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DPERTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY AND ENVRIRONMENTAL STUDIES

PROJECT PROPOSAL

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EFFECTS OF URBAN –SURBAN MIGRATION ON THE KENYAN ECONOMY – A CASE STUDY OF NAIROBI CITY

Abtract

As cities contnuly grow and economies advance, so are the populations within these economies. The African pollution is extede to reach an approximate of 1.8 billion by 2025. Further the African Ddevelopment banak alludes that the growth of the African population is equated to the per capita income of the various cities. Curently Nigeria is the leading currently in mass population at 206 million persons.

Howeverm majority of th polulatinn within these cranges falln within peripsn of age range 18-35 years of age. Cons

equently, this forms the highest workforce and a ready merkey fof the job market. African Nations such as Souhtha Africa, Kenya, Egypt are currebtly trying to put in enouh measures to help absorb majority of this population into its indtrial workfoce for th the grwth of the econmy. Not all African countries are within the growing econmies are able to produce enough resources for the populace. Acoording t the World Banks statasctics, most of these economies still import food products from other nations. For unstamce , sugar is imported from Brazil, Mexico provides these states with maize, and beef from Texas and Fisjh from Asia and Northern Europe.

Since independence, most of these African states have been trying to build infrcature that can support their economies and growth. Even thugh electrification and roads have gone way ahead in helping these economies to adapat succefuly to the current demands of the growing population, a lot has been happening behind the scnes. For instance , cities like Cairo, Lagos, Nairobi and Cape Town have seen the development of real estate firms and estates to curb the high rsisng polulation that constanly moves into these cities.

As a result of this, there have also been higher growing needs for the services rendered for these population. In trn, business activities have thrived, hospitals and helath care seviece have bee established, social communities like churches, political groupings and tribal activities have been established. The result of this is that thse groupings and communities have led to the growth of incoming generating actities and streams. Buinesses for instance that have been developed as s aresult of stlements within the cities havebecomes a source of employment and revenue to both the govermment and the indiviulas who work for these corprates.

As a result of overpulaton, the cities sttlementa re nw becoming overpopulated, depleted in reosurces and now the focus of city settlement is no longer fun and city dwellwers are now shifting their attenetion to the surb-urban regions in these countries. In this study the reasehcers goes out to establish some of the economic impacts of city urban to surb –urban migrations and some of the portenatil benefits, limitaions, risks and opportunities within the Kneyan econmny and to be sepcifc, Nairibo city.

Inrtoduction

Nairbi is home to several communities such as the Somalis, Luos , Luhyas and Kambas. Even though no specific community holds ownership fo the city, most of these communities stay in desfgnatd pr specif aresa and regions within the city.

The population of the city has been growuing exponentially. Curetly the Kenyan poluation as is estimated by the Knenyan National Burea of Satistics (KNBS), 2019, National Census estimated that the current population stands close to 47Million active persons. The study also revelaved that majority of this polulationn was between the age of 18-35 years of age. Consequenlt , what this implies/implores is that , majort fo this population is within the working force.

Oveer the years, this polulation has been moving from the rural vilages and communities to th city to come and find jobs and greener patures. Some also come to te city for their fisrt time in order to learn in the various public universities and institutions, and agfter graduating, end up llooikbg fro jobs in the citiy, where they coincidentally become dwellers and contrubut to the growing population of the city.

As they study, work and socialise,the form families and communities that tigeher conytrubute to some of the largest parts of the econmy. Some of the estates within Nairib that have witnessd these scenerion include Kawangrare, Eatleigh, South C, Ngara, Parklands and Umoja.

Background study

Prior to 1992, Nairobi city was known to be the closes haven for any affluent perons ato live and dwell in. Government civil serveneta were know to have housing amenities in Karuiokor, Madaraka, Railways and Nyayo eatetas. These estates were iniyiallu peacufl, well maintined by the city Municiplaty and within reach of government servies.

However, as the years went by, rules and regulations changed, private land developers began to populate these places and new structures and buildings began to come up in these regions and as a result, new city dwellers would prefer these new and affordable housing schemes. Other prpblems associated with the initial urabn settlement houses included;

Water. The supplu of water to these govnnt houses wentv down and they so were the inhabitants who now prefreed ro sttle in new schmes and exit these ones. Another problem associated with these settlement schmes is the lack of mainatennace by the resposnble givernent aegnevies. This situation was worse and saw majority of these houses exited by their tentants to the newly estabihsed buildings and partments. Enmass, the movement saw majority of these new prtments being occupied by both govment civil servants and freshbcitydwellers. Examples of estates and areas wiyhin the city where this happen include Buruburu in Jogoo Road, Lmagata, Westalnds and some parts of Thika road like Kaarani.

