



Cape Town's Food and Nutrition Crisis: Crafting systemic responses to systemic challenges.

NOVEMBER 17 AND 18, 2022

375 ALBERT RD, WOODSTOCK, CAPE TOWN

Organized by:



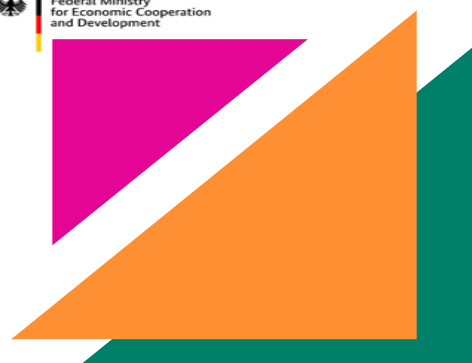
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POLICY EVENT REPORT

FEBRUARY 2023

Written By:

Luke Metelerkamp

Lena Bassermann

Nicole Paganini

ISBN: 978-3-910560-61-1

Acknowledgement:

The Urban Food Futures team would like to express our gratitude to Adelaide Cupido and Shamillah Wilson for the facilitation of the two-day event. We would like to thank the team behind the Woodstock Biscuit Mill for their logistical support and the beautiful venue. We thank Scott Drimie, Tamsin Faragher, Marcela Guerrero Casas, and Gareth Haysom for their support in the planning of the event.



Invisible Policies

Invisible policies

But tangible repercussions

More violent than physical violence

As invisible as they are the outcomes continue to be destructive.

Who maintains policies?

A high language spoken the ordinary cannot comprehend.

...

- Excerpt from poem by Thimna Matika

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List of Acronyms

ACC: African Centre for Cities

CEA: Controlled Environment Agriculture

COVID: Coronavirus of 2019

ECD: Early Childhood Development

EDP: Western Cape Economic Development Partnership

FACT: Food Agency Cape Town

GBV: Gender-based violence

NSFAS: National Student Financial Aid Scheme

SAFL: Southern Africa Food Lab

TMG: TMG Research gGmbH

TVET: Technical and Vocational Education and Training

1. BACKGROUND

Building on scoping research conducted between 2021 and 2022, TMG in collaboration with its programme partners in Cape Town and Nairobi convened in a two-day policy event on the 18-19 November 2022 in Cape Town. The event set out strengthen collaborations surrounding TMG's Urban Food Futures (UFF) programme and to refine the positioning of the programme in order to maximise its contribution to solving the challenge of urban food insecurity. This engagement spanned the five research pathways around which the

Urban Food Futures programme has been structured, namely: Mutual Accountability, Coping Mechanisms, Controlled Environment Agriculture, Informal Trade, and Crowd Sourcing Data.

The policy event brought together key partners from Cape Town ([FACT](#), [ACC](#)), public institutions (City of Cape Town, [EDP](#)) as well as partner networks from Nairobi ([Muungano Alliance](#), [Miramar Foundation](#)) and Ouagadougou.

2. Key Messages

- **Global crises impact on the state of food and nutrition security.** The COVID crisis hit vulnerable people first and the most exposed existing failures within urban food systems. In Cape Town, loss of livelihoods due to lockdowns exacerbated the silent pandemic of GBV while compounding the existing effects of systemic unemployment and climate change. Community kitchens helped to understand the lived experiences and created a safer space to connect and share.
- **In Cape Town, our research in 2020 shows that the response to the COVID crisis by the state was insufficient or the type of support was inappropriate,** leaving communities in vulnerable situations. There was a large gap between local government's objectives, and the lived experiences of communities on the ground.
- **Partners from Cape Town and Nairobi presented strategies which provided immediate support in the absence of effective state action.** The lessons learned can inform the necessary transformation of local food systems. In Cape Town, community kitchens stood out as a crisis response. However, it is a response that relies heavily on women's unpaid labour and invisible care work.
- **Food security in Cape Town, Nairobi and Ouagadougou cannot be attained without unlocking the potential of the informal sector.** For these three case cities, new ways to value and enable informal work need to be developed and supported.
- **The constitution of the Republic of South Africa stipulates that everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water.** Further, the Sustainable Development Goals and agreements on climate change provide additional reference points to hold governments accountable. The progressive realisation of the right to food guides UFF's work and highlights

the work needed to bridge the divide between strong policy and the lived realities of the majority of South Africans.

- To link local action and global agreements, Urban Nutrition Hubs

could become a new kind of learning space. Urban Nutrition Hubs are a space to link citizens to city level food policy processes and to innovate and pilot action to realise the right to food.

3. Day 1



Figure 1: Opening day

The opening day of the two-day policy event served to achieve two main objectives. On the one hand it was to develop an understanding of what new and existing food policies are emerging from City and Provincial governments. On the other hand, it was to explore how such policies are experienced by food insecure communities at grassroots level. To facilitate the dialogue between the stakeholders, present in the room, the Urban Food Futures programme lead presented findings of its research across its multi-city investigation in Cape Town, Nairobi, and Ouagadougou.

Presenting highlights from the scoping phase of the project, the TMG Urban Food Futures programme lead Nicole Paganini, emphasized that an overwhelming majority of low-income

urban residents across the explored cities continue to perceive the state as being largely absent despite growing policy efforts around the Right to Food. To this end, Paganini explained that this often led to a governance mismatch between local authorities and communities, where local community-based organisations felt they were often left on their own to cope with, and strengthen their resilience to, multiple crises and threats.

Marcela Guerrero Casas, from the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership, described the provincial Nourish To Flourish programme, focussing on their work in Worcester trying to build a more systemic understanding of the deeper challenges facing the food system, while finding ways to enrol and support local municipal officials and other

local actors into the fight against hunger. From a city perspective Tamsin Faragher from the City of Cape Town Resilience Department also presented some of her department's efforts to coordinate the various city-level stakeholders in response to the COVID crisis. Like Marcela, Tamsin highlighted how important strong partnership and community forums were for building the responsive collaborations between local governments and community members in times of crisis. The importance of these community forums as key strategic partners to the state in times of crisis echoed the broader requests being made by Caroline Peters from Calles Foundation and FACT who called for more recognition and sustained state support for their localised efforts.

Members of the TMG partner coalition, Food Agency Cape Town, Nomonde Buthelezi and Sanelisiwe Nyaba outlined a methodology

developed by FACT– [Food Dialogues](#) - to confront the stigma of hunger and build the kind of social mobilization required to ensure that those most effected by hunger have a seat at the “policy table.” As acutely demonstrated by the Covid-19 crisis, however, “crisis means different things to different people.” This underscores the importance of contextualizing research findings, while drawing sufficiently robust policy insights to drive the needed change.

