

impact 2025 report



south african
urban food and
farming trust

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our vision and mission



The SA Urban Food and Farming Trust envisions resilient urban communities flourishing through food and farming.



In South Africa, extreme inequality, the legacy of apartheid and the climate crisis make most residents socially, ecologically and economically fragile.

OUR MISSION is to strengthen marginalised urban residents through food and farming, supporting communities in arriving at their own form of negotiated resilience.

OUR GOALS are to increase social cohesion within and between communities, improve household food and nutrition security, conserve and protect urban natural ecosystems, empower communities with collective agency, and humanise and enrich built urban environments.

We are on track to strengthen the resilience and improve the well-being of over one million vulnerable urban residents in South Africa in the next ten years.



kurt ackermann



When I reflect on the past year, what stands out most to me are the people at the heart of our work. While we have remarkable numbers to report, it is the farmers, traders, local leaders and ordinary residents who show us every day that resilience and innovation are present in our communities. With the right support, they are not only feeding their families but also shaping more inclusive and sustainable food systems. Our story of impact is the story they tell.

We see this in our Agrihubs. More than 1,300 farmers, most of them women, are growing food, reducing costs, and building their own governance structures. In Khayelitsha alone, farmers earned more than R1.1 million over two years. As Liziwe Stofile, a farmer there, put it, “I don’t worry about what I am going to eat, there is always food in my garden, and always an income from what I grow.”

The voices of young farmers and leaders are just as inspiring. Mzi Mashicila, from Langa, reminds us that farming is not just livelihood but healing. As he says, “Farming is my therapy. It keeps me grounded and gives me purpose.” And Luyanda Mapeyi, a youth leader from Gugulethu, turned vegetables and recyclable cans into an exchange system that tackled both hunger and waste. Reflecting on his journey through

the GrowSA programme, he said, “I realised this wasn’t just gardening, it was something I could build on.” These are the kinds of ideas and determination that give me hope for the future and speak to the deeper meaning of our work.

Behind these stories is a dedicated team that helps make them possible. Our staff and partners bring expertise in agroecology, nutrition, community development, and enterprise support, but just as importantly, they bring patience, humility, and tenacity. Grit. And love. The trust we have built with communities over years of presence and partnership is the foundation that allows this work to flourish. Without that trust, no programme, however well designed, would succeed.

Looking ahead, I believe our role is to ensure this energy and vision emerging from within marginalised communities can grow. Farmers are ready to expand a network of self-sustaining Agrihubs across African cities. Traders are asking for safer, more dignified markets. Young leaders are searching for platforms to scale their innovations. Communities are demanding climate adaptation strategies that reflect their lived realities.



In our current time of deepening economic, political, and environmental uncertainty, I draw courage and confidence from the people driving this change and from the team and partners who walk alongside them. Their determination tells me that transformation is possible. With the continued partnership of funders and allies, we can help ensure that millions more marginalised urban residents gain the agency, dignity, and opportunity they deserve.

the year in impact



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

55 homes

Supported 55 women-led households with children under five years of age and over 300 members to **improve household nutrition**, increase income and improve well-being



Masterclasses

Hosted 3 masterclasses for pan-African and international food systems researchers



50 tonnes

Diverted over fifty tonnes of household food waste **from landfill**



Launched

Helped launch the **Ros Bean Biodiversity and Mindfulness Centre**



Produced

Supported production of **31 030 kg** of food worth over **R1 127 557**



Contributed

to the Global Resilience Partnership report *"From Informality to Impact: The Untapped Potential of Scaling Urban Resilience Innovation in Informality"* launched at the **UN's World Urban Forum**



Member

One of the founding members of the **SA Early Years Climate Action Alliance**

230
Farmers
were
trained



the year in impact



KEY HIGHLIGHTS

8.2%
Admin overheads



33%
Increase in Food Indaba programming

33%
Growth in farmer participants



24%
Increase in grassroots leaders developed

15%
Increase in reach to audience of **58 million** to increase food system awareness, understanding and motivation for action



33%
Growth in communities reached

our theory of change

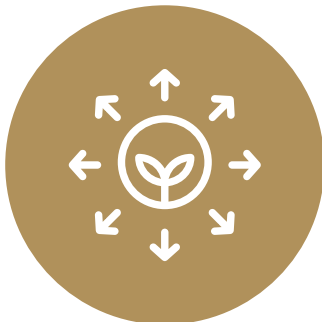
SUMMARY

The Challenge

Food insecurity in Cape Town and other cities is driven by inequality, weak governance, and poor infrastructure. Marginalised communities face unemployment, limited land and services, and growing climate risks.

