TUESDAY 19 MAY 2020: Can metros now afford to fix water, sanitation and refuse removal?

After extensive engagement with metros, water, sanitation and refuse problems in informal settlements persist. Services cost money – cleaning just one toilet costs over R80. But last week metro budgets were boosted by R2.4 billion from unspent USDG funding. Can we now expect more progress?

### HOTSPOTS
- **Broken and blocked toilets remain a problem**, particularly in Cape Town, Johannesburg and eThekwini.
- **Residents also still report irregular cleaning of toilets** in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Buffalo City and eThekwini.
- **Refuse removal remains poor and intermittent** in all the metros.
- Many residents report **broken taps and water pressure problems** in Cape Town, Johannesburg and eThekwini.
- The soap and sanitizer situation has not improved.

### GOOD NEWS!
- **National Treasury gave metros R2.4 bn of unspent USDG funding for informal settlement water, sanitation and refuse removal!**
- **Ekurhuleni’s water traffic light went green** because the metro installed 173 water tanks in the last two months.
- **Small towns outperformed the metros** in the provision of soap and sanitizer with Mossel Bay, Emfuleni (Waterdal) and Msunduzi leading the way.
- Johannesburg’s refuse collection traffic light went from red to orange after residents reported improvements.
- Many janitors in eThekwini were **given detergent** and **over 50 toilet seats were installed** in Buffalo City.

### DATA NOTE: 477 residents from 167 informal settlements submitted responses over the last week. Detailed results and comments from the residents themselves are available at: [www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/](http://www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/).

For more information please contact: infosa@internationalbudget.org, facebook: internationalbudgetpartnershipsouthafrica, twitter: @ibp_sa

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

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

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<th>JOHANNESBURG</th>
<th>EKURHULENI</th>
<th>CAPE TOWN</th>
<th>BUFFALO CITY</th>
<th>ETHEKWINI</th>
<th>NON-METROS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>...WAS WATER AVAILABLE EVERY TIME YOU NEEDED IT?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>...WERE THE TOILETS CLEANED?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>...WAS THE WASTE COLLECTED?</strong></td>
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<td><strong>...HAS GOVERNMENT PROVIDED SOAP OR HAND SANITIZER?</strong></td>
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- **RED:** 60% or fewer respondents said yes
- **ORANGE:** Between 60% and 90% of respondents said yes
- **GREEN:** 90% or more respondents said yes