Best Practices

in the IAEA's technical cooperation programme

The IAEA's technical cooperation Best Practices mechanism encourages and supports stakeholders in information sharing, continuous learning, innovation, networking and the development of communities of practices. Stakeholders in the TC programme are regularly invited to submit their proposals for Best Practices, using the online survey questionnaire.

A Best Practice must demonstrate…

Relevance

Consistency with end user and country needs as well as stakeholders' policies.

Ownership

Effective leadership over the programme/ projects.

Sustainability

Continued long term benefits and resilience to risk of the net benefits over time.

Efficiency

Optimum use of available resources to achieve the planned results.
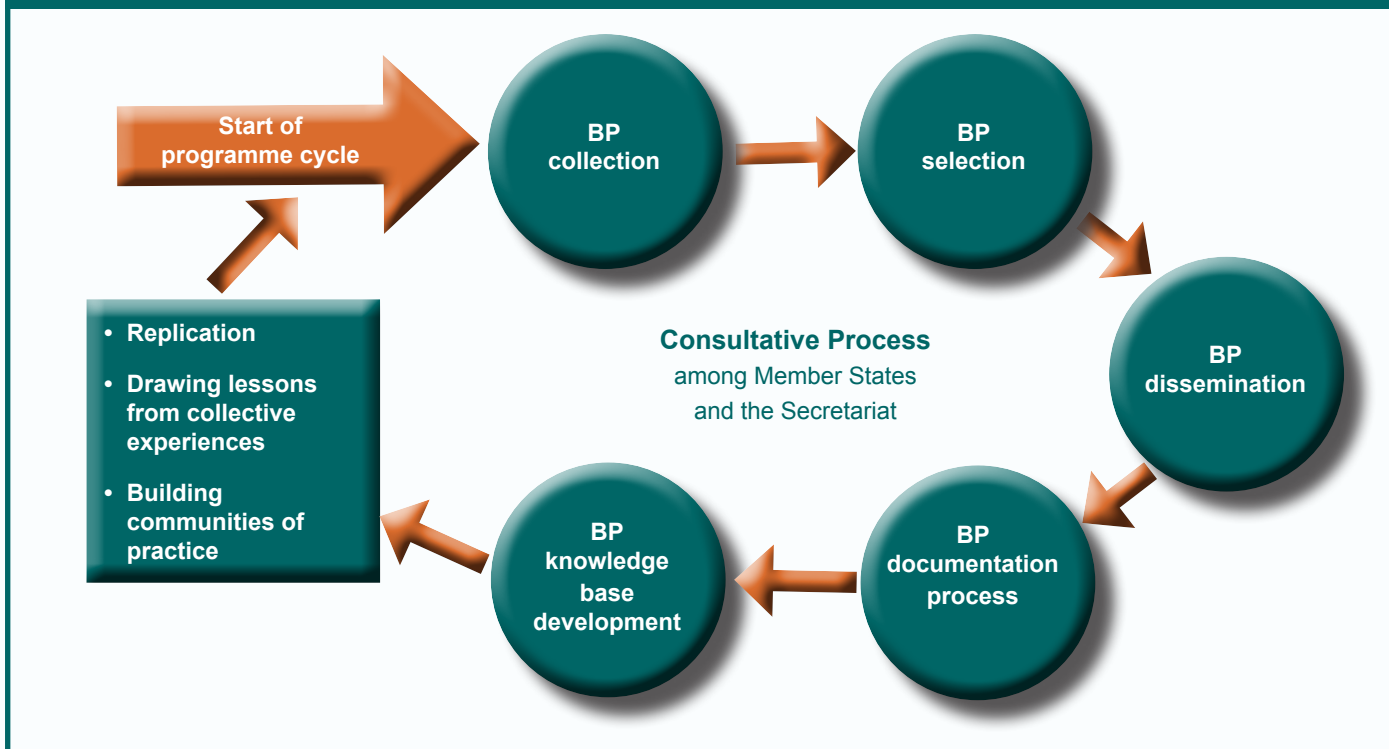
Effectiveness

Contribution towards institutional development in the Member State.

What is a Best Practice?

In the context of the IAEA's TC programme, a Best Practice is an example of a standing policy, strategy, procedure, process, tool, technique or method that supports enhanced compliance with relevant performance indicators in the effective and efficient delivery of the objectives of a TC task. Successful Best Practices need to be replicable for the benefit of others.

Best Practices Process

Start of programme cycle → BP collection → BP selection → BP dissemination → BP documentation process → BP knowledge base development →

- Replication
- Drawing lessons from collective experiences
- Building communities of practice

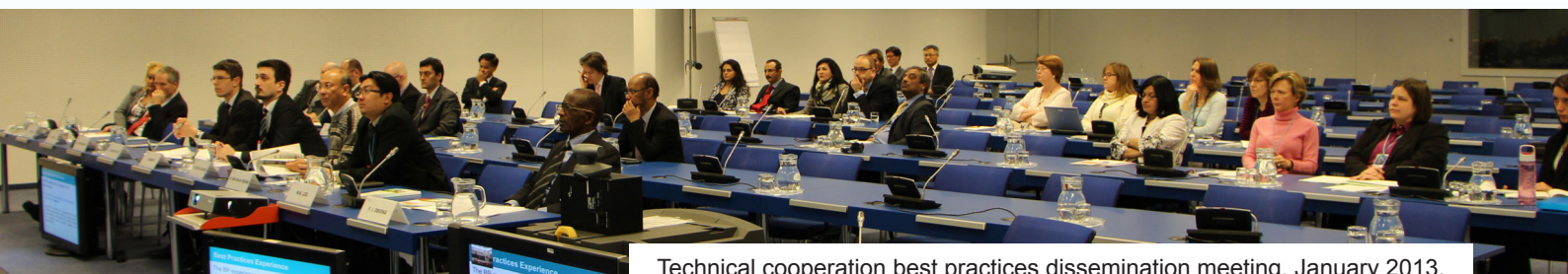**Consultative Process** among Member States and the Secretariat

About the TC Best Practices initiative

The first call for IAEA technical cooperation Best Practices was made in 2012 and resulted in the selection of eight TC Best Practices. The second round, in 2013, identified an additional three TC Best Practices. 2015 marked the third call for TC Best Practices.

The Best Practices initiative is based on an interregional TC project (INT/0/085, 'Sharing best practices for the design and management of technical cooperation projects') which aimed to enhance the effectiveness of the technical cooperation programme by sharing best practices for the design and management of TC projects across regions, and thus to improve the IAEA's provision of technical cooperation support to Member States.

The Best Practices initiative is aligned with IAEA policies and other ongoing activities in knowledge management. Criteria for TC Best Practices are based on the IAEA's programme management principles, which include: contribution to development goals; need and demand driven; peaceful use undertaking; safety and security; Member State ownership and shared responsibility; non-discriminatory; cooperation among Member States and with partners; quality programme management; and transparency.

The Best Practices mechanism provides an opportunity for Member States and TC project teams to share their experiences in TC programme and project management. The mechanism supports cross-fertilization of ideas for mutual learning. The documentation of Best Practices is central to managing the knowledge and experience of stakeholders in the TC programme, and to further improving TC programme performance.

Technical cooperation best practices dissemination meeting, January 2013.

Detailed information on the IAEA technical cooperation Best Practices mechanism, together with a description of identified Best Practices, are available at: www.iaea.org/technicalcooperation/programme/Quality/Best-Practices

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