Strategy

We support the growth of farmer-led Agrihubs that strengthen livelihoods and food access, enable collective input buying and shared market access, connect farmers, traders, and community kitchens, foster partnerships with communities, researchers, and government, and serve as a hub for learning and innovation in urban agroecology through the Oranjezicht City Farm.



What We Do

We expand Agrihubs, provide training in agroecology, agro-processing, nutrition and governance, invest in small-scale infrastructure, partner on research and participatory data systems, and advocate for change in urban food policy.

Outcomes

The outcomes achieved include better nutrition, stronger social cohesion, increased income and skills, greater civic participation, and enhanced climate resilience.

Vision 2035

A network of community-driven Agrihubs giving urban communities control over their food systems.

agrihub initiative

SUMMARY

The Agrihub Initiative

The Agrihub Initiative continues to make strong progress in building a scalable, farmer-led model for urban community resilience. Beyond meeting its original objectives, the project has shown adaptability to local realities while maintaining momentum. Key milestones include the establishment of a fourth Agrihub in Gugulethu and the completion of major infrastructure in Khayelitsha, which is already fully operational and delivering promising results. The initiative is successfully balancing infrastructure delivery with farmer empowerment.

A defining feature has been the strengthening of farmer ownership and networks. In Langa and Mitchell's Plain, farmers have shown resilience by self-organising to sustain leadership and address partnership challenges.

This agency has been reinforced through leadership training, inter-hub exchanges such as the Annual Agrihub Gathering, and the creation of sound governance systems. Khayelitsha demonstrates proof of concept, showing both a positive return on investment and a rise in farmer sales.

Looking forward, the project is strategically leveraging these achievements for future scaling. Lessons from Gugulethu are directly informing a revised "How-To Guide" for establishing new hubs.

Coupled with performance data, partner-driven research, and stronger monitoring and evaluation systems, the team is building a compelling investment case for Phase 3 and long-term impact.



agrihub initiative



KEY FACTS 2025

New hub established

Successfully selected Gugulethu as the 4th Agrihub and initiated construction, testing the project’s establishment methodology.



Khayelitsha Hub Production

Supplied 54.9 tonnes of certified organic vegetables to the Cape Town food system.



Profits paid out

Khayelitsha Hub Financial Impact (Jan 2023 - Dec 2024): **R1,149,167** paid directly to farmers.



ROI

Positive Return on Investment (ROI): Projected to return **R2.40 - R2.90** to farmers for every **R1** invested.



Farmer’s supported

1,326 farmers (on track to reach >1,500), approximately 65% of whom are women.



Farmer Agency & Governance

Farmers have demonstrated strong ownership by leading AGMs, electing steering committees, and extending their own leadership tenures for project continuity.



Network Strengthening

The 2024 Annual Agrihub Gathering successfully fostered inter-hub collaboration and peer-to-peer learning.

agrihub initiative



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STORIES OF CHANGE

For more than 20 years, Liziwe Stofile's journey has been one of resilience and growth. Before she found farming, she worked as a seamstress and community activist, but steady work was hard to find. At a community meeting, she met members of Abalimi Bezekhaya, who introduced her to urban farming. While she had hoped to continue sewing, broken machines pushed her to give her full attention to the soil. With a handful of seeds and a small plot, her new path began.

Her first harvest of potatoes and tomatoes convinced her this was her calling. Though unemployed, she found purpose in sharing food with her family. "I did not have food at home, but when I started farming, I could eat from my garden and share with my loved ones," she recalls. This generosity became the foundation for the thriving garden she tends today.

**"Now I can make money,
and at the same time eat all the
vitamins and minerals I need
because I grow them myself."**

— Liziwe Stofile – Agrihub Farmer

Over 24 years, Liziwe has grown into a skilled organic farmer. Through the Khayelitsha Agrihub, she now sells to reliable markets, ensuring her efforts bring income as well as food. "Now I can make money, and at the same time eat all the vitamins and minerals I need because I grow them myself," she says.

