Green shoots, but will Metro budgets water them?

On the surface, Asivikelane #17 traffic lights appear bad. But if you take the time to look closely, you will see many green shoots of service delivery improvement starting to sprout. New toilets were built, and taps were installed in Buffalo City. Taps were repaired, and new toilets were built in Cape Town. New toilets were delivered, and old and broken toilets replaced in Ekurhuleni. If you look even more closely, you will see that in Ekurhuleni, Cape Town, and Johannesburg several traffic lights are close to the 90% that turns them green.

We sincerely hope that when metros councils approve their 2021/2022 budgets, they include the changes that are necessary to water these green shoots. Changes such as budgeting for the maintenance and cleaning of toilets and taps, and prioritising the provision of additional basic toilets and taps in many more informal settlements, as recommended in previous Asivikelane reports. This would help in turning many of the metro traffic lights green.

We are happy that the number of residents participating in Asivikelane increased by 24% over the last month. We will continue to increase the number of residents, informal settlements and municipalities to ensure dignified basic service delivery for all.

DATA NOTES: 1239 residents from 231 settlements responded over the last week. Detailed results & comments from residents available at asivikelane.org. For more information contact: infosa@internationalbudget.org. Across social media on: @Asivikelane