



**SOCIAL  
JUSTICE  
COALITION**

ANNUAL REPORT  
2017/2018

# Fighting for Justice and Equality!

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## TOWARDS DIGNITY & DEMOCRATIC POWER

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social justice coalition



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# LETTER FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY

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This year we celebrate 10 years of the SJC. As we reflect on the past year, it is important to also look back at how far we have come as a movement since 2008. I am privileged to be one of the people who has been part of this journey from the beginning.

In a time when democratic spaces of participation have faced serious threats, we have built, grown and sustained a strong, democratic, member-based movement. Our movement has grown from strength to strength; from two branches in 2008 to 17 branches in 2018. We opened branches in Phillipi, Gugulethu and Kraaifontein. We also continue to work with and support many other communities throughout Cape Town.

SJC members continue to be at the forefront of growing and strengthening our movement. Our movement has been pivotal in defining what real democratic power means, especially for those whose voices are often left unheard and neglected: the poor majority of our country.

In June 2017 we elected new leadership to take us into the next phase of our struggle. We emerged with a strong secretariat to strengthen the movement. I take this opportunity, on behalf of the whole organisation, to thank the previous secretariat for the great work they have done. In particular, we thank Phumeza Mlungwana and Dustin Kramer for their commitment and strong leadership over a period of four years as General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary, respectively. “Amandla maqabane!”

Following the leadership change, we took time to reflect and review how we worked in our two programmes. We decided to restructure internally so as to streamline the work of the programmes under the management of Co-Heads. This restructuring has proved to work very well. Communication internally has improved, and we are able to plan much more effectively as a unit.

In early 2017 we started the Land Tenure and Informal Settlement Upgrading campaign. This

campaign direction emerged after we launched a court case in 2016 against the City of Cape Town for its failure to make sure that all informal settlement residents are provided with long-term sanitation infrastructure through a reasonable plan. Due to delays in this case, we are still waiting for the case to be heard.

Both our sanitation and police resources court cases have faced numerous delays. We believe these delays were deliberate at times in order to frustrate and demobilise our efforts in holding both these levels of government accountable.

We are pushing for the Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme (UISP) to be implemented. This has meant that we have to engage in the broader land conversations in the country. As a result, we see the need for broader national solidarity with organisations and movements working on land and housing. Our campaign is focused primarily on community participation and the prioritisation of land tenure in the UISP process.

Former member of council in the City of Cape Town, Ernest Sonnenberg, once referred to us as being “obsessed with budgets”. This to us is an important obsession for participatory budgeting and for opening up spaces where communities can have a say in how budget decisions and priorities are made. The impact we have made so far has allowed poor communities to have a say in the budget. A lot more still needs to be done and we continue to work with partners in this regard.

Building leadership and political consciousness in our branches has been one of our priorities as a movement. Our political education team has organised a number of political discussions on different topics as part of our Umrhabulo sessions. We have had robust discussions on important political matters affecting our country.

The SJC's 10-year journey has been fulfilling, with many successes but, of course, not without challenges. One the biggest successes we must all celebrate is the High Court judgment on the SJC10 case. This is a victory for democracy and democratic participation in South Africa, especially for many marginalised communities for whom protesting is an important means of democratic participation and for holding government accountable. We will not stop the fight for the right to protest and the protection of all other constitutionally guaranteed rights.

I want to thank first and foremost SJC members for their contribution to the movement and the struggle for justice and equality. I also thank staff members, partners and supporters who have been with us through the past 10 years. The struggle continues.

Forward to people's democratic power.

**Amandla!**

# WHAT IS THE SJC?

We are a democratic, mass-based social movement that campaigns for the advancement of the constitutional rights to life, dignity, equality, freedom and safety for all people, but especially those living in informal settlements across South Africa.

Informal settlements, mostly located on urban peripheries, make up around 20% of the households in each of South Africa's major cities. Spatial apartheid means that poor and working-class communities live in some of the most dangerous areas in the country. The majority of informal settlements have existed for more than 15 years, many for more than two decades. Yet, they continue to be treated as temporary and impermanent by the state.

Extreme economic and spatial inequality continues and state resource allocation tends to be highly unjust.

Founded on 16 June 2008, the SJC has built a movement for safety, justice and equality in informal settlements made up of 17 branches and thousands of members.

Using a variety of strategies and tactics, the SJC organises informal settlement residents

to build democratic power within poor communities. The SJC uses research, organising, education and advocacy in sustained campaigns for social justice and to challenge power.

Our campaigns are divided across two programmes. The Safety and Justice Programme campaigns for improved policing and an improved criminal justice system, while the Local Government Programme leads our work on informal settlement services and infrastructure.

An Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held every year where members formally adopt the SJC's priorities through branch commissions, discussions, and resolutions. The Executive Council - effectively the highest decision-making body after the AGM - is made up of the elected leadership of all branches and provides strategic leadership and guidance throughout the year. Every two years there is an elective AGM where the SJC's Secretariat is elected.

The General Secretary is the head of the organisation and the General Secretary's office coordinates all day-to-day work of the SJC, providing overall management of governance, programmes, operations and political education. The Operations Department manages our human resources, finance and administration.





AGM



BRANCHES



EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

CHAIRPERSONS' FORUM

SECRETARIAT

GOVERNANCE ↑

STAFF ↓

GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE

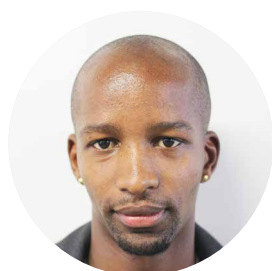
PROGRAMMES

EDUCATION

OPERATIONS

# CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE & EQUALITY

A decade of the SJC has only been possible because of our members. We have been able to contribute to democracy, civil society and the struggle for human rights because of the tireless work of SJC members whose activism cannot be removed from their lived experiences. In celebrating the SJC, we celebrate every member, community and organisation that has fought the struggle for justice and equality with us. Viva SJC Viva!



**Ntuthuzelo  
Vika**

*In 10 years the SJC has grown from strength to strength. I have learned a lot and have grown as an activist and a human. There are many moments that come to mind when I have to write about our history.*

*The day we won at the Constitutional Court to establish the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry showed us that our fight is far more important than politics. Politics take up so much of our lives that we fail to see the value of human life. The real issue was the challenges of safety that people face. We are afraid not knowing what's going to happen to our parents, colleagues and family when they leave their homes.*

*I was proud of the hope that the organisation has brought to the people of Khayelitsha and for the country. We continue to stand for what we believe in.*

*The SJC was my political home for the better part of 10 years. It was built by numerous committed people who believed - and still believe - that a more just world is possible. There were great victories and also some of the hardest times we could've imagined. Through the SJC we've seen the emergence of some of the most incredible young activists. They have been central to the struggle against spatial apartheid and inequality, and will no doubt ensure that the SJC's mark on our country will continue to be felt for a very long time to come.*



**Dustin  
Kramer**

*Over the past 10 years the SJC has grown as a movement and it has built and empowered a number of people, including myself. Its campaign organising has exemplified what true activism means. I will always treasure the comrades and friends that have helped build such an important movement post-1994. The court victories, the counseling services extended to our communities, the first janitorial service for informal settlements and the first Commission of Inquiry that was advocated for by communities should be celebrated as a symbol of power and strength of mass organising. The SJC has continued to ensure that leadership at all levels reflects the power we want to see - through the strengthening of women within the movement. Over the years the SJC has celebrated, and continues to, the powerful women activists who prove everyday that women have enough capabilities to build and lead the struggle.*



