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# Ensuring Quality of the Technical Cooperation Programme

Division of Programme Support and Coordination  
Department of Technical Cooperation

# Background

Processes and activities in ensuring quality of the TCP are aligned with:

- IAEA Medium Term Strategy (2018-2023):  
*“The focus will be on **increasing the efficiency, effectiveness, quality and results-orientation of projects** in line with the guidance of the Policy-Making Organs, and on further aligning the TC programme with a results-based approach and promoting best practices in **project formulation, management and monitoring.**”*
- General Conference Resolution (GC(60)/RES/11):  
*“Appreciating the efforts of the Secretariat in continuing to apply a two-step mechanism of **quality assessment and review** of projects for the 2016–2017 cycle, on the basis of TC quality criteria, in particular the central criterion of the Logical Framework Approach (LFA)” and “Welcome and further encourage the continuing efforts of the Secretariat to **optimize the quality, the number and the impact of TC projects** and to create synergies among them, whenever feasible, and in coordination with the Member States concerned”.*

# Processes and Tools for Quality Management:

- TC Quality Criteria
- Quality Enhancement and Quality Reviews
- Training and Capacity Building
- Monitoring and Evaluation

# TC Quality Criteria

- Applicable across all phases of the TC programme cycle
- Applicable to all national, regional and interregional projects
- Based on project documentation developed using the Logical Framework Approach (LFA)

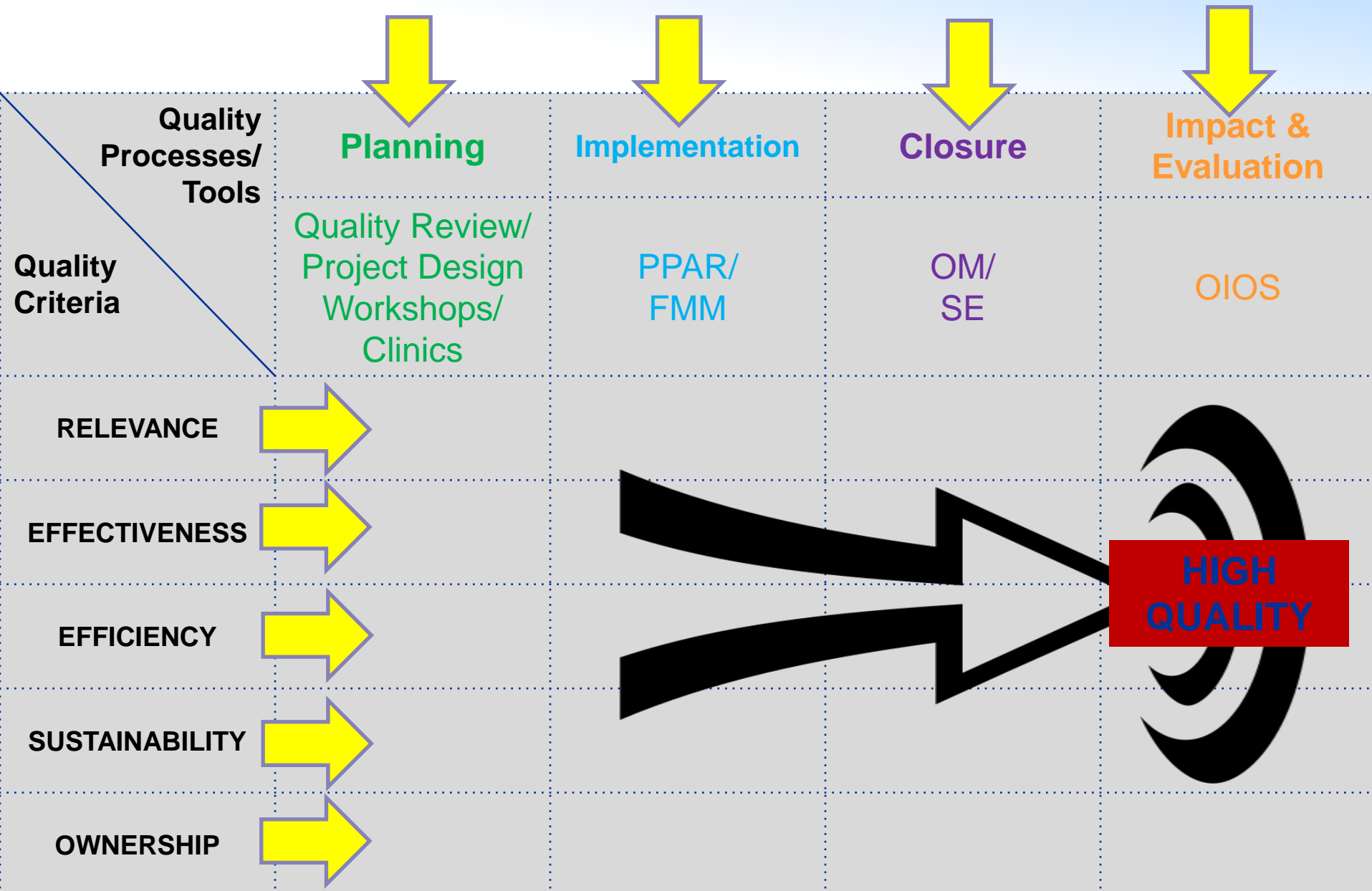


# TC Central Criterion

Project addresses “an area of real need in which there is a national programme enjoying strong government commitment and support.”

- Projects that produce a tangible socio-economic benefit in an area in which nuclear technology holds a comparative advantage;
- Projects that clearly support an enabling environment for the use of nuclear technologies;
- Government’s commitment to sustaining the benefits of technical co-operation activities.

