

11th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

13–15 November 2017

Palais des Nations, Geneva

Integrating public debt management within Integrated Financial Management Systems (IFMIS)

by

Mr. Marcelo Abalos

DMFAS Programme, UNCTAD

The views expressed are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of UNCTAD.

11th UNCTAD Debt Management Conference

Integrating Debt Management Software with Integrated Financial Management Systems (IFMIS)

Mr. Marcelo Abalos
Systems Analyst, Team Leader



Geneva, 14 November 2017



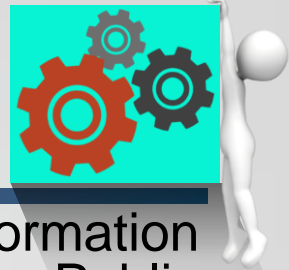
UNITED NATIONS
UNCTAD

Integrating Debt Management Software with Integrated Financial Management Systems (IFMIS)

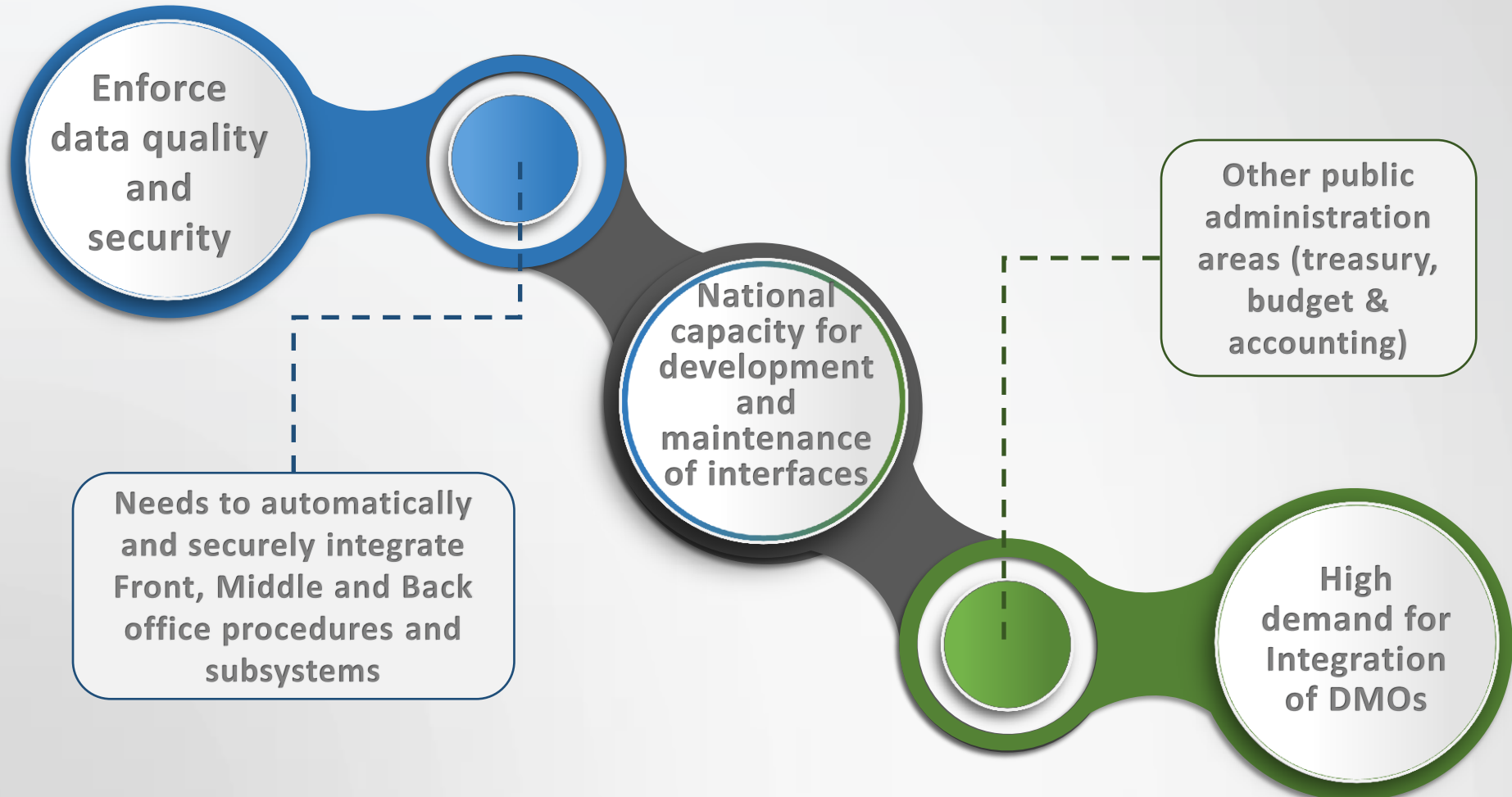
Outline:

