

# Structure of Presentation

- **Background**
- **Perception of Capacity**
- **Examples of past capacity building activities**
- **Shortcomings of past capacity building activities**
- **Suggestions for remedy of shortcomings**
- **Conclusion**

# Background

- **Training in many countries, particularly developing countries, focuses on acquisition of knowledge with very little emphasis on acquisition of skills**
- **Acquisition of skills has not been given due attention in some countries acquisition of skills is despised**
- **Several professionals are attempting to address this deficit by additional practical related add-ons such as internship in medicine profession or law development in legal profession**

# **Background** Contd.

- **“Business as usual” training has had little success in converting acquired knowledge into skills**
- **Shortcomings of training have led to shortage of or limited job opportunities**
- **This deficit has been recognized and many countries are responding by changing training curriculum**

# Capacity

**Capacity may be understood as:**

- **Ability to perform or execute some specified task or assignment**
- **Application of knowledge to solve a problem or to execute a task**
- **Conversion of knowledge into skills is a necessary element of capacity building**

# **Capacity Contd.**

- **The principle of learning by doing could not be more appropriate to describe practical capacity building or acquisition of skills**
- **Least developed countries, because of their level of development have low capacity, including adaptive capacity**
- **Efforts have been made to address this deficit, particularly under the climate change process**

# Capacity Building under the UNFCCC

- Climate change is new and diverse
- Formal training programmes are just beginning to emerge, particularly in developing countries
- Capacity building is recognized as an important and critical element to tackle climate change
- A lot of efforts have been devoted to it as evidenced in the agenda of SBI and COP
- Many decisions have been made and attempts have been made to implement them

# Capacity building challenges of LDCs

- Capacity building needs of LDCs are many and varied and include:
  - Lack of institutional capacity to coordinate implementation of the Convention and its Kyoto protocol
  - Lack of institutional capacity to collect and analyze climate and climate change data/information

# Capacity building challenges of LDCs Contd.

- Lack of technical capacity to formulate projects, including CDM projects
- Lack of capacity to undertake vulnerability and adaptation assessment and mitigation analysis
- Lack of resources to collect, analyze and synthesize data/information to support negotiations



# Examples of past capacity building activities

- Several workshops on vulnerability and adaptations assessment, with hands-on sessions using models have been organized
- This knowledge has not been applied and additional re-training will be required to carry out vulnerability assessment
- Capacity building workshops on the Clean Development Mechanism have also been organized in many developing countries

# **Examples of past capacity building activities** Contd.

- Identification, formulation of CDM projects still remain difficult
- Climate change negotiation training workshops have been organized in several developing countries
- Frequently trainees are not facilitated to participate in the actual negotiations or if so it is a one time activity
- Trainees when sponsored to attend negotiations are subjected to poor conditions, including accommodation environment

# **Examples of past capacity building activities** Contd.

- Capacity building projects for developing countries, particularly in LDCs are designed without their involvement
- These countries are invited to participate or sign to
- These projects have frequently failed to achieved their objectives primarily because of misconception of the project

# **Shortcomings of past capacity building activities**

- **Past efforts have focused more on acquisition of knowledge rather than skills and has therefore not yielded the desired results - acquisition of skills**
- **In such cases skills are mainly acquired through experience on the job**
- **Consequently trained people tended to seek jobs rather create jobs**
- **Doctors listened to their patients prior to prescribing treatment – there is strong reasons for this practice namely information collection on the case**

## **Shortcomings of past capacity building activities Contd.**

- **Many capacity building activities are designed with very little involvement or inputs of target groups**
- **For example a project to build climate change negotiation capacity focuses on negotiation principles but does not allocate resources for trainees to participate in the negotiations**
- **This is because the problem has not been analyzed**

# Suggestions for overcoming shortcomings

- Conception of capacity building activities by target group(s) or their involvement
- Assist target group(s) to identify key capacity building activities and develop project concept
- Activities should be driven by demand for instance establishing a DNA with no projects to approve is senseless and difficult to justify
- Provide adequate time and resources for acquisition of skills in capacity building activities

# Conclusion

- Involvement of target group in the design and development enhances chances of success
- Provide adequately for skill acquisition through enhance learning by doing – this is particularly true with CDM capacity building activities
- Provide adequate resources and time for follow-up and check by trainer
- Encourage a group approach
- This may sound expensive but it is value for money

**THANK YOU**

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