



LET THE TRUTH BE TOLD! KNOWLEDGE IS POWER!

ARREST THE MURDERERS OF MARIKANA

The SA Police manipulated evidence, refused to answer questions and insisted that they had done nothing wrong throughout the Farlam Commission of Enquiry into the deaths of 34 miners on 16 August 2012. Now that the Commission report has been released the police can no longer justify this stance.

The official inquiry into the killing of workers at Marikana has found it likely that a number of SAPS members on the ground are guilty of murder and attempted murder. The Commission report concluded that Brigadier Calitz, Major General Naidoo, General Phiyega, Lieutenant General Mbombo and Major General Annandale, as well as the eight other officers who fired their automatic weapons at the second kill site, have a case to answer.

The identity of those officers is well known. The Report confirms that they exceeded the bounds of justifiable force. President Zuma should have suspended all these officers immediately after the massacre. It is now three years after the murder and there has been no investigation into their wrong doing. They continue to carry arms and police the public.

Instead of arresting the shooters and firing General Phiyega, Zuma plans to set up yet another commission of enquiry. Families of those murdered will now pursue civil law suits against the government.

The Right2Know calls for the immediate suspension and prosecution



Police opening fire on Marikana mine workers. Pic: Siphwe Sibeko/Reuters

of all the police implicated in the massacre.

Who gave the orders to kill?

When President Zuma appointed the Commission many people were concerned that it would be used as a cover-up to protect the guilty and delay or frustrate justice for the murdered

and injured workers.

The Commission heard evidence that Cyril Ramaphosa (a Board Member of the Lonmin mine) demanded that the police treat the striking workers like criminals. There was evidence that the Minister of Police put pressure on the police to break the worker's strike. There is evidence that the Police used the Apartheid's 1982 Se-

crecy Act to hide records of high-level discussions where the plan to break the strike was discussed.

Despite all this evidence, the Farlam Commission has failed to expose the collusion between Lonmin mine and political leaders. The Commission finds no-one responsible for ordering the massacre!

STOP THE SECRET DEALS!

Put people before corrupt profit!

Secrecy. There is no greater weapon in the hands of the corrupt and powerful. They use it to silence whistleblowers, workers and ordinary people. They use it to hide shadowy deals that make the rich wealthy at the expense of the poor. They collaborate with corrupt elements in the security sector to ensure that the police, intelligence agencies and military protect their paymasters and not the South African people and Constitution. The Secrecy Bill, the reason why civil society organisations founded Right2Know, was meant to protect the powerful and punish people who speak the truth about corruption and abuse of power.

Who's GETTING BILLIONS from the Nuclear Deal and other big projects?

Over the past twenty years our political leaders have engaged in mega tenders that have normalised corruption. From the Nuclear Deal, the Arms Deal, or even e-tolling in Gauteng, why does government push through these secret projects that cost billions? Perhaps it is because there are big companies, often from overseas, that stand to make big money from these deals. Who are those companies? How much are they making? We have a right to know!

Who is MAKING MONEY from tenders in your community?

The public has the right to know

why over R200 million was spent on President Zuma's security upgrades at his private house. This money will not solve the issues of poverty and unemployment, but it suggests that our leaders act unfairly and show little care for the future of South Africa and its people. The same is experienced everyday in corrupt tenders that are awarded to dodgy companies that are supposed to build our houses and provide medicines and books to our hospitals and schools.

Where are the SECRET BANK ACCOUNTS?

We don't focus enough on corrupt business leaders who have looted this country's resources for centuries.

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STOP THE SECRET DEALS!

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Over R300 billion in private money leaves South Africa illegally a year. That is equal to over 1000 Nkandla security upgrades!

The biggest way businesses use secrecy to hide money from us is by not paying taxes and using secret overseas bank accounts to hide their profits. This means that the poorest people in South Africa are being robbed of billions of rands every year that are needed to meet our basic needs. One example of such a company is Lonmin, which moved R2 billion offshore (from 2002-2012) when they argued they could not pay workers a decent wage at Marikana. Did board members like Cyril Ramaphosa approve this?

South Africa remains the most unequal country in the world because the super rich strive for super profits at the expense of the people. How is it that the two richest South African families (the Oppenheims and the Ruperts) have wealth equal to the poorest 50% (26.5 million people)? This imbalance of power and resources feeds inequality and injustice. This is where corruption flourishes.

What are the SECRET DEALS between political parties and their funders?

Do political parties work for their supporters or for those that pay them? You have a right to know where political parties

get their money! But, the ANC, DA, EFF and others don't want you to know. The secret deals between political parties and their funders creates an opportunity for corruption and allows a few rich individuals, corporations, and even foreign governments to buy favours from elected officials, leaving ordinary people behind.

Corruption will only be challenged if we free the secrets that protect the powerful in business and government. We are not calling for a battle against an invisible enemy called corruption – but against the secrets of corporations and leaders in our country that put profits before people!



No one is above the law. Pic C'de Anele

Ababoshwe ababulali base Marikana!

