# IOCE EvalPartners profile survey of Voluntary Organizations of Professional Evaluators (VOPEs)

## I. Basic profile information

| 1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE) | National Monitoring and Evaluation Network of the Kyrgyz Republic |
| 2. Geographic scope of organization (See typology in right column; highlight appropriate level, delete others) | 1. National: Kyrgyz Republic (Kyrgyzstan) |
| 3. Contact Details | Name of main contact person: (Mrs) Tatiana TRETIAKOVA E-address: ttatiana2000@mail.ru Postal address: 720021 Bishkek, Abdrahmanova st. 145 apt 64, Kyrgyz Republic Telephone: (+996312) 68-19-96 VOPE website URL: www. |
| 4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total) | Government: 0 NGOs/CSOs: 15 Academics: 0 Private sector (consultants): 3 Other: 8 Total membership: 26; number of listserve recipients - 64 (including evaluators from Tajikistan); |
| 5. Year VOPE was founded | 2007 |
| 6. Current status (identify which) | • Informal network |
| 7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years. | The Network started out with about 20 companies and individuals and in the past five years increased to 26 formal members and a total of 64 subscribers to the listserve (including formal members). |
| 8. Purpose and mission of VOPE | Developing professional evaluation and expertise in the Kyrgyz Republic. |
| 9. Current strategy and emphasis | • Build capacity of individuals who engage in project evaluations. • Develop methodical evaluation instruments in the Kyrgyz Republic. • Create electronic library of evaluation materials and literature in the Kyrgyz Republic. • Networking and build professional contacts within the country and beyond. • Learn international experience of building professional evaluation societies (VOPEs). |
| 10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc. | The network is lead by the Coordinator and supported by the position of Network Secretary - both elected positions. There is a core group of active members. Elections of the Coordinator and Secretary are held every two years. Network produces annual report to its members. Network activities are funded by membership fees. |
| 11. Means of communication with members, e.g. newsletter, listerv, publication, website | Mainly through mail list. General meetings are held twice a year. Thematic groups are established for implementation of various specific initiatives. |
| 12. Past events (e.g. during past year) | In 2011 the network organized: one online training, two local workshops, round table discussion with participation of NGOs and government representatives. Regional M&E Conference (Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan) was held in 2010. Results-Based Project Evaluation Toolkit was translated from English into Russian, a manual for gender-sensitive evaluation was developed, two policy briefs were drafted (please see attached in Russian). |
| 13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location | A workshop on discussion of Kyrgyz Government evaluation methodology; Discussion of the "Law on Monitoring and Evaluation" as a result of |
II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building

1. Background: Please provide a brief history of the formation of this organization (VOPE).

   1.1 There are 11 key players in the organization who established and are most active in running it. Most of them are representatives of local nongovernmental sector.
   1.2. We have one Network Coordinator who acts as an Executive Director, major decisions are made by voting of network members; no formal board or committee has been established.
   1.3. The strength of the VOPE is well maintained contacts with relevant government agencies; diversity of network members with good networks; diverse knowledge base.
   1.4. Main challenges - increase professional capacity and skills of local evaluators; to create country-led M&E system.

2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?

   By establishing this network we tried to create a professional field for operation of professional organizations that will help make governance in the country more effective.

3. Evaluation Capacity Building: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?

   Every year we try to conduct trainings, peer-to-peer workshops, with involvement of evaluators, NGOs, government ministries and agencies.

4. Context / target entities: More specifically, who are the persons or institutions your organization seeks to influence (to strengthen evaluation capacity)? For example:

   • Strengthening VOPE organizational capacity itself through peer-to-peer efforts and with invitation of guest coaches (physically and through online technologies); through translation of important international best practice into local language (toolkits, articles); sharing conference materials attended by network members;
   • Trying to influence governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation design and implementation of M&E systems.

   4.1 Technical capacities to supply quality evaluations, partnering with experts, local universities or others to provide training for members, etc.;
   4.2 Strengthening VOPE organizational capacity itself;
   4.3 Enhancing the enabling environment for evaluation, including strengthening the demand for and use of evaluations by policy makers;
   4.4 Influencing governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&E systems, etc.

5. Public accountability: Is your VOPE helping to strengthen oversight and transparency of government programs? If so, in what ways? Can you share any success stories of evaluators or

   Our members are involved in evaluation of some government programs and thus make their contribution to better effectiveness and transparency. However, more needs to be done to do it in an organized manner.
others promoting public accountability?

6. More specifically, what are some of the key themes for which you advocate? For example, are you promoting issues related to cultural sensitivity, equity, social justice, empowerment, transformation, gender, environment, poverty? If so, please describe or attach relevant documents.

- Country-led M&E system;
- Effectiveness and transparency of government programs and policies;
- We have prepared two policy briefs (Russian version is attached)

7. Methods: Experiences in strengthening skills of individual members, by (for example):
- organizing workshops led by local experts;
- organizing webinars with international speakers;
- designing and delivering e-learning programmes;
- administering mentoring programmes; etc.

- We have experience in strengthening skills of individual members by trainings and workshops led by local experts;
- Organizing webinars with international speakers;
- Peer-to-peer learning and knowledge sharing between members;

8. Standards: Has your VOPE developed professional standards/ ethical codes/ competencies (or adheres to those developed by others)? If so, please provide documentation.

For 2012 we have set one of the objectives of developing professionals standards.

9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?

Yes. We are signed up into several other evaluation listservs and share with our members all relevant news and employment/consultancy opportunities. Members also actively use the mail list to share employment/consultancy opportunities among themselves.

10. Progress and results: What progress has been achieved so far in any of the above or other domains? What are expected and unexpected results achieved?

Members communicate with each other and refer to each other for various issues. Evaluation colleagues from Tajikistan have also joined our listserv. One of the results is that network is alive and relatively dynamic, with regular communication and interaction between the members.

11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.

A lot of activities are maintained by a group of key activists who volunteer for the network. Informal peer-to-peer sharing are popular and easy to organize. Interest in membership is maintained through joint seminars with government agencies, NGOs and experts aimed at building M & E system of the country.

12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?

Discuss and try to promote the law on M & E system in the country; discuss and establish evaluation standards and principles; build capacity of members and government counterparts.

13. Willing to share with other VOPEs? For example, would you be interested in forming peer-to-peer partnerships with one or more other VOPEs to share lessons learned, advise each other? If so, describe what you would be willing to share / advice you would seek.

Yes, we would be willing and eager to share with other VOPEs our experience in dealing with government, policy issues, membership issues. And learn from others their experience with building country-led evaluation systems, capacity building, organizing VOPE as an entity.

14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?

Creating a web platform and sharing best practice of various networks (VOPEs), sharing experience in conducting difficult evaluation, and receiving advice from leading experts on various issues (e.g. typical cases). Supporting creation of a journal about interesting practices and evaluation theories.

15. Want to be actively

Yes, learning, knowledge sharing and cooperation related to issues
involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?

| Revolving | described above. |