Jane Weru from Muungano also advocated for the need to embark on a process of food system planning to add a food lens to the current Special Planning Area process. Muungano also highlighted the emerging work around community kitchens in Mukuru and the role which the pilot kitchen had had during the recent evictions.



Figure 2: Panel discussion on **Communities' priorities and City and provincial food policies**. Left to right: Tamsin Faragher, (City of Cape Town), Marcela Guerrero Casas, (Western Cape Economic Development Partnership, EDP), Sanelisiwe Nyaba (FACT) and Caroline Peters (Callas Foundation)

Gender dynamics and the gender-based violence came up as a strong theme for the day. Connecting these gender dynamics back to the kitchens, it was clear that those engaged in work with community kitchens understood that kitchens serve not only as spaces of nutrition but also of physical and emotional

safety and wellbeing for the women, children, and communities they serve. This was backed by research shared by Caroline Peters, drawing a conceptual linkage between food insecurity and gender-based violence. This was linked to the concept of the Urban Nutrition Hubs which was presented by Nicole Paganini from TMG.

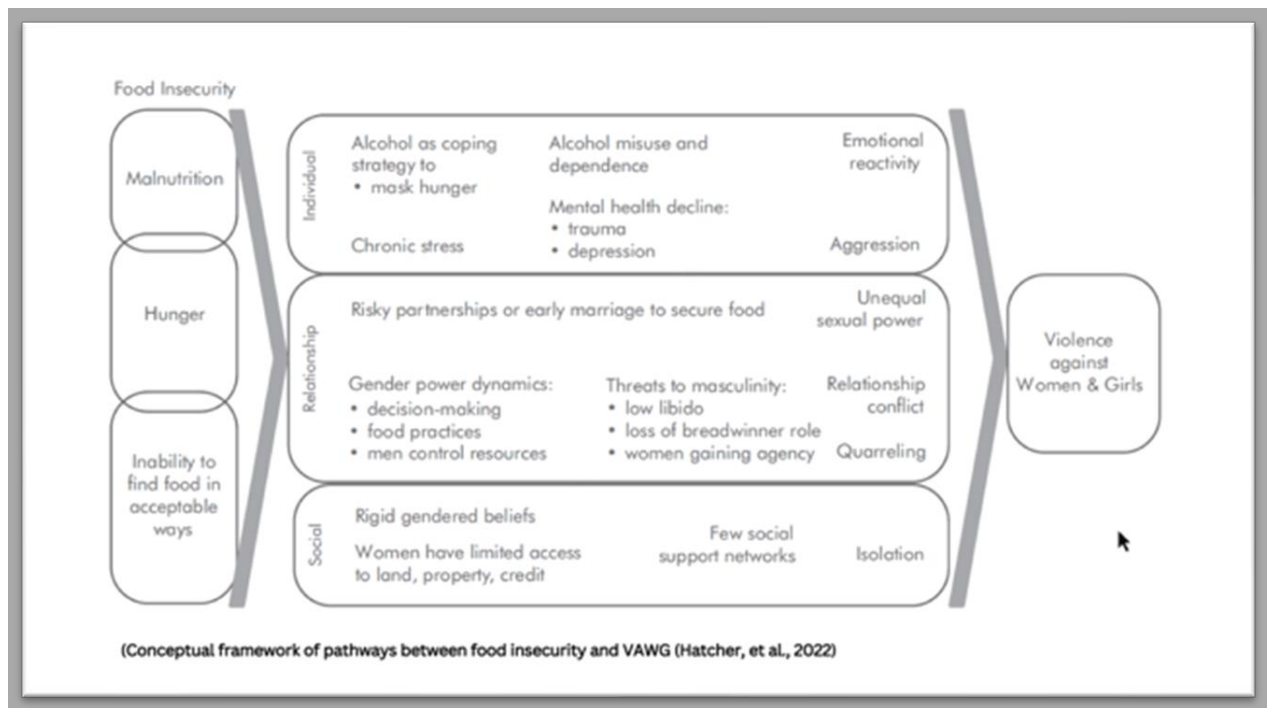


Figure 3: Conceptual frame on the links between hunger and GBV presented by Caroline Peters from the Calles Foundation.

Following the panel discussions, Gareth Haysom from the ACC and Luke Metelerkamp presented findings from actor and policy mapping in the food system and drew input from the gathered academics, community activists and state officials around the policy coverage and gaps relating to the right to food. Several existing initiatives were flagged by stakeholders in the room as missing from the current mapping. These included Unemployment Insurance Fund which (after lengthy delays) provided payouts to over 6million South Africans during the COVID pandemic and the NSFAS student support scheme which covers 700,000 university and

TVET students and has a specific allocation for food. The Department of Social Development's work around Community Nutrition Development Centres was flagged as having important potential overlaps with the UFF's emerging concept of Urban Nutrition Hubs.

In addition to this coverage, several gaps and broken links were also identified. These included support programmes for community kitchens, the high percentage of young children who were missing from the ECD support system and older children who were not covered by the school feeding scheme due to having dropped out of school. These and other

insights were captured and will be incorporated into a policy brief to be released in early 2023.



Figure 4: A group comprising of people from FACT, SAFL, EDP and City of Cape Town review policy coverage mapping on the right to food in South Africa.

