

Examining collaboration between government and NGOs in Tanzania: the case of NOLA, HAKIELIMU, TGNP and concerned Government Institutions.

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Most development practitioners are in agreement that there is unsubstantiated relationship between the Government and NGOs in Tanzania. This study is therefore examining collaboration between the Government and NGOs in Tanzania. In research methodology, this study both qualitative and quantitative approaches were employed. The study findings revealed that all the three visited NGOs had been working in partnership with the Government and they had been collaborating with the Government institutions in the area of public policy. Various were achievements found in the partnership: sharing of views and expertise with partners. Some NGOs had gained a great deal of access to Government structures and strategic decision-making bodies, etc. A number of constraints were also found in the Government and NGOs collaboration. These include: NGOs are not really seen as partners, donor dependency, mistrust between actors, absence of legal framework to guide collaborations, etc. In conclusion we can confidently say that the study findings clearly show that there are ongoing collaborations between the selected NGOs and Government in Tanzania. However, the findings revealed that these collaborations are not satisfactory. The study noted that, the partnership had several challenges which limited a good collaboration. Respondents provided various recommendations to improve the collaboration. These include: there is a need to have legal frameworks to guide collaboration; NGOs should strengthen their capacities; NGOs should reduce donor dependency, etc.