

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

Far-reaching political changes at the international area towards the end of the 1980s opened up new ways for Non-governmental Organizations (NGOs) and their activity in the international area. With the end of the Cold War and the related opening of the Iron Curtain, their room for manoeuvre was especially expanded. Moreover the technological advances of the past decades have allowed the growth and involvement of national and international NGOs to act even further on the international political scene. Most notably, in previously unprecedented steps, the creation and distribution of the World Wide Web (WWW) and E-mail has allowed for a simple inexpensive and unrestricted exchange of knowledge, which can not only be used by elites but can reach wider parts of society (Committee et al., 2010).

Today, NGOs are fundamentally involved in all foreign relations systems, results, and policy fields. Human rights NGOs, for instance, provides UN commissions and committees with useful information on abuses, environmental NGOs provide expertise during environmental treaty negotiation processes, and humanitarian NGOs assist states and intergovernmental

organizations (IGOs) in project implementation (Committee et al., 2010).

Non-state actors such as international non-governmental organization is also involved in purposing their ideas to focus on marine pollution issue. Significant contributions of international non-governmental organization influence the issue at global and domestic level. Through various of media such as research, publication, and one of the famous media that used by NGOs is through campaign. As development progresses, many varieties of Non-governmental Organizations emerge in different type of scopes such as Human Rights, health, environment, gender, education, etc. They operate outside of government control and it is non-profit, private organizations. Some of them even rely and operated by volunteers meanwhile other NGOs have staff that are paid (Folger, 2020).

While any non-governmental organizations in developing countries use foreign workers, others depend on local employees or volunteers. International employees can satisfy a donor who wants to see an individual from a developed country manage the sponsored project. Several factors may counterbalance the expertise of these employees or volunteers, it could be the cost of foreigners are usually higher, they have no grassroots contacts in the region, and local expertise may be undervalued (Criteria, 2007).

As a result of the reform of the welfare state, the rapid growth of the non-governmental sector has taken place in Western countries. After the collapse of the communist regime, the globalization of that process took place and was

an important part of the Washington Consensus (Zaleski, 2012). Globalization in the twentieth century has increased the importance of NGOs. Capitalist interests have been the subject of international treaties and organisations, such as the World Trade Organization. NGOs emphasize humanitarian concerns, development assistance, and sustainable development to counterbalance this trend (Bartlett, 2004).

The word “NGO” is used inconsistently; it is often a synonym for any group created by citizens of a civil society organization. In certain countries, NGOs are classified as non-profit organisations, and often political parties and trade unions are considered NGOs. Non-governmental Organizations are grouped by orientation and degree of operation; orientation refers to the type of operations carried out by it. Human rights, consumer protection, environmentalism, health or growth may be included in the activities. The level of activity of it shows the degree to which an entity operates: local, regional, national or international (Vakil, 1997). In 1945, because of the need for the UN to distinguish in its Charter between participation rights for intergovernmental specialized agencies and those for foreign private nearly all forms of private bodies as Non-governmental Organizations at the UN (Willetts, 2006).

Because of this globalization era, many NGOs emerged from different sectors or focus of their aim. One of the NGOs that focus on humanitarian is *İnsan Hak ve Hürriyetleri ve İnsani Yardım Vakfı* or in English The Foundation for Human Rights and Freedom and Humanitarian

Relief) or IHH. IHH is a conservative Turkish NGO whose members are mostly Turkish Muslims focusing on areas providing humanitarian relief on war, earthquake, famine, and conflict (Spencer, 2010). Turkey, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, South America, Central Asia, South Asia, and the Caucasus are regions that IHH active in. Since 2004, IHH has retained special consultative status at the United Nations Economic and Social Council as an NGO (Foundation for Human Rights and Freedoms and Humanitarian Relief, 2010).

The IHH seeks to reach any country impacted by conflicts, disasters, poverty and violations of human rights, and believes that, in addition to involvement by states and international organizations in the resolution of humanitarian problems, civilian initiatives play a complementary role. It is also their aim to provide all citizens with humanitarian assistance and to take the appropriate measures to prevent any abuses of their fundamental rights and freedoms (Secretary, 2009). By providing food, clothing and tents to crisis regions ravaged by wars, conflicts and natural disasters, these aims are accomplished in order to meet the immediate needs of victims. Furthermore, IHH offers health services in regions suffering from drought and aridity, where poverty and hunger have become chronic, and carries out long-term initiatives aimed at helping local people to stand on their own feet (Secretary, 2009).

