



Institutionalization of evaluation in Europe - pros and cons

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IOCE Mission

Mission is to increase public awareness
and globally validate evaluation,
support VOPEs in contributing to good governance,
effective decision making
and strengthening the role of civil society.



Registered VOPEs



127 Registered VOPEs in the IOCE online database

40 Contributing Members

87 Regular Members

VOPEs are encouraged to register on the IOCE Database found on the IOCE website. VOPEs must be registered in the IOCE database to qualify for grants.

Professionalization

- ✓ IOCE provides support to VOPEs in their consideration of professionalization efforts
- ✓ Importance of local conditions
- ✓ Accompany and gently guide
- ✓ Look for universal aspects



VOPE Toolkit

UN WOMEN EvalPartners ioce

Advocating for Evaluation

A toolkit to develop advocacy strategies to strengthen an enabling environment for evaluation

2015 International Year of Evaluation

In partnership with:

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF FINLAND UNICEF USAID UN WOMEN OECD UNEG

VOPE Toolkit

Institutional Capacity Tools to support Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation

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About

This Voluntary Organization of Professional Evaluators (VOPE) Institutional Capacity Toolkit is a collection of curated descriptions, tools, advice, examples, software and toolboxes developed by VOPEs and other organizations working to support non-profit organizations.

It was compiled by EvalPartners, the International Evaluation Partnership Initiative, together with the Toolkit Task Force responsible for institutional capacity building of VOPEs.

Who this toolkit is for

This toolkit is for volunteers and staff involved in establishing and managing emergent and developed VOPEs. If your

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EvalPartners is a global movement that shapes the international agenda for evaluation by **encouraging the evaluation profession to take a more global approach in addressing world problems and creating a platform for evaluation capacity development.**



EvalPartners, with a wide range of partners have supported a series of National Evaluation Policy (NEP) consultations bringing together national leaders including Parliamentarians, key Government officials, members of civil society and representatives of the Voluntary Organizations for Professional Evaluation (VOPEs) to discuss opportunities for strengthening national evaluation policies and systems.

One of the key milestones is the study commissioned by Parliamentarians Forum on Development Evaluation in South Asia jointly with EvalPartners on **“Mapping Status of National Evaluation Policies”** (under the lead of Barbara Rosenstein)

http://api.ning.com/files/saEvSFZMI0naAMulhi89Gvi-w8lUqOKc*yzLZZ4Hif3BpGzHtm3IXVES8mjmCWstNTOTFWVCvysHjO2kOuLPLcd5a3BmzOh/MappingNEPReportDecember2013.pdf

Flagship Initiatives 2017-2018

EvalPartners Vision: Evaluation contributes to improved lives of all citizens, a sustained planet, strengthened prosperity on the basis of equity, partnerships and peace.

EvalAgenda 2020 Goal: Evaluation is an integral part of all efforts by government, civil society and private sector

Flagship Program 1: Strengthen National Evaluation Systems

Objective: increase integration of evaluation in national systems (NES) for the SDGs

Key activities:

1. Conduct multi-stakeholder consultations on NES & the SDGs with at least 15 countries
2. Support follow-up activities from the consultations
3. Engage EvalPartners networks in strengthening national processes for evaluation
4. Prepare a major event for the HLPF Voluntary National Reviews in 2018

Flagship Program 2: “Evidence matters” campaign

Objective: Raise the profile of evaluation amongst a wide range of stakeholders

Key activities:

1. Investigate demand for evaluation with new stakeholders (e.g. civil society, environmental action groups, private sector, academia, media)
2. Simplify evaluation language for better communication
3. Generate key messages and easily disseminated communication tools for use by the evaluation sector.

Cross-cutting strategies:

1. Continue VOPE strengthening activities
2. Take a strategic approach to managed growth and governance in line with EvalAgenda2020 (clear criteria & consistent processes across networks)
3. Active fund-raising for above activities
4. Continue to promote and expand EvalPartners principles and approaches through network activities

EvalAgenda 2020 – Key challenges

Evaluation is not reaching its potential. Its relevance is under-recognised and not widely understood. Evaluations are not sufficiently in demand. Evaluation outputs are not sufficiently used to influence change in line with the EvalPartners vision.

