

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

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	Norwegian Evaluation Society (Norsk evalueringsforening – NEF)
2. Geographic scope of organization	National – NORWAY
3. Contact Details	Name of main contact person: Einar Lier Madsen E-address: Einar.Lier.Madsen@nforsk.no Postal address: c/o Nordlandsforskning, Post box 1490, 8049 Bodø, Norway Telephone: +47 7551 7607/9949 5977 VOPE website URL: http://www.norskevalueringsforening.no
4. a. Current formal/ registered membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total) 4. b. Informal membership (persons on your mailing list)	Government: 9 (71) NGOs/CSOs: 2 (2) Academics: 15 (60) Private sector (consultants): 5 (40) Other: 2 (5) a. Total official membership: 33 (178) b. Total informal membership: ____ As per May 2011 (including personal memberships in brackets)
5. Year VOPE was founded	2009
6. Current status	Legally recognised by government
7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	VOPE established within the past five years. Current member status illustrates growth within this period.
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	NEF aims to be a professional arena to promote and improve evaluation theory and practice, contribute to networking among members and exchange of experiences between evaluators, evaluands and commissioners, as well as facilitate discussion of evaluation related topics. NEFs mission includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to development of evaluation theory and methodology • Enhance the utility of evaluation results • Strengthen evaluation related research and professional development in Norway • Contribute to the establishment of education and training opportunities • Act as a link to international evaluation groups • Develop standards or guidelines for good evaluation practices
9. Current strategy and emphasis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Networking and exchange of experiences: organising annual evaluation conferences and other events (e.g. seminars) in collaboration with others 2. Research and training: aim to establish a research programme, map training opportunities, engage university and institute sector, publishing 3. Development of good evaluation practice: e.g. quality standards / guidelines, possible evaluation awards, book reviews 4. International work: maintain relationship with Nordic VOPEs, promote participation at international evaluation conferences (e.g. EES, AEA). 5. Organisational development and promotion of NEF: website development, present and promote NEF at key events, lecture series, establish interest groups / evaluation related platforms and arenas
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure,	Board consisting of 9 members (+ 2 support members) Electoral committee consisting of 3 members (+1 support member) Annual budget June 2011-May 2012 was 96 552 NOK, mainly spent on

leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	evaluation conference Activities are based on voluntary contributions NEF works closely with EVA-forum (public sector), e.g. alternates responsibilities for annual evaluation conferences. Linked to sister organisations, particularly Nordic VOPEs
11. Means of communication with members , e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Website
12. Past events (e.g. during past year)	In 2012, the organisation contributed with / at the following events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Evaluation Conference (September 2012, 3 days) • Shared events: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nordic Evaluation Conference ○ Forum for research and public management (Forum for forskning og forvaltning)
13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location	
14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information	Benedicte Akre anne-benedicte.akre@krd.dep.no
15. Date of this update	04.02.13

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>2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?</p>	
<p>3. Evaluation Capacity Building: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?</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,</p>	

<p>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>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>	
<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>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. 	
<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>	
<p>9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?</p>	
<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>	
<p>11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.</p>	
<p>12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?</p>	
<p>13. Willing to share with other VOPEs? For example, would</p>	

<p>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>14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?</p>	
<p>15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?</p>	
<p>16. Would you be willing to write up a case study providing more detailed analysis of your VOPE's experiences?</p>	