

Exploring the Benefits and Gaps Inherent in the Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) in Their Quest to Effectuate Poverty Reduction-Examples from African Countries

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ABSTRACT The sustainability of NGO development projects on poverty reduction, poverty alleviation, and even mitigation has been a topical issue at global level. The purpose of this paper is to explore the sustainability of NGOs development projects on poverty reduction in a few countries of the African continent. The findings of this study indicate the following as the panacea, or the benefits associated with NGOs: They collaborate with government in effectuating issues of national development; are catalysts of development; and form good partnership with the governments. On the other hand, NGOs have been noticed practicing with the following gaps: misuse of funds; harbouring sour relationship between fellow NGOs and the government; pursuing political and antagonising goals; used as vehicles of capitalism and imperialism by their funders. While some are used as a platform to make some personalities popular for political gains, some pursue unsustainable projects. The present paper recommends the NGOs to be good vehicles of national development and government to give them a palatable and conducive environment to operate; while at the same time regulate, mentor and audit their activities.