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Editorial

The EFF's Wrecking Ball Politics is Fascist rather than Left

Vishwas Satgar



Introduction

DEMOCRACY

Student politics is fractious and complicated by its populist character - whoever steps in front leads the crowd. I came face to face with this reality twice in the past few months: first in a church at a University of the Witwatersrand peace meeting in October and, more recently, at the Higher Education Convention, co-hosted by the National Education Crisis Forum.

The peace meeting was disrupted by the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF). At the convention, students and workers wanted recognition for their struggles and the convention was one way to affirm that and ensure the powerful were listening. The convention ended in an EFF-led brawl and with students turning on each other. Months of

organisation and preparation for an inclusive platform for constituency-based policy dialogue were destabilised.

The alternative to dialogue is too ghastly to contemplate: violent student protest and deepening state-led "securitisation" at universities and, more broadly, societal struggles. Universities will not survive in this context and South Africa's tenuous democracy will plunge further into crisis. Student formations are generally extensions of political formations. This complicates the dynamics in student politics and in #FeesMustFall protests. Who is really leading?

The EFF is an interesting example in this regard, given its militaristic and hierarchical



form of organisation. For the EFF, delegitimising the ANC at all costs means the worse things get the better for the party in any social arena. Deepening crisis through disruption is a political strategy. From Parliament to universities, the EFF's mode of often violent disruptive engagement is becoming central to its political practice and this is also diffusing as a societal norm. This means the EFF, in the context of the Higher Education Convention, was not willing to rise above its narrow partisan interests and place the interests of the country first. Solutions to take the country forward are not important but short-term political calculation to upstage the ANC state is all that matters — even in a context in which the main protagonist of social dialogue is not even the ANC state.

This is not oppositional politics but the politics of wrecking everything because collective societal solutions don't matter. It also means this short-term strategy will, intentionally and unintentionally, unleash forces that will also clash with the EFF down the road. It is breeding politics that will come back to harm it, assuming it is successful in growing in electoral terms. But perpetual violent disruption as a mode of politics also means politics bereft of an understanding of what is essential for a democracy to work. South Africa's transformative constitutionalism, like all modern democracies, requires all contending political forces to accept certain rights and procedural standards in the political game.

A crucial assumption at work in this political framework is the idea that political difference is acceptable and should not become antagonistic. The EFF does not respect political difference and is antagonistic to all political forces that do not agree with it. It is not just unSouth African, as some have suggested, but is also deeply undemocratic. Competitive political escalation for the EFF means: accept its way or face

violence. Does this make the EFF fascist? Liberal journalists, some academics and even the South African Communist Party have declared the EFF fascist. The notion of fascism is a slippery concept to define. As an appellation it has multiple meanings, both historically and comparatively. Liberal scholars usually work with a typology of key characteristics to define fascism such as: charismatic leadership, racism, ultra-nationalism, paramilitarism, violence (actual or threatened), anti-parliamentarianism, anti-constitutionalism and anti-Semitism.

This is helpful to a degree, but runs into analytical problems given that context-specific conditions and dynamics shape fascist forces. In the first half of the 20th century it was easy to discern national variations of either Italian fascism or Nazi totalitarianism.

Today, fascism is mutating and manifesting in a complex matrix of national and global material conditions. It has arrived dressed in pinstriped suits or sometimes as a suicide bomber.

This brings us back to the question: Are those wearing red berets under the EFF banner fascists? Is the main contribution the EFF has made to South African politics merely to draw more taut the line between those for democratic transformation and those against?

The EFF is a contradictory formation and on its current trajectory it is not a visionary nation builder, nor a programmatic force for change, nor a democratic political opposition. Although at some moments it looks good in relation to the kleptocratic Jacob Zuma regime, we should not assume that it is better. The EFF expresses serious ambiguities in its ideological make-up: constitutional/anti-constitutional, Marxist-Leninist/stakeholder capitalist, male chauvinist/yet appealing to some women, decolonising/yet willing to accept support from white capital. The EFF, like historical fascism, draws its ideas from across the political spectrum. As a result, what it stands for



in terms of values, beliefs and ideology is unclear. It makes it up as it goes through the theatre of national politics, expedient political manoeuvring and through its authoritarian populist inventiveness. The EFF received just over a million votes in the previous elections. Does this mean that those who vote for it believe in its mercurial, shallow and makeshift belief system? Are these the citizens who buy into the spectacle of authoritarian populist politics?