**Phumeza  
Mlungwana**



**Nosiphelele  
Msesiwe**

*One of the victories for the SJC in the past 10 years has been expanding our work to working outside of Khayelitsha. The janitorial service, that is a direct result of the SJC's work, is a service that is still happening in our communities. This isn't just important because we have services, but also because it is a source of employment for many of our poor community members. It has been a great experience to be part of an organisation that works on issues that are affecting communities and builds activism.*

*My biggest moment in the past 10 years of the SJC's existence was when Helen Zille finally agreed to establish the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry.*

*For many years, the SJC and its partners had been campaigning for a safe Khayelitsha which requires skilled, trained police officers and well-resourced stations.*

*The Commission brought together activists, residents, police officers, academics and different religious leaders into one space where they shared their testimonies and experiences with regards to safety and policing issues in Khayelitsha.*

*At the end of the Commission a SAPS colonel apologised to the community about the fact that respondents weren't feeling safe in their homes.*



**Nkosikhona  
Swarthbooi**

*I "left" SJC five years ago but it has always been my political home.*

*It's well known that the SJC has done some of the most important work in South Africa to improve the lives of millions living in informal settlements. It has also highlighted the inequalities that plague our society everywhere.*

*Less focus has been placed on the important role it has played in creating a new generation of young cadres who lead the rest of us today, and who will need to lead many more in the years to come.*

*I remain a dedicated volunteer and supporter of the movement, and look forward to being led and put to work over the next 10 years! Congratulations comrades on reaching this 10-year milestone. Amandla!*



**Gavin  
Silber**





**Thandokazi  
Njamela**

*I joined the SJC in 2008. Being part of this movement has taught me the importance of social justice but, more importantly, it taught me how to break through the structural inequalities that keep young people from engaging in social & political actions in our communities. I now believe that social activism is the predominant form of youth activism where our voices as the youth are heard. The SJC taught me how to refuse to accept things the way they are in my community & how to be persistent as a leader. I am proud to be part of the movement that brought social change in many communities around Khayelitsha, a movement that gave the people of RR their dignity by advocating for clean and safe toilets, and a movement that took part in giving the late Zoliswa Nonkonyane's family hope. I will be part of the change the SJC is yet to bring in our communities.*

*Amandla!*

*I arrived in RR section, Khayelitsha, in 1999, and have been an SJC member since its beginning, in 2008. There were no lights or toilets. I relieved myself next to the freeway. The SJC opened our eyes to our rights and how to practice them. As residents and SJC members, we've received some of the things we've waited so long for. I'm so proud of this organisation, working with stakeholders around the Western Cape. This organisation empowered me in terms of knowing the South African Constitution. I'm so proud to be a member of the SJC today.*



**Zukiswa  
Qezo**

# THE SJC BRANCHES

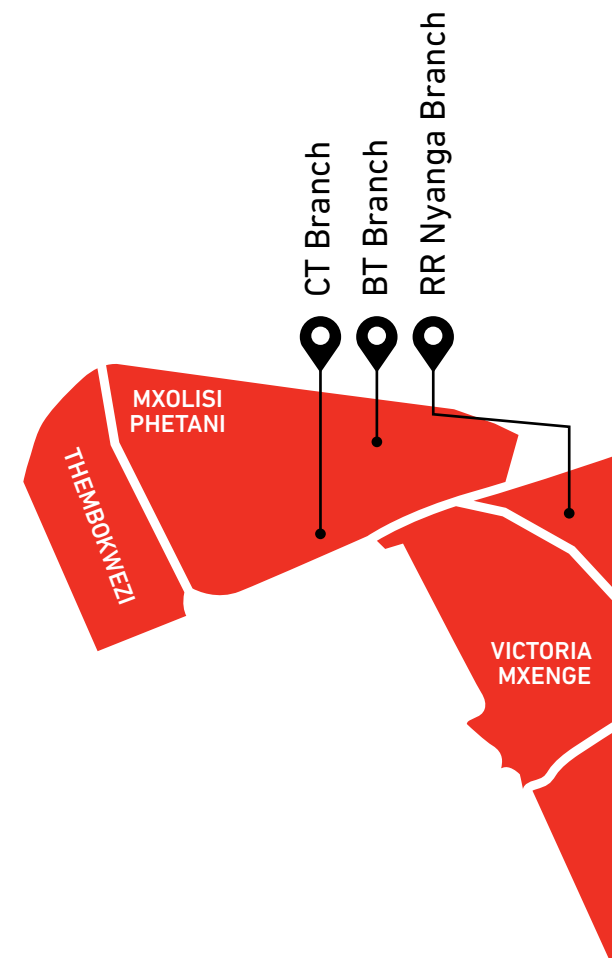
This year we focused on building leadership and consistency within and throughout our branches.

We continued to grow our membership across the Cape Town Metro, including organising in areas such as Siqalo, near Mitchells Plain, and Thabo Mbeki in Crossroads. Our branches are led by strong leaders who have participated in our branch political education programmes, which we have refined in the past year. Branch education continued to support members' growth as politically engaged and active citizens.

Having a regular platform for robust political debate and contestation of ideas is critical for the development of our young and vibrant leaders. As such, we have implemented regular mass meetings, Umrhabulo sessions, for political discussion, campaign strategising, debate and engagement between branches.

In 2015 we took the decision to start developing a new, comprehensive branch political education and support strategy. This year the programme grew significantly and is a key mechanism the SJC is now using in building sustainability and developing politically engaged and active members. Our education coordinator built and ran a programme of courses on history, urban land, radical Black feminism, and politics. This extended to a programme of activities including museum visits, documentary screenings and political discussions. We also began a fully-fledged branch fellowship programme, where branch members become fellows for fixed periods and undergo a skills training and development programme.

Of particular significance has been the ability of the Chairpersons' Forum – the co-ordinating structure of branch leaders – to lead branch work.



Branches are central to the SJC. Through branch education and our internship programmes, our existing branches developed in strength, leadership and independence.

# CAPE TOWN

- Kraaifontein Branch
- Barcelona Branch
- Marikana 1 Branch
- Marikana 2 Branch



# SAFER COMMUNITIES: VICTORIES, DELAYS & COURT HEARINGS

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Since the early 2000s, we fought for a Commission of Inquiry into policing in Khayelitsha. Since the Commission released its recommendations in 2014, we have been working to compel SAPS to implement these recommendations in order to better police informal settlements, thus ensuring safer communities across the country.

**Top Right:** The SJC & partner organisations marched to Parliament on 27 October 2017 for safer schools, communities & police resources.

**Bottom Right:** Khayelitsha has existed for over 30 years, yet is still treated as informal. When provided, basic services are installed as temporary. Photo: Johnny Miller/Unequal Scenes

On 31 March 2016 the SJC along with our partners, Equal Education and the Nyanga Community Police Forum, filed papers in the Equality Court to compel the Minister of Police, the National Police Commissioner and the Western Cape Provincial Commissioner to revise the system governing the allocation of the South African Police Service's (SAPS) human resources to police stations across the country. After numerous delays the case was finally heard on 28, 29 and 30 November 2017 and again on 14 and 15 February 2018.

As part of the court process, SAPS was forced to finally make public the number of police personnel allocated to each precinct. The release of this information is a direct result of our court case. This shows the importance of our police resources campaign. The SJC had campaigned for this information to be made public since August 2014. We used every option available to us to gain access to the number of police personnel, including the Promotion of Access to Information Act (PAIA). Parliament, specifically the Portfolio Committee of Police, also requested this information from SAPS in 2005, and again in 2007. SAPS refused to provide these numbers, limiting the ability of our elected representatives to hold the police service accountable and responsive to the needs of our communities.

In the build up to the court hearings, in November 2017, the SJC took the police personnel per precinct statistics, along with hard and soft-copy sets of all the court papers filed, to Parliament and the Portfolio Committee of Police. In doing so we put pressure on the Portfolio Committee to perform its oversight role.

