

5 important parts of upgrading your informal settlement

The various parts of upgrading can improve the quality of life in your informal settlement. Over time, your settlement will develop into a dignified and safe neighbourhood.



- 1 COMMUNITY-BASED PLANNING**
Your community and municipality working together to find solutions and plan for upgrading. The aim is to meet the community's needs.
- 2 TENURE OPTIONS**
Finding the most suitable form of security that protects you from evictions and allows you to build, rent and sell.
- 3 ESSENTIAL SERVICES**
Ensuring that you have access to basic services such as water, electricity, sanitation, and waste removal for you to live in dignity.
- 4 COMMUNITY FACILITIES**
Schools, clinics, good quality public open-spaces and community halls should be provided to meet your community needs.
- 5 HOUSING CONSOLIDATION**
Improving your house or property over time, by building a simple top structure, or investing in extensions to increase its size, quality and value.

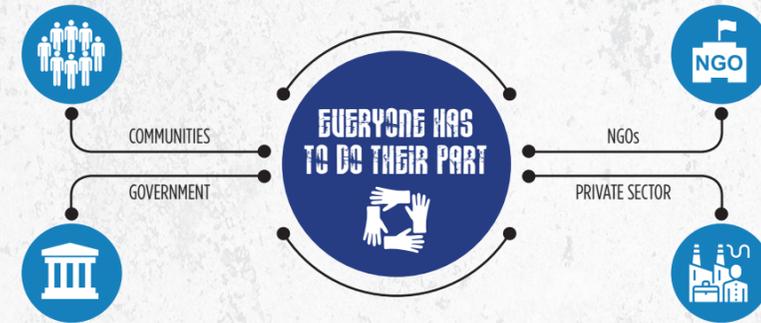
Take part in transforming your community

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F Communities and government can do more when they work together

Participatory and incremental informal settlement upgrading, driven by the ISSP, requires input and support from everyone.



They all have different roles to play and should contribute their different skills and knowledge. Responding to the challenges that informal settlements face takes a collaborative effort, particularly if the result aims to be sustainable.

What can YOU do?

- Find out from your municipality when the upgrading of your settlement will take place.
- Register your need for housing, if you qualify.
- Help to set up or be part of a community structure that your municipality can engage with.
- Attend community meetings to discuss what is important to you.
- Find out what other organisations can support your community and reach out to them.
- You know your settlement best. Offer your skills and knowledge in the planning of the project.
- Make sure no one in your community is left behind.
- Ask for regular updates on the implementation of the project.
- Start saving small for the future.

Better livelihoods and better neighbourhoods are possible because we're BETTER TOGETHER.

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G The Informal Settlement Support Programme (ISSP) is here to support you

The ISSP prioritises upgrades to informal settlements to improve your existing living conditions.

The ISSP is a new, **people-centred and partnership-based** approach to support informal settlement residents across the Western Cape and improve their living conditions.

The first cycle of projects aims to develop about **25 000 serviced sites**.

Over time, residents will have access to public infrastructure, finance, land, tenure, economic opportunities and incremental housing opportunities.

This is a **new direction** for municipalities and provincial government in the Western Cape to address the housing challenge.

How does the ISSP work for you?

- The municipality accepts that your informal settlement provides inadequate shelter, but creates your community.
- NGOs can support your community to work with the municipality and plan your neighbourhood.
- Your household is ensured the right to stay in an area, depending on available space and environmental conditions.
- Your household is provided with water, electricity and sanitation.
- Over time, the municipality will provide informal settlements with public lighting, roads, drainage and refuse removal.
- Your household can save money and improve your shelter over time.

The ISSP is committed to:

- Improving the health, safety and dignity of people living in informal settlements
- Using natural resources wisely and making sure that solutions are sustainable
- Working together with communities and other partners
- Protecting the rights of vulnerable groups
- Step-by-step in situ development of informal settlements over time

The Western Cape Government is responding to your shelter and livelihood needs.

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BETTER TOGETHER.

The Informal Settlement Support Programme (ISSP): Finding solutions together

Housing is one of the biggest challenges in South Africa, with the need for affordable housing far outweighing government's ability to deliver.

Due to this challenge, people have created housing solutions using available resources and materials. In an effort to improve their living conditions in an informal settlement, the Western Cape Government strives to provide access to water, sanitation, electricity, tenure security, and shelter.

