

Peace is Every Step: The Path of Mindfulness in Everyday Life

Be aware of the contact between your feet and the Earth. Walk as if you are kissing the Earth with your feet. We have caused a lot of damage to the Earth. Now it is time for us to take good care of her. We bring our peace and calm to the surface of the Earth and share the lesson of love. We walk in that spirit.

- Thich Nhat Hanh

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List of Acronyms

BMGF	Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
FLEAT	Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training
NERSA	National Energy Regulator of South Africa
PAIA	Promotion of Access to Information Act
RACR	Rural Action for Climate Resilience
SAFCEI	Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute

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DR BRAAM HANEKOM

Letter from our Chair

It gives me great pleasure to present this short annual report.

May I start by thanking ALL staff for their dedicated contribution during a difficult and testing time. The Covid-19 pandemic and its aftermath challenged us all. The work and outcomes of SAFCEI must be evaluated within this context.

We celebrate the ongoing projects and funding that was secured by the Executive Director.

We celebrate every dedicated work hour delivered by staff under difficult conditions. We celebrate the efforts to grow the leadership and managerial capacity of the board through professional training and deep dialogue about our functioning as a team.

As board we identified the following priorities:

Growing organisational health through clarifying healthy values, empowering leadership, and clear communication.

Aligning our projects with our context.

Adding the complex issue of the relationship between poverty and ecology.

Establishing a Theological Advisory Council to advise board on theological direction.

Empowering communication with our faith communities.

It is indeed a privilege to be part of SAFCEI.

Dr Braam Hanekom

Letter from our Executive Director

The second year of the covid pandemic continued to create uncertainty and complexity globally. For SAFCEI, our approach of in-person engagement and learning spaces was reviewed through-out the year with each covid wave, this resulted in continuous re-planning and needed a great deal of flexibility, as circumstances changed.

Despite the uncertainty in 2021, SAFCEI grew: funding increased significantly and staffing grew by a third. While the vast majority of our work ended up having to be creatively conducted online; delivery, team cohesion and finding ways to support each other effectively in this ever-changing, and online environment, were a challenge internally. Many of the team felt extremely stretched, and we collectively experienced devastating losses of family members, health and wellbeing crises.

Each of us tried our best, in this time of covid, while balancing personal and work demands. As our work is focussed on some of the most intractable issues humanity has faced, one of the risks of doing this work is to feel that we are wanting. The experience of working with

faith and eco-justice, brings a humbleness in the realisation that even as we try our best, it is oftentimes, still not enough.

One of the commonly shared views in the social justice space that we work in, is that we are in very different boats experiencing the same storm in the same ocean. This typifies the experience of 2021. Faith leaders' role to hold space for collective grief, and to make the links from our collective suffering to the destruction of our Sacred Earth to our spiritual paths in order to foster change, remains at the root of SAFCEI's approach.

As we face, year on year, the hottest and most extreme weather events; the climate crisis and biodiversity loss caused by humans, the work that faith leaders do to tackle the climate crisis continues to be cogent and groundbreaking.

Please join me in celebrating the work of the faith leaders, and our team, who, together, have achieved so much in 2021.

Francesca de Gasparis



FRANCESCA DE GASPARIS

SAFCEI's Vision, Mission and Objectives

SAFCEI, established in 2005, is a multifaith organisation committed to supporting Southern African faith leaders and their communities in growing awareness, understanding and action on eco-justice, sustainable living and climate change.

Our members are representative faith leaders from many faiths, including African Traditional Healers, Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Rastafarian, and Quaker communities, and a wide range of Christian denominations. Our members also include indigenous knowledge holders who identify as Khoi-san Traditionalists.

Through our work we emphasise the spiritual and ethical imperative to care for the Earth and all the life that it sustains. We speak out on issues of eco-justice, encourage ethical action in this regard, and call on those in positions of authority to govern ethically on matters concerning our common home.



Our Vision

People of faith caring for living Earth.



Our Mission

As an institute of many faiths, we are united in our diversity through our shared commitment to caring for living Earth.



Our Objectives

Through collaboration, networking, training and learning, research and action, SAFCEI seeks with people of faith to:

- raise environmental awareness;
- promote environmental responsibility and action;
- facilitate and support environmental advocacy;
- confront injustices and advance eco- and socioeconomic justice; and
- influence and formulate environmental policies and ethical guidelines.

Our Approach

SAFCEI offers a faith-based approach to 'Earthkeeping', in recognition that all life is sacred. All faith scriptures refer to our sacred connection to, and the need for a reverence for, Earth and the 'golden rule' principle of treating others as one wants to be treated.

SAFCEI supports faith communities' eco-justice efforts through solidarity, growing networks, and providing training and science-based information.

Our collective goal is to act to replenish the living Earth in a way that is informed by prayer, contemplation and meditation, and which brings the Earth community together.