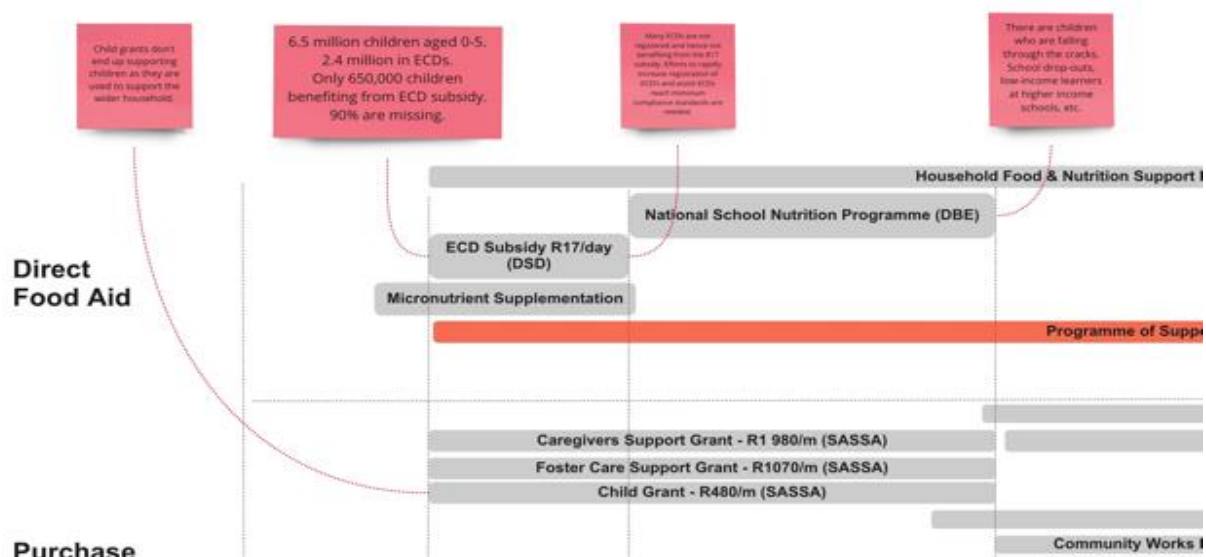


Figure 5: Some examples of gaps and broken linkages identified during the food governance session.

4. Day 2

Day two served to deepen the understanding of Urban Food Futures' research programme and to explore collaboration between event delegate and UFF partners. This meant spending time digging deeper into TMG's five

pathways for urban food policy intervention as well as the working connecting concept of Urban Nutrition Hubs as place-based intervention points within the three cities. By the TMG UFF program.



Figure 6: FACT and Muungano in discussion about Pathway 5 (Crowdsourcing Data) during the Gallery Walk session.

This provided a valuable opportunity for partners to refine the framing and design of the codeveloped five pathways as well an opportunity for wider actors within the Cape Town food governance arena to offer input and identify potential linkages to their work.

The following section offers a summary of the insights which emerged from the second day's discussions around each pathway.

Pathway 1: Coping with Crisis

The coping with crisis pathway will build on the concept of Urban Nutrition Hubs developed during the scoping phase of the Urban Food Futures programme and discussions during the Cape Town policy event. The final Urban Nutrition Hub will launch at Policy Event in Nairobi in February 2023.

TMG with partners in Cape Town will analyse the concept of community kitchens as an urban coping mechanism. This focus on community kitchens will investigate what the changes that are required to make communities existing work with community kitchens sustainable. The first step in this process will be to develop assessment criteria and analytical frameworks to assess

the impact of local coping mechanisms such as community kitchens. The focus will be on answering the questions of what does sustainability look like? Who are the key players able to undertake sustainability actions? What is hunger? Who are we feeding? and many more. Documenting the crises in numbers and stories and analysing them will also be necessary.

The second step we will elaborate on what must change to make those coping mechanisms transformative and sustainable.

Based on those findings, we will work with municipal authorities and communities to

Pathway 2: Mutual Accountability

First, participants shared their thoughts and ideas around the concept of the right to food. The first question was what the right to food entails. Is it purely about issues of access to food or does it need to focus much more on the type of food (healthy food, expiring dates, GMO free food)? Furthermore, the question was how communities can be effectively informed about what the right to food means to them and how they can demand this human right from policymakers. On these questions of realization and practical implementation, the next step was to discuss different tools and approaches communities can use to keep their policy makers accountable. Here, the discussion ranged from discussion formats (organization of own events such as FACT's Food Dialogues, multi-stakeholder approaches including the private sector involvement, participation in community meetings in order to set topics etc.) to the use of legal means (filing a lawsuit against the government to bring the constitutionally guaranteed right to food into application). Finally, the participants discussed possibilities for

develop concepts that could serve as an entry point for institutionalising state support for community kitchens and urban nutrition hubs. To this end, we plan to set up pilot urban nutrition hubs. The hubs will not only provide community meals, but will also be spaces for recreation, learning, education, and advocacy. However, two major challenges need to be addressed. The first is related to the ownership of these hubs: will they be state-owned, community-owned, or private? The other challenge is to get people to buy into the concept of community meals, which differs significantly from soup kitchens.

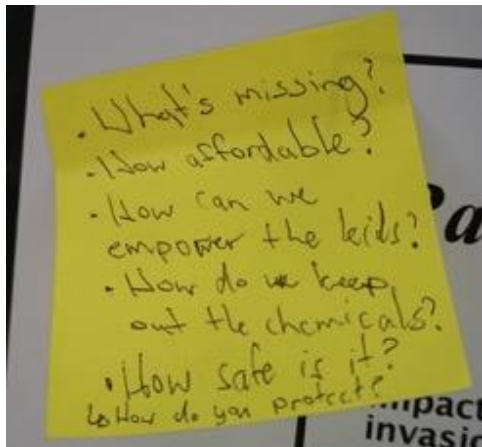


cooperation and mutual exchange of experiences and concrete starting points

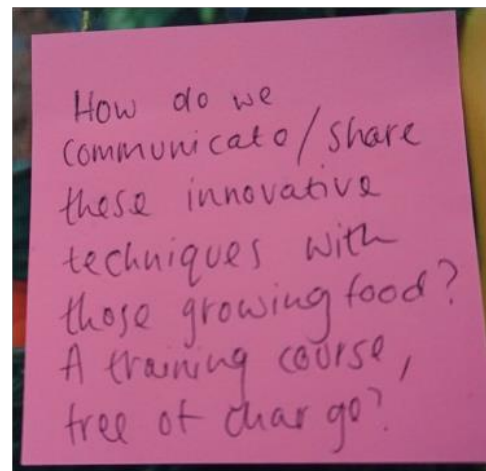
for engagement in the realization of the right to food at community level. Topics included issues of access to official Ward

Councillor meetings, access to information for informed decision-making, and creating sustainable impact.

Pathway 3: Controlled Environment Agriculture



The



session on controlled environment agriculture (CEA) at the 5 Pathways Gallery Walk during the Cape Town Policy Event was well received by the participants. The participants generally appreciated the initiative, but the discussions focused more on the technical aspects than on the content of the pathway itself. Participants were curious about the cost of an installation, the standard dimensions of a greenhouse, the size/price ratio and the capacity of vulnerable communities to afford them. Another wave of questions focused on how the system itself works, what crops can be produced and how profitable they are.

