NPHI external evaluation initiative

Sharing experiences and lessons learned from external evaluations: towards the development of an NPHI evaluation tool

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Background

- IANPHI gathers almost 80 NPHIs from four continents
- Regional and annual meetings are great opportunity to:
  - learn about missions, priorities, organization, accomplishments…
  - identify common concerns about the performance of NPHI
- 2007: IANPHI framework for creation and development of NPHIs:
  - core attributes and essential core functions for NPHIs (revised 2012)
  - allowed IANPHI to offer guidance for NPHI creation or development
- Once created and after few years in operation, NPHI are evaluated
  - diversity of ways to do it depending on NPHI background
  - diversity of experience and impact on NPHI development
- Useful for NPHI & possible for IANPHI to develop best practices and a framework for NPHI evaluation

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Build on experience & diversity of NPHIs with regards to external evaluation

- **Circumstances of evaluation vary**

- **Evaluations carried out by Courts of auditors, audit/control bodies of MoH, contractors, external panels of scientists, advisory boards to the Director…**

- **Varying role of NPHI management & scientific boards**

- **TORs: some NPHIs may have limited influence on TORs while some steer the evaluation process and define TORs**

- **Impact of the evaluation process on :**
  - **credibility and future of NPHI**
  - **scientific governance & strategic planning**
  - **NPHI experience on use & usefulness of the evaluation**

Usefulness of an external evaluation framework

- **For NPHIs:**
  - guidance for preparing & planning their own evaluation
  - guidance for NPHI senior staff involved in evaluation panels of other NPHI

- **For IANPHI**
  - develop further frameworks specific to NPHI activities
  - best practices for NPHI-to-NPHI evaluation initiative of IANPHI

- **For MoH, international & funding bodies:**
  - guidance for evaluation process & terms of reference
  - best practices

Scope of the evaluation ?

- **Evaluation of what ?**
  - accomplishments (processes & outputs)
  - against standards, indicators with regards to specific program...
  - impact (outcome), cost/effectiveness,
  - benchmarking and ranking of institutes
- **The project should remain modest (1 year)**
- **The objective is to focus on processes and outputs**
- **Evaluation as a way to identify areas where the NPHI**
  - needs to make progress
  - has made progress

Planning

- **Step 1 : Meeting with directors or their representatives at the annual meeting in Mexico**
- **Step 2 : NPHIs Group working with the IANPHI secretariat (emails, conference calls…): October 2012–December 2013**
- **Step 3 : 2 day meeting of the NPHIs Group in Bellagio or Paris**
- **Step 4 : Presentation of the draft evaluation tool to the annual meeting (Sept 2013)**
- **Step 5 : release of the evaluation tool (Dec 2013)**

Step 2 : NPHIs Group working with the IANPHI secretariat (emails & conf calls) October 2012 – December 2013

- **Collection of case studies – short IANPHI paper on "*NPHIs experiences with external evaluations*".**

- **how NPHIs have undergone an external evaluation (or for which such evaluation is in progress or planned).**

- **On the basis of common critical issues *drafting an evaluation tool* :**

  - **to formulate a request for an external evaluation**

  - **to be used as an evaluation guide for NPHI-to-NPHI evaluation**

  - **to be enough informative for funders and donors to have an overview of the impact of their contribution to the performance the NPHI**

Coordination and funding

- **The initiative will be coordinated by:**
  - **Anne Catherine Viso (INVS) and**
  - **Courtenay Dusenbury (IANPHI-US Secretariat).**
- **Funding:**
  - **the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has agreed to provide limited support for this effort,**
  - **if feasible and necessary seek additional support from the Rockefeller Foundation.**

Conclusions

- **Develop further the already existing IANPHI reference documents on NPHI**

- **Build on NPHI experience**

- **Usefulness of an evaluation framework & best practices**

- **No other organization than IANPHI is better prepared to develop such a tool**

- **Pragmatic approach**