



Urbanization and Social Welfare: Challenges in Informal Settlements of Niger Cities

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Published: 08 November 2012 | **Received:** 02 August 2012 | **Accepted:** 02 October 2012

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DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.18973421](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.18973421)

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Abstract

Urbanization has accelerated in Niger cities, leading to significant changes in urban landscapes, particularly affecting informal settlements where a substantial proportion of the population resides. A mixed-methods approach combining qualitative interviews with quantitative data on settlement characteristics and service provision will be employed. Informal settlements in Niger cities exhibit a high density of population, often exceeding 50% of the city's total population, which poses challenges for social welfare delivery. The analysis reveals that current social welfare services are inadequate to meet the needs of residents in these areas, necessitating targeted interventions. Policy recommendations include increased funding for community-based service provision and integration with formal urban planning processes.

Keywords: *Urbanization, Informal Settlements, Governance, Poverty, Social Services, Development Policy, Zoning Laws*

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