Questions about what crops can be produced and their cost-effectiveness led to an interesting debate about the capacity of controlled environment agriculture in urban areas to provide a food security response. The participants agreed with our conclusions that CEA would not guarantee food security but believed it could contribute to improving

nutritional by producing leafy vegetables locally. It is also important to stress that for the participants, the installation of CEA systems in schools or community kitchens is an original idea, but we need to extend the scope of our actions. There was a suggestion that production should not be for self-consumption only, but could also focus on commercial purposes.

The 5 Pathways Gallery Walk reinforced Miramaar's position that urban production is an asset for improving nutritional security and diversifying our food. Discussions during the Policy Event on the voluntary and unpaid work of women in community kitchens inspired some participants to consider selling the vegetables produced to finance the women's work. They suggested that this is a business model that UFF can explore further in addition to the savings schemes that are already being investigated.

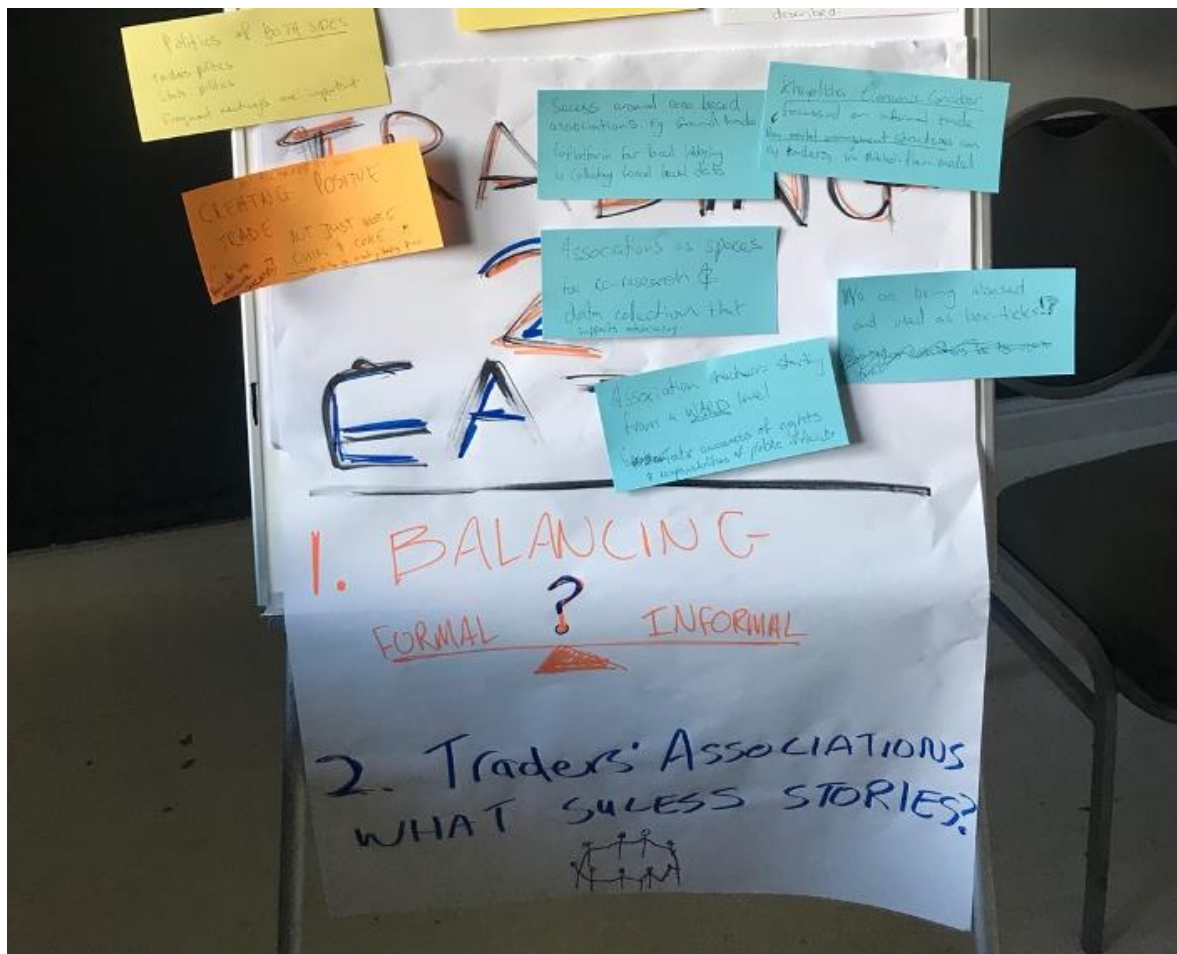
Pathway 4: Informality:

Discussions within the informality group highlighted that informality is a powerful creator of the modern African city and that elsewhere in the world informal trade has effectively transformed urban streets into an extension of the kitchen. Participants expressed some discomfort about the push to formalise the informal sector. Representatives from the informal sector countered this concern, pointing out that organisation does not mean formalization for the informal economy. Organisation, in the context of this pathway is about creating structures of representation and the platforms traders need to further their agenda and enhance working conditions for themselves and their allies. Several success stories within the South African and Kenyan contexts came to light. However, while there are a wide range of benefits to supporting organisational structures within the informal sector, the feedback from participants at the policy event highlighted the need to remain cognizant of a number of challenges associated with organisation and advancement of the informal economy, and food vendors specifically. These included:

- **Politics and gatekeepers:** Organization will bring gatekeepers and the politics that comes with representation of the many by the few. Internal politics and corruption have been the downfall of previous attempts to organize the informal economy into representative bodies. Some of these organisations remain present in the current political landscape. Frequent meetings between traders, within traders organisations, as well as between traders and the state are one mechanism that can help to ensure that traders organisations remain democratic, accountable, and transparent.

- **Promoting healthy food:** It needs to be recognized that in its current state, informal food trade in many areas, operates as a last-mile distribution network not only for fruit and veg, but also for highly-processed food emanating from an industrial food system. Our metrics for evaluating success need to ensure that our efforts to advance the informal food economy do not
- **Avoiding collusion:** The risk was raised greater collaboration and organisation between traders could result in price fixing and collusion. This could, hypothetically, push food prices up, negatively affect food security.

Two emerging models of supporting traders emerged from the case cities which were put onto the table as avenues of engagement for the UFF programme. In Nairobi team from Muungano, proposed a system of food vendors cooperatives developed exclusively with food vendors from below. In Cape Town the proposal was to follow an already emerging process which took the form of a more structured form of collaboration between traders and city officials. This association seeks to manage the growing network of market areas within the city. Termed the 'Market Management Model' this concept sees informal traders increasingly stepping in to replace city officials in the management of urban market spaces. Both systems are in their infancy and there were proposals from some of the pathway leads that a comparison between the two approaches being piloted could be a valuable outcome of this pathway at the end of 2025.