Her journey has also deepened her knowledge of herbs and traditional remedies, which she uses to care for her family. Just as importantly, she mentors other farmers, sharing the lessons she has learned.

From seamstress to farmer, Liziwe embodies the strength and abundance of community-rooted farming.



SUMMARY

As part of the AfriFOODlinks project, the South African Urban Food and Farming Trust (SAUFFT), is advancing community- led solutions to strengthen food systems in Cape Town and beyond. In 2024, significant groundwork was laid through situational analyses, waste audits, and co-design workshops with informal food traders in Langa and the Bellville CBD. These efforts focused on transforming urban food environments, improving informal food market conditions, and promoting circular economies.

Pilots are being co-developed with traders in Langa and Bellville to address infrastructure gaps and create safer, more dignified trading spaces. These include improved facilities, strengthened food health and safety compliance, and organic waste management systems. The year also featured strong stakeholder engagement, knowledge-sharing events, and learning exchanges. A major highlight was the November consortium in Cape Town, which brought together leaders from 20 cities.

SAUFFT further contributed to research outputs, including food system case studies, ethnographic stories, and participatory monitoring using the URBAL methodology.

As the programme enters 2025, the focus shifts from planning to implementation, with an emphasis on turning shared visions into tangible, lasting change.



KEY ACHIEVEMENTS AND IMPACT

Engaged

With 36 meat traders in Langa



URBAL workshop

Developed context-specific indicators for pilot monitoring and evaluation, with participation from local government, traders, and business leaders.



Received buy-in

Received buy-in from informal food traders in Langa and Bellville, and endorsed by the Bellville Trader Association



2024 milestones

Included situational analyses, waste audits, and co-design workshops in Langa and Bellville. Mini-solar lighting pilot in Langa.



Engaged

With 149 food traders in Bellville

STORIES OF CHANGE

Nonkanyiso Krele has sold sheep heads in Langa since 1991, relying on the Smiley Market to support her family in the absence of formal employment. For decades, she worked in harsh and unsafe conditions, exposed to open fires, heavy smoke, and a structure that offered little protection from the weather. These conditions contributed to recurring burns, persistent respiratory difficulties linked to asthma, and long hours worked in poor visibility.

Through AfriFOODlinks, her working environment has undergone substantial improvement. Years of accumulated waste were cleared, improving sanitation and safety. The introduction of a prototype stove has brought immediate health benefits: reduced smoke exposure, fewer asthma challenges, and the end of frequent burns. The introduction of solar lights has also improved visibility for traders who work into the night, making the space safer and more functional.

“all these improvements
prove that there is value
in never giving up.”

— Nonkanyiso Krele

“I used to get burned all the time, and the smoke made it hard to breathe,” she says. “With the new stoves and lights, I can work safely and see what I’m doing, even at night. I have been resilient and worked through difficult circumstances, and all these improvements prove that there is value in never giving up.”

Beyond physical upgrades, AfriFOODlinks has supported Nonkanyiso’s growth through training in business management, food safety, and regulatory compliance, as well as opportunities to learn from traders at other sites.

For Nonkanyiso, these changes protect her health and strengthen her livelihood, allowing her to continue providing for her family with dignity.



environmental entrepreneur support initiative (EESI)

SUMMARY

In 2024–2025, the EESI project made a meaningful impact on the health, confidence, and food practices of urban farmers in Khayelitsha. Fifty-five farmers, most of them women over the age of 50, took part in practical workshops on nutrition, indigenous herb cultivation, and wellness-based entrepreneurship.



Each year, the Environmental Entrepreneur Support Initiative (EESI) selects a focus area. In 2024–2025, the goal was to strengthen nutrition security and well-being among urban food gardeners and their households by promoting selected herb crops, incorporating them into diets, and creating opportunities for income generation.

Working closely with a nutritionist, the programme tracked progress through Photo Voice, Hungry Planet, Rate Your Plate, and well-being surveys.

