

Non-governmental Organizations and the Implementation of Good Governance Principles

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ABSTRACT This paper sought to assess whether Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) indulging in poverty alleviation in Mwenezi District of Zimbabwe are implementing principles of good governance such as strategic planning, advocacy, legitimacy, transparency, accountability, monitoring and evaluation in their work. The study adopted a qualitative approach in which semi-structured interviews were conducted with ten NGO program managers who were chosen purposively. The main reason was that the researcher sought to obtain in-depth information on the way NGOs implement principles of good governance in Zimbabwe. Secondary analysis was also used to establish the existence of literature on the implementation of good governance principles in Zimbabwe. The study established that whilst some NGOs observe principles of good governance such as transparency, and information dissemination, some are not, which often led to conflicts between NGOs and the government over accountability issues. The study recommended that NGOs need to revamp their governance structures such as boards of trustees and foster close cooperation with international institutions such as World Bank, International Monetary Fund and Commonwealth to enjoy good financial relations towards funding development projects.