



# Urbanization and Social Welfare in Informal Settlements of Bissau, Guinea-Bissau: An African Perspective from 2009

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## Abstract

Urbanization in Guinea-Bissau has accelerated rapidly since the early 2000s, leading to significant population growth and changes in settlement patterns. No empirical data or results are presented; the analysis is based on qualitative observations and literature review. The rapid urbanization in Bissau's informal settlements poses significant challenges for equitable access to basic social welfare services, necessitating more comprehensive planning and investment. Guinea-Bissau should prioritise the development of inclusive urban policies that address the specific needs of growing informal settlement populations. This includes investing in infrastructure improvements and enhancing service delivery mechanisms.

**Keywords:** *African Geography, Urbanization, Informal Settlements, Social Policy, Welfare Services, Community Development, Migration Patterns*

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