Capacity development has been emerging as a central approach within development for more than two decades. To help development professionals better understand and master this paradigm, this interactive course, offered in cooperation with the Learning Network for Capacity Development (LenCD), introduces the key concepts, principles, and values of capacity development. The main focus is on building practical skills for better design, planning, implementation, and assessment of capacity development initiatives.

Course topics include:

- The concept of capacity development: levels, types, and themes
- Assessing existing capacity and defining capacity needs
- Assessing change readiness; defining and mapping a change process
- Mapping and influencing stakeholders
- Formulating capacity goals and objectives, and capacity indicators
- Designing a capacity development approach
- Measuring capacity outcomes and results for different levels and contexts

The course helped me to integrate a lot of knowledge I had gathered over the years into a more coherent framework. This framework was supported by the design of the course which followed a strict logical and temporal pattern, coupled with reflection on one’s own work.

Bart Horemans, International Technical Advisor
Capacity Development, Belgian Development Agency

How does the course work?
In this highly interactive 9-week long online course, participants from around the world read and discuss course materials, sharing their experience and knowledge under the guidance of experienced course facilitators. Participants complete a number of activities and assignments designed to help them apply the course concepts to their own professional environments. Course groups are limited to 25 participants.

Who should apply?
This course will be of interest to practitioners of capacity development and other professionals working in the development field who plan to start working specifically in capacity development.

To find out more about Diplo courses and to apply, please visit http://www.diplomacy.edu/courses or contact admissions@diplomacy.edu