



SOUTHERN AFRICAN FAITH COMMUNITIES' ENVIRONMENT INSTITUTE

ANNUAL  
REPORT  

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2019





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# Acronyms

**COP** – Conference of the Parties

**EMG** – Environmental Monitoring Group

**FLEAT** – Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training

**NERSA** – National Energy Regulator of South Africa

**OWA** – Open Wing Alliance

**PELUM-ZWE** – Participatory Ecological Land Use Management Zimbabwe

**SAFCEI** – Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute

**SWC** – Sustaining the Wild Coast



Elkan Butler Photography

# A Prayer for the Earth

## A Mayan prayer for the Earth and ourselves

### **We turn to the East:**

*From the East comes the dawn, the day, hope and strength. We are made from sun, light, heat, wisdom and growth.*

### **We turn to the West:**

*We turn to the place where the sun sets. Let us be aware of the destructive steps that we have taken towards all forms of life, and the times we have remained indifferent when it was destroyed.*

### **We turn to the North:**

*From the North came the oppressive currents that enslaved us and dominated the land. We do not accept this injustice, but we are ready to work together to restore wounded humanity and creation, to re-establish justice and right relationships.*

### **We turn to the South:**

*The South is the land of great plains and mountains, the fragrance of hope for the poor, strength for the suffering, the union of the marginalised, the song of the poets and the message of the prophets.*

### **We turn to the Centre:**

*We become more aware of ourselves, looking at others we are filled with love and solidarity because now we know that we are not alone, we are many and we are journeying together.*

# Letter from our Chair



Dear Friends

I was working in the sustainability field when Bishop Geoff Davies first launched the Southern African Faith Communities' Environment Institute (SAFCEI) in 2005. I was privileged to be asked to be the Jewish representative on the SAFCEI Board in 2018 and the Chair in 2019, having gained deeper insight into the organisation's diverse and impactful work. Since serving on the Board, I have been most impressed with the calibre of the people in this broad network that stretches across 11 countries: Angola, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, South Africa, Tanzania, the Kingdom of eSwatini, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Through its work, many faith leaders and communities around Africa have participated in environmental learning processes, and have been supported in their initiatives by SAFCEI's dedicated staff and my fellow Board members. SAFCEI's work covers a myriad of ecological issues in practical ways, and it inspires participants to continue this work in their regions with conviction.

All faith communities should have strong, visible and active environmental policies. No matter what path, no matter which scriptures, no matter what shape or form its spiritual practice take, every faith should highlight the role of its members as guardians of Creation, and broadcast our negative impacts on the Earth to all.

A person of faith should have a deep appreciation for Nature and all of Earth's creatures and commit to living life without doing harm to any aspect of the natural world. Living one's life sustainably in the material world, mindful of one's impact, committed to reducing one's ecological footprint and at the same time promoting the health and wellbeing of all living species, in a way that preserves Creation for the enjoyment of future generations, must be one of the greatest callings of our faith. This demands a commitment to making changes on an individual level and becoming a conscious consumer in all respects. This includes resisting the temptations of blind consumerism and, instead, becoming aware of the "cradle-to-grave" impact of all goods and services that we consume.

During 2020, Covid-19 presented SAFCEI with its share of challenges, along with staffing changes. We have had to quickly learn a new way of operating. I have no doubt that SAFCEI will emerge as one of the survivors of this extremely uncertain time. Our solid base of funders recognises that SAFCEI's presence as a sustainability activist organisation is vital in today's world and its work too valuable to allow it to diminish. I, along with my fellow Board members, look forward to helping guide the organisation and its leadership into the future, to ensure it remains relevant, appropriate and impactful wherever it works, and that it reaches as many people as possible through its work with faith leaders. I congratulate SAFCEI and its leadership for the achievements during the 2019 reporting period, and I look forward to being witness to its continued success in the future.

**Stephen Jacobs**

# Letter from our Executive Director



Dear Friends

When writing this foreword for our 2019 annual report, I was reminded once again of the stark contrast between last year and where we are now because of Covid-19. So much of what we achieved in 2019 would not be possible now in 2020 without us finding new ways of working together to achieve SAFCEI's objectives.

We have much to celebrate about our work in 2019. We held our first faith leader conference in a decade in November 2019. More than 90 faith leaders gathered in Johannesburg to discuss the pressing environmental issues of our time and to reflect on these issues from their faith perspectives and practices. It was also a time for celebrating the relationships we have built with faith leaders and communities. The conference resulted in the collaborative drafting of our [Johannesburg Declaration](#) outlining our shared approach to environmental challenges. We continued to grow our Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training (FLEAT) programme in 2019. Two new FLEAT groups were established with a total of five FLEATS held in four countries. FLEAT Zimbabwe established the first formal in-country FLEAT organisation, illustrating the potential of the model. FLEAT is more than a training programme, it is a way of creating space for eco-justice dialogue and finding shared purpose, and it is one of the primary ways in which our faith leader network has grown from strength to strength.

