

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

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	Vietnam Network for Monitoring and Evaluation (VNME)
2. Geographic scope of organization (<i>See typology in right column; highlight appropriate level, delete others</i>)	National: Vietnam
3. Contact Details	<p>Name of main contact person: President: Mr. Nghiem Ba Hung (Interim) E-address: hungnb@peapro.com Postal address: 29B Nguyen Gia Thieu street, Hanoi, Vietnam Tel: +84 4 3941 1880 Fax: +84 4 3941 1879 Mobile: +84 (0) 90 323 6118</p> <p>Secretary: Mrs. Nguyen Thi Thu Que (interim) E-address: nthuque@gmail.com Mobile: +84 (0) 90 263 1193</p> <p>Tran Nhu Trang, Managing Partner (Interim) E-address: trangtn@vietinsight.com.vn Mobil: 0904 181 895</p>
4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (<i>if known; please at least give total</i>)	Government: 02 NGOs/CSOs: 02 Academics: 01 Private sector (consultants): 15 Other: 3 Total membership: 23
5. Year VOPE was founded	2012
6. Current status (identify which)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter and bylaws will be adopted soon • Will be legally recognized by VUSTA (Vietnam Union Science and Technical Association)
7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started with 5 members with regional state representation • Grew to about 20 members in mid of 2012 • Limited financial resource from membership fees • Will organise the congress next month to vote for the official board
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate and promote the exchange of ideas, experiences, and resources pertaining to matters of mutual interest related to all aspects of evaluation; • To represent the evaluation profession in Vietnam at relevant regional and international events and forums; • To plan and analyse the status and future directions for evaluation research, training and development in Vietnam and internationally; • To form strategic alliances with other public and private sector organisations involved in evaluation activities; • To facilitate the formation and effective operation of a national and international network for information exchange pertaining to evaluation; • To promote and facilitate research and development efforts and publications related with evaluation, subject to the prior approval of the authorities concerned; • To provide assistance and advice on evaluation policy matters at all levels;
9. Current strategy and emphasis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working closely with government to advocate for and promote sustainable and productive use of evaluation for policy and program improvements • Advocacy for evaluation adoption and usage across public sector • Developing new and practical approaches and tools for/in evaluation
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim Management Board includes: President and secretary • We communicate and maintain relationship with related organizations

governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	such as the Stakeholders, Agencies, Donors....
11.Means of communication with members , e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mailing list • Website (is creating) • Internal news letters/bulletins
12.Past events (e.g. during past year)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Member meeting • Group discussion • Participation in 5th MES International Evaluation Conference: Kuala Lumpur 10-14 Sept. 2012
13.Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Congress to vote the official Management Board in End of October 2012
14.Name and e-address of person submitting this information	Nguyen Thi Thu Que (Mrs)- Secretary (Interim) nthuque@gmail.com
15.Date of this update	18 September, 2012

II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building¹

<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Idea first mooted in 2009 arising from ongoing initiative on evaluation through the government system. • Formed interim committee in 2009 with most of members were from Government offices • Ran first TOT course funded by JICA in 2010 • Conducted some meetings with representatives of JICA, MPI, International Consultants.... • Currently 23 members according to the Draft of Constitution • Willingness of government to adopt and implement new approaches and ideas within public sector
2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong drive and commitment of the pioneer members with the support of a few selected individuals.
3. Evaluation Capacity Building: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major influence on evaluation across government • Ran Final Evaluation for projects/ programs to advocate to the Government • Carried out numerous of trainings and other technical supports for the project staffs
<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</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We seek to and have been successful in convincing the country's leadership to adopt and implement the IRBM system and through that the M&E. • Complete the final constitution and vote for official management board • Carried out evaluations of public programs and ODA projects as well as NGO' projects/ programs as examples and pilot exercises to advocate to the Government • Worked closely with some donors and agencies to help build evaluation capacity. • Step by step to work with Government agencies and stakeholders to provide the capacity building on Evaluation

¹ In addition to brief responses to these questions, if you have documentation that already describes what your VOPE is doing related to these issues, we invite you to submit those documents.

<p>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 Supporting and advice on governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&E systems, etc.</p>	
<p>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 others promoting public accountability?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are quite new association and try to influence the Government to strengthen oversight and transparency
<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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •
<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; • designing and delivering e-learning programmes; • administering mentoring programmes; etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The representatives of interim- management board joined the MES conference in Kuala Lumpur from 10th to 14th September 2012 to share information, exchange experiences and build the network in region; • Organizing group meeting to discuss about the constitution and workplan as well as action plan for the VNME • Designing the website to share information and experiences among members • Coordination with Government Officials to build the relationship between VNME and Government • Building the relationship with other M&E Association among region
<p>8. Standards: Has your VOPE developed professional standards/ ethical codes/ competencies (or adheres to those developed by others)? If so, please provide documentation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are now at the starting point to develop the constitution with standard guideline and mandate
<p>9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. When we get offers of projects, we do circulate it to our members for information
<p>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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members of VNME are working now as individual consultants, member of companies or from Government office, the time to participate to VNME is limited • The fees contribute to become the member of VNME are difficult
<p>11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

<p>12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MES has strategic plans for both internal and external interventions. Internally, the MES intends to expand its membership. However, its strategy is to go for a smaller group of serious and active members rather than going for large groups of members for the sake of showing size. • In 2012, due to the ongoing IRBM system and government transformation program, we expect to increase our membership substantially and to also get more NGOs and NPOs to join. For government, the MES hopes to make further inroads with its support for evaluation capacity building through both short and longer term ECD initiatives. • The MES is already in consultation with local partners and academic institutions to put into place options for evaluation as a multi-disciplinary subject in universities and will start a pilot program on this soon with a local university. A similar initiative is also in progress to have government endorsement for the longer-term ECD and this program should start from January 2013 in close collaboration with the Ministry of Finance. • Regionally and internationally, the MES will continue to support the formation and networking with new and existing networks. •
<p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes. The VNME is open to and has been actively working along these lines with other VOPEs
<p>14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eval partners needs to look at and work on synergies among members. • Eval Partners should play a strong support role with inputs in one or more areas of challenges. • Information sharing alone is not enough but actual inputs with identifying champions and partners in countries and providing systematic support in various challenge areas would be most useful. • Apart from capacity building and related issues, there is a wealth of knowledge, expertise, and local talent in many of the partner entities. We need to find ways to engage and harness such capacity for developmental work in evaluation. For example, Vietnam Government has several innovative approaches and tools supported by donors and MPI for ECD and other countries may also have such things – especially in the context of developing countries, which can be further strengthened through joint research and development work with support from IOCE and other development partners...the possibilities are endless in a world where development partners are also looking for new and innovative solutions to development challenges – not only in developing countries but also in advanced countries.
<p>15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes • We would be willing to be a member of such initiatives and where practical and useful.
<p>16. Would you be willing to write up a case study providing more detailed analysis of your VOPE's experiences?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yes, we are willing to write up a case study to share experiences and information of our VOPE to everyone