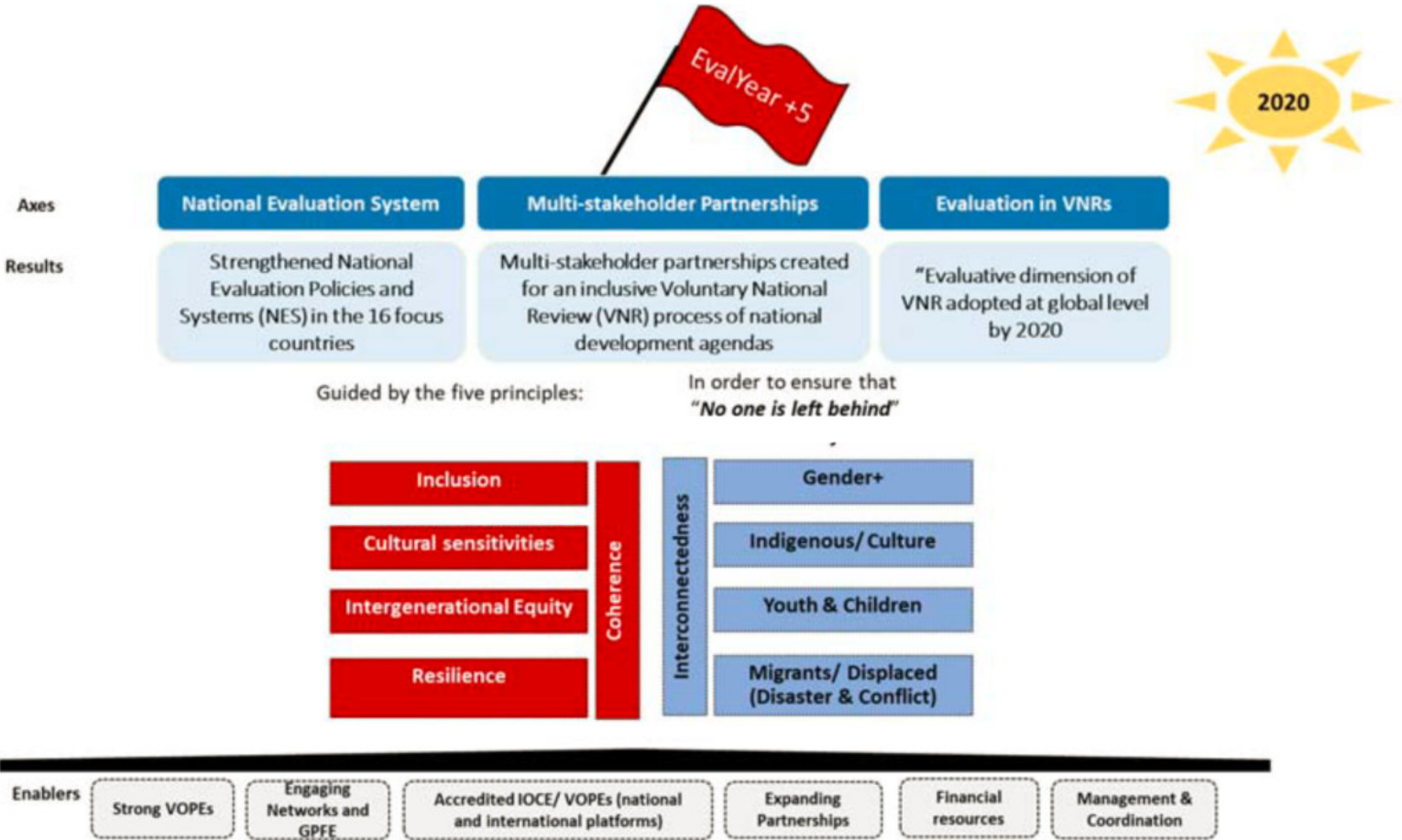
National Evaluation System accounts for the set of institutions, policies, procedures, expertise involved in the demand, supply, and use of evaluation. NES entails fostering a culture conducive to support informed, accountable and adaptive decision-making.

EvalPartners, through its flagship program 1, aims at globally celebrating achievements up to the fifth year of that declaration (EvalYear+5) in 2020 with the following outcomes: (1) Strengthened National Evaluation Policies and Systems (NES) in the 16 “focus countries”, (2) Multi-stakeholder partnerships created for an inclusive Voluntary National Review (VNR) process of national development agendas, and (3) Evaluative dimension of VNR adopted at global level by 2020.

The selection of the 16 focus countries relies on the regional presence of IOCE in the Global South, namely: East Asia, South Asia, Anglophone Africa, Francophone Africa, MENA, CIS, Latin America and Central America. **The focus country will be selected based on consultation with the regional VOPEs, local need and demand, as well as the presence of reasonable chance to make a difference.**

This program is designed to increase the level of engagement that has commenced through the regional National Evaluation Systems (NES) consultations. It intends to **reinforce and support inclusive multistakeholders' partnerships to develop national development roadmaps, establish robust National Evaluation Systems and develop voluntary national reviews (VNRs) that incorporate evaluative evidence** and consider evaluation as an integral component of SDG follow up and review.

In order to ensure that the follow up and review processes are **“people-centred, gender-sensitive, respect human rights and have a particular focus on the poorest, most vulnerable and those furthest behind”** - as illustrated in para 74 (g) of the 2030 Agenda, the program will be guided by five guiding principles.



- **Geographical Distribution** (East Asia, South Asia, Anglophone Africa, Francophone Africa, MENA, CIS, Latin America and Central America)
- **Interest & willingness to improve NEPS** (High, Medium Low – based on the reports/evaluation analysis/ case studies)
- **Presence of an active national VOPE/ host institution** (Very Active, Active, Weak –based on the IOCE records – presumably based on a set of criteria already identified. Other resources should be used to assess the strength of VOPE)
- **Synergies Government, VOPEs, CSOs and MPs** (High, medium, low – based on the various resources)
- **Active role and commitment of the development partners** (High, medium, low -reference should be made to the role of UN and other development partners and their contribution in supporting the national evaluation capacity)
- **M&E Maturity** (High- Medium-Low - based on EvalSDGs Spotlight Synthesis)
- **EFGR integration in national evaluation systems** (High, Medium, Low – based on UNW/EvalGender+ cases)
- **Other considerations** (in favor or not – based on other reports/ Team’s feedback)

Countries of choice: Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, Morocco, Jordan, Chile, Senegal, Indonesia, Nepal

Pros we all know, are there any cons?

- Eager people/organization but without appropriate consensus on needs in the local environment
- Dominant institutions which want to base it only on EU experiences (too narrow approach and too narrow definition of evaluation)
- Not well designed process and too local (this means also limited in time)
- Lack of support from global partners (it does not always has to be financial!)

Conclusions

- Act locally, but think globally
- Do a good literature review on what lessons are available globally and what is the local context
- Mark all relevant stakeholders and get them engaged in well-designed participatory process
- Think of basic criteria and principles of the process, stick to them!
- Have good monitoring system/reporting scheme based on realistic milestones
- Engage with global partners, refer to global agendas



Engage with global partners through your regional network