- Challenges faced by DMOs
- Solutions provided
- Benefits of integration
- Recommended activities
- Key success factors
- Lessons learnt and future developments

Challenges faced by DMOs

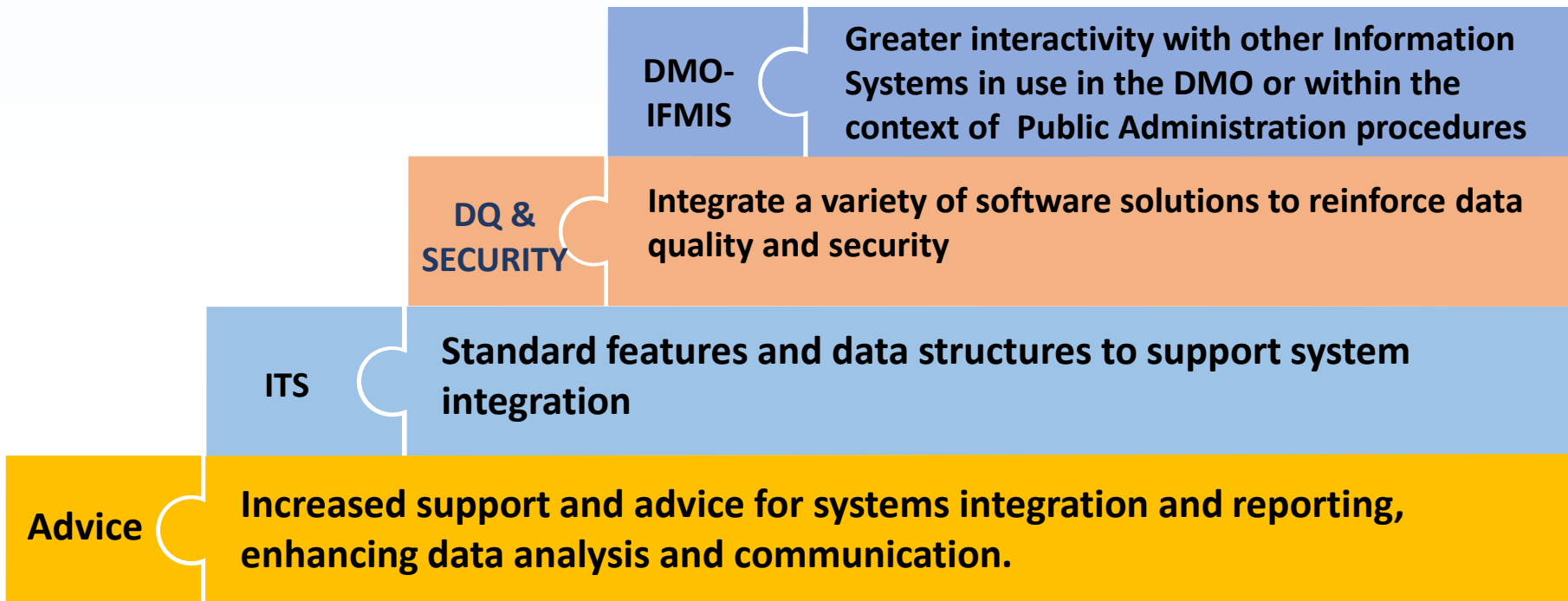


The evolution of Information Technologies, including changes in best practices of Public Administration confronts DMOs with:



Solutions provided

As a result of the evolution of requirements, DMOs increasingly require advice and support to software solutions providing standardized interfaces



Solutions provided

Increased support and advisory services for integration processes and reporting, enhancing data analysis and communication



Benefits of Integration

Integrating the development of interfaces within the context of the Debt Management Software project implementation and development facilitates:



1

Security

as the new modules do not bypass any of the standard security checks, authorizations, etc



2

Transparency

All data is consistent and trustworthy through all the integrated applications



3

Simplicity

Easiest development of country specific functions to support integration and data migration



4

Adaptability

Easier maintenance and adaptation of existing links to newer versions of the DMFAS software



5

Capability

Building local capacity for the maintenance of interfaces

Benefits of Integration

In addition to technological advantages of integration, we can also consider the compliance with most recent definitions of best practices in Debt Management, particularly those related with Data Quality Dimensions such as:



1

Accuracy

the extent to which data reflects the reality, reinforcing the reliability of the information



2

Completeness

All recorded data is present wherever needed through all the integrated applications



3

Timeliness

Ensures data is processed in due time, once the required processes are triggered, helping to ensure deadlines are respected



4

Uniqueness

Facilitates the unique recording principles, making transactions to be processed efficiently



5

Auditability

Ensuring that any transaction can be tracked to its originating transaction.

