



THE UNITED  
REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

# POVERTY AT THE DISTRICT LEVEL IN MAINLAND TANZANIA

Produced by the Research and Analysis Technical Working Group of the MKUKUTA Monitoring System  
Ministry of Planning, Economy and Empowerment

## BRIEF 2 POVERTY AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2005

The Poverty and Human Development Report 2005 (PHDR) presents the results of analytic work using techniques of poverty mapping which provide estimates of income poverty by district for the first time for Tanzania. These new income poverty estimates add a new level of accuracy to earlier estimates, and combined with information about other indicators of welfare at the district level, permit a stronger focus on the particular needs of people in particular parts of the country. This can aid the strategic allocation of resources to address the specific needs of areas.

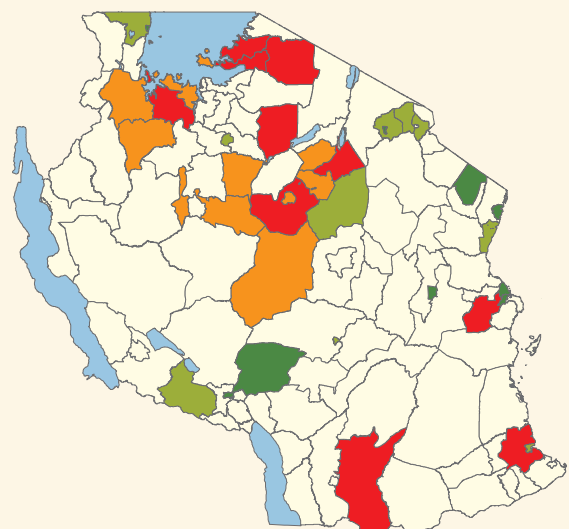
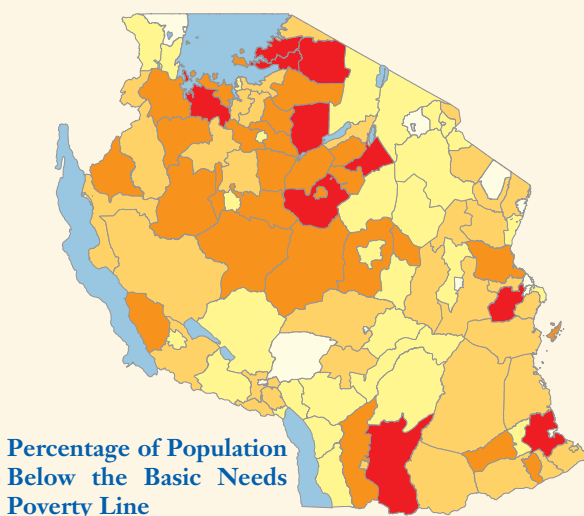
### Indicators for Poverty by District

An important finding from this poverty mapping work is that the proportion of households who are below the poverty line differs greatly between regions and districts.

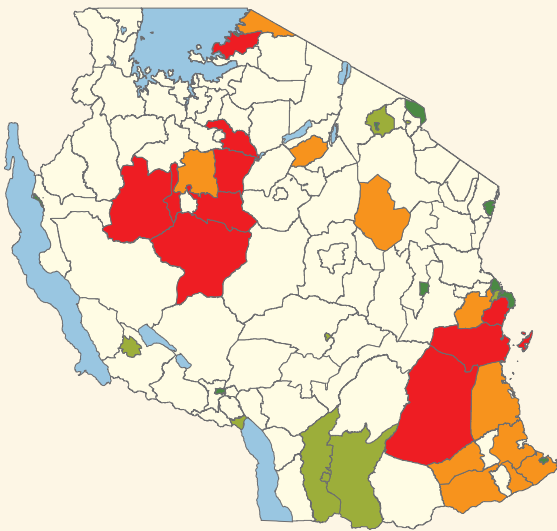
“Poverty Incidence” is defined as the percentage of people below the basic needs poverty line. For Tanzania the basic needs poverty line in 2000/01 was set to be Tshs 262 per adult equivalent per day. Map 1 shows the percentage of the population of Mainland Tanzania living below the basic needs poverty line, by district, for 2001. From this map and the associated table on page three, you can see that Bukoba Urban, Arusha Urban, Mbeya Urban, Mbarali, Morogoro Urban and Kinondoni all have less than 15% of households below the basic needs poverty line. In contrast, in Bunda, Musoma Rural, Geita and Serengeti, more than 60% of households have incomes below the poverty line.

Another important result is that districts perform differently for different poverty indicators. A district, which has a high ranking for a specific poverty indicator, will not necessarily record correspondingly high results for other poverty indicators.

