
The Relevance of Social Work Practice for Social Development in Kenya

Onyiko Kennedy Karani¹, Jeremiah Echukule², Martha Tali³ & Orucho Justine Amadi⁴

^{1,2,3&4} Department of Social Studies, Maasai Mara University

P.O Box 861 – 20500, Narok, Kenya.

Correspondence: Kennedy Karani Onyiko, Tel. +254727724579

onyiko@mmarau.ac.ke

Abstract

This article discusses how social work practise in different settings encourages social development in Kenya. The extent to which professional social work practice contributes to social development depends on which social development gaps social workers address in executing their mandate. To ascertain this, a sample of 40 social workers was drawn to appraise the role of social work in economic development. Findings indicate that while executing their mandate, social workers are involved in the following social development activities: poverty alleviation (12.5%), HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment (15.0%), social entrepreneurship (5.0%), child and maternal health (12.5%), rehabilitation of street children (17.5%), social research and consultation (12.5%), environmental conservation (7.5%), and food security (22.5%).

Key Words: Social worker and Social work practice, Social Development, Socioeconomic development, Social service agencies

