

UK SUDANESE GRADUATES CONFERENCE (SGC-UK)
YOUTH LEADERS EXPLORING CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUDAN

The Role of Development NGOs in Sudan, in Light of The Current Authoritarian Regime

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Setting the grounds

- ▶ Background
 - ▶ Context
 - ▶ Terminology (Development NGOs & Authoritarian States)

- ▶ Main question to be answered:

To what extent are NGOs able to contribute to the development of Sudan under the current authoritarian regime?

Authoritarian states and NGOs around the Globe

- ▶ Examples:

- ▶ Africa

- ▶ Asia

- ▶ Lesson learned

- ▶ Authoritarian States were never successful in completely demolishing NGOs without fulfilling the role of the State in service provision.

Case Study: Sudan

- ▶ The history about NGOs in Sudan
- ▶ The situation since 1989
- ▶ The current issues
- ▶ Who is leading development in Sudan and who can solve the issues?
Let's ask the stakeholders!

One side of the story

- ▶ National NGOs

- ▶ International NGOs

The other side of the story

- ▶ Governmental NGOs

- ▶ The Government

Other stakeholders

- ▶ The wider Civil Society
- ▶ Academia

Overall Findings

- ▶ Extreme levels of hostility by the Sudanese regime against NGOs and other civil society components. With HAC being a tool to control, monitor and suppress NGOs.
- ▶ Evident gaps in communication within civil society components and with the government.
- ▶ NGOs are suffering from various internal issues that are not necessarily caused by the regime. Therefore, they became weak and fragile, struggling to act as a counterbalance to the government's power.
- ▶ Nevertheless, NGOs in Sudan have proven to have a considerable and vital role in the development field despite all the internal and external challenges, particularly with the absence of the government's role in services provision.

Recommendations



- ▶ Forming proactive and effective civil society networks and alliances in Sudan, with the support of the the international community.
- ▶ Enhancing NGOs advocacy skills and building their campaigning capacities, in order to reach out to grassroots and connect with them.
- ▶ Investing in collaborations between NGOs and research centres and academics to conduct periodic studies about the situation in Sudan.
- ▶ Using the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a platform to engage the government and NGOs in joint activities (SDG no. 17).



Thank you!

Please share your questions
and feedback! 😊