

# IOCE survey of Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation (VOPEs)

## I. Basic profile information

<b>1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)</b>	<b>Polish Evaluation Society (PES)</b>
<b>2. Geographic scope of organization</b>	National - POLAND
<b>3. Contact Details</b>	Names and e-addresses of up to three contact persons: 1: Maciej Szalaj - President ( <a href="mailto:maciej.szalaj@pte.org.pl">maciej.szalaj@pte.org.pl</a> ) 2: Jacek Pokorski - Vice President ( <a href="mailto:jacek.pokorski@pte.org.pl">jacek.pokorski@pte.org.pl</a> ) 3: Justyna Ratajczak - Vice President ( <a href="mailto:orenda.jr@gmail.com">orenda.jr@gmail.com</a> ) Postal address of VOPE: Post box 30, 05-830 Brwinów - POLAND Telephone: +48 504 029 514 VOPE website URL: <a href="http://www.pte.org.pl">www.pte.org.pl</a>
<b>4. a. Current formal/registered membership – numbers of individuals, by their affiliation (if known; please at least give total)</b> <b>4. b. Informal membership (persons on your mailing list)</b>	<b>a. Total official membership:</b> 144 <b>b. Total informal membership:</b> around 200 (so-called "supporters") plus 192 Facebook followers
<b>5. Year VOPE was founded</b>	2000
<b>6. Current status</b> (identify which)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Legally recognized by government</li> </ul>
<b>7. Information about growth:</b> evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	The amount of financial resources has been stable over last 5 years. Our annual budget is around 12 000 PLN (about 4000 USD).  Since June 2009, the number of members has grown from 68 to 144.
<b>8. Purpose and mission of VOPE</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to promote the development of a culture and practice of evaluation,</li> <li>to organize and integrate the evaluation community,</li> <li>to propagate knowledge about evaluation to ensure quality evaluation research and activities.</li> </ul>
<b>9. Current strategy and emphasis</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>activities by thematic working group</li> <li>updating strategy and mission in order to recognize and face the most peculiar current challenges</li> <li>drawing PES agenda International Year of Evaluation 2015</li> <li>promoting ethical code and professional standards among individuals and entities</li> <li>starting professional evaluation journal</li> <li>organizing a joint conference in cooperation with Ukrainian Evaluation Association.</li> </ul>
<b>10. Organizational capacity:</b> Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	No staff employed. Office hired at one of the Warsaw colleagues. Webmaster and accounting serviced contracted out. Board of 8 people and control committee of people elected by the General Assembly for two-year terms. Formal cooperation agreement with two institutions: Educational Research Institute, The Centre for European Projects Five thematic working groups established this year
<b>11. Means of communication with members,</b> e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Website, Facebook profile, e-mailing, brochures, publications
<b>12. Past events</b> (e.g. during past year)	Annual meeting of NESE in Warsaw (Network of Evaluation Societies in Europe) Seminars on evaluation methodology (in cooperation with Polish Agency of Enterprise Development) Annual General Assembly of PES Members
<b>13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location</b>	VI Regional Evaluation Conference - Rzeszów Annual General Assembly of PES Members

	Joint Polish-Ukrainian conference in Kiev - autumn, exact date to be decided
<b>14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information</b>	Maciej Szalaj <a href="mailto:maciej.szalaj@pte.org.pl">maciej.szalaj@pte.org.pl</a>
<b>15. Date of this update</b>	20.05.2014

## II. Experience with Evaluation Capacity Building

<b>1. Background:</b> Please provide a brief history of the formation of this organization (VOPE). 1.1 Who were/are the key players? 1.2 How many members do you have on your governing board/ committee? 1.3 What are the main existing strengths that your VOPE is trying to capitalize on? 1.4 What are the main challenges that your VOPE is trying to address?	1.1
	1.2
	1.3
	1.4
<b>2. Organizational motivation:</b> What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?	
<b>3. Evaluation Capacity Building<sup>1</sup>:</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: 4.1 Technical capacities to <i>supply</i> quality evaluations, partnering with experts, local universities or others to provide training for members, etc.; 4.2 Strengthening VOPE organizational capacity itself; 4.3 Enhancing the enabling environment for evaluation, including strengthening the <i>demand</i> for and use of evaluations by policy makers; 4.4 Influencing governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&E systems, etc.	4.1
	4.2
	4.2
	4.4
<b>5. Public accountability:</b> Is your VOPE helping to	

<sup>1</sup> 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 and utilize evaluations (demand side).

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?	
<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.	
<b>7. Methods:</b> Experiences in strengthening skills of individual members, by (for example): <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>	
<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.	
<b>9. Job opportunities:</b> Do you share employment/ consultancy opportunities with evaluators on your database?	
<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?	
<b>11. Lessons learned:</b> Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.	
<b>12. Next steps:</b> What does your organization plan to do next?	
<b>13. Willing to share with other VOPEs?</b> 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.	
<b>14. Suggestions:</b> What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of IOCE and the EvalPartners Initiative?	

<p><b>15. Want to be actively involved?</b> Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in IOCE and 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>	