GEN 214: Introduction to Development Studies

Module 7: Agencies of Development

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Agencies

- Help support economic growth, social progress, etc., within a specified country or region, especially one currently underdeveloped.
- Development agencies: international and local non-governmental organizations

Non-government organization (NGO)

- Any voluntary non-profit agency
- Established and governed by a group of private citizens:
 - philanthropic purpose and supported by voluntary individual contribution
- NGOs are the institution outside the public and private sectors:
 - Goal: primarily value driven (humanitarian or cooperative)
 rather that profit-driven

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- NGO is a citizen based association that operates independently of government usually to deliver resources or serve some social or practical purposes.
- An autonomous body of individuals forms voluntarily, to pursue some common goals, general and specific with support from private, state, local or international institutions.
- There are 2553 listed NGOs with NGOAB in Bangladesh (NGOAB, 9 January, 2022)



Typologies of NGOs

- Size
- Class
- Location
- Characteristics of beneficiaries

Classification on the basis of orientation

- Charity focused NGOs
- Development service oriented NGOs
- Participatory NGOs
- Empowerment oriented NGOs

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Classification on the basis of spatial coverage

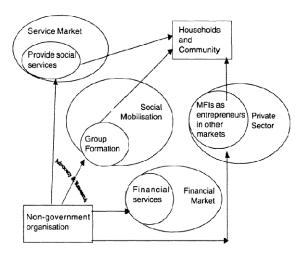
- Local NGOs
 - Operate only in a few villages
- National NGOs
 - Wider coverage
- International NGOs
 - Operate in several countries
- Mixed NGOs

Classification on the basis of role

- Relief and welfare NGOs
 - Relief support towards the helpless people
- Service NGOs
 - Deliver services to the target groups
- Funding NGOs
 - Help local NGOs to get foreign assistance
- Networking/coordinating NGOs
 - Facilitate mutual sharing of learning and experiences
- Development NGOs
 - Mobilize poor through education and awareness raising
- Consulting NGOs
 - Provide consulting services to government, donor agencies and other actors

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Broad Areas of NGO Interventions



Area of operation

- Micro credit
- Employment and income generation
- Formal and non-formal education
- · Health, nutrition and family planning
- Women's right
- Environment
- Poultry, fisheries and live stock
- · Water supply and sanitation
- · Human rights and legal aid.

Merit/ strengths of NGOs

- Reach the poor and remote areas
- Promote local participation.
- Work with other agencies.
- Understand local institutions and socio-cultural environment.
- · Act quickly.
- Work with flexibility
- Take risk and experiments
- · Innovate and adopt.
- Operate on low cost.
- Facilitate local resources, mobilization and ensure local development.
- · Advocacy.

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Demerit/ weakness of NGOs

- Limited replicability
- · Limited self sustainability
- · Limited technical capacity
- Lack of broad programming content
- Limited ability to reach the poorest segment of the society
- · Inability to scale up activities
- Dependency on Donors
- Paternalistic approach
- · Centralized operation

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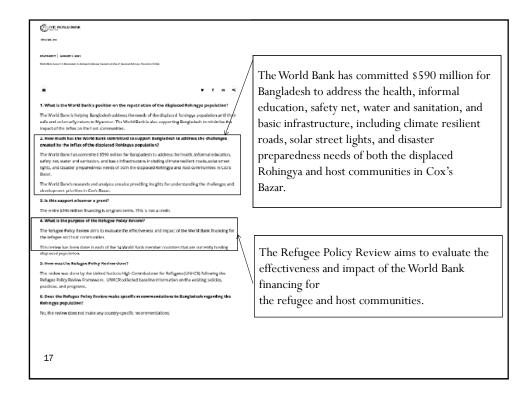
Challenges facing NGOs

- (a) Lack of financial sustainability;
- (b) Shortage of efficient employees and high employee attrition;
- (c) Inadequate infrastructure;
- (d) Undue interference and control by the government;
- (e) Lengthy fund release process;
- (f) Low level of inter-sectoral cooperation;

- (g) Inadequate training and low level of true professionalism among employees often aggravated by lack of job security;
- (h) Lack of information and relevant research;
- (i) Religious conservatism and militancy, and threat of terrorism;
- (j) Political pressure and political instability;
- k) Unfavorable tax regime; and
- (I) Natural calamities.

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Role of Multilateral development agencies



- The World Bank report on integrating refugees into their host countries from the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR).
- The report "suggests extending Rohingya the right to own land, property, businesses, rights of election and mobility and equal rights in employment as exercised by Bangladeshi citizens as part of the integration process, and if we agree with the proposal, then it will provide financial support to this effect out of a \$2 billion World Bank fund."

Asia - Pacif

Dhaka rejects World Bank proposal on integrating Rohingya into Bangladesh

Government says only way out for welfare of Rohingya is repatriation on Najmus Sakio | 03.08.2021

Bangladesh said Monday that it strongly opposes a proposal by the World Bank to integrate Rohingya Muslims into the co

Foreign Minister AK Abdul Momen:

"We strongly oppose and completely reject the World Bank report, as it contradicts our philosophy on Rohingya. We believe the only way out for the welfare of the Rohingya lies in repatriation".

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