We do this through facilitated peer learning platforms – Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training (FLEAT), Regional Interfaith Dialogues, and an Earthkeepers' Fast Action Network (FAN) – and we collaborate with civil society networks with common objectives, as well as the public, through campaigns and in online spaces. Our programme work draws on lived experience, traditional knowledge and scientific evidence to support local citizen action and advocacy for policy change.

Highlights in 2021



Workshops, Meetings & Conferences

- Conducted **6** FLEAT workshops.
- Ran a workshop on Sustainable Consumption.
- Ran a National workshop series of **4** workshops on Sustainable Food Systems.
- Ran a workshop on Nutritional Health in South Africa.
- Ran **3** #NuclearFreeSA meetings with faith leaders and online submission training.
- Hosted **6** online Regional Interfaith Dialogues.
- Facilitated **4** Cape Flats Interfaith meetings.
- Supported **2** Rural Action for Climate Resilience Workshops in South Africa.
- Made a presentation at an international event.
- Made **2** presentations at regional events.
- Conducted **3** field visits.

Submissions



- SAFCEI, faith leaders and their communities made **12** interventions in terms of policy briefs on key eco- and climate justice issues.
- Prepared **4** written submissions and objections related to energy governance.
- Prepared **3** oral submissions and objections related to energy governance.
- Made **3** PAIA requests related to energy governance.



Support Provided

- **13** small grants were awarded to Faith Communities in southern Africa.
- **10** grow kits were distributed to 10 faith communities in South Africa.
- Over **R350,000** was spent on data to the regional faith network for attendance of online meetings.

Research



- **4** in-country research reports on Food and Climate governance structures plus **1** multi-country synthesised report.
- Review of the Climate Change bill in terms of agroecological principles.

#CageFreeSA Earthkeepers' Fast Action Network

- Grew to **477** active members online

Gender Representation



- **40%** of the SAFCEI Board are women.
- **80%** of SAFCEI staff are women.
- **40%** of attendees at FLEATs were women.
- **42%** of attendees at Regional Interfaith Dialogues were women.
- **60%** of presenters at the sustainable consumption workshop on food security were women.

Funding & Partnerships



- Raised **R10 464 156** in funds.
- Worked with **>80** faith communities and collaborative and partners.

Media features



- **51** Radio interviews and sound bytes shared over multiple radio stations (faith and mainstream).
- **15** TV interviews
- **164** SAFCEI press and quotes were included in online media
- **39** print articles included SAFCEI press releases, opinion editorials and quotes.



Campaigns

- Ran **4** campaigns on #NuclearFreeSA, #CageFreeSA, #Faiths4SustainableConsumption and for Green Action Week.

Commemorative Days



- Promoted **32** commemorative faith and environment days.



Ongoing impacts of Covid-19

2021 was the second year of the Covid-19 pandemic, as our region grappled with slow vaccination roll-outs and viral waves, our working situation changed often and brought a number of demands and challenges from personal health to psychological resilience and capacity to deliver and adapt.

During lockdowns when movement was restricted our region experienced serious economic impacts, apart from essential services including healthcare, security, agriculture, and the transport of selected goods, many people were either unable to earn or lost their jobs. SAFCEI explored new ways to be creative in formulating new plans when Covid-19 restrictions meant we could not deliver in the way we had originally intended and flexibility meant we often had to rethink and adjust with short timelines.

SAFCEI continued to operate mostly remotely due to lack of vaccines and restrictions for much of the year, with few periods of staff

togetherness in the office. Interactions with stakeholders and beneficiaries were also restricted mainly to online interactions. The stiffer lockdown regime which disallowed gatherings in person put pressure on us all, especially faith leaders who are frontline workers dealing with very high levels of grief and trauma.

SAFCEI endeavoured to work sensitively with them and also focused on resilience building – which included ensuring access to information through providing data for online events. Faith leaders found a new community of practice in this way, without discarding their trusted and time-honoured networks. New perspectives and platforms for dialogue were presented, which provided a structure of support.

Community networks were strengthened, and working together through diverse faith community structures – both formal and informal – inspired a mind set of united, sustainable and active citizenship.

Our work with the Sustainable Development Goals

Zero Hunger



- Ran a six-week sustainable consumption workshop series on food security.

Partnership for the Goals



- Worked with >80 collaborative partners

Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



- Prepared written objections including comments on the NNR Bill, the license for a new nuclear installation at Thuyaspunt in the Eastern Cape, tariff increase proposals by NERSA, and the plans by Shell to conduct seismic surveys off the Wild Coast of South Africa.

Life on Land



- We ran campaigns for Animal Justice, Energy and Climate Justice, and Food and Climate Justice in 2021.
- Hosted a four-week eco-footprinting workshop series focusing on how to reduce our ecological footprint of the Earth by reducing our energy and water consumption, and waste.

