

Sanergy: Tackling Sanitation in Kenyan Slums



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Nairobi Background Information
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 Nairobi is the capital and largest city of Kenya, located in the east of the country. It is a major financial and commercial hub for East Africa. The city is known for its modern architecture and vibrant culture. It is also a major center for education and healthcare in the region.

Kenya Background Information (cont.)
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 Kenya is a country in East Africa, known for its diverse wildlife and natural beauty. It is a major tourist destination and a significant player in the global economy. The country has a rich cultural heritage and is home to many ethnic groups. It is also a major center for education and healthcare in the region.

HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Nairobi
 The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Nairobi has been a major public health concern for several years. The city has one of the highest rates of HIV infection in the world. This is due to a combination of factors, including high levels of poverty, low levels of education, and a high level of sexual activity. The epidemic has led to a significant loss of life and a major burden on the healthcare system.



Solution to Tribalism
 Tribalism is a major social and political issue in Kenya. It is a system of social organization that is based on kinship and lineage. Tribalism has led to a long history of conflict and division in the country. However, there are several solutions that can be implemented to address this issue. These include promoting national unity, improving education, and strengthening the legal system.



A giraffe within the borders of Nairobi National Park.

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Poor Sanitation
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 Poor sanitation is a major public health problem in Nairobi. It is a condition in which people do not have access to adequate and safe sanitation facilities. This leads to a high level of disease and a major burden on the healthcare system. There are several solutions that can be implemented to address this issue, including improving water supply, promoting hygiene, and strengthening the legal system.



HIV/AIDS Epidemic in Nairobi (cont.)
 The HIV/AIDS epidemic in Nairobi is a complex issue that requires a multi-faceted approach. One of the key factors contributing to the epidemic is the high level of poverty and low levels of education. This leads to a high level of risk-taking behavior and a lack of access to healthcare services. There are several solutions that can be implemented to address this issue, including improving education, promoting hygiene, and strengthening the legal system.



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Crime Problem (cont.)
 Crime is a major public health problem in Nairobi. It is a condition in which people do not feel safe in their communities. This leads to a high level of fear and a major burden on the healthcare system. There are several solutions that can be implemented to address this issue, including improving law enforcement, promoting community safety, and strengthening the legal system.

Poor Sanitation (cont.)
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Overpopulation, Overcrowding, and Transportation
 Overpopulation, overcrowding, and transportation are major public health problems in Nairobi. They are conditions in which people do not have access to adequate and safe living conditions. This leads to a high level of disease and a major burden on the healthcare system. There are several solutions that can be implemented to address these issues, including improving urban planning, promoting public transportation, and strengthening the legal system.



Crime Problem
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Year	Population	Urbanization
2000	3.2 million	50%
2010	4.5 million	60%
2020	6.0 million	70%

Potential Solutions to Congestion
 Congestion is a major public health problem in Nairobi. It is a condition in which people do not have access to adequate and safe transportation. This leads to a high level of stress and a major burden on the healthcare system. There are several solutions that can be implemented to address this issue, including improving public transportation, promoting carpooling, and strengthening the legal system.



Rush Hour in Nairobi

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Tribalism

Nairobi Background Information

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- Nairobi is the capital city of Kenya, the most economically empowered country in east Africa. It has a population reaching over 3 million people. Nairobi is also known as “green city in the sun”.

Post Independence: “After independence, Nairobi grew rapidly and this growth put pressure on the city's infrastructure. Power cuts and water shortages were a common occurrence, though in the past few years better city planning has helped to put some of these problems in check.

- In 1975 Nairobi was the host city of the 5th Assembly of the World Council of Churches.
- The U.S. embassy in the heart of Nairobi was bombed on August 7, 1998 by Al-Qaida, as one of a series of U.S. embassy bombings. Over two hundred civilians were killed in the embassy and another 213 persons in the surrounding area with more than 5,000 people injured. The effects were widespread and devastating. The embassy was completely destroyed and another forty buildings severely damaged.
- The growth of Nairobi has put pressure on the government to develop and maintain protected lands such as the Nairobi National Park. The new residential areas for the growing human population are making inroads into lands that have been traditionally the migration routes for huge animal herds”.



A giraffe within the borders of Nairobi National Park.

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Nairobi Background Information (cont.)

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Kibera Slums: According to Kibera.org.uk, “approx 2.5 million slum dwellers in about 200 settlements in Nairobi representing 60% of the Nairobi population, occupying just 6% of the land. Kibera houses almost 1 Million of these people. Kibera is the biggest slum in Africa and one of the biggest in the world”.

- Only about 20% of Kenya has electricity,
- Until recently Kibera had no water and it had to be collected from the Nairobi dam. The dam water is not clean and causes typhoid and cholera.
- Changaa- a cheap alcohol (over 50% alcohol) is usually consumed by the unemployed, and is consumed in the morning and throughout the day. This leads to many problems such as violence, crime and rape.
- Abortion is very common in this area. At one time more than 50% of girls ages 16-25 are pregnant. This is due to many men not wearing condoms and the easy consumption of Changaa. Most pregnancies are unwanted and result in abortion. This is very dangerous in such a poor area with little to no medical care.
- Unemployment is very high; at least 50% of the population is unemployed.

Businesses in Nairobi: Nairobi is a major business hub, and is a manufacturing city for products like building materials, processed foods, clothing and textiles, beverages and cigarettes. It is a regional and national headquarters for many various international and business organizations.

Rapid Urbanization: Nairobi has a bustling population growth, rapid urbanization and industrialization consume a lot of their natural resources with is causing an alarming environmental degradation.

Poor Sanitation

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- The large and ongoing population and poor city planning in Nairobi contributes to the environmental and unsanitary conditions.
- 40% of the total population in Nairobi lives in Urban developments.
- Over 60% of the urban population relies on water vendors or unprotected natural sources where water quality has high contamination risk and may be from an illegal source.
- Only about 1/5 of informal settlement residents have access to household toilet facilities, more than 1/2 rely on community shared facilities and 6% have to rely on “flying toilets” because they have no access to facilities.
- The Dandora municipal dumping site is only 5 miles away from Nairobi’s center, causing large health risks to the people who live in the slums in that area.
- The Ngong River is the most polluted in Kenya, due to industrial waste such as Petro-chemicals, metals, oil, and grease.
- Improperly treated sewage and littered garbage near water sources, viciously pollute what water resources Nairobi does have.
- Farmers use these polluted waters as irrigation for their crops, causing diarrheal disease and helminthic infections in the people who consume them.



Poor Sanitation (cont.)

What if the poor sanitation in Nairobi could be resolved? What are some ways in that Nairobi is rectifying the problem?

- Nairobi River Basin Programme (NRBP) serves to rehabilitate, restore, and manage ecosystem of the Nairobi River.
- This could help improve livelihoods, especially for the poor, enhance biodiversity, and provide a sustainable water supply for domestic, industrial, recreational, and emergency uses.

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Crime Problem

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- One of the biggest problems in Kenya is crime, especially in the city of Nairobi.
- With such a high population and being a tourist hotspot, Nairobi is home to a high rate of crime. The most common crimes in Nairobi are robbery, carjacking, and murder. Nairobi averages 10 vehicle hijackings per day. Thieves often snatch valuables from unaware bystanders in buses, trains, and their own cars. Violent home invasions are fairly common as well.
- In most instances, the criminals use weapons when carrying out crimes. Most crimes occur in poorly lit areas. The high rate of crime stems from the police response in Nairobi. Police lack proper equipment, training, and manpower to respond to emergencies. The police have a poor record of investigating and solving crimes. Ineffective justice and legal systems at all levels has led to corruption as well.