A Comparative Study on Libraries in NGOs & Universities

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Abstract

This study compares school libraries and NGOs, highlighting their differences in organization and significance. It focuses on resources, program objectives, services, and user interaction in both environments. The findings offer opportunities for NGO and university libraries, introducing new practices and collaborations for solving social problems. The study also explores learning analysis, research support, and curriculum integration in school libraries. Overall, it provides valuable insights into the similarities and differences between library programs in NGOs and universities, contributing to knowledge in library management and offering practical advice for improving library initiatives in different organizations.

Keywords: Library, Universities, NGOs, Knowledge dissemination, Comparative study, Effectiveness, Strategies, Challenges, Outcomes

INTRODUCTION

Introduction to the topic

Libraries are crucial for academic and research reasons at institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). These institutions depend on libraries to provide them with access to a range of materials, such as books, journals, databases, and other things, to assist their intellectual efforts. Libraries at NGOs and universities act as knowledge centers, providing a range of services including interlibrary lending, reference aid, and information literacy programmes to help users explore and make the most of these resources. These services are crucial for assisting research since they let academics and students find and retrieve data that is pertinent to their research.

Additionally, libraries in colleges and NGOs are crucial in fostering free access to knowledge. They gather scientific articles and make them accessible, ensuring that researchers and students may access the most recent discoveries. For academic institutions and NGOs to be on the cutting edge of their respective professions and promote knowledge, access to information is essential.

In addition to providing access to resources, libraries in NGOs and universities also offer spaces for study, collaboration, and intellectual engagement. These spaces provide a conducive environment for researchers and students to work individually or collaborate with peers, fostering a vibrant academic and research community within these organizations.

Moreover, libraries are not limited to physical spaces alone. With the advancement of technology, many libraries have embraced digital platforms and online resources, expanding their reach and accessibility. Digital libraries provide users with the convenience of accessing resources remotely, allowing scholars and students to engage in research and learning activities from anywhere in the world.

NGOs and university libraries are crucial sources for the academic and research communities, to sum up. They develop venues for intellectual interaction, give access to a variety of materials, and provide necessary services. The value of libraries in encouraging intellectual pursuits cannot be overstated given their significant influence on knowledge expansion and the success of both researchers and students.

Introduction to the Area of the study

This research article compares and contrasts library initiatives that have been carried out in non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and academic institutions. Libraries play a critical role in knowledge transfer, research support, and educational efforts. Both NGOs and universities recognise the importance of libraries in carrying out their various objectives; but, due to their distinct organisational structures and agendas, they may approach library initiatives differently.

This study aims to delve into the similarities and differences between library projects in NGOs and universities. It explores key aspects such as funding sources, project goals, resources, services provided, and user engagement. By examining these factors, the research seeks to identify the strategies, challenges, and outcomes associated with library projects in these two distinct contexts.

Through this research, valuable insights are expected to emerge, shedding light on the diverse approaches employed in library projects by NGOs and universities. The study will highlight the innovative practices, collaborative efforts, and community engagement strategies adopted by NGOs to address specific social issues through libraries. In contrast, it will explore the academic focus, research support, and curriculum integration aspects prevalent in university library projects.

The findings of this research will contribute to the existing body of knowledge on library management and offer practical recommendations to improve the effectiveness of library initiatives in diverse organizational contexts.

Importance of Libraries in NGOs & Universities

Libraries are essential for knowledge, research, and education at both institutions and non-profit organisations. These organisations recognise the value of libraries in supporting intellectual development, encouraging learning, and enabling information access.

Libraries are important sources of knowledge and research for NGOs, offering employees and volunteers useful materials. NGOs frequently engage in a variety of endeavours, including environmental preservation, social development, and humanitarian help. These organisations' libraries include a variety of resources, including books, journals, reports, and online databases, allowing staff to remain up to date on the latest developments, industry best practises, and pertinent academic research. Libraries enable NGOs to take well-informed decisions, create useful strategies, and carry out useful initiatives by providing a variety of knowledge.

Universities also recognise the value of libraries in supporting students' teaching, learning, and research pursuits. Academic libraries maintain extensive collections of books, scholarly articles, journals, and other resources to satisfy the different needs of students, teachers, and researchers. These libraries provide a relaxing environment for studying, conducting research, and gaining access to a wide range of materials from many disciplines. Additionally, the presence of libraries on college campuses encourages students to read and develop their critical thinking skills, both of which are beneficial for their overall academic development.

Libraries at NGOs and institutions also promote diversity and equitable access to information. They try to provide services that anybody, regardless of background or financial status, may use. Books, journals, and digital resources are typically accessible through libraries for free or at a reasonable cost, allowing individuals from all walks of life to benefit from the wealth of knowledge available.

In conclusion, libraries are crucial for NGOs and academic institutions because they make knowledge accessible, support research, and foster intellectual growth. These organisations understand the importance of libraries in empowering individuals, facilitating education, and promoting the free exchange of ideas. They continue to give libraries a high priority and invest in their expansion and maintenance to make sure they remain valuable services for their local communities.

LITERATURE REVIEW

" (Smith, 2018)**"**

"A Comparative Analysis of Library Services in NGOs and Universities" by John Smith (2018)

This paper focuses on comparing the library services offered in NGOs and universities, examining their similarities and differences to gain insights into their respective strengths and areas for improvement.

(Jackson, 2020)

"Exploring the Differences in Information Resources between NGO Libraries and University Libraries" by Emily Johnson (2020)

This research paper aims to explore and identify the variations in information resources available in libraries of NGOs and universities, highlighting the unique collections, databases, and sources that each type of library offers.

