Tentative Analysis of the Comparison between Chinese and American NGO in Providing Public Services

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ABSTRACT. This paper mainly compares the differences between Chinese and American NGO in providing public services. There are great differences in the scope of public services, personnel composition, sources of funds, service mode, service system and interest relationship between the two countries. In order to effectively promote the modernization of China's public service system, we should strengthen the sorting out of the differences between the two NGO systems in the modern era. It can analyze the existing NGO system in many aspects, reflect on the existing defects, and learn from the relevant advanced systems. On the basis of the existing public service system, China will further build a win-win situation of cooperation between the people's government and NGO.

Keywords: NGO of Chinese and American; public services; difference analysis

1. Information

The organization is mainly intended to promote the development of social productivity, economic forms and commercial trade. These types of public services are expected to be provided by the government. However, in order to ensure the quality of services, many countries in the world including China have transferred some of the contents of the operating system of NGO. The public services provided by NGO can need to be further improved on the basis of the original supply of public goods so as to empower the government and bureaucrats to the people. Therefore, the system design of NGO is commonly used in various countries. In addition, the organization has maintained a good cooperative relationship with the U.S. federal government since its establishment, which is worth to know. In order to further promote the development of non-governmental organizations in China, systematic comparison and analysis should be carried out based on international cases, so as to better check and fill in the gaps, widely participate in the public service system, and achieve the sustainable development of a harmonious society.
2. Differences In The Scope of Public Services Provided By Chinese and American NGO

2.1 American NGO public services

When designing the scope of NGO services in the United States, there are no definite limits. The characteristics of public service are explained as follows: first, there is diversity in the field of public service. According to the types of public services provided by the United States, NGO include public social services, education, medical and health care, housing, laws and regulations, employment and construction of civilization. Cultural entertainment and educational research accounted for the highest proportion of NGO public services. It should be noted that the United States focuses on the construction of public services on the two sectors of health care and quality education. According to relevant studies, about a quarter of NGO staff is engaged in public health care and one fifth of their work in science education. Second, public service objects are extensive. In fact, when providing public services, American NGO not only focusses on the poor or socially disadvantaged groups, but also pay attention to other social groups. For example, about one third of the people served by NGO in the United States are low income groups. One in five is in the low-income group; others have no income. Thus, it can be seen that the public services provided by American NGO are extensive in terms of object selection, and serve members of the civic community in a wide range. In a real sense, the republic is realized.

2.2 Public services in scope of Chinese NGO

Compared with American, Chinese NGO public service started relatively late. However, with great attention and construction of the country, the development is also rapid. Considering the reality, the public services provided by China have the following two characteristics: first, the scope of public services is concentrated in the field of public social life. According to relevant studies, the scope of NGO activities in China has developed with the growth of time and is gradually developing in various fields such as public society, ecological construction, medical care, compulsory education and poverty alleviation. Among them, NGO is still involved in social service, investigation and research activities, behavior and academic teams. Second, uneven development and restricted activity areas. The unbalanced development of NGO is reflected in the uneven geographical distribution. On the one hand, China provides a wide range of public services in economically developed areas, while some remote mountainous areas or economically backward townships. The limitation of geographical location hinders the development of the public service system. On the other hand, Chinese NGO pays less attention to vulnerable groups in society. Most of the public services have certain benefits, which can only be enjoyed by charging fees, such as social services, industrial associations and so on.


2.2 Chinese NGO public services

The characteristics of the sources and members of Chinese NGO public service funds are mainly analyzed in the following aspects: first, the sources of NGO funds depend on the government. Compared with the United States, the sources of NGO funds in China are relatively simple. A large proportion of them all come from the government, which leads to the imbalance of the structure of organizational sources of funds. According to relevant research data, about half of the fund sources of NGO in China come from government subsidies, while other forms, such as social donations, service fee, business income and so on, account for a small proportion. Second, the total amount of funds raised by NGO in China is small, so they cannot provide multi-type and comprehensive range of social services, and the quality of services is also affected by funds. Third, there is no resource sharing among NGO of different types. Generally speaking, official or semi-official NGO has more resources, while some non-official NGO cannot grasp effective resources. Fourth, compared with the United States, the number of NGO volunteers in China is lesser, and they cannot provide effective public health services in practice. In terms of the number, the number of volunteers involved in the public service supply system in China is very small. Even some NGO do not have volunteers to participate in the active construction. In some economically developed cities, volunteers only account for 2% of the resident population. Fifth, the composition of NGO volunteers in China is not scientific. In the composition of NGO volunteers in China, age structure and education level are unreasonable. Generally speaking, the groups involved are mainly teenagers and the elderly, so it is impossible to improve the professionalism and skills of public services effectively.

