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THE ROLE OF NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN MOGADISHU- SOMALIA

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ABSTRACT

Community development entails the provision of infrastructural facilities to the people. The provision of these social amenities can be attained through a number of ways and/or organizations which includes, the government, community development associations, Non-Governmental Organizations. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) are non-governmental, nonprofit making and self-governing, set out to ameliorate the plight of the people in dare need of life sustaining facilities in the society.

This paper attempts to examine the role of Nongovernmental Organization in Community development in Mogadishu-Somalia. The paper had three main objectives which are: 1) to determine the relationship between microfinance and community development. 2) To identify the relationship between capacity building and community development. 3) To examine the relationship between self-reliance and community development in Mogadishu-Somalia. The researchers utilized convenient sampling to collect 130 questionnaires from NGO staff, beneficiaries of NGO activities, students and teachers in Mogadishu, Somalia. These respondents were provided a questionnaire with four main construct which measuring microfinance, capacity building, self-reliance and community development. However, using correlation coefficient, the study found that community development (Dependent variable) had significant positive influence with two independent variables namely: microfinance and self-reliance. Also, the result of regression analysis found that two constructs had statistically significant, positive, and straight effects with community development.

KEYWORDS: *Nongovernmental Organization, Community Development, Somalia*

INTRODUCTION

The protracted humanitarian crisis in Somalia combined with the growing insecurity and recent challenges of access to affected populations created strong reliance of international aid organizations on Somali NGOs for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. As a result, a large number of Somali NGOs (SNGOs) are working in partnership with international aid organizations (IAOs) and

playing a more center-stage role in humanitarian action than ever before. Given that most SNGOs do not have access to direct sustainable funding, many are scaling up and down according to the needs and funding of their international partners. Stronger partnerships between Somali NGOs and international aid organizations could produce greater benefits for people in need, resulting in more timely, effective and efficient delivery of assistance. Yet the existing

guidance on good practice for partnerships still needs to be more widely adopted for improved collaboration to take place. Changes are also needed on how the Somali NGO sector is financed, coordinated, assessed, and monitored (Yuri Tsitrinbaum, 2011)

Humanitarian NGOs are among the best known NGOs, and make up the largest category. Such international organizations respond to both man-made and natural disaster on every continent providing emergency relief, for example like MSF, long-term support in the transition between relief operations and development work, like World Vision, or such organizations are sometimes involved in both relief and development. Relief operations are often short term. They are aimed at urgently saving lives and include “delivering food, clean water, and sanitation equipment to distressed populations; providing shelter for homeless victims; and repairing salvageable structures (Aall 2005: 122) as well as prevention, containment and treatment of diseases. Many humanitarian NGOs also react to the problems of refugees, acting on issues of reuniting families, education, vocational and health projects.

United by a commitment to improving conditions around the globe, nongovernmental organizations are a very diverse group, with varying objectives, functions and structures making the precise definition of an NGO vary largely and often hard to pin down. In essence, these organizations are dedicated to service in parts of society that are underserved or neglected by governments and other official institutions. An NGO is generally defined as a “private, self-governing, not-for-profit organization dedicated to alleviating human suffering; and/or promoting education, health care, economic development, environmental protection, human rights, and conflict resolution; and/or encouraging the establishment of democratic institutions and civil society” (Aall, 2005: 89).

NGOs are professionally-staffed organizations aiming at contributing to the reduction of human suffering and to the development of poor countries (Streeten 1997). They do this in various ways, e.g. by funding projects, engaging in service provision and capacity building, contributing to awareness, and promoting the self-organization of various groups (Baccaro 2001).

Community development is one of the three strategies which have been adopted for rural development by many developing countries alongside agricultural extension and integrated rural development, (Williams 1978).

Non-Governmental Organization (NGOs) are non-governmental, nonprofit creation, self-governing and led by willful volunteers. NGOs are groupings that are outside the domain of government in the areas of formation, funding, management and the processes and procedure in which it carries out its sets objectives geared towards cultural, socio-economic

and political transformation of all facets of the society. NGOs function alongside the government as well as profit base enterprises in delivery of social services for the upliftment and well-being of the society, they are therefore refers to as the third sector, (Ehigiamusoe 1998).