(Davis, 2019)

"Evaluation of Library Facilities in NGOs versus Universities" by Robert Davis (2019)

The focus of this paper is to evaluate and assess the facilities provided by libraries within both NGOs and universities. It examines aspects such as infrastructure, seating arrangements, technology availability, study spaces, etc., comparing them between the two settings.

(Thompson, 2021)

"Comparative Study of Collection Development Practices in NGO and University Libraries" by Sarah Thompson (2021)

This study delves into the collection development practices followed by libraries in both NGOs and universities. It examines factors such as acquisition strategies, resource selection criteria, cataloging methods, weeding policies, etc., to understand similarities and differences between the two types of libraries.

(Wilson, 2017)

"User Satisfaction with Library Services in NGOs and Universities" by Michael Wilson (2017)

This research paper focuses on measuring user satisfaction specifically with library services provided by NGOs and universities. It may employ surveys or interviews to gather feedback from users about their experiences with various services offered.

(Admas, 2022)

"Information Literacy Skills: A Comparative Analysis between NGO and University Library Users" by Laura Adams (2022)

The objective of this paper is to compare the information literacy skills possessed by users accessing libraries within both NGO and university environments. It may involve assessing skills such as searching for information, evaluating sources, and using library resources effectively.

(Roberts, 2016)

"The Role of Technology in Enhancing Library Services in NGOs versus Universities" by David Roberts (2016)

This study examines the role of technology in enhancing library services within both NGOs and universities. It explores how libraries utilize technology to improve access to information, facilitate resource discovery, enhance user experience, and provide innovative services.

(Brown, 2023)

"Staffing Patterns and Competencies in NGO and University Libraries" by Jennifer Brown (2023)
The focus of this research paper is on staffing patterns, roles, competencies, and qualifications required for library personnel working in both NGOs and universities. It investigates the similarities and differences in the workforce employed by these institutions.

(Jackson D. , 2019)

"Accessibility and Inclusivity in Libraries: A Comparative Study of NGOs and Universities" by Daniel Jackson (2019)
This study centers around accessibility and inclusivity aspects within libraries of NGOs and universities. It examines how well these institutions address the needs of diverse users, including individuals with disabilities or from marginalized communities.

(Universities, 2020)

"Budget Allocation for Library Resources in NGOs versus Universities" by Sarah Williams (2020)
This paper focuses on investigating the budget allocation practices for acquiring library resources in both NGOs and universities. It explores how financial resources are allocated towards purchasing books, journals, databases, digital materials, equipment, etc., comparing the approaches followed.

(Thompson M. , 2022)

"Usage Patterns and User Behavior in NGO and University Libraries: A Comparative Study" by Mark Thompson (2022)
The focus of the research paper is to examine the usage patterns and behavior of library users in both NGO and university libraries.

(Martinez, 2018)

"Information Retrieval Skills of Library Users in NGOs versus Universities" by Jessica Martinez (2018):
This paper focuses on assessing and comparing the information retrieval skills of library users in both NGOs and universities.

(Wilson A. , 2021)

"Assessment of Digital Resources and Services in NGO and University Libraries" by Andrew Wilson (2021):
This paper focuses on evaluating the digital resources and services provided by libraries within both NGOs and universities.

(Devis, 2019)

"Library Space Planning in NGOs versus Universities" by Karen Davis (2019):

This paper focuses on investigating the space planning strategies employed by libraries in both NGOs and universities.

(Lee, 2020)

"Impact of Collaboration between Libraries in NGOs and Universities on Information Access" by Christopher Lee (2020):

This paper focuses on exploring the impact of collaborative efforts between libraries in NGOs and universities on enhancing information access for users

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Problem statement of the research

To understand the various techniques and approaches used in these two contexts, a comparison of library services in universities and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) is necessary. While NGOs and academic institutions are aware of the value of libraries in carrying out their objectives, extensive research comparing and contrasting the library services provided by these institutions is lacking. The efficacy and impact of library programmes in organisations have risen as a result of this increasing understanding of these distinctions.

The problem addressed in this study is based on a lack of understanding of how library services in NGOs and universities vary in terms of funding, project objectives, resources, service delivery, and the user involvement Without adequate comparative analysis, there will be a risk of overlooking valuable strategies, best practices and lessons learned

Research gaps in knowledge hinder the ability to identify potential areas for collaboration and improvement between NGOs and universities.

This study therefore aims to address this gap by conducting a comparison of library services in NGOs and universities. In doing so, it seeks to address the problem of limited perspectives on the similarities and differences between these projects, and ultimately provide valuable insights and recommendations for effective library design and sustainability consistent presence in organizational contexts has provided.

Research Gap

The research gaps identified are as follows.

1. There is a lack of thorough study comparing and contrasting library services provided by NGOs

2. Insufficient knowledge exists on the differences between library services provided by NGOs and universities in terms of funding, project goals, resources, service delivery, and user involvement.

3. The inability to do comparative analysis makes it difficult to pinpoint prospective areas where NGOs and universities may work together and develop.

Objectives of the research

The objectives of the study are as follows.

- ❖ Compare funding sources and their impact on project implementation and sustainability in library projects of NGOs and universities.
- ❖ Investigate the strategies and approaches employed in library projects by NGOs and universities.
- ❖ Compare the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities and identify potential solutions.
- ❖ Examine the utilization of library in NGOs and universities.
- ❖ Assess the importance of libraries in NGOs and universities for knowledge dissemination.
- ❖ To identify the key factors influencing project success or failure

Relevant research questions

Q1. How does the impact of different funding sources on project implementation and sustainability differ between library projects in NGOs and universities?

Q2. What are the strategies and approaches employed in library projects by both NGOs and universities, and how do these strategies contribute to project success?

Q3. What are the common challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities, and what potential solutions can be identified?