Participants gained skills directly relevant to their daily lives, including herb cultivation, recipe development, agro-processing (such as herbal teas, chutneys, and salves), food diary tracking, and basic business planning. These outcomes highlight EESI's commitment to supporting capable, environmentally conscious leaders who are helping to build resilient, inclusive, and sustainable local food systems.

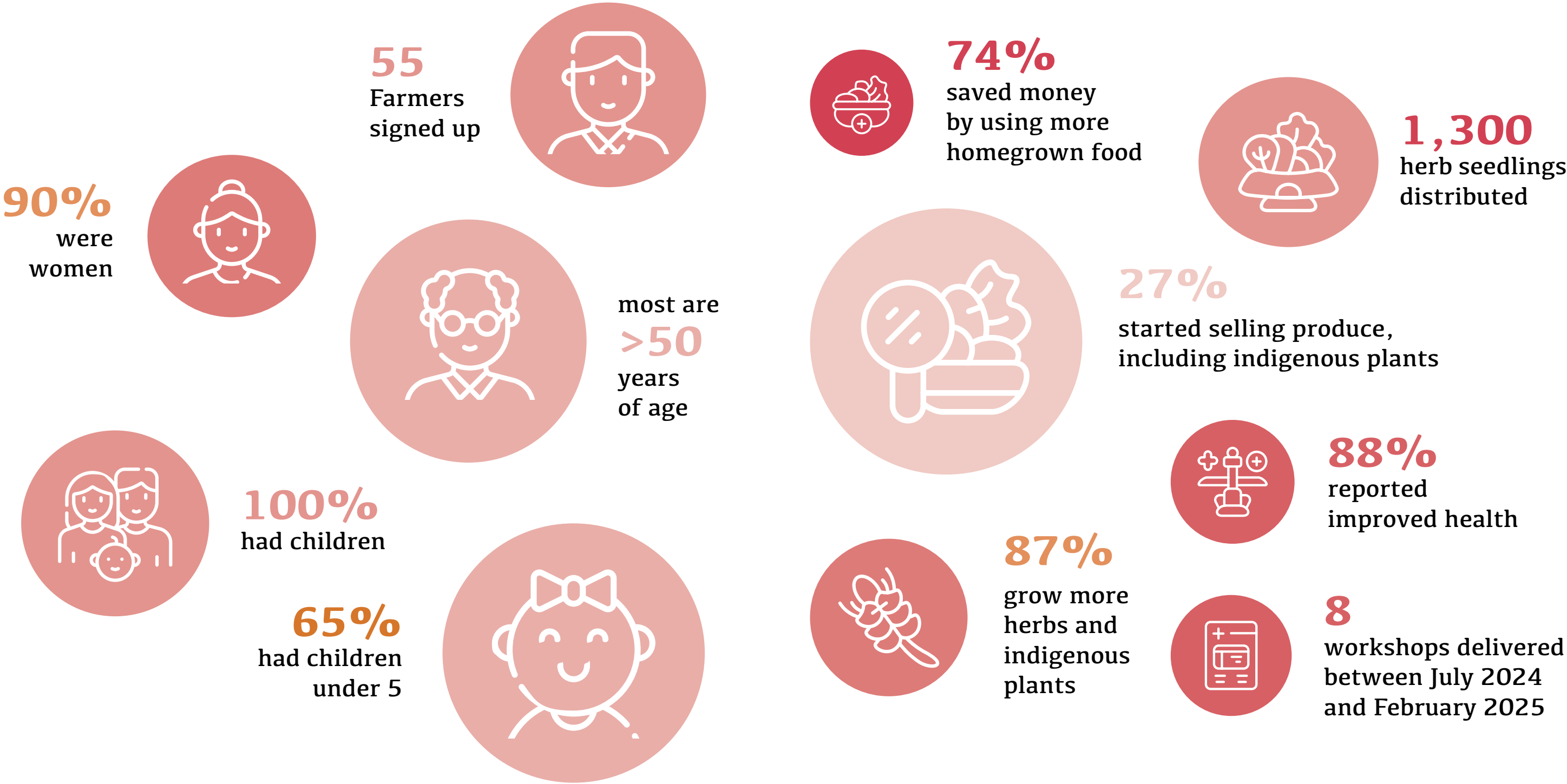


environmental entrepreneur
support initiative (EESI)



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KEY FACTS AND FIGURES



environmental entrepreneur support initiative (EESI)

STORIES OF CHANGE



Nomalanga Linda Ruiters, a Green Entrepreneur and mentor in the EESI programme, drew on a lifelong connection to plants and indigenous knowledge to strengthen community wellbeing in Khayelitsha. Raised in a family of traditional herbalists, she grew up understanding plants not only as food, but as medicine, culture, and heritage, an understanding that later shaped her work in urban agriculture.

