



# Urbanization and Social Welfare Provision in Informal Settlements of African Cities: A Survey Analysis

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## Abstract

Urbanization in African cities is accelerating, leading to significant changes in urban environments and social welfare needs. In informal settlements of Kenyan cities, this process has created unique challenges for existing social welfare systems. The research employed a structured questionnaire distributed across multiple informal settlements, collecting data on socio-economic status, service utilization, and satisfaction levels with existing welfare schemes. Quantitative analysis was used to interpret the findings. In one settlement surveyed (Nairobi West), approximately 40% of respondents reported difficulties accessing essential services such as healthcare and education, highlighting a critical gap in provision. The survey revealed significant disparities between urban development progress and social welfare coverage. Recommendations for policy reform are proposed to address these gaps effectively. Policymakers should prioritise the integration of informal settlements into broader urban planning frameworks, ensuring equitable access to essential services for all residents.

**Keywords:** *Geographic, Urbanization, Informal, Settlements, Welfare, Contextualization, Quantitative*

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