

ROLE OF NGO'S IN THE IMPROVEMENT OF CAPABILITIES AND WELFARE OF MASSES, A STUDY IN DISTRICT RAWALPINDI

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ABSTRACT

Different types of organizations are working in the private sector to make use of the resources. These organizations are known as non government organizations (NGO). Before World War 2 only government was considered to be the provider of all basic facilities to public. But time has changed and the concept of NGOs got popularity. In Pakistan the regular body of such organizations has been started in 1985. The present study was conducted to know thoroughly about nongovernmental organizations. Our main objectives in this study were to gauge awareness about the role of NGOs in improvement of capacities and for the welfare of masses.

Key words: NGO's, Welfare, Capacities, Development

INTRODUCTION

There are some other features and functions of non-governmental organizations. Like operational services, advices, awareness and advocacy. A number of non-governmental organizations have made a number of different types of advice and support, including monitoring marriage and divorce, especially for young people, management, operation, in order to reduce pressure on single parents, career development counseling and conflict. Depending on the time of declaration of the NGO from the time that additional funds will be used to improve awareness and information activities for the impoverished population is what is right, human rights, social harmony, gender sensitivity and social justice (Desai, 2005).

Permanent establishment of NGOs started in Pakistan in 1985. NGOs and Community Based Organizations (CBOs) are also considered important advocacy organizations and the provision of services in the community at the grass-roots level. They are furnishing aid to government over and above growth agencies (Manzoor, 2005).

Many NGOs in Pakistan are functioning concerning various scenarios similar to social, political and religious scenarios. Social problems in the public interest non-governmental organizations are also actively involved in a wide range of horizontal field, the operation of the well-being and enhance marginalized groups and achieve the rights of citizens. They are concerned about the role in order to improve the value of people, and requested that the new force to combat social problems, through the provision of these platforms, so they can begin a developed society. NGOs are also played a crucial role in treating global issues nationally and internationally. The NGOs believes that their responsibility is education, organizing and mobilizing people around to increase our own institutions and other finishing of authority and influence. Variety of roles to play an NGO in the next six years can be identified as a significant risk of generalization (Manzoor, 2005).

A massive number of NGOs been doing something very helpful, the outward show of the country would have been brighter. It would be fair to say their donation to poverty alleviation; condition of instructive land health facilities natural concerns and the other social issues had been accurately adequate. The basic problem of these NGOs was lack of funding because private charitable trust was not properly structured and very small quantity of fund flowed into structured channels (Sodium, 2005).

Increasing number of NGOs is one of the most surprising features of modern day worldwide politics. While states remain the major protector and abusers of human rights, NGOs have materialized as main players in the back-up of human rights around the world. They are increasingly well-known as essential role players in community and people centered development (Gotz, 2008).

Every state brings its own unique historical occurrence and socio cultural standpoint to the issue of human rights. This is because the security and protection of human rights in every country can never be divided from its culture historical experiences. What is essential nevertheless is to use these experiences to become the best they can be (Cesarini and Hertel, 2009).

Iranian NGO's could be broadly categorized into two groups. The first group included new and modern supposed "developmental" NGOs. The second group included the traditional "relief" CBOs and charitable trust societies. On the other hand, most of the women's NGOs set up under modern and developmental NGOs. Moreover, there are excellent examples of modern NGOs in Iran that have been doing well in addressing social issues, conducting advocacy efforts, raising public awareness and conducting educational actions and tackled tough social issues, with well-known community involvement (Nikkhah and Zhairinia, 2011).

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Agbola (1994) discussed that nongovernmental organizations, or NGOs as they are usually called, are more and more making their presence famous in the popular media as well as international politics. Non-governmental organizations play vital roles, to involving and enabling communities to build up and use their own initiatives to grow them

Akhtar (2003) described that the number of NGOs were implementing integrate rural and urban development programmes in different part of the country and provided a range of development services. Most of these had adopted a participatory approach and worked closely with local communities. Amongst the most prominent development NGOs were the rural support programme (RSPs). Sungi development foundation and Orangi Pilot Project. Broadly, the RSPs used a threefold approach that emphasized social mobilization or organization, building up of capital through regular savings human resource development to increase the capacities of rural communities to undertake their own development. NGOs and community based organization (CBOs) are working through out Pakistan in a wide-range of poverty reduction activities.

Prasad (2003) reported that Community members can maximize their potential not only by organizing themselves but also by upgrading their existing skills to better manage new inputs-business and community initiatives and establish effective links with local government and other sectors. The change agent can support direct training, exchange visits and other capacity building activities based on needs identified by the members of the community organizations. These can cover: organizational development, leadership, savings, and credits programmes, agriculture, natural resource management and other key areas. Local human resource development can best be promoted when trained individuals take up the responsibility to train other community members.

In the views of Bob-Miller (2005) the contribution of both local and international NGOs includes transforming whole communities and lifting the misery of poverty-stricken rural and urban dwellers. These according to Bob-Milliar include environmental protection, services for women, the elderly and children, vocational skills, technology transfer, sanitation, water development and supplies of relief items.