Community development is a process of helping community people analyzes their problems, to exercise as large a measure of community autonomy as is possible and feasible, and to promote a greater identification of the individual citizen and the individual organization with the community as a whole.” (Warren, 1978) on the other hand community development is the deliberate attempt by community people to work together to guide the future of their communities, and the development of a corresponding set of techniques for assisting community people in such a process.” (Bennett, 1973) The capacity of people to work collectively in addressing their common interests (Maser, 1997)

According by (Oberle, Darby, & Stowers, 1975) as defined community development a process in which increasingly more members of a given area or environment make and implement socially responsible decisions, the probable consequence of which is an increase in the life chances of some people without a decrease in the life chances of others.

According to (Warren, 1978) a process of helping community people analyze their problems, to exercise as large a measure of community autonomy as is possible and feasible, and to promote a greater identification of the individual citizen and the individual organization with the community as a whole.

The various authors writing about the process of community development each offer a definition of community development itself. While a universal definition is difficult to produce, Chris Maser’s definition of community development may be most fitting for consideration in this context. In Maser’s definition community development efforts build “the capacity of people to work collectively in addressing their common interests” (Maser, 1997).

According to Cary (1979) traces the earliest foundation of community development to a set of principles – felt need, extensive citizen involvement, consensus, and local decision making. The wide appeal of democratic principles and practical application has resulted, according to Cary, in a community development practice in which these principles are repeated over and over again with only modest refinement. Cary suggests that the result is a lack of theoretical or empirical underpinning for the profession. In detailing the history of community development practice, Cary credits the outreach efforts of land grant universities and programs of adult education and Community betterment for

contributing to the evolution of today's community development practice.

LITERATURE REVIEW

This section highlights review articles about the role of Non-governmental Organizations on Community those were established in many different contexts in the world. After reviewing these article most of the studies found positive relation relationship between Non-governmental Organizations on Community Development.

This paper attempts to illustrate the contribution of NGOs towards sustainable community development. NGOs have many programs, functions and roles which assist community to become empowered, and eventually attain sustainable development. This paper reviews some of these roles, functions and programs of NGOs, such as microfinance, capacity building and self-reliance. Microfinance programs improve the economic well-being of communities by job creation and income generation. In the long run, this economic empowerment will contribute to sustainable community Development. NGOs, through capacity building, develop community capacities such as ability, skill and knowledge of mobilizing resources, planning and evaluating community initiation and solving problems to gain the mastery over their lives. It also motivates the community to participate in the projects and help them to improve quality of their lives. Participants are expected to coordinate meetings, plan community activities, and be practical in community initiatives. In this way, NGOs contribute towards sustainable community development. Furthermore, NGOs mobilize the communities to be self-reliant. It assists the communities to discover their own potentials and rely on their own resources. In short, this paper demonstrates that all these programs and functions of NGOs could contribute towards the realization of sustainable community development. (Nikkhah & Redzuan, 2010)

Another paper examines some of the strategies for community development in Nigeria, with a particular emphasis on the role of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). The methods of study include interview, observations, intensive local field studies and extensive travel throughout the state. The beneficiaries of NGOs activities and donor agencies – students, teachers, NGO functionaries, fire burnt victim and head of households were interviewed. This study found that NGO provide community mobilization, environment, health and sanitation awareness creation, promotion of child's rights law, promotion of sexuality and reproductive health education and fight against child labor and human trafficking etc. (Omofonmwan & Odia, 2009)

Same study investigates The role and influence of NGOs in relation to capacity development and education is of interest because of the

incontestably important role of these organizations in development in general, and in the education sector in particular. Seen from an increasingly dominating capacity development perspective, the changing roles of NGOs pose a number of questions aimed at discerning their function and impact on the education sector: how do NGOs Conceive of and adapt their activities to the concept of capacity development? How do NGO strategies aim to have an impact, directly or indirectly, on governmental capacities? Do these strategies and the corresponding levels of intervention assist in reinforcing governmental capacities?. The result showed that Most NGOs perceive themselves as a catalyst for change and as an actor affected by external changes, such as the capacity development 'turn' in the development discourse. In other words, capacity development reorients NGO action, in terms of types of activities and concerning the recipients of NGO efforts. Whereas the recipient or object of capacity development efforts by NGOs traditionally has been civil society itself through a focus on the community, despite the prominence of NGOs in educational governance, there has traditionally been a minimum of engagement and contact with government. In fact, "the activities of many NGOs, while often praiseworthy in themselves, have been done independently of any reference to government policies or programs. (Ulleberg, 2009)