Climate Action



- Produced a synthesis paper examining findings from four-country studies of food policy and climate change governance in Southern Africa.
- Co-launched a Rural Action for Climate Resilience (RACR) project supporting 50 South African participants in rural communities on climate action.
- Held a service at Cape Town Unitarians with faith leaders and climate justice activists during GreenFaith's Faiths 4 Climate Justice global days of action to sound the alarm for climate justice and demand action from key decision-makers.

Quality Education



- Conducted 6 FLEAT sessions.
- Ran online training workshop series' focusing on food security, eco-footprinting, cage-free campaign advocacy.

Affordable & Clean Energy



- Intensified the campaign for a Nuclear Free South Africa.

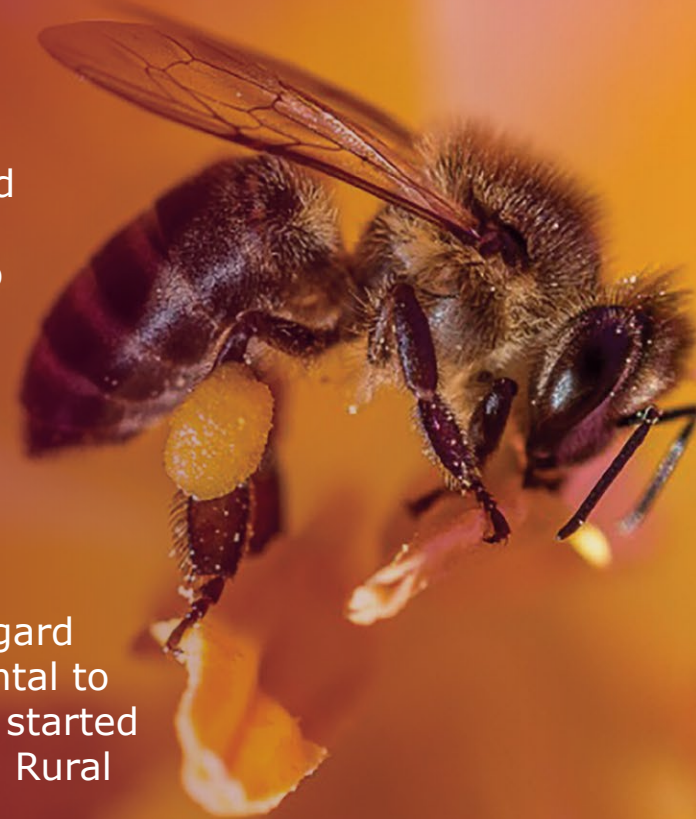
Responsible Consumption & Production



- Ran a two-day regional workshop on sustainable consumption on making a contribution towards sustainable practices such as agroecology.
- Ran a two-day cage-free webinar for participants to learn more about the cage-free movement and how to join campaign actions.
- Conducted and participated in 6 successful campaigns against caged-hen egg supply in two hotel chains and one multinational fast food chain.
- Researched the status of layer hens in four countries in Southern Africa compiled in one report.

Our Programmes

Our core areas of work are Animal Justice, Energy and Climate Justice, and Food and Climate Justice. SAFCEI has assisted faith communities to gain a deeper understanding of these areas. We work with faith leaders, engaging together with environmental issues at a policy level. We challenge laws which do not best serve communities and speak truth to power with regard to actions which are detrimental to the living Earth. In 2021, we started a new project with partners - Rural Action for Climate Resilience.



Animal Justice

The Animal Justice programme grew from the founding belief of SAFCEI that humans are a part of a sacred web of life. Respect for and a recognition of the intrinsic value of other species and nature is a central theme in faiths, religions and spiritual practices around the world.

The Animal Justice programme engages faith communities to raise awareness of industrialisation of animal farming and the unnecessary suffering of animals.

We campaign to eradicate cages for hens, which experience some of the most inhumane living conditions, by engaging with hotels, retailers and other businesses which sell eggs to customers to go "cage-free".

Despite Covid-19's impact on the hospitality, food and retail sectors, significant progress was made towards the goal to abolish cruel cage systems for hens by 2025.

As a member of the Open Wing Alliance (OWA) a global coalition of 82 animal protection organisations in 62 countries, we are united with a growing number of other organisations in Africa towards our common goal, to end the abuse of hens and chickens.

Key activities:

- SAFCEI secured a commitment from the Vineyard Hotel to go cage-free by the end of 2021; Nando's solidified its commitment to sourcing cage-free eggs; and the Radisson Hotel Group confirmed its commitment to sourcing 100% cage-free eggs by 2025.
- SAFCEI participated in a large-scale global cage-free campaign launched against Yum! Brands, Focus Brands and Groupe LE DUFF: Yum! Brands made a commitment to sourcing 100% cage-free eggs by 2030; Focus Brands pledged to go 100% cage-free in the United States and Canada by 2026 and worldwide by 2028; Groupe Le Duff released a cage-free commitment for all of its brands and locations globally, agreeing to transition from battery cages by 2025.
- SAFCEI presented at Open Wing Alliance (OWA) global and regional summits.
- The Earthkeepers' Fast Action Network (FAN) of SAFCEI, which challenges poor practices by corporate entities, now has 477 signed-up members engaged to galvanise action against corporate entities which utilise cages for egg-laying hens. Our digital activism has improved.
- In October we hosted a two-day cage-free webinar which was livestreamed to our Facebook page.



