

district or grassroots levels, either through their own staff or the staff of other NGOs. Some also perform a facilitation role similar to those in the first category.

District/Regional Facilitating/Implementing NGOs carry out both functions, but restrict their geographical coverage. Some larger NGOs in this category cover five or more districts; the smaller ones operate in only one or two districts.

Grassroots NGOs are registered within a district and confine their activities to one ward or several Village Development Committees.

While all NGOs are supposed to report their annual programs and plans, sources of funding and achievements to the Social Welfare Council, many don't. All NGOs have boards of directors or executive committees that decide policy issues. The executive directors, many of whom are also members of the board, are responsible for day-to-day management. Many NGOs now hire skilled, professional managers to direct their activities.

With the growth and sophistication of the sector, NGOs have become an important player in the field of international development. Generally, NGO employees are respected, even though they have less power and

prestige than their counterparts in government or the private sector. Increasingly, the Government of Nepal has invited NGO professionals to attend policy discussions, an indication of the sector's growing importance and legitimacy.

Perspective of your partner

Your Nepalese partner's perspective will vary, depending on the type of NGO where he or she works. The points mentioned below are valid for most district/regional and grassroots level organizations.

You will find your NGO partners far more positive than public sector bureaucrats. They will be eager and willing to learn from you, and may treat you with the respect they would accord a guru. Generally, they will appreciate your interventions and guidance.

Because of the difficult nature of their job and the hardships they must endure in remote areas, your NGO partners at the district and regional levels will appreciate encouragement, patience and sensitivity on your part, and an occasional pat on the back. They will expect you to assist them with proposal and report writing, areas in which they may be weak. As your NGO partners operating at the national level are more sophisticated, they may expect "expert" advice from you, such