

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

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society (PMES)
2. Geographic scope of organization	National : Philippines
3. Contact Details	Name of main contact person: Enrique E. Lozari E-address: ricky.lozari@gmail.com Postal address: 20 Delhi Street Vista Real Classica Subdivision, Matandang Balara, Quezon City Telephone: +63 917 819 8897 VOPE website URL: www.pmes.ph (inactive)
4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total)	Government: NGOs/CSOs: Academics: Private sector (consultants): Other: Total membership: 76
5. Year VOPE was founded	2009
6. Current status (identify which)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter and bylaws adopted OK • Legally recognized by government OK <p>[Enrique Lozari started an email group in August 2007 in response to a need from Philippine MandENEWS@yahoo.com members to create a national network, exchange ideas and in general help raise the quality and status of the M&E profession in the country. It was then when MandEPilipinas@yahoo.com was born. The group met a number of times and demand to formalize the group emerged early on. Time constraints of members, however, who were full time practitioners in the local and international M&E field slowed the process. In the meantime, it was determined that building the network to create critical mass was to be the first priority. Romeo Santos contacted the network in August 2009 and started a call to formation. By December 2009 PMES was already formed and we submitted application for recognition in January 2010. Our formal recognition as a legal entity came down on <u>March 29, 2010</u> from the Securities and Exchange Commission, Philippines. There were 11 incorporators, members who started the association -7 of which now compose the Board of Directors and main officers.]</p>
7. Information about growth: 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 and members' donations as main source of funds.
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	-Raise the status and standard of M&E practice in the Philippines. -Build M&E capacity in members and society - Advocate M&E for transparency, integrity and accountability in governance
9. Current strategy and emphasis	Emphasis on raising the status and standard of M&E practice in the Philippines, building M&E capacity in members and society, and advocating M&E for transparency, integrity and accountability in governance
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	-President as head [Exec Officer} with Board members -Training seminars free for members -Voluntary human resource from members through committees -Membership fee and members donations as source of funds -IOCE member -SEA Change member
11. Means of communication with members, e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Email group (yahoo) and website: MandEPilipinas@yahoo.com
12. Past events (e.g. during past year)	-Two major Training workshops held for members -Top Officer representing the association in international evaluation conferences and helped the National Development Authority [NEDA,

	Philippines] design the national M&E forum held in Nov 2011.
13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location	National Evaluation conference being planned since 2011 but still to materialize
14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information	Enrique E. Lozari ricky.lozari@gmail.com
15. Date of this update	October 10, 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>1.1 Key players are experience consultant members who have overseas exposures –who did projects with JICA, ADB, WB, AusAID, CIDA, USAID, etc –in the Philippines, Afghanistan, Sudan, Iraq, Timor Leste, others.</p> <p>1.2 Seven (7) 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&E</p> <p>1.4 The challenge to sustain growth of association - fast growth becomes its weakness. The ability of management (who themselves are time constrained due to their individual professional commitments) to lead was significantly challenged by the rapid increase in members, the ever developing demands of a growing heterogeneous and dynamic membership and the personal and professional differences of members.</p>
<p>2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?</p>	<p>- The low M&E capacity in many sectors of the country's society, both public and private; and the need to create a national network where members can exchange ideas and in general help raise the quality and status of the M&E profession in the country.</p>
<p>3. Evaluation Capacity Building: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?</p>	<p>-We do our best to promote the association and M&E through active participation of our members in M&E forums, conferences, and web-based activities. Also, by membership in international groups related to M&E.</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>-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&E.</p>
<p>5. Public accountability: Is your VOPE helping to strengthen oversight and</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,</p>

<p>transparency of government programs? If so, in what ways? Can you share any success stories of evaluators or others promoting public accountability?</p>	<p>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>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>-Environment -Industry -Poverty -Education -Health</p> <p>1. following link: http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/forum.aspx?g=topics&f=14 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 making us proud is Mr. Romeo Santos of the Workland M&E Institute from the Philippines (http://www.worklandresearch.com/index.php). 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: http://www.seachangecop.org/seachange/files/documents/2012_05_01_Workland_MandE_and_SEA_Change_workshop_proposal.pdf</p> <p>We will keep you posted about all Conference developments. More information can be found here: http://www.ees2012.org/</p> <p>2. http://www.nonie2012.org/thursday-19th-april-2012 2012 NONIE MEETING Participation Apr 19-20, Rome – representing PMES</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="552 1574 1474 1776"> <tr> <td data-bbox="552 1574 703 1776">14h – 15h45</td> <td data-bbox="703 1574 900 1776">Mixed methods and attribution challenges</td> <td data-bbox="900 1574 1358 1776">Chair: Margareta de Goys (UNEG/ UNIDO) Panel discussion with Howard White(3ie), Romeo Santos (Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society), Patricia Rogers and Elliot Stern</td> <td data-bbox="1358 1574 1474 1776"><i>Green Ro</i></td> </tr> </table>	14h – 15h45	Mixed methods and attribution challenges	Chair: Margareta de Goys (UNEG/ UNIDO) Panel discussion with Howard White(3ie), Romeo Santos (Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society), Patricia Rogers and Elliot Stern	<i>Green Ro</i>
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<p>7. Methods: Experiences in strengthening skills of individual members, by (for example):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> organizing workshops led by local experts; organizing webinars with international speakers; 	<p>-Organizing workshops & training seminars for members' capacity building -Organizing consultant teams from members of the association whenever senior members get consultancy job commissions –this enables 'hands on' mentoring for junior members</p>				

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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.	Discussion is progressing in this regard.
9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?	Yes, even referring jobs to eligible members.
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?	<p>-PMES is now known in the M&E circles, to some extent. Membership interest growing.</p> <p>-Emergence of M&E practice as an established career in the country</p> <p>- 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.</p>
11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - When forming a professional association, formal accreditation by government is not the primordial concern. It becomes a distraction if the group is not yet established and sustainable as a cohesive network. - With the advent of social networks, professional groups can actually organize locally and internationally and implement projects to deliver the objectives of the group without formal government accreditation. - There is a need for the association to grow organically from a core group of initial members with sterling qualities and pure intentions. - Association management should be established at the outset as well as rules and procedures if the network hopes to take the next level from being a professional association to a registered professional association. - Back office support is critical for sustainability and ad hoc secretariat support is unsustainable and could even diminish if not reverse the progress of the association. - Management should be responsive to the needs and demands of the members which it represents. Otherwise, management itself would be inconsistent with the principles of transparency and inclusive governance that the association was built for and which management was expected to uphold in the first place.
12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Build its core and go back to the very reason it was built – to raise the status and standard of M&E in the Philippines and to continuously build the M&E competencies of its members and society.
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. Sharing of experiences and forming collaboration for engaging in M&E related activities
14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?	Building capacity on M&E; advance research capability among members; networking
15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?	Yes, policy area and M&E knowledge and skill development