

IOCE survey of Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation (VOPEs)

I. Basic profile information

1. Name and acronym of organization (VOPE)	RoSE – Romanian Society of Evaluators
2. Geographic scope of organization	National: ROMANIA
3. Contact Details	Names and e-addresses of up to three contact persons: 1: Virgil PAMFIL, vpamfil@evaluatoriasociati.ro 2: Tatiana BRATESCU, tbratescu@evaluatoriasociati.ro 3: Denis MARIA, office@evaluatoriasociati.ro Postal address of VOPE: 184-186, Traian Street, Bucharest, Sector 2, Romania Telephone: +40729035777 VOPE website URL: www.evaluatoriasociati.ro
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: NGOs/CSOs: X – Professional Association of public interest Academics: Private sector (consultants): Other: a. Total official membership: 74 b. Total informal membership: 98
5. Year VOPE was founded	2010
6. Current status (identify which)	X Legally recognized by government
7. Information about growth: evolution of the number of members or financial resources in the last 5 years.	+ 12 persons (some of the founding members left but other persons have got new memberships)
8. Purpose and mission of VOPE	RoSE mission is to guarantee a respectful professional status for its Members and to support their professional development. RoSE aims at becoming the Key Actor of Civil Society to enhance and support the development of an effective and a fair evaluation system in Romania. RoSE 's main objectives are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote high professional standards in line with the specific features of the evaluation services; • To represent and to protect its members' interests; • To enhance professional competences for each socio-professional category involved in project assessment and in the evaluation of programs and public policies; • To make lobby for enforcing the specific qualification framework for evaluators in Romania, in line with international best practice • To develop awareness on the importance of high professional standards in evaluation through participation in specific projects and events.
9. Current strategy and emphasis	To represent the associates' interests with respect to the evaluation of projects, programs and public policies and to preserve the credibility and professional standing of its members at national and international level.
10. Organizational capacity: Please describe your governance structure, leadership, services provided, finances, human resources, linkages with other organizations, etc.	RoSE reports to General Assembly that joins each year 2 times. The leadership is provided by the Management Board that comprises 5 persons, elected by the General Assembly for 2 years- mandates: 1/President of the Board – Tatiana Bratescu 2-4/ Councillors: Virgil Pamfil, Liviu Proteasa, Lucian Sorescu 5/ Secretary General: Denis Maria 63 practitioners established RoSE in 2010 with sound expertise in assessment and evaluation. Their number is continuously increasing. Our associate members are seated in all 8 Romanian Development Regions (at the NUTS II level) that provides RoSE with a national coverage. The seat is in Bucharest and provides very good infrastructure for networking, meetings and training

11. Means of communication with members , e.g. newsletter, listserv, publication, website	Forum, monthly meetings, professional workshops, debates, and website (www.evaluatoriasociati.ro)
12. Past events (e.g. during past year)	Occupational analysis and development of occupational standards for evaluation (2012-2013), Provision of Technical Assistance for evaluation of grant proposals for the Ministry of European Funds of Romania (2013), Authorization as Training provider (2013-2014)
13. Forthcoming key events/conferences – dates, location	Training for Assessors – starting with July 2014 on a monthly basis
14. Name and e-address of person submitting this information	Virgil PAMFIL vpamfil@evaluatoriasociati.ro
15. Date of this update	25 may 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. RoSE was established in 2010 by 63 practitioners with sound expertise in assessment and evaluation. The members are professionals with extended experience and professional background in different fields, Evaluation relates to a core crosscutting competences acquired by practice. Consequently, the associates are specialized in urban infrastructure, civil works, education, media, public administration, civil society, culture and social issues. Our associate members are seated in all 8 Romanian Development Regions (at the NUTS II level) that provides RoSE with a national coverage</p> <p>1.2. As presented at Para 3. There are 5 Members of the Board called as ‘the Council’</p> <p>1.3. The strengths is provided by the wide range of competences, knowledge and evaluation. As a Member of our Association, you will benefit of our support and capabilities to enhance your professional competencies in evaluation.</p> <p>1.4 The main challenges that RoSE is trying to address are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of fundraising by supporting the implementation of fair and appropriate evaluation concepts, principles, methods, procedures and best international practices; • developing professional competencies in evaluation based on ethics and code of conducts; • Provision of expert services in evaluation through its Members • Recognition among evaluators as their best support for fulfilling professional accomplishments.
2. Organizational motivation: What were/are the driving forces of the VOPE and its historical development?	RoSE gathers only recognized professionals in evaluation with proven quality track records. It is aimed to develop professional networks to address a wide area of evaluation topics and to enable an effective lobbying in the Government to raise the professional recognition of evaluators.
3. Evaluation Capacity Building¹: What has your VOPE done to promote evaluation (M&E) capacity?	ROSE developed the occupational framework and has initiated projects to ensure transnational recognition of continuing learning outcomes.
4. Context / target entities: More specifically, who are the persons or institutions your organization seeks to influence (to strengthen evaluation capacity)? For example:	<p>4.1 Technical capacities to <i>supply</i> quality evaluations by internal selection, networking and professional references, partnering with experts, provision of training for members and other concerned professionals.</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>

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 and utilize evaluations (demand side).

