

The Amazing Growth of the Global Evaluation Profession

Keynote presentation to AES
Adelaide, 31 August 2012

By **Jim Rugh**



Mapping the status of VOPEs*

***VOPE = Voluntary Organization of Professional Evaluators
(e.g. society / association / network / community of practice)**



1981 Canadian Evaluation Society (CES)
Societe canadienne d'evaluation (SCE)



• 1983 – Israeli Association for Program Evaluation (IAPE) •



1986 – American Evaluation Association (AEA)

merger of Evaluation Research Society (1979) and Evaluation Network (1982)



• 1987 – Australasian Evaluation Society (AES) •



1988 – Société québécoise d'évaluation de programmes (SQEP)



1992 – UK Evaluation Society (UKES)



• 1994 – European Evaluation Society (EES) •



1995 – Persatuan Penilaian Malaysia = Malaysian Evaluation Society (MES)



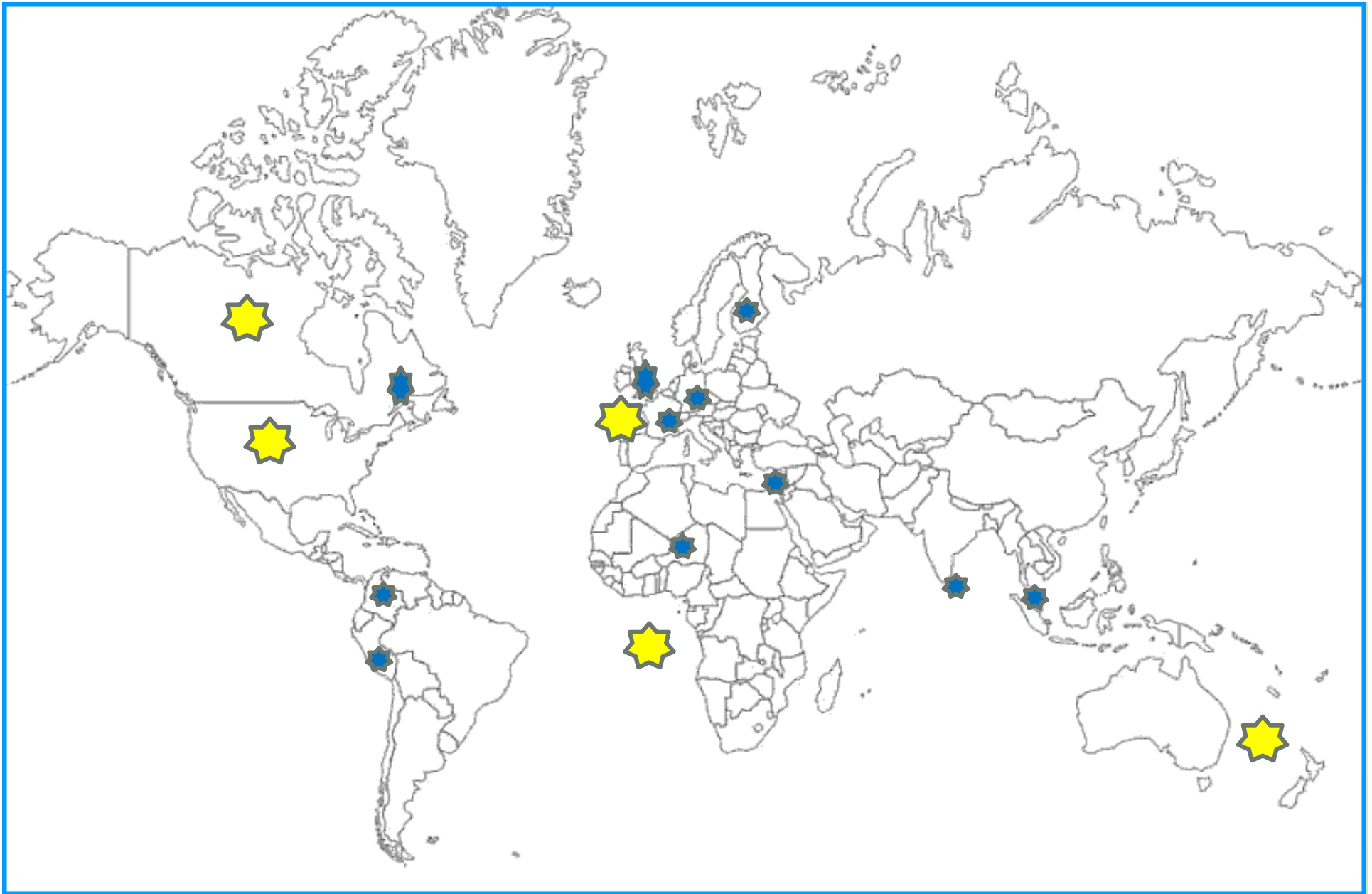
• 1996 – Peru - Red Peruana de Seguimiento y Evaluación (Red EvalPerú)