An electoral outcome is difficult to decipher. There are always different degrees of support for any political party. This ranges from hard-core support and sympathisers to swing voters. In the last election, the EFF certainly picked up a significant anti-ANC vote and it also found traction in sections of the black middle class and the unemployed poor. The EFF could not build on this momentum of national support and win a local government election outright. Instead it emerged from the elections as a coalition partner to the neoliberal Democratic Alliance in most big metros. Moreover, given its disposition to violent disruption and its inability to provide a way forward on national challenges, it is likely that its electoral support has peaked. The next national election will be telling and will really be surprising if South Africans vote for a party that merely offers fiery rhetoric, intolerance and violence. But this still leaves red on EFF T-shirts, berets and paraphernalia. What does this mean? For some the red dimension of EFF identity makes it left, coupled with a militant dose of rhetoric, such as evoking the big N word — nationalisation. Nationalisation has always been about state capitalism and nothing more. The EFF has successfully claimed a space to the left of the ANC and has projected itself as a left force, picking up on residual anti-establishment sentiment.

Yet its antics in Parliament of representing workers

with overalls and hard hats smacks of hypocrisy. Whereas most workers earn less than R3 000 a month, an EFF MP earns more than R1-million a year or more than R80 000 a month. It pays to act exploited in the EFF script.

But the EFF should not believe that workers are not watching or are unaware of the social distance. Moreover, the EFF has not united left forces of the working class, the left intelligentsia or more generally left social movements. Nor has it provided a serious analysis of contemporary capitalism to guide its interventions. The EFF, in claiming to be left, has undermined the prospects of the left in South Africa. It is contributing to the defeat of the left. The EFF is not a left force by any stretch of the imagination despite its own declarations, the colour red in its identity and simplistic media representations of it as a left party. An EFF in power will not take South Africa to the left; it does not have what it takes. An EFF-led South Africa will probably mean most South Africans will think the Zuma days were wonderful.

There is no straight line from Malema to the United States' Donald Trump, to France's far-right Marine Le Pen or even the fundamentalist group al-Shabab. The EFF is not fascist in the 20th-century sense, but is certainly expressing elements of a 21st-century fascism in its role in South African politics. It is pioneering an original fascism in the South African context. As it fights the ANC and other progressive social forces violently, it is also delegitimising democratic processes and forms of dialogue. Unlike the ANC, the EFF claims to be left yet it is politically and ideologically certainly not left. Anti-capitalist ideology is meaningless in the EFF understanding of the world and thus it is not a serious left-orientated force. The interests it seeks to aggregate are disparate and not representative of the working class as a whole. Its disdain for hard-won democratic values, constitutional principles and practices makes it nothing less than an



antidemocratic pariah.

South Africans need to choose carefully where they stand in relation to the EFF. The national dialogue to resolve the higher education crisis will continue in coming months, with or without the EFF. Student formations also have to reflect on their commitment to disciplined, inclusive and respectful democratic dialogue to find policy solutions.

This article was published in the Mail & Guardian, 5 April 2017. Source:

<https://mg.co.za/article/2017-04-04-the-effs-wrecking-ball-politics-is-fascist-rather-than-left>

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International News

The Permanent Community Energy Cooperative: Building a Just Transition Now

By Subin Varghese - cross-posted from GEO news

Step 1 - Start Now

Don't wait. That's rule #1 for living in a world where we're already feeling the impacts of climate change; millions of lives and livelihoods are at risk — or stand to benefit from solutions — in this and future decades. We needed a just transition of our energy economy yesterday. And while there are challenges to universal access and equitably shared benefits from clean energy, there are steps we can take today to start building projects, jobs, and improved health in local communities.



Step 2 - Appreciate the puzzle, and don't let barriers stop you

As we described in our Community Energy Puzzle post, community-owned renewable energy has the potential to expand opportunities for ordinary citizens to put their money toward community-controlled energy facilities so neighbors can share in both electricity and the economic, social, and health benefits of clean energy. However, because our current legal system favors the wealthiest sectors of society, it's not legal in most states to share electricity from solar panels with your neighbors, and it's almost impossible for renters, nonprofits, or

cooperatives to benefit from the tax incentives that exist to promote solar and wind energy projects.

