

Ndanki Kahiurika & Yochanaan Coetzee ~ Namibia: Informal Settlements Sink In Poor Sanitation



It is common to see small children defecating next to dump sites among shacks early mornings in any of the densely populated settlements in Zambezi region.

This is so because most often the makeshift toilets are overflowing while the bush is not within walking distance.

This is what people in other informal settlements across the country such as Goreangab Dam, Okahandja Park and Havana in Windhoek are experiencing.

Hendrina Immanuel (23) said it is unfortunate for a girl to be forced to use makeshift toilets or be forced to use the bushes.

Another 25-year-old, Lydia Hausiku who lives with a family of eight said: "Because the bush is so far away, we often use chamber pots and buckets. There is no other way. Once the buckets and the pots are full, we walk to the bushes to dump the waste."

Others like Martin Samuel use 'flying toilets' - plastic bags used for open defecation and then flung onto dump sites and riverbeds.

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