

## Mission Statement

### Network of Evaluation Societies in Europe (NESE)

Prague 2010

#### ***1. NESE – an Open Network of Evaluation Societies in Europe***

NESE is an open, independent and self-governing network of evaluation societies and associations in Europe. It provides a forum for discussion and information exchange and promotes quality of evaluation. NESE members are non-profit organizations devoted to the public interest. Membership is open to legally or formally constituted evaluation associations or societies that are free of state and commercial influence<sup>1</sup>. Members cooperate on a voluntary basis to achieve the commonly defined goals.

#### ***2. Goals of NESE – Evaluation in Europe***

NESE promotes quality and independence of evaluation. It provides a cooperative platform for evaluation associations and societies in Europe. It seeks to foster exchange of knowledge and good practices and to promote evaluation professionalism.

NESE aims at strengthening the capacity of associated evaluation societies to develop sound and independent practice. It provides the arena where evaluation societies can learn and support each other to promote good evaluation practice in their countries. NESE also facilitates exchange on the foundation and growth of new evaluation societies, on how to develop self-governance structures, provide value to their members, and organize conferences and other events increasing evaluation professionalism.

Members of NESE promote the NESE mission. NESE supports activities of its members in their national framework being implemented in the context of the NESE mission.

NESE fosters communication on evaluation issues and conditions among its member societies and with European institutions involved in evaluation issues. It enhances information exchange on professional learning, national developments and evaluation practices, and it broadens the debate on key evaluation policy issues from a European perspective.

#### ***3. Organization and Structure of NESE***

NESE is coordinated by one evaluation society within the network in cooperation with the European Evaluation Society (EES). The former one rotates every second year. EES provides the internet presentation of NESE including information about participants and activities (<http://www.europeanevaluation.org/community/nese.htm>).

In order to promote transparency, quality development and knowledge exchange NESE organizes annual meetings, encourages collaborative work and facilitates the systematic exchange of information among its members.

Every other year the NESE meeting takes place in the context of the EES Conference. In between, one NESE meeting is organized by the evaluation society currently coordinating the network together with EES.

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<sup>1</sup> The association/society is not under control, direct dependency or management of the state administration body. In terms of commercial independency the association/society is not actively marketing its members' commercial interests (if such exist) nor does it promote itself as a commercial unit for tendering purposes.