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/.

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

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**