



Peer to Peer Program 2016-2017

Final Narrative Report

Project ID: P2P09/2016

Project Partners:	EvaluAR - RedMEBOL
Project Title:	<i>Binational Working Meeting: towards a 2017- 2020 BiNational Working Agenda for the institutionalization of evaluation.</i>
Project Managed by:	Celeste Ghiano – Silvia Salinas Mulder
Date of this report	10-31 , 2017

Project start date	November, 2016
Project end date	October, 2017

Project team for this project

VOPE	Contact Person Names	Email addresses
EvaluAR	Celeste Ghiano	Ghiano.celeste@gmail.com
RedMEBOL	Silvia Salinas Mulder	ssalinasmu@hotmail.es
EvaluAR	Laura Porrini	m.laura.porrini@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Iriana Ferreyra	irianafereyra@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Nahuel Escalada	nahuelesca@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Esteban Cocorda	ecocorda@yahoo.com.ar
EvaluAR	Cecilia Della Vedoba	cdellavedoba@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Pablo Rodriguez Bilella	Pablo67@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Paula Amaya	kunayamaya@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Natalia Aquilino	Natalia.aquilino@gmail.com
EvaluAR	Esteban Tapella	etapella@gmail.com
RedMEBOL	Scarleth Flores	Scarlet.flores@gmail.com
RedMEBOL	Marcelo Clavijo	marceloclpion@hotmail.com
RedMEBOL	María Dolores Castro	Mdcastro.mantilla@gmail.com
RedMEBOL	Martha Lanza	MLanza22@gmail.com

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 to:

- ⇒ Strengthen ties and promote exchange, learning, replication of best practices and scaling-up between the two VOPES to strengthen their capacities to address the institutionalization of evaluation.
- ⇒ Based on a joint situational analysis, produce a bi-national agenda towards the institutionalization of evaluation.
- ⇒ Establish working groups to develop and operationalize joint strategies, exchange best practices and lessons learned and follow-up on the planned activities and expected achievements.
- ⇒ Systematize the experience to offer a “peer-to-peer working model” towards institutionalization to the other countries and VOPES in the region.

The project focused on a bi-national meeting as a key activity to develop the bi-national agenda.

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

The project fully achieved what it planned to achieve, and the initial expectations were exceeded. We have an Agenda that transcends the Peer to Peer program finalization and we expect it will guide our joint work and coordination for the coming two years.

Between November 2016 and October 2017, key results to be highlighted are:

- a. The two VOPES communicated fluently and developed a joint working plan.
- b. Inspired by the Argentinian Mapping exercise, and motivated by the project, the Bolivian VOPE undertakes and publishes (virtual publication) on the institutionalization of evaluation in Bolivia.
- c. A Binational Work Meeting takes place in Córdoba, Argentina; key issues towards the institutionalization of evaluation are identified and – based also on the pillars of the 2020 EvalAgenda - four bi-national working groups are established: 1. COMMISSION TO DEVELOP AN ACTIVE ENVIRONMENT IN EVALUATION AND ENABLING REGULATIONS; 2. COMMISSION FOR STRENGTHENING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITIES IN EVALUATION (of Government, Networks and NGOs), 3. COMMISSION FOR THE STRENGTHENING OF INDIVIDUAL EVALUATION CAPABILITIES (Training of Evaluators and Evaluation Users), 4. COMMISSION TO STRENGTHEN LINKAGES AND VISIBILITY OF EVALUATION AND EVALUATION NETWORKS.

- d. Three working & discussion documents are produced, as a basis for further exchanged and future work: Institutional capacities for evaluation; individual capacities for evaluation and enabling environment and regulations for evaluation in the region.
- e. A growing group of key actors informed about, and involved in the project. Different opportunities and networks have been used to socialize the project ideas and results (LAC Evaluation week; LAC Evidence week).
- f. The project experience & results will be presented at the upcoming International Evaluation Conference in Mexico; a newsletter and an infographics are being prepared.

