



CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

BMT Cordah Limited

BMT Cordah has twenty-five years' experience of training individuals and working with different institutions and agencies to enhance their skills in environmental management. We have assisted many governments in reviewing and drafting environmental legislation, preparing guidelines and analysing institutional frameworks for environmental management with a view to improving performance. This wide-ranging experience provides an ideal base for providing integrated services to assist governments and other clients enhance their capacity to manage the environment.

BMT Cordah's Approach

BMT Cordah's experience shows that creating environmental organisations or improving their performance is only partially effective in ensuring better environmental management. A wider focus and approach, integrating activities across many sectors, is needed to enhance the ability of governments and other entities to devise and implement solutions to environmental problems. However, strengthening the capacity of individual organisations is a necessary component of wider capacity development.

BMT Cordah uses an approach to capacity development that emphasises existing strengths and restricts external input to a supporting and catalytic role. The focus is on providing an enabling framework for internal initiatives to be devised and implemented with ownership staying, firmly, with the local government or organisation(s).

Our service capability includes:

- analysis of institutional frameworks for environmental management and performance review
- comparative evaluation of institutional options for environmental management
- design of capacity development programmes
- implementation of capacity development programmes
- awareness raising for politicians and senior decision-makers
- design of more effective legal frameworks
- assisting more responsive policy formulation
- creating better linkages between organisations
- creating partnerships between public and private sectors
- empowerment initiatives for non-governmental organisations
- advising on internal agency reforms
- integrated and multi-target training programmes
- design of modules for specific courses in institutes of higher education.

Examples of Projects Undertaken by BMT Cordah Staff

Bulgaria (2001 - 2003)

Management of the environmental component of project to improve the capacity of three municipal governments in the South East region. The focus is on ensuring their development strategies are environmentally sustainable and identifying and analysing the feasibility of environmental projects that might be submitted to the EU for funding.

(UK Department for International Development and ITS Ltd.)

Capacity Development for the Environment

Examples of Projects (continued)

Russian Federation (2000–2002)

Training input and advisory work on environmental management systems for a multi-disciplinary environmental capacity development project to assist the Tomsk Oblast Ecological Committee improve its performance.

(UK Department for International Development and Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick & Partners Ltd)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1999-2002)

Technical support to the Engineering and Environmental Services Section in the implementation of a three-year project to integrate environmental considerations into UNHCR refugee operations through use of various environmental tools and preparation of guidance documents and training.

Azerbaijan (1999-2000)

Environmental training component of an environmental capacity-building project to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for environmental management with special reference to the State Committee for Ecology (now MENR).

(UK Department for International Development and ERM)

Perú (1997-2000)

Improving the environmental management capacity of companies and government in the mining sector. Emphasis was placed on design of a range of training modules and delivery of specific courses to different audiences from the industry and government.

(Projekt Consult and German Institute for Geosciences and Natural Resources)

Trinidad & Tobago (1998-99)

Improving Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) capacity. Linked activities included advice on preparation of EIA Guidelines, provision of training courses for staff from the Town and Country Planning Department and other agencies, development of training materials, implementation of a "train the trainers" programme and preparation of a handbook to assist the review of EIA Reports.

(Department of Town and Country Planning and World Bank)

Moldova (1997-98)

Analysis and evaluation of the legal and institutional framework for environmental management as part of a wider Environmental Performance Review. Practical recommendations were made to improve the capacity of the government to manage the environment.

(UN Economic Commission for Europe and UK Know-How Fund)

Kenya (1996-97)

The Kenyan National Environmental Action Plan recommended that the institutional arrangements for environmental management should be made more effective.

After consultations, six options were devised and a comparative evaluation was undertaken against a range of performance criteria. The most cost-effective alternative, which could be implemented within the context of the civil service reform programme, was identified.

(Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources and World Bank)



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