Our team has spent two years mapping the legal landscape of community-owned energy, and we have not found a community-owned energy model in the U.S. that appears to be scalable. Existing successful projects provide much to learn from, but also benefit from unique regulatory environments, financing opportunities, the wealth of higher income communities, or institutional support that may not be available to most communities. Further, we've uncovered legal barriers in the realms of securities, tax, and utilities regulation. Combined, those barriers prevent ordinary people from:

1. putting money into,
2. receiving tax benefits from, and
3. directly purchasing energy from their own renewable energy projects.

From this exploration, we hatched an idea: the Permanent Community Energy Cooperative.





Step 3 - Build today and plan for tomorrow **2. Decentralized Community-Building:**

Based on our research of existing models and legal barriers, we've come up with an energy development and ownership model called the Permanent Community Energy Cooperative (PCEC), a scalable model that gives communities permanent access to and control over their power.

The model's key innovation is to leverage existing, but little-known, collective finance mechanisms for cooperative entities. Initially, PCECs will be more like energy investment cooperatives than consumer cooperatives. Until laws change, members may not be able to receive energy directly from the cooperative, so the PCEC will have a built-in and legally enforceable adaptation mechanism to enable members to receive energy when regulations make it viable. Meanwhile, as described below, a PCEC can drive energy development by meeting other essential needs for members: 1) money, 2) community, 3) good jobs, and 4) a just, sustainable, and secure future.

1. Divestment and Investment Opportunities:

The PCEC provides a rare opportunity for low- to moderate-income people to invest in their local community and earn a modest return. In 2015, our team drafted and passed a California bill that essentially legalizes equity crowdfunding for cooperatives. We believe the growing movement to divest from fossil fuels will drive community capital toward PCECs. By harnessing the consumer and investor dollars of ordinary people, we believe we can overcome barriers to community-owned energy, activate a demand-driven market transformation nationwide, and accelerate a just transition to renewable energy.

The model is designed to fuel project development by harnessing existing social connections and communities of interest. As with traditional "barn raising" and fraternal insurance societies, this strategy is tried and true. Food, drink, music, sports, and other social activities are built into the practical management of common resources around the world. In the energy context, pairing renewable development with social activity lends cohesion and commitment to project development.

Relatedly, the model will rely on a decentralized organizational structure. Each PCEC is designed to scale rapidly, in part because the financing model depends on building a large membership base. A decentralized structure can retain the tight-knit quality of communities by supporting people to come together in small groups and build community around launching each energy project. Decentralized organizations represent both innovation in organizational design (see the book "Reinventing Organizations") and yet another tried, true, and timeless structure for human activity.

3. A New Workforce:

A decentralized, democratic, and mission-driven organization requires a particular kind of workforce. Each PCEC employee will be a steward of the cooperative's mission, tasked with nurturing community projects and managing technical and administrative logistics. Governance among staff will be relatively nonhierarchical to remove inefficiencies of bureaucracy, place each worker in a position of direct accountability to community groups, and tap fully into workers' intrinsic drive to push projects forward. Since PCECs are designed to scale, a PCEC movement could rapidly create jobs and fulfill a craving for meaningful and sustainable work for



tens of thousands of new workers and create a path to transition workers in the fossil fuel economy.

4. Building Movements Toward a Rapid and Just Renewables Transition:

If investing opportunities, community-building, and good job creation are not enough of a driver for member engagement, then a desire for equity and sustainability may seal the deal. A PCEC is a vehicle for building a broad-based movement, setting into motion widespread renewables development, and ensuring that the transition to renewables enables communities to own and control their power in the long run.