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

Desired Results	Possible Measures (Qualitative and Quantitative) of Achievement
<p>Outcome 1: VOPEs are more influential and able to play strategic roles to strengthen an <u>enabling environment for evaluation</u> within their countries</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A Diagnosis of the Institutionalization of Evaluation in Bolivia was undertaken and published (digital publication) and the Argentinian Mapping was updated. ● The Bi-national Agenda is strategically organized around the 3 pillars of the 2020 EvalAgenda and initial working documents and strategies are developed for each. ● Different activities that involve governmental and non-governmental organizations advance the institutionalization of evaluation agenda in both countries. To highlight: activities undertaken in both countries during the LAC Evaluation Week and also activities undertaken more recently as preparatory activities for the Mexico Conference, which relate to the SDGs. ● VOPEs in Argentina and Bolivia are increasingly positioned and recognized by public and non-governmental institutions.
<p>Output 1.1: VOPEs advocate for demand and use of evaluation at national level</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In Argentina, key policy persons participated and got involved in a “diagnostic” exchange during the binational meeting. ● In Bolivia, key policy- makers and authorities agreed to participate in an interview for the diagnosis and key policy people participated in a multi-actor meeting organized during the Evaluation Week to present and discuss the Diagnostic. The work and results were validated and highly valued.
<p>Outcome 2: <u>Stronger VOPEs that actively work with multi-stakeholder new networks towards achieving Global Evaluation Agenda</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● VOPEs endorse and implement the Global Evaluation Agenda via the four Working Commissions. ● Strengthened VOPEs in Argentina and Bolivia, with enhanced capacities and recognition at national and regional level.

priorities.	
<p>Output 2.1: 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"> ● The project has strengthened collaborative relationships of the VOPEs with academic institutions (University of Córdoba, Posgraduate center Bolivia). ● The events during the Evaluation Week and the preparatory events for the Mexico Conference, have involved multiple actors (government, civil society) and have positioned the institutionalization of evaluation in the agenda. ● New initiatives came and others are planned: i.e. joint projects with our regional VOPE (ReLAC) to address training needs. ● Bases on this project’s experience, a “peer-to peer” collaborative model to enhance institutionalization will be disseminated in the region (e.g. Conference in Mexico). ● The Bolivian VOPE is in the process of signing different collaboration agreements with various civil society organizations and academic institutions, which will support the institutionalization agenda. ● As an initiative of Bolivian young evaluators group, a course on the Bolivian Planning and Evaluation System is being organized.
<p>Output 2.2: VOPEs actively partner with multi stakeholders in achieving expectation of new networks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Disseminated information about all five EvalPartners networks to all its members (EvalGender+, EVALSDGs, EvalIndigenous; EvalYouth; Global Parliamentarians Forum for Evaluation) as well as IOCE’s professionalization task force. ● Increased participation of our VOPE’s members (where we already have participation): EvalGender+ and EvalGénero , EvalSDG, EvalYouth, Global Parliamentarian Forum (Bolivian participants strongly involved with EvalIndigenous and other country representatives in different activities for the Mexico Conference. The new young evaluators group increasingly linked with Evalyouth LAC and Evalyouth global). ● Presented in several events and sessions information about EvalPartners networks; shared information about the different networks via mailing list, web site & FB page. ● Begin the participation of at least one member of each VOPE in the EvalIndigenous network and the Professionalization of Evaluation task force. Involvement of several members of the Bolivian VOPE in activities to take place in Guanajuato (presentations, panel coordination). A group of EvaluAR members interested in get involved in <i>Profesionalization of Evaluation task force</i> linked to a new research project.