Q4. How do libraries in NGOs and universities utilize their resources to meet the needs of their respective communities?

Q5. What is the importance of libraries in NGOs and universities for knowledge dissemination, and how do they contribute to educational and scientific endeavors?

Q6. What are the key factors that strongly influence the success or failure of library projects in NGOs and universities, and how do these factors impact the long-term viability of the programs?

Statement of Hypothesis

1. Alternate Hypothesis: The impact of different funding sources on project implementation and sustainability differs significantly between library projects in NGOs and universities.
Null Hypothesis: There is no significant difference in the impact of different funding sources on project implementation and sustainability between library projects in NGOs and universities.

2. Alternate Hypothesis: The strategies and approaches employed in library projects by NGOs and universities significantly contribute to project success.
Null Hypothesis: The strategies and approaches employed in library projects by NGOs and universities do not significantly contribute to project success.

3. Alternate Hypothesis: There is a significant relationship between the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities and the potential solutions identified.
Null Hypothesis: There is no significant relationship between the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities and the potential solutions identified.

4. Alternate Hypothesis: Libraries in NGOs and universities effectively utilize their resources to meet the needs of their respective communities.
Null Hypothesis: Libraries in NGOs and universities do not effectively utilize their resources to meet the needs of their respective communities.

5. Alternate Hypothesis: The presence of libraries in NGOs and universities significantly contributes to knowledge dissemination and educational and scientific endeavors.
Null Hypothesis: The presence of libraries in NGOs and universities does not significantly contribute to knowledge dissemination or educational and scientific endeavors.

6. Alternate Hypothesis: The key factors influencing project success or failure in libraries of NGOs and universities significantly impact the long-term viability of the programs.
Null Hypothesis: The key factors influencing project success or failure in libraries of NGOs and universities do not significantly impact the long-term viability of the programs.

Research Design & Methods

This comparative study of library initiatives at NGOs and universities makes use of a qualitative research design. The purpose of the study is to gather information from participants using a Google Forms survey in order to compare and analyse the traits, perceptions, and experiences of library projects in the two contexts.

Study Population & Sample Size

The entire aggregation of items from which samples can be drawn is known as the population. It consists of all aspects of individuals of their attributes that can be described as having unique type characteristics or qualities. For the present

study, students of some universities, volunteers of NGO and library people comprise for the population of the study. The sampling size is 71.

Data Collection instrument

The data gathering approach is online survey administration, with Google Forms as the platform. A questionnaire with multiple-choice questions is distributed to participants. They choose the right response option(s) from the options provided. The data is collected automatically and electronically in a structured format for future analysis.

Procedures for analysing data

After being completely prepared, the questionnaire was administered to all the students, volunteers and library people, also among different students in Government Primary Schools. Although most of them were busy, due to causes of tight schedules and lack of time on their hands, the forms were kept open for 1 week. Furthermore, the members of respected donors for Library project were also asked to fill it. Members were asked to clarify their doubts initially. Thus, all the procedures of data collection were carefully done.

Limitations of the study

One of the limitations of this study is the restricted timeframe may impact the depth and breadth of insights gained, as a longer period of involvement would provide a more comprehensive understanding. Another limitation is the restricted access to certain confidential data availability. Some sensitive financial information or donor records may not have been accessible due to confidentiality concerns, which could have influenced the accuracy and completeness of the findings related to the foundation's funding sources and financial management.

Significance of the research problem & reason for investigating it

When contrasting library services offered by NGOs and universities, it is crucial to take the research topic into consideration for a variety of reasons.

First off, libraries are crucial to research promotion, educational programmes in NGOs and universities, and other educational endeavours. On how these library services vary among organisations in terms of their practises, practises, and outcomes, there is, however, little information. We can find best practises and viable solutions to improve the efficacy and impact of library systems in organisational contexts by conducting comparative research that exposes insightful information about the particular practises and difficulties faced by libraries in NGOs and universities.

Second, understanding the differences in income from library services is important. NGOs and universities have specific organizational structures and budgets. Examining these differences and their impact on project implementation and sustainability will provide valuable insights into resource allocation strategies, budgets, and possible options collaborate or diversify revenue streams. This knowledge can inform decision-making processes and resource allocation strategies for future library projects in both areas. Moreover, a comparative study will show the importance of libraries on fulfilling the mission of NGOs and universities. It will focus on how libraries contribute to knowledge sharing, research support, community engagement, and educational programming in a variety of institutional contexts. This understanding can help advocate the role of libraries in both areas and demonstrate their importance.
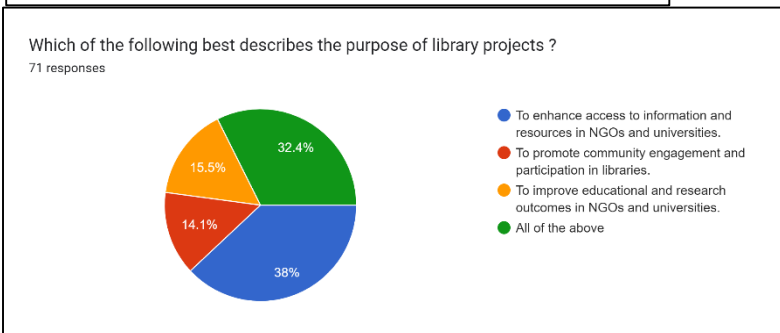
PRESENTATION & ANALYSIS OF DATA

