

Role of NGO's in Relief and Rehabilitation in Post-Earthquake of District Ziarat, Balochistan

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Abstract

Pakistan is subjected to regular natural disasters that have inflicted a serious loss to people's lives and properties. The non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have always been active in case of different man-made and natural disasters across the world. The main purpose of the current paper is to evaluate the role of NGO'S in relief and rehabilitation in the post-earthquake of 2008 in district Ziarat. A sample total of 103 of the respondents were asked about the role NGO'S in relief and rehabilitation in the study area. Data were collected by simple random sampling with the help of semi structured questionnaire by first author. Results revealed that, Most of the respondents reacted positively towards relief camp, protection of the family members, their food distribution, medical team performance and aid for construction.

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A negative response was observed while finding out the role of NGOs in sectors of treating person with disabilities, basic health unit (BHU), gender discrimination, Trainings, facilities for pregnant women and financial relief. The above conducted study can be extended to other areas of the country as well with a broader scope. Moreover domains of trainings, special attention to persons with disabilities and relief fund providence can be improved with proper management most importantly by increasing human resource in NGOs and by efficient co-ordination with formal and informal/community institutions.

Key Words: Relief, Rehabilitation, Ziarat, Earthquake, Balochistan

1. Introduction

Disasters occur due to natural hazards like flood, drought, and earthquake are serious problem of the world. From 1973 to date disasters have been occurring frequently each year and have caused millions of casualties. The average death toll in developing countries is more than 144 million individuals (Mondal, Chowdhury, & Basu, 2015). The non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have always been active in case of different man-made and natural catastrophes across the world. The NGOs attempt to support affected people in terms of material as well as non-material aspects at national and international levels. At these levels the NGOs have usually functioned side by side with each other. As in the case of South Asia, some local NGOs expended their aid and support to needy and affected people, such as in the earthquake of 1993 at Latur, earthquake of Gujarat 2005, earthquake of Kashmir, (Pakistan) 2005, cyclone of Orissa in 1999. The highly vulnerable group is always the socially deprived

and poor due to their economic, social, political and cultural impairments (Seneviratne, Baldry, & Pathirage, 2010).

Economic position of people compels them to reside in vulnerable locations (like seismic faults and flood plains). Besides these population growth, government policies and local strategies and unawareness also lead people to settle in such areas. Disasters occur everywhere in the world with a high frequency. The people of third world countries and poor class have always been highly affected. The high class or rich people of the society used large amount of monetary fund due to which population are less affected. Catastrophes are directly proportional to the suffers of emerging countries and poor population; and highly affect the gross national product of these countries. Moreover, Natural exposures, famine, floods and earthquakes brought a large number of deaths, damages and loss of economy every year in the world (Smillie, 1998). Disasters completely block the achievements of development in emerging countries. Therefore, NGO practices shape an indispensable part of international relief and development work. There have been anticipated around 4,000 non-governmental organizations working for relief, development and economic cooperation in developed countries based on Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) states, and also functioning with 10,000 to 20,000 non-profit organizations which provided their assistance up to one hundred million people (Pan-American Health Organization, 2000). Therefore the current paper is attempting the role of NGO'S in Relief and Rehabilitation in District Ziarat of Balochistan, affected by an earthquake in 2008.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Natural Disasters History in Pakistan

Pakistan is subjected to regular natural disasters that have inflicted a serious loss to people's lives and properties. The often occurring natural disasters are droughts, earthquakes and floods. However, the literature discloses that the worst among disasters regarding damages to properties and lives. In the year 1950, when Pakistan was hit by first ever flood which witnessed more than 2910 lives and left impact on around ten thousands villages, Since then, drought, floods, landslides, earthquakes and cyclones have been hitting Pakistan on a periodic basis but no leading government has ever organized a thorough plan for coping disaster There was a disastrous shock in Quetta, Balochistan province in the year of 1935, when the whole city of Quetta was ruined(Smillie, 1998). In the moreover (Northern areas), Balochistan and NWFP earthquake alone has caused more than 5669 deaths from 1974 to 1990 (Farazmand, 2007). A short history of damages and deaths caused by earthquake in Pakistan can be shown in the table below.

