Asivikelane is an initiative of IBP South Africa, Planact, the SASDI Alliance and Afesis-corplan. It gives voice to informal settlement residents in South Africa’s major cities who are faced with severe basic service shortages during the Covid-19 crisis. By responding weekly to 3 questions about their access to water, clean toilets and waste removal, individual residents offer us a window into their daily experiences. They answer the 3 questions based on their individual experience of these basic services and do not move around their settlements to answer for the whole settlement.

Note on the data: 253 informal settlement residents from 100 informal settlements submitted responses over the last week. Detailed results are available at: www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/

Data in Imizamo Yethu collected by Ingoma Choir and Denis Goldberg House of Hope.

HOTSPOTS

- Asivikelane expanded from 65 to 100 settlements but the new settlements reported the same water, sanitation and refuse removal problems.
- In four of the five metros, janitorial workers did not have enough cleaning materials and protective clothing to clean communal toilets.
- Residents reported broken, blocked and dirty toilets in Cape Town, eThekwini and Buffalo City.
- Residents reported broken taps, intermittent water supply and dirty water in Cape Town, Buffalo City and Ethekwini.

GOOD NEWS!

- eThekwini has started working with Asivikelane to fix problems reported by residents.
- Johannesburg has started cleaning communal toilets three times per week.
- Cape Town sent water trucks to informal settlements that have no water.
- Minister of Human Settlements, Lindiwe Sisulu asked for a briefing of week 1 Asivikelane results.
- In the Winnie Mandela Informal Settlement in Ekurhuleni, two service providers, Sungu Sungu and Selby, have provided masks, gloves and hand sanitizer to workers cleaning chemical toilets.