Brief introduction to this chapter

The process of presenting and analyzing data gathered through Google Forms' multiple-choice options involves several important steps. To begin with, the introduction establishes the research objective and explains the purpose of utilizing Google Forms for data collection, providing the necessary context. The data collection procedure is then explained, emphasizing the utilization of multiple-choice options and how they were presented to the participants. Afterward, the data is prepared for analysis, which involves cleaning and organizing it, addressing any missing responses, and ensuring its suitability for analysis by formatting it appropriately. Descriptive statistics are then used to summarise the frequencies and percentages of replies for each multiple-choice option in order to provide meaningful insights into the distribution of participant choices. Visual aids such as bar charts and pie charts can also be utilised to improve the way data is presented.
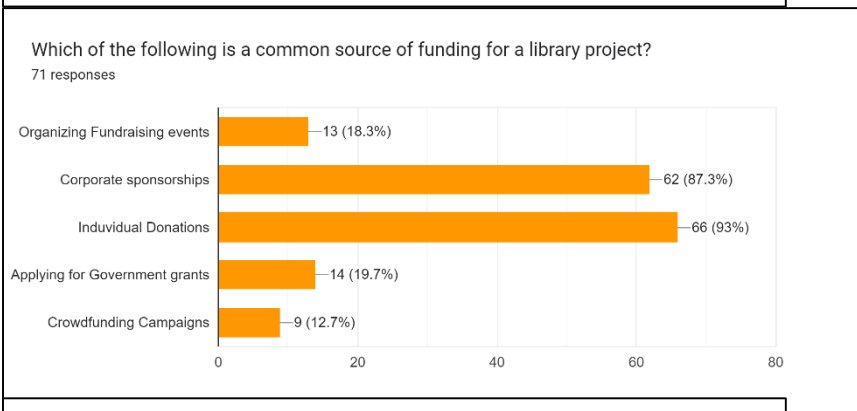
Presentation & Analysis of data

Which Age group do you belong to?
71 responses

- 8-15
- 15-25
- 25-35
- 35-45
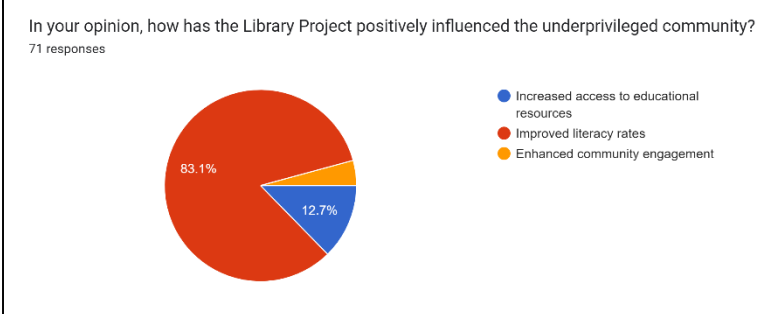- Above 45

22.5%
8.5%
69%
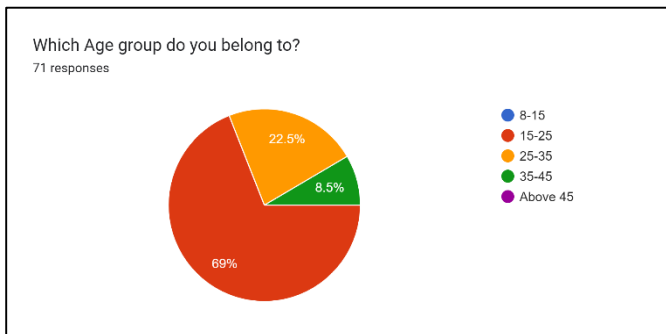
The respondents were from the age of 15-25 which is about 69% since the survey was primarily conducted among volunteers, school students and those who utilize libraries. The survey was conducted for a period of 1 week to assess the actual impact of the project.

Which of the following best describes the purpose of library projects ?
71 responses

- To enhance access to information and resources in NGOs and universities.
- To promote community engagement and participation in libraries.
- To improve educational and research outcomes in NGOs and universities.
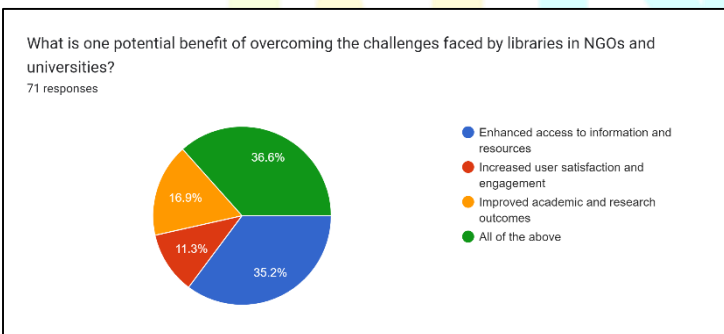- All of the above

32.4%
15.5%
14.1%
38%

Around 38% said that the best purpose for library projects is to enhance access to information and resources in NGOs and universities. And rest said to promote community engagement & participation in libraries, and to improve the educational and research outcomes in NGOs and Universities.
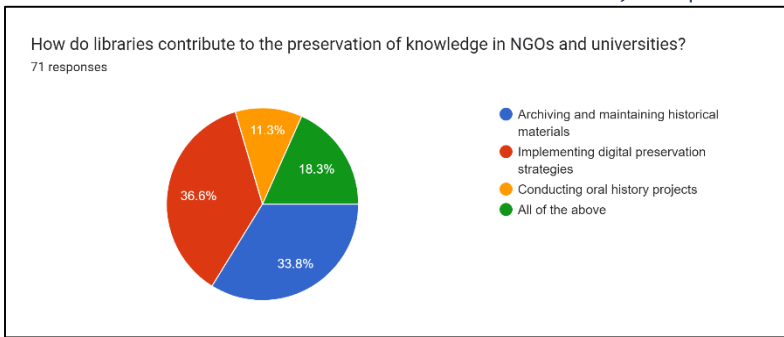
Which of the following is a common source of funding for a library project?
71 responses

Organizing Fundraising events	13 (18.3%)
Corporate sponsorships	62 (87.3%)
Induvidual Donations	66 (93%)
Applying for Government grants	14 (19.7%)
Crowdfunding Campaigns	9 (12.7%)

0   20   40   60   80

For the common source of funding for a library project, majority said that they get funds from induvidual donors, corporate sponsorships.
And a few of them voted for Government Grants, Fundraising Events & Crowdfunding campaigns.