Table 1.1: History of Earthquake in Pakistan

Date	Magnitude	Deaths	Injuries and Destruction	District/Province
May 31, 1935	7.7	30,000 - 60,000	-	Balochistan
November 28, 1945	7.8	4,000	Tsunami	Balochistan
December 28, 1974	6.2	5,300	17,000 injured	Hunza, Hazara and Swat

October 8, 2005	7.6	80,000	3.5 million people homeless	Muzaffarabad (AJK)
October 29, 2008	6.4	215	120,000 homeless	Ziarat District, Quetta

2.2 The Role of NGO'S in Relief and Rehabilitation

The term NGO could be synonymous or replaced with the form of non-governmental agencies functioning to serve masses on both international as well as national levels. The thousands of NGOs (non-governmental organizations) have rapidly been turning an important part of public's life in all over the world. The OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) report of 1992 has shown the total of \$8.3 billion contribution of NGOs of developed countries to undeveloped countries (Turton, 1985). In addition, the UN channelizes a huge fund through non-governmental organizations (NGOs). For instance, according to the Joint Inspection Unit report of UN more than 30% budget of UNHCR, which is estimated \$34.7 million has been dished out in 1994 through NGO's for response and Rehabilitations (Ahmad, 2011).

Response/relief is the first response to disaster and can lasts a few hour, days or weeks after a disaster occur. That is the initial phase for the adjustments to make efforts and to stop continued loss and disruption caused due to the disaster event (Kates, et al; 1973). These efforts have taken immediately after the disaster to scope causalities, minimum hardship and suffering, mitigate further damage and loss, and provide the foundation for subsequent recovery (Iizuka, 2018). The response/relief package has life-saving medicines; water, shelter, clothes, and food. It has crucial that the response/relief package have sent, handled, enveloped, protected and thrown to the victims in time. Rehabilitation is the process of restoration or short-term infrastructure of buildings and the

rehabilitation of the people suffering livelihoods(Herold & Sawada, 2012). This has intended that the people suffering livelihoods are more stable: To start or begin a more usual life, availability of food, water, shelter, medicine with other utensils and clothing, and other instrument are very necessary. The additional life is threatening conditions least as a result of rehabilitation. Children attends the classes, in a tents, sheds or in a cottage, or in an open ground, People comes back to normal life. Running of health clinics through shed or tents visited by the people (Crutchfield, 2013). People are involved in diverse activities. Such as for removing the debris in Haiti UNDP recognized cash for work program, which keen-sighted on employment generation (Yang, Xiao, Cheng, Zhu, & Arbon, 2010). As Haiti faced many previous disasters, due to that, the role of rehabilitation benefactors is cumulative in disaster response for the acceptance. For the medical and surgical interventions among injured as initial earthquake in hours and days followed, a numerous NGOs provide rehabilitation initiative extending from community based rehabilitation to disability advocacy that the make available their role in pre-and post-support, That was very encouraging for Nepalese to see that many NGOs depend on their human resource like occupational therapists and physiotherapists. For further capacity building in rehabilitation, international and local group sets quickly partnerships, and also arrange care for the specialized conditions and acute trauma cases, like complex fractures, Amputations and as spinal cord injuries (Farooq, 2017). As the case in Nepal, In the Kathmandu valley and around, the assistance and rehabilitation center providence in hospitals is mainly by mobile teams whereas main hospitals in the capital are positioned by physiotherapists and occupational therapists. For newly acquired disabilities such as children and people, an

arrangement is developed or formulized in the initial days and adequately follow up arrange care that is patient tracking system. Those affected in the earthquake, hospitals with mobility aids and assistive devices to maximum independence and participation were also supplied by the international partners (Soriano, 2007).

