

The South African Food Sovereignty Campaign (SAFSC)

Let's talk about hunger! Build a food system for all!

Our food system is broken. It benefits only the corporations that run it. It is **unjust**: half our people go hungry or are at risk of going hungry, while a third of all the food we produce is wasted. It is **unsustainable** because industrial agriculture relies on oil-based fertilizers and pesticides. It is **unsafe** because of the large amounts of chemicals, salt and sugar in the food we buy from shops.

Hunger, like apartheid, is a crime against humanity. More and more people are hungry because they are caught between rising food prices and low incomes. With more droughts and floods caused by climate change the number of hungry people will increase.

The broken food system cannot be fixed. It must be completely changed. Together we must develop a vision of a different system that is just, sustainable and safe; a system based on **food sovereignty**. This puts the needs of those who produce and consume food at the centre of the food system, rather than the interests of the corporations. It means:

1. Making the right to food in our constitution real.
2. Challenging the power of corporations in the food system.
3. Working harmoniously with nature through agro-ecology which means supporting existing ecological systems, and for example, using local seeds, organic manure and natural ways of managing pests.
4. Bringing producers and consumers of food closer together through the solidarity economy including local community markets, worker cooperatives and ethical food cooperatives.
5. Challenging food profiteering and reduce food prices.
6. Improving the wages and conditions of workers in the food industry.

Alone we are powerless, but if we work together we are strong. Working for food sovereignty could be a first step towards creating a new South Africa – a democratic, eco-socialist society in which no one goes hungry and we stop working against nature.

No to hunger! Yes to dignity! Food Sovereignty is a peoples right!

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