Amaphoyisa aseNingizimu-Afrika akhombise ukukhwabanisa kokusetshenziswa kobufakazi, enqaba ukuphendula imibuzo futhi aphikelela ukuthi akenzanga lutho olubi kulo kutshelwa IKhomishane yophenyo singene noku-fa kwabavukuzi abangu-34 ngo-Agasti 16 2012 eMarikana. Manje usudedelwe umbiko weKhomishane amaphoyisa awasakwazi ukuthethelela lesi simo.

Uphenyo olusemthethweni singene nokubulawa kwabasebenzi eMarikana ithole cishe sonke isibalo samalungu eSAPS ayekhona enkundleni ngalolo suku ngakukhona icala lokubulala nelokuzama ukubulala ngakibo. Lo mbiko weKhomishane waphetha ngokuthi uBrigadier Calitz, uMajor General Naidoo, uGeneral Phiyega, uLieutenant General Mbombo futhi uMajor General Annandale, kanye namanye amaphoyisa ayisi shagalombili ayedubula ngezibhamu eziyishintshayo kwindawo yesibili anecala amele aliphendule.

Lawo maphoyisa ayaziwa. Umbiko ukuqinisekisa ukuthi edlule ngalé kwemingcele ye force nangendlela efanele. UMengameli Jacob Zuma kumele wawaxosha ngokushesha wonke lamaphoyisa emva kwe massacre. Sekuphele iminyaka emithathu ngemuva kokubulawa futhi akukho uphenyo ngokwenza kwabo okungalungile. Bayaqhubeka ukuphatha izikhali nokuhlanganyela bephoyisa umphakathi.

Esikhundleni zokubopha abacibishelayo nokuxosha uGeneral Phiyega, uMengameli uZuma uhlela ukumisa engenye ikhomishana yophenyo. Imindeni yalabo

ababulawa isizothatha amanyathelo omthetho ngaku hulumeni.

iRight2Know ifuna ukumiswa ngokushesha kanye nokushushiswa kwawo onke amaphoyisa asolekayo ekubulaleni ngokucekela phansi kwaseMarikana.

Ngubani owanika imiyalo yokubulala?

Uma uMengameli Zuma waqoka IKhomishani abantu abanengi babekhathekile ukuthi kuzosetshenziswa njengobufakazi ukuvikela abanecala ukubambezeleka noma kushafiswe ubulungiswa bezisebenzi ezabulawa nezalimala.

Ikhomishini yezwa ubufakazi bokuthi uCyril Ramaphosa (iLungule Board yemine iLonmin) wafuna ngodli ukuthi amaphoyisa apha abasebenzi abasesitelekeni njenge zigebe ngu. Kwakukhona ubufakazi bokuthi uNgqongqoshe wezama-Phoyisa wabeka ingcindezi emaphoyiseni ukuthi aphule isiteleka yezisebenzi. Kunobufakazi bokuthi amaPhoyisa asebenzisa umthetho wobandlululo wezimfihlo ka 1982 ukufihla amarekhodi awezingxoxo ezisezingeni eliphezulu lapho isu lokuphula isiteleka lalixoxwa khona.

Naphezu kwakho konke lobufakazi, iKhomishana ihlulekile ukudalula izinsolo phakathi kweLonmin kunye nabaholi bezombusazwe. IKhomishana ayitholi noyedwa vo enomthwalo wemfanelo malunga nokubulala ngokucekela phansi kwaseMarikana!

Asiyeke izivumelwano eziyimfihlo!

Beka abantu phambili kunengenisobudengu: Sifuna ilungelo lokwazi:

Ngubani OTHOLA IZIGIDI ZAMARANDI kuNtengiso yeNuclear namanye amaprojekti amakhulu? Yekela Ibhizinisi yezixhobo yobudengu ukuya kwithenda nganye.

Ngubani OWENZA IMALI ngamathenda kwindawo ohlala kuyona? Ukusukela eNkandla ukuya kwindawo zomphakathi - abezopolitiki abanobudengu nezinkampani bazama ukufihla ithenda zobudengu.

Stop die ONDERDUIMSE HANDEL!

Plaas mense eerste, nie korrupsie! Ons eis die reg om te weet (Right2Know):

Wie KRY DIE MILJARDE van die handel van kernkrag en ander groot projekte?

Stop korrupsie in wapentransaksie wat in elke tender versprei word.

Wie VIND BAAT BY tenders?

Van Nkandla tot jou plaaslike gemeenskap – korrupte politici en maatskappye probeer om onderduimse tenders toe te smeer.

NQANDA USHISHINO OLUYIMFIHLO!

Beka abantu phambili kunengenisobuqhetseba! Sifuna ilungelo lokwazi:

Ngubani ofumana izigidi gidi zeerandi kuShishino lweNuclear nezinye iiprojekt ezinkulu?

Nqanda ubuqhetseba obufana neshishini lwezixhobo ukunwenwela kwithenda nganye.

NGUBANI OWENZA IMALI kwithenda kwindawo ohlala kuyo?

Ukusuka eNkandla ukuya kwindawo yokuhlala nganye, abezopolitiko abanobuqhetseba kunye neenkampani bazama ukuquma ezithenda zobuqhetseba.

Akuphi amaAKHAWUNTI EBHANKI AYIMFIHLO?

Izinkampani ezezigwili zabucala zathatha imali engaphaya kwexabiso le 1000 yokuthuthukisa iNkandla zaya kumazwe angaphandle ngonyaka odlule. Kutheni bangashushiswa?

