An Effort in the Process of Promoting Quality Evaluation

Gana Pati Ojha, Vice-Chairperson
Ram Chandra Khanal, General Secretary
Ramesh Tuladhar, Chairperson
Evaluation in National Plan in NEPAL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Plan</th>
<th>Key Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8th PLAN (92-97)</td>
<td>M&amp;E Introduced, Guidelines developed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9th PLAN (97-02)</td>
<td>Special Chapter with Vision, Mission and Objective, Structural Set-up in all Ministries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10th PLAN (02-07)</td>
<td>Introduced Logical Framework for 20 Development Sectors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYIP (07-10)</td>
<td>Institutionalized M&amp;E in each sector including Poverty Alleviation and focus on Gender &amp; Equity issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TYP (10-13)</td>
<td>M&amp;E system a result-oriented and utilizing the results in program cycle</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Evolution: M&E Introduced, Guidelines developed
Evaluators

- **NPC**: responsible for government implemented projects
- **SWC**: responsible for (I)NGO implemented projects
- Evaluation services providers: Consultancy firms and individuals
- The firms capacity has in doing research rather than evaluation
- Few evaluation-focused agencies
- No forum for sharing evaluation knowledge
Implementation

• Government efforts limited more to monitoring
• Evaluation of externally funded projects
• Non-utilisation of feedback and low level of policy commitment
• Evaluation management: M&E staff not trained on how to manage evaluation—selecting projects for evaluation, TOR, comments on eval report
COE-Nepal

• Conceptualised in 2009/10 and Established in 2011
• Purpose: Promotion of evaluation field building
• 3 broad themes: knowledge building, capacity enhancement and promotion of evaluation theories and practices
• Linkages with: CoE-South Asia, EvalPartners, SLEvA, IOCE, SIAS
• Evaluation conclave, training on evaluation management using TESA curriculum
Capacity building

COE members capacity: Participation in

• TESA training
• Other professional development trainings of evaluators on evaluation standards, ethics, norms and code of conducts
• National and international conferences, conclaves, webinars, seminars, and workshops on topics related to evaluation
• Working together in collaborative research on evaluation theory, practices, models, methods and approaches
Innovative Approaches of Interest

- Appreciative inquiry
- Contribution analysis
- Impact assessment
- Equity-focused evaluation
Innovative Themes

• Climate change
• Disaster risk management
• Conservation and natural resources management
• Livelihoods
• Food security
• Security system reforms
• Peace and development
Challenges

• Strong and continuous advocacy for long time by small number of organisations established recently

• Capacity of COE members to develop human resources of stakeholders of evaluation

• Getting business by new organisations
Lessons Learned

• Members need to commit time and funds for long time

• Investment of time and money by founder members do die away in course of time

• External supports both - technical and financial would ease promote evaluation in the beginning, being a non-profit organization

• Strong advocacy through network of national organisations to promote quality evaluation
Recommendations

• Be prepared for putting both time and funds for establishing national VOPE

• Develop network with other likeminded national organisations

• Launch strong and continuous advocacy to convince that quality evaluation matters in development effectiveness

• Support of Funding agencies for conducting evaluation and building the capacity of national/sub-national evaluators
Recommendations

National VOPE should have:

• Long term solidarity among members – not to kill initial enthusiasm

• Well thought strategic plan - not just to start a new organization, but also ways forward - both short term and long term

• Initiate programs providing direct benefit to potential partners (Government, Donors, UN organizations and like minded collaborators etc.)