Pathway 5: Crowdsourcing Data

In opening the pathway discussion, TMG outlined how we will develop a digital food insecurity monitoring tool grounded in civic engagement with respective municipalities in Cape Town and Nairobi. In conjunction with our partners, TMG is planning to begin quarterly monitoring in Nairobi and Cape Town starting from Q2 in 2023. The quarterly monitoring factsheets which emerge from this process will:

1. Provide insights into the state of food security of communities with whom we work,
2. Allow TMG and its partners to amend the action research in the

urban nutrition hub as informed by communities' needs and provide fact-based results to enable decision making processes while strengthening partners' capacity to collaborate with other actors including city authorities, and

3. Enhance the digital monitoring and co-learning approach of TMG's Urban Food Futures Programme by providing quantitative and qualitative data to feed into scientific debates, enrich global policy events with grassroots research, and foster South-South

learning processes across the three cities.

The data will be generated through digital platforms that allow crowdsourcing from multiple different types of sources (in-person interviews, text messages, smart phones). Partners in the cities will work with communities to facilitate this process. The analysis will be done jointly by the consortium partners in the cities led by TMG.

This requires:

1. Learning from other community-based monitoring systems. One example of a community-led monitoring system is the “Peoples’ Monitoring Toolkit for the Right to Food and Nutrition” that sets guiding questions to help communities and civil society organisations self-assess the implementation of the right to food in their region (Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition, 2021).

2. Building on our discussion during the Cape Town Policy Event, TMG and the implementing partners FACT and Muungano will host a side-workshop ahead of the Nairobi Policy Event to develop a study design, decide on the platform and data collection tool and agree on sample size and design a questionnaire.

The Cape Town policy event in November 2022 helped to fine-tune the indicators of the monitoring system. We will continue to fine tune this at the policy event in Nairobi in February 2023. This work will build on the community monitoring conducted by FACT in 2020 and Muungano in 2021 to gather first-hand data in informal settlements and low-income areas. This included standardised (FIES) quantitative and qualitative data as well as additional context specific data. This work with digital tools such as KoBo Toolbox as a means for knowledge generation and communication represents a small, experimental area of work that cuts across the other four pathways.

5. Feedback for the way forward

What was missing from the event?

More information on the current food price crisis as well as an interrogation of the deeper structural issues leading to poverty, unemployment and inequality were topics that partners said they would have liked to have seen covered in more detail at the event. Two participants also said that they would have liked to hear more compelling success stories from other civil society organisations - insights from Shack Dwellers International on the application of community generated data, was one example they felt could have added value.

There was also a general feeling that government at all scales was under-represented. This spanned requests for participation among local ward councillors

through to requests for more participation by provincial and national decision makers. While request for ward councillor participation was by far the most frequently listed ‘missing actor’, three respondents also pointed out that the Department of Social Development should also have been present. One participant noted the generally low level of agriculturally related content and felt that the Department of Agriculture should have been present.

Although Black South African academics were invited, it was noted that too few attended the event, suggesting the need to continue expanding relationships within regional academic partners as the programme unfolds.

In planning the policy event the process was designed to provide a broader multi-country overview of the UFF programme, invite input from local stakeholders and secure programmatic buy-in at a city level. This decision meant that some community activists, who had been hoping that this would be the chance to get buy in and secure commitments from state actors, felt let down. Correspondingly, some participants felt that there were too few decision makers were present. However, there was an absence of clarity about exactly who these decision makers were. In order to have a get firmer commitments from state officials and create a sense of meaningful action, a different type of event and process will be needed in future.

6. Overall reflections

While the diverse initiatives presented at the policy event aimed to shape a common understanding and narrative around food, inclusivity and sustainable futures, Jane Battersby noted that translating knowledge into (policy) action is challenging. This challenge is particularly difficult in informal and low-income urban communities that are largely disconnected from formal governance structures.

Highlighting insights from a joint scoping study between TMG and the Africa Centre for Cities, Gareth Haysom underscored the importance of transitioning towards governance models that are built around 'food-sensitive planning'. Jane Weru added to this from a Kenyan perspective, outlining Muungano's intentions to initiate a process of food orientated planning within the informal settlements Muungano works in. TMG's Managing Director, Alexander Müller also noted that this requires partnerships that embody the various dimensions of urban food security (including health, education, water and energy access, and other basic services). Muller went on to stress that, in addition to new partnerships, transformation calls on the UFF programme to demonstrate new ways of tackling a global food

Primarily, the UFF programme and its partners will need to develop a far clearer set of objectives with regards to their engagement with government and then time provided to explore the specificities of realising these. This needs to be done well in advance of the event in order to ensure that we have the right people in the room and can move forward with a productive outcome orientated approach. As Jane Weru pointed out, UFF or its partners should have two or three key requests/objectives that they use an event such as this to build a commitment around. The appropriate individuals can then be more directly selected based on these objectives.

and nutrition security crisis as it manifests at the local level. Addressing the universal Right to Food, Muller noted, will require learning from such local solutions and dialogues to develop the requisite normative frameworks that can 'bridge the gap between local realities and global promises

Discussing how to transition from awareness to policy change, Jes Weigelt, Head of Programmes at TMG, delved into the concept of informality as the connecting thread across many bottom-up solutions to address food insecurity. This, he explained, has informed five ['urban food system transformation pathways'](#) being pursued by TMG and partners with the ultimate aim of demonstrating how developing new ways of engaging and supporting contexts of informality can become a critical lever in securing the right to food.

There was shared agreement on the UFF programme's potential to enable governance across scale – from local-global. Such governance, from local to global and global to local, begins with a sound understanding of context and the ability to translate this contextual understanding across scales. It is against this backdrop that TMG has proposed

the concept of Urban Nutrition Hubs as a place-based approach for strengthening

synergies and amplifying local voices in both local and international governance processes.



Figure 7: Conceptualizing multi-funtional Urban Nutrition Hubs as entry points for place-based transformation.