The information we obtained clearly shows that when it comes to deciding which areas need police officers, SAPS prioritises mostly white, middle-class suburbs with lower rates of violent

crime, instead of mostly Black, poor, working-class communities with higher rates of violent crime.

During our days in the Equality Court, SAPS counsel were asked whether they believe the theft of a handbag should be treated the same as murder. Their response was that yes, a murder and the theft of a handbag should be treated in the same way. This shows how the State and SAPS value white property over Black lives. We knew this from the experiences of our members and the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry into policing four years ago. SAPS' position fails to prioritise the right to life, bodily integrity and the safety of Black people.

We are now awaiting judgment on the matter from the Equality Court. A ruling in our favour will be a huge victory for equality. It will be a ruling that affirms that Black lives matter.

## END APARTHEID LIGHTING IN TOWNSHIPS!

In 2016, the SJC started a campaign for effective public lighting to improve public safety in informal settlements. We obtained maps of public lighting in Khayelitsha and Nyanga. It was clear that these Black communities had been left in the dark by the City of Cape Town. Both the formal and informal areas of Khayelitsha, to this day, are lit almost entirely by high-mast lights. The apartheid government used these lights exclusively in townships to police and control Black communities. The City of Cape Town believes high-mast lights should be avoided because they cast deep and dark shadows, yet they continue to provide these lights only in Black townships.

In 2017 we made significant progress in this campaign. After we wrote to the mayoral committee member for energy, and engaged all









councillors in the City through a public letter, Mayor Patricia de Lille committed R40 million to provide more lighting in Khayelitsha over the next three years. Although this amount will be insufficient to address the inequitable, apartheid-era allocation of public lighting, we will be closely monitoring the Mayor's commitment while campaigning for effective public lighting in Black townships.

The lack of effective public lighting plays a major role in creating unsafe areas where crime can thrive. Informal settlement residents are at risk due to the darkness many people must face when accessing public transport early in the morning and late at night.

In September 2017, 11 residents of the Marikana informal settlement were murdered over a single weekend.

The consequences of poor lighting on safety were tragically demonstrated in September 2017 when 11 residents of the Marikana informal settlement in Philippi East were murdered over a single weekend. The settlement is notoriously dangerous, poorly lit, and police are not prepared to patrol after dark for fear of their own safety. The SJC branches in Marikana organised a march to the SAPS Provincial Headquarters and the Civic Centre demanding better lighting and an equitable allocation of police personnel.

## A VICTORY FOR FAIR POLICE INFRASTRUCTURE!

In April 2017 we became aware of government's plan to spend R100 million on the upgrading of a single police station in Muizenberg. Although additional human police resources need to be allocated to the Muizenberg Police Station because it also serves the poor, working-class, Black communities of Capricorn, Vrygrond and Sea Winds, we opposed the upgrade.

We objected to the R100 million price tag. White, middle-class residents of Muizenberg would continue to have easy access to police services while the poor, working-class communities of Vrygrond, Capricorn and Sea Winds had limited access because of the distance between their homes and the police

station. It was clear that government had not engaged the communities served by the Muizenberg Police Station before committing the R100 million that would not improve access to the police service.

In part, because of our campaign, the planned R100 million upgrade was scrapped. Since that moment we have continued to support the communities of Vrygrond, Capricorn and Sea Winds in their demands for police services to be brought closer to their homes and to where they are needed most within the existing Muizenberg precinct.

## ENGAGING PARLIAMENT

From 2016 onwards the SJC, as part of a collective of organisations referred to as Parliament Watch, has actively monitored the work of Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Police. We have focused specifically on the Committee's work in relation to the reallocation of police resources, and have used the platform to engage with Members of Parliament (MPs) on the importance of adequate police resources for areas affected by high murder rates.

## IMPLEMENT THE KCOI RECOMMENDATIONS, NOW!

We continue to monitor the implementation of the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry's (KCOI) recommendations by actively participating in and contributing to the Khayelitsha Cluster Priority Meetings and the Khayelitsha Task Team Meetings.

The Cluster Priority Meetings are convened by the SAPS and serve to ensure participation between local structures in Khayelitsha and all levels of government through specific departments. These meetings have improved our access to management of the SAPS locally.

The Khayelitsha Task Team in turn is co-chaired by the Provincial SAPS and the Department of Community Safety. It was created to engage with and implement the KCOI's findings and recommendations. The SJC is the only civil society body that remains active within this structure.

We have now chosen to engage specific recommendations to allow for a more focused and informed analysis of how the KCOI recommendations are being implemented. For the past three years we have reported on piecemeal and often half-hearted attempts at implementation of the 20 recommendations. We believe strategically highlighting specific recommendations is necessary. Moving forward we will focus on specific recommendations that we believe will assist in the implementation of the others. We continue our campaign for the equitable allocation of police personnel (Recommendation Seven) and the development of guidelines for visible policing in informal settlements (Recommendation Six).

**Left Top:** Sisanda Makumsha protests for effective public lighting outside the Cape Town Civic Centre on 30 May 2017 during the tabling of the City's budget.

**Left Bottom:** On 5 October 2017 SJC activists joined residents from Marikana, Philippi to demand that all levels of government work together to solve the safety crisis in informal settlements.

# A STORY OF DELAYS

The SJC, Equal Education and the Nyanga CPF filed papers in the Equality Court to compel the SAPS to reallocate human police resources in an equitable manner that does not discriminate against poor, Black communities. Litigation was a last step after multiple attempts at engaging with the SAPS went unheard. However, SAPS has regularly delayed court proceedings and used state money to impede equality.

Action by:

## Courts and government

SAPS

SJC or civil society organisations

## KEY



## Delays

Legal  
action

### Action from civil society

## SJC OR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

27 April 2016

The Nyanga Community Policing Forum (CPF) and residents march to the Nyanga Police Station.

19 April 2016

Equal Education (EE) files its affidavit as a co-applicant.

13 June 2016

The Nyanga Community Policing Forum (CPF) files papers to join the matter as the third applicant.

18 October 2016

The Nyanga CPF files its supporting affidavits.

24 November 2016

Our counsel agree to this as long as the extension is only a “few days”.

# 2016

## COURTS & GOVERNMENT

**31 March 2016**

SJC files the Founding Affidavit in the Equality Court (High Court, Cape Town).

23 September 2016

Court rules in favour of the Nyanga CPF.

20 September 2016

Hearing regarding the intervention application of the Nyanga CPF heard.

12 August 2016

SAPS indicate they will oppose the Nyanga CPF's intention to join.

24 November 2016

SAPS counsel ask for an extension beyond the 30 November 2016 deadline.



1 December 2016

Our counsel indicate that the filing of papers by 5 December 2016 is reasonable. SAPS fails to respond to this correspondence.

5 December 2016

Our counsel telephone SAPS's counsel to enquire about the overdue papers. SAPS proposes a meeting instead.

9 December 2016

SJC, EE and the Nyanga CPF file a chamber-book application to compel SAPS to file their answering papers.

