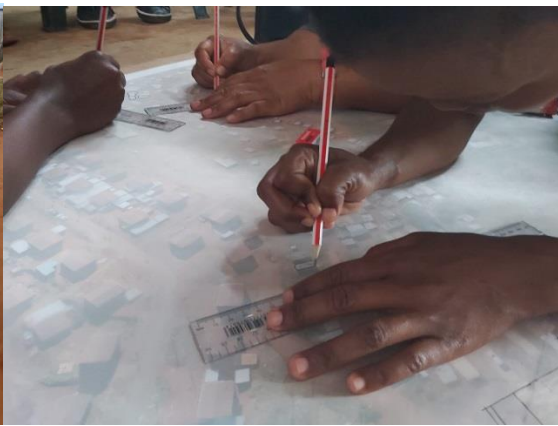




“iQhaza Lethu”
*An informal settlement upgrading partnership
initiative co-funded by the European Union*

Socio-economic field survey report (‘Enumeration’) (Feb. 2021)

Compiled by Robert Mann



1. Purpose:

In order to address poverty, living conditions and socio-economic exclusion of vulnerable informal settlements residents, eThekweni Municipality in partnership with iQhaza Lethu has developed a set of upgrading plans to secure funding and plan for optimised upgrading initiatives that are co-developed by the project team and the community. This community based upgrading model is based primarily on an understanding of the specific conditions that apply to each settlement, while at the same time leveraging new partnerships and local capacity.

The Socio Economic Survey and enumeration through mapping enables us to understand site conditions and allows us to adapt the upgrading plans to suit these conditions, priorities and developmental direction the community has indicated through its responses to the survey questions. Furthermore the survey and mapping exercises help to build social capital, mobilise local capacity support in the upgrading partnership and is the first step in developing social capital, leadership capacitation and implementing training workshops.

2. Progress

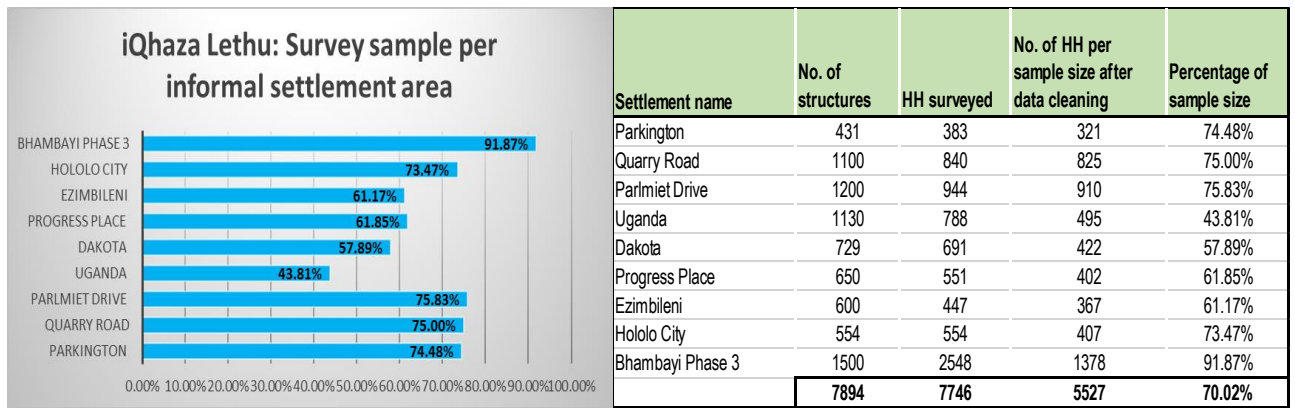
The initial process relating to the socio survey was the development of a set of survey questionnaires. As the project brings together a range of different developmental stakeholders including locally interested stakeholders, Communities, NPOs and Municipality, this proved to be a lengthy comprehensive but ultimately a fruitful process.

Thereafter communities identified a set of potential survey field workers focusing especially on the youth and women from their areas, those initially chosen were then trained in batches, evaluated and finally selected by the survey team and community to work in each area. The training of survey fieldworkers from participating settlements commenced in September 2019. To date Iqhaza Lethu have trained and employed over 80 local people, in all settlements:

Nine settlements were surveyed by the Iqhaza Lethu survey team while Havelock was surveyed by SASDI as they had existing community relationships through working in the area for some time. Fieldworkers were managed by PPT through two community based survey managers who were on site during the data capturing stage, and assisted in training, logistics and trouble-shooting.

The survey was captured both on a hand-held android tablet that enabled GPS locations capture and through a backup paper based questionnaire. Survey data was then automatically transferred, via the cloud to a central database location to enable data cleaning and analysis.

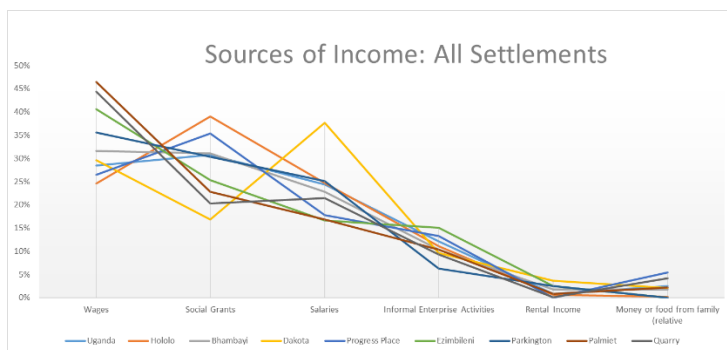
While the survey team reached a significant portion of the total targeted households, a number of incomplete, spoiled or incorrectly filled in survey questionnaires resulted in an average sample size of over 70% which is still extremely high for a sample survey.



