

# Making Technical Cooperation work for capacity building

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## Capacity Development & the Backbone Strategy to Reform TC

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EUROPEAN  
COMMISSION

# Capacity Development – core business

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**Most important strategic objective of development co-operation.....**

## **6 priorities in the Accra Agenda for Action (2008):**

- ▶ Civil society and private sector
- ▶ National, sector and thematic strategy
- ▶ **Technical Cooperation**
- ▶ Enabling environment
- ▶ Country systems
- ▶ Fragile situations

**..... Technical Cooperation : the entry point to address CD challenge**

# The Accra Agenda for Action calls for TC reform

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- ▶ Donors' support for **capacity development** will be demand-driven and designed to support country ownership
- ▶ Developing Countries and Donors will :
  - ▶ i) jointly select and manage technical cooperation
  - ▶ ii) promote the provision of technical cooperation by local and regional resources, including through South-South Cooperation
- ▶ Donors will strengthen their own capacity and skills to be more responsive to developing countries' needs

# The Backbone Strategy on Reforming TC and PIU

Reforming Technical Cooperation and Project Implementation Units for External Aid provided by the EC  
(July 2008)

## Objectives:

- Providing good quality TC that supports country-led programmes based on strong partner demand
- Providing support through partner-owned project implementation arrangements with substantial reduction of parallel Project Implementation Units

4 slides



# Eight guiding principles

8. Consider innovative options for TC provision

1. Primary aim is Capacity Development

2. Demand led approach where TC is not provided by default

7. Avoid use of Parallel PIU & promote effective Project Implementation Arrangements



3. Strong result orientation

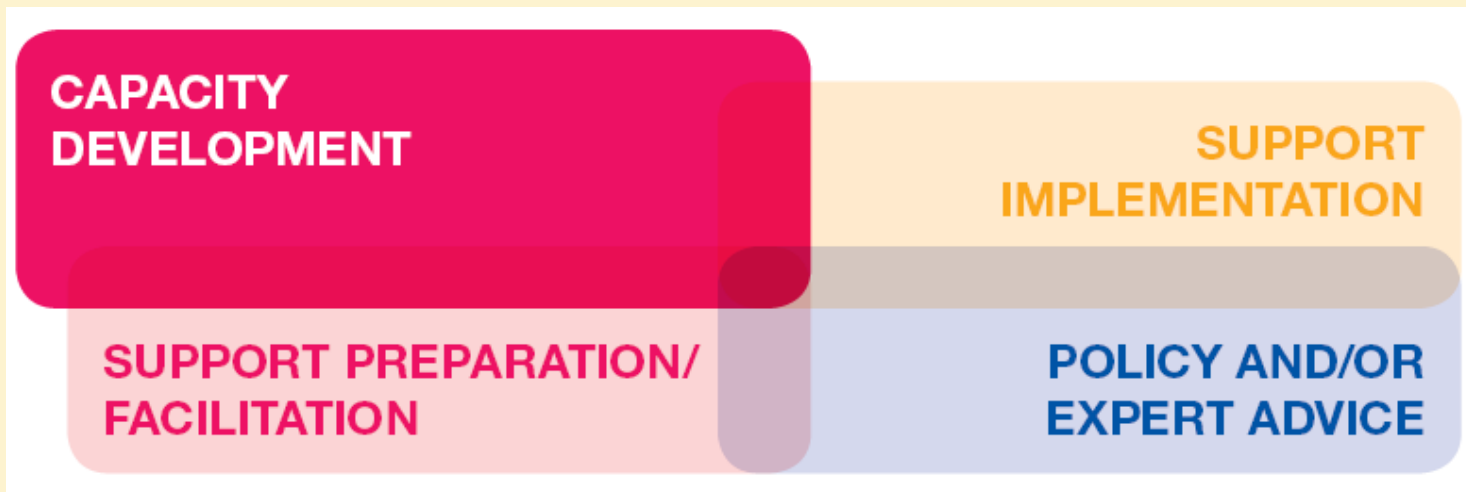
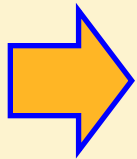
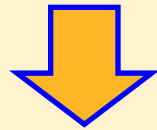
6. Work through harmonized and aligned actions

5. Take account of country/sector requirements

4. Country owned & managed TC processes

# CD as the focus area of Technical cooperation

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# The five working axis \_\_\_\_\_

**4. Communication, knowledge management, training**

**1. Strategic dialogue**

**2. Improve design management & accountability**

**3. Improve tendering, contracting & other procedures**

**5. Implementation and monitoring of the Strategy**

# Axis 1: Strategic dialogue on TC and PIUs

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## At country level – menu of interventions:

- ▶ Support sector/national policies on TC and PIU
- ▶ Support plans for capacity development at sector level
- ▶ Address public sector reforms
- ▶ Promote dialogue on "top up"
- ▶ **Inform other donors on TC operations in the pipeline**
- ▶ engage in joint/co-financing

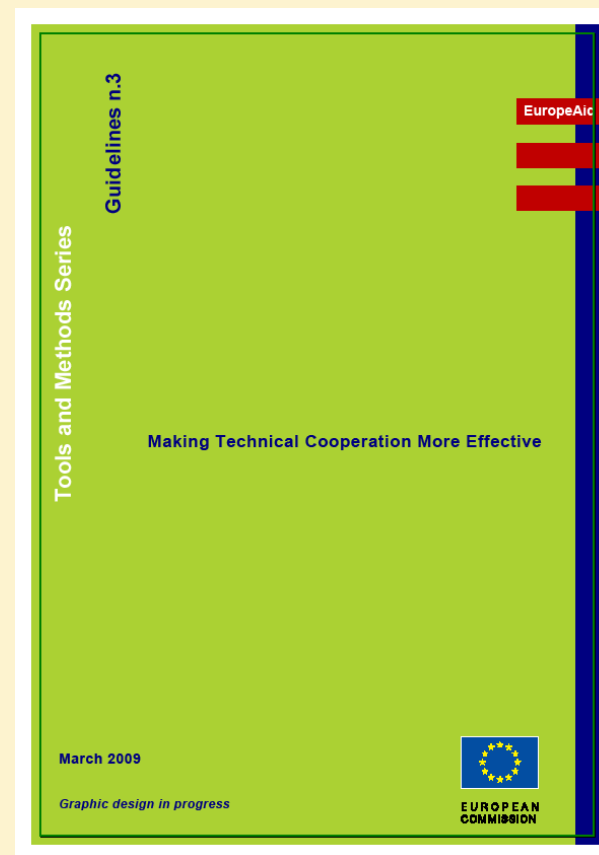
## HQ level:

- ▶ participation in ongoing dialogue at international level
- ▶ Produce joint EU guidance – in progress
- ▶ organize joint training/sector seminars



## Axis 2 - Guidelines on Making TC more effective

- ▶ Target : EC staff but also partner countries, TC providers, other donors
- ▶ Convert ownership into practice
- ▶ Assess and adapt to demand, context and capacity – and harmonize.
- ▶ Let results be the driver – and get them right

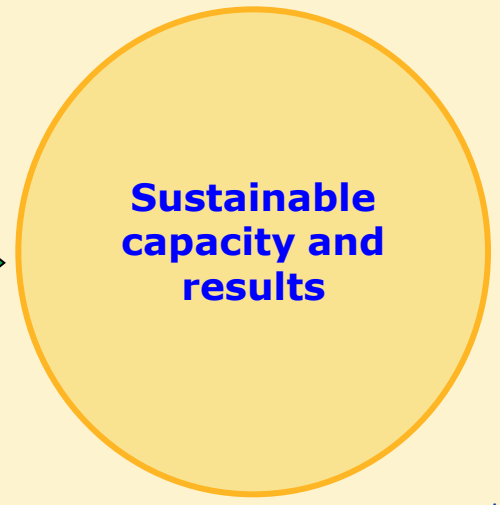
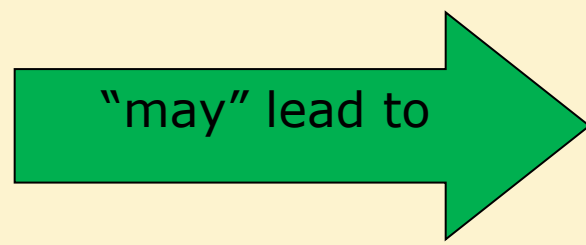
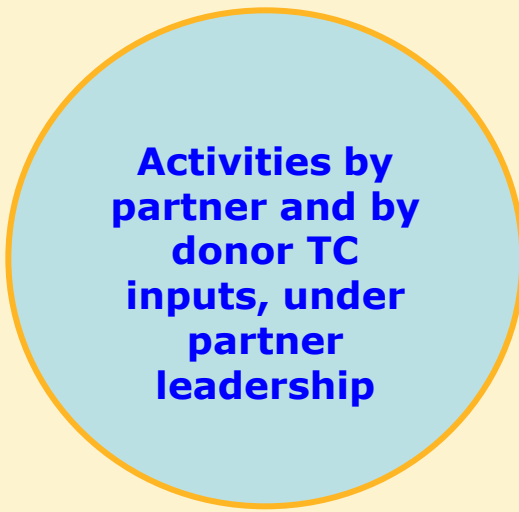
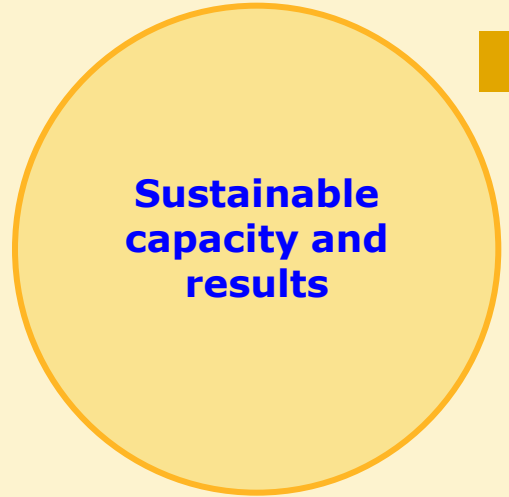
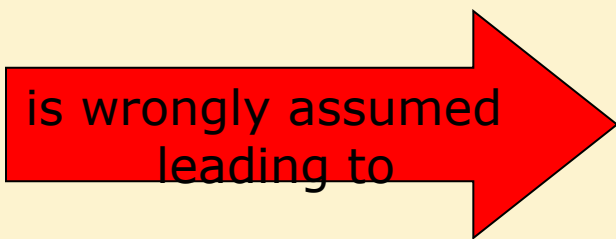


