

MFN HRDU 345

POLICY AND SPATIAL PLANNING FRAMEWORK FOR RURAL
DEVELOPMENT IN KENYA

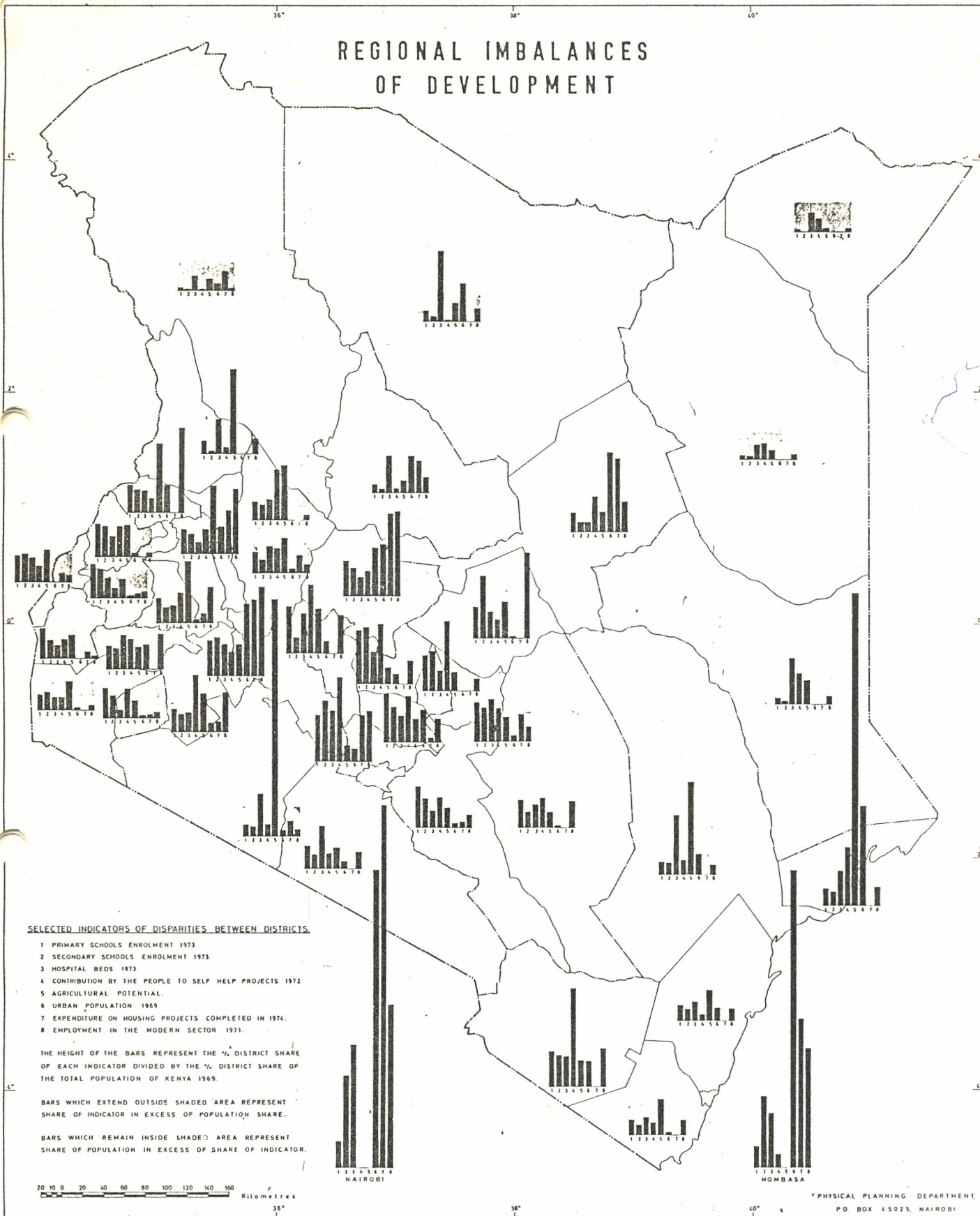
by

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REGIONAL IMBALANCES OF DEVELOPMENT



SELECTED INDICATORS OF DISPARITIES BETWEEN DISTRICTS.

- 1 PRIMARY SCHOOLS ENROLMENT 1973
- 2 SECONDARY SCHOOLS ENROLMENT 1973
- 3 HOSPITAL BEDS 1973
- 4 CONTRIBUTION BY THE PEOPLE TO SELF HELP PROJECTS 1972
- 5 AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL
- 6 URBAN POPULATION 1969
- 7 EXPENDITURE ON HOUSING PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 1974.
- 8 EMPLOYMENT IN THE MODERN SECTOR 1971.

THE HEIGHT OF THE BARS REPRESENT THE % DISTRICT SHARE OF EACH INDICATOR DIVIDED BY THE % DISTRICT SHARE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION OF KENYA 1969.

BAR WHICH EXTEND OUTSIDE SHADED AREA REPRESENT SHARE OF INDICATOR IN EXCESS OF POPULATION SHARE.

BAR WHICH REMAIN INSIDE SHADED AREA REPRESENT SHARE OF POPULATION IN EXCESS OF SHARE OF INDICATOR.

