



A STUDY ON NON-PROFIT ORGANISATIONS IN INDIA

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ABSTRACT

Due to their modest size, flexibility, inventiveness, and participatory nature, non-governmental organizations are regarded as having greater success reaching the underprivileged and reducing poverty. The purpose of this study is to Understand the definition, types, evolution, advantages, and limitations of NGOs. It is based on a review of prior studies as well as the author's research

experience with numerous NGOs in India. The topic of how NGOs have changed demonstrates that their focus has expanded from charity and welfare to development, sustainable development, and empowering people. The policies of the Indian government and donor organizations have an impact on this.

The limited success of the government's earlier development initiatives contributed to the rise of NGOs following independence, particularly after the 1970s. Even after 50 years of state-led development initiatives, hunger remains one of the biggest problems facing the poor. In India, social ills including malnutrition, unemployment, gender inequity, and illiteracy still exist. An "NGOs" refers to groups that engage in voluntarily social activities. According to Murthy and Rao(1997), NGOs can be distinguished from other types of organizations by their voluntary establishment, commitment to eradicating suffering and fostering development, pursuit of altruistic goals, and relative independence. NGO's are development-oriented, in the sense that, in contrast to other purposes like entertainment, etc., they are primarily concerned with improving the standing and circumstances of the oppressed and impoverished parts of society, according to Murthy Rao (1997).

KEYWORDS

NGO , Civil society , Development , Humanitarian , Advocacy , Volunteering , Social Justice , Grassroots , Non Profit , Education , Gender Equality , Education , Analysis , Empowerment

INTRODUCTION

Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) can vary widely depending on their focus areas and areas of operation. Some of the reasons for its existence is -

- Humanitarian and Development Assistance
- Advocacy and Awareness
- Research and Analysis
- Disaster Relief and Emergency Response

In general, the goals of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are to work toward the creation of a world that is better and more equitable, where people have access to basic necessities, rights are upheld, and communities are empowered to address issues that affect them.

TYPES OF NGO's

Operational or Grassroots NGO

NGOs at the grassroots level assist the disadvantaged groups in society. Big NGOs exist. while others are tiny. The following distinctions can be made between grassroots NGOs since their methods and perspectives vary as well.

1. Charity NGOs engage in charitable work by distributing items like food, clothing, medication, and other types of alms.
2. Welfare (providing resources for drinking water, health care, and education)
3. Relief (responding to natural disasters like floods, droughts, and earthquakes as well as man-made disasters like the influx of refugees and the aftereffects of war, etc.)
4. Rehabilitation (beginning long-lasting operations in disaster-affected communities and working there).
5. Development NGOs may take part in supplying (facilitating the supply of) development services including finance, seeds, fertilizer, technical know-how, etc.

Social action groups

These put the emphasis on organizing marginalized groups around certain issues that pose a threat to how resources & power are distributed in the society. These non-profit organizations work to increase public awareness. social justice requires awakening, organizing, and recording of priorities. Restoring the past and providing possibilities for those who have been oppressed and mistreated. NGOs that promote empowerment mix development efforts with cause-based conflicts. They may offer services like lending and savings, but they also use these activities to help the disadvantaged gain social, economic, political, and cultural empowerment.

Support NGO's

Support NGOs offer services that would help grassroots NGOs become more effective. Through the distribution of periodicals and training programs, Panchayat Raj institutions, cooperatives, and other organizations can operate more efficiently. SOSVA, SEARCH, and other such NGOs are examples of this type. While some carry out field projects and others do not, grassroots action is not their primary focus.

Umbrella or Network NGO's

Network NGOs, like FEVORD-K (Federation of Voluntary Organizations in Karnataka), are formal associations of grassroots or support NGOs that meet on a regular basis. They provide a platform for exchanging experiences, engage in lobbying and advocacy, as well as joint development efforts. However, network NGOs' involvement in advocacy and lobbying is relatively new.

Funding NGO's

Funding grassroots NGOs is these NGOs' primary activity. They bolster NGOs or people's groups. The majority of funding NGOs in India get most of their money from outside sources, despite the fact that some people are trying to raise funds within India. In India, NGOs receive funding from CRY, Tata Trust, and the Aga Khan Foundation. The same thing is done by foreign NGOs like NOVIB.

