

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

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	Community of Evaluators-Nepal (CoE-Nepal)
2. Geographic scope of organization	National: Nepal
3. Contact Details	Name of main contact persons: Ram Chandra Khanal (khanalrc@gmail.com) Gana Pati Ojha (gpojha@gmail.com) Ramesh Tuladhar (r.tula1950@gmail.com) E-address: info@coe-nepal.org.np Postal address: Sitapaila-8, G.P.O Box- 4608, Kathmandu, Nepal Telephone: 977-1-4278964/4270509 VOPE website URL: www.coe-nepal.org.np
4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation	Government: NGOs/CSOs: 5 Academics: 1 Private sector (consultants): 3 Other: Total membership: 9
5. Year VOPE was founded	2011
6. Current status (identify which)	Legally recognized by government
7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	Establishment of COE-Nepal was inspired by the work of COE-South Asia and other global and evaluation societies. Being a new organisation, its activities are limited to attaining the legal status, capacity development members, developing some concept notes for evaluation research, establishing linkage with evaluation managers of various organisations.
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	Vision: Effective development policy, program and partnership. Mission: Establish a culture of evaluation at national and international level through development and dissemination of knowledge in evaluation, capacity building of evaluation stakeholders, and promotion of evaluation theory and practice. Goal: Advance the theory, practice and use of evaluation in development processes for learning, decision-making and accountability.
9. Current strategy and emphasis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To develop and disseminate knowledge products on evaluation, 2. To enhance capacity of development actors on quality evaluation, 3. To strengthen the dialogue mechanism for promoting the use of evaluation.
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	Governance structure: It has a nine-member board consisting of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a general secretary, a secretary, a treasurer and four members. Leadership: COE-Nepal members have provided leadership in various fields ranging from grassroots level to national, regional and international levels in the area of organizational development, research and evaluation especially in food security, livelihoods, climate change, disaster risk management, environment, education, peace and development and gender and social equality Linkages: Community of Evaluators-South Asia International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE)
11. Means of communication with members, e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Website: www.coe-nepal.org.np
12. Past events (e.g. during past year)	One day symposium on “The Status of Evaluation in Nepal”, 11 August 2010, Kathmandu

13. Forthcoming key events/ conferences – dates, location	Event: Second international evaluation conclave in collaboration with Community of Evaluators-South Asia Date: February 26 – March 1, 2013 (Tentative) Venue: Kathmandu
14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information	Gana Pati Ojha Ram Chandra Khanal Ramesh Tuladhar
15. Date of this update	02 April 2012

II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building

<p>1. Background: Please provide a brief history of the formation of this organization (VOPE).</p> <p>1.1 Who were/are the key players?</p> <p>1.2 How many members do you have on your governing board/ committee?</p> <p>1.3 What are the main existing strengths that your VOPE is trying to capitalize on?</p> <p>1.4 What are the main challenges that your VOPE is trying to address?</p>	<p>The founding of Community of Evaluators (CoE), Nepal, was inspired by the feedbacks received during the symposium on “The Status of Evaluation in Nepal”, held on 11th August 2010 in Kathmandu and International Evaluation Conclave in New Delhi on October 2010. CoE is a non-profit, non-governmental, and non-partisan organization. The team comprises a pool of evaluators, development practitioners, and academicians with national and international work experience of over a decade.</p> <p>1.1 Key Players: Dr. Ramesh Tuladhar, Dr. Gana Pati Ojha and Ram Chandra Khanal</p> <p>1.2 Members in Governing Board: 9</p> <p>1.3 Existing Strengths: conducting research on evaluation for building evaluation knowledge, organising international evaluation conclave jointly with COE-South Asia</p> <p>1.4 Challenges: Use of evaluation in project cycle management, develop culture of evaluation practice</p>
<p>2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?</p>	<p>Realization at individual/group level on increased need of quality evaluation and need for effective planning and management of development</p>
<p>3. Evaluation Capacity Building: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?</p>	<p>National level networking, promotion of utilization focused evaluation, meetings/workshops on evaluation</p>
<p>4. Context / target entities: More specifically, who are the persons or institutions your organization seeks to influence (to strengthen evaluation capacity)? For example:</p> <p>4.1 Technical capacities to <i>supply</i> quality evaluations, partnering with experts, local universities or others to provide training for members, etc.;</p> <p>4.2 Strengthening VOPE organizational capacity itself;</p> <p>4.3 Enhancing the enabling environment for evaluation, including strengthening the <i>demand</i> for and use of evaluations by policy makers;</p> <p>4.4 Influencing governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&E systems, etc.</p>	<p>Target entities: Government, NGOs, training institutions and UN agencies</p> <p>4.1 Strengthening the capacity of COE-Nepal itself to develop the capacity of target entities in the area of evaluation</p> <p>4.2 Promoting enabling environment to increase demand and use of evaluation by policy makers</p>
<p>5. Public accountability: Is your VOPE helping to strengthen oversight and transparency of</p>	<p>No so far.</p>