IHH plays a significant role in humanitarian aids and it is proven on its official website. IHH provides social assistance, Muslim cultural help, educational aid, sanitary aid,

emergency aid services, one of the countries is Africa ("We Started from Bosnia and Reached 120 Countries", 2010). It provides health care and built 1174 water wells in Africa, also the Africa Cataract Project which began in 2007. For thousands of people who suffer from cataracts but do not have the financial resources to be handled, IHH has made it possible to see again (IHH Afrika'ya 392 su kuyusu acti!, 2010). Besides cataract, there are also two more project that done by IHH, which are water wells and famine.

The reason why IHH focus more on Africa is because Africa is known as one of the poor continents, and Africa is also experiencing various problems such as famine, hunger, water problem, etc. Because of these various problems lead to vulnerability to diseases. An African is more prone to it than a person living in any other continent. An increase in disease prevalence has resulted in a need for government medical assistance (Richard Mahapatra, 2018). Droughts and famines have plagued the continent, and unending conflicts that have disrupted settled lives and crucial basic infrastructures (Richard Mahapatra, 2018).

Their effects on overall health are now showing up in frightening ways. According to the 2018 Global Hunger Index, Africa has the ten countries with the highest under-five mortality rate in the world. Seven of them are unstable states, wracked by disputes that prevent governments from functioning (Richard Mahapatra, 2018). Improving health and working standards is one of Africa's top priorities. Despite significant development in recent years, Africa

remains the continent with the worst medical care and living conditions. As a result, the average life expectancy in the country is just 62.8 years, compared to 81 years in the European Union. Poverty, the high prevalence of AIDS, occasional violent wars, a shortage of clean water, and inadequate access to proper healthcare are all factors at play (Tachev, 2020).

The Africa Cataract Project (ACP) is a blindness prevention mission for the Turkish NGO, IHH in Africa. In ten African countries; Sudan, Ethiopia, Somalia, Chad, Niger, Togo, Benin, Ghana, Mali, and Burkina Faso, the project aims to undertake 100,000 free cataract surgery operations. This project emerged because the number of cataracts in Africa is quite high, 7.6 billion Africans and 235 million of the total population are blind and 66 million of blind people suffer from cataract (IHH, 2017). Volunteer Turkish surgeons and nurses took part in the project and travel to African countries for surgery. Providing free eye care for vulnerable people is one of the program's priorities. The project is being funded by the Turkish Foreign Cooperation and Development Agency and the Ministries of Health of Turkey and Sudan. (IHH, 2017)

The IHH launched the water wells project to resolve the water scarcity issue in Africa, as part of which 2936 water wells have so far been opened. The drilling of 766 water wells in various parts of Africa is still underway. IHH has made it possible for thousands of people to have access to safe and potable water by opening 530 water wells in Africa, Central Asia, and the Far

East in 2011. IHH aims to prevent diseases caused by unhygienic water consumption and to make it easy for individuals to access clean water by opening water wells in the area. 56 water wells were opened by IHH in Gina, Chad, Bangladesh, Ethiopia and Somalia in June 2011 (IHH, IHH Inaugurates 56 New Water Wells in Africa, 2011).

In addition to IHH's awareness projects, IHH began its relief activities in April 2011 to tackle the region's onset of drought and famine and distributed 19.4 tons of emergency food products, rice, and sugar, and cooking oil to 7,050 people in the region of Lower Shabelle and Middle Shabelle. In early July 2011, IHH officially announced and released its "East Africa Crisis Appeal" to support the IHH response to aid people in Somalia suffering from drought and famine in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia to survive in search of food (Foundation, 2011).

B. Research Question

From the background that has been described previously, it can be said that the subject matter: "*How did IHH contribute towards the emergency aids in Africa 2007-2017?*"

C. Theoretical Framework

A frame of mind is very much needed in a scientific analysis and it can be in the form of theory, model, or idea. In this thesis, writer use

Grassroot Development NGO by David C. Korten. A theory is an abstract or generalizing form of contemplative and logical thought about a phenomenon, or the consequences of such thinking. Theories may be either scientific or non-scientific. The findings may for instance, provide generalized descriptions of how nature works, depending on the context (Science & Medicine, 2008).