<p>Output 2.3: VOPEs adapt Global Evaluation Agenda priorities in local plans</p>	<p>Since the GEA IS the base of our Binational Agenda, we have:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Translated, disseminated and distributed information about the EvalAgenda to all our members and to the public involved in our activities. ● The two VOPEs integrate the GEA 2020 objectives in their strategic and annual plans.
<p>Outcome 3: Strengthened individual capacities of evaluators to conduct credible and useful evaluations</p>	<p>Finally, by the end of the Project, we can say that there was an involvement of diverse mix of members in the Working Commissions as detailed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 13 women ● 7 men ● 7 Young & Emerging Evaluators ● 9 members of Governmental Organizations ● 12 members of Academic Institutions ● 5 members of the Private Sector (OSC or independents) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Beyond the activities foreseen in the P2P project, we have in process our Agenda for 2018-2020. ● The different activities undertaken (Evaluation Week, preparatory activities for Mexico) have contributed to enhance capacities and add to VOPEs efforts towards professionalization and capacity building. In Bolivia, 2 VOPE members participate in a course on impact evaluation, a group of 5 in a course on systematization, one member participated in a course in Mexico on qualitative and quantitative methods for impact evaluation, and aprox. 20 are planning to participate in the upcoming course. In Argentina, there is a group in Córdoba, Argentina working hard to offer an academic proposal in Evaluation for the region.

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

The project was implemented as planned in almost all cases. We had some changes in the Agenda timing. But with an authorization from IOCE, we could extend the Project two more months, due to the fact that some funds remained -thanks to the arrival of other funds from partner institutions- and we proposed to reinvest them in benefit of our planned activities.

There were some difficulties in the organization due to the challenge of volunteering time. This was a real challenge; anyway it was an opportunity to learn alternative tools to organize activities and time.

In general, we consider that we have optimized efficiency to a maximum extent, undertaking many activities, producing many products and connecting with several actors and other networks.

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

LESSONS learned to share:

- Collaborative work including exchange of experiences, tools and contacts, has a high potential to add value, effectiveness, efficiency and sustainability to actions of peer organizations
- The culture of joint learning and reflection overcomes common, traditional and deeply ingrained competition culture, but its evolution and “institutionalization” requires a previous “de-construction” process, valuing and respecting the other as “equal”, and the development of a self-critical and reflective capacity.
- The volunteer character of the VOPEs and work overload of their members frequently have a negative effect over the fulfillment of plans and commitments.
- Institutionalization of evaluation requires sustained work; agreeing a joint Agenda has been a very good strategy given it is based on joint commitments and challenges.

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

Since the Binational Agenda is expected to continue in 2018- 2020, we have draft an extended Agenda. With the support of our partner institutions as IOCE did, we believe we`ll expand our collaboration beyond the end of the P2P.

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

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

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1. PROGRAM OF THE BINATIONAL MEETING (SPA); b. INTERNATIONAL PANEL’S PROGRAM (SPA)
 2. FIRST BROCHURE DISSEMINATED IN OUR VOPES’ NETWORKS (ENG)
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3. LINK TO PHOTOS: BINATIONAL MEETING, NATIONAL EVALUATION WEEK (Argentina & Bolivia)
 4. INFOGRAPHY / PÓSTER APPROVED TO PRESENT IN THE RELAC- REDLACME- IDEAS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE (SPA)
 5. THE BINATIONAL AGENDA'S BROCHURE, WITH ACTUALIZED INFORMATION (INCLUDING ADVANCES IN OUR DOCUMENTS). (SPA)
 6. DECLARATION OF PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST BY THE CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM LA PAMPA, ARGENTINA (SPA)
 7. DECLARATION OF PARLIAMENTARY INTEREST BY THE CHAMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM CORDOBA, ARGENTINA (SPA)
 8. FIRST TEMPLATE OF BINATIONAL ACTIVITIES 2017-2020 (SPA)
 9. NOTE OF APPROVAL TO PRESENT THE BINATIONAL AGENDA FOR THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF EVALUATION: ARGENTINA-BOLIVIA 2017-2020 IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE RELAC-REDLACME- IDEAS.
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