SAFCEI places significant emphasis on building networks to help us reach our objectives. In the reporting period, we participated in global and regional summits and worked through partnerships to further several eco-justice issues, including our cage-free hens campaign. We attended food strategy and governance meetings in South Africa and Zambia, as well as attending the 25th session of Conference of the Parties (COP 25) in Spain in December 2019. We also co-organised a political party debate in South Africa on environmental issues. We hosted workshops to raise awareness about climate change and the need for a just energy transition in the reporting period. We participated in the Global Divest-Invest Summit in 2019 and submitted our concerns about electricity price increases to the National Energy Regulator of South Africa (NERSA). We also expanded our programmes to focus on food and climate justice, one of the most pressing concerns for people of faith in the region. We recognise the need to empower and support youth, especially in relation to the climate crisis. And we remain steadfast in our commitment to holding governments accountable for decisions it makes that affect society and the environment.

I hope you enjoy reading more about our work in the following pages. We remain committed to acting to repair and restore Nature, to recognise the sacred in all forms of life, and to treat all members of the Earth community and our living planet with love and respect. We are deeply grateful to our partners, colleagues and friends for joining us on this journey with all its challenges and triumphs.

**Francesca de Gasparis**



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# SAFCEI Vision, Mission and Objectives

## Who we are

SAFCEI is a multi-faith organisation committed to supporting faith leaders and their communities in Southern Africa to grow awareness, understanding and action on eco-justice, sustainable living and climate change.

SAFCEI was launched in 2005 after a multi-faith environment conference that called for the establishment of a faith-based environment initiative. We have a broad spectrum of membership, including African Traditional Healers and faith representation from Baha'i, Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim and Quaker communities, as well as from a wide range of Christian denominations.

We emphasise the spiritual and moral imperative to care for the Earth and the community of all life. We call for ethical leadership from all in positions of authority and speak out on issues of eco-justice, encouraging citizen action.

## Our vision

People of faith caring for the 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 strategic 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.
- Influence and formulate environmental policies and ethical guidelines.

# Our Highlight Achievements in 2019

## WORKSHOPS

Hosted **5** FLEAT meetings in **4** countries

Launched **2** new FLEATs



Hosted **2** Faith leader **Energy Training** workshops



## MEETINGS

Participated in **4** food strategy meetings



## CONFERENCES

Attended **5** national and international conferences

Held our first regional faith leader policy conference in **10** years



## SUBMISSIONS

Prepared **3** written submissions and **2** oral submissions to government bodies



## FUNDS RAISED

Raised more than **R7.3 Million** in funds



## CAMPAIGNS

Launched **3** SAFCEI-led campaigns



# Alignment of our Work with the Sustainable Development Goals

## SAFCEI addresses issues of ethical governance of food systems

- Participated in 4 food system strategy conferences
- Hosted a seed dialogue and seed swap

## SAFCEI works with partners and faith networks in Africa and internationally to call for a faith-based approach to environmental and social justice issues

- Deepened relationships with existing partners in the reporting period

## SAFCEI actively promotes transparent and accountable governance systems

- Prepared 3 written submissions and 2 oral submissions to government bodies

## SAFCEI promotes the concept of “one web of life” and campaigns for just treatment of wild, farmed and domestic animals

- Co-hosted the Open Wing Alliance Regional Summit to End Cages
- Presented at South Africa’s Sustainability Retail Forum



## SAFCEI facilitates training on ethical and sustainable practices related to climate change, energy, water and food security

- Hosted a regional faith leaders’ conference
- Held 5 Faith Leaders Environmental Advocacy Training sessions

## SAFCEI campaigns for clean and renewable energy sources

- Co-hosted 1 political party debate
- Hosted 2 Faith Leader Energy Training workshops

## SAFCEI supports initiatives that aim to create decent livelihood opportunities related to the environment

- Supported Yes4Youth’s innovative youth training programme

## SAFCEI actively advocates for a faith-based response to overconsumption and consumerism

- Released the [Johannesburg Declaration](#)

## SAFCEI works on multiple fronts to address ethical governance of climate change-related issues

- Established a new climate and food security programme
- Participated in the Global Divest-Invest Summit



Elkan Butler Photography

Reaching consensus on a call to action on the six themes of the Johannesburg Declaration on the final day of the SAFCEI Policy Conference (November 2019).

# Fostering Care for the Earth

## SAFCEI policy conference: A new vision for sacred life and living Earth

The search for *A new vision for sacred life and living Earth* brought together 90 faith leaders and representatives at SAFCEI's [policy conference](#) in November 2019, Johannesburg, South Africa. The aim was to reflect and deliberate on a collective faith-based response to the global ecological crisis.

