

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

## I. Basic profile information

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| 1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)  | Palestinian Evaluation Association (PEA)   |
| 2. Geographic scope of organization (See typology in right column; highlight appropriate level, delete others)  | National: Palestine  |
| 3. Contact Details  | Name of main contact person: Khalil Bitar (Co-Founder & Director)<br>E-address: <a href="mailto:khalil.bitar.hoc@gmail.com">khalil.bitar.hoc@gmail.com</a><br>Postal address: Ramallah, Palestine<br>Telephone: +972 (0) 598631763<br>VOPE website URL: <a href="http://www.PalEval.org">www.PalEval.org</a>   |
| 4. a. Current formal/ registered membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total)<br>4. b. Informal membership (persons on your mailing list) | Since its establishment in January 2013, PEA has 40 registered members. These members come from:<br>Government<br>NGOs/CSOs<br>Academics<br>Private sector (consultants)<br>a. Total official membership: 40<br>b. Total informal membership: N/A  |
| 5. Year VOPE was founded  | January, 2013  |
| 6. Current status (identify which)  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Charter and bylaws are discussed and soon will be adopted</li> <li>▪ Legally recognized by government: An application was submitted</li> </ul>  |
| 7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.   | As for any newly established entity, the resources available for PEA are very humble, mainly from members.<br><br>Membership has grown rapidly in the first four months from establishment to reach 40 members in the end of April 2013.   |
| 8. Purpose and mission of VOPE  | The idea of establishing PEA stemmed from the need we (a group of Palestinian evaluation professionals and specialists) observed for a space where we can share and exchange our experiences, knowledge, and opportunities.  |
| 9. Current strategy and emphasis  | At the moment we set the following key priorities/strategies: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Advertise PEA locally, regionally and internationally, and make evaluators further aware of its establishment;</li> <li>2. Hold the first (formal) general meeting and agree on bylaws and elect its board members and director;</li> <li>3. Launch the website and continue reaching members and other interested individuals/organizations using different social media outlets;</li> <li>4. Formally register PEA locally (government), regionally (EvalMENA), and internationally (IOCE).</li> </ol> <p>We look forward to hearing the opinions and priorities of our fellow Palestinian evaluators and to see what kind of activities they want PEA to embark on later (trainings, publications, conferences and so on...).</p> |

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| <b>10. Organizational capacity:</b><br>Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc. | Charter and bylaws are discussed and soon will be adopted. Co-Founders and Director are now leading the process entirely.            |
| <b>11. Means of communication with members,</b> e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website   | Face-to-face meetings, e-mails, social media (especially PEA LinkedIn Group), and the website.                                       |
| <b>12. Past events</b> (e.g. during past year)  | N/A  |
| <b>13. Forthcoming key events/conferences</b> – dates, location   | First general meeting, May, Ramallah, Palestine.   |
| <b>14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information</b>   | Khalil Bitar (Co-Founder and Director)<br>E-mail address: <a href="mailto:Khalil.bitar.hoc@gmail.com">Khalil.bitar.hoc@gmail.com</a> |
| <b>15. Date of this update</b>  | April 28, 2013 (Second update)   |

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## II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building

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| <b>1. Background:</b> Please provide a brief history of the formation of this organization (VOPE).<br>1.1 Who were/are the key players?<br>1.2 How many members do you have on your governing board/committee?<br>1.3 What are the main existing strengths that your VOPE is trying to capitalize on?<br>1.4 What are the main challenges that your VOPE is trying to address?   |  |
| <b>2. Organizational motivation:</b> What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?  |  |
| <b>3. Evaluation Capacity Building:</b> What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?  |  |
| <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:<br>4.1 Technical capacities to <i>supply</i> quality evaluations, partnering with experts, local universities or others to provide training for members, etc.;<br>4.2 Strengthening VOPE organizational capacity itself;<br>4.3 Enhancing the enabling environment for evaluation, including strengthening the <i>demand</i> for and use of |  |

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| <p>evaluations by policy makers;</p> <p>4.4 Influencing governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&amp;E systems, etc.</p>  |  |
| <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><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><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 by local experts;</li> <li>• organizing webinars with international speakers;</li> <li>• designing and delivering e-learning programmes;</li> <li>• administering mentoring programmes; etc.</li> </ul> |  |
| <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>  |  |
| <p><b>9. Job opportunities:</b> Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?</p>   |  |
| <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>  |  |
| <p><b>11. Lessons learned:</b> Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.</p>   |  |
| <p><b>12. Next steps:</b> What does your organization plan to do next?</p>   |  |
| <p><b>13. Willing to share with other VOPEs?</b> For example, would you be interested in forming peer-to-peer partnerships with</p>  |  |

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