Peer to Peer Program 2016-2017

Final Narrative Report

Project ID

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<tr>
<td>Project Title:</td>
<td>Implementing EvalAgenda 2020: Professionalization of Evaluation in partnership with Academic institutions in the Eurasian region</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project Managed by:</td>
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<td>Date of this report</td>
<td>15 July 2017</td>
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Project start date | November 2016
Project end date | June 2017

Project team for this project

<table>
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1. What was the purpose of the project? What did the project plan to achieve and how? (Brief description of the project, max 100 words).
The project aimed at professionalization of evaluation in Eurasian region through developing strategic partnerships between VOPEs and academic institutions at the national level.

At first stage it was planned to conduct a thorough study of existing collaborations between VOPEs and universities worldwide. The results of the study and possible areas for collaboration between universities and VOPEs in implementing Global EvalAgenda planned to be discussed at the workshop in Armenia with the follow-up activities including collaborative projects aimed at professionalization and enhancing the environment for evaluation, developing institutional/individual capabilities of evaluators. The specific scopes of each project planned to be defined by VOPEs and universities.

2. Did the project achieve what it planned to achieve? What were the key results? Yes, fully /
   partially / unfortunately, no.

Yes, fully.

During the Yerevan workshop the experience of collaboration between VOPEs and Universities worldwide as well as the experience of partner countries from the Eurasian Alliance of National Evaluation Associations were presented by participants. Based on the results of such secondary research and analysis, the representatives of the 6 VOPEs and academic institutions discussed the model of future collaboration for the purpose of implementation of Evaluation Agenda 2020, particularly related to Professionalization of Evaluation. The strengths and weaknesses, gaps and benefits of such collaboration were identified by the participants as well as possible areas to collaborate. Finally each of the 6 National VOPEs jointly with the respective academic institutions ended up on certain initiatives to be implemented during the upcoming year. It includes the introduction of course on evaluation in curricula of academic institution, sending statements to the Government bodies on the value of evaluation, conduction of national conference jointly with academic institution, etc.

Strategic partnership agreements were signed by VOPEs with academic institutions in the form of the memorandum of cooperation. The outcomes of the Workshop were presented to heads of relevant academic institutions and the agreements were obtained that the professionalization of evaluation should be considered as one of the top priorities for collaboration, the action plans are in the process of development on joint activities for 2017-2018.

Besides, as a result of discussion on joint projects, the idea of International M&E summer school was chosen as the best one to be organized by 6 M&E networks included in the Eurasian Alliance of National Evaluation Associations. As per initial agreement the school
will take place either in Kirgizstan or in Ukraine. All networks are currently actively searching possible funding sources to apply for co-financing.

2.a. Please comment on degree of achievement for each of the outcomes:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Desired Results</th>
<th>Possible Measures (Qualitative and Quantitative) of Achievement</th>
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| **Outcome 1:** VOPEs are more influential and able to play strategic roles to strengthen an enabling environment for evaluation within their countries | • Drafted a model to improve the enabling environment for evaluation in collaboration with Academic Institutions- **FULLY**  
• Took some steps to implement this model to improve the enabling environment during follow-up activities planned during the workshop- **FULLY**  
• Held a national or international workshop on evaluation aimed at strengthening the enabling environment - **FULLY** |
| **Output 1.1:** VOPEs advocate for demand and use of evaluation at national level | • Disseminated at least one public statement jointly with the academic institution about the value of evaluation on national levels - **FULLY**  
• Sent an official communication to at least one relevant government agency or civil society organization about the value of evaluation- **PARTIALLY** |
| **Outcome 2:** Stronger VOPEs that actively work with multi-stakeholder new networks towards achieving Global Evaluation Agenda priorities. | • Endorsed the Global Evaluation Agenda- **FULLY**  
• Establish strategic partnership with academic institutions on professionalization of evaluation- **FULLY** |
| **Output 2.1:** VOPEs have built their institutional capacity and have established collaborative relationships with other VOPEs, academic institutions, and civil society | • Showed evidence of improved capacity (e.g., new initiatives, new programs/courses/workshops/trainings, new grants)- **PARTIALLY**  
• Had a documented, official working relationship with at least one other VOPE, academic unit, or CSO- **FULLY**  
• Undertook joint projects with other VOPES, academic units, and/or CSOs- **FULLY** |
| **Output 2.2:** VOPEs actively partner with | • Disseminated information about four EP networks to all its members ([EvalGender+], [EVALSDGs], [EvalYouth]; [Parliamentarians Forum for] |
multi stakeholders in achieving expectation of new networks

Development Evaluation) as well as IOCE’s professionalization task force - FULLY
- Designated at least one member to participate in at least one of EP’s new networks - FULLY
- Presented at least one session about an EP network during the workshop in Armenia - FULLY

Output 2.3: VOPEs adapt Global Evaluation Agenda priorities in local plans

- Distributed information about the GEA to all its members - FULLY
- Officially decided on specific actions the VOPE will take to advance at least one aspect of the GEA and include it to strategic plan/model of partnership - PARTIALLY

Outcome 3: Strengthened individual capacities of evaluators to conduct credible and useful evaluations

- Involvement of a diverse mix of members the activities of the VOPE, including young and emerging evaluator and gender-balanced membership (starting with the P2P project J) - FULLY
- Evidence of regular activities being conducted by the VOPE, beyond those foreseen in the P2P project - PARTIALLY
- Increase in membership, particularly young and emerging evaluators from both sexes - FULLY

3. Was the project implemented as planned? If there were changes in the planned activities, why they were necessary?

1. Yes, the project was implemented as planned. Some minor changes were made in the budget based on the changes in de facto prices and number of planned participants.

4. What are the main lessons/challenges learned from the experience of this project that you would like to share with other VOPEs?

1. VOPEs and academic institutions have a lot to share and to learn from each other in terms of collaboration.
2. Collaboration between VOPEs and academic institutions makes the Evaluation agenda more influential for government bodies and society as a whole.
3. Face-to-face meetings of national VOPEs leaders and activists from the same region are reinforcing collaborative activities and empower participants.

5. Are there plans to continue or expand collaboration started under the project? If so, please describe.

Yes. The project made an extremely important contribution to the development of collaboration between the VOPEs of the Eurasian Alliance of National Evaluation Associations and the academic institutions from. During the Yerevan workshop each VOPE
discussed the possible ways of collaboration with the respective academic institution as well as the new joint collaborative project on International M&E summer school is currently elaborated by all 6 VOPEs.

Please attach any workshop material, documents, presentation material, pictures or website links related to the project listed above. This information will be presented to the UN Women auditors as proof of the project activities.

Send this final report along with the final financial report and corresponding receipts to Lynn Burgess at lynn@ioce.net