3. Study Area and methodology

3.1. Selection of Study Area

Ziarat district was selected as the study area having population of 160422 as per 2017 census. Geographically it lies between 30.3939° N, 67.7169° E. On the basis of administrative units Ziarat district is divided into two tehsils namely as Sinjavi and Ziarat. Ziarat climate is known as a local steppe climate. The average annual temperature is 11.3 °C. In a year, the average rainfall is 283 mm. The main focus of the current study was to assess the role of NGO'S in relief and rehabilitation in the aftermath of 2008 earthquake in district Ziarat, Balochistan.



Figure 1: Map of the Study Area

3.2. Collection of Data and analytical tool

In order to achieve the overall objectives of this study, the study was based on both qualitative and quantitative approaches of data collection. Whereas the primary data was achieved through a survey questionnaire supplemented by interviews from the key personnel and secondary data were achieved through available online reports of NGOs, Government and local bodies. A sample of 103 respondents was selected using sample random sample for the said study. The primary and secondary data were analyzed using SPSS (Statistical Package for Social Science).

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 The Role of NGO's in Relief and Rehabilitation in Disaster Response & Emergency

Response or Relief- It discusses about the first stage reaction to any calamity which includes control room establishing, contingency plans activating and assistance distributing.

Mostly, operations of relief are predominantly concerned with the physical survival of individual or saving of life of people in extremely high risk circumstance (Apthorpe 1997, 86). Relief assistance role is to sustain people for a short period until the calamity is over (Macrae ET al.1997, 224-25).the providing of food, water, health facilities and temporary shelter for those people who are displaced comes under the relief assistance (Yang et al., 2010).

4.2 Relief and Rehabilitation in Ziarat

District Ziarat experienced a harsh earthquake on 29 October 2008.The earthquake magnitude was 6.4 measuring on Richter scale. Perhaps that was the most horrible disaster in the history of District Ziarat. The

epicenter of earthquake was located 70 kilometer from the capital city Quetta. Losses intensity was increased due to the series of aftershocks, aftershocks were more than 700 which ranging from 4.0 to 6.4 as recorded on 29 October 2008 in Ziarat and Pishin Regions.

The Government of Balochistan appealed to the Federal Government and International community for emergency assistance. The federal Government full along with National and International organizations took immediate actions for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction for 1.9 lac affected people of Ziarat and Pishin District. Usually, the external sources and donor agencies have a preference to channelize emergency assistance to the victims of disaster through international or indigenous NGOs, mainly due to the general corruption and misuse of relief funds on the parts of the Govt. The Government of Pakistan and other social, international, national and NGOs, with the help of external and domestic sources massive relief and rescue activities in the area were initiated (ERRA, Annual Review 2008 to 2009). In the process of Relief and rehabilitation, both the federal government and NGOs played its significant role. The central coordination office for relief and rescue was established by the government of Pakistan to start work after the earthquake. Provincial relief commission was set up on 01 November 2008 for the purpose of coordination, activation of all resources and facilitation flow of relief goods (ERRA, Annual Review 2008 to 2009) The Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) of Baluchistan, Federal Government, Armed Forces, UN agencies and other local NGOs came side by side to take the huge operation of emergency responses and challenges such as distant and difficult access to communities, mountainous terrain, weather condition and irresistible sufferings of the individuals. Government of Pakistan,

international NGOs, National NGOs, worked on Response such as Rescue, Relief, and Rehabilitation events as aftermath of the disaster for one year.

A number of questions were designed in the form of a questionnaire to sort out the role of NGO's in relief and rehabilitation, which reflected the effectiveness and importance of this sector in relief and rehabilitation.

The responses are given in bar chart below along with its description as follows.

