

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

## I. Basic profile information

<b>1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)</b>	<b>Pilipinas Development Evaluators Association (PHILDEV)</b>
<b>2. Geographic scope of organization</b>	National: <b>Philippines</b>
<b>3. Contact Details</b>	Name of main contact person: Romeo B. Santos E-address: <a href="mailto:rombsantos3@gmail.com">rombsantos3@gmail.com</a> Postal address: 41 Viola St., UP Diliman Campus, Quezon City 1101 Telephone: +63 915 507 4038 VOPE website URL: <a href="http://www.phildev.org">www.phildev.org</a> (under construction, other options are; <a href="http://www.phildev.ph">www.phildev.ph</a> ; <a href="http://www.phildev.com">www.phildev.com</a> )
<b>4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total)</b>	Government: NGOs/CSOs: Academics: Private sector (consultants): Other: <b>Total membership:</b> 26 [this is the current estimate based on expression of interest, previous membership, and present application]. We just have received approval on Sep 25, 2012, such that membership applications are being processed]
<b>5. Year VOPE was founded</b>	2012
<b>6. Current status</b> (identify which)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Charter and bylaws adopted <b>YES</b></li> <li>• Legally recognized by government <b>YES</b></li> </ul> <p>[Romeo Santos started a call to formation in August 2009, by December 2009 the first evaluation association, PMES, was formed &amp; obtained government recognition in March 29, 2010. The association became disorganized after 2 years due to major policy problem in membership. We decided to register a new name –PHILDEV, which received SEC registration on <u>September 25, 2012</u>. Currently, PHILDEV is consolidating its members, the old and the new. However, PMES is currently idle and depending on the remaining membership [which some of us are still having] it may resume but with difficulty, considering legal procedures.</p>
<b>7. Information about growth:</b> evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	-Many member applicants from various agencies, professional backgrounds, and organizations. -Membership fees as main source of funds.
<b>8. Purpose and mission of VOPE</b>	-Advocate M&E for transparency, integrity, and accountability of governance in the public sector. -Build M&E capacity in members and society.
<b>9. Current strategy and emphasis</b>	Emphasis on advocating M&E for transparency, integrity and accountability in governance & building M&E capacity in members and society
<b>10. Organizational capacity:</b> Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Executive Director as head [Exec Officer} with Board of trustees</li> <li>- Training seminars free for members</li> <li>- Voluntary human resource from members through committees</li> <li>- Membership fee as source of funds</li> <li>- IOCE member</li> </ul>
<b>11. Means of communication with members,</b> e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Email group (yahoo): website is currently under construction
<b>12. Past events</b> (e.g. during past year)	Participation in local & international evaluation events
<b>13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location</b>	Participation in major evaluation conferences; general meeting of members; holding of national evaluation conference
<b>14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information</b>	Romeo B. Santos <a href="mailto:rombsantos@gmail.com">rombsantos@gmail.com</a>

15. Date of this update	Oct 11, 2012
-------------------------	--------------

## II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building

<p><b>1. Background:</b> 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>1.1 Key players are experience consultant members who have overseas exposures –who did projects with JICA, ADB, WB, USAID, Oxfam, AusAID, etc –in Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Timor Leste, others.</p> <p>1.2 Currently, five (5) members in the governing board</p> <p>1.3 The experienced members willing to mentor young members; training skills of main members; the dedication of members to M&amp;E; main members being active in international evaluation network [RSantos in regional association &amp; Sue Tamondong as VP of IDEAS, etc]</p> <p>1.4 The need to unify and consolidate membership; members selection; building evaluation capacity among members</p>
<p><b>2. Organizational motivation:</b> What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?</p>	<p>- The low M&amp;E capacity in many sectors of the country's society, both public and private.</p> <p>- Many years of attempts to form the association [since 2005] turned futile. In the last part 2009, I [R Santos] after completing a course in development evaluation in IPDET 2008, felt the need to organize a group inclined to M&amp;E practice, with the belief that without an organized effort, building capacity in M&amp;E will be difficult. Starting with a group of 6 composed of people with and without hands on experience in development evaluation, we succeeded after 3 meetings to organize and register formally the association. We obtained government recognition a matter of 2 months. The new association [PMES] lasted two years, then major impediments to growth surfaced -that the organization became disorganized. It is currently stagnant. We registered a new organization under the name PHILDEV.</p>
<p><b>3. Evaluation Capacity Building:</b> What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&amp;E) capacity?</p>	<p>- We do our best to promote the association and M&amp;E through active participation of our members in M&amp;E forums, conferences, and web-based activities. Also, by membership in international groups related to M&amp;E.</p>
<p><b>4. Context / target entities:</b> 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</p>	<p>- We target policy makers, and those who make decisions in government and organizations.</p> <p>- We invite members from consultancy agencies, NGOs, other professionals.</p> <p>- We partner with research institutions, evaluation advocacy groups.</p> <p>- We strengthen membership by actual training on M&amp;E.</p>