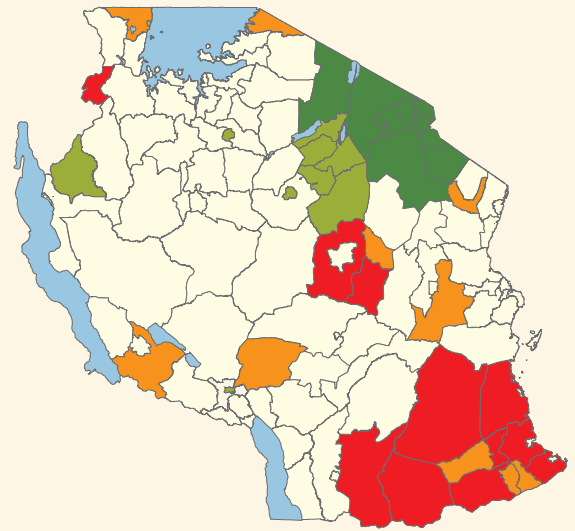
For example, some of the poorest districts have done well in reducing their under-five mortality rate. Nonetheless, there is some geographic clustering of poorly performing districts; with better performing districts tending to be more scattered and concentrated around urban areas. The following maps and the table on page three show the values of some key indicators for some districts.



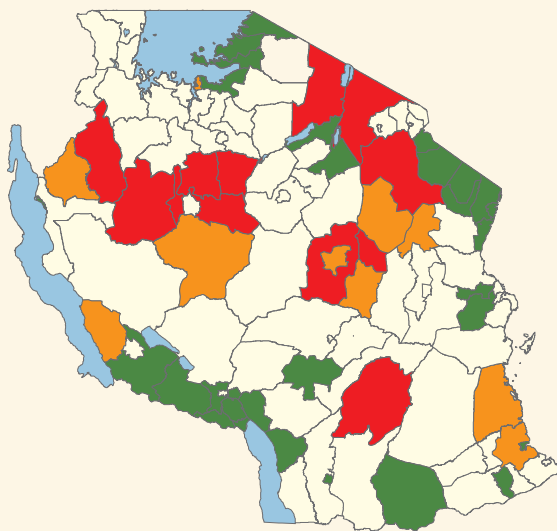
■ Bottom Ten Districts  
 ■ Bottom 11 – 20  
 ■ Mid  
 ■ Top 11 – 20  
 ■ Top Ten Districts



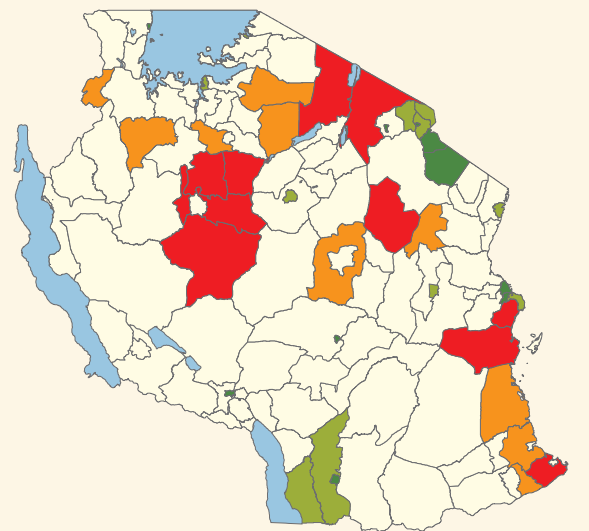
Percentage of Households with Access to Improved Water Supply



Under-Five Mortality Rate



Primary School Enrolment, Boys and Girls



Adult Literacy Rate

### Using Formulae for Budget Allocations

The information contained in the PHDR shows that there is a clear need of a strong focus on the particular needs of people in particular parts of the country. The Government of Tanzania's Budget is a powerful tool for making sure that all people have equitable access to public services and to economic opportunities. It can help overcome existing inequalities (disparities) between males and females, rich and poor households, rural and urban areas, and between different areas of the country. However, the Government's Budget is limited and difficult choices have to be made regarding the allocation of resources.

The unit cost of an intervention to reduce poverty and to improve access to services is likely to be higher for those people who live in isolated areas. Therefore using a formula of an equal per capita budget allocation will

mean that fewer people would be reached in isolated areas, and the goal of equitable access will be missed. The formulae for budget allocations to local authorities now take into account each district's population, distance to the nearest service facility (e.g. school, health dispensary), population density, and the percentage of the population who are poor, in an effort to minimise some of those factors that could hamper the equitable distribution of resources.

The results from this poverty mapping analyses suggests that these formulae are on the right track. Therefore, the rigorous application of these formulae is needed, in order to aid the strategic allocation of resources. Results from poverty mapping can help to refine the formulae and update their application with more reliable specific data at the district level.