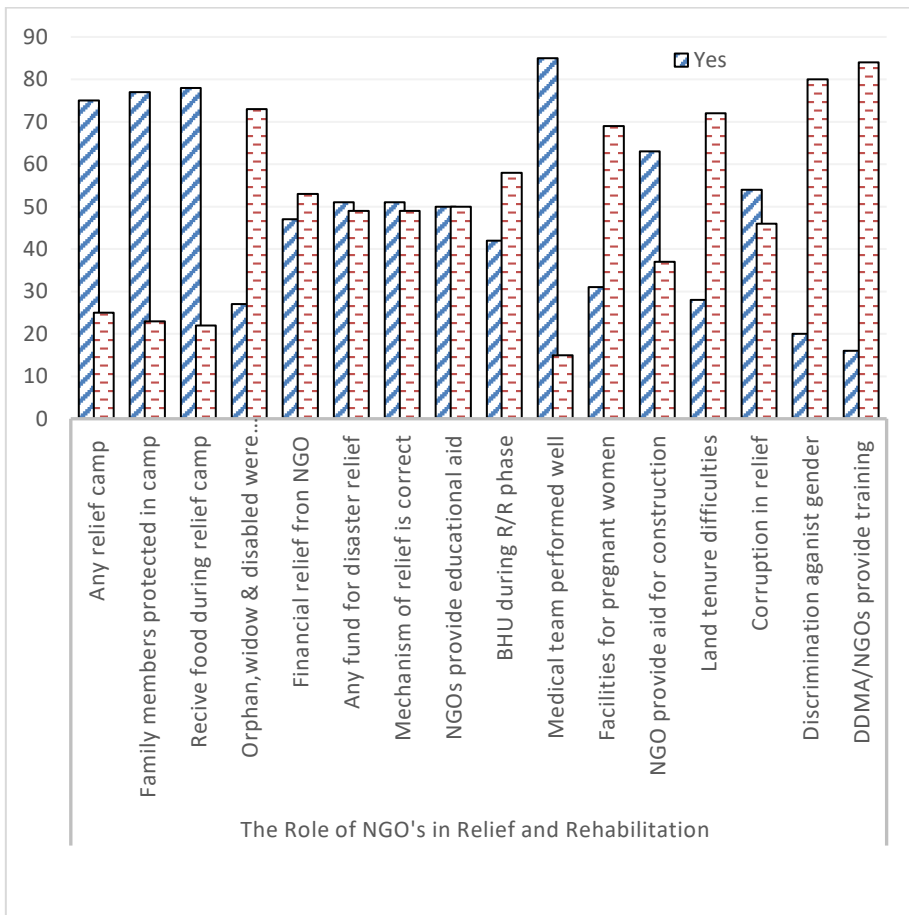


Figure 1: The Role of NGO's in Relief and Rehabilitation in Ziarat

When investigated about any relief camp, three-fourths of the respondents answered positively about the presence of relief camps. Based on the discussion with the effected respondents, the relief camps of Kuch and Sarro were in better condition as compare to that of Kawas. Among the shortcomings of the camp practices regarding gender protection in terms of isolated sites for males and females needed to be improved. Nepotism in the relief camps was yet another flaw. Upon inquiry about protection of their family members during stay in relief camps, more than three-fourths felt protected in relief camps. Although, there were lack of ideal protective measures in the camp regarding the privacy of the respondents. Providence of food during the relief had a high proportion of respondents (78%) were satisfied about food providence, while one-fifth were not satisfied. Special protocol to women, children and persons with specialties were to be practiced in the camp which was not observed perfectly. Furthermore persons with disabilities, orphans and widows being having a special place in relief and rehabilitation when asked about their treatment whether they were maltreated or not, more than one-fourth of the subjects said yes.

When the researcher investigated about financial aid from any NGO, almost half of the respondents answered yes while same proportion of the respondents said no. The NGOs had provided aid in terms of construction, education and utensils. Very little aid was provided in shape of capital which was not distributed ideally but to those having relations with the employees of NGOs. This aspect of the working bodies was to be improved. Upon asking about any fund for disaster relief the respondents answered equally positive and negative. The fund was delivered to the people for construction purpose without investigating about the number of family members. Thus in some cases, those with smaller number of

individuals in family received more fund while congested families received less. This issue must be addressed to improve functioning of NGOs.