Before joining EESI, Nomalanga worked as a bank teller while pursuing courses in Urban Agriculture, Permaculture, and Agroecology. Her passion for community learning led her to step into a facilitation role in the EESI programme, guiding farmers through workshops on indigenous foods, perennial plants, herbal medicine, and value-adding techniques. “Cooking and practical demonstrations made learning more relatable

and impactful,” she reflected. “It was powerful to see farmers understand the value of plants not just for food but for health and income generation.”

Through the experience, Nomalanga strengthened her communication and leadership skills, adapting to challenges such as budget limitations and shifting group dynamics. She found particular fulfilment in seeing participants gain confidence in cultivating and using medicinal and indigenous plants.

Her long-term goal is to help communities reclaim their relationship with traditional food and healing practices. “My vision is for every household to have a garden,” she says. “Even with limited resources, we can rebuild knowledge that sustains our health and dignity.”

“My vision is for every household to have a garden”

— Nomalanga Linda Ruiters



SUMMARY



Since its inception, the GrowSA programme has empowered individuals in South Africa's green economy by providing training and support that combines practical skills with environmental stewardship. In 2024–2025, the programme continued this work through its fourth cohort, a six-month learnership designed to strengthen personal agency, environmental responsibility, and entrepreneurial thinking.

Seven of eight participants successfully completed the programme, which ran over 42 active days across 19 learning venues. Through hands-on courses, individual mentorship, internships, and group coaching, participants developed skills in food growing, waste reduction, and public storytelling. The programme also introduced regenerative farming methods, community kitchen operations, and creative approaches to repurposing food and packaging waste.

The impact was tangible: 75% of participants started or expanded edible gardens, and five of eight secured part-time employment, many through internships offered by the programme. Beyond technical skills, participants reported a renewed sense of purpose, greater confidence, and a stronger belief in their ability to lead within their communities.



KEY FACTS 2025



42
active days



19
learning venues



7/8
candidates
completed



6
jobs
created



85%
attendance



326
meals served
throughout the
programme





STORIES OF CHANGE

Luyanda Mapeyi, a graduate of the fourth GrowSA cohort, is using food growing to tackle hunger and reduce waste in Gugulethu. His journey began in his grandfather's backyard, where he helped prepare soil and care for the small family garden. What started as a chore became a skill and eventually shaped his life direction.

Years later, Luyanda started a small garden with just R20. Without formal training, he relied on lessons learned at home. As his work gained attention, he was invited to local workshops, supported by a visiting German group, and granted access to a larger growing space by the City of Cape Town.

In 2024, Luyanda joined the GrowSA Learnership Programme. Over six months

and 42 active learning days, he gained practical experience in food growing, recycling, and sharing his work with others. "The programme helped me build confidence and see my work as part of a bigger system. It made me take myself more seriously and realize this wasn't just gardening, it was something I could build on," he said.

To address affordability in his community, Luyanda started exchanging vegetables for recyclable cans. People began collecting cans to access fresh food, reducing neighborhood waste in the process. He now sells the collected cans to support his growing efforts. His goal is to create a space where people can learn to grow food and support themselves. "Even with limited resources, I'm showing what's possible," he says.

**"Even with limited
resources, I'm showing
what's possible"**

— Luyanda Mapeyi



oranjezicht city farm

SUMMARY



Oranjezicht City Farm (OZCF) is a hub for sustainable urban agriculture and community engagement on the slopes of Table Mountain, occupying 0.25 hectares on a heritage site.

OZCF drives innovation through initiatives such as water-wise gardening, household composting, and volunteer-led produce programs. It provides training, mentoring, and support to other SAUFFT projects, helping marginalised communities establish and maintain food gardens.