<p>government programs? If so, in what ways? Can you share any success stories of evaluators or others promoting public accountability?</p>	
<p>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.</p>	<p>Thematic Areas:</p> <p><i>1. Knowledge development</i></p> <p>1.1 Situation analysis of evaluation practices and uses in Nepal,</p> <p>1.2 Review and synthesis of new knowledge, innovation and trends in evaluation criteria, research methodology, and evaluability assessment,</p> <p>1.3 Meta evaluations,</p> <p>1.4 Innovative and emerging evaluation research such as appreciative inquiry, contribution analysis, socio-economic impact,</p> <p>1.5 Studies on the use of evaluation by stakeholders,</p> <p>1.6 Studies on the new dimensions in evaluation of specific programmes such as climate change, disaster risk management, security system reforms, peace and development; etc.,</p> <p>1.7 Occasional papers on evaluation practices.</p> <p><i>2 Capacity Building</i></p> <p>2.1 Basic and advance training on evaluation theory, tools and techniques,</p> <p>2.2 Seminar/workshop/conference/conclave on evaluation theory, practices, model, methods and emerging approaches,</p> <p>2.3 Professional development trainings of evaluators on evaluation standards, ethics, norms and code of conduct.</p> <p><i>3 Promotion of evaluation theory and practices</i></p> <p>3.1 Networking with organizations working on the promotion of evaluation,</p> <p>3.2 Advocacy for mainstreaming evaluation in the development cycle,</p> <p>3.3 Policy dialogue for the effective use of evaluation,</p> <p>3.4 Establishment of ethics, standards, norms and code of conducts in evaluation,</p> <p>3.5 Collaborative research and outreach national and with international evaluation organizations,</p> <p>3.6 Profiling of evaluators.</p>
<p>7. Methods: Experiences in</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organizing conferences/workshop, conclave

strengthening skills of individual members, by (for example): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • organizing workshops led by local experts; • organizing webinars with international speakers; • designing and delivering e-learning programmes; • administering mentoring programmes; etc. 	
8. Standards: Has your VOPE developed professional standards/ ethical codes/ competencies (or adheres to those developed by others)? If so, please provide documentation.	We have discussed on this issue but no such standards and codes have been developed so far.
9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?	Yes (/????)
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?	CoE Nepal is emerging stage but we have gotten positive response from the government and non-government sector.
11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.	Difficult to run a volunteer organization working in public goods. Ensure professional human and financial resources
12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?	Collaboration with COE-South Asia to organise the second international evaluation conclave in Nepal
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.	We are willing to form partnership with likeminded organizations to share lessons learned and undertake joint actions to build evaluation knowledge and promote it
14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?	Evaluation research, knowledge documentation and on the job training Capacity buildings of partner members and the partner organizations
15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?	Yes, COE wants to be actively involved with EvalPartners in the area of capacity building of its members, undertake evaluation research jointly.....