This study identified the roles of the Open Society Institute working together with the Association of Schools of Public Health in the European Region to foster the development of schools of public health in formerly socialist countries. NGO has played a major role in developing schools of public health and continues to do so. Nearly a century ago, seminal investments of the Rockefeller Foundation played a pivotal role in developing schools of public health in North America and several abroad. Today, involvement of non-governmental organizations in continuing development of schools of public health is needed, as many countries throughout the world continue to battle the burden of disease with insufficient numbers and quality of trained public health worker. Great strides have been made over the last century to supply a trained public health workforce. Much of this work has been accomplished through direct involvement and funding by NGOs, but the lack of funding and initiative remain a global issue. (Overall, M.Ed, & M.Phil, 2011)

This study analyzed the role of NGOs by evaluating their performance strategies in empowering poor and women in India. The relevant literature formed the data source for our content analysis concerning the current position of NGOs in India. The general objective of this study is to empirically test the NGOs performance for development of poor which ultimately leads to the overall development of the country. The study

established the important roles played by of NGOs in the fight against poverty through micro-finance, capacity building, self-reliance, peace building, sustainable community development, and empowerment especially women's empowerment all aiming at poverty alleviation. NGOs through the micro-finance help members of community to access jobs, income-generation and improve economic situation there by alleviating poverty from the poor. And then they would become empowered economically. NGO's developed the capacities of community such as skills, abilities, knowledge, assets and motivates the community to participate in the project to improve the quality of their lives. NGOs act as capacity builders that help the community to achieve the empowerment particularly individual empowerment. (Devi, 2013)

The aim of this study is to exam the role of NGO on development. The findings indicated that NGOs are high profile actors in the field of community development. it also found that NGOs are increasing important relation to ideas and debates about civil society, globalization and changing ideas, and practice of international aid. NGOs have also become active in a wide range of other more specialized roles such as emergency response, democracy building, conflict resolution, human rights work, cultural preservation, environmental activism, policy analysis, and research and information provision. This study also found that many NGOs development NGOs. NGOs, like all organizations, are dynamic and changing. They may combine several roles or activities at any one time, and will need to be understood in terms of their relationships with other development actors, such as states and donors, and their particular historical and cultural contexts. (Lawis & Kanji, 2009)

This occasional paper describes issues, including the lack of understanding about which models of long-term human recovery should be used and how they should be financed, inadequate Nongovernment coordination, and the lack of clarity about how to formalize and operationalize NGO roles and responsibilities. Development of a formal federal and state system to support human recovery and changes to long-term recovery policies are addressed in the discussion of potential actions. This paper also outlines future directions for research to build the evidence base on what works in long-term human recovery. The study found that NGO-government coordination is not adequate, and while there is greater acknowledgment that NGOs are essential to emergency preparedness, there are still many unanswered questions. These include how to formalize and operationalize NGO roles and responsibilities, which NGO activities could be financed and how, and which NGO should lead efforts in a community. Moreover, articulating NGO roles in human recovery requires early planning, and this

planning may have collateral benefits in enhancing the resilience of a community to withstand a disaster. Although this paper describes lessons learned from NGO experiences in Louisiana. (Chandra & Acosta, 2013)

Another paper explores, increasingly, NGOs are recognized as only one, albeit important, actor in civil society. The result found that NGOs have played an increasingly prominent role in the development sector, widely praised for their strengths as innovative and grassroots driven organizations with the desire and capacity to pursue participatory and people centered forms of development and to fill gaps left by the failure of states across the developing world in meeting the needs of their poorest citizens. While levels of funding for NGO programs in service delivery and advocacy work have increased alongside the rising prevalence and prominence of NGOs, concerns regarding their legitimacy have also increased. Success in this sphere will require a shift away from their role as service providers to that of facilitators and supporters of broader civil society organizations through which low-income communities themselves can engage in dialogue and negotiations to enhance their collective assets and capabilities. (Banks & Hulme, 2012)

Same article examines how members of a Mexican NGO community centered in the provincial city of Tulancingo, Hidalgo, rework cultural idioms of mediation to position themselves as legitimate intermediaries linking rural cooperatives, state officials, international donors, and global activist networks. The study indicated NGOs as mediators of change may yield important theoretical insights into the processes by which neoliberal zing projects become embedded in and consequently transformed by specific settings. In recent decades, NGOs have played an important role in mediating intertwined and often contradictory processes of political and economic liberalization in countries around the globe. (Richard, 2009)