Being a Voice for the Voiceless - opposing inhumane standards proposed for egg laying hens

The South African Bureau of Standards (SABS) proposed new standard conditions for layer hens in 2021 that were tone deaf to the movement and changes happening globally against caged systems. While the US and Europe are rapidly moving towards cage-free layer systems, the proposed standard by SABS would mean that layer hens would be kept in inhumane conditions in cages until 2039.

SAFCEI, alongside a number of other animal welfare organisations condemned the proposal and 224 concerned individuals joined us in formally submitting objections to SABS. The standards are now under further review. Another example of how a small amount of time taken can make a big difference to the suffering of hens and other animals.



Faith leaders advocate against nuclear waste dumping in the Northern Cape

Faith leaders from the communities in the Northern Cape (close to the Vaalputs nuclear waste disposal site) were brought together to discuss the Nuclear Free South Africa campaign. Medium and low-level nuclear waste is transported to the Vaalputs site and stored there. Communities have not been previously consulted about this storage arrangement and Faith Leaders are now speaking out more widely about this issue in their faith communities. Another concern is the potential for the waste (which some is in liquid form) to contaminate the water table underground and thereby affect local communities. Faith leaders are now continuing to highlight this issue to their communities and begin to ask further questions in terms of the approval processes for the Vaalputs site. Faith leaders and their communities are demanding consultation, discussion and engagement by the government on this issue.

Energy and Climate Justice

Energy decision-making within the region is still largely controlled by governments, companies and persons who favour the extractive nature of fossil fuels or the dangerous and expensive technology of nuclear energy. SAFCEI in 2021 continued to engage with faith leaders and their communities, providing information and resources, and ensuring faith voices are amplified in the media and beyond. SAFCEI's Nuclear Free SA campaign continued to challenge the use of nuclear power within South Africa and in the wider region.

Key Activities in 2021:

- The #NuclearFreeSA campaign intensified, with a new website, online sessions, physical protests, and policy comments.
- Technical and community submissions were made at the NERSA public hearings, opposing proposed increases in electricity tariffs.
- SAFCEI partnered with the All African Council of Churches, Bahá'í International Community, and United Religions Initiative, and moderated a session on 'the nexus between climate change, faith and science'.
- Three Access to Information (PAIA) requests were submitted to promote transparency in South Africa's nuclear energy decision-making.
- An online campaign encouraged South Africans to speak out against the proposed new nuclear plant at Thyspunt in the Eastern Cape. Over 1,300 public submissions were collected and submitted.
- Forty-three faith leaders (20 women and 23 men) met online to learn about SAFCEI's #NuclearFreeSA campaign, the history of the anti-nuke movement, and the call for affordable and renewable energy planning.
- SAFCEI participated with faith leaders in National Nuclear Regulator engagements for the application to build a nuclear plant in the Eastern Cape.
- A physical demonstration, championed by faith leaders, was convened with partners for energy justice on Bloubergstrand Beach at the Koeberg nuclear power plant 16km exclusion zone.
- Online meetings were held with faith leaders from the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape, Karoo and Western Cape to discuss various issues including fracking, the no nuclear campaign and energy justice in their various communities.
- Monthly energy justice meetings were also convened with faith leaders and communities.

Food and Climate Justice

SAFCEI's position on food is that its production must not harm the environment, and it must be accessible, affordable, nutritional and as close to its natural state as possible. Sustainable consumption is encouraged so that our biodiversity will thrive for the good of our environment. As people of faith, we should live as custodians! SAFCEI continued our campaign against industrial food production and enhanced collaboration with other organisations working on the same issue in Africa, the United States, and Europe.

Key Activities in 2021:

- SAFCEI held a press conference with faith leaders and small-scale farmers to highlight our Open Letter to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.
- A sustainable consumption and food security workshop attracted over 100 participants throughout the region, with inputs from Indian scholar and environmental activist Vandana Shiva, academics, and practitioners.
- A follow-up six-week sustainable consumption series of workshops was attended by an average of 45 faith leaders.
- SAFCEI published a research report entitled Climate Governance in Four Southern African Countries: A Food Systems Perspective.
- Ten smallholder farming ventures were assisted with grow kits which made an impact in terms of supply of vegetables and sharing information on sustainable consumption.



Before



After

Advocating for land access and sustainable food consumption in Murraysburg

Faith Leaders in the small Karoo town of Murraysburg are desperately trying to gain access to unused municipal land to secure a sustainable food source for their community.