15 March 2017

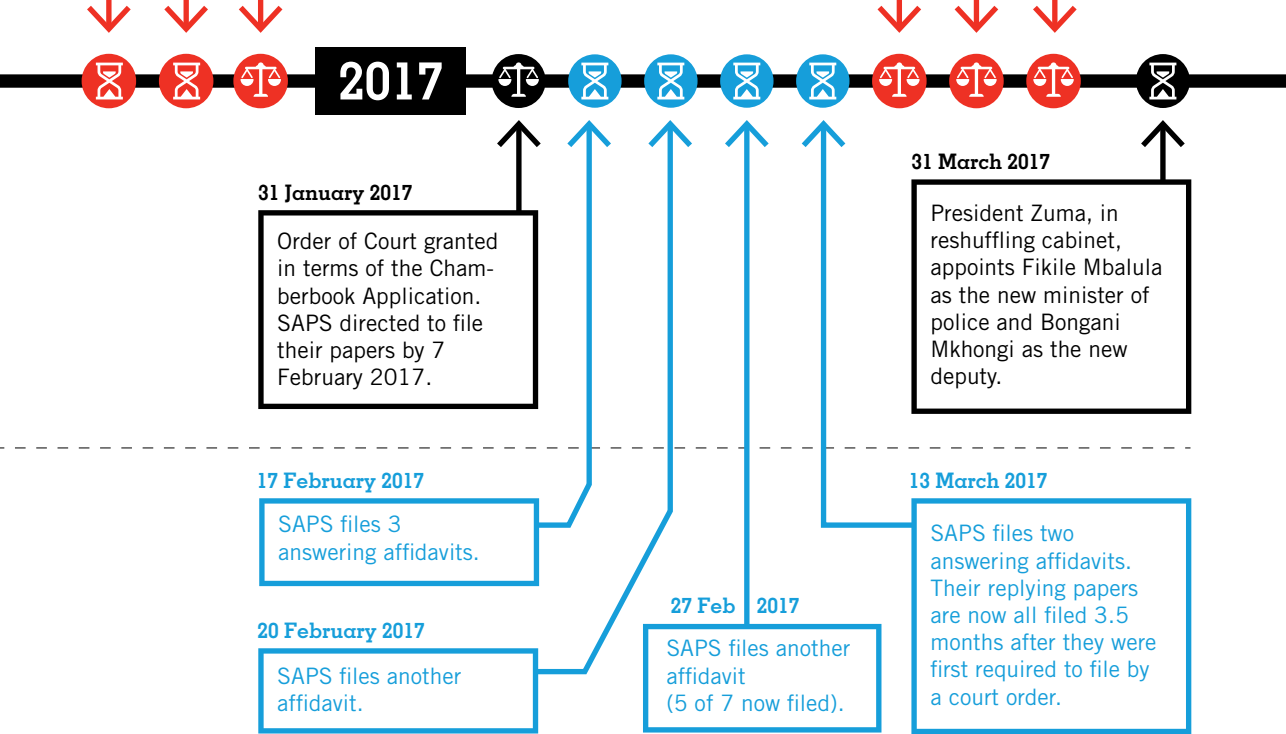
Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF, under legal exploration, request SAPS' Police Resources national allocation data for all 1140 police precincts across the country.

27 March 2017

Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF again request SAPS' Police Resources national allocation data.

31 March 2017

Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF again request SAPS' Police Resources national allocation data.



# SJC OR CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

28 April 2017

Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF send a second letter to determine whether SAPS are withdrawing their opposition to the Police Resources court case.

25 April 2017

Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF write to the State's Attorney to determine whether SAPS are withdrawing their opposition to the Police Resources court case.

4 May 2017

Lawyers for the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF send a third letter to determine whether SAPS are withdrawing their opposition to the Police Resources court case.

27 October 2017

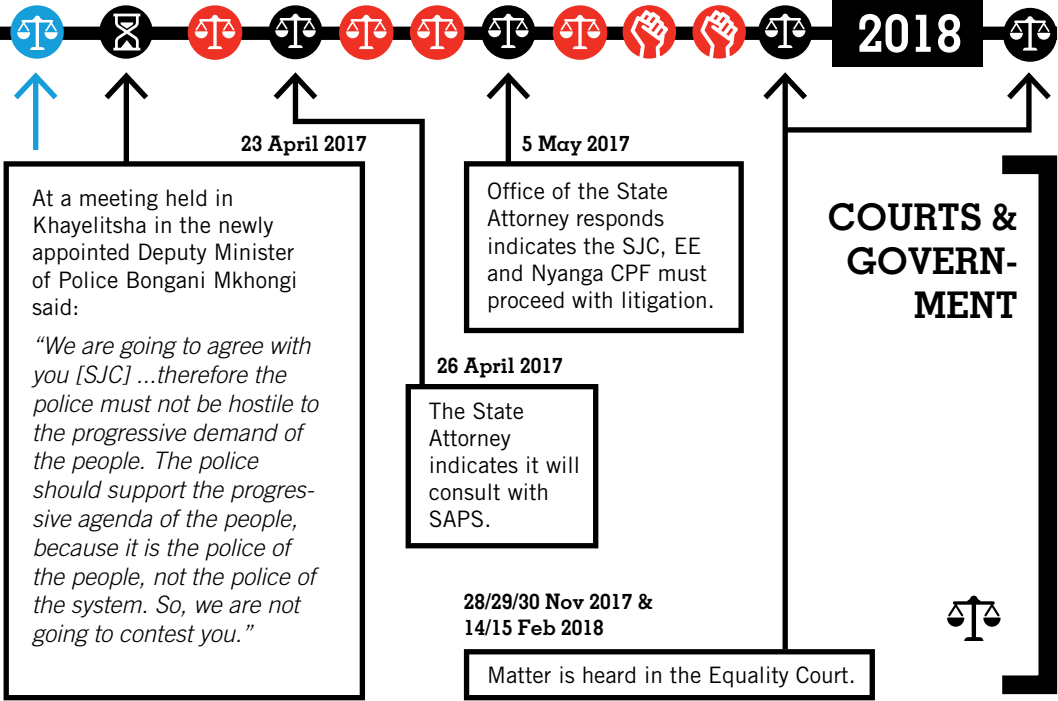
SJC, EE & Nyanga CPF march to Parliament demanding safer communities, safer schools & police resources.

22 November 2017

SJC marches to Parliament & delivers police resources court papers to Portfolio Committee on Police.

21 June 2017

SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF file their replying papers.



19 April 2017

SAPS responds to the SJC, EE and Nyanga CPF's request for the national allocation data.

SAPS

# SIFUNA UMHLABA: LOCAL GOVERNMENT, LAND TENURE AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENT UPGRADING

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In 2017 the SJC began work on our Land Tenure and Informal Settlement Upgrading campaign while continuing with litigation regarding the provision of sanitation to informal settlements.

Since the SJC was formed in 2008, we have been fighting for dignified sanitation in informal settlements. Ten years later, our struggle continues.

The link between sanitation, health and safety cannot be denied. Sanitation is a life or death situation for many informal settlement residents. Yet, the City of Cape Town has consistently argued that long-term sanitation infrastructure cannot be installed in most informal settlements due to geographical or engineering constraints. For several years the City has refused to provide any evidence to support this claim.

In 2016, after numerous attempts to engage with the City went unheard, we were able to develop the evidence needed to launch a court case against the City, demanding a reasonable plan for sanitation in Khayelitsha.

In August 2016, the SJC, represented by Ndifuna Ukwazi Law Centre, began court proceedings by filing affidavits of five women living in informal settlements in Khayelitsha.

They describe the lack of dignity, as well as exposure to illness and violence that Khayelitsha's inadequate sanitation causes.

Throughout 2017, the City of Cape Town delayed proceedings in this case. The City has been unwilling to give us access to key information.

At the end of 2017, right before our case was to be heard in the Equality Court, the City provided the Informal Settlements Pipeline Plan (ISPP). This came after years of us calling for a detailed, long-term sanitation plan in informal settlements from the City. The City claims that this is its plan for sanitation and upgrading for all informal settlements across Cape Town, but the document provides no timelines for the vast majority of informal settlements. Because the relief originally sought by the SJC was specific to the CT and Enkanini settlements in Khayelitsha, the City has included both settlements in the more detailed portion of the ISPP.