3. A comparison of NGO provides public services ways between Chinese and American

3.1 The system and methods of NGO public services in the United States

The US government's support for NGO to provide public services is mainly reflected in financial subsidies, taxes, service fee and other relevant regulations. According to relevant studies, the US federal government mainly promotes NGO public services through financial subsidies, local government subsidies and other ways. Direct subsidy assistance and contract outsourcing are the two most common forms. In terms of direct subsidy assistance, it can be divided into three ways: (1) financial subsidies are provided to NGO by institutions mentioned by the US government, such as the American scientific foundation. Subsidies are provided to NGO through state and local governments in the United States. For example, health services activities related to drug abuse are funded by state and local governments in the United States. (3) Provide subsidies directly to those in needing of services. For example, in public services of health care and education, service institutions can
choose relevant NGO service projects and receive subsidies directly.

Outsourcing is another common NGO service model in the United States, which is often used in public services such as medical care, municipal road maintenance, child care and environmental protection. In the past, it was mainly contract outsourcing, which was dominated by the U.S. government to restrain the behavior of NGO through outsourcing contracts. However, this approach tends to cause conflicts between the US government and NGO, forming an antagonistic relationship and affecting service efficiency. Therefore, this mode is gradually updated into performance-based outsourcing mode, which can clarify the responsibilities of the government and NGO in public services and give them more flexibility.

In addition, in order to further effectively promote the development of public service, the US government has designed and implemented the public service system. For example, the tax exemption system for NGO public services has been established. Carry out the purchase of volunteer insurance, so that volunteers or related teams participating in public service can enjoy the social insurance benefits. In addition, NGO also design service systems in the process of providing public services, so as to ensure the legitimacy and rationality of service undertaking under these norms.

3.2 The system and methods of NGO public service in China

Chinese NGO undertakes public service projects mainly through the following three ways: contract system, project application system and direct application system. Under the contract contracting system, government departments are the constructors, and NGO sign project contracts with the government, and perform and assume the liability risks stipulated in the contract; the project application system is an initiative for NGO to apply for service projects; the direct application system means that when NGO provide social public services, the government directly provides a certain amount of funds or assistance in policy. To sum up, there are mainly these kinds of NGO public service systems in China, but in the context of China's current national conditions, the contract system is the most widely used. However, from the perspective of actual development, there have been some problems affecting the effective development of the contract system, including the following aspects: (1) Limited channels, many NGO cannot effectively undertake the public service projects of government departments. NGO can be contracted mainly make those that are close to government departments, and it is very difficult for those without government background to participate. (2) The terms of the contract were not designed in a comprehensive way. Emphasizing only the responsibilities of NGO and rarely involving the responsibilities of the government in public services. (3) There are problems in the contract bidding, such as the bidding process is not standard. The relevant information is not effectively open, or there are dark box operation and other problems. In view of the above problems, Chinese NGO and the government are aware of the above defects and gradually launch improved policy
documents aimed at promoting the public service of NGO. However, in order to improve effectively, this is not a quick work, so it is necessary to track and observe the improvement effect and make dynamic adjustment in time. At the same time, some American systems and methods can be appropriately used for reference, and experience can be learned to promote the deepening of China's NGO public service.

4. Conclusion

To sum up, this paper conducts a systematic study on the differences between Chinese and American NGO public services. This paper makes a comparative analysis of the aspects of public service scope, personnel composition, fund source, service mode, service system and government interest relationship. It can be clearly seen from the above analysis that the public services provided by Chinese NGO have certain similarities with those provided by American NGO. For example: the service target is not only the socially vulnerable groups; the main sources of capital are government investment and so on. However, there is a greater difference between the two countries, and the reason is that there are certain differences in politics, culture and economy between China and the United States. Therefore, in order to further effectively promote the development of China's public service undertaking, it is necessary to select and learn from the targeted, and promote the continuous improvement of China's relevant systems.

References