After four faith leaders from In Bethsaida Ministries International in Murraysburg realised that the Biblical verse of Mark 6:37 "You yourself give them something to eat" was a mandate to help feed the population of their economically challenged town.

They identified a vacant lot alongside a playpark area which had been used as a dump site, for the creation of a food garden. However, the municipality withdrew support for the project.

Having cleaned and fenced the land in preparation for the veggie garden they hoped would feed a portion of their community, the disappointed group turned their attention to purchasing a plot for the Church to cultivate.

They identified a plot and wrote to the municipality making them an offer to purchase. However, as there is no post office in Murraysburg it was four months before they received a reply. They had by then missed the deadline for the purchase of the land, and the opportunity was lost.

They have since found another yard that is open and have been able to make a food garden that currently feeds 20 people. In Bethsaida Ministries International is a small church but one with a vision to help its entire community.

The leaders of In Bethsaida Ministries International have not given up on their dream of acquiring a piece of land for a community food garden, and are still making regular trips to their municipality on Beaufort West to try and secure the land they need to build resilience and establish food security in their tiny historic town.



Rural Action for Climate Resilience

For many years, rural communities that are most vulnerable to climate change but least responsible for the problem were conspicuously absent from climate change policy decision-making. Over the past year, the RACR team has been building the resilience of some of the country's most marginalised and vulnerable communities to anticipated climate-related economic, social and ecological shocks. The main focus was on climate change knowledge development and provision of financial support, which enabled the implementation of tangible adaptation interventions.

The project focused on creating accurate, accessible, and relevant climate policy information outputs for rural communities. Participants also learnt a lot about the South African climate change policy framework. They concluded that South Africa's policies and legislation that are supposed to protect livelihoods and ensure the implementation of climate-compatible development are falling short. Decision-making processes lack meaningful participation of local communities. Empowered and mobilised communities may ensure local voices count by influencing

policy and legislation that protect the land and ocean. Armoured with this knowledge, project participants have begun to increase their involvement in the formulation and implementation of South Africa's climate response policies.

The RACR project is steered by the Social Change Assistance Trust (SCAT), SAFCEI, and Heinrich Böll Foundation (HBF), and co-funded by the European Union.

Key Highlights in 2021:

- Fifty participants in the project have increased their knowledge about climate change.
- Two regional workshops were held online for participants from the four provinces of Western Cape, Eastern Cape, Free State, and Northern Cape.
- Six online seminars were held.
- Grants were provided to 14 CBOs who are project participants. Localised actions dealing with climate change are planned by these organisations.
- Increased social media presence resulted.



Our Platforms

Our platforms focus on building the relationships necessary to support our mission to foster care for living Earth. We work primarily with faith leaders and people of faith who are leaders in their communities, but also with civil society and citizens to support them in actively bringing about an equitable, sustainable world.



FLEAT Uganda member uses eco-footprinting training to assist food garden development

Jackline Rebecca Wananda, a member of FLEAT Uganda who represents her Christian Community, presented at our eco-footprinting workshop series on the topic of waste. She shared innovative ways her community used recycled materials to assist with gardening projects, such as using recycled IV drip bottles from hospital waste for irrigation purposes for their organic garden, gardens in sacks, plastic bottles and old tyres.

"These gardens have helped our nutrition program at the rescue home as we will always have vegetables all year round," says Jackline.

Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training (FLEAT)

Our FLEAT platform focuses on building the capacity of faith leaders, so they are better able to advocate and teach with a focus on understanding the nexus between good governance, a stable society and environmental responsibility.

Social security and environmental sustainability are closely linked. It is a space for learning, sharing and collaborating with like-minded faith leaders in the region and take action within their communities.

In 2021, we conducted six FLEAT workshops with faith leaders from Malawi, Uganda and Zambia, in-person FLEATs in Cape Town and Namibia, and established a Regional Women's FLEAT group.

Of the 122 faith leaders who participated in the six FLEATs of 2021, of whom 50% were women.

Key Activities in 2021:

- FLEAT Malawi group planted over 6000 trees in preparation for the rainy season and ran three clean-up campaigns.

- FLEAT Cape Town drew up a Declaration of Intent which was created at their follow up meeting during October.
- Nyorowai Mutsago (FLEAT Zimbabwe) represented the Zimbabwe Council of Churches (ZCC) at the Alternative Mining Indaba (AMI) on the topic of Debt, extractives and inequality.
- Dominic Amon Nyasulu (FLEAT Malawi) led and presented at The Road to COP 26 on Nationally Determined Contributions and the National Action Plan in Malawi.
- Soraya Salie (FLEAT Cape Town) hosted a cleanup day on Earth Day.
- Evans Ndadzungira (Zimbabwe Youth Biodiversity Network School Outreach Officer and FLEAT Zimbabwe participant) and Knowledge Vingi (ZYBN Programmes Coordinator) were invited by Arundel School to conduct a Web of Life workshop.
- Sheikh Ismail Amini (FLEAT Malawi) facilitated an Environmental awareness, youth creativity and innovation programme with 40 women.