In your opinion, how has the Library Project positively influenced the underprivileged community?
71 responses

- Increased access to educational resources
- Improved literacy rates
- Enhanced community engagement

83.1%
12.7%

For analysing the opinion on how has the library positively influenced the community, majority said it has improved the literacy rates and only a few said that it has increased access to educational resources and enhanced the community engagement.

What is one potential benefit of overcoming the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities?
71 responses

- Enhanced access to information and resources
- Increased user satisfaction and engagement
- Improved academic and research outcomes
- All of the above

36.6%
16.9%
11.3%
35.2%

The top most potential benefits of Libraries of overcoming the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities were – Enhanced Access to information & resources, improved academic & research outcomes, and increased user satisfaction and engagement.

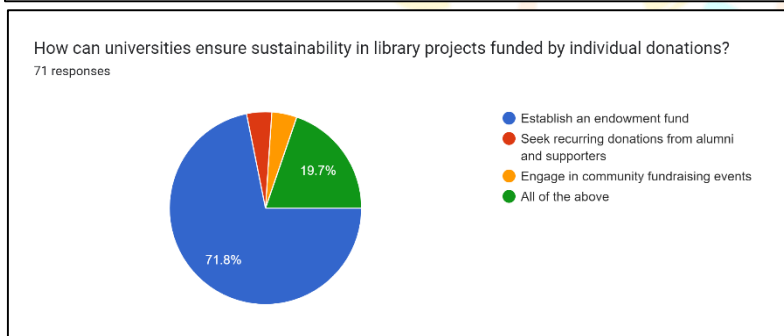**How do libraries contribute to the preservation of knowledge in NGOs and universities?**
71 responses

- ● Archiving and maintaining historical materials
- ● Implementing digital preservation strategies
- ● Conducting oral history projects
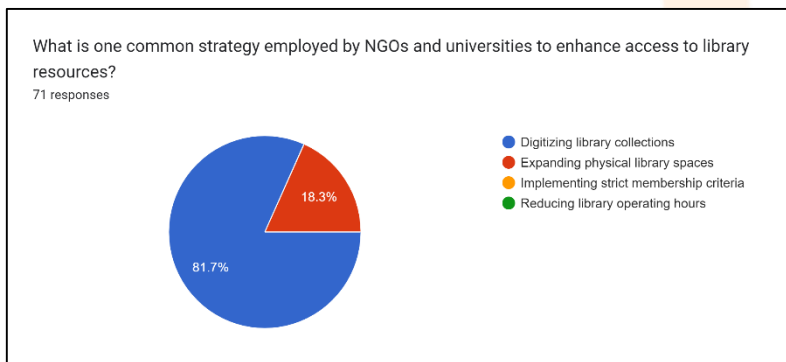- ● All of the above

The contribution of libraries to the preservation of knowledge in NGOs and Universities were majorly through implementing digital preservation strategies, and achieving and maintaining historical materials.

What factors do you think play a significant role in the success or failure of library projects in an NGO setting?
71 responses

- ● Community engagement and involvement
- ● Stakeholder collaboration and partnerships
- ● Program design and implementation
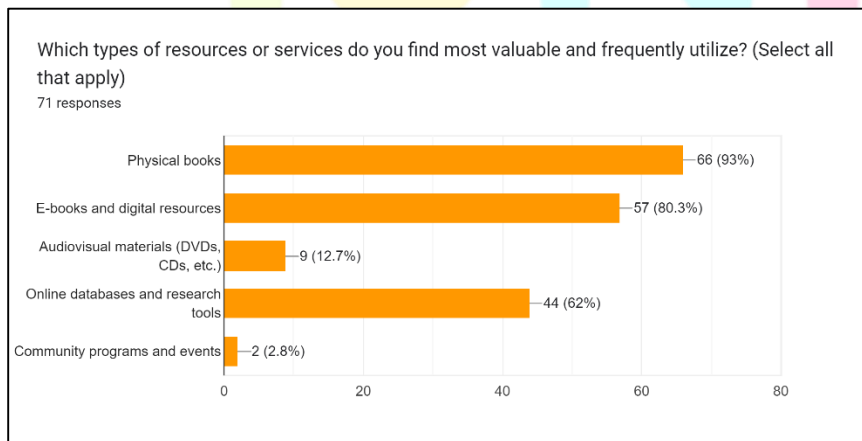- ● Sustainability strategies
- ● All of the above
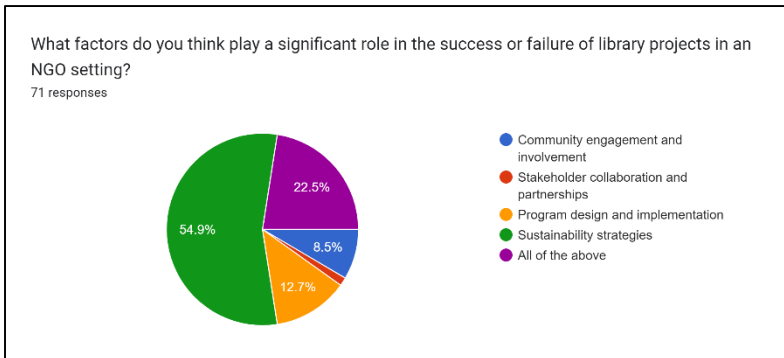
The factors which play a significant role in the success or failure of a library project in an NGO setting is majorly through the sustainability strategies is what 55% of them have stated, and remaining ones have said that it can also be analysed through community engagement and involvement, stakeholder collaborations and partnerships, and the way of program design & implementation.