Maintaining its organic certification through the Participatory Guarantee System (PGS), OZCF works closely with the OZCF Market, an independent company that licenses the brand and shares communications platforms.

As a leading voice in South Africa's urban farming movement, OZCF shapes agroecological practices and informs SAUFFT's strategic direction.

“one of South Africa's
top environmental
organisations”

— Treeshake



KEY FACTS 2024-2025

25

Contributing
Volunteers



877,220

Audience Reached
for April 2023 -
March 2024



11

Workshops
hosted



226

Learners and
Tours hosted



40m³

of compost was produced by the farm,
converting over 50 tonnes of household
and garden waste into nutrient-rich
inputs for sustainable food production



8

Interns
Trained



oranjezicht
city farm

oranjezicht city farm

STORIES OF CHANGE

For Thandi Khoza, a third-year student at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology, the internship at Oranjezicht City Farm (OZCF) is more than just practical farming experience, it is a space where she learns, grows, and connects her academic studies to real-world change.

Passionate about sustainability and food systems, Thandi joins the OZCF team to explore her connection to the land in a grounded, hands-on way. Her daily work ranges from planting, weeding, and irrigation to composting and harvesting. The pace is tough at times, but with support from the team she is adapting, gaining confidence, and finding her rhythm. “Farming is never just one thing, it’s science, patience, teamwork, and care,” she reflects.

Her experience is reshaping her understanding of farming. She sees that growing food is not only about crops, but also about building relationships, sustaining land, and expanding access for communities. Meeting volunteers and fellow interns shows her the power of farming as a space of connection and shared learning.

Through this internship, Thandi is building resilience and gaining skills in agroecology, teamwork, and community engagement. She hopes to continue working at the intersection of food, education, and organic farming, using what she learns to inspire others to see farming as a tool for change.

“Farming is never just one thing, it’s science, patience, teamwork, and care.”

— Thandi Khoza (OZCF Intern)



SUMMARY

The Food Indaba is an annual programme that brings together a diverse range of people working across South Africa's food system, including farmers, activists, policymakers, nutritionists, academics, and more, to explore critical issues around food, sustainability, and justice.

In 2024, the programme evolved from the well-known Food Dialogues into the Food Indaba, reflecting its expanded scale and reach. While local Food Dialogues continue regionally, the Food Indaba now serves as the central annual gathering in Cape Town, integrating insights from smaller events into a larger, more impactful platform. The 2024 theme, Food and the Economy, explored the links between food systems and economic structures, highlighting the politics of hunger and the financial systems that shape how food is grown, accessed, and distributed.

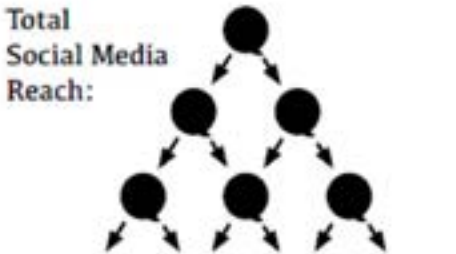
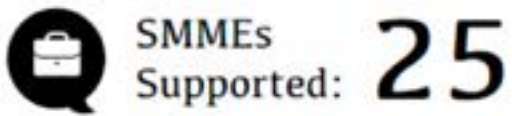
The 2024 Food Indaba featured 19 events across Cape Town, including the V&A Waterfront, Mowbray, Salt River, Langa, Philippi, and Stellenbosch. Across the programme, 1,610 hours of engagement were logged, 435+ attendees registered, and 25 SMMEs were supported. With collaboration from 14 event partners and 41 featured contributors, the initiative reached over 517,000 people on social media and had an overall audience coverage exceeding 58 million. These figures reflect the demand for and relevance of open, cross-sector dialogue on South Africa's food system and the growing momentum for change.



food indaba



KEY FACTS 2024



517 511

Event Partners:



Featured Contributors:



Total Registered Attendees:

539



Total Audience Coverage:

58 138 595

STORIES OF CHANGE



Mzikabawo Mashicila, known as Mzi, is a 34-year-old urban farmer from Langa, Cape Town, and the founder of Lerotholi Food Garden. His interest in farming began in childhood but deepened during the COVID-19 pandemic, when he lost his job and started helping his mother in the community garden at Lerotholi. What began as a way to stay active during a difficult time quickly became a full-time commitment.