"Start where you are, use what you have, do what you can." - Cele Esau, Unitarian, Cape Town FLEAT

Eco-Footprint Training

Our eco-footprinting and sustainable consumption workshops (p 13) are good examples of how we may use the online environment to grow our networks and become more impactful.

We held a four-week online eco-footprinting workshop series during July and August 2021 with members of FLEAT groups on the topics of energy, water, and waste. The eco-footprint exercises assist faith leaders in understanding their 'footprint' in terms of carbon emissions in their energy and water usage and looking at waste differently. The eco-footprint workshop series has generated much interest in using appropriate technology to be more energy and water efficient and looking at the three R's in waste management. Reduce, reuse and recycle. An average of 115 faith leaders attended each week from all over Southern Africa (Malawi, Uganda, Zimbabwe, Kenya and South Africa).

Our Eco Audit specialist, Kim Kruyshaar, took participants through the different themes focusing on policy and community levels. Different examples and inspiring stories from different countries were shared.





Regional Interfaith Dialogues

The purpose of the Regional Interfaith Dialogues is to explore the relationship between faith and eco-justice from the perspective of teachings embedded in sacred texts. In this context, we ask what faith leaders are actively teaching in faith communities.

When we speak and think together about our respective faiths, we deepen our insights and find a more holistic approach which integrates all parts of Creation, helping each person to understand their role as well as the role of their faith in caring for the Earth.

In 2021, we ran six Regional Interfaith Dialogues that drew diverse audiences and reached more than 150 individual faith leaders. Each Dialogue was linked to a United Nations Special Day, further broadening our body of knowledge, linking us to UN key focus areas, and integrating Sustainable Development Goals.

We exposed our body of faith leaders to globally acknowledged experts in their field who affirmed the value of eco-justice activism grounded in faith.

Highlights:

- Six Regional Interfaith Dialogues explored the relationship between faith and eco-justice. They drew diverse audiences and reached more than 150 individual faith leaders. Each Dialogue was attached to a UN Special Day, further broadening our body of knowledge and linking us to UN key focus areas, and integrating Sustainable Development Goals with SAFCEI's funder outcomes.

Cape Flats Interfaith Group Meetings

The Cape Flats Interfaith Group met four times to deal with topical environmental issues, with a total of 85 people (46 women and 39 men) impacted. Concerns and points of discussion were: why the Covid-19 vaccine can help heal the environment; how to build a biodigester; ministering to the planet; ministering to the people; and values based decision-making. A number of smaller, strategic, relationship-building meetings took place to strengthen the network and promote unity of purpose amongst various independent groups. This included meetings with local

bakers wanting to teach the community to bake healthy bread, which would create income-generating opportunities and provide healthier options.

Active Citizen's Network

Established in 2017, the Active Citizen's Network is an engaged online community of Earthkeeper volunteers who support SAFCEI's campaigns and work to bring about change in their own communities. We are developing this platform as a fast-response channel to emerging issues.

Earthkeepers' Fast Action Network

In June 2021, we ran a month-long #CageFreeSA social media campaign to get digital activists to join our Earthkeepers' Fast Action Network (FAN) and encourage retailers to go Cage Free. After launching the campaign, we held two days of action and got over 50 people posting about #CageFreeSA on social media, and over 100 engaged in sharing, liking, and commenting. Through partnering with Treeshake digital agency to train us on running such a social media campaign, we managed to reach 837,000 people online with 2343 interactions. Our Earthkeepers' FAN reached over 200 people in June and has reached 477 subscribers by the end of 2021.

Get involved by signing up at <http://bit.ly/cagefreeSA>. Follow the hashtag #CageFreeSA on social media.





Communications and Campaigns

SAFCEI used our communication platforms – website, e-newsletter, Instagram, Facebook, Twitter and WhatsApp – to empower active citizens with knowledge and encourage engagement, and gain support for our campaigns and advocacy work.



3,060 likes



517 followers



3,095 followers

We ran campaigns for Animal Justice (p 11), Energy and Climate Justice (p 12), and Food and Climate Justice (p 13), and supported various initiatives for Green Action Week, a global campaign to promote sustainable consumption.

In 2021, SAFCEI was featured 51 times on the radio, 15 times on TV, 164 times online, and 39 times in the print media for our work on Animal Justice, Energy and Climate Justice, and Food and Climate Justice.

Compared to 2020, SAFCEI was featured 23 times on the radio, 5 times on TV, 63 times online, and 14 times in the print media.

Our strongest impact in the public domain was in online media, with regular features around our Energy and Climate Justice, and Food and Climate Justice campaigns.