The SAFCEI faith leader community last met to explore a common response in 2009. The ethical voice calling for eco-justice is yet to be widely heard from lecterns and pulpits while government and corporate leadership still look for short-term profits at the expense of human and planetary wellbeing.

The 2019 conference hosted lively exchanges around six eco-justice themes: Energy and climate justice, Animal justice, Consumerism and waste, Food and climate justice, Land and water justice, and Biodiversity loss. We also celebrated many diverse forms of spiritual expression through sharing in prayer, meditation, dancing and singing. Based on the discussions held in each thematic area, conference participants collaboratively drafted a [Declaration](#) calling for decisive action to shift humanity's destructive trajectory. The [Declaration](#) affirmed the belief that all life is sacred and noted that the human family must honour Pope Francis' appeal to "care for our common home".

It called for:

- An end to extractive and damaging practices that destroy the natural world and human communities, and that drive climate change.
- The reshaping of the global industrialised food system that is depleting natural systems, growing social inequality and supporting the rise of health pandemics.
- An end to the commodification of animals, including factory farming and other cruel and inhumane practices.
- A just energy transition to renewables.
- The urgent realisation of rights related to our sacred connection to land and water, including equitable access to land.
- The protection and restoration of biodiversity.

# Fostering Care for the Earth



Faith and thought leaders at the SAFCEI Policy Conference 2019, at eMseni Christian Centre, Benoni (November 2019).

The [Johannesburg Declaration](#) emphasised the urgency needed to address climate change and environmental damage and called on governments and corporations to stop practices that destroy the natural world and human communities. Practices that must be stopped include support for an economic model based on limitless growth, industrialisation of food systems and the commodification of animals and other exploitative practices.

Conference participants were encouraged to seek times and places of silence and solitude because restoring the intended harmony of the community of life relies on us hearing and feeling the rhythm of life and the Earth.

# Energy and Climate Justice



Friends of the Earth and Green Sofa (Berlin Energy Transition Dialogue)

Lydia Machaka represented SAFCEI at the United Nations Climate Change talks, COP 25, in Madrid (December 2019).

## COP 25: Time for action

SAFCEI attended COP 25 in December 2019 in Madrid, Spain. Titled *Time for Action*, the outcomes of this meeting were disappointing given the significant civil society protests demanding urgent action from global leaders. The general lack of consensus between the negotiating parties about significant points resulted in many agenda items being delayed until the next COP meeting in 2021.

SAFCEI presented at a Bread for the World side-event – *100% Renewable energy for all: the role of multi-actor partnerships* – on its experiences and expectations related to the energy sector in South Africa. In collaboration with Earthlife Africa Johannesburg, we gave input to an expression of interest to investigate the struggle and opportunities to integrate freedom of religion/belief in development and humanitarian programmes offered by the Coalition for Religious Equality and Inclusive Development.

# Energy and Climate Justice

We continued in 2019 to advocate for a just energy transition and enhanced transparency and accountability related to energy supply and generation.

## NERSA public hearings

SAFCEI submitted its concerns about the impact of the proposed electricity tariff increases on the South African public to NERSA in January 2019. These increases are becoming an annual event as Eskom attempts to compensate for over-expenditure through extraordinary electricity tariff increases. SAFCEI – along with faith-based and environmental partners, and also members of the public – presented a variety of compelling arguments to NERSA, opposing these requests. We helped five faith leaders, representing their communities, with communication coaching to assist them in preparing their submissions. A number of communities were represented, including Mitchell’s Plain, Bellville, Gugulethu and Khayelitsha.



Kumi Naidoo, former SAFCEI Ambassador, with political party representatives at the Public Debate, Community House, Salt River (April 2019).



Faith and community leaders oppose Eskom’s tariff increase request at the NERSA public hearing in Cape Town (January 2019).



Faith leaders in prayer at the second Faith Leader Energy Programme workshop at Shalimar Gardens Hotel (November 2019).



# Energy and Climate Justice

## Political party public debate

In May 2019, we conceptualised and co-organised a debate among South Africa's leading political parties challenging them to describe their commitment to the environment, combatting climate change and bringing about energy justice.

We worked with Project 90 by 2030, Africa Climate Reality, Environmental Monitoring Group, One Million Climate Jobs Campaign and 350Africa.org to host the debate before the national elections. Kumi Naidoo, General Secretary of Amnesty International and former SAFCEI Ambassador, moderated the debate, which 300 people attended.

## Faith Leader Energy Programme

South Africa's Integrated Resource Plan is long overdue. In anticipation of its release, we trialled more in-depth knowledge sharing about energy through two Faith Leader Energy Programme workshops in 2019. The aim was to equip faith leaders with a deeper understanding of the issues around energy. They focused on the rationale for a shift to "clean" energy, and on how to use media strategies to address non-delivery of energy provision in marginalised communities.

## Global Climate Divest-Invest Summit

SAFCEI participated in the Global Divest-Invest Summit, *Financing the Future*, in September 2019 in Cape Town. The summit hosted mission-driven leaders looking to drive a global energy transition that enables universal access to renewable energy.

