



# Experiences of urban relocation and life in condominiums in Addis Ababa

## Key Findings

- Condominiums enabled poor and middle-income households to become house owners.
- The move to condominiums resulted in improvements in housing, water and sanitation.
- Adolescents faced problems moving during the school year: commuting was costly and time consuming and so most moved to schools in the new areas the following year.
- Adolescents considered schools and health facilities to be of lower quality in the new condominiums; families who could afford to do so preferred to use private clinics.
- Markets and shops were initially less well developed in the new areas, and young people complained of limited recreation options.
- Pollution and safety were greater concerns in the old neighbourhoods, and condominiums were seen as safer and cleaner.
- Overall, adolescents felt the move was positive and most adapted quickly, though social ties were weaker in the new condominiums.
- Adolescents in the condominiums appear to have more agency in decision-making and better internet access.
- Gender differences in decision-making, leisure activities and spending were significant: adolescent girls had less freedom, but mobile phones and social media made a difference.