Recommended activities

IFMIS Integration

Needs Assessment

On demand, provide advisory services for assessing the integration of IFMIS with the Debt Management Software.



- Assess the requirements for integration and eventual modifications (process & applications)
- Agree with government on requirements for implementation.



Analysis of local system

Environment and needs for the interface (Conceptual Design) , in close collaboration with IFMIS technical and functional teams



Physical design

Creating the technical definitions of the interface between systems, including a Workshop on Procedures, Database Structures, tables and relationships



- Assist local IT staff in the elaboration of the detailed design (Offer technical template)
- Preparation and presentation of detailed design in form of a workshop

Development support

The local IT staff will maintain the detailed design of the interface;
Validate the modifications and updates to the detailed design of the interface



- The local IT staff developing the programs for the link/interface between the systems.
- UNCTAD providing remote support and guidance through its helpdesk.



Recommended activities

Support during development process

Development and maintenance of interface performed by IFMIS IT staff
Remote support and guidance through helpdesk.



Supervision/Coordination

Systems Analyst/Designer supervising the work of developers and consultants while coordinating ensuing activities



Validation of the Interface

Onsite review and test of the link/interface in coordination with local IT staff and the related users



Successful implementation

IFMIS Integration

IFMIS Integration Key success factors



Planning and communication

Creating plans allowing information sharing and coordination among parties during all phases of the project



Capacity building

Developing capacity on local IT teams in order to ensure maintenance and evolution of the interfacing modules



Standardization

Use agreed ITS standards to maximize flexibility and data exchange compatibility. Ensure understanding by all parties



Contingency planning

Developing an emergency response plan that includes coordination and communications

