years I have also had the opportunity to become involved in a small part of the writing and editing of BRIDGE. The chance to look under the bonnet and see how the BRIDGE motor works and the petrol it runs on makes you appreciate two things. One, the significant
contributions made by ‘election tragics’ from all around the world – from the minor to the major – they all add up to the expansive curriculum that is BRIDGE in 2011; and two, the superb job the administrators in the BRIDGE Office do to convert those creative ideas into the slick product we find on our website!

What do you like most about being a BRIDGE Facilitator? Being an ‘Auntie’ in the BRIDGE family! Let me explain... my BRIDGE experiences around the world have been so invigorating, rewarding and life changing. BRIDGE practitioners often describe themselves as members of a’ family’ who share visions and ideas and who strive together to contribute to the strengthening of societies and communities. I feel strongly that I am privileged to be part of the BRIDGE family and have the opportunity to undertake this important work.

What are your hobbies and interests? Music! Theatre! Bush walking! Swimming! Cooking! Eating! Curling up on the couch with a good book! Travel! Watching tennis, cricket and football! Did I say music?

Tell us about a time in your BRIDGE journey that stands out in your memory: I first met Augusto Pereira and Kinley at the Train the Facilitator in Melbourne in May 2008. This was my opportunity to deliver a Train the Facilitator and I also received my accreditation as an Accrediting Facilitator which was a delightful milestone for me. On this occasion I celebrated my birthday, I was co-facilitating with three of my long time friends and colleagues – Ross Attrill, Yvonne Goudie and Brian Latham - and I was having a fabulous time teaching, establishing new relationships with fascinating people from all around the world and staying in one of my favourite cities in the world – Melbourne!

At that stage I had no idea what experiences lay ahead. Very soon after this I was asked to go, with Alistair Legge, to deliver the Foundation Module – Strategic and Financial Planning – in East Timor. This was the first time I had been to East Timor and would also be an opportunity to accredit Augusto as a Workshop Facilitator – he would be the first of the 2008 semi-accredited cohort to do so. Almost a year later I had the opportunity to travel to Bhutan to conduct the first ever modules of BRIDGE in Bhutan and to accredit Kinley and his colleagues as the first BRIDGE facilitators in their country. Also, both Augusto and Kinley came to Australia to take up four monthly work placements with the AEC. Our working relationships have afforded us wonderful learning opportunities and shared experiences in each other’s countries. It has been a privilege and a pleasure to get to know Augusto and Kinley as close friends and to have the honour to work together with them in inspirational spaces such as is East Timor and Bhutan. Fortunately BRIDGE programs continue in both East Timor and Bhutan and I hope to continue to be associated with both. Lucky me!
DG BRIDGE

Democracy & Governance (DG) BRIDGE is specifically designed to be tailored to and dovetailed with existing democratic and governance initiatives and programs. It is funded by AusAID and UNDEF.

Reflecting on 2010

Phase 2 of DG BRIDGE mapped civic education resources in the region, and developed a Training of Facilitators (ToF) for delivery of DG BRIDGE modules. ToFs were conducted in Bali in June and in Bangkok in September. A customising workshop, to mentor semi-accredited facilitators to deliver the DiOP curriculum at their national level, took place in Bandung, Indonesia in November with 7 facilitators who graduated from the Bali and Bangkok ToFs. This culminated in the Indonesian national DiOP workshop in Bandung in December. A curriculum was developed for a new foundation module - Democratic Governance.

Looking forward to 2011

In the first six months of 2011, the work of Phase 2 will continue with additional funds from AusAID. Activities proposed for the coming months include attendance at the BRIDGE Partner meeting, a ToF in Africa, a national workshop in the Asia/Pacific region, trialling the new Democratic Governance foundation module, and the establishment of a Community of Practice for all participants of DG BRIDGE workshops. As always, further development and refinement of curriculum will continue.

Staffing Update: Maureen Green farewells the DG BRIDGE office in February 2011 – after putting in a tremendous effort for 2010 and contributing in many ways to the overall success of Phase 2.

Want more info on the DG BRIDGE? BRIDGE website: http://bridge-project.org/dg/about
Contact: Yvonne Goudie, DG BRIDGE Coordinator – yvonne.goudie@aec.gov.au

Did you know?

“Cacareco, a rhinoceros at the São Paulo zoo, was a candidate for the 1958 city council elections with the intention of protesting against political corruption. Electoral officials, of course, did not accept Cacareco’s candidacy, but he eventually won 100,000 votes, more than any other party in that same election (which was also marked by rampant absenteeism). Today, the term "Voto Cacareco" (Cacareco vote) is commonly used to describe protest votes in Brazil. Cacareco’s candidacy inspired the Rhinoceros Party of Canada, nominally led by the rhinoceros Cornelius the First.”.
Further details about Cacareco's candidacy appear at:
http://www.museumofhoaxes.com/hoax/archive/permalink/cacareco_the_rhinoceros/

Guidelines for Facilitator Administration Duties

The BRIDGE Office is working on supporting Facilitators to be organised and efficient with their administration duties for their BRIDGE events. We all know that conducting events is very dynamic, challenging and time consuming. This can sometimes cause delays in providing the BRIDGE Office with the important administration that is needed to update the database and website. This includes participant information (in excel format provided on the website); articles and photos. The team has worked on making this process simpler and more efficient for the benefit of the facilitators and the office.

On the BRIDGE website, facilitators are provided with a simple checklist for before and after BRIDGE events are taken place. Please take some time to review this page and implement the preferred method for admin: http://bridge-project.org/facilitator (you will need to log on as a facilitator to view this page). Please note, it is desired that the office receives the relevant materials within 1 – 2 weeks from the time the event has taken place.

Our friendly team is here to provide support and assistance with your BRIDGE events. If you require assistance with your administrative duties please contact Tania Tabaja by emailing tania.tabaja@aec.gov.au or by phone on +61 3 9285 7159. Alternatively you can email projectoffice@bridge-project.org.