

ASIVIKELANE WESTERN CAPE is a partnership between the Development Action Group, the Western Cape Government and IBP South Africa. ASIVIKELANE WESTERN CAPE will expand the Asivikelane campaign to informal settlements in all municipalities in the province.

Maintain toilets to protect infrastructure and residents



This week most informal settlement residents reported having access to water, but **sanitation remains a serious challenge**. In addition to posing severe health risks, the lack of maintenance and cleaning of toilets could undermine municipalities' infrastructure investment.

To respond to the sanitation challenge, Mossel Bay and Knysna developed a Janitorial Program where residents clean communal toilets themselves. But for such programs to be sustainable, municipalities should budget for the provision of detergents, cleaning equipment and educational programs.

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

IN THE WESTERN CAPE



...WAS THERE ENOUGH WATER FOR ALL RESIDENTS?

- KNYSNA
- MOSSEL BAY
- WITZENBERG



...WERE THE TOILETS CLEANED/DRAINED?

- KNYSNA
- MOSSEL BAY
- WITZENBERG



...WAS THE WASTE COLLECTED?

- KNYSNA
- MOSSEL BAY
- WITZENBERG

- **RED: 60% or fewer of 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 of respondents said yes**

GOOD NEWS

- ✓ In **Witzenberg** the municipality has indicated that water tanks may be installed in 2 settlements
- ✓ In **Knysna**, residents have all received black bags from the municipality, whilst 1 of the 4 settlements in **Witzenberg** received black bags.

HOT SPOTS

- ✗ In **Knysna** and **Mossel Bay's** Janitorial Programs, municipalities have stopped providing detergent and cleaning equipment.
- ✗ In **Knysna**, chemical toilets are now only drained once instead of twice a week (as occurred previously). By midweek, the toilets are full and cannot be used.

- ✗ In **Witzenberg** the municipality drains chemical toilets but does not clean the shared flush toilets.
- ✗ In **Tulbagh** in **Witzenberg**, some residents have reported not having enough water.
- ✗ Residents in **Witzenberg** have also reported that waste is not collected because the municipal truck is broken. Residents' resort to burning the rubbish that overflows from the skip.

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DATA NOTES: 36 residents from 25 informal settlements responded over the last week. Detailed results and comments from residents are available on the Asivikelane website. Knysna and Mossel Bay's traffic lights for toilet cleaning/draining are greyed out because residents clean their own toilets with materials provided by the government.