Herani (2010) expressed that Pakistan has encouraged this movement by peaceful rules for microfinance institutions, and national and international donors are also helping NGOs to accomplish this end. All these struggles are not adequate to reduce poverty in short time but can be helpful to attain target to some extent. It is obvious that nation will have to utilize our available resources to decrease poverty to some extent, and efforts of all the contributors must be well-

regarded.

METHODOLOGY

Locale Of The Study

In the present study the population was all the persons of District Rawalpindi who have got or still being paid any type of assistant or training to boost up their living standard. This population group was included the people from both rural and urban areas and from lower and middle class families.

Sampling

A two step sample selection process was used. At the first step convenient sampling technique was used. With the help of this method two non government organizations were selected operating in District Rawalpindi. At the second phase lists of the persons who have got or still getting any type of help from both the organizations. A method of simple random sampling techniques was used and a set of 55 respondents was selected from both organizations. So a total of 110 respondents were selected for the purpose of interview to explore the objectives of the study.

Data Collection

Initially an interview schedule was created according to the variables and objectives of the study. That would be pre-tested on some non sample respondent. In this study the area for the collection of data for research was District Rawalpindi. More over the specified area was the localities of District Rawalpindi in which these non-governmental organizations (Rozaan and Hasna Welfare and Development Organization) are working.

Data Analysis

Data was integrated and analyzed by using quantitative analytical technique to draw valid conclusion and inferences. Tables, Frequencies and percentages were used in case of the quantitative techniques.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table No. 1: Distribution of respondents with respect to their response to Up to what extent they improved their capabilities with the help of NGOs

NGO helped in improving capabilities	Frequency	Percent
To some extent	21	19
To below average extent	1	1
To an average extent	22	20
To above average extent	11	10
To much extent	55	50
Total	110	100

Table 1 expressed that majority of the respondents (50 percent) were those who believed that they improved their capabilities after gaining aid from these organizations while (20 percent) were those who said that these NGOs helped to an average extent in improving their capabilities. (19 percent) were satisfied to some extent that these NGOs helped them in their improving a lot where as (10 percent) of the respondents indicate that they were satisfied to above average extent with the aid provided by these NGOs to improve their livelihood. Remaining merely (9 percent) were those who were to below average extent satisfied.

Desai (2005) concluded that NGOs played a vital role in supporting women, men and families who are expected to create wealth. She accounted for about NGOs There for the roles and function of counseling services, awareness and advocacy, legal assistance and microcredit. These services help people to realize their abilities, skills and understanding of the magnitude of the sustainable development of small concepts to reduce the difficulty itself has launched.

Table No. 2: Distribution of respondents according to their perception that NGOs are working for the welfare of people

NGO working for the welfare of people	Frequency	Percent
To some extent	11	10
To below average extent	1	1
To an average extent	26	23
To above average extent	14	13
To much extent	58	53
Total	110	100

Table 2 presented that highest percentage of the respondents (53 percent) reported that these non-governmental organizations are functioning for the wellbeing of people while (23 percent) were to an average extent satisfied that these organizations are functioning for the benefit of people. (13 percent) were to above average extent satisfied whereas (10 percent) were little bit satisfied with performance of these organizations. Remaining (9 percent) were to below average extent satisfied with point that these organizations are working for the welfare of individuals.

David (1999) expressed that in New York, many of the NGOs should be just as aid agencies or charities to help the poor and needy, especially in natural disasters. NGOs segment was by and large recognized as strong performer in the development process.

Table No. 3: Frequency and percentage distribution of respondents with regard to their response whether they found betterment in their living standard or not

Find betterment in living standard	Frequency	Percent
Yes	86	78
No	7	6
To some extent	17	16
Total	110	100

Table 3 indicated that highest percentages of the respondents (78 percent) were those who found betterment in their living standard with the help of these organizations whereas (16 percent) were totally unsatisfied and remaining (6 percent) were those who found to some extent betterment in their living standard.

Kamal (2008) discussed that about NGOs participation to human development those non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to play an growing significant role in the development process to raise the living standard of the poor taken as a whole.

CONCLUSION

By reading the entire responses of objectively conducted study, it is to the point to draw a conclusion that no doubt, non government organizations (NGOs) today considered a well-known component of development mechanism especially in the developing countries and usually seen to be playing a central role in development. NGOs are viewed much essential institutions for awareness raising and services delivery in the community most of the respondent were satisfied with performance of NGOs. NGOs performance in development of the society is found out healthy as compare to government sector. Based on the result of present study majority of the respondents were satisfied with the services, aid provided by the non-governmental organizations and after attaining aid by NGOs they feel improvement in their capabilities and also in living standard.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- NGOs should target those communities where illiteracy and poverty is at higher level and awareness about the role of NGOs is found absent.
- Involvement of the people should be encouraged in different phase of the projects, (like project initiation to implementation and maintenance) where the projects are going to be held in specific communities.
- In developing countries Government should pay more attention to provide assistance to NGOs

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