

The agrarian rural household economy: livelihoods, rights and land use in South Africa

Presentation by Rosa-Linda Kock & Monique Salomon for the Tshintsha Amakhaya Alliance

CAS Conference 14-15 Aug

Overview

- Headlines: the scandal of poverty and hunger
- How did we find out
- What are we doing about it
- With what effects
- What next

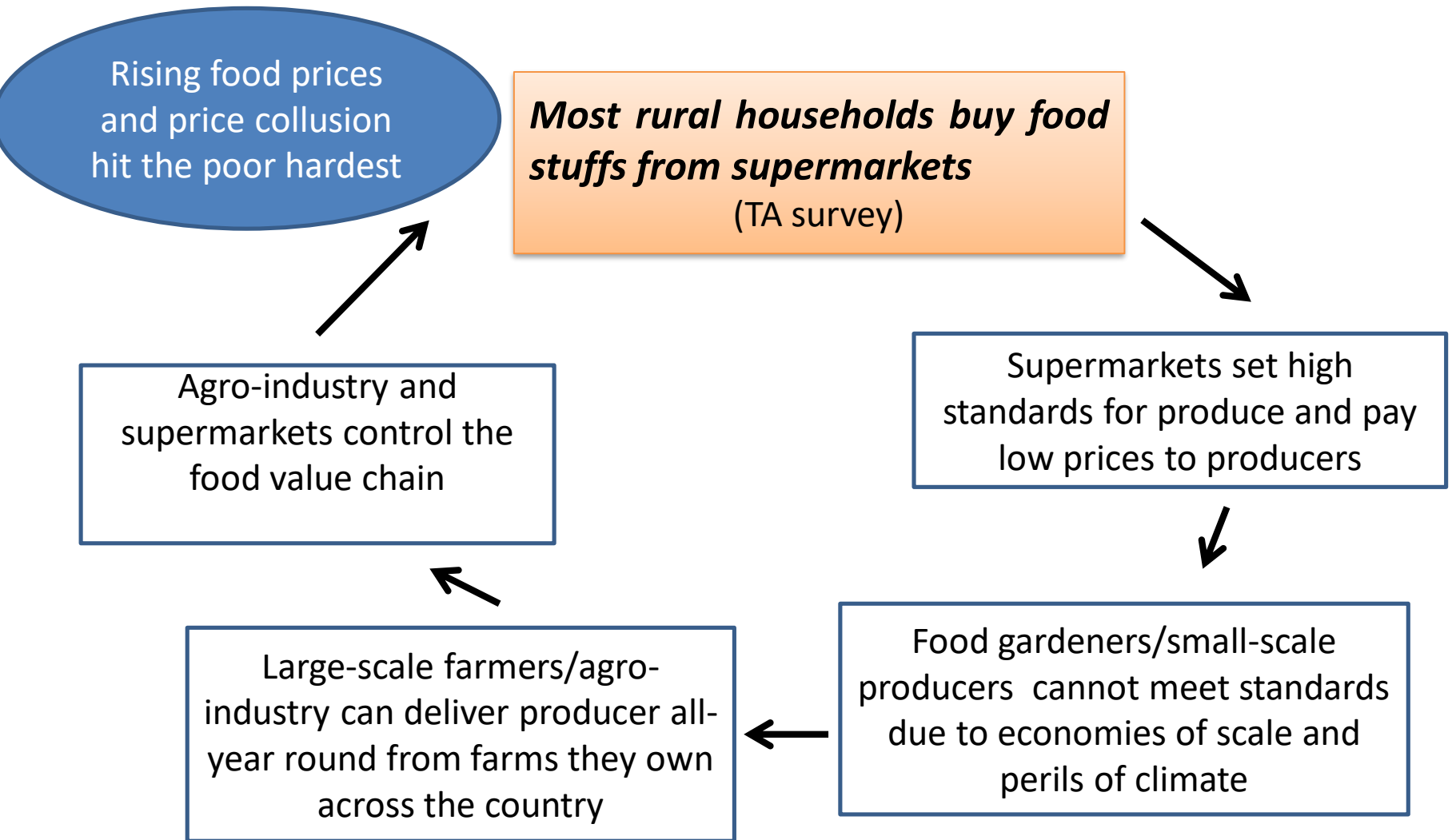


News tweet: SA's big scandal 20 years into democracy

1 in 3 rural HH go hungry in SA. 1 in 4 say they are farmers but only 2% make money from agric. Only have 1 ha or less for cropping & grow to feed family @TAmakhaya #scandalSA



Cycle of inequality in food value chain



Fact or fiction? FACT!