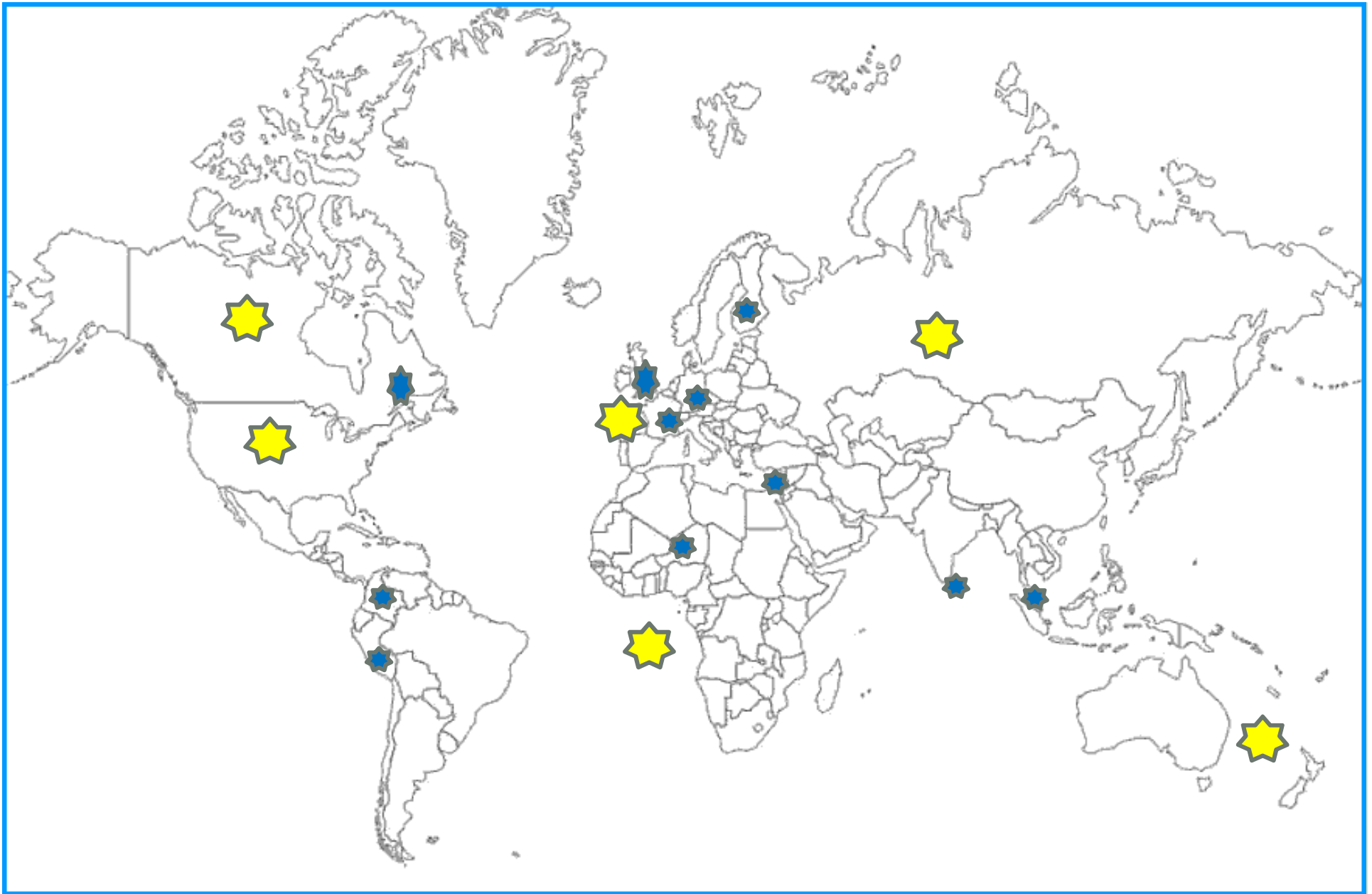
1997 – Germany + Austria - Gesellschaft für Evaluation e.V. (DeGEval)



