



# Urbanization and Informal Settlements in Moroccan Cities: Exploring Social Welfare Systems

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## Abstract

Urbanization in Moroccan cities has led to significant growth in informal settlements, placing particular strain on social welfare systems. Qualitative research methods were employed, including participant observation, semi-structured interviews, and document analysis, conducted in urban centers with notable informal settlements. A key finding is the disproportionate burden on local social welfare services, as evidenced by a 40% increase in service requests from residents of informal settlements compared to formal neighborhoods over one year. The study underscores the inadequacies and inefficiencies within current welfare systems that serve urban populations, particularly those living in informal settlements. Recommendations include increased funding for social welfare services targeting informal settlements, alongside policy reforms aimed at improving service delivery and inclusivity.

**Keywords:** *Urbanization, Informal Settlements, Governance, Social Policy, Community Development, Qualitative Research, Ethnography*

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