We co-hosted a breakfast for faith leaders at this event to help share information and build networks. We also co-facilitated a one-day workshop for faith leaders and energy entrepreneurs on financing renewable energy initiatives to share perspectives and challenges.

## Zondo Commission submission

We submitted a [33-page report](#) to the Zondo Commission on State Capture in July 2019. The report highlighted the need to improve procurement and decision-making processes regarding energy generation, as well as making them, and energy planning, more transparent to support accountability.

We have been active in numerous coalitions speaking out against state capture and presenting our findings on energy governance.

## National conference on state capture and ethical governance

We spoke at a national conference on governance and presented on a panel on "lawfare" hosted by the Kathrada Foundation, sharing the legal approach taken that led to the successful court case that stopped the illegal and unconstitutional nuclear energy deal in 2017.



Travis Bailey

Spiritual healers from across the country joined faith leaders and community members in the red dunes of Kwanyana, the epicentre of the titanium mining threat in eastern Mpondoland, to pray for the protection of sacred spaces (March 2019).

# Supporting Resilient Communities

We help build resilient communities with faith leaders across the region.

## Sustaining the Wild Coast's Yes4Youth programme

We support the non-governmental organisation SWC's efforts to create proactive sustainable agricultural and eco-tourism initiatives through the Yes4Youth programme in the Amadiba region of the Pondoland Wild Coast. The proposed titanium mine and N2 toll road continue to threaten this biodiversity hotspot and the traditional livelihoods and cultural heritage of people who have lived on the land for centuries. SAFCEI received an emergency grant for the legal team to help fight the toll road in court in 2019, in solidarity with the affected communities' right to determine how their lands are developed.

SWC enrolled 100 18–25-year-olds in a collaborative learning programme focused on building appreciation for the rich indigenous wisdom, cultural heritage and sustainable livelihoods in the region. Participants, half of which were women, documented knowledge about the growing of traditional crops, including their nutritional aspects, and cultivated their own fields. They cleared alien vegetation, cleaned the beaches and used plastic litter to make ecobricks that were used to build communal benches. Eighteen youth were trained in participatory videography and ten went on three-day guided hikes to learn about ecotourism.

Sinegugu Zukulu, who leads the programme, won the gold Eco-warrior award and SWC, on behalf of the Amadiba community, was given the Eco-community award at the Eco-logic Awards in 2019.

## Spiritual healers pray for sacred places and spaces in Pondoland

South African spiritual and faith leaders gathered in the red dunes of Kwanyana to pray for the protection of sacred spaces and in support of mining-affected communities over Human Rights day weekend on the third anniversary of the slaying of anti-mining community activist, Bazooka Rhadebe. Around the globe, the violation of cultural and ecological landscapes threatens sacred spaces. Many of these places are used for communing with ancestors and for harvesting medicinal and ceremonial plants.

On Human Rights Day, the faith leaders led prayers at a community rally organised by the Amadiba Crisis Committee. This ceremonial visit from traditional healers and faith leaders highlighted the key role that they can play in supporting community eco-justice struggles.



FLEAT South Africa workshop participants join the Toxic Tour with Desmond D'Sa from South Durban Community Environmental Alliance, visiting communities affected by the Shell and BP South Petroleum Refineries (June 2019).

# Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training

Our [FLEAT programme](#) is in its sixth year and it continues to go from strength to strength, helping to initiate a sense of responsibility for the environment, building an understanding of the links between eco-justice and good governance and creating multi-faith peer support learning networks. We held five workshops in 2019 bringing together faith leaders for the first time from a wide range of faith backgrounds. We invite applications from traditional and non-traditional leadership for our FLEATs and we aim for gender parity with at least 40% of participants being women and the inclusion of youth.

## Zimbabwe FLEAT

The Zimbabwe FLEAT met in March 2019 for a three-day workshop with support from ACT Alliance Zimbabwe. FLEAT Mombasa member Kelly Ngeti, from the Center For Sustainable Development Kenya, presented on sustainable leadership. Lenin Chisaira from People and Earth Solidarity Law Network spoke about environmental law. Lewis Mashingaidze, representing PELUM-ZWE, presented on the benefits of agroecology and FLEAT Zimbabwe member Evans Mdadzungira discussed the importance of environmental stewardship.

Participants shared stories about women-led recycling campaigns in Harare and tree planting sessions throughout the country. We held discussions with the Rastafarian and other faith communities to better understand their faith-based approach to ecological ethics. The Fatima Zahra College and the first FLEAT Zimbabwe member Mrs Hajar Makwenia hosted the session. On the last day, FLEAT participants toured the Passionate Plastics recycling plant, run by entrepreneur Spencer Mukuku, in Harare. The participants have completed their FLEAT training and are registering our first in-country FLEAT entity, the FLEAT ZIM Trust, to take their work forward.