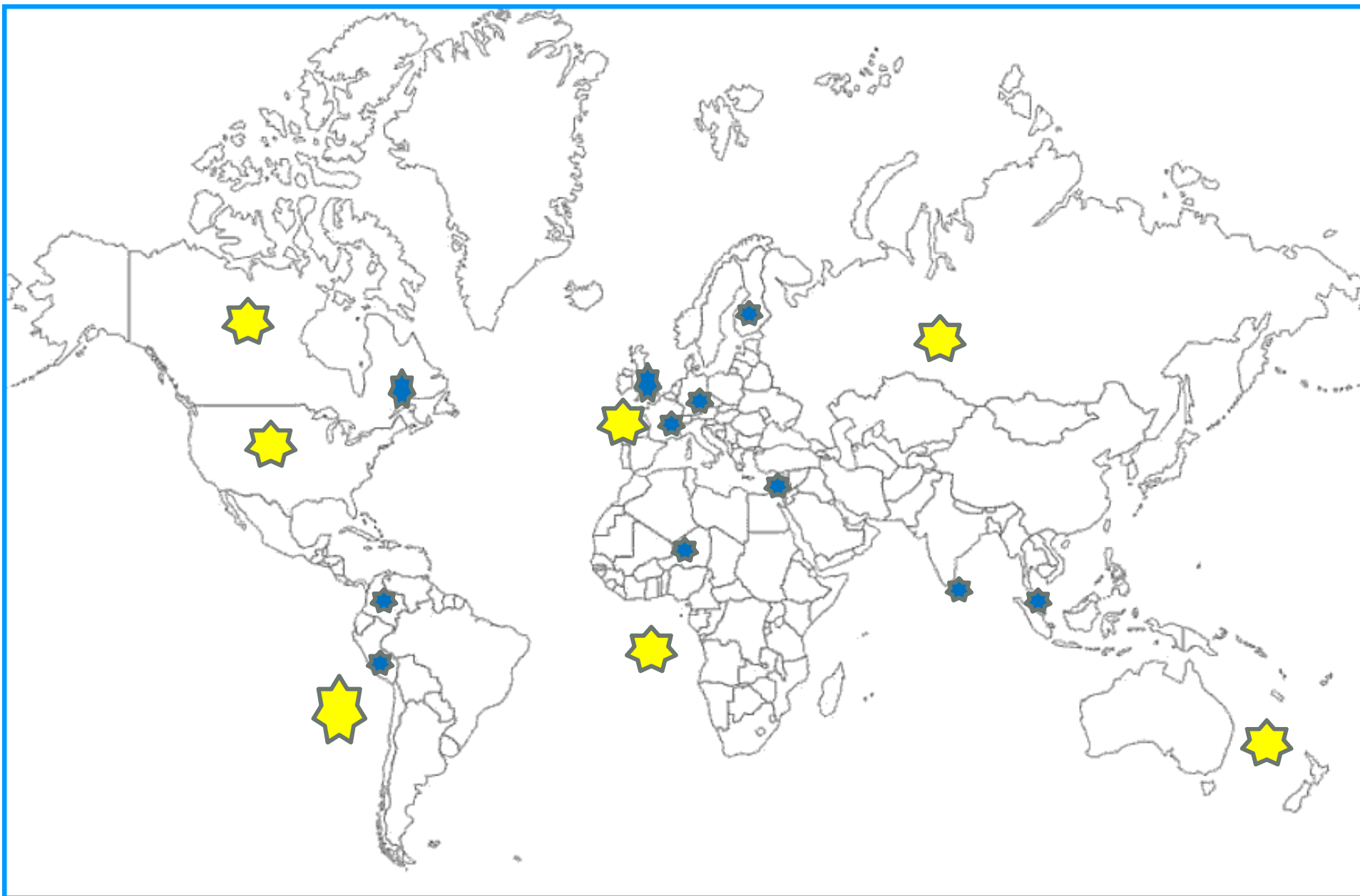
1999 – African Evaluation Association (AfrEA)