A PCEC can address many of the current barriers to community-owned energy:

Barrier	PCEC Response
Sharing electricity is expensive or not legal	-First build projects on the property of local nonprofits, cooperatives, or businesses that can take advantage of existing net metering programs -Adapt to allow sharing when laws change
Nonprofit entities or low/moderate income customers are unable to benefit from the federal solar tax credit	-Reduce costs by scale of project or include tax equity partners in development and ensure complete cooperative ownership in the long term
Securities regulations limit crowdfunding options	-Crowdfund using cooperative memberships of between \$50 – \$1,000
Renters and low-income individuals can't participate	-Everyone can participate by investing in community energy via coop memberships, and by helping to spearhead project development -Adapt to allow renters and low-income customers to share electricity when laws change

We believe the PCEC model represents a breakthrough and has great potential to be replicated by grassroots communities everywhere, particularly if we can demonstrate it with a successful pilot. A pilot can also catalyze policy change by demonstrating to lawmakers that current laws are preventing innovation and equitable development.

Permanent Community Energy Cooperatives are an opportunity to start healing the planet and



communities today through equitable energy development. They're also "fun-work" that can bring people together, create results to celebrate, and build stronger bonds for more resilient, thriving communities.

Article source: <http://www.geo.coop/story/permanent-community-energy-cooperative>





National News

Jekezi Development Forum

By Nosintu Mcimeli - Activist, Eastern Cape



CHILDREN'S MOVEMENT

Being an activist involves working within communities at large but, what I've found is that the exclusion of children makes me incomplete. The Xilinx Children's Movement accommodates children between the ages of 7 and 14 years old.

Programs:

On Mondays and Wednesdays we have educational programs with them and this also includes group homework.

On Tuesday, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturday afternoons we do gardening programs (practicals)

These projects help the children learn about agroecology, GMO's, water harvesting, drought, climate change and more. The children are currently learning about food sovereignty and climate change

ABANEHBONGO: Persons with disabilities
We started a group for persons with disabilities in our community since we know that most of the time disabled people are excluded in communities and are left to think that they don't qualify or are not entitled to work on a certain project.

The group has a well-equipped office (courtesy of APD Nelson Mandela bay) and it is fully furnished – thanks to the Department of Social Development.

The group also owns a garden whereby members grow their own food and learn about seed sharing and seed banking and much more as they also work with the children's group.

We recently received a donation of 2 big Jojo tanks which the groups are willing to share between them for their gardens.

Western Cape Strategy on Household Food and Nutrition Security

By Heidi Swanby

You should read the Western Cape Strategic Framework for Household Food and Nutrition Security (*available at <https://www.westerncape.gov.za/food>*). There is some pretty eye-popping jaw dropping stuff in there. For example, the ultimate vision of the Strategy is for *"all residents in the Western Cape [to] have access to and control over the physical, social and economic means to ensure sufficient, safe and nutritious food at all times, which meet their preferences, in order to meet the dietary requirements for a healthy life"*. It reads like a Food Sovereignty manifesto, there in black and white in an official policy document.

Just as astounding are some of the findings and statistics around hunger, malnutrition and obesity



in South Africa and the Western Cape in particular. We should never cease to be shocked that in our country, which is formally classified as “food secure”, people are starving and many children are starting out their lives without the necessary nutrition to grow and thrive. It is scandalous that in South Africa a quarter of our children are stunted (found to be 20.7% in the WC) – their bodies can’t grow properly due to lack of nutrition and this affects their lifelong health as well as their ability to learn and socialise, handicapping them for life.

In the City of Cape Town, at least 31% of households are constantly battling to keep the wolf of hunger from the door; cutting down on the size and number of meals and/or buying cheap food that fills stomachs but doesn’t supply enough nutrition to build healthy bodies (eating these “empty calories” can lead to malnourished individuals who are also obese with a greater risk of diabetes and hypertension, so malnutrition is not only about those with no flesh on their bones). Almost 7% of households in the Western Cape experience extreme hunger, often going without any food at all for more than 24 hours.

In addition, while breast milk is the perfect food for infants, South Africa has one of the lowest rates of exclusive breastfeeding in the world. A major reason for this is that mothers need to leave their babies in care and return to work as soon as possible, there are also stigmas related to breastfeeding, strong messages regarding the dangers of breastfeeding and HIV positive mothers and other reasons.

It is vital that children get adequate nutrition in their first thousand days (starting from conception) to set the tone for a healthy life. Unfortunately in these vital pre-school years many children don’t have access to feeding schemes or assistance from social workers as they are not yet in a formal system that can identify and assist vulnerable children. This is a

crucial gap that needs urgent solutions.

