

*Following are some thoughts provided by conference participants to the question and conference theme, "What makes a good NGO?"*

*"...staying focused on your vision and purpose..."*

*"... strong leadership with a well defined strategic vision ..."*

*"...empowered to relate to implementing partners in ways that will support, protect, and enhance the mission..."*

*"...flexibility to modify programs to meet evolving needs..."*

*"... the ability to regularly gather field staff together to share and capture successful implementation experiences..."*

*"... works in partnership with surrounding community, government and other relevant interest groups and NGOs ..."*

*"... realistic, but ambitious objectives ..."*

*"...strong leadership with a well defined strategic vision..."*

*"...a strategy for sustainable growth, cost-effectiveness and efficiency..."*

*"... one that integrates local civil society when implementing programs on the ground ..."*

*"...effective collaboration and networking..."*

*"...sound management practices and systems..."*

*"...high impact programs that make a difference in people's lives..."*

*"...transparency and accountability..."*

*"...commitment, as well as the ability to execute..."*

*"...honesty makes a good NGO..."*

*"...engaging constituency..."*

*"...effective financial management..."*

*"...planning, implementing, and adapting to change..."*

*"...the ability to reflect on their practice..."*

*"...the ability to implement sustainable systems and solutions with accountable partners..."*

*"...passion, vision, and dedication..."*

*"...clear and transparent governance..."*

*"...staying focused on your vision..."*

*"...not trying to be 'all things to all people' but contributing a real value-add ..."*

*"...shared respect among organizations..."*

*"...sound management practices and systems..."*

*"...commitment to the people, not just the task..."*

*"...accountability to beneficiaries..."*

*"...understanding of local issues..."*

*"...quality leadership..."*

*"...patience and passion for the desired goal..."*

*"...generous and creative spirit..."*

*"...programs with a permanent lasting effect, in and of themselves, or programs that will be carried on by the host country..."*

*"...coordination among stakeholders..."*

*"...results-based management approach..."*

*“...providing quality services...”*

*“...respect for the local culture...”*

*“...supportive board of trustees...”*

*“...adaptability to change...”*

*“...partnering with local agencies...”*

*“...good in-country knowledge...”*

*“...strong technical people who provide oversight to program implementation...”*

*“...good monitoring and evaluation...”*

*“...being concerned with the needs of the people...”*

*“...efficient and accountable in the use of resources...”*

*“...one with participatory management...”*

*“...working for the community...”*

*“...understanding the population being served...”*

*“...solid funding base...”*

*“...devoted volunteers...”*

*“...not trying to be ‘all things to all people’ but contributing a real value-add ...”*

*“...collaboration between groups...”*

*“...cultural understanding...”*

*“...financial management and programmatic accountability to stakeholders...”*

*“...dedication to a clear, focused mission...”*