1999 – Columbia, Niger, France, Finland, Sri Lanka



2000 – International Program Evaluation Network (IPEN)



2004 – ReLAC

Red de Seguimiento, Evaluación y Sistematización en America Latina y el Caribe



International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation
Organisation internationale de coopération en évaluation
Organización Internacional para la Cooperación en Evaluación

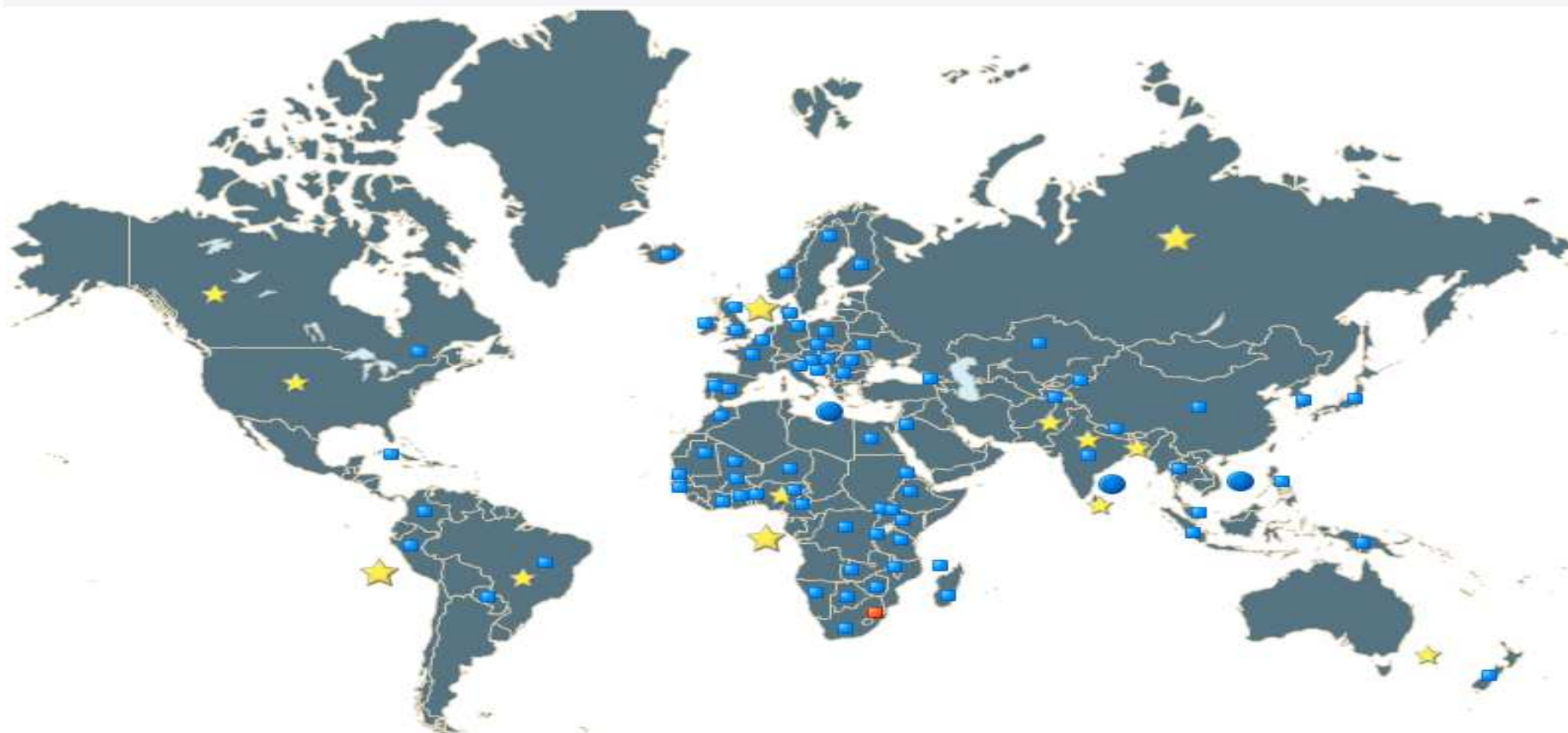


- Regional Organizations
- ★ Regional Organizations Contributing Financially to IOCE
- National Organizations
- ★ National Organizations Contributing Financially to IOCE

▼ ▼ To see information about organizations pointed to by your cursor, scroll down ▼ ▼