The Strategy identified the following causes of hunger and malnutrition and key areas to be addressed:

- On-going nutrition transition and impact on health;
- Long-term impact of under-nutrition of children;
- Continued duality of agricultural system with large commercial farms producing for formal value chains and most smallholders remaining marginal;
- Rapid urbanisation and increasing shift to buying food;
- Concentration of power in the food system;
- Significance of the informal sector;
- Scarcity of arable land and water;
- Policy silences regarding food and development planning;
- Impacts of climate change; and
- Increasing volumes of food waste

In the Strategy, the Western Cape Government has taken a “food systems approach” to this multifaceted crises, which entails addressing “the activities, actors and institutions that grow, process, distribute, acquire, consume and dispose of food and how they interact with other systems and actors (e.g. health, social security, resources, economic opportunity, spatial planning, the state of agriculture and the environment)”. Implementing this “whole society” approach is hugely ambitious for many reasons, but

Nutrition transition is the way our diets are changing due to the industrial food system and urbanisation, with high levels of sugar, salt and trans-fats. We find mixtures of wasting, stunting and obesity and high levels of diseases such as diabetes, hypertension and cancers.



not least because it will require immense political will and guts to challenge the deeply entrenched and concentrated corporate power in the food system that shapes our failing food system from seed to fork. Or for example, to deal with the long outstanding and intractable issue of land. Not only does the WC government not have access to the necessary levers to shift national policy and research agendas to transform the current system, but local government has also repeatedly shown itself to be pro-corporate and actively hostile toward civic organisation, engagement and expertise*, leaving a wake of mistrust and cynicism.

While the Strategy document has taken the important step of giving a bold and frank assessment of the underlying causes of hunger and malnutrition, the solutions section is pretty thin and not nearly radical enough. While it is difficult to challenge the entire industrial system head on, the food sovereignty movement has a vital role in developing small pockets of difference in our food system, where small economies flourish around environmentally conscious producers, where we find diverse diets, decent work and where people actually care about one another and those who are vulnerable in our communities.

Pockets where healthy and tasty food is not only the preserve of the wealthy and our body and souls are nourished. It is then up to us as the food sovereignty movement in the Western Cape to grow and nourish our work on the ground to show in practice what a better system looks like. We need to work together and to become ever-more clear about the policy environment we need to safeguard and grow our vision and to demand recognition and support for our efforts that are already contributing toward a new food system that produces a food in a healthy, environmentally and socially just manner.

If you are an organisation or entrepreneur in the food system that is already doing this, please post details of your work on the Cape Town Food Sovereignty Face Book page or mail haidee@polka.co.za so that we can share with each other and with the WC Premier's office. Although the comment period on the Strategy closed at the end of February, Tristan Gorgens, who is responsible for this draft, has emphasised that they want it to be a "living document" and therefore welcome ongoing engagement. He can be contacted at tristan.gorgens@westerncape.gov.za.

*prime examples include the ongoing battle to safeguard the Phillipi Horticulture Area and the precious aquifer it sits on from private development and sand mining, or the removal of inner-city residents to far flung un-serviced areas to make way for gentrification of old established working class neighbourhoods such as Woodstock.





The Food Sovereignty Campaign

Launch of the West Coast Food Sovereignty and Solidarity Forum

By Davine Cloete - Activist, West Coast

The community of Lutzville and the fisher folk of Ebenaezer and Papendorp launched the West Coast Food Sovereignty and Solidarity Forum on 16 October 2016.



Hunger is a big problem in the rural communities. Most of the local people are forced to work for contractors on farms for less than the minimum wage set by the government in the sectoral determination. The aim of the forum is to build a strong movement in the mine-evicted communities along the West Coast from Saldanha upwards to Alexander Bay. At their planning meeting on 4 February, the forum decided to have a few big events:

- They invited Amadiba Crisis Committee to come to Lutzville to talk about their struggles in the Wild Coast.
- They planned to show the film Showbreak.
- They decided they would picket in front of MSR Tormin mine.