Today, Mzi specialises in growing herbs and indigenous medicinal plants. His farm is not only a source of food and income but also a place of healing. “Farming is my therapy,” he says. “It keeps me grounded and gives me purpose.”

In 2024, Mzi hosted Tea with a Farmer as part of the Food Indaba, South Africa’s new annual food systems programme. Held at Lerotholi Garden in Langa, guests were welcomed with herbal tea grown on the farm. Mzi then guided them through the garden, sharing its history and explaining the principles behind his organic and sustainable practices.

The event offered more than a tour, it gave Mzi the opportunity to share his work with a wider audience and to be recognised not only as a grower but as an active voice in the local food system.

**“Farming is my therapy.
It keeps me grounded
and gives me purpose.”**

— Mzikabawo Mashicila (Mzi)

collaboration & partnerships



We work through a diverse network of partners whose contributions align with our long-term vision of strengthening food and nutrition security in marginalised urban communities. These partnerships support the Agrihub Initiative and related programmes through infrastructure development, knowledge exchange, enterprise support, research collaboration, and community engagement.

Community-Based and Farmer Associations:

Partners such as Abalimi Bezekhaya, SCAGA, the Gugulethu Urban Food Forest Initiative, Oranjezicht City Farm, and Harvest of Hope expand grassroots farmer networks, share agricultural knowledge, and distribute produce. These cooperative, long-term, farmer-led relationships deepen community participation and strengthen farmer governance and ownership across the Agrihub network.

Civic and Social Sector Organisations:

Groups including the Masakhe Foundation, Ikhaya le Langa, WWF, and the DG Murray Trust support infrastructure, public engagement, and leadership development. Their involvement has enabled the establishment of Agrihubs in communities like Langa and Gugulethu, reducing input costs and increasing farmer incomes.

Academic and Research Institutions:

SAUFFT partners with the University of Cape Town, University of the Western Cape, and the DSTI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security to support evidence-building, impact evaluation, and policy engagement. Collaborations include joint research, multi-stakeholder forums, and programme co-design, such as the EESI leadership programme and studies comparing urban agriculture models.



Pan-African and International Networks:

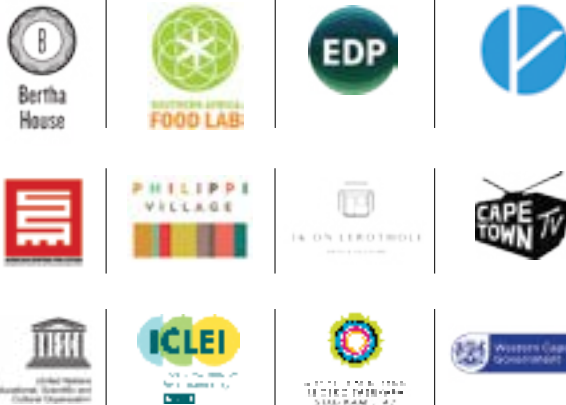
Through AfriFOODlinks, an EU-funded initiative, SAUFFT exchanges knowledge with cities, researchers, and civil society groups across Africa and Europe. This partnership informs Cape Town initiatives and strengthens engagement in informal food markets and city-level policy.

Enterprise and Innovation Support:

GrowSA, the Kenilworth Rooftop Farm initiative, and the Oribi Impact Incubator support early-stage food entrepreneurs, particularly women and youth, building skills, creating income pathways, and testing scalable urban food production models.

Partnership Principles:

SAUFFT selects partners who share a commitment to community agency, practical innovation, and long-term well-being. Partnerships are guided by regular communication, joint planning, mutual accountability, transparency, and locally rooted action aligned with broader systems-change goals.



looking ahead



The second half of 2025 brings uncertainty and volatility for the development sector. Global shifts, such as changes in US policy affecting health and nutrition funding, and the ongoing war in Ukraine, which has redirected European budgets toward defence, are reducing resources available for international development, research, and programmes that support marginalised communities.