## Kenya FLEAT

SAFCEI hosted a second follow-up workshop in Mombasa, Kenya from 30 April to 2 May 2019. Participants reported on their journey of Earthkeeping and discussed energy policies with Liz McDaid, our eco-justice advisor. They also conducted an eco-audit of the Reef Hotel, underwent media training with environmental journalist Oscar Nyhoa and discussed Kenya's climate change adaptation plans with Dr Godfrey Nato, Mombasa's County Government Minister of Environment, Waste Management and Energy. Faith leaders concluded the workshop with a planning session for the next stage of the FLEAT journey, which will be executed by the elected steering committee.

## South Africa FLEAT

A new South Africa FLEAT was launched in Durban, South Africa in June 2019. The meeting inducted 20 leaders from a variety of faith communities (half of them women) from seven South African locations into the FLEAT approach. There was a special focus on the impact of offshore drilling and gas development on human and marine health. The group watched the documentary *Becoming Visible* and visited the Shell and BP South African Petroleum Refineries plant in Durban with the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance to understand communities' struggle for clean air, water and soil in a context of chemical pollution.

# Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training



FLEAT Karoo faith leaders praying in the empty Nqweba Dam during the drought (November 2019).



Ngoni Dapira (FLEAT Zimbabwe) meeting with the Mutare Rastafarian community in Zimbabwe (February 2019).



FLEAT Kenya group met in Mombasa for their second workshop (April 2019).

Faith leaders also took part in an eco-footprinting and community mapping exercise. They reviewed government documents related to environmental protection to understand the legislation on this issue and shared ideas on how to combat the environmental challenges experienced in their respective areas. They also participated in daily spiritual sharing. Discussions focused on the links between faith and the environment and the opportunities to work collaboratively with civil society.

## Karoo FLEAT

In November 2019, 11 faith leaders gathered for the first meeting of the new FLEAT Karoo. Faith leaders representing five faith groups came together in drought-stricken Graaff-Reinet to be inducted in the FLEAT network, with a focus on the impacts of climate change in the region and issues of water, land, biodiversity loss, food security and energy. The group visited and prayed in the empty Nqweba Dam, which had completely dried up during the worst drought the region has experienced in living memory. Together they undertook a community resilience mapping exercise and discussed the role of faith in participating in environmental protection issues. FLEAT Karoo also joined a #BanFracking march, organised by the Support Centre for Land Change, to deliver a memorandum to the municipality demanding the end of fracking now and in the future in the Karoo.

**"32 000 people have lost jobs due to farms collapsing [because of drought]. It's devastating here."**

– Linda Arkert, FLEAT participant

# Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training



Kenya FLEAT members planted 1000 seedlings at the Mikindani (Mombasa) mangroves (June 2019).



FLEAT Regional Group 2 at their third meeting, Tanzania (July 2019).



Janet Nozomo (FLEAT 2) organised tree planting activities with learners from Mtopanga Primary School (June 2019).

## FLEAT 2

When SAFCEI started the FLEAT programme, it was conceptualised as a regional networking space for faith leaders across Southern African countries. The second cohort of the programme (FLEAT 2) met for their third time in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in July 2019. They shared stories of their activities and progress since the previous workshop, and discussed the reach and impact of their work. They had a presentation on the impact of global food systems and learnt about animal justice issues from Gumbo Mhandeni who works for the Jane Goodall Roots and Shoots Programme. Participants also visited the offices of the United Nations Development Programme to gain insight into its work. A lively discussion was held with Nehemiah Murusuri, Senior National Coordinator, on the inclusion of youth in the Global Environment Facility's Small Grants Programme.

The three-year FLEAT 2 regional programme ended in 2019. The final meeting was held in November 2019 after our policy conference. We met with several participants to gain their feedback on the programme, which was overwhelmingly positive, and to plan a way forward.

**"One of the exciting things is that you have people who are in the same network with you, who are doing the same work, who you can always consult and learn from."**

– Nyorowai Caroline Mutsago

# Eco Footprint Workshops

Modern human society consumes far more resources than we need or that the Earth can produce in a sustainable way. Our growing demand for consumer products places enormous pressure on the Earth's natural resources. The desire for more material possessions, often viewed as status symbols, is at odds with the teachings of all faiths. It corrupts personal values and destroys relationships within and between human communities and with the living world that sustains and restores us. Unchecked consumerism transgresses ecological boundaries and contradicts the spiritual ethos of living simply and within our means.

SAFCEI works with faith leaders through FLEAT and other workshops to learn about eco-footprinting. We use a questionnaire and an eco-audit manual to introduce faith communities to "eco-footprints" and through participatory learning, guide them on how they could change their patterns of over-consumption.

# Food and Climate Justice

We launched a new food and climate justice programme in 2019 focusing on climate governance of food systems, building a faith-food-climate network, supporting campaigns and raising awareness.