In responding this way, the City has acted in bad faith. Its actions have been reactive and show the City clearly does not care for the lives and safety of poor, Black residents of informal settlements. Politics has trumped public interest.

The City's response has forced us to change the focus of our court case. We are now asking the City to provide a reasonable sanitation plan for all informal settlements in Khayelitsha, instead of CT and Enkanini alone.

Informal settlement upgrading has emerged as an important issue in our sanitation work, both in terms of our court application and







more generally. Therefore, our primary research area this past year has been the Upgrading of Informal Settlements Programme (UISP). At the beginning of 2017 our research team together with senior staff went through an intensive research process focusing on the UISP policy and budget. The research sprint provided us with a lot of insight into how informal settlement upgrading happens in the country, but it also raised a number of questions. Three potential areas of focus for campaign work emerged: community participation in upgrading projects, security of tenure as a vital part of upgrading projects, and the budgeting for upgrading projects at a national and local level.

With the assistance of the International Budget Partnership (IBP), we started a process to assist SJC branch members and staff in understanding how the budget for the UISP is allocated. This education was also extended to the community members of the BM section in Khayelitsha, one of the areas we plan to focus our upgrading campaign on.

The three areas that have been earmarked for our UISP campaign are Enkanini, Barney Molokwana (BM) and Monwabisi Park. The ISPP revealed there was no city-wide sanitation plan for informal settlements and that the three earmarked areas had been fast-tracked to be a part of the UISP programme. We are awaiting the results of a PAIA application, which we initiated on the City's suggestion after it claimed that the sanitation plan was the same as the UISP plan, which we do not believe.

We are in the process of engaging the leadership structures of all three communities about the UISP programme plans and the budgets that have been allocated to these various areas. We will hold workshops aimed at encouraging the communities to make submissions to the City budget where their areas are concerned.

## MUNICIPAL BUDGET PARTICIPATION

Early in 2017, we decided to review the impact of our budget work in past years. What became clear in this analysis was that although we had achieved major victories in improving working-class participation and understanding of municipal budgets in past years, the way that the City of Cape Town views and treats budget submissions from informal settlement residents is extremely dismissive and highly problematic. We needed to find a way of translating budget participation into budget change.

Towards this goal, we worked with the International Budget Partnership (IBP) to develop a proposal for improved public participation in the budget process in Cape Town, with the help of some public participation experts from the Global Initiative for Financial Transparency (GIFT). This draft proposal has become part of an emerging effort to build a broader coalition around public participation reforms. This builds on our previous work that led to over 3000 budget submissions to the City over the past three years.

## URBAN LAND COURSE

In August 2017, after several months of development, the SJC together with the Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education and Ndifuna Ukwazi (NU) launched an Urban Land Course looking at issues of land justice. The Urban Land Course was piloted at Cissie Gool House, the site of an urban occupation by Reclaim the City activists in Woodstock, Cape Town. This occupation school consisted of a series of interactive workshops that focused on the history of cities, current struggles faced by land and housing activists, and how urban land forms part of a global capitalist political economy that values and protects land for profit at the expense of land for people to reside on.

The course brought together land and housing activists from across South Africa and provided a platform for these activists and organisations to share experiences and to build solidarity.

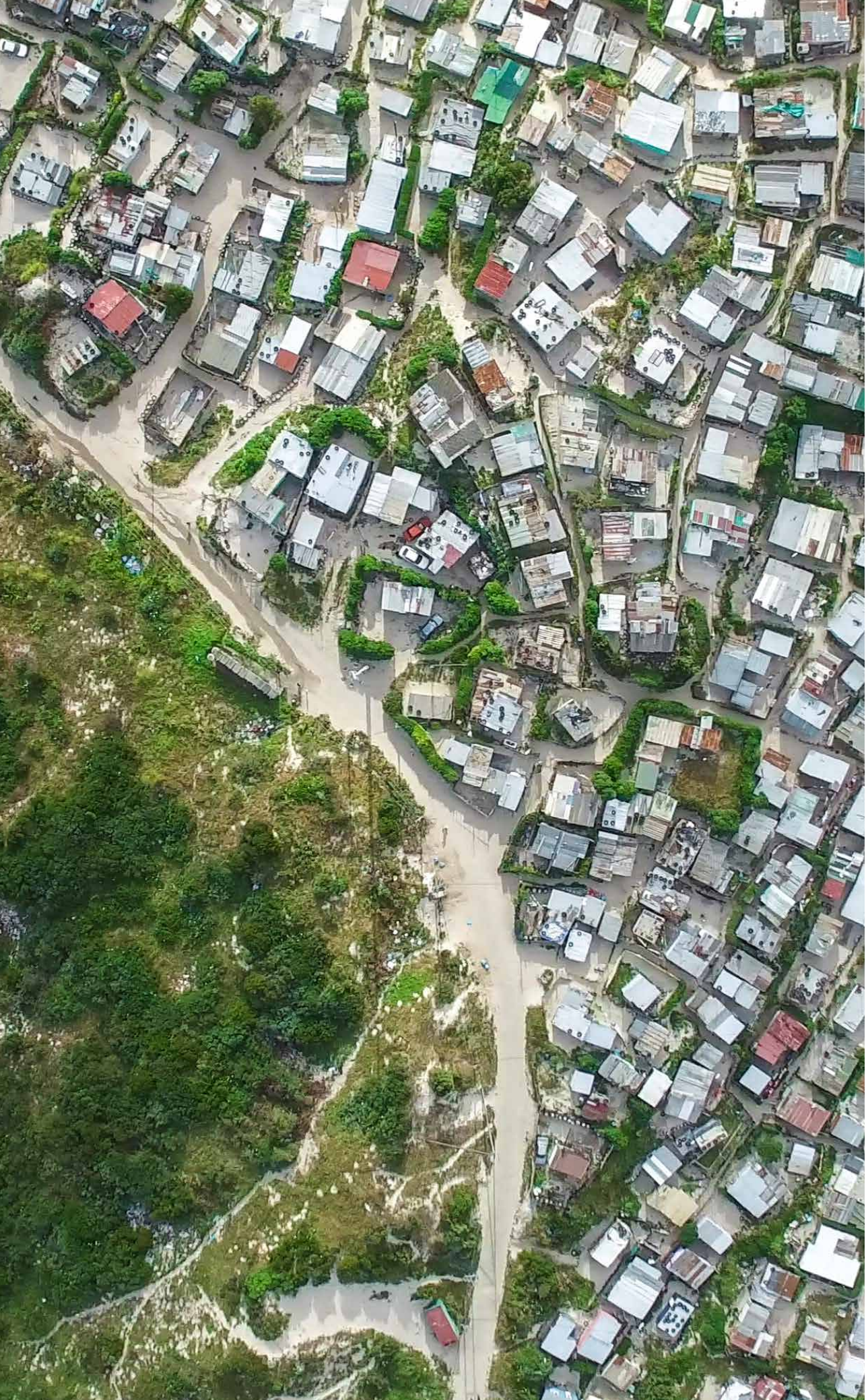
The course was led by the SJC, NU and Tshisimani, but it was attended by representatives from Abahlali baseMjondolo in Durban, the Inner City Housing Federation and Slovo Park residents from Johannesburg, as well as Izwe Lethu and Marikana communities in Cape Town.

One of the outcomes of the Urban Land Course was a solidarity visit to Durban where Abahlali baseMjondolo faces political violence and repression at the hands of the eThekweni Municipality. We saw this as an important time to show solidarity with and learn from the activists of Abahlali baseMjondolo, to share strategies and tactics so as to strengthen each other's advocacy.

