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 a 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
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 of 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