YINI AMABHIZINISI AYIMFIHLO phakathi kwabezopolitiki naba sizi bemali?

Unelungelo lokwazi ukuthi amaqembu ezopolitiki ayitholakuphi imali yabo: noma iANC, DA, EFF, nabanye nje bayenqaba ukuthi wazi.

Waar is die ONDERDUIMSE BANK REKENINGE?

Ryk maatskappye in die private sektor het verlede jaar gelde – 'n 1000 keer meer as Nkandla opgraderings - onwettig na oorsese lande verskuif. Hoekom word hulle nie vervolgt nie?

Waarom is daar GEHEIME ONDERHANDELINGE tussen politieke partye en hul befondersers?

Jy het die reg om te weet waar politieke partye hul geld kry! Selfs al wil die ANC, DA, EFF en andere nie hê jy moet weet.

ZIPHI iAKHAWUNTI ZEBHANKI EZIYIMFIHLO?

Iinkampani zezinhanha zabucala zathatha imali engaphaya kwexabiso le 1000 kuphuculo lwaseNkandla bayisa phesheya ngokungekho mthethweni kunyaka ophelileyo. Kutheni bengatshutshiswa nje?

Mashishini ayimfihlo mani aphakathi kwabezopolitiko nabaxhasi-zimali babo?

Unelungelo lokwazi ukuba amaqela ezopolitiko ayithathaphi imali yabo!-nokuba iANC, DA, EFF, okanye ezinye azifuni wazi.



You don't need permission to protest!

Many municipalities have been suppressing the people's right to protest by 'denying permission' for protests, insisting on charging fees, or demanding written approval from the institutions people are protesting against.

Like many municipalities, the City of Cape Town continues to insist that organisations must 'apply' to have a protest, suggesting that authorities can decide whether or not to permit a protest to go ahead. Right2Know is engaging these City officials who do not implement the Gatherings Act which requires protestors only to notify the municipality so that the municipality can make arrangements like redirecting traffic to keep protesters safe.

Recently Right2Know protested at Johannesburg Metro Police Department, after the metro police started demanding that organisations pay a

R140 'fee' to hold a protest, among other bureaucratic hoops that restricted the right to protest.

In KZN, the Durban Metro Police stopped a picket at Greyville Racecourse from going ahead, on the basis that the organisation did not give seven days' notice. The Gatherings Act makes it clear that protesters can give less than seven days' notice before a protest, if they also provide a reason for doing so. SCDEA notified the authorities six days ahead of time and gave a reason for doing so, which means they've complied with the Regulation of Gatherings Act.

As R2K, we reiterate that the right to organise, protest and speak out is central to all community struggles for social justice. R2K will continue to fight to ensure our democratic right to protest is respected.

Know your rights: Filming and photographing the police

SAPS officers almost never have the right to stop the media from taking photos or video. In fact they are under explicit instructions not to.

What to do if a SAPS member tries to stop you from taking photos?

- Stay calm. Do not raise your voice or provoke violence against you.
- If police demand that you delete data under threat of violence, do so. Your life cannot be measured in megabytes.
- If you are detained, ask what crime you are suspected of committing. If the officer demands to view material or confiscate your equipment, ask what legal basis s/he has to do so, and ask for the officer's name, police station and commanding officer.
- If you experience any contravention of Standing Order 156, you may lodge a complaint to the station commander of the nearest station. Disobeying a Standing Order is a disciplinary offence.
- If the SAPS station commander refuses to take disciplinary action against the member concerned or is otherwise unhelpful, you may take legal action against the SAPS.



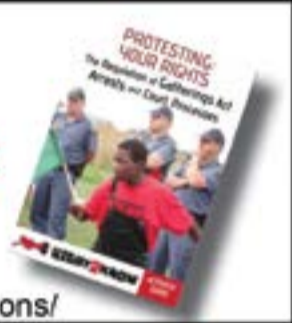
You can download our 4-page advisory at: r2k.org.za/filmthepolice

Legal disclaimer: This advisory may contain inaccuracies and omissions, and does not serve as legal advice. Be safe and exercise caution when interacting with SAPS!

Get your copy of the R2K

Activist Guide to the Gatherings Act, Arrests & Court Processes.

From our offices (details on page 6) or online: <http://www.r2k.org.za/publications/>



Awunyanzelekanga ufune 'imvume' yokuqhanqalaza?

Oomasipala abaninzi bacinezela amalungelo abantu okuqhanqalaza ngokuthi bangabaniki imvume yokuqhanqalaza, bekwanyanzelisa ukuba makurhunywe okanye bafune isivumelwano neziko elo ku qhanqalazelwa sona.

