

GOODGIVE: FLEXIBLE AND INTEGRATED CROWDFUNDING
PLATFORM FOR CHARITY

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My humble effort, I dedicate to

My parents,

Hj. Mukhtar & Hjh. Patimah, family

For the support & prayers every day that keeps me going.

My dedicated supervisor,

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nor Azman and Dr. Umar Haiyat

For your guidance & assistance till I can complete the thesis.

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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, it is hard for a non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to collect fund when they organizing a charity event or a community services. The traditional ways which require funder to go to the automated teller machines (ATM) to transfer their fund or directly go to the NGOs offices makes people hard to donate. People also tend not to donate because they are not convinced by the advertised news and worried it might be a scam. By using GoodGive, the NGOs and society need not to worry anymore because GoodGive provide a platform for NGOs to advertise the charity or community services they held and enable society to make fund via Internet banking, debit card, credit card and Touch N Go card. GoodGive also practice integrity and transparent basis while handling the donations. Waterfall model has been selected as the system methodology to be used for this proposed system development. The result shows this platform has been proven to be able to help the NGOs in raising funds.

ABSTRAK

Mencari dana adalah bukan satu perkara yang mudah buat NGO untuk membantu golongan yang memerlukan. Secara tradisionalnya, pemberi dana perlu ke pejabat NGO untuk membuat sumbangan atau penderma perlu ke bank untuk memindahkan wang ke akaun NGO. Hal ini menyukarkan orang awam untuk membuat dermaan. Selain itu, keraguan orang ramai terhadap iklan atau maklumat mengenai kempen juga menyukarkan NGO untuk meraih dana. Dengan menggunakan platform GoodGive, NGO dan masyarakat tidak perlu risau lagi kerana platform ini memudahkan orang ramai membuat dermaan dengan pelbagai cara seperti Perbankan atas talian, Kad Kredit, Kad Debit dan juga Kad Touch N Go. GoodGive mengamalkan integriti dan ketelusan dalam pengurusan dana. GoodGive telah menggunakan metodologi “Waterfall” dalam kitaran hayat pembangunan perisian. Hasil kajian, GoodGive didapati mampu membantu NGO untuk meraih dana dengan lebih berkesan.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Overview

NGOs in Malaysia are one of the key players in the building of a civil society. The term NGOs here is understood to refer to those organizations that are officially established, run by employed staff (often urban professionals or expatriate), well supported (by domestic or, as is more often the case, international funding and that often relatively large and well-resourced). NGOs played an important role in raising social concerns, developing awareness of social issues and promoting sustainable campaigns . The development of NGOs has witnessed increasing involvement and exposure in recent years.

Such organizations must operate as a non-profit group, in that respect, NGOs are meant to be financially independent. Ranganathan and Henley (2008) have reported that charities have to depend on individual donors and less on the government for fundraising in order to survive in the competition In reality it is a difficult task, they must raise funding from businesses and/or from private sources such as public donor.

In challenging economic conditions today, raising fund is not an easy mission for them. Various ways have been done by NGOs in raising funds . As the programs and projects of NGOs expand, the need for money to run their operations becomes all the more critical.

Today, with the fast development of the computer science and IT, especially the Internet, a new way of funding arose: crowdfunding. Crowdfunding platforms could be seen as intermediaries between donors and beneficiaries. . With crowdfunding becoming more popular as a successful alternative to traditional funding methods, it becomes crucial for NGOs to use this platform. This research takes an initial step towards filling in this gap.

1.2 Background of the Study

In the recent years, when disaster occurs such as floods, tsunami, or a plane crash, many authorities such as NGOs will lend a hand to the victims of the disaster. When dealing with big disaster such as tsunami, they need the help from everyone as well from the authorities and even citizen, combined together to cooperate in helping the victims.

One of the main problem in raising funds is people find it hard to give donation in cash as they did not bring enough cash to donate. It is because people often bring money in cash to spend for a week or less, usually most of them is used to buy food or others necessities. So, for only that amount of money, do you think it is enough to get more fund from an individual? Because sometimes we don't know when the donation will be held and for that reason, we didn't prepare enough money to donate. Taking aside the possibilities to transfer fund online and etc, we will discuss it in the next point.