Since the rate of emigration and rural urnab has laso been on the rise, these city dwelweing places have become overcroweded, less secures and have run short of certain social amenties like water and mainetnaces by both the gerbnment and their private owebrs. ‘

Problem statement

Wit the increased movemrnt of persons from other cities within the country like Kisumu, Mombasa and Nakuru, the population within Naibi City has been growing signifinacntly. Fmailyv sizies have increased, enumplyment within the city has also gone higher, post the 2008 recesion, the rate of unmeplyment went higher, leaving many city dwellers unable ton pay their rent and moveon with their fellows and together pay their rent. In that line, most of these city dwelling places turned out int silent ghettos where the inahbitants were nw composed of low income individuals and small vendor retail business, cprroding the whole picture of what one would have expected of a noral city resident.

Moreviber, insceuty grow logistically and the crime rates also went higher. Bugkkers , muggers and robbers would ocacsionay attacke these residents and rob them of their little posssions. Some of these city dwellers could be even be contained by the local law enformnet officers.

Illgealn drug dealers also spung up in these city neig neighboorhds . These drug dwellers morally corroded the decadnces of the initial dwellers of these city populace and as such the picture of these regions were tained and blurred.

Over the years, private investors have discovered that city life is not soo fulfilling as majiryt of these city dwellers are looking for secure, private, and sociliy amentie enighboohds . The gwoth of sub urban eates in regions like Kitengela, Ruiru, Kikuyu, Ngong, Kiserian, Athi River, Kamulu, Ruai, Utawala, Limuru have seen these city dwelers move out and build or buy land and hosung in these place. This reasecrch study shal explore the various benefits, limitaions, risks and opportunites associated with this movement.

Aims and objectives of the study

The follwiing aims and objecties are associated with this study

1. To determine the rate of movement of perons from urban to sub-urban areas within Nairobi city
2. To etsblish the features of suburb settlements in Nairbi City
3. To establish the effect of urban-sib –urban regions within Nairobi city
4. To establish the opportunities, limitaions, risks assccited with Urban- Sub-Urban movements within Nairobu City
5. To identify the future status of Urban-Sub Urban movements in Nairobi City

The olliwng are some of the the hypotheses related to this study;

1. Urban –Sub Urban migration has brought about economic value to the Kenyan economy
2. Urban –sub Urban urban migration trend is likely to increase in the near future
3. More busineses arelikely to grow as a result of urban sub Urban migration.
4. Sub urban dwellers are some of the highest citributers of the Kenyan economy

Justification for the study

This study is dginfivatnt in a number of ways:

The findings from this study can be utilised by the private developers to sestblishe the maret trend within the Surb urban areas. This level of information can be applied by private developers to know how to plan and organise their business in other regions.

This research can be utilised by other reaserch schilars in doing studies in this undutry to understory to understand the implicating effects of urban –surb urban migration. Reacher chsilar can do this by building on the knowledge that is already gained and established. This will be done by building on some of the missing blocks and patterns from this study.

The findings of this study will be used by the Nairobi City management to help plan the city population knowing very well which citizens live in which regions and what social status they fall into.

Once the findings from this research have been published, future possible city dwellers will use this information a guide into city settlement supposing they want to move into the city.

**Literature Review**

Accoridn to reaserch studies done by Oliveira & Pinho, P. (2010), urban planning practices in Kenyan have been formulated to address the ever growing population. Some of the issues discussed in this papers included drainage systems, elecrtfification and the road system networks. The paper also discusses some of the challnges that have faced urban planning activities since the post-colonial stages in Kenya. These challenges included the ever growing population in urban centres,lack of peoper administration both from national gaovnemrnt and the municipal giwevnemnts. The paper however lays emphasis on the need to constiouly review the existing urban planning policies to include /cater for room for future room for changes in the Urban regions such as trabsaport activities and traffic management.

In another study done by Barton & Catherine (2013), highlights the major cross cutting significanes that need review in the Urban and Surb urvbna regions. Urban centres for a long time have been haven for majority of the city dwelers given their close proximity to work places, government offices and other social amenities sush as hospitals and malls. The study highlights that in order for a healthy urban coe-existmece to be achived / there needs to be also an existing and thriving surb-urban ecology. Wheres majority of the population will grow the urban set ups, the surb-urban centres /regions will advance and improve the economy of the urban eneviroments.

Dynamic analysis of the urban economy reveals that urban business and economic activities are some of the most national revenue driving activities. These activities include transpsortaion services, retailing services, private business entities and government coprtorations. However, with the increased growing and demand for some of the services offred by these entities, these buiniess aare now establishing branches out of the urban centres into surb urban regions where they can also be accesed by the large population of inviduals who have migrated from the active city life into these surb urban areas, Miyao (1981).

In another study done by On’ganya (2020), reale estate and private land develoers are shifting there attention towards developing more and more within their surb urban areas. These areas have not been widely explored and developed and as such are more preferred by the upper class urban dwellers. Some of these surb urban ares within Nairobi city are rapidly griwing in mas and are the centre of attraction for most of these population.

**Research methodology**

The researcher aims to use publicy available data from the gf department of Kenya National Beauteu of Statitsics and also data from the Minitry of Planning and urban planning. These targeted datasets shall contain data on puplation of the urban as well as the populations for the surb urban regions.

The reasrcheer will use Rsutudio as the IDE for data analysis and data programming. The findings will be presented in graphs , charts tables.

**References**

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