Viana is one of the fastest-growing regions of Luanda because it still has large amounts of open land. Rapid growth brings with it challenges such as finding ways to provide schools, health facilities and basic services to a growing population.

Population

Viana had the highest annual rate of growth in Luanda. Between 2000 and 2008 Viana added 1 million new residents and its population grew at an annual rate of 42%.

Survey Results

In 2012, the Forum surveyed households about basic services and conditions in Viana. The result of the survey are presented in the Viana Atlas along with other data collected by Development Workshop. The atlas can be downloaded at http://viana.forum.angonet.org.

Gaps in public services result in high prices for water for residents. Only 13% of residents have public water service in Viana.

Water

While the whole area currently lacks full water service, EPAL is in the process of setting up individual connections to each house. At the meantime, many people are still using community stand posts for their water supply.

“IT IS IMPORTANT TO HAVE THE NEIGHBORHOOD CLEAN BECAUSE YOU AVOID EPIDEMICS SUCH AS MALARIA, THAT COMES FROM TRASH, AND IT’S BETTER FOR HEALTH IN GENERAL.”

Education

About 15% of school-age children in Viana, or approximately 40,000 out of 273,000, do not attend school.

“IT IS THE FUNDAMENTAL POINT FOR ANY HUMAN BEING. TO BE A WISE PERSON YOU HAVE TO PASS THROUGH THE PROCESS CALLED EDUCATION.”

Housing

Because there is open and agricultural land in Viana, the average density (eight people per acre) does not reflect the actual densities in the most crowded areas – where the density may be more than 300 per hectare.

“IT IS CRITICAL TO HAVE WATER, WATER IS LIFE. WE HAVE FAMILIES, NO ONE CAN LIVE WITHOUT WATER.”

Housing

The Ministry of Housing currently works with Chinese builders and development agencies to construct housing that is connected with other urban services.

“IT IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE THEY ARE PART OF OUR HEALTH, THEY HELP PEOPLE AVOID ILLNESSES.”

Latrines

Promoting the use of latrines and raising awareness about community and hygiene helps to ensure a healthy community and build unity.

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Health

Viana’s biggest health problem is lack of basic sanitation that leads to malaria and other diseases, but most of these are preventable.

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