Green Action Week

Green Action Week 2021 kicked off with the launch of the *Anthology on Sustainable Consumption*, which answers the urgency of our social and environmental crises with ideas from practitioners. SAFCEI wrote on 'Evidence-Based Advocacy for Food and Climate Justice'.

Our Green Action Week activities included a regional sustainable workshop on food security that was promoted on the global Green Action Week platforms, firebreak construction activity by faith leaders in Malawi, and a clean-up at Athlone community that involved 17 church leaders and the youth. Additionally, seedlings were donated for the food garden at the hosting Calvinist Church in Kewtown.



Supporting Faith Communities

SAFCEI derives its funding support from a range of organisations whose interests align with our values, mission and programmatic areas. We work with an extensive range of local, regional and international partner organisations to deliver on our mandate, and provide direct support to our members and affiliated organisations.



1000 trees planted along the banks of Lilongwe river in Malawi

The Wildlife and Natural Resources Conservation and Rehabilitation Trust (WNR CRT), a youth motivated local non-governmental organisation conducted an exercise to plant 1000 trees along the banks of Lilongwe river in Malawi, a river that is the primary source of water for the capital city but is unfortunately constantly under threat due to human activity that affects the water supply. The exercise is part of efforts to reverse the impacts of leaving the river bare. Some of the tree seedlings that were planted include Mthethe, Mbawa and Msambafumu.

After the exercise, Lilongwe Water Board's (LWBs) Environmental Officer Nelson Ngoma said the youth's zeal to conserve the Lilongwe river is a great step in response to global warming and a milestone in achieving potable water supply to the capital city dwellers.

To win a high tree survival rate from the 1000 seedlings planted, the NGO has put in place a growth monitoring process whereby the youth will in rotation conduct weekly visits to the site to fix fire breaks, and water the trees.

Providing Grants

Our small grants programme was designed to provide funds for SAFCEI-afflicted faith communities to conduct eco-justice projects within their communities. Small grant information sessions were conducted at FLEAT workshops and the programme was well received.

We redesigned and enlarged our small grants offer to faith communities as support during the particularly challenging time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Criteria for granting were clearly defined within our focus areas and according to the needs of faith communities. The identified support areas were eco-justice, training, food security, and water and energy solutions. There were thirteen successful applicants, with projects in Malawi, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, and Uganda.

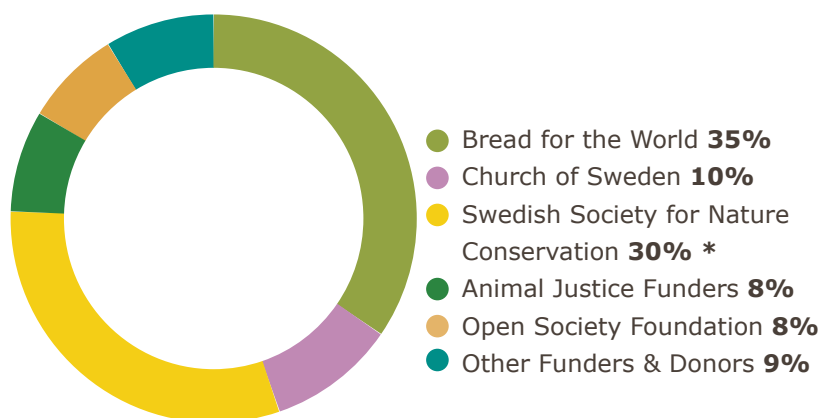
Small grants were disseminated in support of the following initiatives:

- Celebrating the green leadership of the late Bishop Ellinah Wamukoya (Swaziland);
- Environmental management demonstration centre (Zimbabwe);
- Youth consultation environmental advocacy (South Africa);
- Embracing the homeless and empowering women with farming skills (South Africa);
- Tree nursery – environmental justice and climate action (Uganda);
- Tree planting in Karonga (Malawi);
- Biodigester construction and workshops (South Africa);
- Improved variety of maize and beans seeds (Tanzania).



Financial Report

Grants received in 2021



* 42% of the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation(SSNC) funds were received as part of a subgrant to Sustaining the Wild Coast(NPO). Thus SSNC only contributed 20% of SAFCEI's organisational budget for 2021.