As noted in the description of Pathway 1 (pg 11), Urban Nutrition Hubs are multifunctional spaces which build on existing local centres, such as a community kitchens, to develop and enable local efforts within the food system. Urban Nutrition Hubs will serve as living labs for social mobilization and data collection that enable local actors to engage more actively in

urban food governance processes. However, as Nomonde from FACT noted, 'food is just the doorway to a much bigger house' and while the focus of the Urban Nutrition Hubs will be on food related transformation, the hubs will serve as multifunctional spaces which focus on other related challenges such as women's rights, social security and youth development.



Over the course of the artists Jerome Coetzee, Thimna Matik and Dylan MxCabe compiled and presented poems offering reflections of the

days in more a emotionally relatable format. The full list of these poignant poems is available in Annexure 4

7. Next steps

Having undertaken an ambitious programme of research, consultation and analysis over the past two years, the policy event in Cape Town was a watershed moment for the UFF programme. The event served as the launch point for stepping into a new phase of research and implementation with partners in three very

different cities. In 2023, TMG and its partners will embark on operationalization of the five pathways and begin developing Urban Nutrition Hubs in Cape Town and Nairobi as entry points for deepening our place-based engagement within the food system.



Figure 8: Group Picture

Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

8. Annexures

Annexure 1. Agenda

Thursday, 17 November <i>Facilitation: Shamillah Wilson and Adelaide Cupido, Yada</i>	
9:00-9:30	Arrival, Coffee and Tea
9:30-10:30	Welcome addresses and introduction 'Who is in the room' <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexander Müller, TMG Research Nomonde Buthelezi, Food Agency Cape Town (FACT) and co-researcher Tamsin Faragher, City of Cape Town
10:30-12:00	Introduction to the Urban Food Futures scoping report. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicole Paganini, TMG Research Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT Panel discussion on key findings of the Urban Food Futures programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Strengthening Community kitchen in Cape Town and lessons-learnt from pilot kitchen in Nairobi</i>, Mukuru (Matilda Tsitsi Fakazi, FACT, and Mary Wambui Nyambura, Muungano) <i>Enhancing participation: Findings from Muungano's SPA work and FACT's food dialogues in Cape Town</i> (Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT, and Jane Weru, Muungano) <i>Food flows in Mukuru: Miramar's learning from a greenhouse in the informal settlement and Muungano's research with food vendors</i> (Jeff Mwea, Miramar, and Patrick Njoroge, Muungano) <i>Megatrends across the continent – What does this mean for urban areas</i> (Gareth Haysom, African Centre for Cities, ACC)
12:00 – 12:30	Summary: From emerging element of crises response to pathways of urban food system transformation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jane Battersby, ACC Jes Weigelt, TMG Research
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-14:30	Presentation and discussion: Urban Food Governance in Cape Town – Actors, policy coverage and persistent gaps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gareth Haysom, ACC, and Luke Metelerkamp, TMG Research
14:30 – 16:00	Urban Food Governance: Communities' priorities and City and provincial food policies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Power of local community forums: Input from food dialogues and the Kitchen Network</i> (Sanelisiwe Nyaba and Caroline Peters, FACT) <i>Provincial government and the Economic Development Partnership reflects on lessons learnt from the province's Nourish to Flourish programme. Specifically, efforts to bed this down into local governance processes.</i> (Marcela Guerrero Casas, Western Cape Economic Development Partnership, EDP)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> City of Cape Town Resilience Department provides some perspective City's Food System Programme (Tamsin Faragher, City of Cape Town)
16:00 – 16:30	Summary of the day and outlook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nicole Paganini, TMG Research Adelaide Cupido and Shamilla Wilson, Yada
16:30-17:00	Closing with coffee and tea

Friday, 18 November

Facilitation: Shamillah Wilson and Adelaide Cupido, Yada

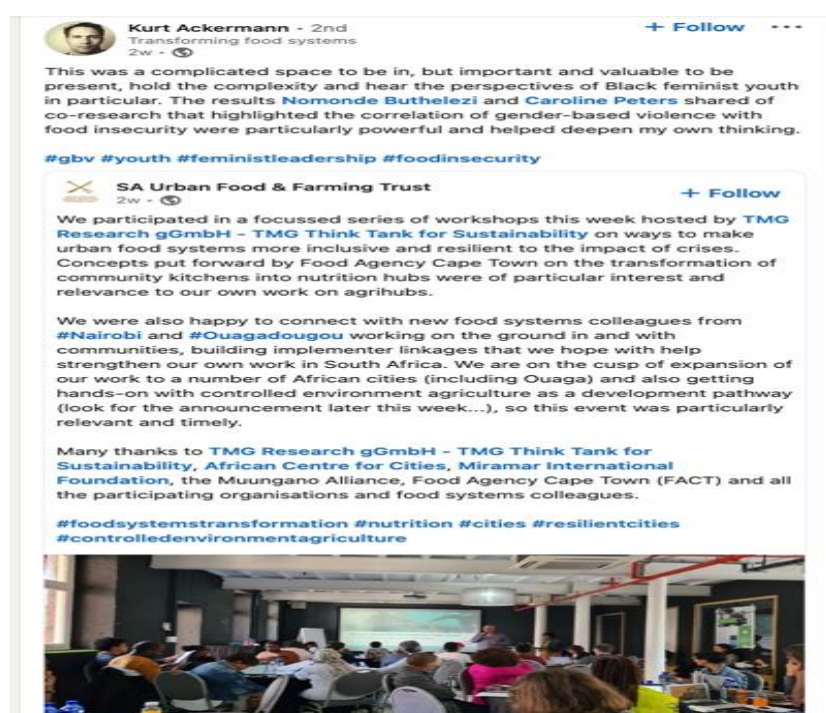
09:00-09:30	Welcome with tea and coffee
09:30-10:00	Recap of the first day <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jes Weigelt, TMG Research Adelaide Cupido and Shamillah Wilson, Yada
10:00-11:00	Presentation and discussion: The Urban Food Futures programme after one year of research <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Rationale behind the Urban Food Futures work: Crises and trends</i> (Alexander Müller, TMG Research) <i>Urban Nutrition Hubs: Our proposed contribution to change</i> (Nicole Paganini, TMG Research, Matilda Fakazi, Caroline Peters and Sanelisiwe Nyaba, FACT)
11:00 – 11.15	Coffee Break
11:15-12:30	Gallery Walk and Discussion: Five pathways to urban food systems transformation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Coping with Crises</i> (Nicole Paganini, TMG Research, and Matilda Titsi Fakazi, FACT) <i>Mutual Accountability</i> (Lena Bassermann, TMG Research, and Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT) <i>Controlled Environment Agriculture</i> (Edouard Sango, TMG Research, and Jeff Mwea, Miramar) <i>Informal food vendors</i> (Luke Metelerkamp, TMG Research, and Mmeli Sotshononda, Southern African Food Lab, SAFL) <i>Crowdsourcing Data for food system transformation</i> (Jes Weigelt, TMG Research, and Vuyani Qamata, FACT)
12:30-14:00	Lunch
14:00-16:00	Parallel workshops: Collaborative ways forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Workshop 1: Coping with crises</i> (Facilitators: Nicole Paganini, TMG Research, and Matilda Titsi Fakazi, FACT) <i>Workshop 2: Mutual Accountability</i> (Facilitators: Lena Bassermann, TMG Research, and Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT) <i>Workshop 3: Informal food vendors</i> (Facitators: Luke Metelerkamp, TMG Research, and Mmeli Sotshononda, SAFL)