Their aim is to bring all the organisations together and link them up with the national SAFSC structure. They have also planned some activist schools for 2017, one for the West Coast, one for Namakwaland, one for Hantam Karoo and one for Cape Town.

Oxfam has indicated that they will fund their activist school, but the forum is also looking for fundraising to have their own advice office.

Wits Inala Forum - Student Worker Partnerships

By Johanna Hughes with contributions by Deliwe Mzobe and Bellise Omondi



Since its conception in 2015, the Wits Inala Forum (WIF), has worked in its best efforts for students on the University's main campus. However, various common issues have surfaced between workers and students after movements such as #EndOutsourcing and #FeesMustFall. Hunger is an issue that affects us all.

Deliwe Mzobe, the coordinator of newly insourced workers stated that the workers had always been very aware of the black student struggles, they have been aware for years of students going hungry and sleeping in libraries. However, it was in 2015, when the recent student struggles started that the affiliation reignited.



Johanna Hughes, a longstanding member of the WIF states that it was also at this time that a lot of Wits students became aware of the workers' plight, not just poor wages but continuation of racial abuses, such as, having to use separate toilets and entrances to Wits. Not having enough money to eat lunch at work. So the food crisis was actually being suffered by both students and workers.

In 2015, the Wits solidarity group was born out of struggles at Wits and UJ the Oct 6 group was made up of workers students and academics, it started with a demonstration against outsourcing. There has been an overdue call for solidarity through the protests; we need a transfer of knowledge between parties and development of use of land at Wits for both parties.

The WIF has since made commitments to create a solid partnership so that students and workers learn from each other as well as share knowledge and labour capacity in the existing student garden. The long term vision is to work alongside workers, to assist them in maintaining their own garden and to encourage further networks to be built on campus and in various members' immediate communities.



The Worker Cooperative Campaign

WE OWN IT!: The Campaign on Youth Coops Entrepreneurship



For the past several years, the level of youth unemployment in the world has increased to alarming levels. At the same time, young people around the globe have been expressing increasing dissatisfaction about mainstream economic governance and an increasing interest for cooperatives, in a quest for more democracy and transparency. Cooperatives are a way to own and manage enterprises democratically: everyone's voice is heard and everyone's wellbeing is considered. WE OWN IT! campaign seeks to inspire the next generation to create more equal, fulfilling and caring workplaces through cooperatives.

24 January 2017

As worker, social and producers' cooperatives showed in the video Working together for a cooperative future, cooperators want to keep on raising awareness about how young people can meet their employment needs and aspirations while contributing to a better society through the creation of cooperatives. In order to reach this goal, CICOPA, together with the worker cooperative Alt Gen has



designed the campaign WE OWN IT! launched today.

Stay tuned: a new story of young cooperators will be uploaded each month and a study on youth cooperative entrepreneurship including the trends among young people in establishing and being part of worker, social and producers' cooperatives around the world will be published by CICOPA!

WE OWN IT! is a campaign funded by supporters all around the globe. From national organisations representing cooperatives in Argentina, Italy, the UK, Korea...to cooperative enterprises and groups like the Mondragon Corporation in Spain, The Co-operators in Canada and Ecosviluppo in Italy.

The fundrasing campaign is halfway! CICOPA has already collected €32,400 from 22 organisations and individuals that have already shown their commitment to making it real! However, there is still a long way to go before reaching the target of 70,000 Euro.

What are the modalities to contribute to the campaign?

- Donations can also be made to enhance the campaign. Donors will be mentioned on the website.
- Sponsors will have their logo published. The minimum donation required to be a sponsor is €5,000.
- Partners can help to promote and create contents for the campaign.

Article Source: <http://www.cicopa.coop/Stay-tuned-WE-OWN-IT-the-campaign.html>

Activist Resources to Build the Solidarity Economy From Below

People's Food Sovereignty Act



Solutions to the hunger crisis in South Africa have failed us, particularly those emanating from the market or the government. It is for this reason that the South African Food Sovereignty Campaign (SAFSC) seeks to unify struggles on the ground with progressive social forces to ensure that food sovereignty is placed on the national agenda and is an alternative way forward for our food system. We are not calling for technical solutions for households to access food, but rather we are calling for the deep transformation of our food system by breaking the control of food corporations and repositioning the state to realise the Constitutional right to food, and ensure the creation of conditions and space for the emergence of food sovereignty alternatives from below.