20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160
Kilometres

PHYSICAL PLANNING DEPARTMENT
PO BOX 45025, NAIROBI

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TABLE 1: PERCENT OF HOUSEHOLDS WITHIN 2 KM OF SELECTED AMENITIES

NO.	STRATA	TELEPHONE	POSTAL SERVICE	PUBLIC LIBRARY	ADULT EDUCATION	CHIEF'S CAMP	POLICE POST
1.	KILIFI/LAMU/ TANA RIVER	22.4	16.3	7.7	69.6	13.6	9.8
2.	KWALE	17.7	14.4	5.3	65.6	15.3	11.5
3.	TAITA-TAVETA	44.4	48.5	8.9	83.4	39.1	11.2
4.	MACHAKOS	18.4	17.6	6.1	51.4	16.7	12.2
5.	KITUI	8.0	18.3	6.1	46.5	12.2	5.6
6.	MERU	40.4	30.5	4.4	84.7	31.5	12.8
7.	EMBU	25.3	19.4	6.5	82.8	11.8	5.4
8.	NYERI	51.7	27.5	5.5	91.1	32.2	18.2
9.	MURANG'A	33.5	24.8	6.4	97.3	28.0	19.9
10.	KIRINYAGA	35.5	8.7	3.7	81.0	16.5	11.6
11.	KIAMBU	48.3	28.7	2.3	96.6	37.4	20.7
12.	NYANDARUA	31.9	27.5	2.6	85.6	33.2	13.1
13.	NAKURU	52.1	21.7	5.3	67.2	37.6	16.8
14.	NANDI	13.5	7.4	1.7	35.9	8.2	2.6
15.	NAROK/KAJIADO	21.8	23.6	9.7	37.6	26.1	17.0
16.	KERICHO	22.1	16.4	4.7	48.8	6.6	11.7
17.	UASIN GISHU	23.8	6.5	2.2	47.0	6.5	5.4
18.	TRANS NZOIA	26.2	28.7	13.9	59.0	31.8	21.0
19.	BARINGO/LAIKIPIA	8.1	8.1	4.4	24.3	13.2	5.9
20.	ELGEYO MARAKWET/ WEST POKOT	11.4	15.9	3.5	62.7	18.4	11.0
21.	SOUTH NYANZA	12.5	11.6	18.7	57.7	10.4	9.5
22.	KISII	9.7	13.8	3.6	75.0	19.4	7.7
23.	KISUMU	40.0	48.3	12.5	67.5	20.0	25.4
24.	SIAYA	21.2	40.7	3.3	68.1	9.1	9.1
25.	KAKAMEGA	16.4	16.0	5.0	80.8	19.6	5.0
26.	BUNGOMA	11.0	14.8	3.9	76.4	13.2	10.4
27.	BUSIA	6.8	14.2	3.7	81.7	19.5	6.3
	TOTAL:-	17.9	21.6	6.3	68.1	20.5	12.2

Source: CBS Rural Household Budget Survey

The Government was convinced that:-

- it was only through an accelerated development of the rural areas that balanced economic development could be achieved;
- the necessary growth of employment opportunities could be generated;
- the people as a whole could participate in the development process.

The 3rd Development Plan (1974-1978) further highlighted the rural development strategy by noting that:-

"Average incomes are much lower in the rural areas than in the urban areas. It is therefore, a fundamental objective of this plan to improve the overall standard of rural life at least as fast as the rise in average in the country as a whole. This will not however, be simply a matter of raising rural incomes but more particularly of raising the standard of services such as education and health and other basic needs towards those levels which now exist in the urban areas."

The Subsequent five year National development Plans have contained programmes intended to improve the rural economy and thereby raise the standard of living in rural areas. These programmes include improvement of agriculture, live-stock, fishery, forestry, rural access roads, agro-based industries, small scale industrial cluster workshops, etc.

The 1984-88 Development Plan aimed at a balanced and equitable development between rural and urban areas. It correctly observed that :-

"rural development cannot be a self-contained process. The rural areas must be knit closely to urban markets for both the supplies of farm inputs and consumer goods. The spatial development strategy for Kenya is, therefore directed towards the small and medium' urban centres because they would:..... relieve the population pressure

in the countryside, provide less congested and populated urban living in the primate city... increase the modernization spin-off which urban centres provide to the surrounding rural areas and provide a better integration with the economy of the rural hinterland". (Republic of Kenya, 1978, p).

The Sessional Paper No. 1 of 1986, on 'Economic Management for Renewed Growth' lays down a rural urban balance policy which is carried forward in the forthcoming 6th Development Plan. The thinking underlying both the Sessional Paper and the 6th Development Plan is that

'Kenya will continue for sometime to come to depend upon increased efficiency in agriculture while industry will grow in relative terms. In order to get the expansions required in agriculture a variety of things are necessary: easy access to appropriate inputs; easy access to market and support technological information; easy access to support for maintenance and repairs of farm equipment etc. Lack of any of these 'accesses' will jeopardise the capacity of farmers to utilize higher productive technologies'. (Dr. Ouko, 1988)

It can be argued that in order to develop the large rural Kenya the social-economic activities should not only be introduced in an appropriate spatial framework but also be well co-ordinated. This thinking led to formulation of growth and service centres strategies. The recently launched Rural Trade and Production Centre policy is yet another conviction in the above thinking.

1.2 Growth and Service Centres Policy

Desirous to achieve a balanced and equitable development in rural areas and in the economy as a whole, the Government formulated and adopted growth and service centres strategies.

The growth centre strategy is basically an urbanization tool meant to divert urban growth from Nairobi and Mombasa to principal towns (Kisumu, Kakamega, Nakuru, Eldoret, Nyeri, Thika, Meru, Kitale and Embu) as alternative growth centres.

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