

IOCE Strategic Plan –2008-2009

IOCE Mission

IOCE's mission as stated in its bylaws as follows:

The IOCE seeks to legitimate evaluation and to support evaluation societies, associations or networks so that they can better contribute to good governance and to effective decision making and strengthen the role of civil society. The IOCE will build evaluation capacity, develop evaluation principles and procedures, encourage the development of new evaluation societies, associations and networks, undertake educational activities that will increase public awareness of evaluation and will seek to secure resources for co-operative activity. The IOCE will be a forum for the exchange of useful and high quality methods, theories and effective practice in evaluation.

Strategic Priorities

The IOCE Board of Trustees recognises that because of its limited human and financial resources it is essential that IOCE focus on specific areas. In response, the Board has identified the following key strategic priorities;

1. Provide leadership in evaluation worldwide.
2. Encourage and support organisational capacity building for evaluation organisations.
3. Facilitate communications and sharing of ideas across the global evaluation community.
4. Effective governance, management, and strategic direction of IOCE.

The first three represent the core of IOCE priority areas and intended impacts. The fourth is an internal management strategy aimed at strengthening IOCE governance and management capacities to undertake activities that address the first three strategic priorities.

Discussion of the Strategic Priorities

This section contains information and activities representative of each of the priorities. These strategic areas will serve as a framework for identifying more specific activities, as well as provide a basis for developing operational annual work plans, budgets and fundraising proposals.

Provide leadership in evaluation worldwide

- Provide leadership in the evaluation community with respect to issues and considerations cutting across national and regional borders.
- Serve as a focal point to the international evaluation community on common issues that relate to their functioning, growth or development.
- Have a place at the table at international forums where issues that affect the evaluation community globally are discussed (e.g., IOCE's place on the board of NONIE represents the interests of the evaluation community, especially within developing countries, with respect to impact evaluation).
- Encourage members to attend key international meetings and events and provide synthesised information to IOCE membership about these events and their proceedings.
- Promote partnerships among the evaluation community where appropriate

Encourage and support organizational capacity building for evaluation organisations

- Provide technical support and guidance for developing evaluation associations and networks.
- Share information among members on approaches to common issues of interest (e.g., the IOCE publication on “Creating and Developing Evaluation Organizations: Lessons learnt from Africa, Americas, Asia, Australasia and Europe”).
- Where applicable, provide support for national organizational activities (e.g., letters of support that could contribute to increasing the legitimacy of activities and aid in fundraising).
- Facilitate partnerships and exchanges among the evaluation community where applicable (e.g., connecting leaders, potential technical support).

Facilitate improved communications and sharing of ideas across the global evaluation community, and in particular among IOCE members

- Act as a network of evaluation networks worldwide by serving as a channel to share information regarding key issues and questions of common interest in the international evaluation community.
- Maintain the official database of evaluation associations/societies/networks and provide key contact information to facilitate connections between interested individuals and groups.
- Synthesise relevant key information and provide the latest available information to the evaluation community.
- Provide avenues for exchange of ideas (e.g., the EvaLeaders Forum)
- Provide or identify existing platforms for exchange of information on upcoming events, information on available resources, etc.
- Document experiences on, and develop guides and other resources for the evaluation community (e.g., organizational case studies).

Effective governance, management, and strategic support

- Ensure appropriate liaison and communications with members on matters such as membership status and payment of dues.
- Increase the visibility of IOCE among its membership and across the international evaluation community more broadly.
- Increase the numbers of organizations who are members of IOCE and further explore ways of maximizing benefits to paid-up members,
- Maximize the effectiveness of the Board, e.g.:
- Strive towards at least one face-to-face meeting per year (bearing in mind financial implications).
- Make use of other communication channels, recognising that most internal communications, of necessity, will need to be carried out virtually, primarily through e-mail/Board forum exchanges, with teleconferences where possible.
- Maximize the effectiveness of IOCE’s paid Secretariat.
- Investigate the potential for other activities, where funding permits, to increase the organizational funding base and capacity to undertake additional activities of benefit to its membership.