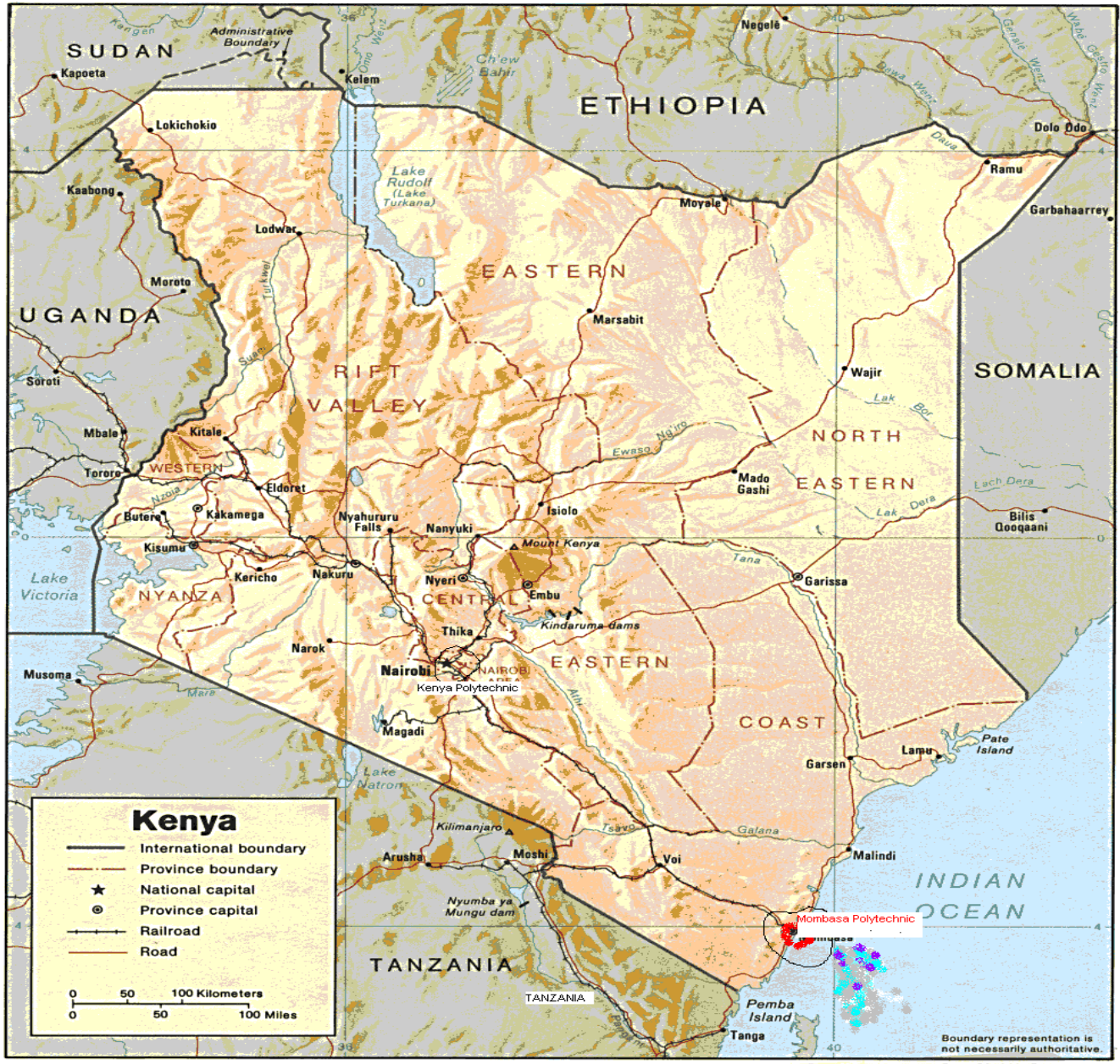


IRREGULAR MIGRATION THE CASE OF KENYA

**HELLEN APIYO
ASSISTANT LABOUR
COMMISSIONER**



Kenya

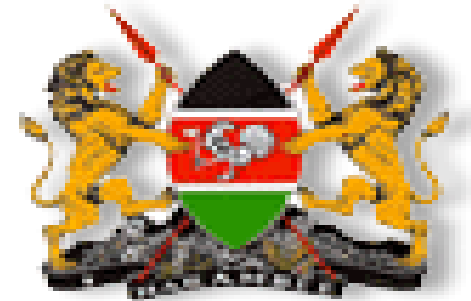


Mombasa Polytechnic

The Republic of Kenya

- Capital - Nairobi
- Language
 - National - Swahili and
 - Official - English
- Currency- Kenya Shillings
(1 Euro = 100 Kshs)

KENYA



- Area

Water 11,230 sq. km

National Parks 25,334

Others 546,082

Total 582,646 sq. km

Population: 36.1 million

THE YOUTH COMPRISE OVER 70%



Employment and Migration

- Labour Force is estimated at 15 million
- 12.6% of the labour force is unemployed
- Over 700, 000 new entrants join the labour force every year
- Economy can only absorb 450, 000 every year
- 80% of new jobs are in the informal economy
- There are 3 million Kenyans in the diaspora
Either in employment or studies

THE YOUTH PLACE KENYA ON THE WORLD MAP SUCH THROUGH SPORTS



Nature and Context

- **Multiple dimension** in migration process:
Kenya is origin, transit and destination country
- **Internal migration:** people moving from rural-urban, urban - urban centres
- **Across Borders:**
 - (1) In-Flows: Ethiopia, Somalia, West African, Pakistan, India, China
 - (2) Outflows:
 - **Middle East** - Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Lebanon and Bahrain

Nature and Context (ii)

- **Southern Africa** - Rwanda, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, Botswana and South Africa.
- **Europe**- UK, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Netherlands and Germany
- **North America** - Canada, USA

(3) Circular : East African Community,

Nature and Context (iii)

- Categories of unauthorized
 - Smuggled
 - Trafficked
 - Overstayed visas
 - Refused asylum
 - Refugees

Persons

Children:

Vulnerability arises out of their role in the Family

- Societal obligation to support children
- Innocence and obedience
- Lack of Birth Certificates

Adults /Youth :

- Lack of awareness
- Lack of Education and viable economic opportunities
- Benign tolerance of poor working conditions
- Material Expectations

Positive Impacts of MIGRATION

1. Employment
2. Skills Transfer
3. Development
 - ✓ Cultural Exchange- music, art, evangelical faith churches
 - ✓ Increase in Foreign Exchange
 - ✓ Growth in Remittances
 - ✓ Real Estate
 - ✓ Improved living standards for households

Negative Impacts of Irregular Migration

1. Increased criminal activities in Drug Trafficking
2. Money Laundering
3. Xenophobia – domination of economic sectors (retail markets, real estate)
4. Smuggling of fire arms
5. Security risks - coastal areas
6. Threat to tourisms

Exploitation and victimization of Kenyan Migrant Workers

1. Confiscation of identification and migration documents
2. Arbitrary alteration of terms and conditions of work
3. Violation of fundamental worker rights
4. Unsafe working conditions
5. Physical, psychological and sexual abuse
6. Illegal confinement, detention and imprisonment
7. Debt bondage or involuntary servitude

APPROACHES TO ADDRESSING IRREGULAR

- Inter-Ministerial Committees
- Parliamentary Committee
- Prosecutions
- Legislation and Policy Development
- Bi-lateral Agreements

END