



# Urbanization and Social Welfare in Ethiopia's Informal Settlements: A Critical Perspective

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## Abstract

Urbanization in Ethiopia has accelerated rapidly, leading to significant demographic shifts with informal settlements emerging as a prominent feature of urban landscapes. A critical theoretical analysis grounded in African political theory frameworks is employed, focusing on existing literature and policy documents related to urbanization and social welfare. Addressing this disparity requires innovative policy interventions that prioritise equitable access to essential services for informal settlement dwellers. Policymakers should develop targeted social welfare programmes specifically tailored to the needs of informal settlements and integrate these into comprehensive urban planning strategies.

**Keywords:** *Ethiopia, Urbanization, Informal Settlements, Social Welfare, Housing Policy, Community Development, Critical Theory*

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