This research aims at grasping the perception of the people in Teuk Phos district and measure the level of empowerment that LWF promotes. This study also attempts to establish an empowerment model, which can be used in multiple contexts not only in Cambodia's rural areas. The rationale of this study is to describe how the empowerment approach tackles the eight components vulnerable to the poor like basic health/HIV and AIDS, disaster preparedness, community development, human rights and advocacy, income generation, food security, environment, and education. Development Goals have been declared and require all developed and developing nations to cooperate and set target individually by 2015 for common enemy, the poverty. Regarding grassroots community development approach to tackle MDGs, some nongovernmental

organizations have employed mainly empowerment approach to push the progress forward. (Viriya, 2009)

Another research examined the role of NGO on rural development in India. This study showed that NGOs have been constantly working day-in and day-out to solve various problems concerning children, women, senior citizens, environment etc. The NGO sector effectively works towards uplifting the socio-economic status of the poor. However, for a significant impact in the present era of liberalization and globalization wherein market forces adopt a key role, it becomes essential for the NGO sector to take a lead in helping poor fight the challenges posed by the system. NGOs can help the poor by providing access to the system, information on market opportunities, training facilities, information on sources of credit, etc. in order to meet the aspirations of rural poor, a unique set of training programs are expected to extend for the officials of for better management of the organization and developmental initiatives. (H.ramakrishna, 2013)

Same research was conducted to trace out the impacts of these programs and strategies on vulnerable women of its working area. Information in this study has been called from both primary and secondary sources. Secondary source includes brochure, annual reports, and books etc. primary data basically collected through interview with ACD officials. In this article we have tried to highlight the impact of the programs adopted by ACD and strategies followed by the same on vulnerable section of the society especially women. From the above discussion it has been found that living condition of women has improved. They became aware of child rights, women's rights and above human rights. (Islam & Nahid, 2005)

This study has focused on the socio-economic situation of the poor both urban and rural areas being developed through the programs taken by the NGOs. The objective of the studied has to examine the impact of NGOs on the socio-economic situation of the poor in Bangladesh and changes occurred due to the NGOs activities. Data were collected through face to face interview and have been analyzed on a comparative basis. For this, a total of 460 respondents were interviewed from Rajshahi City Cooperation and Puhita Upa Zilla, percentage distribution, mean and STD. Deviation, graph and chi-square test method is used to analyze the data. The study results show that, the socio-economic situations of the poor both in urban and rural area, being developed through the programs taken by the NGOs. (Kabir & Haider, 2013)

Another study reviews these developmental phenomena launched by local and international NGOs in the context of Bangladesh especially in the field of education, health, environment, micro-finance, good governance, democracy and social justice etc. It investigates their contribution and

present status along with necessary critical evaluations as well as factors that sometimes underestimate of NGOs' existence. As the finding it has been seen that the sector is working for ensuring socio-economic development of poor and hard core poor people those are treated as the very negligible and marginalized by other two sectors i.e state and business working with political implications and profit maximization respectively whereas NGOs do for poors in assurance of financial solvency, basic education, nutritional status, participation in decision making for women both inside and outside of family and good governance etc. After all their activities are on the ground of no generation of profit. (Hassan, 2015)

This research investigates the role of NGOs in urban poverty reduction in Kibera from the perceptions of low-income urban households and NGOs operating in this sector. It finds that while there are some successes - in addressing the environmental risks by providing clean water, sanitation services, providing health services, and building social capital of the low-income households excluded from government services and policies on poverty reduction, for example - there are also some barriers to improving NGO programs. These are the need to include the community in design and implementation of poverty reduction programs, and the need to adopt an integrative approach that not only delivers programs based on service delivery, as is the current focus, but that complements this with a stronger role in advocacy and policy influence. (Mohamed, 2010)

The study assesses the role of community based organizations (CBOs) in economic development of Osogbo, Nigeria. This is with a view to establish the economic impact of CBOs on local economy and their significance in national economic development. It uses primary data collected from all the heads of 140 CBOs that have registered with the 2 local government councils in the study area as at the time of this study. Both descriptive and inferential analytical techniques are used to analyses data collected on the study. The study shows that CBOs could act as vehicles toward sustainable socio economic and physical developments of communities in developing nations. Thus, their impacts have been felt in the areas of economic development, policy matters, health and infrastructure, environmental and physical development among others. (Abegunde, 2009)