This makes planning for 2026 and beyond a complex and fluid challenge. The communities where SAUFFT works face increasing vulnerability on top of already difficult circumstances.

South Africa's economy offers little relief:

- GDP per capita is lower than in 2007, investment rates have declined over the past decade, and economic growth for the next year is estimated at just **1.5%**.
- Real per capita economic output is now **0.7%** smaller than in 2019, while unemployment stands at **32.6%**, over **60%** among youth.
- More than half of South Africans rely on social grants, absolute poverty is rising, and public investment has dropped **26%** since 2016.
- Informal work remains the fallback for many but is under-supported, and climate-related shocks further exacerbate these pressures.

SAUFFT's work is more essential than ever.

By developing assets, knowledge, infra-structure, and community capacity, we help people improve their lives sustainably while fostering collaboration, understanding, and systems change.



What's next for SAUFFT?

- Transitioning the Agrihub model toward financially self-sustaining, farmer-led networks, supported by technical assistance and strategic investments, ready for faster scaling.
- Expanding the Food Indaba into other African cities, reaching broader audiences, and engaging new partners to raise awareness and drive action toward a healthier, more just, and sustainable food system.
- Supporting another cohort of grassroots green economy leaders through a strengthened GrowSA programme with broader community impact.
- Scaling pilots that help marginalised communities adapt to climate change. Linking informal farmers, food traders, and waste handlers to build community-led circular food economies.
- Growing and diversifying our board of trustees to strengthen governance and tackle new challenges.
- Storytelling as a methodology to document impact, share knowledge, and inspire action by capturing the experiences of farmers and communities through ethnographic research with AfriFOODlinks and amplifying these insights via thought leadership articles and media partnerships.
- Building pan-African networks as platforms for collaboration, learning, and future impact across the continent.

As we look to the future, our work is guided by the belief that lasting change in urban food systems is possible when communities lead, partnerships are grounded in trust, and solutions bridge lived experience with institutional support. With over a decade of experience supporting farmers, running model urban farms, and convening diverse stakeholders through platforms like the Food Indaba, SAUFFT has demonstrated that even in the most challenging and marginalised contexts, practical, community-driven action can improve nutrition, increase incomes, and build resilience.

By deepening local leadership, scaling farmer-led Agrihubs, and strengthening networks across South Africa and Africa, we are confident that the innovations and relationships we nurture today will continue to grow, inspiring more equitable, sustainable, and thriving urban food systems for the communities we serve.

how to get involved



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At SA Urban Food & Farming Trust, we believe that building a fair, sustainable, and inclusive food system is a collective effort, and there are many ways you can be part of the movement.

Whether you're a farmer, organisation, researcher, student, policy maker, or simply someone who cares about where food comes from, we invite you to get involved. You can support our work by attending events like the Food Indaba, collaborating on programmes, or partnering with us through funding, research, or in-kind support.

We also welcome volunteers and interns who are eager to contribute to urban farming projects, storytelling, communications, or event coordination. If you're part of a community organisation or social enterprise working in food, we encourage you to connect with us to explore collaboration opportunities through our programmes.

Visit www.fairfood.org.za to learn more about our work, sign up for updates, and see how your skills, network, or organisation can contribute.

Established in August 2014, the SAUFF Trust (Registered Trust IT20812/2014) is a nonprofit public benefit organisation (PBO 930052666) with Section 18a status from the SA Revenue Service (SARS), allowing it to issue certificates for tax deductions in return for donations received.

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Social Media Links:

[Facebook](#)

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meet the team



south african
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farming trust



2.



1.



4.



3.



5.



7.



6.

1. Kurt Ackermann
Chief Executive Officer,
South African Urban Food
& Farming Trust

2. Rirhandzu Marivate
Programme Manager,
South African Urban Food
& Farming Trust

3. Iain Harris
Event Project Manager,
Food Indaba and
Food Dialogues

4. Melanie Stewart
Farm Manager,
Oranjezicht City Farm

5. Thando Qabaka
Project Manager,
Agrihub Initiative

6. Lwando Sawule
Field Worker,
Langa Agrihub

7. Wilweena Fortune
Field Worker,
Mitchells Plain Agrihub



8.



9.



10.



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13.



14.

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9. Josh Harding
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