ADVANTAGES OF NGO'S

1. **More actor-oriented** - NGOs, especially empowerment NGOs, tend to take up need-based activities. Through studies relating to situation and needs of the people.
2. **Flexible in methods and practices** - Because they lend themselves to being local and small, empowerment NGOs and social action groups exhibit a high degree of flexibility in their operations, procedures, and practices. The NGOs typically operate in a small area.
3. **Adopt innovative and participatory approaches** - The programmes of development and empowerment NGOs tend to be innovative and emphasize on participatory approaches.
4. **Relative independence** - With independent administering sheets, the improvement projects of strengthening and advancement NGOs appreciate relative freedom. Under the taxpayer supported initiatives, the advantages implied for the poor are generally appropriated by the non-poor as a result of the control of nearby power structures.
5. **Effective in development work** - The development and empowerment NGOs have succeeded in:
 - breaking the isolation of the poor
 - enhancing the productivity of assets and labour
 - improving marketing opportunities for the produce such as milk, handicrafts, etc
 - enhancing access to food, health, education and drinking water.
 - Unlike the government agencies, the NGOs tend to be highly motivated and are prepared to accept hardship as a challenge rather than as a punishment.
6. **Advocacy and lobbying** - NGOs, particularly those with a focus on micro-macro connections, through

advocacy and lobbying, they play a crucial role in influencing state policy through their networks.

WEAKNESSES OF NGO'S

1. **Spatial limitation** - An important problem of the NGOs of all types is spatial limitation- that is NGO development projects remain little more than dots on a map.
2. **Lack of good governance and transparency** - NGOs must practise sound governance. However, there was no steady downward pressure. NGOs may adopt a paternalistic stance and alter their aims.
3. **Patchwork-guilt phenomenon** - The peculiarity of 'interwoven blanket' has suggestions on the arrangement of administrations to all the destitute in every one of the districts. The large, powerful, and well-funded non-governmental organizations (NGOs) do not focus their resources on the most crucial areas and sectors for national development (Robinson). 1993)
4. **Inability to reach the poorest** - According to Rajasekhar (1996) and 2000, the majority of the landless could not borrow money because loans were given for land-based activities like crop production and off-farm activities and because the group's management committees discriminated against them.
5. **Antagonistic attitude towards the State** -Improvement and Noble cause NGOs frequently look to override the state as the supplier of fundamental administrations and advancement programs and in this manner debilitate the political connection among individuals and their administration.
6. **Palliative nature of service provision** - According to a national study of income-generating programs implemented by non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the majority of NGOs were only able to facilitate subsistence activities, and the income from these activities was either equal to or lower than the wage income currently available.
7. **Limited ability to influence macro-policies** - According to Webster (1995), individual NGOs rarely have the ability to influence government policies at various levels. Additionally, they rarely attempt to influence policy. because a noncontroversial, apolitical involvement in development is the foundation for their existence and the state's tolerance of them.
8. **Lack of accountability** - Accountability should not be equated with accountancy. The term accountability implies the extent to which NGO activities and programmes seek to fulfil the objectives with which NGOs were started.

OBJECTIVES

1. To identify the role and impact of NGOs in addressing specific social, economic, or political issues in a particular context.
2. To assess the effectiveness and efficiency of NGOs in achieving their goals and objectives.
3. To explore the challenges and opportunities faced by NGOs in mobilising resources, building partnerships, and promoting accountability and transparency.
4. To examine the relationship between NGOs and other actors in the development sector, such as governments, international organizations, and private sector entities.

. Overall, the objectives of a research paper on NGOs can vary widely depending on the research questions, methodology, and theoretical frameworks used by the authors.

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Agenda Setting
- Gender Violence and Reproductive Rights

Author - Jutta M. Joachim

It was a coup for the international women's rights movement in the middle of the 1990s when the United Nations adopted positions affirming a woman's right to be free from bodily harm and to control her own reproductive health. This was an instructive moment for nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) trying to influence UN decision-making.

Boost Public Sector Performance Non-governmental organisations are charged with holding governments accountable by ensuring that they are responsive to the requirements of their constituents and are fixing their problems. empowerment of women The accomplishment of key NGO tasks has advanced significantly in the fight for women's empowerment.

Author - Kandrip Vanitha

Better Rebuilding in India: Raja Swamy, University of Alabama Press, 2021, Development, NGOs, and Artisanal Fishers after the Tsunami of 2004 critically examines the role of humanitarian aid and disaster reconstruction in Building Back Better in India: The book Development, Non- Governmental Organizations, and Artisanal Fishers after the Tsunami of 2004 examines how natural disasters affect the strategies and priorities of neo liberalising states today. In the radiance of developing academic and public worry over "calamity private enterprise" and the propensity of states and strong global monetary organizations to see debacles as "opportunities" to "work back better " Raj Swamy offers an ethnographically rich record of post-fiasco recreation, its challenged points and blend result of one strategy.

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TOP 10 NGO'S OF INDIA

1. CRY (Child Rights and You) - Child Rights and You (CRY), India's most reputable nongovernmental organisation, works tirelessly to ensure that India's underprivileged children have healthier and happier childhoods. Through collaboration with parents, teachers, Anganwadi workers, communities, district and state governments, and the children, CRY addresses the critical needs of children for healthcare, nutrition, education, and protection from child labor

and child marriage. Over the course of 42 years, CRY has had an impact on the lives of over 3 million children in 19 Indian states.