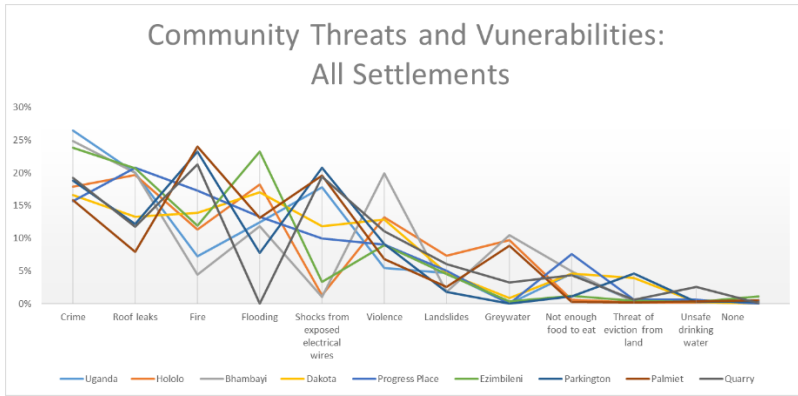
3. Learning

A key component of any survey is the accuracy and quality of the data. Although the completion of survey forms and the payment of the fieldworkers was extensively workshopped with the community based field workers there was dissatisfaction with the payment system. This dissatisfaction led to a high percentage of incomplete or spoiled forms.

There were a number of cross cutting results across the ten iQhaza Lethu settlements these include:

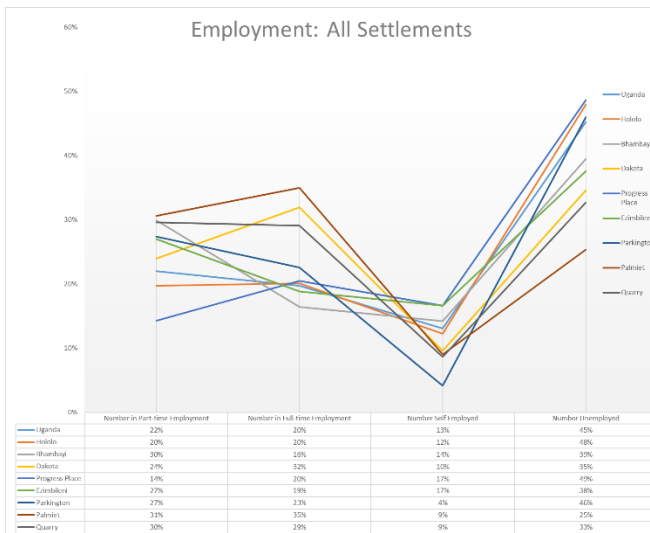


Sources of income: A significant percentage of households in the iQhaza Lethu settlements survive on wages, social grants with a lesser dependence on salaries, Dakota is the exception with the highest percentage of salaries as a source of income. Dakota's location within an industrial area with a greater pool of potential jobs is reflected in their sources of income. Dependency on social grants is highest in Hololo (39%), Progress Place (35%), Uganda (31%) and Bhambayi (31%).



Key threats and vulnerabilities identified include

Crime, roof leaks, fire, flooding and landslides, violence and shocks from electrical wires.

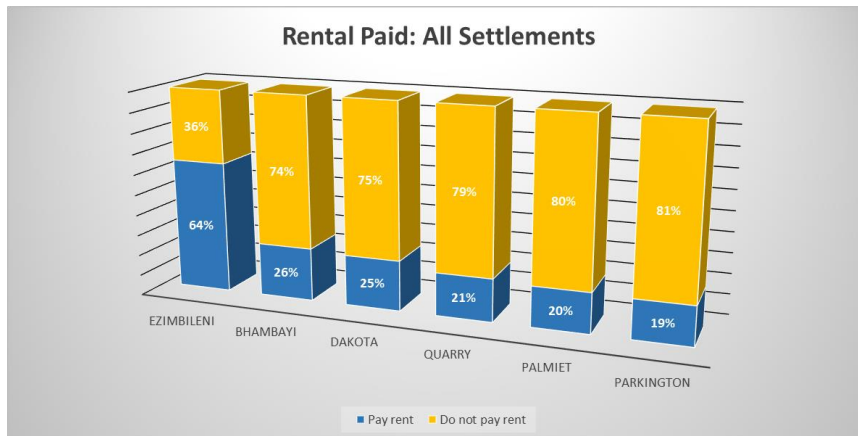


Unemployment levels are high with an average unemployment of 40%: Progress Place (49%) and Hololo City (48%), have the highest levels of unemployment. The average for part time employment is 25% while the average for self-employment is 12%.

4. Way forward

Key components of the survey will inform the Upgrading Plans to follow.

One example is the high percentage of rental activity in eZimbileni which requires a different developmental approach than the other settlements with lower rental activity.



It is quite a different prospect to provide alternative accommodation to an owner and family of a three bedroom structure blocking a service line, than to provide alternative accommodation to a row of rental rooms filled with

tenants. In one case in eZimbileni, a row of five rooms had 2, 1, 2, 3 and 6 occupants per room, most of them migrant workers, not living with their families and therefore each represents a single family unit. To provide alternative accommodation to all of these tenants as individual families and the owner is not a viable option both in terms of cost and available space for relocations.