## Building networks

We attended three meetings hosted by the University of the Western Cape in 2019 that brought together key stakeholders in the Cape Town food system to discuss how to create an appropriate food governance system. SAFCEI participated in the University of Cape Town, the Seed and Knowledge Initiative and Biowatch's *Agroecology for the 21st Century Conference* in January 2020.

We also participated in three food system strategy meetings. The first, held in Cape Town, was a national food systems dialogue titled *Nexus between Health, Economy & Environments: Challenges and Opportunities for Governance*. The second, held in Zambia and hosted by the Zambian Alliance for Agroecology and Biodiversity, focused on the importance of farmer-managed seed systems. In November 2019, we participated in an agroecology strategy meeting exploring how a diverse group of non-governmental organisations and farmer groups could catalyse agroecology in South Africa. The role of faith leaders in supporting issues around food and climate justice was highlighted at these meetings.

## Supporting campaigns

We supported several campaign calls by partner organisations in the reporting period, including the global climate strike in September 2019. We submitted our opposition to an industrial-scale fish farming project in support of the Save the Langebaan Lagoon Campaign. In support of an African Centre for Biodiversity campaign, we sent a letter to the South African Minister of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development and the South African Minister of Health asking that glyphosate and glyphosate-based herbicides be banned





Eco-Footprint workshop at Cape Town Unitarians in central Cape Town (August 2019).



Green Action Week Seed Swap with small scale farmers and people of faith at the Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA)'s campaign centre in Philippi, Cape Town (October 2019).

because of human and environmental health concerns. We also endorsed the open call to world leaders to oppose Japan's proposed whaling strategy that would extend commercial whaling operations.

### Generating awareness

We started posting topical news blogs about land and climate and the implications for global food security and about inequality and access to food on our website to build awareness of the issues in our network.

### Events and workshops

We hosted an information sharing and seed swap in support of Green Action Week and the theme of *Sharing Communities* in October 2019 at the Philippi Horticultural Area Food and Farming Campaign in Cape Town. An invited food and farming expert Stefanie Swanepoel started the lively discussion on seeds and seed access, with translators among the farmers to ensure that everyone could contribute. Following a plant-based lunch, we finished the session with a seed swap. There was significant interest from participants in the event format and information, highlighting the need to host further events of this nature.



Photos top left, bottom left and right by OWA.

SAFCEI represented at the Cape Town Unites for Animals March (April 2019), Global Cage-Free Summit in Poland (May 2019), and co-host of the Africa Regional Summit to end cages in Cape Town (September 2019).

# Animal Justice

Justice for animals both within industrialised food systems and within the community of life is a neglected aspect of most faith teachings.

## Our focus areas

Much of our work in this space is driven by dedicated volunteers from a range of faiths, led by Frank Molteno. We are particularly concerned about the commodification of animals especially under current farming practices.

In the reporting period, we supported the Save the Langebaan Lagoon Campaign and protested the live shipping of sheep. We noted with concern the decimation of baboon troops in the Western Cape and in the Sabie plantations in Mpumalanga. And we called on members of faith communities and broader civil society to put pressure on retailers regarding transparent food labelling and quality. Our [Johannesburg Declaration](#) calls on African governments to update their animal welfare legislation to recognise all animals as sentient beings.

## Cage-free Campaign

SAFCEI is a part of a global campaign, the OWA, working towards the total eradication of battery cages for laying hens worldwide. Cage-free systems improve the lives of hens significantly and cause less environmental harm and less harm to our food systems and human health. Our focus is Southern Africa, where we are asking that the food industry commit to transitioning to [cage-free eggs](#) as soon as possible, but by no later than 2025.

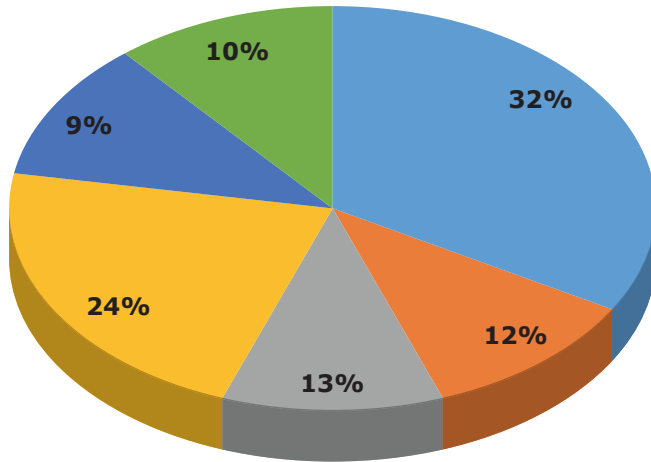
In May 2019, we attended the OWA Global Summit to End Cages in Warsaw, Poland, where we presented on the state of egg production and the conditions hens are experiencing on the continent. SAFCEI co-hosted the OWA Africa Regional Summit to End Cages in September 2019 in Cape Town. Twenty people representing 11 animal protection organisations based in Kenya, South Africa, Tanzania and Zimbabwe attended. We participated in a global campaign against Wyndham Hotels, which was launched during the regional summit. Within a day, Wyndham Hotels committed to serving cage-free eggs at its properties by 2025.