## Axis 2 : Process Wise ---

- ▶ Partner countries involvement in project design and management
- ▶ Accountability of TC providers to partner countries
- ▶ Better monitoring and performance assessment systems
- ▶ Quality assurance system – Quality Criteria to be applied at country level and by HQ

# Focusing on the partner's programme

Partner-owned TC support



## Axis 3: TC procurement, contracting and other procedures \_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ More ownership of Partner Governments in tendering/contracting
- ▶ Facilitate co-financing and delegated cooperation
- ▶ Facilitate mobilization of public sector expertise, including of MS via grants and service contracts
- ▶ Improved quality of experts – selection and performance tracking
- ▶ More use of local expertise

**!!! see Annex 6 of the Guidelines on TC - "Short Guide to EC rules and procedures"**

## Axis 4 - [www.capacity4dev.eu](http://www.capacity4dev.eu): Facilitating exchanges, collaboration and learning

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- ▶ EC family + the rest of the world

### **Content:**

- ▶ news, interviews, hands on practical info, cases studies  
Advanced search capability
  - ▶ User empowered (share knowledge, peer support, upload material comment, rate, tag etc)
  - ▶ Online work groups, collaboration spaces and tools
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- ▶ Open to all stakeholders by end of June - 2009

## Axis 5: Implementation / monitoring of the strategy \_\_\_\_\_

- ▶ **Country level:** mapping of TC and PIU + Action Plan by delegations
- ▶ **HQ:** Regular meeting of Steering Committee and reporting to EP
- ▶ **Reach out:** The Panel - Reach out to external partners to dialogue on TC, including partner countries
- ▶ **External evaluation** of TA launched by the end of 2009
- ▶ European **Court of Auditors** announced follow up

## Guidance on CD developed by EuropeAid

- ▶ Reference Documents on "**Institutional assessment and capacity development**" (2005)
- ▶ Guidelines on "**Making Technical Cooperation more effective**" (2009)
- ▶ "**Tools kit for Capacity Development**" (2009)
- ▶ **Concept Paper on « Introduction to Public Sector Reform » - 2009**

**Thank you for your attention!**

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## **For further information:**

▶ **Internet:**

- ▶ [www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/delivering-aid/aid-effectiveness/index\\_en.htm](http://www.ec.europa.eu/europeaid/what/delivering-aid/aid-effectiveness/index_en.htm)

▶ [www.capacity4dev.eu](http://www.capacity4dev.eu)

▶ **Intranet:**

- ▶ [www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/activities/administrative\\_cooperation/index\\_en.htm](http://www.cc.cec/dgintranet/europeaid/activities/administrative_cooperation/index_en.htm)

▶ **Functional mail box:** [EuropeAid-TC-PIU@ec.europa.eu](mailto:EuropeAid-TC-PIU@ec.europa.eu)