**Top Left:** The legacy of spatial apartheid is striking from above. In Hout Bay Tierboskloof (L), a wealthy estate, is sparsely populated and green while neighbouring informal settlement Imizamo Yethu (R) is densely populated and, as a result, has seen many fires decimate the community. Photo: Johnny Miller/Unequal Scenes

**Bottom Left:** Flamingo Crescent in Athlone where the City relocated people to in 2007 was upgraded in 2015 and renamed Flamingo heights. Photo: Johnny Miller/Unequal Scenes







# WHAT IS THE UPGRADING OF INFORMAL SETTLEMENTS PROGRAMME?

In 2017 the SJC began its informal settlement upgrading campaign. The campaign is part of the natural evolution of our work, as it deals with land, housing, basic services & a lack of accountability and transparency from government.

**Far Left:** Cape Town's extreme physical segregation means residents of informal settlements far away from the city centre, such as Khayelitsha, are further away from economic opportunities and amenities, further entrenching class and race inequalities. Photo: Johnny Miller/Unequal Scenes

## WHAT IS UPGRADING?

Urban informal settlements are often extremely densely populated, yet they also often lack the most basic of services, despite many having existed for decades. Communities in informal settlements are some of the poorest and most vulnerable in South Africa.

The legacy of apartheid spatial planning continues to exacerbate this. Despite some government efforts to resolve the urban housing crisis, poor residents are still waiting for decent, dignified housing as guaranteed by the Constitution.

The government's solutions to the housing crisis tend to be large-scale housing sites which are often located far from the existing communities and facilities currently in place within existing settlements. To solve this problem, an "in-situ" approach is taken under the UISP. This means that housing is provided on the site of the existing settlement and households no longer need to be relocated away from their existing communities and support structures. In-situ upgrading is also supposed to improve residents' tenure security, by giving residents the right to occupy and not be removed from the location where they live. They are therefore given security of tenure.

In order for in-situ upgrading to work, it must be done through a number of stages - with each stage improving on the last. This is incremental upgrading. The breakdown of a process into manageable stages means that upgrading should not negatively impact on the living conditions of the residents of the upgraded informal settlement.

This multi-stage process of upgrading is complicated, and the exact manner of upgrading will change on a case-by-case basis depending on the circumstances of each settlement. Communities getting on board is critical for the success of any in-situ upgrading project. Community members in the upgrading settlement must understand how the process will unfold, what the timelines are and, most importantly, community members must have a say in the plans for the way their homes will be developed.

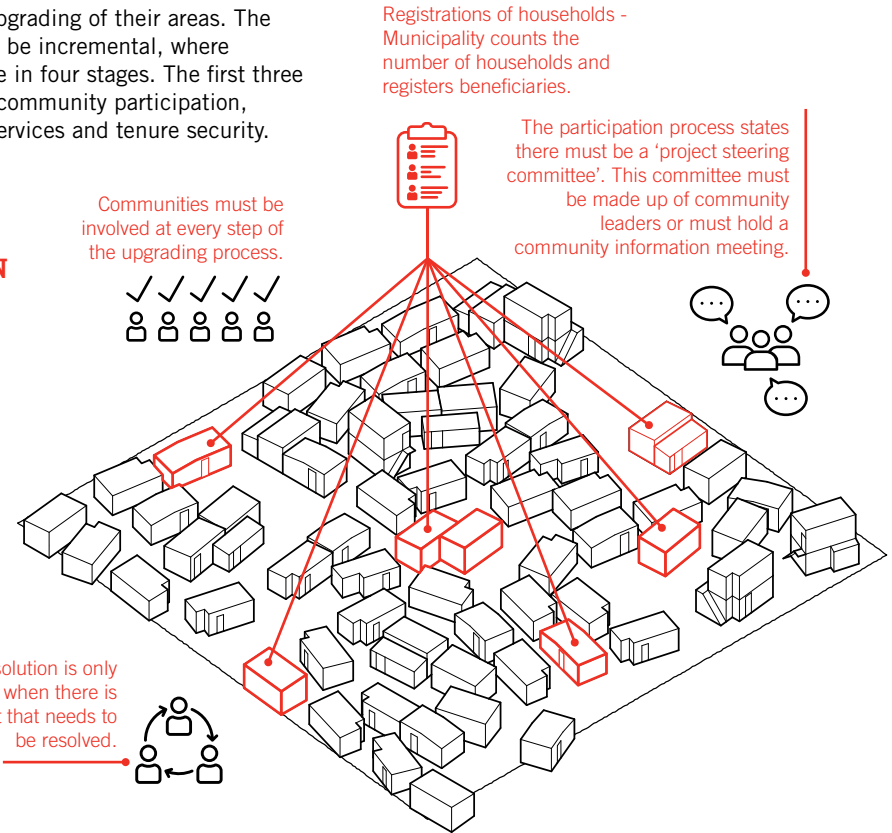
Community participation is where government consistently fails, and the failure of government to seriously and substantively involve the people whose lives are affected by the upgrading process leads to delays, confusion, and anger.

# WHAT IS THE UISP?

The Upgrading of Informal Settlement Programme (UISP) was introduced in 2004. One of its aims is to include communities in the upgrading process to reduce the disruption of upgrading, but also ensure communities are involved in the upgrading of their areas. The UISP is meant to be incremental, where upgrading is done in four stages. The first three phases focus on community participation, supply of basic services and tenure security.