<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>4.4 Drafting professional framework, Influencing governmental policies related to evaluation, evaluation designs and implementation of M&E systems</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>RoSE 's main objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote high professional standards in line with the specific features of the evaluation services; • To represent and to protect its members' interests; • To enhance professional competences for each socio-professional category involved in project assessment and in the evaluation of programs and public policies; • To make lobby for enforcing the specific qualification framework for evaluators in Romania, in line with international best practice • To develop awareness on the importance of high professional standards in evaluation through participation in specific projects and events.
<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"> • supporting the implementation of fair and appropriate evaluation concepts, principles, methods, procedures and best international practices; • developing professional competencies in evaluation based on ethics and code of conducts
<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"> • organizing workshops led by RoSE experts; • designing and delivering training programmes; • developing coaching and mentoring programmes.
<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>RoSE has initiated the development of Occupational Standard for Evaluators. In this respect, it carried out occupational analysis, and drafted occupational framework for Assessors. The costs for development and enforcement of standards have been covered by the Association.</p> <p>The Standard has been approved and enforced by the National Authority of Qualifications in December 2012, included in the National Qualifications Register and used as the basis for certification of competences and provision of training for Assessors. The standard is available on-line at: http://www.anc.edu.ro/uploads/SO/Evaluator%20proiecte_v00.pdf</p>
<p>9. Job opportunities: Do you share employment/ consultancy</p>	<p>Yes. Please see ROSE Website – News Section</p>

opportunities with evaluators on your database?	
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>The main progress was the enforcement of occupational framework for Assessors in Romania. Other achievements are due to the provision of quality training based on the occupational standard and the recognition of the importance of occupation following to RoSE's lobby.</p> <p>It is still pending the definition of the ETHICAL CODE AND PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY that ROSE is currently working on.</p>
11. Lessons learned: Recommendations/ tips to others for good practices on how to organize and sustain VOPEs like yours.	ROSE is aiming to share experience with other VOPEs in order to enable an open market for Evaluators.
12. Next steps: What does your organization plan to do next?	<p>Setting up the principles of the Ethical Code represents for our Association a unique memento, a commitment for integrity and correctness in the assessment and evaluation. The occupation of Project Assessor established by the Romanian Occupation Code (ROC) aims at indicating that competency, honesty and professional integrity are key elements and the basis for the mentioned occupation in Romania.</p> <p>As a result, the Occupational Standard (OS) developed by RoSE, and approved by the relevant authorities comprises high professional standard that assessors are committed to follow in their activity based on the Ethical Code.</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>RoSE is very interested in forming peer-to-peer partnerships with one or more other VOPEs to share lessons learned, advise each other.</p> <p>In this respect calls for partnerships have been sent to all VOPEs in Europe and Israel in early May. Unfortunately, poor feedback has been received.</p> <p>It is considered that the approach of the Call of proposals does not support the newcomers but it promotes the development of partnerships among VOPEs that have already benefitted of previous grants. It is a pity not to extend the range of organizations and not to enhance the new initiatives.</p>
14. Suggestions: What ideas do you have for what should be included in activities of IOCE and the EvalPartners Initiative?	It is suggested that IOCE to launch a specific call for new VOPEs and to start thematic joint projects to develop regional projects that promote the implementation of best practice to transnational area. In this respect it is suggested not only to encourage the development of prior partnerships but to start new partnerships. A way might be to put more weights in the selection criteria for networking development. The membership fee for the newcomers might be free of charge for the first year.
15. Want to be actively involved? Does your VOPE want to be actively involved in IOCE and EvalPartners? If so, in what ways?	Yes. Considering that ROSE is an NGO with poor funding resources it is difficult to cover its expenditures for taking part in meetings and paying its membership fees without having a clear benefit by projects. Nevertheless it is volunteer to participate in networking, joint surveys, dissemination actions, transnational training, training assignments, development of guides, lobbying, etc.
16. Would you be willing to write up a case study providing more detailed analysis of your VOPE's experiences?	Yes, under the conditions stated in the previous row.