2. Smile Foundation - New Delhi, India-based non-profit Smile Foundation It was founded in 2002 and operated in 25 states. The Foundation has reached roughly 4 lakh children and their families as of 2017. In India, the Smile Foundation for Education wanted to help the less fortunate learn. Their development program covers education, health, providing a means of subsistence for women and children, and helping those who are equally impacted by a lack of resources. A portion of their projects are Grin on Wheels, Mission Training and Grin Twin elearning
3. Give India Foundation India's GiveIndia is a non-profit organisation. It aims to provide channels and resources to reputable non-governmental organizations across India through its online donation platform. It distributes donations to reputable NGOs after assisting in the collection of funds from individuals in India and around the world through its role as a web portal.



4. Goonj India's Goonj is a non-governmental organisation with headquarters in Delhi. It performs debacle help, philanthropic guide and local area advancement work in pieces of 23 territories of India. Echo emphasises clothing as a common but unmet need. Anshu Gupta founded it in 1999. He was named India's Social Entrepreneur of the Year 2012 by the Schwab Foundation, a partner organisation of the World Economic Forum. For his work with Goonj, he was granted the Ramon Magsaysay Grant in 2015. Goonj started with 67 garments and now deals with over 3500 tonnes of material every year. It is registered under the Societies Act and Section 80G, 12A and FCRA to exempt foreign contributions.



GOONJ.. a voice, an effort

5. Care India CARE India is a non-profit organisation that has been working in India for 68 years to alleviate poverty and social injustice. Our overarching objective is to empower and improve the lives and livelihoods of women and girls from marginalised and poor communities. Care India reached 31.5 million people directly through 43 projects in 14 states that covered more than 90 districts. These projects cover health, education, livelihood, disaster relief, and response. We accomplish this through well-planned and comprehensive projects.



6. Nanhi Kali - Nanhi Kali is an Indian non-administrative association that upholds schooling for oppressed young ladies in India. It was established in 1996 by Anand Mahindra and is jointly managed by Naandi Foundation and KC Mahindra Education Trust as part of the corporate social responsibilities of the Mahindra Group. In order to have a lasting impact on India, Project Nani Kali provided girls and women with positive education. The non-profit organisation's chairman, Sheetal Mehta, stated in an interview with the Daily News and Analysis, "we wanted to create global awareness about the plight of young girls in the country who are denied their basic rights."



7. Helpage India - An Indian organisation that focuses on elder issues is HelpAge India. It was founded in 1978 with the goal of "working for the cause and caring for elderly people under the age of 65 and improving their standard of living." Together with the central and state governments and advocates for the needy, HelpAge is taking action at the national, state, and social levels against universal pension, healthcare, and elder abuse. It provides a variety of aged care programs to meet the more pressing requirements. It aims to provide elders in need with holistic services so that they can lead active, dignified, and healthy lives.



8. Pratham - Madhav Chavan and Farida Lambe founded Pratham, one of India's largest nongovernmental organizations. It strives to provide disadvantaged children in India with a high-quality education. Pratham has supported chapters in the United States, Britain, Germany, and Sweden as well as 23 states and union territories in India. It was founded in Mumbai in 1994 to provide preschool education to children living in slums.



Pratham

9. Save the Children India - Save the Children is India's leading independent non-governmental organisation for the rights of children. It operates in 16 states. Since its registration as "Bal Raksha Bharat" on December 27, 2004, when it began its journey under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 and the Foreign Contributions Regulations Act of 2010, on April 23, 2008, we have changed the lives of over 12.4 million children until March 2022.



10. Oxfam India - Oxfam India works to ensure that Adivasis, Dalits, Muslims, women and girls, and Muslims have safe, violence-free lives, the freedom to express themselves, and equal opportunities to exercise their rights in the future. In order to prevent marginalised communities from obtaining decent jobs, high-quality free education, and healthcare, they conduct research to find long-term solutions to escalating inequality.



ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

NGO's have brought various social changes for the promotion and development of society. These organisations work for serving humanity and other good cause. Some of the major roles played by the various NGO's:

1. **Improving government performance** :it is one of the significant work of the NGO's to guarantee that the public authority ought to be responsive and tackle the issues of the residents in this manner making the public authority more responsible.
2. **Acting as a social mediator** : Faith, superstition, belief, and customs have a significant impact on Indians. In order to effect the necessary shift in the social and behavioural attitudes that are prevalent in the social environment, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) serve as intermediaries at various levels of society.

