

## Annex X: Workshop outcomes

### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October

#### **Workshop 1: Poverty and the struggle to survive: informal economy**

Background and what locks traders in poverty

- system of industrialization / capitalism that seek profits at all costs → unemployment + retrenchments
- lack of skills + education particularly for women
- restrictive policy with lack of participation from traders (imposed policies not meant to support traders but to control its spread) + partnerships between big business and government in other countries there is a absence of policy
- available policies enable use of force to police traders
- policy protects interests of big business against those of traders  
learning to evictions + displacements from land occupied by traders
- creating wealth for a few
- deepening poverty for traders + their families
- lack of policy + institutional framework within SADC on informal trade – SADC trade protocol meant for big bus + capital

What is the struggle for traders about?

- to be heard
- for dignity, recognition, equality, security, for a living and best future

Wealth, poverty + informal economy

- Wealth creation + accumulation of profits for a few lead to poverty + UÉ (→ crime + cycle of poverty)
- People working in the informal sector contribute to the GDP don't benefit
- money goes to big business through skewed policy –
  - distribution problem both in country and SADC, SACU
  - malls (development)
- money goes to masnonisas because traders + others in the informal sector are not accommodated by the commercial banks  
→ Competition with big business e.g. malls, credit cards; repackaging of goods sold by traders and sold by big business

#### Actions + Strategies

- investment in the informal sector
  - empowerment of people working in the sector
  - upskilling that is informed by needs of sector
  - dial direct + promotion of ownership
- churches and others should respect people working in the sector + the role they play
  - close the gap between them + informal sector

- stop acting like political parties + failed/fake promises
  - churches should change their attitude + practices towards the sector + the poor
  - promote different values from those of big businesses
  - traders to mobilise themselves and clarify their identity and work towards a united force

This should be supported

- stand in solidarity with people working in the sector in their campaigns
- create platforms for engagement including within the church + other civil society organs

Suggestion: demonstrate to gaut's the comments of instrumental economy to national economy

## **Workshop 2: Poor and helpless: Systems of social security**

Social security

- Social insurance
- Social assistance
- Cash grants – meanstested R1200
- R260: Child support grant 0-17
- R740: Foster care grant
- R1300: Old age pension, 60+
- R1300: Disability grant
- R1300: Care dependency grant
- 15 Million
- Problem: 15-59: Gap
- Community work program

### 1. Social security system

- Majority – informal sector
- Minority – formal sector
- Basic necessities of life – indirect taxes, big families
  - Unemployed
  - Children
  - Old people
  - Child headed families
  - Refugees
  - Street kids/adults

### 2. Basic services

- Education
- Social protection
- Quality health care
- (adequate) housing
- Food security
- Water (clean drinking water)
- Rubbish removals
- Proper sanitation

- Affordable, safe public transport
- State is the provider of basic services (primary)
- Business as secondary provider

### 3. Sources

- Government policies favouring the rich and disadvantage poor
- Economic system (capitalist)
  - Neoliberal policies (Gear)
  - Structural Adjustment Programmes
- Unfair trade policies between the north and South
- Corruption and incompetence is high
- Weak civil society and lobbying for better policies
- Lack of engagement of civil society in policy formulation
- Lack of exploitation of civil society engagement
- Exploring new ways of engagement with government
- Recommendations:
  - Southern African basic income grant funded by heavy extraction taxes
  - Build solidarity and networks in Southern Africa on social security

### 4. Gaps Social security

- 18-59
- Amount is small
- Cash/assets
- Documents/ID

## **Workshop 3: Climate change, economic growth and climate justice**

- a wealthy minority of the world's countries and corporates are the principal cause of climate change
- key contributors are human induced cc.
- corporate consuming more than the earth deserves
- reduction in agricultural yields by 20% - small scale farmers most affected
- 'developed' countries have grown wealth through GHG emissions, polluting the earth/atmosphere

### Causes & Impacts

- CC is the symptom of the exploitative, destructive polluting profit – driven by consumption and production
- Beside natural disasters SA continues building more coal power stations to produce electricity, with household paying more than companies

## Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> October

### Workshop 1: Possibilities and limits of political intervention from the perspective of civil society and social movements