National Evaluation Organizations on the IOCE database

Directory



Swaziland

Swazi Evaluation Network

Website: n/a

Contact: Clement Dlamini

e-address: cdlamini_idm@swazi.net

Mapping the status of VOPEs

See existing interactive world map and
database of global VOPEs at

www.IOCE.net

Mapping the status of VOPEs

EvalPartners VOPE survey by the numbers

Countries in which we have some VOPE contact information:	106
Number of national VOPEs identified:	127
Regional and international VOPEs:	26
Total known VOPEs:	153

Mapping the status of VOPEs

EvalPartners VOPE survey by the numbers

National/regional VOPEs to which questionnaire sent:	140
Survey replies received:	80 (57%)
Say they will write case studies	44
Case studies received	28 (64%)

Current membership numbers reported

AEA (USA)	7,310
ReLAC (Latin America & Caribbean)	2,847
BMEN (Brazil)	2,645
CES (Canada)	2,016
AES (Australasia)	1,034
DeGEval (Germany & Austria)	683
<i>All others reporting</i>	<u>10,225</u>
Total reported memberships:	26,760

East Asia + Pacific VOPEs from whom survey replies received:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Acronym</u>	<u>Membership</u>
Australia + NZ	Australasian Evaluation Society	AES	1,034
China	Chinese Evaluation Network	CEN	25
Indonesia	Indonesian Development Evaluation Community	InDEC	513
Japan	Japan Evaluation Society	JES	?
Malaysia	Malaysian Evaluation Society	MEA	35
New Zealand	Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association	anzea	342
Papua New Guinea	PNG Association of Professional Evaluators	PNG AoPE	88
Philippines	Pilipinas M&E Society	PMES	76
Philippines	M&E Network, Philippines	M&E Net, Phil.	141
Thailand	Thailand Evaluation Network	TEN	135

How formally organized are these VOPEs?

<i>Types of organization (global data)</i>	
Informal networks	40%
Charter & bylaws adopted	10%
<i>(but not officially recognized by govt.)</i>	
Legally recognized by government	43%
<i>(presumably charter & bylaws included)</i>	

An introduction to



Outline

- **Purpose and process of the EvalPartners Initiative**
- **Progress so far**
- **Preliminary learnings from the mapping survey**
- **Ideas for strategies going ahead ...**

Purpose of the EvalPartners Initiative

To promote collaboration among VOPEs to strengthen Evaluation Capacity Development, especially by contributing to enhanced governmental policies that promote the use of evaluation for the achievement of national and regional equitable development results.

Planned Results

- 1. Greater professional capacities of individual members of VOPEs**
- 2. Increased VOPEs' institutional capacities**
- 3. Improved enabling environment for VOPEs to make a positive influence on equity-based and gender-sensitive country-led M&E systems, including the utilisation of evaluation in national and regional development**

Roles of VOPEs in EvalPartners

- 1. Providing the initial knowledge base through the survey and case studies**
- 2. Leading the development of plans for achieving the planned results**
- 3. Key actors in implementing national and regional results**

Key Strategies

1. **Mix of top down and bottom up approaches**
2. **VOPEs' leadership**
3. **Inter-VOPE collaboration**
4. **A focus on results at national and regional levels**
5. **Optimal utilisation of lessons and expertise**





Initiative launched during IOCE Board meeting in Accra, January 2012





EvalPartners Management Group meeting in Beirut, July 2012



2015 – The International Year of Evaluation

**Early 2012 -
EvalPartners
Launch +
mapping**

**December 2012 - International
Forum of Civil Society Evaluation
Capacity Building Strategies**

Process

1. Mapping of VOPEs
2. Planning meeting in Beirut 8-9 July
3. International Forum in Chiang Mai, Thailand 3-7 December
4. 3-year strategy & work plan
5. Book published early 2013
6. International Year of Evaluation 2015

25 key partners so far, with clear Governance structure



Successful Fund Raising

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland
- UNWomen
- Negotiations on-going with other potential donors
- Finland expressed interest in supporting 2013 workplan

See updated current information about
EvalPartners at:

www.MyMandE.org/EvalPartners



Public website and social media

<http://mymande.org/evalpartners>



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Why is it Important to strengthen CIVIL SOCIETY'S EVALUATION CAPACITY ?

The Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness endorsed in 2005, and the Accra follow-up meeting, state that national ownership and leadership are overarching factors for ensuring good development outcomes.... > [more](#)

EvalPartners launch the
mapping of VOPEs

► [more](#)

International mapping of evaluation associations launched



Mapping of VOPEs

Partners

Founding Partners



Core Partners



THE INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE

The International Organization for Cooperation in Evaluation (IOCE)¹ and UNICEF, in partnership with several major organizations, launched an innovative partnership to enhance the capacities of Civil Society Organizations (CSO) to influence policy makers, public opinion and other key stakeholders so that public policies are based on evidence, and incorporate considerations of equity and effectiveness. The objective of the Initiative is to enhance the capacities of CSOs to engage in a strategic and meaningful manner in national evaluation processes, contributing to improved country-led evaluation systems and policies that are equity-focused and gender equality responsive.

The expected outcomes of this initiative are three-fold:

Community

Participate and share your knowledge through social networking



E-learning

The screenshot shows a Blackboard Collaborate virtual classroom window. The title bar reads "SCHOOL OF BEHAVIORAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL SCIENCES MUM - Blackboard Collaborate". The interface includes a menu bar (File, Edit, View, Playback, Tools, Window, Help), a toolbar, and several panels. The "AUDIO & VIDEO" panel on the left shows a large video of Michael Quinn Patton and three smaller thumbnails of other participants. Below it, the "PARTICIPANTS" panel lists 12 users, including Abigail - UNICEF, Celeste - UNICEF, Claremont Graduate University, Harce Segone UNICEF, Michael Patton, Penny Hawkins, Stewart Davidson, and several anonymous users. The main content area displays a presentation slide with a blue background. The slide title is "How to evaluate interventions in complex dynamic environments: Developmental Evaluation" in white and red text. Below the title, it says "Michael Quinn Patton" and "Founder and Director, Utilization-Focused Evaluation, and former President of the American Evaluation Association". A small book cover titled "Developmental Evaluation: Applying Complexity Concepts to Enhance Innovation and Use" by Michael Quinn Patton is shown on the left side of the slide. The UNICEF logo is in the bottom right corner of the slide. At the bottom of the window, a "CHAT - Sponsored" panel is visible, and a progress bar shows the video is at 57:18.

An important focus of EvalPartners is to build the evaluation capacities of governments.

This book (1999) provided a good conceptual framework built on analyses of the policies, strategies and systems of a number of national governments.

*Building
Effective
Evaluation
Capacity*

LESSONS FROM PRACTICE

*Richard Boyle
Donald Lemaire*

EDITORS

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

An important component of the **EvalPartners** mapping survey has been to find out what VOPEs are doing to promote ECD in general, and governmental policies and the “demand side” for evaluation in particular.

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

A wide range of involvement in policy advocacy:

Policy advocacy score = 10	19	29%
Policy advocacy score between 5-9	14	21%
Policy advocacy score between 1-4	14	21%
Policy advocacy score = 0	19	29%
	66	100%

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

What follows are some quotes from the survey responses from those VOPEs who are “positive deviants” – with more experience in advocating for enhanced evaluation policies and systems.

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- In Bolivia there is a public sector eager to have inputs from professional evaluators. There is great openness by the government on initiatives that contribute to transparent governance and foster social control.

- REDMEBOL

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

We intend to influence:

- Decision makers to demand, use and disseminate more evaluation
- Managers to make, demand and commission evaluations
- Professionals and organizations (supply) to produce quality evaluations
- The social control entities to understand their role in participating in the formulation processes, as well as M&E of public policies
- Media, as they can produce more fully qualified information
- Universities to share their knowledge and improve the supply of development capacity
- Legislative members to demand and use more evaluation.

- Brazilian M&E Network



How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- Our Association contributed to the public debate that led to the inclusion of a policy for evaluation in the new constitution.
 - Association Marocaine de l'évaluation (AME)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- Develop and promote the adoption by the Government a statement of intention to allocate a proportion of the budgets of departments in follow-up activities and evaluation.

[Extracting just one of a long list of initiatives cited.]

- Réseau Ivoirien de Suivi et d'Evaluation (RISE)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- ReNSE has promoted an evaluation culture through activities that have encouraged and enabled administration officials to develop legal and legislative texts related to evaluation. ReNSE has also undertaken activities in connection with the National Assembly, public structures and civil society active in the fight against corruption.

