

**Population growth and provision of primary school education services in Tanzania. a Case
of Mbeya Urban District**

Haukila Frank Athanasio

Master of Arts (Demography)

University of Dar es Salaam, College of Humanities 2008

The study investigates the influence of population growth on provision of primary school services, particular focus on primary schools in Mbeya urban, Mbeya region, Tanzania. The sample study consisted of 200 respondents. Respondents were primary school teachers and school heads. Sampling techniques included purposive sampling for school heads and snowball for teachers. Data collection methods included in-depth interview, documentary review as well as questionnaires. Field survey took place between August 2007 and July 2008. The study findings revealed that population growth has impacts on provision of primary school services. That is due to high rate of enrolment in primary schools despite efforts made by Government through Primary Education Development Programme (PEDP), Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and Community Based Organizations (CBOs). The study recommends that population growth variables such as fertility rate, mortality rate and migration should be controlled. Educational planners and policy makers should integrate population variables together with educational variables in provision of primary education services. In addition, primary school projections should be done so that plans can be undertaken appropriately.