Red: obstacles

Black: successful measures

#### 1. Experiences

- Sit-ins in ministers' offices
- Finding ways to challenge former "comrades" – ceremonially
- "Remember our dignity" appeals
- Low wages from Chinese employers challenges by Sata -80% salary increases post-elections Zambia
- Using your Vote to bring change without telling them "Don't tell them"
- Bishop Kameeta (Namibia), a conscience vs. tribalism and corruption

#### 2. Use of pastoral letters by churches – Impact?

- **Actions only have impact if there are economic consequences**
- **Use of Pension Funds for investment** – forced removal of investments in Pension Funds
- **Political domination limits possibility**
- **Arrogance of politicians**
- Emerging social movements providing critiques of the system – "weak" still
- **Fraternising amongst the "elite" across political differences**
- **People believing "empty promises"**
- Organising meeting with political parties
- **Social reproduction of domination**

#### 3. Change and challenge

- Critical thinking in a strategic manner and collective way
- Build up a new cadreship on leaders who can work with communities and other leaders working in the same direction
- **Be careful of hierarchy that becomes oppressive including churches**
- **Use**
- Re-look at resources:
  - Civil society and churches
  - Consciousize each other
  - Community radio, TV and newspapers, people's issues

#### 4. Keeping integrity despite being in the structures of political office

- **Limits caused by deployment and political affiliation**
- **Weak participatory democracy – Events vs. processes**
- **Difficult to influence policy**
- **Limited political participation**
- Constructing strong opposition PF vs. MMD
- **Climate of dependency on the party – Namibia and SA silences**

- New forms of organising – young people using social media
- Loss of capacities for questioning when leader controlled peoples' trust – Malawi

#### 5. Vision

- Building counter-power without reproducing the – ISMS
  - Elitism/racism/sexism/dericalism/hierarchisms
- Critical introspection – learn from our mistakes
- Call to wake up
- Promoting accountability and transparency starting with us
- A vision of egalitarianism – changing the focus on poverty to building egalitarian societies
- Recovering an amancipatory vision in faith movements – vs. consumerism, personality, “cults”, instant answers to prayers

#### 6. Developing a countervailing youth leadership in churches

- Increasing their visibility
- Kairos Youth Movement (SA)
- Reclaiming a prophetic role- A vision of life lived to the fullest
- Linking widows (widowed from mines) across borders in solidarity actions
- Strategic litigation for compensation from mining-induced disease
- Need to lament the losses since slavery colonialism, apartheid and more
- Rewriting history – from the underneath

### **Workshop 2: Southern Africa's natural resources vs. Foreign Direct Investment**

#### Key issues

- What necessitates us engaging FDI?
- What are the opportunities of FDI?
- What challenges does FDI pose to our countries?
  - National sovereignty
  - Real benefits
  - Conflict
  - Security of democracy
- What alternatives do we have to protect us without the heavy reliance of FDI?

#### What necessitates our engagement in FDI in our countries?

- Discussion on the concept of investment
  - The investor needs to benefit, dictates the terms of engagement
  - FDI is a strategy to enrich nations where minerals, land etc. do NOT exist in their own countries
- Why we engage it?
  - Our model of development/growth has been set by the global agenda/framework and we have adopted it and placed false value in what may not necessarily be our development priority areas.
- Challenges of FDI
  - These relationships comes with gross violations of human rights usually with private entities
  - FDI mostly hides or overshadows a fundamental : of land, land reform, land use and land usage

- How we (SADC) perceive development through investors lens – we seem to feel that if these resources are not extracted their value will diminish. We place value on what trends suggest we should value. This questions our individual and collective sovereignty to decide what we want and want to engage.
- We have allowed the question of natural resources to become national issues – they belong to the people that live on it
- Decline in social nets – health, education system, life giving materials (water) and have fuelled conflict (division in countries) and declining economic and human value
- FDI allows economic growth but in real terms the benefits are not realised (no trickle-down effect) in terms of money circulation in SADC countries and living standards
- Changed the terrain of land for agriculture
- “Employment is key to development” but this is questionable
  - Not sustainable because of the nature of policies and agreements signed with investors “job opportunities...not real jobs”
- Private entities and countries that initiate FDI agreements built their foundation for thriving economies stop us from building up from the same platform (agriculture → industrial), changing goal posts – WB- climate loans..enslaved to servicing debt and away from our development
- Development is identified on economic terms and not on human development

