

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

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	MONTENEGRIN EVALUATION NETWORK (MontenEN)
2. Geographic scope of organization	National: MONTENEGRO
3. Contact Details	Name of main contact person: Ljiljana Jovovic E-address: ljiljajovovic@t-com.me Postal address: Dobrota, Sv. Stasije, Zgrada URBING stan. 15A MONTENEGRO Telephone: +38269272115 VOPE website URL:
4. Current membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total)	Government: YES NGOs/CSOs: yes Academics: yes Private sector (consultants): yes Other: Total membership: 35
5. Year VOPE was founded	2014
6. Current status (identify which)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informal network
7. Information about growth : evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	Increasing the number of members of the network and its status as a social entity in applying the practices and mechanisms that promote transparency, all in order to encourage the development of civil society through mutual dialogue and cooperation with state authorities and international organizations.
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	The MONTENEGRIN EVALUATION NETWORK is informal network consisting of representatives from academic institutions, business sector, non-governmental sector, regional and rural development, spatial, urban and landscape planning, social services and International organizations in Montenegro. Our Mission: development of a democratic culture in public policies, creating an environment in which to nurture the culture of evaluation, recognize the importance of evaluation and its recommendations and conclusions used to create policies that will not only be relevant, efficient and effective, but also gender-responsive and based on fairness.
9. C urrent strategy and emphasis	Strengthening of the administrative evaluation system and promotion of independent but effective evaluation of public policies in Montenegro, improvement of national and regional cooperation among evaluators, and the capacity of the Montenegrin Evaluation Network, establishment of dialogue among the public and civil society, to contribute to the efforts of the public sector in Montenegro to monitor, measure and evaluate the effectiveness of decisions, strategies, plans and projects
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	THE MONTENEGRIN EVALUATION NETWORK consists of 5 working groups and simple governance structure (operative chairman and secretary). We are a member of the Western Balkan Evaluators Network. Members are engaged on a voluntary basis and provide services in the NGO sector, and methodological research to several educational institutions.
11. Means of communication with members, e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	e-mail, messenger
12. Past events (e.g. during past year)	Constituent Assembly
13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location	INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON PUBLIC POLICY May 2015
14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information	LJILJANA JOVOVIC ljiljajovovic@t-com.me
15. Date of this update	November 23 rd 2014

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. Members are multi-disciplinary academics and experienced practitioners.</p> <p>1.2. 5 persons</p> <p>1.3. Knowledge of the complete cultural, economic, environmental, social, situation. A clear vision for the necessary changes; capacity evaluators committed to contributing to the social democratic development, strategic skills in leadership.</p> <p>1.4. Development of a democratic culture in public policies, creating an environment in which to nurture the culture of evaluation, recognize the importance of evaluation and its recommendations and conclusions used to create policies that will not only be relevant, efficient and effective, but also gender-responsive and based on fairness.</p> <p>The need for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing regional, local, and national evaluation learning/knowledge pool; • professional development; • increased use, and demand for evaluations; • enhanced relevance and effectiveness of evaluations.
<p>2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?</p>	<p>Knowledge of the complete cultural, economic, environmental, social, situation. A clear vision for the necessary changes; capacity evaluators committed to contributing to the social democratic development, strategic skills in leadership.</p> <p>The desire to improve knowledge, understanding, practice, and use of evaluation in Montenegro and Region.</p> <p>Global trends towards professionalization of the evaluation profession.</p> <p>Active citizenship.</p>
<p>3. Evaluation Capacity Building¹: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?</p>	<p>Information sharing via social media channels and through educational institutions.</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>4.1 Monitoring and Evaluation Professionals</p> <p>4.2 VOPEs and local networks of evaluators (formal & informal)</p> <p>4.3 Yes, one of our the most important goals</p> <p>4.4 Yes, this is very important goal.</p>
<p>5. Public accountability: Is your VOPE helping to strengthen</p>	<p>Yes, our main objectives are related to the development of practical and theoretical models, instruments and mechanisms that promote the</p>

¹ By evaluation capacity we refer to the capacity of individuals to produce credible and useful evaluations (supply side), but also to institutional capacities to call for (demand side) and utilize evaluations.

<p>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>application and development of evaluation in the domestic and global contexts. That is especially mindful of public policy support in terms of identifying the need for evaluation, its adoption and use in formulating and implementing development strategies, both overall and in individual sectors. Bearing in mind that the network has been a recently formed, we consider significant that representatives of governmental institutions are our members</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>One of our main efforts is to develop tools which enable indiscriminate evaluation in the context of deep social oppositions (such as between environmental, social, cultural and economic goals of development).</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. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yes, organizing workshops led by local experts: - Yes, organizing webinars with international speakers: No - No, not designing and delivering e-learning programmes: - Yes, administering mentoring programmes. <p>Our members are mostly experts for different fields with a great local and international experience in designing and delivering education and trainings.</p>
<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>No, but this we consider as one of the most important issues for qualitative changes and we plan to intensively work on the construction and application of an evaluation culture, to participate in the development of national policy evaluation; to develop national standards for evaluations as well establish a code of ethics for evaluators.</p>
<p>9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?</p>	<p>Yes</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>Involvement of governmental institutions and international organization's representatives in our network.</p>
<p>11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.</p>	<p>Establishment of multi sectorial collaboration.</p>
<p>12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?</p>	<p>To continue to expand the Network and the work on involvement of experts from various fields; to build network as a legal entity with legal competencies for improving democratic and civic participation. To be a good partner to policy makers and civil society organizations.</p>
<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>	<p>Yes, of course, we welcome opportunities to form peer-to-peer partnerships with other VOPEs.</p>

14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of the EvalPartners Initiative?	To provide educational opportunities for evaluators under favourably conditions.
15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?	Yes, the MONTENEGRIN EVALUATION NETWORK intends to participate fully in all activities of the IOCE and EvalPartners. By providing our knowledge and trainings.
16. Would you be willing to write up a case study providing more detailed analysis of your VOPE's experiences?²	We believe that we will be presenting a case study by the end of June, 2015.

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this survey. As stated above, the first section will be added to the www.IOCE.net website so persons interested in finding evaluators in your country will have this basic information about your VOPE. The second section will be included in the EvalPartners mapping report and shared via a dedicated website with those who join the EvalPartners Initiative (e.g. based on responses to question II-14 above).

Please save this entire Word document with the name of your VOPE in the title, then send as an attachment to IOCE@earthlink.net.

For any questions or further information you may contact Jim Rugh, EvalPartners Coordinator, at JimRugh@mindspring.com.

² Again: If you already have documentation describing the 'story' of your organization, we would appreciate your sharing it with us (IOCE members).