## DISTRICTS RANKED BY: INCOME POVERTY RATE, NET PRIMARY ENROLMENT, UNDER-FIVE MORTALITY, ADULT LITERACY AND ACCESS TO IMPROVED WATER

|                      |               | Per cent of Households Below Basic Needs Poverty Line | Net Primary School Enrolment Rate | Under-Five Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) | Adult Literacy Rate | Per cent of Households With Access to Improved Water (piped or protected source) |               |       |              |    |
|----------------------|---------------|---|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|---------------|-------|--------------|----|
| Rank                 | District      | Value   | District                          | Value   | District            | Value  | District      | Value |              |    |
| <i>Top Twenty</i>    |               |   |                                   |   |                     |  |               |       |              |    |
| 1                    | Bukoba (U)    | 11  | Lushoto                           | 100   | Ngorongoro          | 40   | Moshi (U)     | 96    | Arusha (U)   | 99 |
| 2                    | Arusha (U)    | 12  | Korogwe                           | 100   | Monduli             | 48   | Arusha (U)    | 94    | Nyamagana    | 97 |
| 3                    | Mbeya (U)     | 12  | Muheza                            | 100   | Arusha (U)          | 55   | Ilala MC      | 93    | Mbeya (U)    | 96 |
| 4                    | Mbarali       | 13  | Tanga (U)                         | 100   | Moshi (R)           | 57   | Nyamagana     | 92    | Mtwara (U)   | 96 |
| 5                    | Morogoro (U)  | 14  | Kibaha                            | 100   | Simanjiro           | 57   | Bukoba (U)    | 92    | Rombo        | 93 |
| 6                    | Kinondoni     | 14  | Kisarawe                          | 100   | Arumeru             | 58   | Kinondoni     | 92    | Moshi (U)    | 92 |
| 7                    | Nyamagana     | 15  | Karatu                            | 100   | Moshi (U)           | 63   | Iringa (U)    | 92    | Kinondoni    | 92 |
| 8                    | Lushoto       | 16  | Mwanga                            | 100   | Hai                 | 65   | Mwanga        | 91    | Musoma (U)   | 92 |
| 9                    | Ilala MC      | 16  | Same                              | 100   | Mwanga              | 68   | Same          | 90    | Kigoma (U)   | 89 |
| 10                   | Tanga (U)     | 17  | Moshi (U)                         | 100   | Rombo               | 73   | Songea (U)    | 90    | Temeke       | 89 |
| 11                   | Bukoba ( )    | 17  | Babati                            | 100   | Same                | 84   | Mbeya (U)     | 90    | Tanga (U)    | 89 |
| 12                   | Moshi (U)     | 18  | Kigoma (U)                        | 100   | Babati              | 91   | Moshi (R)     | 89    | Morogoro (U) | 88 |
| 13                   | Arumeru       | 18  | Ukerewe                           | 100   | Karatu              | 93   | Temeke        | 87    | Arumeru      | 85 |
| 14                   | Iringa (U)    | 18  | Magu                              | 100   | Nyamagana           | 100  | Tanga (U)     | 87    | Kyela        | 85 |
| 15                   | Lindi (U)     | 18  | Nyamagana                         | 100   | Hanang              | 103  | Musoma (U)    | 87    | Songea (U)   | 85 |
| 16                   | Kondoa        | 21  | Tarime                            | 100   | Mbeya (U)           | 106  | Hai           | 86    | Iringa (U)   | 85 |
| 17                   | Mbozi         | 21  | Musoma (R)                        | 100   | Mbulu               | 107  | Morogoro (U)  | 85    | Ilala MC     | 81 |
| 18                   | Hai           | 22  | Bunda                             | 100   | Singida (U)         | 108  | Mbinga        | 84    | Namtumbo     | 79 |
| 19                   | Shinyanga (U) | 22  | Musoma (U)                        | 100   | Kasulu              | 109  | Ilemela       | 84    | Songea (R)   | 77 |
| 20                   | Pangani       | 22  | Mufindi                           | 100   | Kondoa              | 110  | Songea (R)    | 83    | Moshi (R)    | 75 |
| <i>Bottom Twenty</i> |               |   |                                   |   |                     |  |               |       |              |    |
| 100                  | Singida ( U ) | 46  | Mpwapwa                           | 79  | Korogwe             | 192  | Ngara         | 57    | Mtwara (R)   | 26 |
| 101                  | Sengerema     | 46  | Kilindi                           | 78  | Kongwa              | 195  | Shinyanga (R) | 57    | Kisarawe     | 25 |
| 102                  | Biharamulo    | 48  | Kiteto                            | 76  | Sumbawanga          | 195  | Meatu         | 55    | Nzega        | 25 |
| 103                  | Igunga        | 48  | Kilwa                             | 76  | Newala              | 197  | Tandahimba    | 54    | Tandahimba   | 25 |
| 104                  | Bukombe       | 48  | Ilemela                           | 75  | Nachingwea          | 198  | Kilindi       | 53    | Nachingwea   | 25 |
| 105                  | Uyui          | 48  | Nkansi                            | 75  | Tandahimba          | 200  | Lindi (R)     | 53    | Mbulu        | 24 |
| 106                  | Ukerewe       | 48  | Sikonge                           | 75  | Bukoba (R)          | 204  | Bukombe       | 53    | Kiteto       | 23 |
| 107                  | Manyoni       | 49  | Dodoma (U)                        | 75  | Tarime              | 207  | Kilwa         | 52    | Lindi (R)    | 23 |
| 108                  | Hanang        | 49  | Kisulu                            | 74  | Morogoro(R)         | 209  | Dodoma (R)    | 52    | Tarime       | 22 |
| 109                  | Mbulu         | 49  | Simanjiro                         | 72  | Ngara               | 212  | Bariadi       | 51    | Kilwa        | 22 |
| 110                  | Babati        | 50  | Kongwa                            | 72  | Tunduru             | 212  | Rufiji        | 51    | Rufiji       | 21 |
| 111                  | Kisarawe      | 51  | Ngorongoro                        | 71  | Namtumbo            | 213  | Igunga        | 49    | Mafia        | 17 |
| 112                  | Lindi (R)     | 51  | Monduli                           | 71  | Mpwapwa             | 217  | Uyui          | 49    | Musoma (R)   | 17 |
| 113                  | Meatu         | 53  | Urambo                            | 69  | Kilwa               | 217  | Nzega         | 49    | Liwale       | 16 |
| 114                  | Namtumbo      | 55  | Ulanga                            | 68  | Lindi (R)           | 220  | Sikonge       | 49    | Urambo       | 14 |
| 115                  | Singida (R)   | 56  | Igunga                            | 67  | Liwale              | 221  | Mkuranga      | 47    | Kishapu      | 13 |
| 116                  | Serengeti     | 61  | Dodoma (R)                        | 66  | Masasi              | 225  | Mtwara (R)    | 46    | Uyui         | 11 |
| 117                  | Geita         | 62  | Nzega                             | 65  | Mtwara (R)          | 231  | Monduli       | 43    | Igunga       | 9  |
| 118                  | Musoma (R)    | 64  | Kibondo                           | 63  | Dodoma (R)          | 239  | Kiteto        | 42    | Mkuranga     | 9  |
| 119                  | Bunda         | 68  | Uyui                              | 58  | Rwangwa             | 250  | Ngorongoro    | 28    | Sikonge      | 7  |