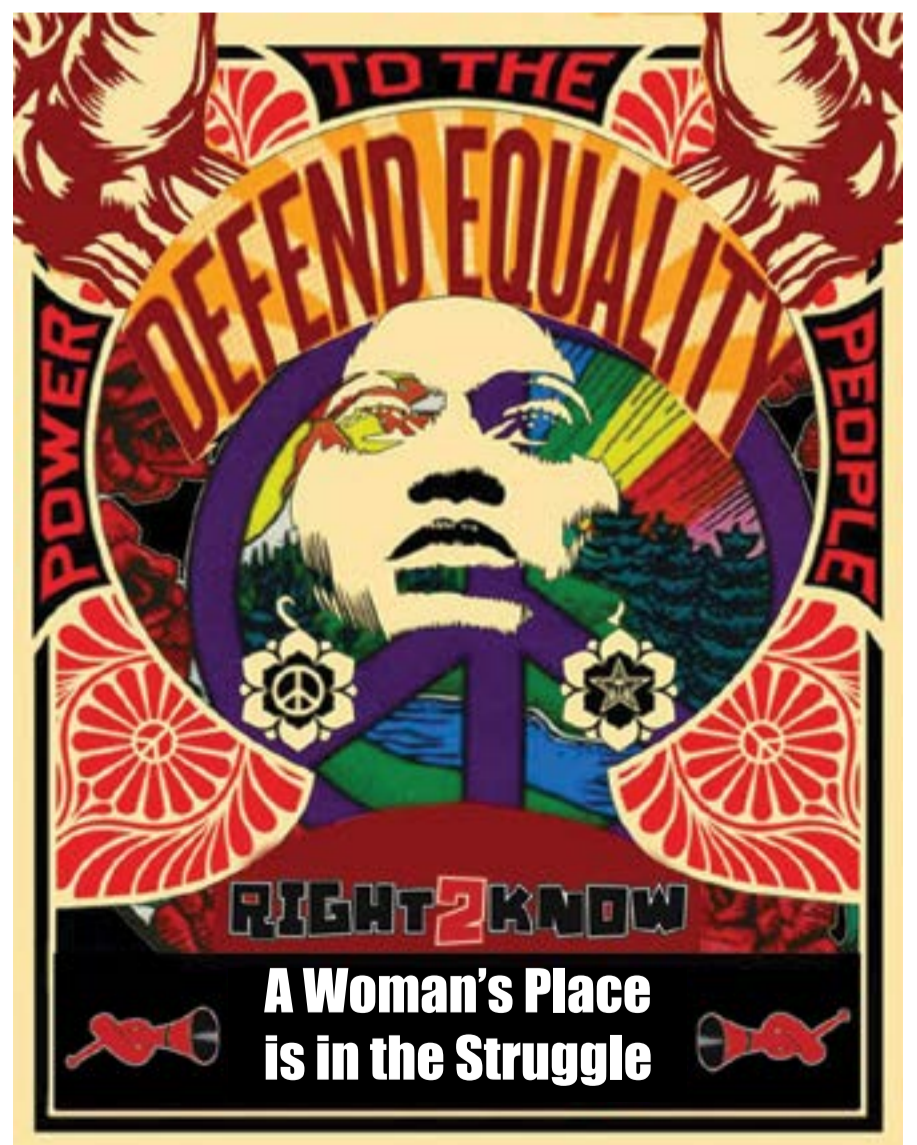
Njengo masipala abaninzi isithili saseKapa siqhubeka sigxiniselisa into yokuba kumele imibutho ifake "isicelo" soku qhanqalaza, bekwathi amagosa omthetho angenza isiqgibo ngoba uqhanqalazo lungaqhubeka okanye lingaqhubeki. iRight2Know iqhuba inthethwa-ntethwano nezi nqwayinqwayi zomthetho zesixeko ezingawenziyo umthetho yomqulu yezo manyano ocela abaqhanqalazi ukuba bazise umasipala kuze umasipala ke yena ahlengahlengise umgaqo-ndlela kuze abaqhanqalazi baqhubeke bephephile.

Kunge ntsuku zatywala nje iRight2Know iqhanqalaze kwi sithili samagosa wezomgwaqo "Metro police" eRhawutini emveni koba igosa lezomthetho linyanzelise ukuba umbutho urhume nge mali engange R140 ukuze baqhanqalaze kuquka

ezinye ingxuba-kaxaka ebezi cinezela ilungelo labo loku qhanqalaza.

KwaZulu-Natal khona, amagosa ezomthetho esithili amise uqhanqalazo lwegcuntswana labantu eGreyville balivala ukuba liqhubeke kuba umbutho unga banikanga sazisi sentsuku ezisixhenxe. Umqu-lumthetho wezokumanyana uyacacisa ukuba abaqhanqalazi banganika isicelo/sazisi esingaphantsi kwe ntsuzu ezisixhenxe ngaphambi koqhanqalazo xa benaso isizathu sokwenza lonto. Isicelo/sazisi seSC-DEA isifake kwintsuku ezintandathu phambi kwexesha nesizathu sanikwa sokwenza oko sasikwayinxalenye yesicelo into ethetha ukuba babenyathele nqo emthethweni womqulu mthetho wezo kumanyana.

Singu Right2Know siyagxininisa ukuba ilungelo lokuqokelelana, niqhanqalaze kwano kuzityanda igila ukhupha imbilini yakho lelawo wonke ubani ozabalazela intla-kahle. iR2K izoqhubeka isilwela ikwaqinisekisa ukuba ilungelo lakho lokuqhanqalaza ngokukhululekileyo lihloniphekile.