16:00-16:30	Presentation of workshop outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mmeli Sotshononda, SAFL • Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT • Matilda Titsi Fakazi, FACT
16:30-17:00	Wrap up and way forward <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nicole Paganini, TMG Research Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nomonde Buthelezi, FACT • Alexander Müller, TMG Research
17:30-21:30	Social get together Food Jam, Soute in Woodstock

Annexure 2: What our guests said:

- South African Food and Farming Trust

Kurt Ackerman from the South African Food and Farming Trust shared the [following reflection on the event on LinkedIn](#).



- The Economic Development Partnership

Marcela Guerrero Casas from the EDP shared the [following reflection on the EDP's website](#).

The future of urban food lies in partnerships built today.

The recent Urban Food Futures workshop in Cape Town convened by TMG and Food Agency Cape Town (FACT) confirmed how crucial partnerships are to improving food security

Participants at the Urban Food Futures workshop held in Cape Town in November 2022.

The recent [Urban Food Futures workshop](#) in Cape Town, convened by [TMG Think Tank for Sustainability](#) and the [Food Agency Cape Town \(FACT\)](#) highlighted the crucial role that partnerships play in the city's food ecosystems.

The two-day event was attended by a cross-section of academics, government officials and other non-governmental organisations, as well as participants from Nairobi, Kenya and Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso where the [Urban Food Futures programme](#) also takes place.

Many participants underscored the need to lobby for changes at all levels: from the global through to the most localized levels. Cape Town's emerging 'urban nutrition hubs', recently launched by the Food Agency Cape Town (FACT), are a new initiative to watch, as they aim to transform community kitchens into spaces for community development more broadly.

Linking on-the-ground activities to broader processes

The right to food as a basic human right is the driving motivation behind the [TMG's Urban Food Futures](#) transdisciplinary action-research programme. Workshops like these, aim to catalyse concrete action by identifying the main gaps so that global promises meet local realities and needs.

Linking with the national, provincial, and local spheres of government for action is critical in South Africa. Gareth Haysom from the [African Centre for Cities](#) outlined the country's multi-level food governance structure, and participants reviewed the food security interventions being made at each level, along with the gaps and often invisible efforts being made.

Both the City of Cape Town's Food Systems Programme and the Western Cape Government's Nourish to Flourish programmes are examples of how local and provincial government processes can link, with both programmes sharing a deliberate commitment to listening and building on what is happening on the ground.

Informality as a solutions space

Informality plays an important role in many of Cape Town's and Nairobi's communities. Mukuru, one of Nairobi's largest informal settlements, for instance, has only six formal schools against 182 informal ones, which echoes similar conditions in Cape Town. The concept behind FACT's newly launched urban nutrition hubs, which aim to increase the scope and reach of Cape Town's community kitchens, emphasizes the bottom-up, highly informal networks which community kitchens and other players operate through. In fact, one of the programme's pillars focuses on informal trade.

Nomonde Buthelezi from FACT presents on the 'urban nutrition hubs' recently launched in Cape Town.

Kitchens were identified as key service providers which help to achieve communities' right to food, as well as sites for building social cohesion, providing education, and advocating around other issues affecting residents. FACT has, for instance, provided training for kitchen workers to become counsellors for Gender Based Violence (GBV).

Currently, community kitchen organizers in both settings largely volunteer their time and resources, which is unsustainable and deeply unfair. The workshop saw a resounding call for community kitchen organizers to be appropriately valued and compensated.

Learning from people's lived experience

Connecting with physical spaces for a first-hand understanding of people's lived realities and experiences was a key theme at the workshop. Some innovative local examples were shared: FACT's Kitchen Dialogues enable people to visit community kitchens in Cape Town; the [Food Learning Journeys](#) convened by the [Southern African Food Lab](#) (SAFL), [DST-NRF Centre of Excellence](#) and the Western Cape Economic Development Partnership (EDP) have explored local food systems in Worcester and Langa, and FACT's exchange with colleagues in Nairobi. This last one led to the adoption of the 'community kitchen' model and its implementation in Mukuru, where the idea had not been tested before visiting Cape Town.

The workshop ended in a 'food jam' where everyone took part in preparing a group meal. This symbolically cemented the key message of this event: that only through collaboration can we find answers to the complex issues around food security. The value of bringing all those voices together not only brought a diversity of perspectives and skills around the table but provided nourishment for building authentic relationships and friendships that remain key to improving the food system.

Annexure 3: Poetic offering from participating artists

Click

by Jerome Coetzee

A door clicks
that click is for opening and closing a door
as we are opening and closing doors.
Creating space for us to come together.

A click of fingers
Is agreeing and emotions manifested -
hopes become reality.

Clique - a group coming together as misfits for change -
we join hands for assurance, for justice.
This clique huddles for a game plan.

Click of tongues
a click of the tongue shows the dialogue,
we listen and learn. Click your tongue and place letters together
in different ways and sketch a story of our humanity.

Rainbow Skies

By Dylan McXabe

I promise you, it isn't just all doom and gloom.
You see, in the midst of a storm, in the midst of the gloom.

There is a pot of righteousness, determination, faith, hope and love brewing.
It rests on an open-air woodfire in a steel metal pot.
In the distance comes a rumble of empty stomachs.
Glazed over eyes with fears in their sparkle.
Our bellies aren't full so our eyes cannot close. Their voice crackles in search of water, will it be you who quenches their thirst?
'Coffee, Tea and Hot Milk' is that what you desire?
I dream of ambitions that make your happiest-self quake.
We aren't being fanciful when we talk about 'No More Hunger'
No Hungry Bellies under these rainbow skies, is what I dream about.
I may be radical. A touch fanatical.
But at least I am not apathetic when it comes to changing our world.
Your world? I dunno
My world? For sure.
I wonder if we habit the same world.
I know we didn't come from the same bed this morning.
We seldom see other.
When we leave tonight, we will go to our different homes.
We don't cohabit this cohabitant.
But, we are trying to change the world, right?
It isn't just all doom and gloom, I swear.
There is a pot of hope brewing.
A stew doesn't make a meal, but it will feed a family.
Bread won't feed a family but will fill a belly.
Our hands are in the pot.
What are you adding to the meal?
A feast of intangibles is what I dream about.
'No Hungry Belly under this rainbow sky!'