Same study has considered Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee as the case and has been aimed to critically outline the roles of this selected non-governmental organization (BRAC) in sustainable development process. With this particular aim, this study has also explored the trends of current poverty situations in Bangladesh. In addition, impacts of the BRAC sustainable development initiatives have also been analyzed, to some extent. This study has selected two villages of the Chandra district of

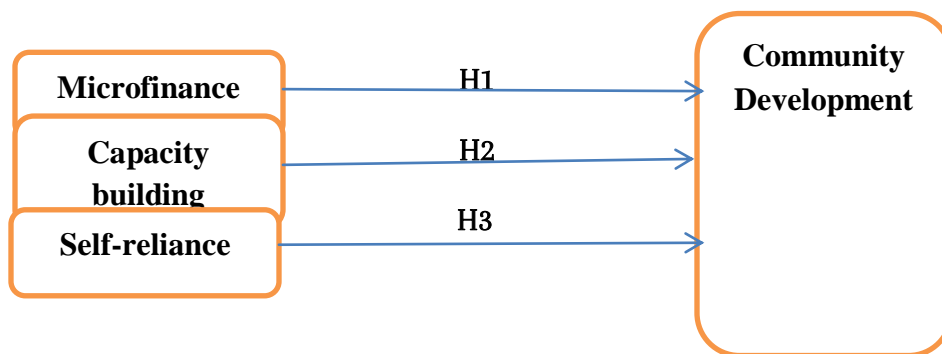
Bangladesh, where BRAC has been operating intense programs. This study has used both the qualitative and quantitative methods of research. Results suggest that programs undertaken by NGOs are capable of having positive contributions in the sustainable development process to a certain level. The fact is that the program implementation, where efficiency of the NGO employees is an indicator of success factor. The research is empirical and is expectedly fill the gap of literature. (Hassan & Forhad, 2013)

This paper provided an analysis of the roles that NGOs can play within the realm of social welfare, particularly in the field of alleviating poverty. The paper is organized into three sections. In the first section will provide a brief overview of NGOs development and the roles of NGOs in China. In section two will highlight currently NGOs playing important role in alleviating poverty in China, and in section three will identify the reasons why NGOs play roles in social welfare. The result showed As modern NGOs are considered one of the major collective actors in the socio-economic process, their roles as development partners particularly in the developing

countries are increasingly considered as an effective vehicle for bring social transformation, economic advancement and for furthering democratic governance. Thus, the significant emergence of the NGOs during recent years in development activities and on public agenda in developing countries can be identified as a significant political, social and economic trend. Their roles can be found differently according to the nature of problem to be addressed. (Jianxiu, 2006)

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK AND HYPOTHESIS DEVELOPMENT

After reviewing many articles, most of researchers found that there is positive relationship between Nongovernmental Organizations with Community development in terms of providing microfinance, capacity building as well as self-reliance. However its, further researcher is needed in the area of the role of NGO in Community development. The researchers generated the following hypothesis.



METHODOLOGY

This study was conducted through survey method to examine the role of Nongovernmental Organization in Community Development; the study utilized regression, correlation analysis to answer the research objectives and to test the research hypothesis.

The researchers utilized convenient sampling to collect 130 respondents from NGO staff, beneficiaries of NGO activities, students and teachers

in Mogadishu, these respondents were provided a questionnaire with four main construct which measuring microfinance, capacity building, self-reliance and community development. The researchers’ utilized Cronbach alpha to investigate the internal consistency of the questionnaires collected from the respondents. All variables of the study gained high inside reliability as shown in below table 1 this allows as to make further analysis and discussion

Table 1: Reliability test

Variables	Items	Cronbach Alpha
Microfinance	6	0.900
Capacity building	4	0.922
Self-reliance	5	0.900
Community Development	9	0.926

**DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION
DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE**

According to the gender respondents 61.5% were male while 38.5% was female; in Somalia male

domain all the sector. 9.2% of the respondent’s age was between 18-25 years old, 63.1% were teachers between 26--35 years old, 27.7%. of the respondents reported that they are between 36-45 years old. In terms of marital status of the respondents, 36.9%

were married while 63.1% were single. 49.2% of the respondents were bachelor degree, 30.8% had

diploma certificate, and 10.8% were secondary level while 9.2% were master degree level.