InfoAccess victory for polluted communities

Activists win a 10 year battle against ArcelorMittal

Communities next to mines and factories often live with high levels of air, water and/or soil pollution. Communities have a right to access information on the extent of the pollution and what companies have undertaken to do to address this pollution. Much of this information remains secret. Communities fighting for their health and livelihoods must first struggle to make this information public.

After more than 10 years of struggle the Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance (VEJA), working with the Centre for Environmental Rights, has finally accessed the 2003 Environmental Master Plan by steelmaker ArcelorMittal South Africa (AMSA) for its Vanderbijlpark steel plant. The infamous Master Plan is a series of specialist environmental reports incorporating results of tests of pollution levels and environmental and human health risk assessments conducted at AMSA's Vanderbijlpark site between 2000 and 2002.

The documents confirm that waste materials are stored in a slagheap and unlined dams in Steel Valley next to AMSA's steel plant. Steel Valley has

left a legacy of water, soil and air pollution.

VEJA, the Steel Valley Crisis Committee, and other organisations including the Right2Know Campaign have pledged their support to the Steel Valley communities holding AMSA to account for the harm they have caused communities.

In Durban, the South Durban Community Environmental Alliance's (SDCEA) Coordinator Desmond D'Sa says "Reports have shown that the poor air quality in the south Durban basin has had a devastating impact on the health of residents, particularly children, living within the area. The Municipality should be doing everything in its power to hold the refineries accountable. Instead, it has forced us to resort to litigation to obtain basic documents".

Government departments and municipalities, as licensing authorities for air polluters, have an essential role to play in ensuring that the right to a healthy environment is respected and protected for all South Africans.

SDCEA and the Right2Know continue to demand access to information about the air pollution caused by



Vaal Environmental Justice Alliance (Veja) picket Mittal Steel. Pic: Centre for Environmental Rights

Engen and Sapref, and all emitters of harmful pollutants - as well as their compliance with their licences.

Phezu Ntheta, Right2Know KZN activist, says "Only through information can we begin to hold corporate polluters accountable. It is the right of any community to know about how clean the air is that they breathe."

BLUE DOWNS RESIDENTS SOLD 'LIES' FOR HOUSES

Residents challenge poor quality housing delivery

Recently residents of the Fountainhead settlement in Blue Downs gathered next to the large Fountainhead Development advertisement to show their community and any potential buyers that the houses they received are nothing like the houses that were advertised. Shanaaz Solomons, the secretary for the residential commit-

tee of the settlement, said, "There's endless problems here- every time... tomorrow there's more problems! So this is just to tell the people - don't buy these houses. These people are trying to con us."

Some of the problems the residents face include: cracks in the walls, leaking, broken and poorly connected plumbing, locks and latches not being secure, poor electricity connections, mould and dampness, poor ventilation and the holes and crumbling of



Fountainhead residents marching for justice. Pic: Carina Conradie

the structures generally.

The residents of Fountainhead Development in Blue Downs, working with the R2K, have forced the contracting company, BVI2000, and the Department of Human Settlements to make public the original contract between the department and the contractors, as well as the Environmental Impact Report.

The residents of Fountainhead have been struggling since August 2013 against the poor quality of the government subsidised housing that was sold to them with the promise of secure, sound structures. The residents believe that the promises made to them about the quality of the structures and the security of the development were a ploy, playing on their lack of

experience as first time homeowners.

Through their struggle to access information, they can now study the original contract between the Department of Human Settlements and the contracting company so that they can see for themselves what was meant to be delivered to them in the building of the houses.

They will also study the Environmental Impact Assessment, as the dampness inside the houses has caused many health problems for the residents. Solomons said, "Can you see my child's nose is always running. Because of water everywhere and dampness - the water runs in through the windowsill, the doors - there's always mould."

The residents are continuing to picket, and will continue to fight until both government and the developers have taken responsibility for the shoddy standards of the houses.

Get your copy of the R2K handbook:

BIG BROTHER EXPOSED

Stories of State Monitoring and Harassment of Activists

From our offices (details on page 6) or online: <http://www.bigbrother.r2k.org.za>



Ungobe ngokuthola ulwazi umphakathi wase Steel Valley

Imiphakathi eseduze nezimayini kanye nezimboni uhlala njalo unezinga eliphezulu lo moya, amanzi okanye umhlabathi ongcolile. Imiphakathi inelungelo lokuthola ulwazi ngezinga yokungcola nalokho izinkampani ezikwenzayo ukubhekana nalokhu kungcola. Ulwazi oluningi luhlala luyimfihlo futhi umphakathi ulokho ulwela umthola mpilo nemisebenzi aziqale kuqala zenzukuthi lolu lwazi lwaziwe.

Ngemva kweminyaka engaphezu kwelishu lo mabalazo iVaal Environmental Justice Alliance (Veja) isebenzisana neSikhungo samalungelo ezemvelo (CER) ekugcineni iye yathola imvume okanye ukungena lapho kukhiqizwa izinsimbi iArcelorMittal South Africa (AMSA) 2003 Environmental Master Plan yendawo yokukhiqiza iVanderijlpark. Le Master Plan ibhedayo yingqokelela yezingxelo zika ngqondongqondo wendawo ihlanganisa imiphumela yamatest yezinga lokungcola nezingozi zendawo nezempilo yabantu eyenziwe eAMSA kwindawo Vanderbijl phakathi kuka 2000 no 2002.

