



The Critical Roll for NGO to push for progress.-

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How do we know today if
NGO's can push for
progress?



A Case Study from GRMF - Uruguay

Situation:

- The Gonzalo Rodriguez Memorial Foundation was created to honor Uruguay's foremost sports hero
- In 2001 just 8% of state schools had sports activities.
- The GRMF promoted sports as a social and educational tool for state schools.

Objective:

- Stimulate the government and the community to act responsibly on this issue
- Stimulate the right government sectors to adopt desired policies.
- Inform and educate the parliament.
- Demonstrate the desired outcomes, provide an example.
- Generate celebrity support and media advocacy.

Results:

- Now 50% of the state schools have sports and a National Law is about to be passed to make it mandatory in state schools.

NGO's help governments to focus their actions



- “NGO’s can play a very important role in democratic and representative governments. Of course they do not replace the elected authorities but they help them to focus their actions. The task of a modern government is very complex and society often feels that the government is not paying due attention to some problems. NGO’s can act in very agile way, generally free to jump over bureaucratic hurdles and approach the subject—and the solution—to suggest who must fulfil the task. This happened with the sports issue in Uruguay through the very positive role that the Gonzalo Rodriguez Foundation has fulfilled, always effective and attentive to that kind of problem.”

Luis Alberto Lacalle, former President of Uruguay



How do we push for progress?



Our succesfull strategy:

- Working together as a TEAM
- Knowing the real needs
- Inspiring
- Supporting
- Evaluating and criticizing constructively
- Cooperating
- Informing



Which tools do NGO's have?



We can:

- Interact with different social strata or levels.
- Conduct independent research and evaluations
- Develop alternative solutions through trial and error.
- Promote collaboration among various sectors.
- Engage the media.
- Engage early, before the Government gets involved or acts.
- Change quickly in response to social needs.



Recommendations for NGO's



To Be:

- Transparent
- Independent
- Honest
- Loyal
- An example
- Able to listen, cooperate and propose.
- Passionate

• To be an NGO....



*Thank you for your
time and attention.*

Questions?