Asivikelane creates a channel between municipal governments and informal settlement residents faced with severe water, sanitation, refuse removal and soap and sanitizer shortages during the Covid-19 crisis. Every two weeks we collect input from residents and pass this information on to municipalities. Asivikelane is a joint initiative of seven local organizations and this growing network enables us to now reach 153 informal settlements in five metropolitan municipalities and six smaller towns (eMalahleni, Emfuleni, Knysna, Mossel Bay, uMsunduzi and Witzenberg).

424 informal settlement residents from 153 informal settlements submitted responses over the last week. Detailed results are available at: www.internationalbudget.org/covid-monitoring/.

For more information please contact: infosa@internationalbudget.org.

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• National Covid-19 infections increased from 3,300 to 7,220 over the last two weeks. Communal water and sanitation facilities make it likely that this spike will impact informal settlements more heavily than other areas.
• It is of concern that one out of every five residents do not have consistent access to water. Residents in Cape Town, Johannesburg and eThekwini in particular reported problems with water pressure, not enough taps and poor maintenance.
• Despite important new initiatives in Johannesburg, Mossel Bay and elsewhere, only one out of every ten residents received soap or sanitizer from government.
• Refuse removal and toilet cleaning have not improved since we last assessed the situation two weeks ago. It costs less than R90 to clean a communal toilet, a small price to pay for reducing infections.
• Insufficient numbers of toilets and poor maintenance remain a major problem in Cape Town, Johannesburg and eThekwini.
• Lack of access to municipal provided sanitation remains a huge problem in some small towns. For example most residents in informal settlements in eMalahleni use self dug pit toilets.

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

JOHANNESBURG
EKURHULENI
CAPE TOWN
BUFFALO CITY
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NON-METROS

JOHANNESBURG
EKURHULENI
CAPE TOWN
BUFFALO CITY
ETHEKWINI
NON-METROS

GOOD NEWS! 😊

• In Buffalo City janitors in many informal settlements were given masks, gloves and sanitizer, and soap was also distributed in some settlements.
• In eThekwini masks, soap and sanitizer were distributed to Magwaveni, Dalton Hostel, Blackburn and other settlements.
• Mossel Bay has started to distribute personal protective clothing and cleaning materials to informal settlements so that they can clean toilets themselves.
• Its impact does not yet show in this week’s results, but Johannesburg’s Hlapa Matsoho campaign will distribute soap to informal settlements.
• Somalia Park in Ekurhuleni and Tjovitjo and Westside Park in Johannesburg received JoJo tanks.
• In Buffalo City new toilets and taps were installed and broken taps and toilets repaired in Mandela Park, Scenery Park, Nompumelelo and several other informal settlements.
• In eThekwini taps were installed, toilets fixed and new chemical toilets provided in Ezikrebenhi, Duffs Road, Kwamashu Hostel and Mandeni.

TUESDAY 5 MAY 2020

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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

NEW question

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