SSENYONDO VICENT

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MASTERS IN MANAGEMENT STUDIES (MONITORING AND EVALUATION), PGD (M&E), B. STATISTICS.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE FOR EASTERN AFRICA ASPIRANT.

NOMINEE STATEMENT

A. Why am I interested in serving AfrEA as a Board member?

My interest for serving on the AfrEA Board rotates around building the capacity of Evaluators, as well as facilitating the professional pathways of the association members. This is in line with the various duties I undertake in my national VOPE, whereby I sit both on the executive committees of the Uganda Evaluation Association (as a General Secretary) and also YEE (Young and Emerging Evaluators) – Uganda – as a former Vice President, and a current advisor.

Serving on the above committees has given me a platform to advance the Monitoring and Evaluation interests of the Ugandan evaluators at a national level, which I hope to advance at a regional and continental level.

Being a strong leader, I have no doubt that I can motivate and inspire the AfrEA team to success and help it reach its goals and strategic objectives including making the "Made in Africa" evaluation a reality. I am a hard worker and will always be willing to put in the extra effort to get the demanded AfrEA assignments done.

B. What are my relevant skills and abilities to serve AfrEA as a Board member?

Vicent possesses a wide range of skills ranging from leadership, academia, research as well as local and international organizations.

In terms of leadership skills, Vicent is the current General Secretary of the Uganda Evaluation Association (U.E.A), the Ugandan Voluntary Organization of Professional Evaluators (VOPE) as well as an advisor of the Young and Emerging Evaluators' Network-Uganda Chapter (YEEs - Uganda). He has also previously served as the Deputy General Secretary of the Uganda Evaluation Association (U.E.A), a committee member of U.E.A, and a former Vice President of the Young and Emerging Evaluators Uganda Chapter (YEEs - Uganda). He is a member on of the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS) and an International Organization for Collaborative Outcome Management (IOCOM) country representative (Uganda), among other positions of leadership in the Evaluation fraternity.

In terms of education, Vicent possesses a Master's degree in management studies specializing in Monitoring and Evaluation (MMS – M&E) from Uganda management Institute (UMI), a Post Graduate Diploma in Monitoring and Evaluation (PGD -M&E) from Uganda management Institute (UMI), a Bachelor's degree in Statistics from International University of East Africa, a Certificate in Monitoring and Evaluation, from University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa (DETPA programme), plus a series of other Monitoring and Evaluation certifications.

In terms of academia, work and other relevant skills, Vicent is an associate consultant / lecturer at Uganda Management Institute (UMI), a government of Uganda institute of higher learning, and it is the leading tertiary institute in regards to training M&E professionals in Uganda. Through UMI, Vicent interacts with, and trains over 1,500 M&E students annually across the four (4) UMI Campuses.

Vicent also works as a Monitoring and Evaluation Coordinator with the Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development in the government of the Republic of Uganda, where he coordinates various research and government programs across the country. This has further grounded him in the M&E discipline, and enabled him to acquire various skills relevant to the AfrEA board.

C. What position within the Board am I applying for, and what is the motivation?

Position: Regional Representative for Eastern Africa.

My motivation for this position rotates around advancing the interests of East Africa at AfrEA. This is coupled with a series of skills and trainings that I have over the past years passed on to the various members of the continent, including; being a lead trainer in the Uganda (UEA) – Rwanda (RMEO) IOCE funded capacity building programme in 2021, Eval youth funded YEE program in November 2021 where I trained over 100 YEEs across East Africa and the rest of Africa, peer to peer learning between Uganda and Burundi, as well as between Uganda and Tanzania, monthly capacity building programs via the "Data Analysis Africa" and "Africa M&E Network" online forums, workshop trainings in Juba South Sudan, among others. This has given a great exposure and understanding of the M&E needs across the East African region.

Therefore, serving on the AfrEA Board will propel me further to advance the East African M&E needs, interests and voices at a continental level.

I HOPE TO USE THE FOLLOWING PLATFORMS TO ENGAGE, MOTIVATE AND BRIDGE THE SKILLS GAP AMONG M&E PRACTITIONERS IN EAST AFRICA AND BEYOND, IF GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE ON THE AfrEA BOARD:

- i. The monthly National Evaluation Talks (N.E.Ts), where i currently share M&E related skills to a wider community of YEEs as well as M&E practitioners in Uganda. This is done on a monthly basis. This is done every last Thursday of the month and I am a regular trainer during the N.E.Ts. I hope to advocate and extend these discussions across East Africa and the rest of Africa.
- ii. Monthly data Analysis clinics, either voluntary or supported by various partners, to strengthen the capacity of various YEEs and M&E practitioners in Uganda. IOCE and EvalYouth have previously supported UEA and YEEs Uganda to undertake these trainings, where I was a lead trainer in all the cases. I hope to write more proposals and engage more professionals across East Africa and beyond. Free virtual / online trainings will also be routinely conducted.
- iii. Peer to Peer learning, where I actively build the capacity of YEEs outsides Uganda. I have previously undertaken workshop training during the 9th and 10th AfrEA conferences, and conducted peer to peer learning sessions in countries such as Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi.
- iv. I hope to use my platform of Uganda Management Institute (UMI) where I am an Associate Consultant / Lecturer, to further skill and pass on the AfrEA messages to the various participants. Uganda Management Institute is the leading Monitoring and Evaluation institution in Uganda. I interface with over 1500 M&E participants per year. I also hope to champion collaborations between the various institutions teaching M&E in East Africa and beyond.