--

Invisible Policies

By Thimna Matika

Invisible policies
But tangible repercussions
More violent than physical violence
As invisible as they are the outcomes continue to be destructive
Who maintains policies?
A high language spoken the ordinary cannot comprehend

History is clear who taketh from the have nots
On indigenous spaces
Vast land and landscapes
To sow, nurture and live within nature
Immersing self as apart of soil, sun, water, trees and mountain

Standing tall and firm are invisible policies
Invisible prison bars which continue to grow tall
High cell bars for the underprivileged
Bars so sophisticated
Surveillance cameras, electronic fencing
The walls have eyes

Hunger stares on blank faces
Faces be black and starvation
Sometimes desperation
From hand to mouth
We feed ourselves and neighbours breadcrumbs
A will to carry communities is enough
To feed communities
Underprivileged is under informed
Uneducated
Never educated
For we who do not have an education to be human
To all humans equally
To feed communities
To carry the burden to feed hungry communities

Communities fed with the half empty cups
Of mothers, women who cook everyday
To feed communities
Pour all the contents of their barely filled cups
To communities, they sweat and cook for the hungry
They cook and dish with love
As they cook they sweat
It drips onto their half empty cups
And fills them halfway
In hopes that a god will reciprocate good deeds
In hopes that a government will support community workers
And organisations who make a positive difference

Comprehend invisible policies
For community leaders and ordinary folk
Unfold and unpack high language
For people to understand their right to food
For adequate access to nutritious food
For government to acknowledge responsibility
And accountability

Transformation

By Jerome Coetzee

To transform is to change
Navigate a resistance to what you know
and what you want to know
What you want to be,
being here is transformation,
the shift of being.
Transformation is an idea
but taking that idea from the womb to world
is having to give birth and birthing an idea is painful,
but is it not this pain that glorifies the change,
the transformations and the reason to keep living.

A hustler land

By Jerome Coetzee

a land for survival
to silence the earthquake of hunger
A body poured into poverty, but never finding your feet
and still falling

but I remember that the body is from the earth and
the body is resilient
the body survives
this body, like the earth breaks and cracks
but life pushes you but living drives you.
Living gives you a new day.

Visioning Together

By Thimna Matika

Shaping the future together with
Community leaders, community workers,
government, policy makers,
And Research Think-Tanks
Where different parties come together from different levels
Different walks of life
Different perspectives
From the ground to top

Challenges, ideas, and solutions come together
Food, hunger, and access to land to grow food
Is the centre of discussion
A round take
An exchange of thoughts
A round table
Is fertile ground for new solutions
To emerge

Stakeholders side by side
Holding the fort
Food and food for thought is shared deliberately
Differently nourished bodies
Share stories of resilience in poverty and homelessness
Stories that resonate with the right to food
And the neglect of that right
Those who have the responsibility to deliver

Ancient policies speak of taking away space
Dispossession to never return
What has been taken
Land, space
A people left with hunger
Children with empty bellies
Minimal to no space to grow veggies
No space to breathe
Oh, but what are you gonna do with the land once you get it?

Fair access nutritious food
Well-nourished bodies
And happier families
Visioning together is looking into the future
Understanding that food insecurity is not a household problem
But a community problem
Which needs intervention
And imagination
To understand challenges of today
And create a hub for the future
That ensures food challenges
And persisting problems
Challenged differently
And reimagined

--

Commune Unity
By Dylan McXabe

A Nutritional Hub

A Community Nutritional Hub, it is more than its mundane name suggests.
You mean, community kitchens, right?
A community nutritional hub, it is all the buzz don't you know?
Yeah, I mean it is more than just a nutritious plate of food, a warm smile and a friendly ear.
It is a drip-feed of agency. Where you can grab a burst of fresh air away from the perpetual violence of the system.
'Liquid Evil' is what they call it. An evil so pervasive, so innocuous, they can drip-feed it to you. Evil so palatable it can be substituted for meat-free and vegan friendly options.
This evil is packaged as an economic issue dressed in adequate food parcels. It manifests itself in unseen ways. A hungry belly begrudges more than a rumbling stomach.
It is cognitive dissonance, social stagnation. The only way to truly make sense of it all is just crunch the numbers.
Ranging from mildly hungry to severely hungry, how hungry are you?
Redundant and insincere?
You bet your privileged ass it is.
Crimes will be carried out in the vain of our names, but they will not be perpetuated on our watch.
A collective crew from a couple of cities across the globe, have an idea.
A clue to glue the world together.
Collective buy-in is required.
A city official to smile politely whilst they give their seal of approval.
Call it what you want, a nutritional hub or a community kitchen.
It is a damn good way to deal with a crisis while coping in this incredibly unjust mechanical system.

--

Take Knowledge for Change

By Thimna Matika

Under the gaze of scrutiny
Through a magnifying glass
A thin glass at which millions of
Dispossessed, displaced, hungry,
Ill, malnourished are examined on the pedestal

Light comes shining through the panoptic gaze
It invades homes, personal experiences and emotions
A bitter reminder that
We are still hungry
We are still poor
Take knowledge for change

Sometimes power can be soft
Violence too can be slow and soft
So, we dance to the music
Music for change
Sounds and undertones of imagining and visioning
Bodies move in unison

Visioning is the art of shaping the future

So, we dance
 Bump shoulders to the rhythm
 As we go picture and create
 A future with solutions for persistent challenges
 Heads and thoughts come together
 Challenges shared in groups
 Pathways discussed together
 Challenges are shared
 Ideas come together on paper
 All parties together in shaping
 As we dance to the sound of
 Creating a better future for inhabitants after us
 Ensuring that children are nourished and sheltered
 That the hungry understand their right to food
 And government is held accountable
 Leader's dance until their limbs fall of
 To whose music
 For what cause?
 A friend asked if we are all willing to die for a cause
 I ask the same thing to you all
 Are you willing to die for a cause?

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