Pakistan Being a developing country so there is flaw in mechanisms of relief so we asked from the respondents if the mechanism of the relief was correct where 51 people said yes while 49 stated no. Due to prior preparatory measures and poor literacy rate the mechanism of relief was somehow affected. About providence of educational aid from NGOs the response was 50 percent yes and 50 percent no. Special attention must have been provided to the children and women in order to improve their quality of life during and after disaster. Services of BHU during Relief and Rehabilitation phase had a response that 42 people said yes while 58 responded no. Lack of medicines, professionals or goods and services were poor. Both non-governmental and governmental organizations played very little part in this area. Being one of the most basic needs, health sector must have been prioritized during and after disaster. When asked about medical team performances 85 respondents were satisfied from the performance of medical teams. Despite the fact that there were very few health care providers, the part they played was satisfactory. Next query was on whether there were facilities for pregnant women, just a little proportion of respondents (31%) were satisfied by the facilities provided to pregnant women. As per our norms and principles special attention must have been given to females with pregnancies which were not practiced. In case of any delivery instances, local mid-wife's (Dai) were called upon and delivery was done without taken care of any hygienic care.

When inquired about NGOs aid in construction, two third responded yes while the rest answered no. The construction aid was provided to the

community but due to communication gap and lack of coordination between NGOs and governmental bodies it was not distributed equally and ideally. Similarly when asked about land tenure difficulties, more than one fourth of the respondents answered yes. Ziarat being a small district and mountainous region plain areas are difficult to manage hence increasing difficulties in land tenure. Working bodies should have planned before time to overcome this issue. When asked about corruption in relief more than half of the respondents said reported that they experienced corruption in relief process. Poor coordination among NGOs, lack of relief mechanism and nepotism were agents responsible for the corruption during relief. Which can be improved by launching a check and balance method along with communications among NGOs and governmental bodies taking community as a third party.

Upon inquiry about gender discrimination 20 of the subjects said yes. Being a male dominant society and tribal area women are generally undertreated. Same was noticed during the relief process. Gender discrimination can be discouraged through awareness campaigns and seminars before, during and after disasters. And finally the researcher inquired if DDMA/NGOs provided training high majority (84 respondents) response was negative. There was lack of DDMA concept presence nor did the NGOs play a pivotal role in this country. Some of the well-known international NGOs promote this role but looks none of local NGO's business. This role can be uplifted through trainings organized by special institutions with proper structures. Well-known figures of socio-religious sectors can play their part in this regard.

5 Conclusion

The focus of the current study was to assess the role of NGO'S in relief and rehabilitation in the aftermath of 2008 earthquake in district Ziarat, Baluchistan. A sample size of 103 respondents was achieved through a self-structured questionnaire and was questioned about the roles of NGOs. The overall responses off this study met the criterion of ideal working principles of a given NGO despite certain number of shortcomings. Most of the respondents reacted positively towards relief camp, protection of the family members, food receiving, medical team performance and aid for construction. A negative response was observed while finding out the role of NGOs in sectors of treating person with disabilities, land tenure difficulties, gender discrimination, Trainings, facilities to pregnant women, role of BHU and financial relief.

While responses regarding domains of mechanism of action, educational relief, fund for disaster management were found to be on borderline. This study revealed that 48 percent of the respondents had a high qualification of Masters may be responsible for the positive answers regarding some of the major domains of this study. Handling educated communities is comparatively easy for the NGOs affecting the performance of the working bodies. The negative association in this study is mainly due to poor socioeconomic status of the respondents of the area. Trainings provided to the people by NGOs was least develop area which might be due to lack of human resource and time. One major reasons for this domain to be substandard is also due to lack of interest in general public. The above conducted study can be extended to other districts as well with a broader sample size. Moreover domains of trainings, special attention to persons

with disabilities and relief fund providence can be improved with proper management most importantly by increasing human resource in NGOs.

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