This Act, which was launched at a People's parliament on 12 November 2016, is one way in which we seek to do this. It is a citizen driven act to ensure that people's power drives and implements the Act. It expresses our emancipatory desire for transformation of the food system.

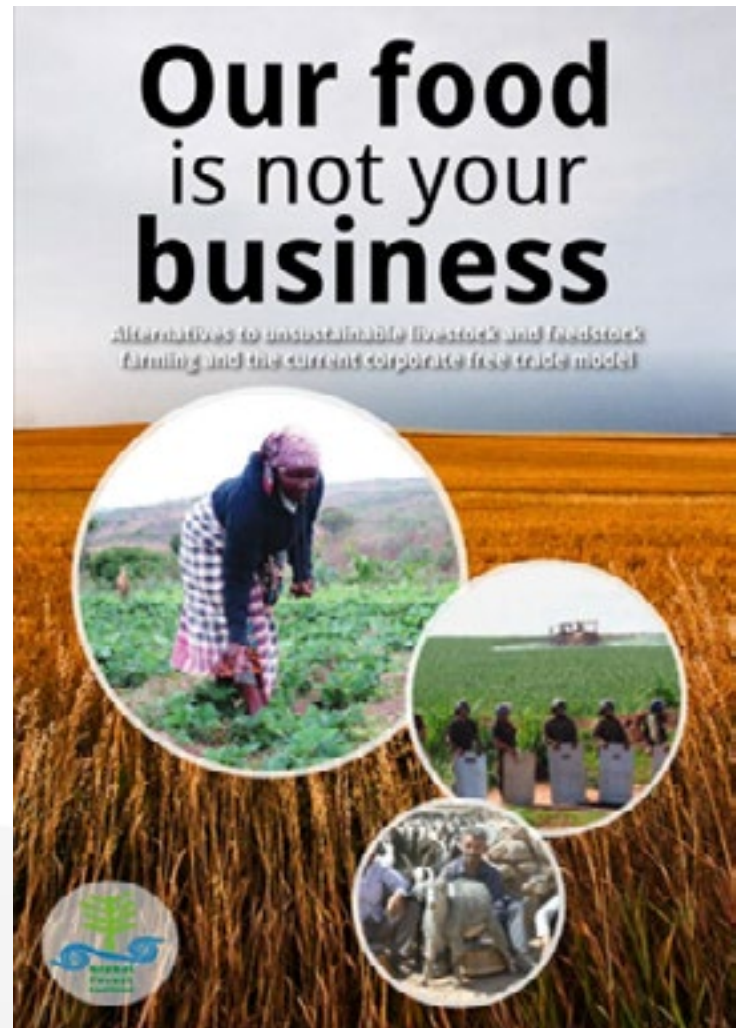
Call for comment

After the launch of the Act in November, organisations have been encouraged to share this Act with their communities. We ask that you continue this process of consultation and submit any comments to Jane at info@safsc.org.za. Your input will help us develop the next draft of the Act, which we intend to take to parliament this year. The Deadline for submissions is 31 August 2017.

The full version of this Act and the research that informed it can be accessed on the SAFSC website at this link: <http://www.safsc.org.za/peoples-food-sovereignty-act/>

Our food is not your business: Alternatives to unsustainable livestock and feedstock farming and the current corporate free trade model

This briefing paper aims to contribute to the many ongoing efforts, actions, and discussions on alternatives to industrial livestock production, whether local, specific or systemic. It considers how we can strengthen, link and build on existing genuine alternatives, as well as creating new ones, together with social movements, small farmers, small producers, environmentalists, consumer campaigners and many others. It includes examples of many different projects and programmes underway around the world that are implemented by members of the International Alliance against Unsustainable



Livestock Farming and other allies, and aims to inspire others to join the discussion, to take action and to help build socially and environmentally just alternatives.

Article source: <http://globalforestcoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/our-food-is-not-your-business-global-forest-coalition.pdf>



contact us

We invite organisations and activists to make contributions to the Newsletter by writing stories, contributing photographs or cultural contributions, such as poetry, art, songs etc.

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