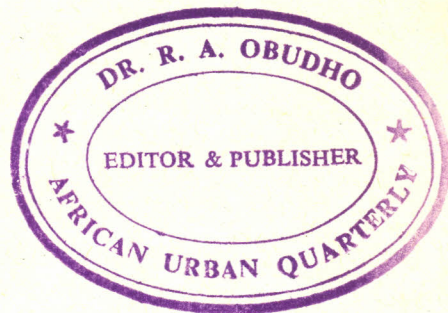


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R. A. Obudho

THEME

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PAPER

THE GROWTH PARADIGM OF KENYA'S
DISTRICT AS A REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT
PHENOMENON*.

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ABSTRACT

In the continuous endeavour by man to reduce underdevelopment, attempts should be stepped up to stress, especially, the body of ideas about spatial variation in economic prosperity within regions. Most of the available growth or development indicators, founded on the neo-Keynesian, or neo-Marxist theory, tend to form insufficient proxy for explaining regional development in developing countries, if the kind of region considered is as small as a district, which is the focus for development in Kenya.

It is therefore suggested that regional scientists must reorientate their thinking and develop new criteria of measuring regional growth, in reasonably simple and practical terms, for use in developing countries - to measure regions, as small as Kenya's district. Such regions: with few, or without manufacturing industries; with large non-monetary sectors; large agricultural sectors; limited wage employment; or where personal incomes, or any other incomes, are difficult to quantify. There may be need for an absolute departure from the conventional economic, or, socio-political indicators, an attempt to restructure new economic phenomena and further thought on methods of analysis to ensure that they are practical, easily meaningful and applicable.

Stephen Enoch Kituuka
Department of Land Development
University of Nairobi