TC Programme Quality Criteria

1. Relevance: Is the programme/project doing the right things?

The degree to which the programme/project objective and design are consistent with and respond to the end users' needs, country needs, and partners' policies, and continue to do so, should circumstances change.

2. Coherence: How well does the programme/project fit?

The compatibility of the programme or project with other interventions in a country, region, sector or institution.

3. Effectiveness: Is the programme/project achieving its objectives?

The extent to which the programme or project output and outcome results were achieved, or are expected to be achieved, taking into account their relative importance.

The TC quality criteria together describe the desired attributes of all TC projects: that they should be relevant to the context, coherent with other interventions, achieve their objectives, deliver results in an efficient way, and have positive impacts that last.*

4. Efficiency: How well are the resources being used?

A measure of how resources (funds, expertise, time, etc.) are converted into results in an economic and timely way, compared to feasible alternatives in the context.

5. Sustainability: Will the benefits last?

The continuation of benefits after the completion of a programme or project; the probability of continued long-term benefits; and the resilience to risk of the net benefit over time.

6. Ownership: Is there national/regional commitment to the programme/project?

The extent to which Member States exercise effective leadership over their programmes and projects.

The TC programme quality criteria are grounded in the central criterion of the Technical Cooperation Strategy, which states that:

"A project meets the central criterion if it addresses an area of real need in which there is a national programme enjoying strong government commitment and support. Such projects take two forms:

- (a) those that produce a tangible socio-economic benefit in an area in which nuclear technology holds a comparative advantage; and
- (b) those that clearly support an enabling environment for the use of nuclear technologies (such as safety infrastructures or energy planning).

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