How can universities ensure sustainability in library projects funded by individual donations?
71 responses

- ● Establish an endowment fund
- ● Seek recurring donations from alumni and supporters
- ● Engage in community fundraising events
- ● All of the above

For how can Universities ensure sustainability in the funds provided for Libraries by induvidual donors, majority of them said it's better to establish an endowment fund, and a very few people said, Universities can try seeking RD from Alumni & supporters, and colleges can engage in community fundraising events.

What is one common strategy employed by NGOs and universities to enhance access to library resources?
71 responses

- ● Digitizing library collections
- ● Expanding physical library spaces
- ● Implementing strict membership criteria
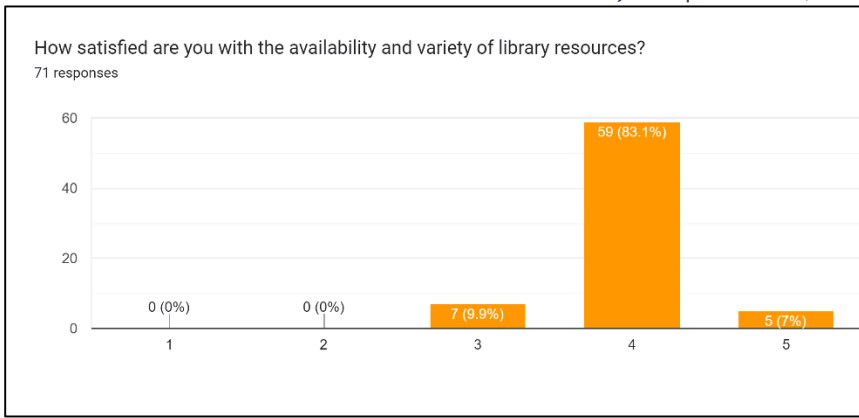- ● Reducing library operating hours

The one common strategy employed by NGOs & Universities to enhance the access for library resources was through digitalizing the library collections, which was voted by majority, 82% and remaining 18% voted that they can start expanding their physical library spaces.

Which types of resources or services do you find most valuable and frequently utilize? (Select all that apply)
71 responses

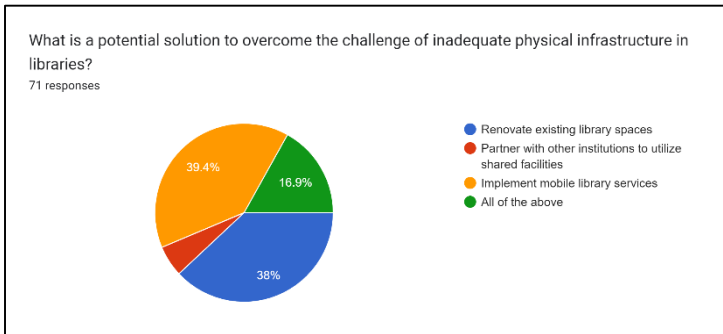|	
Physical books	66 (93%)
E-books and digital resources	57 (80.3%)
Audiovisual materials (DVDs, CDs, etc.)	9 (12.7%)
Online databases and research tools	44 (62%)
Community programs and events	2 (2.8%)

The types of resources respondents find most valuable and frequently utilize for a library is majorly through Physical books, and E-Books. The remaining ones said they find comfort with CDs, DVDs and Community programs & events.

To analyse the satisfaction level for the availability & variety of library resources, majority gave 4 out of 5 rating, which means that they were "Satisfied" with
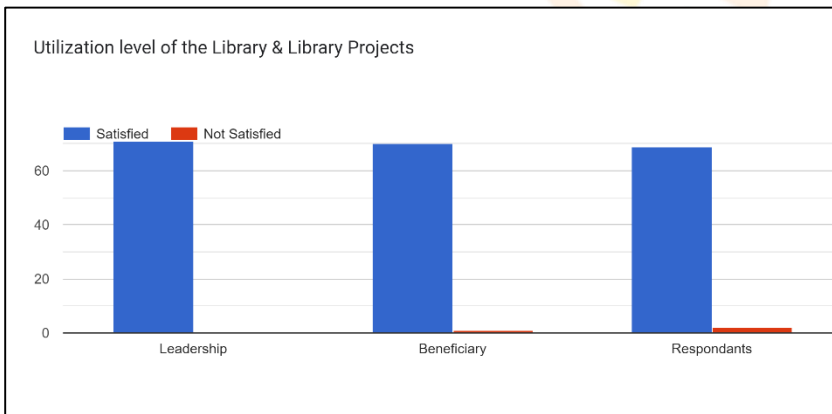
the resources, a few gave "Very Satisfied" and "Nuetral".