3. **Facilitating communication** : NGOs work on two different levels to make communication easier. One is at the top, where non-governmental organizations tell the government about the needs, skills, and interests of the people in their area. On the other hand, they operate at the grassroots level, educating citizens about government programs and policies.
4. **Acting as a pressure group** : they also act as a pressure group and mobilise public opinion against various governmental policies and activities.
5. **Building community participation** : NGO's encourage and facilitate the participation of disadvantaged communities and help in preserving the culture of diverse communities.
6. **Women empowerment** : the job of NGO's in ladies strengthening can't be denied. They have continuously fought against social evils like sati, dowry, cruelty, and employment, as well as other causes like reducing female genital mutilation.
7. **Mobilising local resources** : Natural disasters and threats to the environment result when natural resources are used excessively. In order to prevent the destruction of natural resources, non-governmental organizations monitor this specific area.
8. **Providing education, training, and technical assistance** : NGO's provide education, training, and technical assistance to the people in need, volunteers, and to other NGO's. later on, the trained NGO's provide their services to assist the government.
9. **Bridging the gap** : NGO's reach out to those sections of people who are often left untouched by the state projects.

FINDINGS AND SUGGESTIONS

Poverty Alleviation - The government is unable to provide its benefits to all people who are afflicted with poverty for a variety of reasons, including a lack of resources, corruption, or funds. NGOs frequently step in and add to easing. They try to make housing, sanitation, healthcare, high- quality education, and pure water available to everyone. People are helped by NGOs, which also try to in-still self-reliance and capacity building ideas. Additionally, NGOs inform the public of beneficial government initiatives and programs that the general public is typically unaware of.

Importance of NGO in the Promotion of Education - Education is the most integral asset that can empower an individual and his people in the future to break the shackles of neediness. Through the organization of

skill-development workshops, the provision of high-quality education to children, and the of sports and other extracurricular activities, NGOs provide a variety of options for assisting those in need. This prevents the children from engaging in child labor and helps them develop into capable adults later.

Protection of Environment and Wildlife - Our environment has suffered as a result of problems like a growing population, rapid development, and a lack of natural resources. Environmental nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) try to educate the general public about environmental issues and their long-term effects. Additionally, they assist the government in acquiring information for effective environmental plans. Additionally, NGOs frequently take legal action to prevent environmental harm from occurring as a result of their projects.

Human Rights Activism - All over the world, there are serious violations of human rights. Human rights protection NGOs help victims and bring attention to the problems by offering assistance. NGO services contribute to human progress. Individuals whose human rights have been violated receive assistance from it. The fact that non-governmental organizations (NGOs) gather data on these victims and submit it to various agencies is another reason why they are so crucial. They raise people's awareness of its significance and educate them about it through their actions.

Women's Rights - Empowering women is absolutely necessary. Women must be empowered in order to promote sustainable development and elevate women's economic, social, and political status. Women are educated about their legal and property rights by a lot of NGOs, which also offer skill development and training. They also protect women from social ills and domestic violence. Numerous women's lives have been profoundly altered by NGOs, which have assisted them in becoming self-sufficient and making crucial decisions for themselves.

CONCLUSION

There are a number of reasons why non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are so important to our society. They attempt to fill in the holes the public authority can't fill because of multiple factors.

They frequently aid in bringing people's problems to the attention of the authorities. They make it possible for people to volunteer and assist those in need, and finally, they teach the importance of problem-solving and taking initiative. NGOs play a crucial role in society. A NGO is a nonlegislative association that is driven and task-situated by individuals with one normal interest. The majority of NGOs are typically organized around particular issues, such as environment, human rights, or health. A NGO gives ability and examination and thus helps with observing peaceful accords. NGOs are vital since they offer an association for neighbourhood communication, action and furthermore dispersing assets when there are no current nearby associations. In point of fact, an NGO provides a means of operation that may be able to succeed where the government has failed.

As a result, it recognises and responds to the realities of the local population and supports grassroots initiatives. Next, implementation costs less. Various projects can be completed without utilising government funds because NGOs are in fact non-profit organizations. This is on the grounds that there are numerous confidential givers who support the NGOs and this intends that there won't ever be a need of resources. Additionally, NGOs offer a viable alternative to building structures with widespread access. These structures for mass access are extremely cumbersome, unreliable, and expensive. The ability of NGOs to communicate on all levels is yet

another significant advantage.

As a result, they are able to communicate with the local populace and the highest levels of government with ease. They also have fewer restrictions than government employees when it comes

to hiring highly motivated staff and experts. NGOs are adaptable when it comes to adapting to local conditions and meeting local requirements. As a result, they are free to try out novel strategies and take risks when necessary. They are able to create integrated projects that aid the local populace.

The greatest weakness of non-governmental organizations is their excessive reliance on private financial resources, especially when donors fail to make their contributions.

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