



**Peer to Peer Program 2016-2017**

**Final Narrative Report**

**Project ID**

<b>Project Partners:</b>	Mongolia Network for Evaluation (MEN) Laos Network for Evaluation (LEN) Vietnam Network for Monitoring and Evaluation (VNME)
<b>Project Title:</b>	<b>Launching and applying the Asian Regional Framework on Evaluation Standards (ARFES) in Vietnam- Mongolia and Laos</b>
<b>Project Managed by:</b>	Nguyen Thi Thu Que- President of Vietnam Network for Monitoring and Evaluation (VNME)
<b>Date of this report</b>	17 <sup>th</sup> July 2017

<b>Project start date</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> December 2016</b>
<b>Project end date</b>	<b>14<sup>th</sup> July 2017</b>

**Project team for this project**

<b>VOPE</b>	<b>Contact Person Names</b>	<b>Email addresses</b>
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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 purpose of the project was to collaboratively discuss and adopt a set of national evaluation standards for the three countries based on the draft ASEAN frameworks standards developed under the ARFES project in early 2016. The ARFES is the “ASEAN Regional Framework on Evaluation Standards” which was completed under the EvalPartners Small Grant 2015 with collaboration between the national VoPEs of Malaysia, Cambodia, Vietnam and Indonesia with technical backstopping by the parent body, APEA. The draft ASEAN standards now need to be reviewed and adopted by each ASEAN country by their national VoPE.

## The Plan to achieve the purpose

The three countries will take concrete steps to hold in-country workshops to review and adopt the ARFES for their respective countries. Technical inputs and backstopping for the workshops would be facilitated by the 2 original designers/technical experts on the ARFES from the MES and APEA. After the workshop, the small group of key members from VOPE will work together with Consultants/ Experts to review and adjust the ARFES based on the comments from the workshop. The first draft of Document based on each VOPE standard has been sent back to the participants from the workshop and relevant agencies to get further comments and feedback. Each VOPE (president, secretary) collected the final comments from participants and completed the document of their own country.

There are 3 document, they are:

- LaFEPS: Laos Framework for Evaluation Policy and Standards
- MoFEPS: Mongolia Framework for Evaluation Policy and Standards
- Vn-FEPS: Vietnam Framework for Evaluation Policy and Standards

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

Yes, the project achieve what it planned to achieve. There are 3 workshops conducted at 3 countries of Vietnam- Mongolia and Laos

- The first workshop has been held in Vietnam with the list of 24 participants, the workshop took 3 days from 14- 16th March 2017
- The second workshop was in Mongolia with the list of 27 participants, it took 3 days from 20- 22nd March 2027
- The third workshop conducted in Laos with the number of 18 participants and took 3 days from 20- 22nd March 2017

The final documents from 3 VOPEs completed in June 2017 (see attached files for reference)

### The results of this project were:

#### Outcomes:

- 1) The first outcomes of the project would be the adoption of a uniform set of evaluation standards by three national VoPEs, consistent with the ARFES.
- 2) A second outcome would be strengthening the basic ingredients in these countries for the ongoing efforts towards professionalization of evaluation in the Asia-Pacific region as it is an EvalPartners priority.

**Outputs:** A key output of the project would be the production of a country-specific draft **ARFES** document for each country which would then form the framework evaluation standards for that country.

- 1) 01 ARFES document for Vietnam
- 2) 01 ARFES document for Mongolia
- 3) 01 ARFES document for Laos

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

Desired Results	Possible Measures (Qualitative and Quantitative) of Achievement
<b>Outcome 1: VOPEs are more influential and able to play</b>	- Vietnam- Mongolia- Laos VOPEs contributed the ARFES document to influence the theory of change in Evaluation Standards for their countries that the participants represented from

