

A comprehensive revitalization project is underway for seven informal settlements in Kigali City, aiming to uplift living standards and ensure the safety of residents in these vulnerable areas.

Building upon prior initiatives in Nyarugenge Sector (Biryogo and Gatare cells) and Gitega Sector (Mpazi), where crucial infrastructure upgrades were executed, this new endeavor seeks to further enhance the well-being of inhabitants.

Kigali City Mayor, Samuel Dusengiyumva, unveiled the plans during a meeting with members of the Commission for Monitoring the Use of Finances and National Assets (PAC) on May 8, 2024.

He underscored the project's core objective of elevating living conditions, stating, "Our aim is to transform these areas for the betterment of residents."

The targeted areas for rehabilitation encompass Nyabisindu, Nyagatovu Remera, Gatenga in Kicukiro, a site near the Inteko (Parliament), and Kagugu. Mayor Dusengiyumva emphasized the relocation efforts being made for residents in certain areas to facilitate the renovation process.

Moreover, this initiative aligns with a broader national agenda on housing development. Rwanda presently hosts over 130 housing sites, with plans underway for an additional 11 districts in the upcoming fiscal year.

The Ministry of Infrastructure (MININFRA) reports 87 developed housing sites within Kigali City, covering an expanse of 1381 hectares. Additionally, 42 sites, spanning 5113 hectares, have been developed in the wider province, all under stringent monitoring to ensure proper settlement.

Charles Kalinda, Director of Policy and Planning at MININFRA, reiterated the ministry's dedication to supporting the new housing policy and regulations.

"We have established a robust system for housing allocation, ensuring optimal utilization of each site before expansion. Regulations are actively enforced, and the existing housing policy is undergoing revision in line with the outcomes of the National Strategy for Transformation (NST1)," he elaborated.