How satisfied are you with the availability and variety of library resources?
71 responses

1	0 (0%)
2	0 (0%)
3	7 (9.9%)
4	59 (83.1%)
5	5 (7%)

What is a potential solution to overcome the challenge of inadequate physical infrastructure in libraries?
71 responses

- Renovate existing library spaces: 38%
- Partner with other institutions to utilize shared facilities
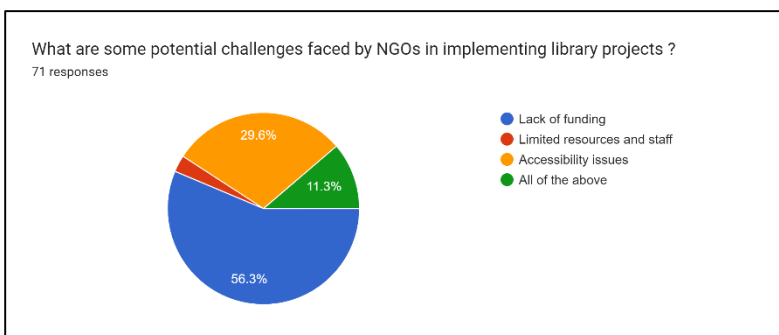- Implement mobile library services: 39.4%
- All of the above: 16.9%

A potential solution to overcome the problem of inadequate physical infrastructure in libraries is through, implement mobile library services and by renovating existing physical library spaces, is what majority of them have stated.

Utilization level of the Library & Library Projects

Satisfied ■ Not Satisfied
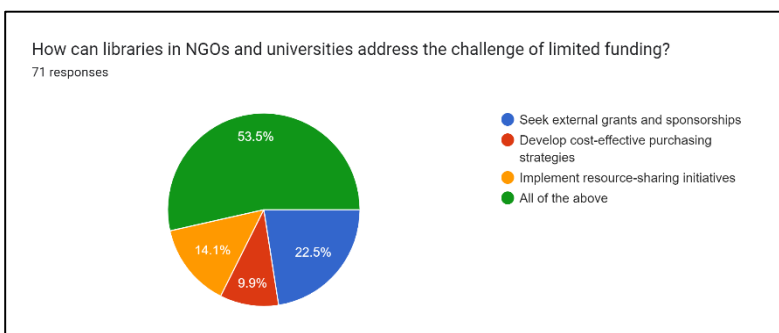
- Leadership
- Beneficiary
- Respondants

To analyse the utilization level for the libraries in NGOs and Universities, majority have stated that they are satisfied with the leadership, beneficiary and respondents. But only a very few respondents have stated that they aren't satisfied.

What are some potential challenges faced by NGOs in implementing library projects ?
71 responses

- Lack of funding: 56.3%
- Limited resources and staff
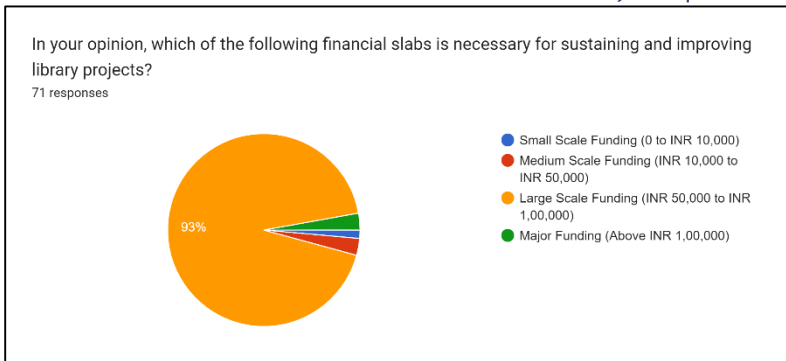- Accessibility issues: 29.6%
- All of the above: 11.3%

As we all know, there will be some potential challenges to implement any new project, like that for implementing library projects in NGOs, majority said that the challenge is from Lack of funding and accessibility issues and a few said due to limited resources & staff, it's also a challenge to implement these libraries.

How can libraries in NGOs and universities address the challenge of limited funding?
71 responses

- Seek external grants and sponsorships: 22.5%
- Develop cost-effective purchasing strategies: 9.9%
- Implement resource-sharing initiatives: 14.1%
- All of the above: 53.5%

Each problem will be having a solution to overcome the barrier, in the same way, NGOs and Universities can address the challenge of limited funding for libraries through seeking external grants, implementing resource-sharing initiatives like Digital content sharing, collaborative purchasing, mobile library services etc.

In your opinion, which of the following financial slabs is necessary for sustaining and improving library projects?

71 responses

- Small Scale Funding (0 to INR 10,000)
- Medium Scale Funding (INR 10,000 to INR 50,000)
- Large Scale Funding (INR 50,000 to INR 1,00,000)
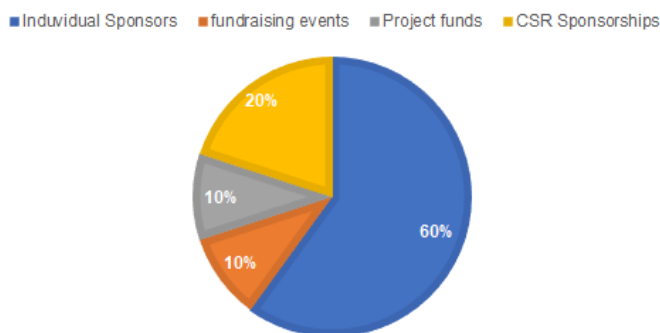- Major Funding (Above INR 1,00,000)

As per majority of the respondent's, a finance slab of INR 50,000 to INR 1,00,000 is required and necessary for sustaining & improving the library projects in NGOs & Universities.
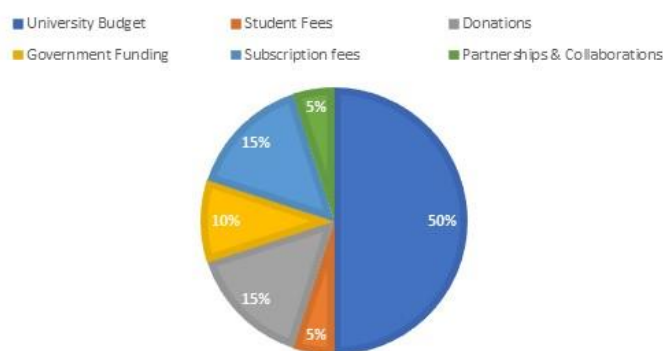
Presentation & Analysis of the Fundraising data

FUNDRAISING IN NGO'S

- Induvidual Sponsors
- fundraising events
- Project funds
- CSR Sponsorships

According to the information provided in the pie chart, individual donors account for 60% of all fundraising efforts and provide the majority of financing for NGOs. 10% of the total revenue comes from fundraising activities and project finances, and 20% comes through CSR sponsorships, which are very important since they provide 20% of the money. According to this breakdown, NGOs are largely dependent on funding from private donors and CSR programmes to maintain their operations and successfully complete their tasks.

