Bridging the Gap between Non-Profits & SDGs: A Mahwah Organizational Landscape

Gabriella G. Lambiase

OVERVIEW

This exploratory research project aims to provide an overview of how, and the extent to which, the population of nonprofit organizations in Mahwah NJ are addressing the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs are a set of 17 goals adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015, which aim to protect people, prosperity, and the planet. The study utilizes quantitative data analysis and data visualization to provide a snapshot of the nonprofit landscape in Mahwah with respect to the SDGs with the aims to identify:

1) The indicators of current comparative progress towards the SDGs in Mahwah.
2) The types and number of Mahwah nonprofit organizations working towards the SDGs by mapping according to the nonprofit NTEE (National Taxonomy of Exempt Entities).
3) The gaps (if any) between the SDGs needs of Mahwah and the mix and missions of the local nonprofit sectors.
4) The mission-derived service areas/incomes of the local nonprofits.

Data Collection and Methodology


We began the process of “cleaning the data” by checking each organization for active operations through website searches. We used excel charting analysis on the cleaned data to produce the histograms reproduced here. We then used the websites listed below to complete the SDG chart on the right side of the poster and derive our findings.

Sample Data Sources

https://www.ramapongroup.org/impact/snapshots/MAHW14204R.pdf
https://www.ramapongroup.org/impact/snapshots/MAHW14121R.pdf
https://www.mahwah.nj.us/color/1318
https://www.madisonnewjersey.com/madison-ma-20120629/89597
https://www.howtochange.net/how-to-get-the-female.xhtml?r=792-3072784466
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https://www.madisonnewjersey.com/madison-ma-20120629/89597
https://www.howtochange.net/how-to-get-the-female.xhtml?r=792-3072784466
https://www.mahwah.nj.us/color/1318

Broad Findings:

1. Membership and Environmental Organizations in Mahwah are too small (budget-wise) and/or fragile to be recognized by the IRS.
2. At most, 2% of Mahwah nonprofits are primarily operating at the International Level.
3. Most of the nonprofit income coming into Mahwah is going to Education.
4. Mahwah has many opportunities to encourage/cultivate nonprofits to further address the SDGs.