Table 2: profile of the respondents

Variable	Frequency	Percentage
Gender		
Male	80	61.5
Female	50	38.5
Total	130	100.0
Age		
18-25	12	9.2
26-35	82	63.1
36-45	36	27.7
Total	130	100.0
Marital status		
Single	82	63.1
Married	48	36.9
Total	130	100.0
Level of Education		
High school	14	10.8
Diploma Certificate	40	30.8
Bachelor Degree	64	49.2
Master Degree	12	9.2
Total	130	100.0

CORRELATION BETWEEN THE VARIABLES

Table 3 shows the result of correlation analyzes of the relationships among microfinance, capacity building, self-reliance and community development. Microfinance has positive relationship with Community development (r=.609 and p<0.01). Microfinance actively participates with Community Development. Communities with good microfinance provision tend to their livelihood in Mogadishu,

Somalia. The second objective of this study was to identify the relationship between Capacity building and Community development in Mogadishu, Somalia. Capacity building has positive effect on Community development (r=.606 and p<0.01).

The third objective was to examine the relationship between self-reliance and community development in Mogadishu, Somalia. (r=.711 and p<0.01).

Table3: Correlation Analyzes

No	Variables	Mean	SD	1	2	3	4
1	Microfinance	3.1872	1.03825	1			
2	Capacity building	3.4462	1.08325	.852	1		
3	Self-reliance	3.6492	.99114	.674	.728	1	
4	Community Development	3.7368	.89545	.609	.606	.711	1

REGRESSION ANALYSIS

This study investigated the role of Nongovernmental Organization in Community Development in Mogadishu, Somalia. Three hypotheses were developed after reviewing the literature, to test the research hypotheses were employed the linear regression analysis. The researchers checked regression hypothesis before taking place to further analysis. The dependent variable Community Development was normally distributed across all independent variable. Three hypotheses were developed after reviewing the

existing literature; **H1** confirmed that there is significance relationship between microfinance and community development in Mogadishu-Somalia. **H2** asserted that there is no positive relationship between capacity building and Community Development while **H3**: there is significant relationship between self-reliance and community development in Mogadishu, Somalia. The result of regression analysis shown in below table shows that Nongovernmental Organization (microfinance, and self-reliance) had positive relationship with Community Development in Mogadishu, Somalia.

Table 4: Regression Analysis

Variables	Beta	t-value	Significant	Results
Microfinance	.228	1.941	.054	H1 Accepted
Capacity building	.014	.108	.914	H2 Rejected
Self-reliance	.548	6.118	.000	H3 Accepted
R		.732		
R Square		.536		
Adjusted R Square		.525		

DISCUSSION

The current study investigated the role of Nongovernmental Organization in Community Development in Mogadishu-Somalia; the paper had three main objectives which are: 1) to determine the relationship between microfinance and community development. 2) To identify the relationship between capacity building and community development. 3) To examine the relationship between self-reliance and community development in Mogadishu-Somalia.

The researchers employed convenient sampling to collect 130 respondents from NGO staff, beneficiaries of NGO activities, students and teachers in Mogadishu. These respondents were provided a questionnaire with four main construct which measuring microfinance, capacity building, self-reliance and community development.

The result of correlation coefficient revealed that community development (Dependent variable) had significant positive influence with two independent variables namely: microfinance and self-reliance. The result of regression analysis found that two constructs had statistically significant, positive, and direct effect on community development. Regarding the two hypotheses; this study supported; the most indicator of community development was self-reliance in Mogadishu-Somalia

CONCLUSION

This paper demonstrated the importance of NGOs in achieving community development through micro-finance, capacity building and self-reliance. NGOs through the micro-finance help members of community to access jobs, income-generation and improve economic situation. And then they would become empowered economically. On the other hand, NGOs develop the capacities of community such as skills, abilities, knowledge, assets and motivate the

community to participate in the project to improve the quality of their lives. NGOs act as capacity builders that help the community to achieve the empowerment particularly individual empowerment.

NGOs assist the community to discover their potentials and also mobilize community to be self-reliant. According to the definition, empowerment is where people have greater control over livelihood resources. Therefore, the final outcome of community development is the independence of the community from external agents in formulating its agenda and managing its affairs.

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