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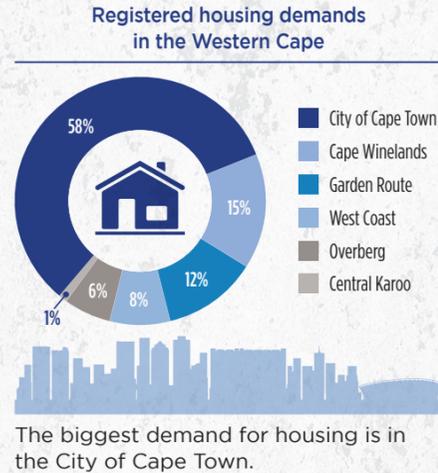
A There is a big demand for housing

Every year more people register for housing with their municipality

From 2015 to 2019, the number of households registered for housing in the Western Cape grew.

From over **528 000** → over **550 000**

This means that almost **1 IN 3 HOUSEHOLDS** in the Western Cape are in need of adequate housing.



B Housing delivery in the Western Cape cannot meet the demand

Did you know that the Western Cape Government has been providing about **20 000** housing opportunities per year since 2009?

20 000 opportunities But the demand is much higher than that and providing housing to everyone in need will take a very long time.

In 2019, more than **550 000 households** had registered their need for government housing assistance.

This means that it will take more than **26 years** for housing delivery to meet current demand.

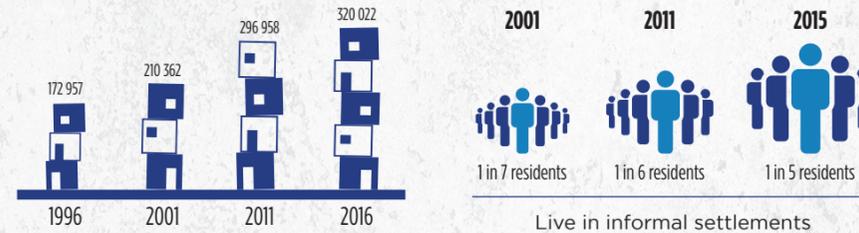
This does not include the number of households requiring decent and affordable housing that have not registered for housing, or reflect the fact that the population in the Western Cape is growing and that more people will need housing in the future.

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C A large and growing number of people live in informal settlements



Number of households living in informal settlements or backyard dwellings



Because there are not enough housing opportunities, more and more people are living in informal settlements.

Informal settlements are growing faster than the municipality's ability to deliver housing and provide serviced sites.

Why are informal settlements growing?



How do informal settlements come about?

In search of shelter, and unable to afford rent or buy a house, people have built informal structures on vacant pieces of land.

These settlements are not planned for by the municipality and therefore do not have access to essential services that cater for the needs, safety and security of its residents.

With more people building structures, informal settlements tend to grow, varying in sizes: from **20** to **100s** of structures.

Informal settlements on the outskirts of cities and towns are also a legacy of apartheid spatial planning.

3

D Government faces financial pressures

Informal settlements are growing, but government budgets are not.

Western Cape Government budget for human settlements per year



In *2018/2019, the Western Cape Government delivered



From a budget of **R2 018 776 BILLION** The budget only enables the creation of about **20 000 housing opportunities** a year

A SUBSIDIZED HOUSE

R240 240
2 bedrooms; a bathroom with a toilet, shower and hand basin; a combined living area and kitchen with washbasin; & a ready-board electrical installation.

A SERVICED SITE

R146 150
Access to clean water, sanitation, roads and storm water drainage.

There is not enough money because government faces other financial pressures:

National government transfers less money to provinces

The cost of construction increases each year

Less tax collected means that government has less money to spend on services

More money is spent on repaying national debt. This leaves less money for service delivery and other functions

Money has to be allocated to different government departments, such as health, education, and social services.

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E Upgrading addresses your challenges and needs

You may not have access to municipal services, roads/pathways, drainage systems and other services in an informal settlement. This poses many health and safety risks, and does not cater for your needs.

Your municipality is responsible for addressing this.

RISKS

Easily occur in this environment, because of a lack of infrastructure and service provision.



NEEDS

Municipalities are responsible for providing you with access to services that address your needs.



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