



VOICES OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENT RESIDENTS DURING THE COVID-19 CRISIS

Written submission on Madibeng Local Municipality's draft 2021/22 budget

Data collected from informal settlement residents in the Madibeng Local Municipality through the Asivikelane campaign shows a severe lack of basic services.¹ This data has informed the recommendations below, which specially ask the municipality to allocate funds in its 2021/22 budget to achieve the following:

1. **Increase the number of communal taps in informal settlements; and ensure that where water tanks are provided, these are filled frequently enough to ensure that residents have a constant supply of water.**
2. **Provide safe and clean sanitation for residents in informal settlements.**
3. **Provide a safe refuse removal service for residents in informal settlements.**

Asivikelane – voices of informal settlement residents show major service shortages in Madibeng

IBP South Africa together with its partners conduct a monthly monitoring of basic services in informal settlements across metro and non-municipalities, including Madibeng Local Municipality. This initiative is called the *Asivikelane* campaign, and it is driven by informal settlement residents who tell us about their access to water, sanitation and solid waste services.

Using the data, we report results per municipality using a traffic light where red represents poor delivery, in that 60% or less respondents showed that they received services in their settlements in a given data collection period. Dark orange indicates that between 60% to 75% received services, light orange represents between 75% to 90%, while green indicates that 90% and above received services.

Over the last three months (March-May 2021), the Asivikelane data for Madibeng shows that the residents participating in the campaign remain without adequate access to these services, and the municipality's traffic lights have remained red.

Madibeng Local Municipality Traffic Lights (Asivikelane results #15 to #17: March – May 2021)

% residents who responded 'yes'	Was there enough water in your settlements in the last 7 days?	Were toilets drained/cleaned in the last 7 days?	Was waste collected in the last 7 days?
Results: March 2021	0%	0%	0%
Results: April 2021	0%	0%	0%

¹ <https://asivikelane.org/>

Results: May 2021	0%	0%	0%
-------------------	----	----	----

Serious water shortages

Most informal settlement residents in Madibeng who participate in the Asivikelane campaign are dependent on water tanks for water. However, these residents have consistently reported that the water tanks are not filled regularly (often only once a week), which means that they do not have access to sufficient water and have to resort to buying water from other sources. The affected settlements are:

- Bokfontein
- Broederstroom
- Rashoop
- Sonop
- Tshabadimaketse

Residents living in the Oukasie informal settlement have access to communal taps, but report that there are not enough taps relative to the number of people living in the settlements.

We recommend additional budget allocations to increase the number of communal taps and increase the frequency with which water tanks are filled.

No municipal provided sanitation

With regard to sanitation services, there is a severe shortage of toilets. The majority of residents use self-dug pits, which are unhygienic and unsafe to use. Other residents are forced to relieve themselves in the bushes. The settlements affected are listed below:

- Bokfontein
- Broederstroom
- Oukasie
- Rashoop
- Sonop
- Tshabadimaketse

We recommend that Madibeng Municipality provide toilets to informal settlements and ensure that these are cleaned/drained on a regular basis.

No refuse removal service

None of the residents participating in Asivikelane had their refuse removed over the past three months and most have indicated that the municipality does not deliver that service to their settlements. Residents resort to dumping their waste, with this an obvious hazard to these residents and the settlement as a whole. As seen from the list below, all settlements currently participating in Asivikelane are affected:

- Bokfontein
- Broederstroom
- Oukasie

- Rashoop
- Sonop
- Tshabadimaketse

We urge the municipality to provide a safe waste removal service to informal settlements across Madibeng.

In making the above recommendations, we urge the municipality to engage and include informal settlement residents when planning the delivery of new services or doing repairs to existing services.

Contact information for further engagement

We are keen to engage further with the municipality on the issues raised above.

Our contact information:

Name: Chumile Sali

Organisation: International Budget Partnership South Africa (IBP South Africa)

Email: csali@internationalbudget.org

Contact number: 0738131728

Name: Ntombovuyo Sibutha

Organisation: Community Organisations Resource Centre (CORC)

Email : ntombovuyo@corc.co.za

Contact number : 0677260091