

TUESDAY 20 OCTOBER 2020: **Metros could budget more for informal settlement services.**

While national government reduced conditional grants to some metros, they all benefited from the R11 billion increase in equitable share funding in the national adjustments budget approved in August. Consequently, we see an overall increase in spending, but not for informal settlement services. **The result is that services to informal settlements are slowing down or, in some cases, even declining:**

- Cape Town's planned tap and toilet delivery is the same this year as last year.
- Ekurhuleni has reduced toilet cleaning in informal settlements from twice a week to once a week.
- eThekweni estimates that it will take 30-40 years and 70-90 years respectively to eradicate their tap and toilet backlog.
- Johannesburg's current plans will leave over 92 000 households without access to basic sanitation by 2023.

Outside of long-term upgrading projects, we currently see very little increase in budgets for short-term improvements in informal settlement services. Metro purses are thin, but small shifts in metro budgets can make big improvements in these services. Over the next month we will release a series of budget analyses and short films to show how this can be done.

IN YOUR INFORMAL SETTLEMENT OVER THE LAST 7 DAYS...

...WAS THERE ENOUGH WATER FOR ALL RESIDENTS?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE

...WERE THE TOILETS CLEANED/ DRAINED?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE

...WAS THE WASTE COLLECTED?

- BUFFALO CITY
- CAPE TOWN
- EKURHULENI
- ETHEKWINI
- JOHANNESBURG
- NELSON MANDELA BAY
- TSHWANE

RED: 60% or fewer respondents said yes **DARK ORANGE:** Between 60% and 75% of respondents said yes
LIGHT ORANGE: Between 75% and 90% of respondents said yes **GREEN:** 90% or more respondents said yes

HOTSPOTS

- In eThekweni, access to water and refuse removal has deteriorated.
- Refuse removal has also deteriorated in Ekurhuleni.
- In every metro there are residents who still do not have access to toilets, with some reporting that they use self-dug pit toilets.
- Some residents in Cape Town, Buffalo City, and eThekweni still do not have access to water.
- Inadequate maintenance of taps and toilets remains a challenge in most metros.

GOOD NEWS

- In Cape Town, a larger share of residents said that their toilets were cleaned in the previous week.
- Johannesburg distributed dustbins to residents of Ivory Park.
- Residents from Mzondi in Ekurhuleni reported that they received a large water tank and have adequate access to water.
- Access to water improved in Johannesburg, Nelson Mandela Bay and Tshwane.

734 residents from 214 settlements responded over the last week. Detailed results and comments from residents themselves are available at: www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/
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