Secondly, in this modern era, apart from organising campaign at the school, university, mosque, and others attractive spot to raise fund, the NGOs have started to use other alternative, such as media sosial to spread the messages for increasing the donation to help the victim that needing all the help that they can get from us. In the messages, usually its states that to donate a fund, people can bank-in or making online money transfer to certain bank account to perform the donation. The problem is, people in the society might feels afraid to donate because of they fear fraud or scam may happen. In these days, there are many scamming occurs in the social media from people that want to take advantages by using the same messages spread from the NGOs, but changing the account number to the scammer's account number for own self-interest. For the lots of efforts from NGOs and others authorities that spreading the messages for society to have awareness, have come to strain because of this scammers. When the people in society know the scammers true intention, this will make them lose their trust to believe in the messages from the true NGOs that needing our funds for their campaign. This is one of the problem we want to highlight in this proposal. Where are the policies to spread the messages for asking donation? What are aspect that the sender of messages need to have for the society to believe that the messages is comes from trusted agency? The solution from this problem is, we need a platform, that are reliable and authorised to deal with the trust issue. To solve the trust issues is one of our research aim for this project.

Next, regarding the trust issues discussed in the earlier paragraphs, people will curious to know where their fund will be distributed or used for the campaign. Even donating is all about the sincerity from the heart to help others who are in trouble, but we also need to know that our donation is spread to the right source, so that the donation will not be abused.

After a disaster occur, there will be many NGOs and other authorities that will help victims. Because the disaster is happened suddenly, we didn't prepare physically and mentally to face this tragedy. Some of us maybe losing our loved one, our property and others. So, to help them, we need to give our help as soon as possible. When the NGOs organise a campaign to raise fund, its usually takes

sometimes to get enough fund to be distributed to the victims. Usually to collect a donation, for an example like a massive flood, we need quite a large amount of donation funds to cover all the victims involved in the incident. So, this makes the victims late on receiving funds and make it difficult for them to live after the disaster that caused them to suffer.

Also, from the campaign organised from the NGOs, we can see the problem arise from this method is there are maybe a probability of fund misappropriation to happen in higher chances. This is because sometimes there are too many person in charge for a campaign and one of them have bad intention to use the donating fund for their own selfish self-interest. Yes, this is volunteering activities, people that volunteer themselves to help others, but we don't know what really in their head, what really their true goals and intentions in doing this volunteering jobs.

Moreover, legitness on certain campaign is unclear or unknown. This is leading us back to the trust issues. Many campaign organised by the NGOs is legit and can be trusted, but there are some of them is still unclear or as we see, is hard to put our trust at that campaign. For example, maybe the information for the disaster is outdated or lack of evidence, that makes us to doubt their legitness. This make us difficult to give donation because of the trust issue. We want to help the victim but at the same time, we worried that our donation might be abused for other purposes.

1.3 Problem Statement

There is a lot of people who really needs help neglected. Some of them not exposed to the social media. Besides, some of people take an advantage on social media for their interest. So, to counter both problems we need a legit site for only registered NGOs can access and advertise their charity or community activities in order to gain fund.

The major problem is people find it hard to donate because they need to go to the ATM machines in order to transfer the fund or even go to the NGOs office to make fund. This is such a nuisance and time consuming. Other than that, society also afraid to donate to unknown campaign held by individuals because worry that the campaign is actually a scam.

Next, advertising campaign in the media social may urge danger. Irresponsible individuals may change the details of the campaign by changing the account number to theirs' or use the old campaign poster in order to scam people. Usually, donors do not know what happen to the donations that they had donate. This might raises a question mark how did the donations is spent on.

Problem that always faced by NGOs is to raise fund on time. If this happens, the campaign may not be a success and the objective of the campaign will not be achieved. Misappropriation issues also unavoidable if there are too many people in charge in campaign held.

1.4 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as follow:

- 1.4.1** To develop prototype of crowdfunding platform for NGO to fundraising.
- 1.4.2** To proposed a business model of flexible and integrated crowdfunding.
- 1.4.3** To evaluate the effectiveness of the platform to help NGO in fundraising.

1.5 Scope of Study

The main focus of the study is to use approach of crowdfunding to raise funds from donors apart from :

- Provide a platform for non-governmental organization(NGO) to advertise community activities or campaign held in order to raise fund.
- Categorize the campaign according to the level of urgency required funds.
- To simplify donation affairs.
- Offers a policy of transparency and integrity in the management of donations.
- Diversities of ways to donate (online banking, credit card, etc).
- Encourage more people to donate and increase society awareness on the importance of donating to people who in need.

1.6 Significances and Original Contributions of This Study

Fundraising is important in order to make the charity activities a success. GoodGive intend to help NGOs in order to collect fund efficiently and achieved their target within the period of time. Other than NGOs, we also hope that we can provide a one stop center for community to make donations.

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