<p><b>strategic roles to strengthen an enabling environment for evaluation within their countries</b></p>	<p>different governmental organisations and agencies, include NGOs and INGOs that they all concerned about this document.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluation practices across the 3 countries via the consultation workshop got a lot of feedback and comments on the principles and standards</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 1.1:</b> VOPEs advocate for demand and use of evaluation at national level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There were no Evaluation standards in Vietnam, Laos and Mongolia though there are the M&amp;E policy, system, circulation and even guideline but no aligned standard as each donor, each sponsor and each program they use different M&amp;E requirements;</li> <li>- The ARFES document has been circulated to relevant organizations and agencies to review after conducting the consultation workshop to get comments and feedback from participants;</li> <li>- The 3 VOPEs (VNME- LEN- MEN) recapped the feedback of participants to complete the new ARFES for each country;</li> <li>- The Evaluation Standard of each country sent to the IOCE to upload on the website for other VOPE for reference.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome 2: Stronger VOPEs that actively work with multi-stakeholder new networks towards achieving Global Evaluation Agenda priorities.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The in-country consultation workshop of each country has been involved tentative (18 from LEN; 24 from VNME and 27 from MEN) participants from Government, Donor, NGOs and Agencies, means that VOPE has chance to work with multi- stakeholders to review and adopt the ARFES.</li> <li>- In Vietnam, the AGM of members has been held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2017 to inform other members who have not attended the workshop and shared information among of members, elected for the new Board Member for the new turn (2018- 2019)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.1:</b> VOPEs have built their institutional capacity and have established collaborative relationships with other VOPEs, academic institutions, and civil society</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That is the first time in Laos and Mongolia as they are new VOPEs of IOCE, they organized the internal meeting among of key members after the workshop, there were representatives of Government to join;</li> <li>- There are some more new members to join VNME and they shared information to each other during the AGM in June 2017;</li> <li>- The relationship between VNME- LEN- MEN has been built and keep inform to each other;</li> <li>- New information has been upload on each VOPE website regularly that it never happen before (especially for LEN and MEN).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.2:</b> VOPEs actively partner with multi stakeholders in achieving expectation of new networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VNME will collaborate with LEN and MeN as well as coordinate with MES to run this project;</li> <li>- There will be active consultation among the participating VoPEs to encourage the stakeholders to involve with this project;</li> <li>- The project will see extensive feedback from relevant stakeholders about the ARFES and how to move forward to adopt and up-scale it to become Standards.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Output 2.3:</b> VOPEs adapt Global Evaluation Agenda priorities in local plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The first step for 3 VOPEs (VNME- LEN- MEN) is to circulate the final document of revised ARFES to all relevant stakeholders and try to contact with them to get them involved in the process, it must be the agency, who follows the SDGs at the national level</li> <li>- The relevant agencies of each country need to understand about Global Evaluation Agenda as well as SDGs. It need to be conducting an other workshop to expose the Agenda of GE and SDGs as not all of national levels know about it</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VOPEs have responsibility to advocate to their stakeholders to adapt the ARFES as the mandate of evaluation in each country;</li> <li>- All completed Standards will be uploaded on the IOCE website for other country for reference.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Outcome 3: Strengthened individual capacities of evaluators to conduct credible and useful evaluations</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- If the Evaluation Standard is adopted by stakeholders, the evaluators in the countries have to follow and apply the standards for their work, and utilize common <b>core elements</b> with <b>principles</b> and <b>standards</b> relevant to the region and internationally;</li> <li>- The project supported a good opportunity for VOPEs to enhance their capacity as well as their reputation with multi- stakeholders and Government and raise their voice and their influence to the stakeholders;</li> <li>- For the LEN and MEN, they are both new VOPE and it is the good chance to contact and work with different relevant stakeholders and agencies, it also help to build the capacity for them in evaluation based on the ARFES standards</li> <li>- A lot of VOPEs are still not registered as formal/official organization/society. This project is a good opportunity for them to be recognized and become registered entities.</li> </ul>

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

Yes. No any change

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

**2.1. The lessons learnt from the experience of this project**

- The effort of key members of VOPE in 3 countries play very important role to encourage the other members to join the activities and involve the Government to join
- Sharing the information and experience from VNME is very good process to encourage the MEN and LEN to push it up, now LEN and MEN become the new Member of APEA (Asian Pacific Evaluation Association)
- Support from experts of MES (Malaysian Evaluation Society) is very useful to speed up the process as MES is one of advanced VOPE and they have conducted also the consultation workshop to expose the ARFES in Malaysia, then VNME and 2 other LEN and MEN will apply it for making the workshop success
- Support from IOCE to create the idea and especially about the financial aid to help the ARFES document to be launched success in 3 countries as planned.

**2.2. The challenges from this project**

- 3 VOPEs are still not official registered, then there is no bank account to transfer money from IOCE account to VOPE account directly, with small grant but we still have to pay 10% of tax, then the actual cost to spend for activities are less
- The project run in 4 countries and with 2 experts from Malaysia, to arrange the schedule for all activities among of 3 countries and 2 experts are not easy and take time
- It is the first time to run this P2P project for new VOPE, both of them have no experiences in doing it, the VMNE need to guide them step by step to make sure everything follow the process and under the control
- To work with Stakeholders in 3 countries is not easy as it is very new concept to harmonize the standards from different stakeholders/donors/ sponsors together

- To make sure that this ARFES will be adopted and will be used, it need time to study and experience step by step.

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

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](mailto:lynn@ioce.net)

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