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## **CLASSIFYING NGOS: HOW TO TELL THE WEAK FROM THE STRONG**

### **Abstract:**

International Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) come in all shapes and sizes – anywhere from a one or two person staff with a nice web page to a multi- million Euro organization with thousands of employees and offices all over the planet. With literally thousands of NGOs operating all over the world it is increasingly difficult if not impossible for foundations and other funding sources to differentiate between the different types of NGO and the ability of a particular NGO to be able to complete the projects or other activities for which they may be requesting funding. This study develops a classification system that categorizes NGO by type, resources, organization, hierarchy and other attributes all in a way that will allow other organizations to judge the ability of a particular NGO to carry out a particular task.

### **Keywords:**

non-governemtal organization, organizational theory. philanthropy

**JEL Classification:** L31