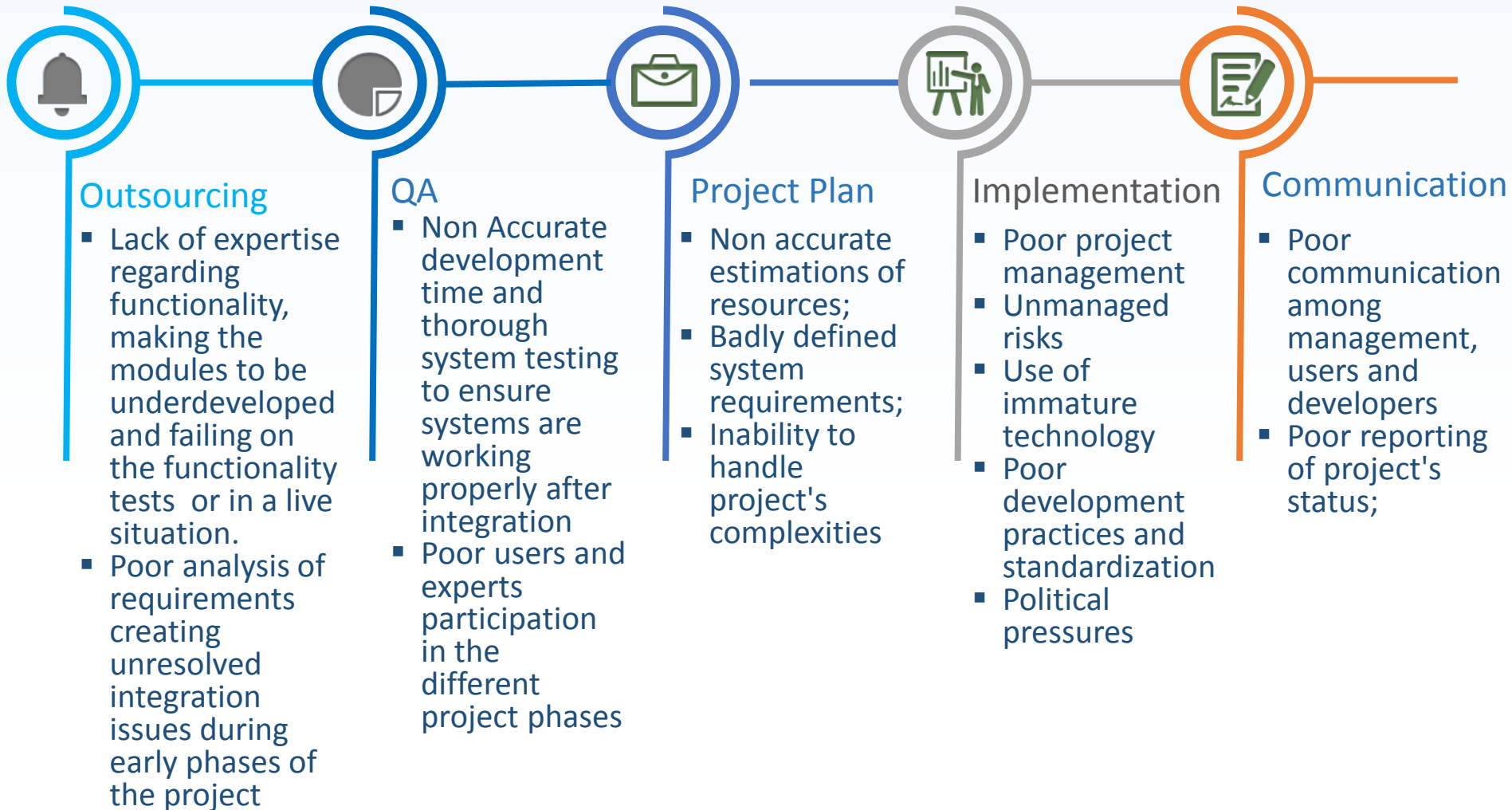


Apply Industry patterns

Meet user needs and follow accepted usability engineering practices for interactive systems

