Ekurhuleni has been the best performing metro since Asivikelane started a year ago. But even so, its traffic lights are not consistently green and there are many informal settlements that experience persistent water, sanitation and refuse removal problems.

But this can change. Improving the maintenance of existing taps and installing more standpipes will turn the traffic light for water green. Increasing the provision of chemical toilets, and desludging and cleaning these toilets twice a week, will turn the sanitation traffic light green. Installing more bulk waste containers in informal settlements should also improve refuse collection results.

But over the longer term, communal taps and temporary toilets are expensive and not dignified. For these reasons we encourage the metro to provide each household with their own tap and toilet and ensure that residents have access to reliable waste collection services. We also urge the metro to publish more detailed budget information and targets for the delivery of basic services to informal settlements.
HOT SPOTS

Access to Water

In all four rounds, about a quarter of residents said that they do not have access to enough water in their settlements. The worst affected settlements are Somalia Park (Zone 6), Mandela, Enkanini, Tsietsi, Etwatwa (Ext 18, Overflow and Steve Biko), Skoonplaas, Tsakane (Ext 21), Madelakufa 2, Mgoba, Vlakplaas, Katlehong, Robert Sobukwe and Steve Biko.

More specifically:
- Broken taps have been reported by residents from Madelakufa 2, Enkanini and Mandela since April.
- Since February, residents from Somalia Park, Katlehong and Etwatwa (Steve Biko and Overflow) have been saying that they experience regular water outages in their settlements.
- Over the same period, residents from Enkanini, Etwatwa (Overflow), Vlakplaats, Tsietsi and Mandela have been reporting that they do not have enough taps in their settlements.
- Residents from Vlakplaas also reported that their jojo tanks have not been filled for three weeks or more at a time.
- In May, residents from Mgoba (Ext 37) and Robert Sobukwe said that they have no access to water in their settlements.

Data Notes:
160 residents from 28 settlements in Ekurhuleni responded during Asivikelane #17. Detailed results & comments from residents available at www.asivikelane.org/metro-releases. For more information contact: infosa@internationalbudget.org. Across social media on: @Asivikelane

Sanitation

Between February and May this year, about one third of residents said that their toilets were not cleaned in the previous 7 days. The worst affected settlements are Somalia Park (Zone 6), Mayfield West, Etwatwa (Steve Biko), Duduzu North (Blocks A, C and E), Duduzu Tswelopele (Block E), Langaville Ext 8, Makause, Mgoba (Ext 37), Katlehong, Thinazonke, Steve Biko, Barcelona, Kwaneleni South, Ekuthuleni and Kwaloliwe.

More specifically:
- Since February, residents from Mkhancwa, Etwata (Steve Biko), Mzondi (Swazi Inn) and Enkanini have been reporting that the contractors do not drain their toilets regularly.
- Since March, residents from Mandela, Etwatwa (Overflow) and Robert Sobukwe have been saying that there are not enough toilets in their settlements.

Waste collection

Over the last four rounds of Asivikelane, between 19% and 36% of residents reported that their waste was not removed during the last 7 days. The worst affected settlements are Somalia Park (Zone 6), Mayfield West, Skoonplaas, Mkhancwa, Kwaloliwe, Langaville Ext 8, Barcelona, Etwatwa (Steve Biko), Ekuthuleni (Lindelani), Mzondi (Swazi Inn), Steve Biko, Mgoba, Thinazonke, Katlehong, Robert Sobukwe and Duduzu North (Block E).

More specifically:
- Since February, residents from Somalia Park (Somalia Park and Zone 6) have been reporting that waste is not collected in their settlement due to poor road conditions, which prevents the refuse removal truck from accessing the settlement.
- Over the same period, residents from Mkhancwa and Skoonplaas have been reporting that waste is not collected because of problems with the contract for the service.
- Residents from Langaville Ext 8 have been saying since February that they do not have access to bins in their settlement.
- In the same time frame, waste has not been collected consistently in the different parts of Somalia Park (Zone 6).

GOOD NEWS

Taps are currently being installed in Robert Sobukwe.
- A resident from Mzondi (Swazi Inn) reported that their water tanks are cleaned every six months.
- Residents from both Tsakane (Ext 21) and Winnie Mandela (Zone 2) said that broken taps were fixed.
- In Steve Biko, broken toilets were replaced with new ones.
- Residents have been employed to clean toilets in Tsakane (Ext 21).
- Residents were given refuse bags and waste has been collected in Enkanini and Tsakane (Ext 21).
- Some residents from Madelakufa 2 were relocated to flats in Clayville, while reblocking has started in Ekuthuleni.

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