# Quality throughout the TC Cycle



# Quality Reviews

- The TC Department undertakes regular quality reviews of the TC project designs and provides feedback to the Regional Divisions (and through them to NLOs and CPs) in order to enhance the quality of the projects and therefore of the TC Programme.
- The purpose of the quality reviews is twofold, depending on when they are conducted during the planning process:
  - **During the planning process:** feedback to the project teams in order to enhance quality of individual project designs (“Quality Enhancement”)
  - **At the end of the planning process:**
    - quality of the completed project designs
    - comparison with previous cycles
    - identify areas for improvement and lessons to be learnt for future TC cycle

# General Observations 2016-2017

- Nearly one third of all countries had significant numbers of reviewed projects with low project design quality.
- Room for improvement in the upstream work process: CPFs, strategic analysis, partnerships, UNDAF, SDGs
- Lack of experience in analysing risks and formulating assumptions.
- Transcription of problem/objective analysis into LFM
- Logic of LFM elements
- Still blank fields in the template, even after finalization
- Role of IAEA often only linked to inputs provided
- Regional Projects: Information on participating MSs incomplete
- Importance of continued capacity building: additional training approaches, e-learning, train-the-trainers



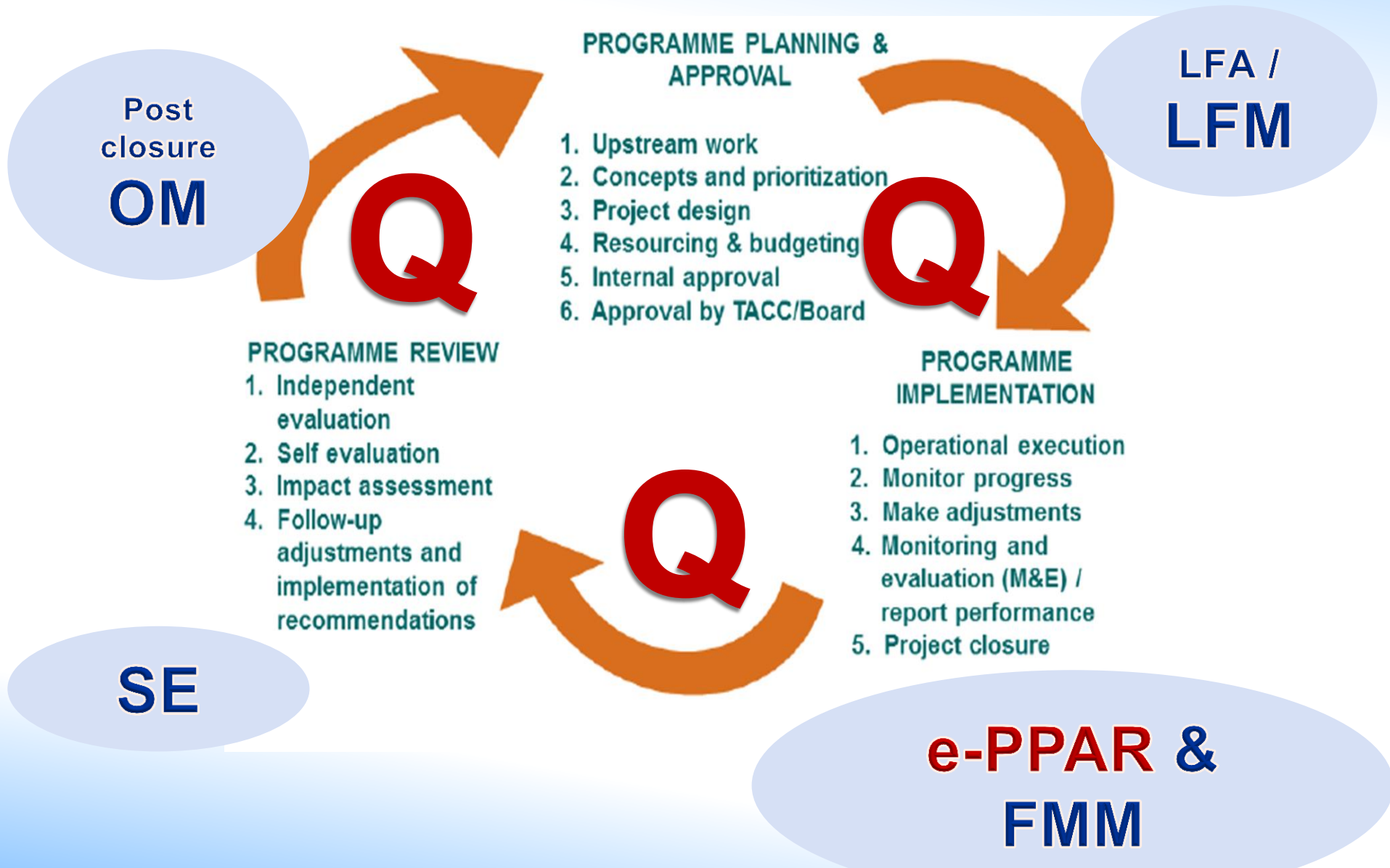
# Why M&E of TC Projects?

- Increased demand from MS and donors for evidence of how the TC contributes to addressing development challenges in the recipient MSs (impact)

M&E helps to provide evidence of TC successes in the MSs; this facilitates resource mobilization for the programme;

- M&E allows to identify lessons learned and to incorporate these for continual improvement

# M&E Tools





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*Thank you!*