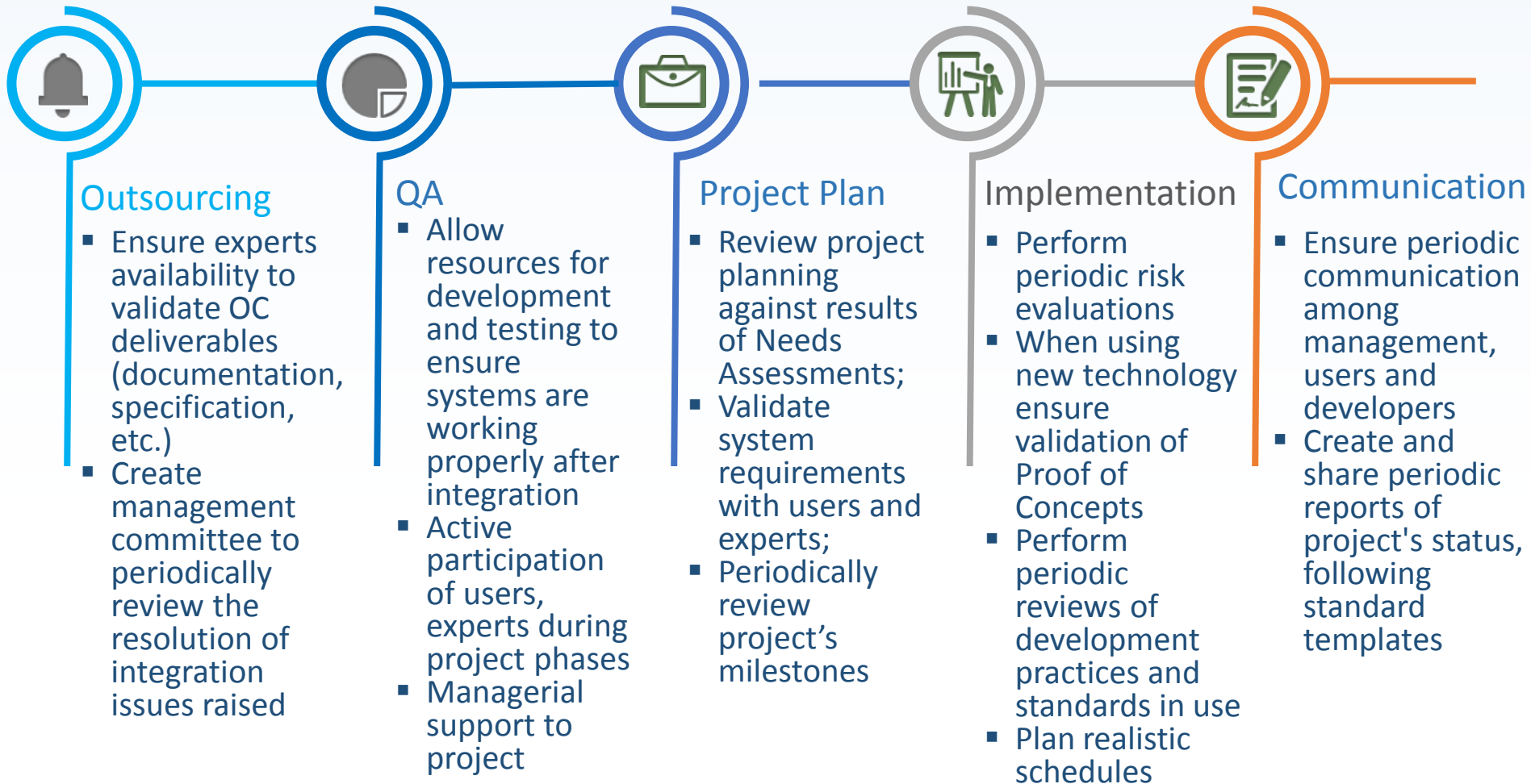
Lessons learnt

Failure factors

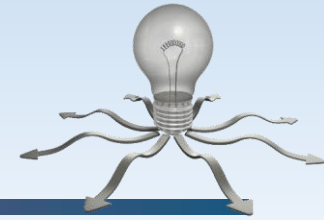


Lessons learnt

Reducing failure factors



Future developments



The evolution of technologies and requirements require solutions for interfacing systems within new configurations



1 Reporting

Increasing support for Business Intelligence platforms, enhancing data analysis and communication.



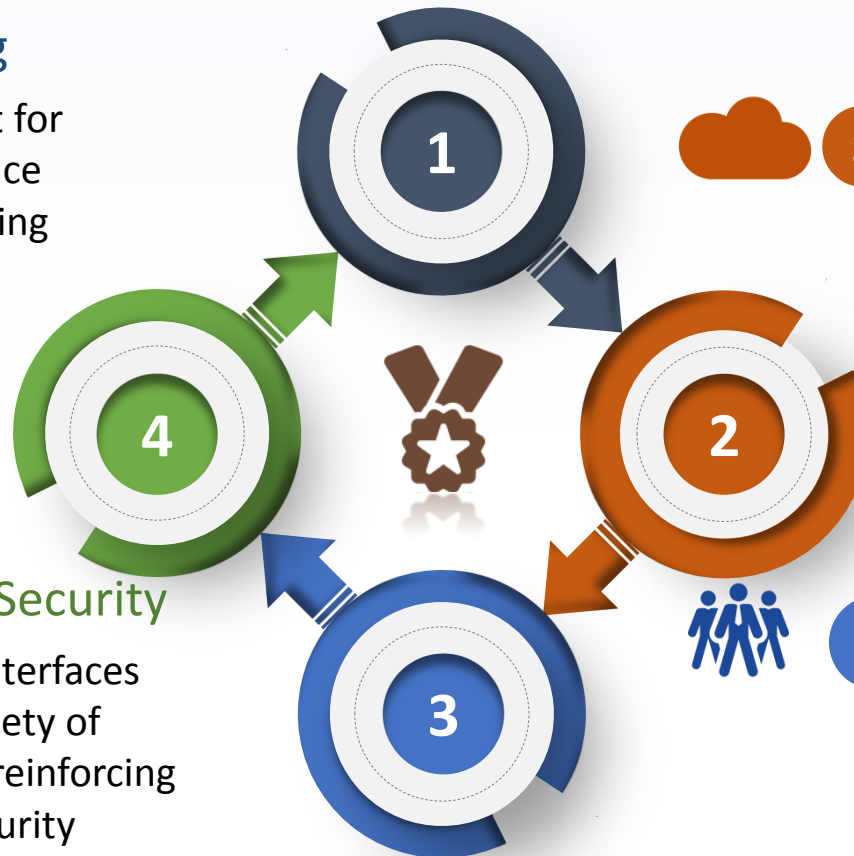
2 Technology advances

Cloud computing & SaaS contexts, providing high availability, scalability and cross platform support



3 Capacity Building

Continue improving on capacity building activities for local IT and IFMIS staff



4 Reinforce Security

Enhance standard interfaces for integrating a variety of software solutions reinforcing data quality and security

Thank you
Questions?