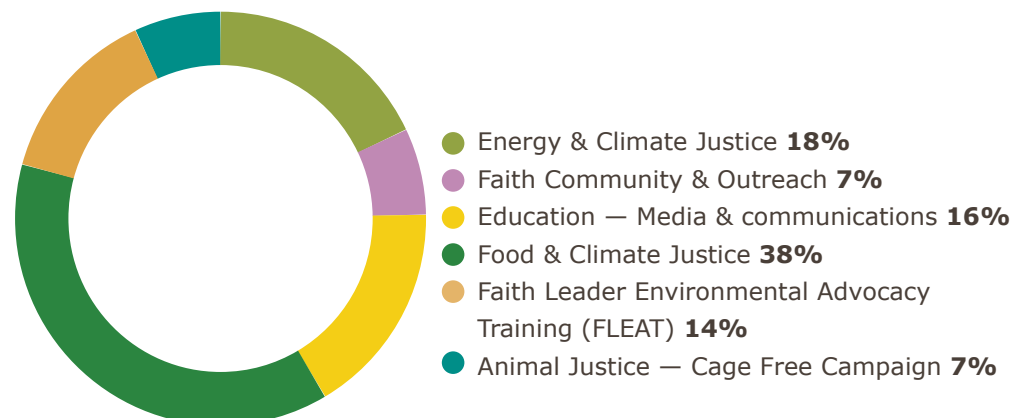
Income	2021 (ZAR)	2020 (ZAR)
Grants and Donations	10 210 326	7 082 602
Other income	150 156	45 643
Interest income	103 677	76 645
Total Income	R10 464 159	R7 204 890



Support Provided

- Processed **13** small grants.
- Provided **10** grow kits
- Provided **R383,017** in data to SAFCEI members to attend online meetings.

How we used 2021 programme funds



Expenditure	2021 (ZAR)	2020 (ZAR)
Governance	426 561	34 924
General operating costs	2 498 648	2 165 238
Premise and equipment costs	346 294	329 189
Professional services	269 197	251 702
Programme costs	6 805 443	4 328 104
Total Expenditure	R10 346 143	R7 109 157



Funding & Partnerships

- Raised and utilised **R10 205 623** in funds

Financial Report

Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2021

Balance Sheet	2021 (ZAR)	2020 (ZAR)
Assets		
Non Current Assets	115 826	201 356
Current Assets	3 771 929	2 974 990
Total Assets	R3 887 755	R3 176 346
Fund and Liabilities	2021 (ZAR)	2020(ZAR)
Funds	993 137	875 122
Current Liabilities	2 894 618	2 301 224
Total Reserves and Liabilities	R3 887 755	R3 176 346

Statement of Changes in Funds

Statement of Changes in Reserves	Accumulated Funds (ZAR)	Equipment Fund (ZAR)	Total (ZAR)
Balance at 1 Jan 2021	673 766	201 356	875 122
Surplus for the year	118 015	-	118 015
Transfer to equipment fund for Assets acquired during the year	(19 999)	19 999	-
Transfer from equipment fund for impairment	6 401	(6 401)	-
Depreciation during the year	99 129	(99 129)	-
Balance at 31 December 2021	R877 312	R115 825	R993 137



SAFCEI

Staff

- Francesca de Gasparis: Executive Director.
- Wayne du Plessis: Programmes & Operations Manager.
- Tamzyn Pamplin: Communications Coordinator.
- Ncumisa Magadla: Social Media and EU Communications Coordinator.
- Nokuthula Ndlovu: Finance & Human Resources Manager.
- Portia Biggar: Office Administrator & Bookkeeper.
- Gabriel Manyangadze: Food & Climate Justice Coordinator.
- Khulekani Magwaza: Energy & Climate Justice Coordinator.
- Sandra Mandaza: Climate Policy Coordinator.
- Georgina Blumears: Cage-Free Egg Campaign Coordinator.
- Zainab Adams: FLEAT Coordinator.
- Berry Behr: Faith Leader Liaison.
- Tlou Mpai: Programmes Administrator.

Our gratitude to Zainab Adams



In 2021, Zainab Adams celebrated 10 years at SAFCEI. We thank Zainab for her long service, dedication and commitment, and for being a valuable member of our team.

Board

Our dedicated board directors support us in bringing a multifaith perspective to ecological issues. Their experience and commitment to SAFCEI's mission and to providing good governance is a significant contribution to our success as an organisation.

- Mr David Munene (Catholic), appointed 2020.
- Dr Braam Hanekom (Dutch Reformed Church) (Chair), appointed 2021.
- Reverend Shaun Cozett (Anglican), appointed 2019.
- Ms Kirtanya Lutchminarayan (Hindu), appointed 2018.
- Imam Salieg Isaacs (Muslim), appointed 2021.
- Sister Usha Jevan (Brahma Kumaris), appointed 2011.
- Ms Francesca de Gasparis – Executive Director (Ex-Officio Director).

Members, Volunteers and Partners

Our members and volunteers provide us with critical support by offering their time and resources to deepen the scale and impact of our work. We are grateful for their ongoing dedication to our mission.


We are particularly thankful for the support and relationships we have with our collaborative partners, funders and donors.




We warmly thank our 2021 donors:

350.org • Animal Charity Evaluators • Bread for the World • Centre for Effective Altruism • Church of Sweden • European Commission Climate Change champions • Ford Foundation • Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust • Heinrich Böll Stiftung • Open Wing Alliance/The Humane League • Rockefeller Foundation (Shine) • Swedish Society for Nature Conservation



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