We also worked to secure a cage-free commitment from the City Lodge Hotel Group. The Group publicly committed to sourcing 100% cage-free eggs in all their African hotels by the end of 2025. A separate regional hotel chain, Hotel Verde, has made the same commitment. SAFCEI is engaging with several other users and suppliers of eggs to ensure hens in Southern Africa no longer spend their lives living in cruel and inhumane confinement.

We collaborated with the Moss Group to meet with the Sustainability Retail Forum, which deliberates sustainability issues within the sector. Woolworths, Spar, Pick n Pay and Food Lovers Market are members and we had an opportunity to share concerns about the caging of hens in terms of their welfare, human health and environmental impacts.

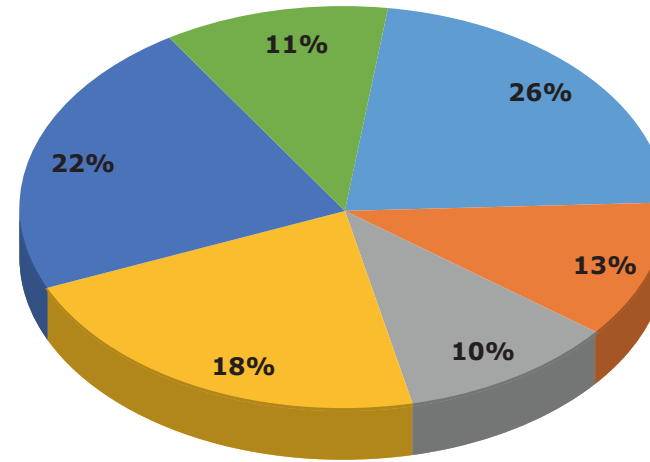
# Financial Report

## Grants received in 2019



- Bread for the World – 32%
- Church of Sweden – 12%
- Swedish Society for Nature Conservation – 13%
- The Raith Foundation – 24%
- The Humane League – 9%
- Other funders and donors – 10%

## How we used programme funds



- Energy and Climate Change – 26%
- Faith Community and Outreach – 13%
- Education - Media and Communications – 10%
- Food and Climate Justice – 18%
- FLEAT – 22%
- Animal Justice - Cage Free Campaign – 11%

Income	2019 (ZAR)	2018 (ZAR)
Grants and donations	7 336 461	5 934 068
Donations	23 695	170 696
Other income	300	19 935
Interest income	117 908	147 590
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>7 478 364</b>	<b>6 272 289</b>

Expenditure	2019 (ZAR)	2018 (ZAR)
Governance	14 787	100 170
General operating costs	2 110 075	1 550 732
Premise and equipment costs	336 673	262 985
Professional services	198 974	393 269
Programme costs	4 706 317	3 810 768
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>7 366 826</b>	<b>6 117 924</b>

# Financial Report

Balance sheet	2019 (ZAR)	2018 (ZAR)
Non-current assets	147 613	130 264
Current assets	2 763 915	3 171 865
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>2 911 528</b>	<b>3 302 129</b>

Reserves and liabilities	2019 (ZAR)	2018 (ZAR)
Capital and reserves	779 388	667 850
Current liabilities	2 132 140	2 634 279
<b>TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES</b>	<b>2 911 528</b>	<b>3 302 129</b>

WWF Nedbank Green Trust - Funds held in Trust	2019 (ZAR)	2018 (ZAR)
Balance at beginning of the year	-	104 681
SAFCEI contributions	-	165 847
Refunded to funder	-	(99 847)
Funds disbursed	-	(170 681)
<b>BALANCE AT YEAR END</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

Statement of changes in reserves	Accumulated Funds	Equipment Fund	Total
Balance at 1 January 2019	537 587	130 263	667 850
Surplus for the year	111 538	-	111 538
Transfer to equipment fund for assets acquired during the year	(96 777)	96 777	-
Depreciation during the year	79 427	(79 427)	-
<b>BALANCE AT 31 DECEMBER 2019</b>	<b>631 775</b>	<b>147 613</b>	<b>779 388</b>

# Staff and Board

## Staff

- Francesca de Gasparis: Executive Director
- Wayne du Plessis: Programmes & Operations Manager
- Kate Davies: Resource & Liaison Officer
- Tamzyn Pamplin: Communications Coordinator
- Nokuthula Ndlovu: Finance & Human Resources Manager
- Portia Biggar: Office Manager
- Lydia Machaka: Regional Coordinator
- Jan Arkert: Science Advisor
- Mandla Gqamlana: Company Relations & Campaigns Coordinator
- Muzeena Amien: Bookkeeper
- Robyn Bowden: Food & Climate Justice Coordinator
- Vainola Makan: Energy Justice Programme Coordinator
- Zainab Adams: FLEAT Coordinator

## Board

Our Board members represent a variety of faiths and skill-sets, enabling us to continue to bring a multi-faith perspective to ecological issues. Their insights and experience support us in building a shared commitment across faiths to caring for a living Earth and providing good governance.