#### Alternatives to heavy reliance on FDI

- Reconceptualising development and what it should look like and it should achieve
- Strong regional framework with strong requirements:
  - Climate requirements that should have financial implications
  - Ownership patterns
  - Capital outputs/flight needs to be retained to allow currency circulation
  - No tax exemptions/standard tax policy regionally (strict regulations)
- Need to develop a common position of development
  - Collective (SADC) support progressive stances of our countries in the quest of protecting sensitive products/markets/skills (Namibia, Zambia/Malawi, Zim)
  - Aid should be the last resort and where aid is accessed it should be channelled towards skilling our people to create technologies to support industry
- “Strengthen” negotiation capacities of our countries with our development agenda that seeks our advancement
- Need to fight corruption with our governments – need to question: whether aid is really being utilised to its full value
- Seek that international banks release money banked in international banks...also promote money circulation/banking back at home
- Participation of local communities
- Inward looking economies
  - Question of sovereignty. We need to remove the technical value of FDI and look at it as a question of life/sovereignty (food, land, survival of environment)
- Internal resource mobilisation
- Re-inforce, emphasise in our own human capital → re-invest in local people/abilities

- We need to go back to the streets – mass mobilisation
- UNITY
- Question: What capacity do we as a people have to make sure that such ideas are or begin to be implemented?

### **Workshop 3: Talking about climate change: Claims/Demands and their receivers**

Degrowth Debate in Germany – Changing of peoples Lifestyle

- there are evidences that COP 17 won't have legally binding agreements because big emitters want pledge systems
- African food / green revolution – where countries use genetically engineered crops which has implication to food security
- How can we use our vetccans to influence the government?

### COP 17 Campaigns

- 1) Civil society initiatives – C17 website
- 2) Faith Communities – website: [www.havefaith.com](http://www.havefaith.com)
  - a. 27. November Rally at ABSA stadium
  - b. 3<sup>rd</sup> December – CS march – global action
  - c. 4<sup>rd</sup> December – Faith prayer
  - d. 5<sup>th</sup> December – Food Sovereignty Day – land sector
- 3) Kenya Caravan Youth Initiative
- 4) Catholic bicycle from Bait Bridge?
- 5) Petitions from various sectors
- 6) Cochabamba declaration on mother earth

## **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October**

### **How can we contribute to a creation of new structures towards a pro-poor growth?**

www.kairossouthern.org

- System contribution towards the unemployment
- Engaged more stand up for poor
- Building bringing church closer to the people
- How do
  - Research - Suli...

Programme suicide issues

- Community
- Sensitation
- Poverty
- Public development
- E.G. basic minimal wage
- Poverty churchans to bring churches
- Advocacy
- Faith + Justice
  
- Bring and use spirituality in the work
- Become a church of chance – reliant election
- Church condemn raise attention of media
- Church abolish own evils
- Contradiction in church
- Find common positions
  
- Suffering hidden – “... -
- System inequality when people are poor

### **What do we do in the church in the face of so much suffering?**

- church are to involve self introspection
  - buy in propaganda
  
- we need ....
- Where is church ....
- Congregants / citizens
- Church slow
- Start – Kairos

### **How can we mobilise the church towards a confrontational policy?**

- Church – Neutral de-culturalize people

- Church → Politics?
- Painting – Luthuli as Black Jesus
- Germany - Formal CH // Apartheid
  - Boycott – Women
- Zimbabwe – Minister support, liberation, Muslim
- Zambia - Islam
- Swaziland - solidarity
- PACSA – Peter Kirchhoff: House of Peace
- Congo: Mbutu – Botha; Church in Conflict
- Germany
  - Solidarity
  - Inspiration
  - Support (Bishop Kampen)
    - collaboration
    - Arms struggle

#### **Role that religion plays against apartheid (SADC region)**

- churches (hide, meeting) → Building
- Discrimination – defiance
- Zambia (support to liberation movement)
- Church → confrontation
- Leadership / youth – cusas
- Malawi - Banda - Church support withdraw ... MCP-citizenship
- Zimbabwe – Safe house – Silvera house
  - SA – Protection, Research – Matabela Land Massacre 1984
- Maduna

#### **Speak out**

- Corruption – Church condemn
- Inequality/Injustices
- Which side are we on as churches
- Church is part of the system, part of money reconciliation
- Social net?
- Church-conscience
- System wealth vs. honesty
- Consumption
- Environment

2.

- Suffering hidden normal
- Why people are poor
- What do we do in the church in the face of so much suffering?