## PHASE 1 APPLICATION

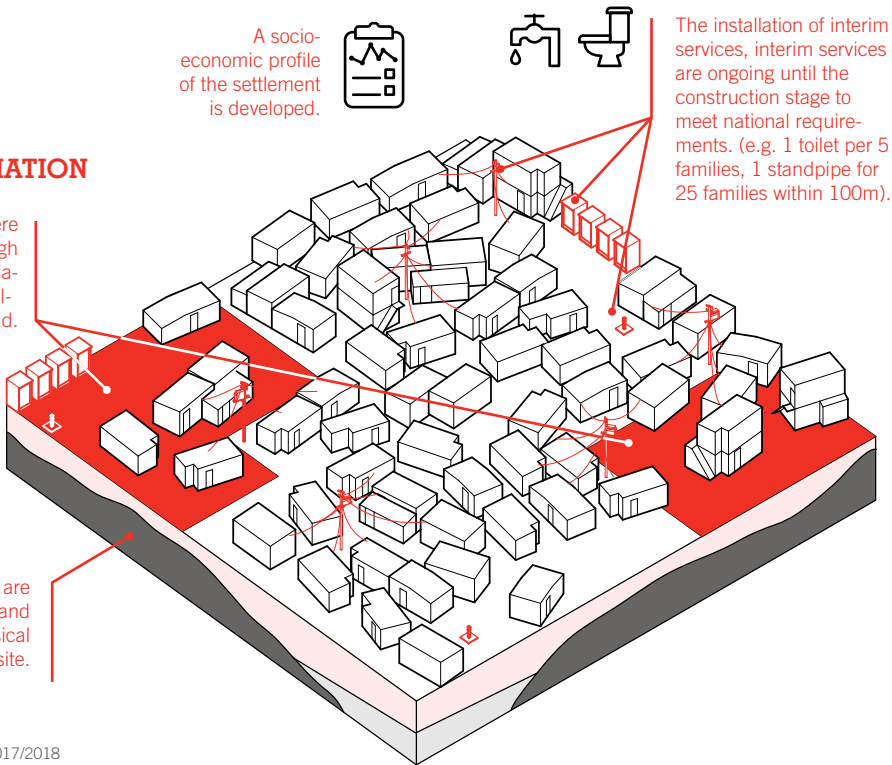
Registration of households



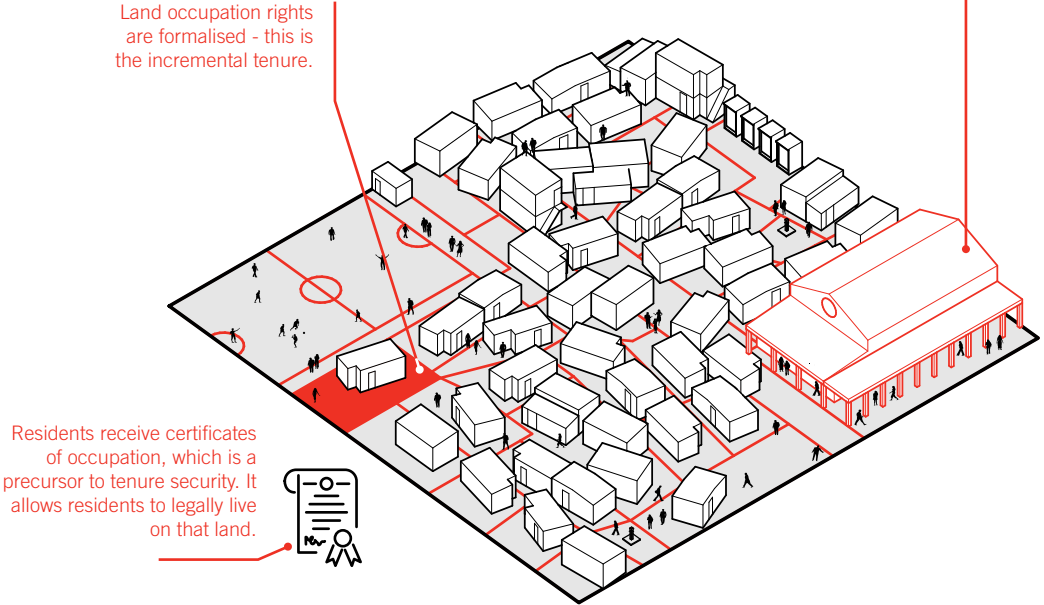
## PHASE 2 PROJECT INITIATION

Acquiring land where required through negotiation or expropriation when not municipal-owned land.

Pre-planning studies are conducted to determine and understand the physical context of the site.

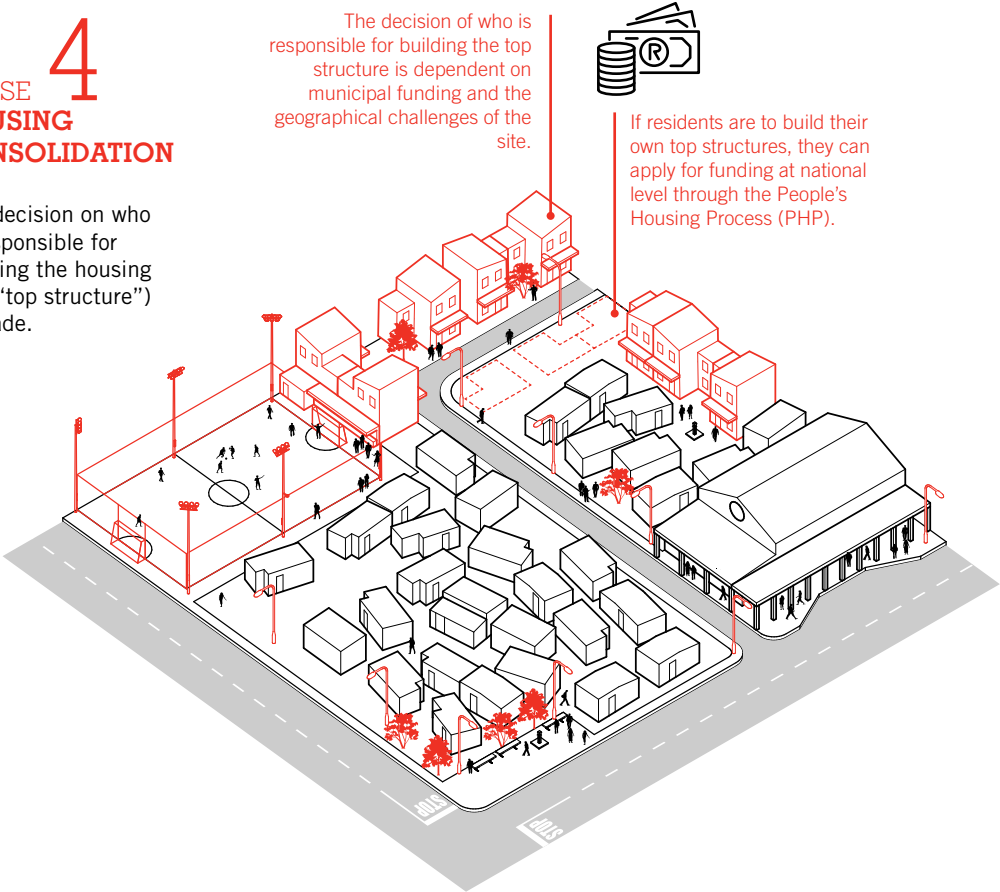


PHASE **3**  
**IMPLEMENTATION**



PHASE **4**  
**HOUSING CONSOLIDATION**

The decision on who is responsible for building the housing (the “top structure”) is made.





# 10 YEARS

## FIGHTING FOR JUSTICE & EQUALITY

In the past 10 years SJC activists have successfully advocated for the Khayelitsha Commission of Inquiry, compelled the City of Cape Town to provide janitorial services to informal settlements and had the Hight Court rule sections of the Gatherings Act unconstitutional. Despite these major victories, we continue to fight for our human rights and the ideals of democracy.



**CAMPAIGN AGAINST ARMS DEAL**



**SANITATION CAMPAIGN**

**2008**

2009

2011

**2012**

2013

### SJC forms

The SJC was founded on 16 June 2018 in Khayelitsha as a response to the need for safer communities in informal settlements during the xenophobic violence in 2008.

**2010**

**GOOD GOVERNANCE CAMPAIGN**

### Victory!

CoCT provides janitorial service after successful SJC campaign.

SJC10 arrested while peacefully protesting outside the Mayor's office at the Civic centre in an attempt to engage on sanitation.



**KHAYELITSHA COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO POLICING**

**KCOI CAMPAIGN**







## URBAN LAND JUSTICE CAMPAIGN

## SOCIAL AUDITS



**SJC 10 Victory**  
Western Cape High Court rules sections of the Gatherings Act unconstitutional.

2016

2015

2017

2014

2018

## BUDGET JUSTICE CAMPAIGN

## KCOI RECOMMENDATIONS

## POLICE RESOURCES CAMPAIGN



# 10 YEARS

These are some of the victories of years of struggle from activists, community members and comrades. This shows the power of a people's movement. This is a part of the democratic change we have made, and continue to strive towards.



## SOCIAL JUSTICE COALITION



# THE SOCIAL AUDIT NETWORK

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A social audit is a community-led process of reviewing official documents to determine whether the service delivery outcomes reported by government reflect the real-life experiences of the community.

The SJC has been instrumental in the development and growth of the Social Audit Network (SAN) and has hosted the SAN since 2016. The SAN has expanded in a number of areas since its establishment. In 2017 it facilitated more training sessions across the country, evolved the social audit methodology into a process that focuses on the principles of a social audit, and it has more member organisations that are conducting and learning about social audits.

## COLLABORATIVE SOCIAL AUDIT

2017 saw a new strategic mark for SAN. Planact, a SAN member organisation, and three Wattville informal settlements from the Ekurhuleni Municipality conducted a collaborative social audit focusing on chemical toilets in the area. The communities collaborated with the Ekurhuleni Municipality, the International Budget Partnership (IBP) and the SAN.