- Ms Clare Hendry (Church of England in South Africa), appointed 2019
- Dr Braam Hanekom (Dutch Reformed Church), appointed 2019
- Ms Francesca de Gasparis – Executive Director (ex officio member)
- Ms Kirtanya Lutchminarayan (Hindu), appointed 2018
- Moulana Shuaib Appleby (Muslim), appointed 2017
- Reverend Shaun Cozett (Anglican), appointed 2019
- Sister Usha Jevan (Brahma Kumaris), appointed 2011
- Mr Stephen Jacobs (Jewish) (Chair), appointed 2018
- Venerable Tsonдру Sonam (Buddhist), appointed 2013

# Thanks to Members, Volunteers and Partners

## Our members

We are grateful to our members for their support in so many different ways. Donations from individuals and community and congregational members are essential in making our work possible. Thank you!

## Volunteers

We thank our volunteers for their commitment to our activities and contribution to our work. This helps to broaden Earth-care ethics in faith communities and civil society and makes what we do so much more effective.

## Special thanks

SAFCEI is most grateful for the support and collaborative relationships with our funding partners and donors. We warmly thank:

350.org • Bread for the World • Centre for Effective Altruism • Church of Sweden • Heinrich Böll Stiftung • RAITH Foundation • Social Justice Initiative • Sol Plaatjie Education Project • Swedish Society for Nature Conservation • The Humane League

## Thanks to our Collaborative Partners

With appreciation to our collaborative partners who walk with us:



Act Alliance • African Climate & Development Initiative (ACDI-UCT) • Alternative Information & Development Centre (AIDC) • Anglican Church of Southern Africa Environment Network (ACSA-EN) • Animal Voice • A Rocha South Africa • Beauty Without Cruelty • Campaign for Just Energy Future in South Africa • Cape Town Interfaith Initiative (CTII) • Catholic Parliamentary Liaison Office • Cathy Masters Development Services (CMDS) • Centre for Environmental Rights • Christian AID • Claremont Main Road Mosque • Coalition Against Nuclear Energy • Compassion in World Farming SA • Cullinan & Associates • Diakonia Council of Churches • Douglas & Velcich Chartered Accountants (SA) • Earthlife Africa JHB (ELA) • EATegrity • EnAct International • Economic Justice Network (EJN) of the Fellowship and the Christian Councils in Southern Africa (FOCCISA) • Electricity Governance Initiative (EGI-SA) • Fossil Free SA • Global Alliance for the Rights of Nature • Green Anglicans • Green Connection • Green Deen (Muslim Students Association – South Africa) • Horst Kleinschmidt • Humane Education South Africa • Indigenous People of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC) • International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) • Islamic Relief South Africa • Jan and Linda Arkert • Johannesburg Anglican Environment Initiative (JAEI) • KwaZulu-Natal Inter-Religious Council • Karoo Environmental Justice Forum (KEJM) • Koeberg Alert Alliance • Legal Resources Centre (LRC) • Mike Kantey • Ministry for Poverty and Compassion of the DRC & URC Church in the Western Cape • Muslim Judicial Council (MJC) • Muslims 4 Eco-Justice • Oikotree Global Faith Forum under the aegis of the World Council of Churches (WCC), World Council for Mission (CWM) and World Communion of Reformed Churches (WCRC) • Philippi Horticultural Area (PHA) Food & Farming Campaign • Popular Education • Princess Vlei Forum • Project 90 by 2030 • Right2Know - Busi Matabane • South African Council of Churches (SACC) • South African Jewish Board of Deputies (SAJBD) • Stop Corrupt Nuke Deal Campaign • The Southern African We Have Faith – Act Now for Climate Justice Campaign • Southern African Catholic Bishops Conference (SACBC) – Justice and Peace • Support Centre for Land Change (SCLC) • Sustaining the Wild Coast (SWC) • Tshisimani – Centre for Activist Education • Tshwane Leadership Foundation/Yeast City Housing • Umbambano Solidarity Hub • UniteBehind • Western Cape Religious Leaders' Forum (WCRLF) • Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) • Women and Democracy Initiative at the Dullah Omar Institute • Women's Legal Centre • WWF South Africa (WWF-SA) • Zambian Alliance for Agroecology and Biodiversity (ZAAB)



Front and Back Cover Elkan Butler Photography

## SAFCEI CAPE TOWN OFFICE



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