Survey on rural livelihoods

The agrarian rural household economy
2011-2012

1,743 households, 12 municipalities
across tenure types

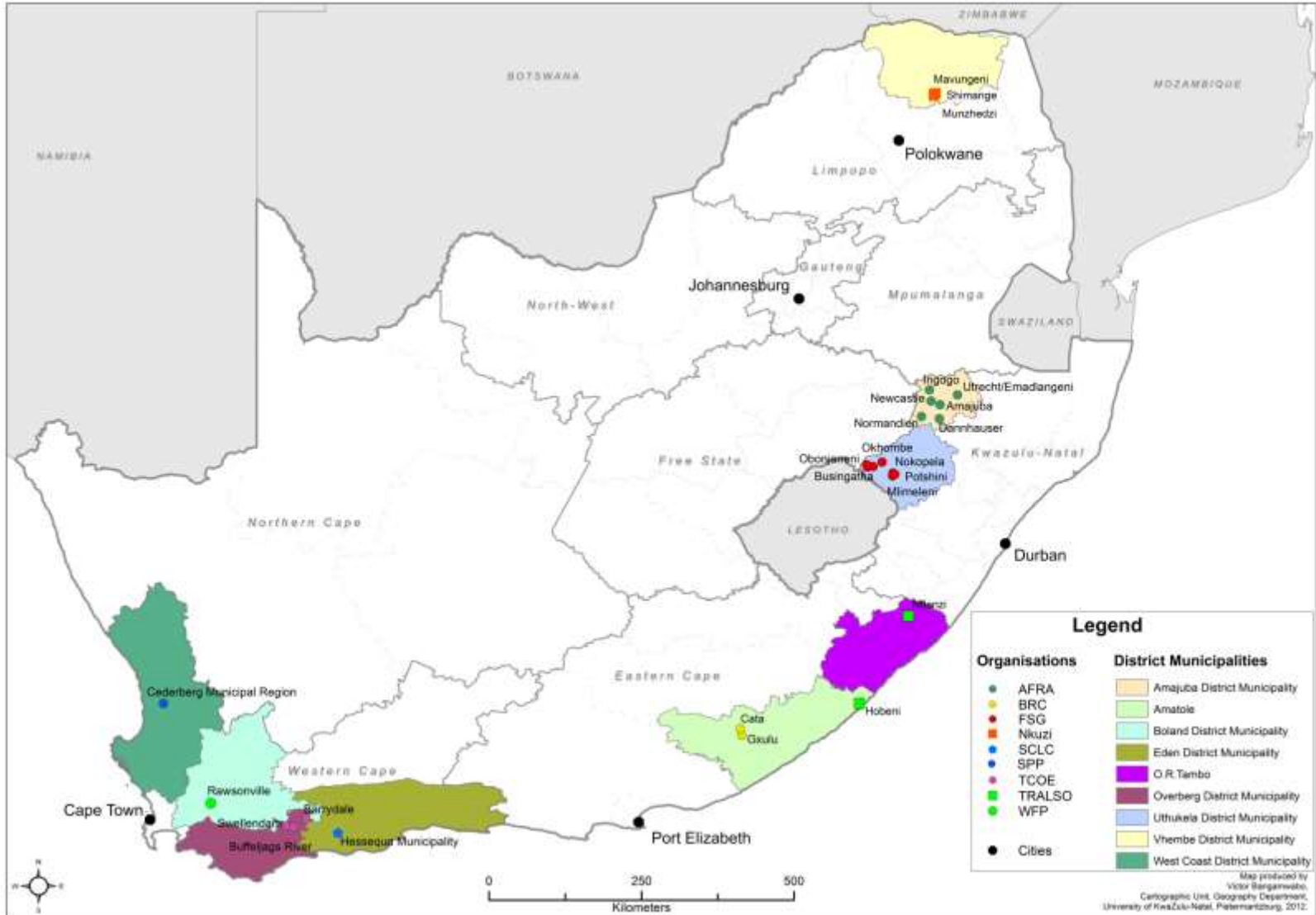
(i.e. communal land, farm workers, farm dwellers,
land reform CPAs, Municipal commonage, church land,
informal settlement)

10 NGOs & rural constituencies =
Tshintsha Amakhaya alliance



Download report: <https://sites.google.com/site/tshintshaintranet/research>

NGOs and community action learning sites in 4 of 9 Provinces



What are we doing about it? With what effects?

**Agricultural training & technical support
(NB: sustainable farming/agro-ecology)**

- Biggest success = Increased agric production
- Growing youth interest in farming & gardening
- Variety of fresh produce
- Increase in sales
- Short-term jobs in agric (CW/EPWP)

What we do & with what effects (2)

Strengthen local organizations to advance rights to resources, inputs, markets & services

- Local groups/forums across villages
- Multi-stakeholder forums at municipal level to access land, Govt services & stakeholder support

What we do & with what effects (3)

Promote solidarity & help forge a rural people's platform to speak with one voice

- National TA workshops & events
- Engage other NGOs, critical scholars, policy advisors/makers
- Joint policy submissions
- Joint campaigns



Highlights

1. Community video to bring out voice & build movements across rural communities (DVD submission, videos on human rights, [Caravan Campaign video](#))
2. Multi-stakeholder processes at municipal level for services & support: Hessequa Agri-Forum
3. Fast-track land reform: TRANCRAA process & Hessequa



Challenges

- DRDLR ignores submissions
- Govt Extension absent & irrelevant to rural HH
- DAFF push “small-scale farmers” (=20 ha+) into conventional commercial agric
- Policies do not recognize HH multiple, complex livelihood strategies
- Corporate control of food system blocks access food producers



What next

Momentum is building for radical land & agrarian reform -> TA Phase 2 (2014-2016):

- Articulate alternative pathways through action research:
 - Farm dwellers and service delivery
 - Land access & land-related policies, particularly commonage
 - Strengthening voice for democratic structures
 - Agrarian transformation and market access for improved livelihoods of rural people
 - Significance of food production to household resilience
- Inform and enhance movement building & campaigns
- Create synergies with other Land, Food, Gender & Climate Justice initiatives



Poem: SA 20 years into democracy

We live in a scandalous society....

...where a mother of a poor household walks an extra kilometre for a loaf of bread that is cheaper while a wealthy couple splashes out on fine dining

...where junk food is cheaper than nutritious food

...where the Government protects corporates and tramples people's right to land, water and food

...where rising food prices escalate malnutrition and hunger, and drive people further into destitution

...where we ourselves have come to believe that our “friendly supermarket” is a closer friend than our neighbour's corner shop

By Monique Salomon, Impressions of the 3rd Feminist Table
Johannesburg 4-5 Aug 2014



It is time to act NOW



Mayibuye!

iAfrika!



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