

The impact of foreign aid on non-Governmental organizations in Tanzania

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The term 'aid' should only be used when there is a real transfer of resource to the poor for the purpose of raising living standards and narrowing the gap between the poor and rich (Nyerere, 1974): 13). This specific study is aimed at exploring the impact of foreign aid on NGOs in Tanzania. The findings revealed and confirmed this connection. Indeed, dependence on foreign aid does affect NGO ownership of policy agenda. Due to lack of resources, NGOs are forced to bow to the dictates of their financiers, thus giving credence to the famous say, 'he who pays the piper, calls the tune'. However, it was revealed that the level and degree of ownership differed from one NGO to another Likewise, the study revealed that the increased number of NGOs in the country has been propelled by the recent increase of donor aid in the r GO sector. Most NGOs tend to focus on donors' priority areas since they know it is where the money would be poured into. The donors' priority areas range from issues of gender, human rights, democracy and good governance, HIV/AIDS and advocacy. Apart from dependence on foreign aid, the study revealed that there are yet some other factors that affect. NGO ownership of policy or program agenda. These are such as, lack of focus for NGOs, and lack of internal democracy within the NGOs. NGOs that are less focused on their goals and objectives are very likely to face ownership problems, since they design their projects according to donors' preferences and not their own.

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