



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 eThekweni.
- **Residents also still report irregular cleaning of toilets** in Cape Town, Johannesburg, Buffalo City and eThekweni.
- **Refuse removal remains poor and intermittent** in all the metros.
- Many residents report **broken taps and water pressure problems** in Cape Town, Johannesburg and eThekweni.
- 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 eThekweni 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/.

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

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

...WAS WATER AVAILABLE EVERY TIME YOU NEEDED IT?

- JOHANNESBURG
- EKURHULENI
- CAPE TOWN
- BUFFALO CITY
- ETHEKWINI
- NON-METROS

...WERE THE TOILETS CLEANED?

- JOHANNESBURG
- EKURHULENI
- CAPE TOWN
- BUFFALO CITY
- ETHEKWINI
- NON-METROS

...WAS THE WASTE COLLECTED?

- JOHANNESBURG
- EKURHULENI
- CAPE TOWN
- BUFFALO CITY
- ETHEKWINI
- NON-METROS

...HAS GOVERNMENT PROVIDED SOAP OR HAND SANITIZER?

- JOHANNESBURG
- EKURHULENI
- CAPE TOWN
- BUFFALO CITY
- ETHEKWINI
- NON-METROS

● RED: 60% or fewer respondents said yes ● ORANGE: Between 60% and 90% of respondents said yes ● GREEN: 90% or more respondents said yes