La mabhuku abonisa ukuthi ukungcola kugcinawe eslagheap nakumadami eSteel Valley duzane noAMSA indawo yokukhiqiza izinsimbi. ISteel Valley ishiye umlando wamanzi, umhlabathi nomoya ongcolile. Iveja, iSteel Valley Crisis Committee, kanye nezinye izinhlangano kubandakanya iRight2Know Campaign ziye zethembisa ngokusekela umphakathi wase Steel Valley ekuthatheni lolu daba phambili nokuthi uAMSA asho ngobunzima abenze kwindawo zokuhlala.

eThekwini, umxhumanisi weSouth Durban Community Environmental Alliance (SDCEA), uDesmond D'Sa uthi "Imibiko iye yabonisa ukuthi izinga lomoya eningizimu neTheku uye waba nomthelela omubi kakhulu kwimpilo yabahlali, ikakhulukazi izingane, ezihlala endaweni. uMasipala kumele ukwenza konke okusemandleni akhe ukubamba izimboni zokuwuhlaza bazoziphendulela. Kunalokho, usiphoka ukuba siphendukele enkantolo ukuthola imibhalo eziyisisekelo ngenkani".

iMinyango kaHulumeni noMasipala, njengoba ikhupha ilayisensi yeziphathimandla ezingcolisa umoya, bane ndima ebalulekile okumele bayidlale ekuqinisekiseni ukuthi ilungelo nemipilo yompakathi ihlonishwe futhi kuvikelwe bonke abantu baseNingizimu Afrika. iSDCEA kanye neRight2Know ziyaqhubeka ukufuna ukufinyelela ulwazi mayelana nokungcola komoya okubangelwa nguEgen kanye neSapref, futhi yonke into efucuzisa ukungcola okulimazayo, kanye nokuhambisana kwabo kanye namalayisensi abo.

uPhezu Ntheta, isishosho vu seRight2Know eKZN, uthi: "Kuphela ngokusebenzisa ulwazi singaqala ukubamba izinkampani ezingcolisa umoya bazoziphendulela. Kuyilungelo lanoma yimuphi umphakathi ukwazi mayelana nokuthi uhlanzeke kangakanani umoya abawuphefumulayo."



Blikkiesdorp community protesting for decent houses. Pic: Cindy Waxa/Cape Argus

From Blik to Blik NO MORE!

Blikkiesdorp challenges plans to extend airport

Blikkiesdorp is a Temporary Relocation Area (TRA) formed in 2007 behind the Cape Town International Airport. The community was promised that they would not be there for more than 3-6 months. They have now been there for over seven years!

Now the City of Cape Town and Airports Company of SA (ACSA) are planning to extend the airport without consulting the community, even though it has become very clear that the people of Blikkiesdorp will not be moved for at least another four years.

Community leaders have formed a Joint Committee (JC) to

unite the residents to ensure that they get access to information and that their voices are heard and their needs are met.

The JC's recent meetings with ACSA, the City, and the consultants who are doing the environmental impact assessment have left Blikkiesdorp with important, yet unanswered questions. The JC has been continuously asking the questions about both the airport plans and the plans to relocate the residents, so as to give the communities more certainty in their future.

Due to the continued pressure by the Blikkiesdorp community and the attention of the media,

we have managed to get access to a document which has been kept secret from the community for years. The documents shows that the City's plans for the community cannot be finalised within the next four years! We demand that the City stop keeping secrets from the community which directly affects their quality of life.

The community wants to know what the future holds for them. The R2K will continue to support the community to fight so that everyone in Blikkiesdorp will know when and where they will be moved,

and how all the airport developments will affect the community – and how the community will be protected from these effects.

The community was promised that they would not be there for more than 3-6 months. They have now been there for over seven years!

Van Blik to Blik NIE MEER NIE!

Blikkiesdorp gemeenskap stry vir ordentlike huise

Blikkiesdorp, 'n tydelike hervestigungsgebied, is in 2007 agter die Kaapstadse Internasionale Lughawe op die been gebring. Dit was aan die gemeenskap belowe dat hulle slegs drie tot ses maande in die gebied sou bly. Sewe jaar later, woon die gemeenskap steeds daar!

Die Stad Kaapstad en die Airports Company of South Africa (ACSA) beplan nou om die lughawe uit te brei sonder om die gemeenskap daarvoor te raadpleeg. Dit ten spyte daarvan dat dit blyk inwoners van Blikkiesdorp sal nie binne die volgende vier jaar ver skuif word nie.

Gemeenskapleiers het 'n Gesa-

mentlike Komitee (GK) gestig om inwoners te verenig en te verseker dat hulle toegang tot inligting sal kry. Hulle kan deur hierdie platform verseker word dat hul stemme gehoor word om sodende ook hul behoeftes te vervul.

In onlangse vergaderings met ACSA, die Stad en konsultante wat die omgewingsimpakstudie doen, was talke belangrike vrae van Blikkiesdorp nie beantwoord nie. Die GK soek aanhoudend antwoorde aangaande die lughawe se planne en die plan om inwoners te hervestig, want hulle wil sekerheid vir die gemeenskap gee oor hul toekoms.