-Réseau Nigérien de Suivi Evaluation (ReNSE)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- Promote effectiveness and sustainability of development interventions by increasing the use of evaluation-based evidence in the public and private policy making across the country.

-Cameroon Development Evaluation Association

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- The team spearheading these efforts successfully sought and managed to form a strategic partnership and support from the government’s Monitoring & Evaluation Directorate (MED) that coordinates the National M&E System (NIMES).

-Evaluation Society of Kenya (ESK)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- SAMEA has worked closely with the Government of South Africa where the Office of the Presidency now houses the Department of Performance M&E (DPME). This structural arrangement is replicated in the lower tiers of government where M&E is located in the Premier's Office in each province.
 - *South African M&E Association (SAMEA)*

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- Exchanges with members of the Parliament of Albania and with policy actors to raise awareness on the evaluation of programs and public policies.
 - *Société albanaise d'évaluation de programme (SAEP)*

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- to support evaluation clients from regional authorities, public bodies, publicly funded institutions, and churches, foundations and associations, and to contribute to their professionalization via the ‘Guidelines for Evaluation Clients’.

-Gesellschaft für Evaluation e.V. (DeGEval)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- Promote better use by decision-makers of the results of evaluation, in terms of drawing on relevant evaluation where it exists, encouraging it where absent, and generally creating a positive climate towards it.

-Irish Evaluation Network (IEN)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- We are trying to introduce the concept of evaluations to the politicians. Therefore “*Eva the Evaluator*” was translated into the Slovak language and distributed to relevant actors.

- *Slovak Evaluation Society (SES)*

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- We have managed to encourage government to approve the ISE model for both formative and summative evaluation to be a key component of the results-based budgeting system in government.

-Malaysian Evaluation Society (MES)

How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- PMES, through the officers of the association, has been involved in conducting training of people and different government agencies and such as the Department of Labor, Commission on Women, Department of Trade and Industry, advocacy on building transparency, accountability. [In these ways we believe that] integrity in governance is advanced.

- Pilipinas Monitoring and Evaluation Society (PMES)



How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

- AEA has an Evaluation Policy Task Force seeking to strengthen evaluation policy within the federal government. It has developed an Evaluation Roadmap for a More Effective Government and worked with multiple entities within the government to improve federal evaluation policies, including that of USAID and the US Department of State.

American Evaluation Association (AEA)



How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

Promote and facilitate the development of evaluation practices and standards which are relevant to Aotearoa New Zealand, with particular reference to the principles and obligations established by Te Tiriti o Waitangi and reflecting the unique bi-cultural context of Aotearoa New Zealand, while also providing a framework from which multi-culturalism can be embraced and responded to.



-Aotearoa New Zealand Evaluation Association
(anzea)



How VOPEs are addressing “the evaluation environment” in their countries

In recent years, the AES has increasingly turned its focus towards policy advocacy. One example is the AES's recent submission to the Australian Government Department of Finance and Deregulation's draft Commonwealth Financial Accountability Review (CFAR) 2010. The AES' Strategic Engagement Committee will work to further advance evaluation in the external environment in both domestic and international development spheres.

Examples of initiatives that might be included in the 2013-2015 workplan

- **Peer-to-Peer mutual mentoring (among VOPEs as organizations and among individuals)**
- **Expanded webinars and other e-learning opportunities**
- **Links via www.MyM&E.org to evaluation resources** (e.g. BetterEvaluation)
- **More resources in other languages** (French, etc.)
- **Evaluation Internships** (e.g. AEA/Claremont)

Examples of initiatives that might be included in the 2013-2015 workplan

- **EvalStartUp (assistance to nascent VOPEs)**
- **Promoting evaluation courses at universities** (TESA in Asia, ReLAC in Latin America, etc.)
- **Proactive advocacy for enabling environment for evaluation**
- **Multiple events leading up to and during the International Year of Evaluation (2015)**
- **Collaborative strategy to promote equity-focused and gender-sensitive evaluations**



What else? (we're open to ideas!)

Examples of initiatives that might be included in the 2013-2015 workplan

What else? (we're open to ideas!)

I invite you to brainstorm with 1-2 people sitting next to you:

1. What other ideas do you have for initiatives of this kind to promote evaluation globally?
2. In what ways might you be interested in getting involved personally?
3. Please note your ideas and then send them to JimRugh@mindspring.com.