implementation of M&E systems, etc.			
<p><b>5. Public accountability:</b> 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 others promoting public accountability?</p>	<p>Yes, through the officers of the association involved in conducting training of people and different government agencies and such as the Department of Labor, Commission on Women, Department of Trade and Industry, advocacy on building transparency, accountability, and Integrity in governance is advanced. The success comes in the form of enthusiasm becoming heightened among different sectors such that many have requested training programs –like, some departments in the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Academes, Public Private Partnership, Department of Social Welfare, and NGOs.</p>		
<p><b>6. More specifically, what are some of the key themes for which you advocate?</b> 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>-Environment -Industry -Poverty -Education -Health</p> <p>1. following link: <a href="http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/forum.aspx?g=topics&amp;f=14">http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/forum.aspx?g=topics&amp;f=14</a> Topic 4: SEA Change member Mr. Romeo Santos' pre-conference workshop proposal "How sound is your Theory of Change?"</p> <p>A final SEA Change member is Mr. Romeo Santos of the Workland M&amp;E Institute from the Philippines (<a href="http://www.worklandresearch.com/index.php">http://www.worklandresearch.com/index.php</a>). Prior to the EES Conference pre-conference workshops will be organized and Mr. Santos has submitted a workshop proposal with the title "<i>How sound is your Theory of Change? Building skills in developing ToC model and understanding its link with rigorous evaluation and research design.</i>"</p> <p>Evaluation practitioners seem unanimous in saying that the ToC is one significant part of program evaluation. It is seen as a prerequisite for a sound evaluation design. In fact, it can also be argued that the concept of ToC can have a big role in strategic planning during the designing of the intervention itself, not just during its evaluation. However, many practitioners still find difficult to understand the concept -much more develop a sound ToC given a particular context of intervention. Many practitioners confuse ToC Models with Results Frame or Results Framework. The existing variety of ideas, nuances, and practices do not contribute much to clarity on how sound ToC application bears on the strength of evaluation and the research design. This workshop will attempt to fill that gap.</p> <p>The proposal can be downloaded here: <a href="http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/files/documents/2012_05_01_Workland_MandE_and_SEA_Change_workshop_proposal.pdf">http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/files/documents/2012_05_01_Workland_MandE_and_SEA_Change_workshop_proposal.pdf</a></p> <p>We will keep you posted about all Conference developments. More information can be found here: <a href="http://www.ees2012.org/">http://www.ees2012.org/</a></p> <p>2. <a href="http://www.nonie2012.org/thursday-19th-april-2012">http://www.nonie2012.org/thursday-19th-april-2012</a> 2012 NONIE MEETING Participation Apr 19-20, Rome – representing PMES</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="534 1825 1399 1948"> <tr> <td data-bbox="534 1825 774 1948"><b>Mixed methods and attribution challenges</b></td> <td data-bbox="774 1825 1399 1948"><b>Chair: Margareta de Goys (UNEG/ UNIDO)</b> Panel discussion with <b>Howard White</b>(3ie), <b>Romeo Santos</b> (Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society),<b>Patricia Rogers</b> and <b>Elliot Stern</b></td> </tr> </table>	<b>Mixed methods and attribution challenges</b>	<b>Chair: Margareta de Goys (UNEG/ UNIDO)</b> Panel discussion with <b>Howard White</b> (3ie), <b>Romeo Santos</b> (Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society), <b>Patricia Rogers</b> and <b>Elliot Stern</b>
<b>Mixed methods and attribution challenges</b>	<b>Chair: Margareta de Goys (UNEG/ UNIDO)</b> Panel discussion with <b>Howard White</b> (3ie), <b>Romeo Santos</b> (Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society), <b>Patricia Rogers</b> and <b>Elliot Stern</b>		
<p><b>7. Methods:</b> Experiences in strengthening skills of individual members, by (for example):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>organizing workshops led</li> </ul>	<p>-Organizing workshops &amp; training seminars for members' capacity building -Organizing consultant teams from members of the association whenever senior members get consultancy job commissions –this</p>		

<p>by local experts;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>organizing webinars with international speakers;</li> <li>designing and delivering e-learning programmes;</li> <li>administering mentoring programmes; etc.</li> </ul>	enables 'hands on' mentoring for junior members
<p><b>8. Standards:</b> Has your VOPE developed professional standards/ ethical codes/ competencies (or adheres to those developed by others)? If so, please provide documentation.</p>	Discussion is progressing in this regard. Currently, TWGs are being established to deal with various major organizational tasks such as the competencies and ethics issues
<p><b>9. Job opportunities:</b> Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?</p>	Yes, even referring jobs to eligible members.
<p><b>10. Progress and results:</b> What progress has been achieved so far in any of the above or other domains? What are expected and unexpected results achieved?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Membership interest growing.</li> <li>- Emergence of M&amp;E practice as an established career in the country</li> <li>- Local culture of individualistic pursuit and weak regard for common good are expected to result to doubling or even tripling of evaluation societies locally –as can be seen in the experiences of many local professional and advocacy organizations. This is due to the local trait of using an association or movement to further personal interests.</li> </ul>
<p><b>11. Lessons learned:</b> Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.</p>	When forming an association, gather a core group of initial members with sterling qualities and pure intentions –even if it takes time to organize. Slow down on recruitment –size is not a substitute to quality and dedication of members.
<p><b>12. Next steps:</b>What does your organization plan to do next?</p>	Reach out international organizations and network with them; Be active in local and international evaluation events to put the organization in the evaluation map of the world.
<p><b>13. Willing to share with other VOPEs?</b>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.</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Sharing of experiences and forming collaboration for engaging in M&amp;E related activities. Team up with other VOPES in working on particular tasks such as research, case study, and other projects that will support international ECD initiatives.</p>
<p><b>14. Suggestions:</b>What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?</p>	Building capacity on M&E; advance research capability among members; networking
<p><b>15. Want to be actively involved?</b> Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?</p>	Yes, policy area and M&E knowledge and skill development