Ons het weens druk van die ge-

meenskap en aandag van die media, 'n dokument gekry wat geheim gehou was van die gemeenskap. Die dokument wys dat die Stad se planne vir die gemeenskap nog nie vir die volgende vier jaar gefinaliseer is nie! Ons eis dat die Stad ophou geheime van die gemeenskap hou wat hul kwaliteit van lewens raak!

Blikkiesdorp gemeenskap wil weet wat die toekoms vir hulle inhou. Die Right2Know sal aanhou veg vir die gemeenskap totdat elkeen van hulle weet wanneer hulle hervestig gaan word. Ons wil ook weet hoe al die lughawe ontwikkelinge die gemeenskap gaan raak en hoe die gemeenskap deur die veranderinge beskerm sal word.

Dit was aan die gemeenskap belowe dat hulle slegs drie tot ses maande in die gebied sou bly. Sewe jaar later, woon die gemeenskap steeds daar!

Ons het weens druk van die ge-

VULA 'MA CONNEXION!

We must reduce the cost of airtime and ensure more just access to the internet

Everyone has a right to communicate and to freely receive and impart information. It is deeply unjust for the major telecommunication companies to make huge profits at the expense of ordinary people.

The high cost of airtime, SMS, and mobile data and limited access to high-speed internet remains a barrier to people using their cell phones to express themselves and access information.

The Lived Cost of Communication

A recently launched Right2Know research report - the Lived Costs of Communication - confirms that many poor and working class people are forced to cut back on other necessities just to be able to afford to pay for airtime and data. Cell phone company profiteering makes data and airtime costs too high. The high cost of communicating perpetuates inequality and entrenches the digital divide between the rich and the poor.

The research conducted by the LINK Centre at the University of the Witwatersrand finds that many people make real sacrifices, for example some people would prefer to buy airtime rather than to buy bread. They feel they must lose something

because communication is necessary and there is no easy alternative way to communicate.

People should not have to choose between putting food on the table and accessing communication technology.

People's concerns went beyond just the high cost of airtime and data. Although they described creatively using airtime and data packages to maximise benefits, many spoke of their annoyance about the structuring of packages and misleading labels such as 'free airtime'.

Alternatives to Privatised Telecommunication

The Lived Cost report gives voice to frustrated digital citizens: People who have strong needs and interests in using advanced digital communications services, but for whom very few services are either accessible or affordable.

Telecommunications services in South Africa, and much of the world, are largely provided by a handful of private companies in a monopoly, duopoly or oligopoly structure in which services are heavily commercialised and profits for providers are exceedingly high.

Another recent Right2Know publication - Alternatives to Privatised Telecommunications - presents publically and community controlled alternatives to private ownership and makes a strong argument for looking beyond the market as a means of broadening and deepening telecommunications access.



The right to communicate is frustrated by the high cost of airtime. Pic: Busi Mtabane

The publication contributes to challenging a deepening "communications Apartheid" by presenting international examples of alternative models that could promote a more democratic and inclusive telecommunications landscape in which freedom of expression and the right to communicate would be enriched.

It presents a range of examples from the state-owned model in Venezuela, municipal control in Sweden, and community controlled models in places like Canada and the Arctic.

It concludes by stating that the in-

ternational alternatives "need not be copied perfectly in order to produce an alternative approach to telecommunications," but that they offer practicable and progressive solutions in the face of a market-led approach to telecoms that has left so many people behind.

Both publications strengthen the Right2Know call for the broadening of national policy when considering options for telecoms development and provide a useful starting point in opening up discussion on alternatives to privatised telecommunications.

Zenzeleni: People can own their own communication networks

Zenzeleni (Do It Yourself) is a rural telecommunications co-operative in the Eastern Cape. People in the Mankosi Tribal Authority area can now use their own network to phone each other for free - and phone elsewhere for half-price. They also access the internet for a tenth of the usual cost.

This community has escaped the exploitative grip of the state-assisted cartel of corporate networks like Vodacom, MTN, Cell C and Telkom. Although commercial call and data costs have dropped somewhat, weak regulation by ICASA allows costs to remain higher than in similar countries. People are also ripped-off by abusive tactics like "expiring" of airtime and data.

The Zenzeleni co-op was launched by a community meeting after researchers from the University of Western Cape suggested a way to create an affordable network. Instead of a large, expensive mast or beacon, it uses a "mesh" of several smaller base stations inside people's homes. Each

station consists of a solar panel, battery, aerial, and a SA-developed router called a Mesh Potato, into which an old-fashioned "landline" phone is plugged. The solar power also allows charging of mobile phones at half the price people used to pay, as well as a modest amount of lighting. The equipment was provided by the university but now that it's working, it's steadily repaying its cost.

R2K has entered into a partnership with UWC to promote projects like Zenzeleni. UWC researchers are investigating ways for future co-ops to find their own finances. For now, you can see some of our activities at "Zenzeleni Community Telecoms" on Facebook.

If you like the sound of this, the first step is to get organised. Community networks need a concentration of potential users in a specific area. Find others who are interested and then check out the media R2K will soon produce for further instructions!



