Panel: Capacity building across frontiers: Issues of good practice

**Practice based know-how transfer: a key approach to ownership and sustainable technical assistance**

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Technical assistance is about know-how transfer. Capacity building in culture is less "scientific" compared to other sectors. This would suggest a certain need of trainers for methodological exchange, though not many initiatives have been seen so far. "Best practice cases" and "case studies" are used extensively. They are often one-directional presentations of cases that do not build on problems of the audience and do not connect to its experience and working conditions. Thus, they do not build skill. Knowledge transfer is a first step, after which next steps have to build, train and consolidate skills or "know-how" in the sense of the term for contributing to changed practices and attitudes. This should include opportunities for practical application and training but also of verification of practicality of methods and tools. Such a need oriented approach requires a more complex methodology then one-off trainings, for instance working with multimodule workshop cycles.

Furthermore, any training programme should have "train the trainers" as a core objective with the aim to train multipliers that will further enhance local expertise. Thus "local ownership" of tools, methods and approaches is ensured, which is a key factor for any sustainable development. A plea for more exchange among experts.

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