Key: **U** = Urban **R** = Rural

Source: Kalima and Lindeboom using 2002 Population and Housing Census, NBS 2003, Ministry of Education Basic Statistics 2004

## Implications and Challenges

Most districts have distinctive patterns of needs that should be met by sector specific interventions. Spatial analysis (poverty mapping) can aid the setting of priorities for the sectors and for the equitable deployment of financial and human resources.

With increasing financial resources allocated to local authorities, the financial management skills of local authority staff should be strengthened.

The information provided by poverty mapping can be used for communicating geographical differences in performance for different aspects of poverty to a wide audience. This should aid better understanding of the needs of districts and thereby ensure that poverty issues are addressed in the most effective manner.

## A Note on the Methodology and Further Information

The poverty mapping technique used in this analysis combined information from the 2002 Population Census and the 2000/01 Household Budget Survey (HBS) and estimated levels of household income and the proportion of households below the income poverty line for each district.

Information in the PHDR report for 2005 is presented in tables and poverty maps which show the distribution of various poverty factors across 22 regions and 119 districts. This can be a valuable tool in evidence-based planning and policy making. The maps point to the importance of a range of district characteristics in explaining different aspects of poverty. They can also lead to thinking about geographical inequalities in a more focused and detailed way.

## Poverty Mapping – How It Works

The maps were prepared after the detailed information from the HBS was combined with the large number of observations from the Census. This involved four steps:

1. Identifying information from questions in both surveys that are defined in the same way
2. Establishing the relationship between these variables and per capita income
3. Estimating the per capita income in every household in the census
4. Estimating how many households in each district are poor and then making the maps.

The technique will be explained in detail in Blandina Kilima and Wietze Lindeboom et al (forthcoming) “*Where are the Poor in Tanzania?*”. The methodology is based on Elbers, Lanjouw J C and Lanjouw, P (2003), *Micro-level estimation of Poverty and Inequality; Econometrica*, Econometric Society, Vol 71(1), pages 355-364.

This brief is a summary of chapter 2 of the Poverty and Human Development Report 2005 which provides key information on poverty levels and trends in Tanzania; with comparisons to targets from the Millennium Development Goals, the Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) and MKUKUTA (National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty).

The report is available in electronic copy, and the printed report can be obtained from:

**The Poverty Eradication Division, Ministry of Planning, Economy and Empowerment, Dar es Salaam.**

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