According to Mohtar Mas'od book *Ilmu Hubungan Internasional: Disiplin dan Metodologi*, theory is a viewpoint or interpretation of what is going on. The creation of trustworthy and factual information is based on good theory. Theory allows one to explain political events, and it also helps to make practical choices while doing so (Mas'od, 1990).

Grassroot Development NGO by David C. Korten explains that NGOs that include into the category are rather participatory, with priority given to development issues rather than advocacy for their activities. These non-governmental organizations' actions do not intervene with the democratic process, but they have a keen interest in shaping government policy. Generally, NGOs of this sort are not very large and many are local (Karakteristik LSM, 2015).

NGOs which are categorized as this type, generally play an active role in High Level Partnership issues, such as health, humanitarian, social, education, etc. The NGO helped the government or the state in handling the problem or issue in that state. Like the case in Africa, IHH helped Africa government in handling the humanitarian issue by providing services, funds,

infrastructure, etc. High Level Partnership is marked by collaboration, issue (mostly social issues), and non-frontal. IHH collaborates with Africa's government and also other non-governmental organization or other international organization. This type of NGO has a role to help the poor who need assistance, especially in humanitarian, health, and social assistance. The issues that handled by IHH are mostly about social or humanitarian issues, but in Africa IHH focus on health aid for the needs. In this Grassroots Development model, mostly the NGOs are non-frontal, means that they use a non-frontal approach about the issue to the government or the civil society especially in health issue NGOs can not use a frontal approach.

The connection between Grassroot Development model and the research, is that Grassroot Development explains about a NGO helps to develop a certain state without having a disagreement with the government. Like the health aid in Africa, IHH work together with Africa government to tackle the health issue. Besides working together with the government, IHH also work together with other global or international organizations to help the Africans. Although this type of NGO do not have a great power as other actors, their role is also important enough to mobilize the mass in terms of humanitarian assistance.

IHH which is an NGO with a mission to give all needy and oppressed the chance of a dignified life while delivering aid wherever they are an its vision to pioneer the humanitarian work globally is categorized as Grassroot Development

NGO. IHH tries to help those in need to have a better life and to deliver aids in the name of humanity by making several programs and build infrastructures.

D. Hypothesis

IHH contributes to the emergency aid in Africa by:

1. Collaborating and engaging with non-governmental organizations and international organization to participate with them in Africa.
2. Delivering the health aids to several issue in Africa, IHH collaborates with African government and African society.

E. Purpose of Research

Based on the research question above, it can be concluded that the purpose of this research are:

1. Find out about IHH's efforts in dealing with the health problems in Africa.
2. To find out whether IHH's effort is successful in overcoming the problems.

F. Research Methodology

The approaches, procedures or techniques used to collect data or information for

analysis in order to uncover new knowledge or to provide a deeper understanding of a certain subject is called research method (Cohen, 2007).

1. Types of Research

This analysis uses descriptive research, which explains how something occurred or accurately describes current data.

2. Types of Data

The data sources used were secondary data. The knowledge was obtained through a literature review. The literature study material was gathered from books, libraries, journals, research papers, reports from government and non-government organizations, website/e-news, and documents related to the subject.

3. Data Collecting Methods

The method used in the preparation of this thesis is a qualitative method, which emphasizes on understanding of the problems in social life based on the existing reality conditions researched.

G. Scope of Research

To make it easier for the writer to analyze the problem, the writer needs to make boundaries in the discussion or research. Since

deals with many humanitarian problems, this research only takes the humanitarian issue in Africa with the Africa Cataract Project, Water Wells, Famine, and also Orphans. Meanwhile the place of research is also limited, namely on in few countries of Africa, which are Togo, Benin, Mali, Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Niger, Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somali. Whereas research time limit namely from 2007 until 2017, with the African Cataract Project goal of 100,000 cataract surgeries in 2017.

H. System of Writing

Chapter I In this chapter contains introduction which includes; background of the problem, research question, the theoretical framework, the hypothesis, the purpose of writing, the research methods, the scope of research, and the systematic of writing.

Chapter II In this chapter will discuss on IHH's humanitarian aids historical background, health problems in Africa and Africa's government weakness in handling the health issue.

Chapter III In this chapter will discuss how international communities or organizations respond to the health problem in Africa, how the IHH respond to the problem, IHH's collaboration with other international

organization and the advantage that IHH get from the humanitarian aids action.

Chapter IV In this chapter is closing and conclusion from the research.