FUNDRAISING IN UNIVERSITIES

- University Budget
- Student Fees
- Donations
- Government Funding
- Subscription fees
- Partnerships & Collaborations

According to the information presented in the pie chart, there are six main sources of funding for university fundraising. The majority, or 50% of the total, comes directly from the university budget. This implies that colleges devote a large percentage of their funding on fundraising efforts. A lower percentage, roughly 5% of the total, is provided through student fees. 15% of the fundraising efforts are donations, thus they play a big part. This shows that significant donations to help universities come from both people and organisations. 10% of the total comes from government financing and corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes, underscoring the significance of both public and private sector assistance. 15% of the fundraising is done through subscription charges that users contribute in exchange for particular services or access. Last but not least, partnerships and collaborations account for 5% of the total, demonstrating that universities work with other organisations to improve their capacity for fundraising. Overall, this information illuminates the variety of funding sources for universities and highlights the significance of many stakeholders in assisting institutions of higher learning.

FINDINGS, SUMMARY & CONCLUSION

Findings of the study

❖ Both NGOs and universities can undertake library projects as part of their educational or community development initiatives.
❖ They both aim to provide access to information and knowledge resources through libraries.
❖ NGOs and universities may collaborate with each other on library projects to leverage their respective expertise and resources.
❖ Both organizations can seek external funding or grants to support their library projects.
❖ NGOs and universities often involve volunteers or students in the management and operations of the libraries.
❖ Both entities may organize educational programs, workshops, or events within the library space to promote learning and engagement.

Summary of the study

This study was carried out to fill a knowledge gap on the distinctions between library activities at academic institutions and non-governmental organisations (NGOs). The study evaluates funding sources, project objectives, resources, services, and user interaction to ascertain what is similar and what is different. Comparing funding sources, examining strategies, identifying issues and potential solutions, examining library usage and its relevance for information diffusion, and identifying the crucial factors that influence a project's success or failure are some of the objectives of the research.

Conclusion for the study

In summary, the research project on the comparative study of library projects in NGOs and universities has yielded valuable insights into the similarities and differences between these contexts. The comparative analysis has shed light on funding sources' impact on project implementation and sustainability, as well as various strategies used by both sectors. Additionally, this study identifies common challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities, offering potential solutions to overcome them. This research offers helpful advice to improve the efficacy and sustainability of library efforts in various organisational contexts by identifying the critical aspects that affect project success or failure. Overall, this comparative study improves our comprehension of library initiatives in NGOs and universities while offering a strong framework for more analysis and upcoming research efforts in this area.

Recommendations based on conclusion

Based on the data collected and the insights gained from the comparative study on library projects in NGOs and universities, the following recommendations are proposed.

❖ Diversify funding sources in both NGOs and universities to explore diverse funding options beyond traditional sources. This could include seeking grants, partnerships with private organizations, or engaging in crowdfunding campaigns to enhance project implementation and sustainability

❖ Foster collaboration between libraries in NGOs and universities to exchange best practices, resources, and expertise. This can be achieved through joint workshops, conferences, or online forums where librarians can share their experiences, challenges, and successful strategies for effective knowledge dissemination.

❖ Enhance user engagement strategies by creating user-friendly platforms for accessing information, integrating technology tools for improved accessibility, organizing interactive events or workshops tailored to different user groups, and actively seeking feedback from users to continually improve library services.

❖ Focus on addressing common challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities such as limited resources, staffing constraints, technological advancements, and changing user needs.

❖ Encourage proactive problem-solving through capacity building programs, training opportunities, and networking events that equip library professionals with the skills needed to overcome these challenges effectively.

These recommendations aim to enhance the effectiveness and sustainability of library initiatives in NGOs and universities while fostering a culture of continuous improvement within the field of library science.

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ANNEXURE

Questions used for the Questionnaire are as follows.

Q1. Which of the following best describes the purpose of library projects?

Q2. Which of the following is a common source of funding for a library project?

Q3. In your opinion, how has the Library Project positively influenced the underprivileged community?

Q4. What is one potential benefit of overcoming the challenges faced by libraries in NGOs and universities?

Q5. How do libraries contribute to the preservation of knowledge in NGOs and universities?

Q6. What factors do you think play a significant role in the success or failure of library projects in an NGO setting?

Q7. How can universities ensure sustainability in library projects funded by individual donations?

Q8. What is one common strategy employed by NGOs and universities to enhance access to library resources?

Q9. Which types of resources or services do you find most valuable and frequently utilize?

Q10. How satisfied are you with the availability and variety of library resources?

Q11. What is a potential solution to overcome the challenge of inadequate physical infrastructure in libraries?

Q12. Utilization level of the Library & Library Projects

Q13. What are some potential challenges faced by NGOs in implementing library projects?

Q14. How can libraries in NGOs and universities address the challenge of limited funding?

Q15. In your opinion, which of the following financial slabs is necessary for sustaining and improving library projects?

Questionnaire Link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfEUDD-rPNwpApnIMTCNeLa70VislUlAc0F0I3k97JJ7wCcag/viewform