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#HandsOffOurInternet

Right2Know remains at the forefront of calling for the Film and Publication Board's draft online regulations to be scrapped completely. As we have said from the beginning, the regulations are draconian and would impose a regime of censorship on internet users in South Africa.

If the Board gets its way everyone who uploads or share information on the internet – including facebook and bloggers – would be expected to classify all their content in line with the Board's guidelines or submit content to the Board for classification before publishing.

Our legal opinion, provided by the Legal Resource Centre, on the constitutionality of the draft regulations, confirmed what we have been saying all along – that the draft regulations are a totally unjustifiable limitation to freedom of expression.



Right2Know have fought the FPB in the media, protested outside the FPB offices in Centurion, confronted the FPB at public hearings on the regulations, and spearheaded an online

campaign with a petition that now has nearly 10,000 signatures.

It is clear that the public outcry to the draft regulations has put the FPB on the back foot. As a result

of pressure from R2K, the Board has agreed to extend public consultations, but it remains to be seen what the Board will do with all the criticism it has received.

KOM ONS MAAK DIE LYNE OOP!

Elkeen het 'n reg om te kommunikeer en om inligting vrylik ontvang en te deel. Dit is diep onregverdig vir die groot telekommunikasie maatskappye om enorme winste te maak ten koste van gewone mense.

Die hoë koste van lugtyd, sms, en mobiele data, en beperkte toegang tot hoë-spoed internet bly 'n struikelblok vir mense met behulp van hul selfone om hulself uit te druk en toegang te kry tot inligting.

Die geleefde Koste van Kommunikasie

'n Onlangse Right2Know navorsingsverslag — die Geleefde Koste van Kommunikasie - bevestig dat baie arm en werkersklas mense gedwing word om op ander noodsaaklikhede te sny net om in staat te wees om te kan bekostig om te betaal vir lugtyd en data. Selfoon maatskappye se winsmotief maak data en lugtyd koste buitensporig te hoog. Die hoë koste van kommunikasie bestendig ongelykheid en verskans die digitale gaping tussen die rykes en die armes.

Die navorsing wat deur die LINK Centre by die Universiteit van die Witwatersrand gedoen is bevind dat "baie mense maak regte opofferings, byvoorbeeld sommige mense verkies dit om lugtyd te koop as om brood te koop, of deel geld. Hulle voel hulle moet "iets verloor" (i) omdat kommunikasie noodsaaklik is en (ii) daar

is geen maklike alternatiewe manier om te kommunikeer nie. "

Mense behoort nie te hoef te kies tussen kos op die tafel sit en toegang tot kommunikasie te he nie.

Mense se bekommernisse gaan ook verder as net die hoë koste van lugtyd en data. Alhoewel hulle kreatiewe maniere beskryf van lugtyd en data pakkette se voordele maksimeer, is daar baie gepraat van hul ergernis oor die strukturering van pakkette en misleidend etikette soos "verniet lugtyd".

Alternatiewe tot Geprivatiseerde Telekommunikasie

Die Geleefde Koste verslag gee 'n stem aan gefrustreerde digitale burgers, mense wat sterk behoeftes en belange in die gebruik van gevorderde digitale kommunikasie dienste het, maar vir wie baie min dienste toeganklik of bekostigbaar is.

Telekommunikasie dienste in Suid-Afrika, en in baie dele van die wêreld, is grotendeels deur 'n handvol van die privaatmaatskappye in 'n monopolie, duopolie of oligopolie gestruktuur waar dienste swaar kommoditeite word en winste vir verskaffers ongelooflik hoog is.

Nog 'n onlangse publikasie deur Right2Know – die Alternatiewe vir Geprivatiseerde Telekommunikasie - bied openbaar- en gemeenskap-beheerde alternatiewe tot privaat eie-

naarskap en maak 'n sterk argument vir die soek buite die mark as 'n middel van die verbreding en verdieping tot telekommunikasie toegang.

Die publikasie dra by tot die uitdaging teen 'n verdiepede "kommunikasie Apartheid" deur die aanbieding van internasionale voorbeelde van alternatiewe modelle wat 'n meer demokratiese en inklusiewe telekommunikasie landskap waarin vryheid van uitdrukking en die reg tot kommunikeer bevorder word.

Dit bied 'n verskeidenheid voorbeelde uit die staatsbeheerde model in Venezuela, munisipale beheer in Swede en gemeenskapsbeheermodelle in plekke soos Kanada en die Arktiese aan. Dit sluit af deur te sê dat die internasionale alternatiewe "nie perfek nageboots hoef te wees om 'n alternatiewe benadering tot telekommunikasie te aan te moedig nie, "maar dat hulle praktiese en progressiewe oplossings in die gesig van 'n markgeleide benadering tot telekommunikasie wat so baie mense agter gelaat het aanbied.

Beide publikasies versterk die Right2Know roep vir die verbreding van die nasionale beleid oor die oorweging van opsies vir die telekommunikasie-ontwikkeling en bied 'n nuttige beginpunt in die opening van besprekings oor alternatiewe vir geprivatiseerde telekommunikasie



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Activist Guide to Internet Access

From our offices (details on page 6) or online: <http://www.r2k.org.za/publications/>





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