This social audit was the first social audit where government officials responded immediately to the demands and findings of the social audit report.

Wattville community leaders and social audit volunteers from the community met with the Water and Sanitation unit from the Ekurhuleni Municipality after the social audit.

The Wattville residents were able to express their grievances, demands and findings about the service delivery of the chemical toilets. The officials responded to their concerns positively and new chemical toilets with new disabled-friendly chemical toilets were delivered a week after that meeting.

The success of this pilot collaborative social audit encouraged Planact to use the same methods in their next social audit. Planact conducted their next social audit in Thembelihle, which is situated in the City of Johannesburg Municipality. The Thembelihle community also received a positive response from their municipality regarding the servicing and provision of the Ventilated Improved Pit Latrine Toilet. Thembelihle leaders and volunteers, with Planact, had a meeting with the Managing Director of Johannesburg Water about their social audit findings and results. A plan, shared with the community, was developed by Johannesburg Water to approach issues in Thembelihle.

## SCALING UP THE COLLABORATIVE SOCIAL AUDIT

The interest by communities, government and the Auditor-General in the collaborative social audit's success introduced the idea of scaling

up this type of social audit. In 2018 SAN, Planact, IBP and the communities of Wattville and Thembelihle will be joining forces to do a collaborative social audit in 10 informal settlements in Ekurhuleni at the same time. The scale-up social audit will not only allow for improved sanitation services in more than one community, but can influence government systems. For example, if all 10 communities have the same issues with the sanitation services provided by different service providers contracted using the same tender document, it means either monitoring by government is not done properly, the contract or tender document is lacking or the procurement process is not conducive to proper public participation.

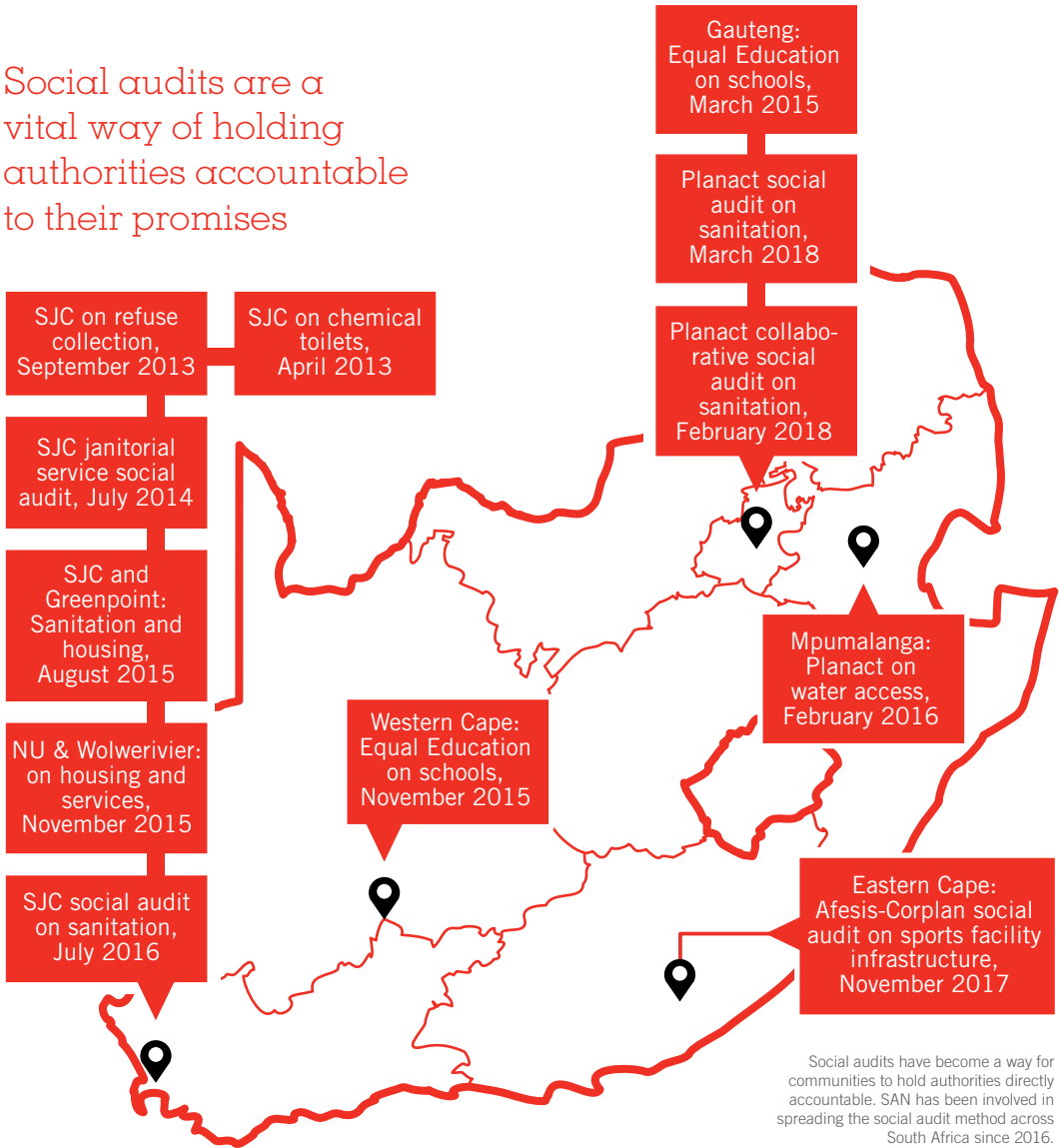
### GLENMORE SOCIAL AUDIT

The Glenmore community in the rural Eastern Cape, with Afesis-Corplan, decided to conduct a social audit on the refurbishment of their sports

facility. The Glenmore community, located within the Ngqushwa Municipality, were adamant in finding out what happened to the over R2.5 million used to refurbish their grounds, as sport was used to bring villages in the surrounding areas together. Currently they are unable to use the “refurbished” field because of its poor quality and lack of maintenance. SAN and Afesis-Corplan assisted the community in getting technical assistance from qualified quantity surveyors and architects to assist them during their social audit to investigate the sports field and materials used according to the tender specifications.

It was found that less than half of the R2.5 million would have been more than enough for a proper sports facility. This was reported in the Glenmore Social Audit Imbizo with no attendance from the Municipality. Further engagement tactics are being used to address the issues highlighted in the social audit report to the Municipality.

Social audits are a vital way of holding authorities accountable to their promises



# THE SJC 10: A VICTORY FOR DEMOCRACY & THE RIGHT TO PROTEST

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On Wednesday 24 January 2018, in the Western Cape High Court, Judge T.C. Ndita delivered a landmark judgment in the #SJC10 case that has major repercussions on the right to protest in South Africa.

Judge Ndita overturned the convictions of 10 SJC activists who had been arrested under the Regulation of Gatherings Act in 2013 during a picket outside the Mayor's office where they had chained themselves to the railings of the Cape Town Civic Centre in a peaceful and organised act of civil disobedience. This followed more than two years of attempted engagement with the Mayor on the lack of a water and sanitation plan for Cape Town's informal settlements.

The historic judgment ruled that section 12 (1) (a) of the Gatherings Act is unconstitutional because it limits and criminalises peaceful protest. The ruling does not affect previous convictions under the Gatherings Act, and any future contraventions of the Act will not result in arrest and a criminal record.

The judgment stated: "The criminalisation of a gathering of more than 15 on the basis that no notice was given violates s 17 of the Constitution as it deters people from exercising their fundamental right to assemble peacefully unarmed...the limitation is not reasonable and justifiable in an open and democratic society, based on the values of freedom, dignity and

equality...Section 12 (1) (a) of the RGA is hereby declared unconstitutional".

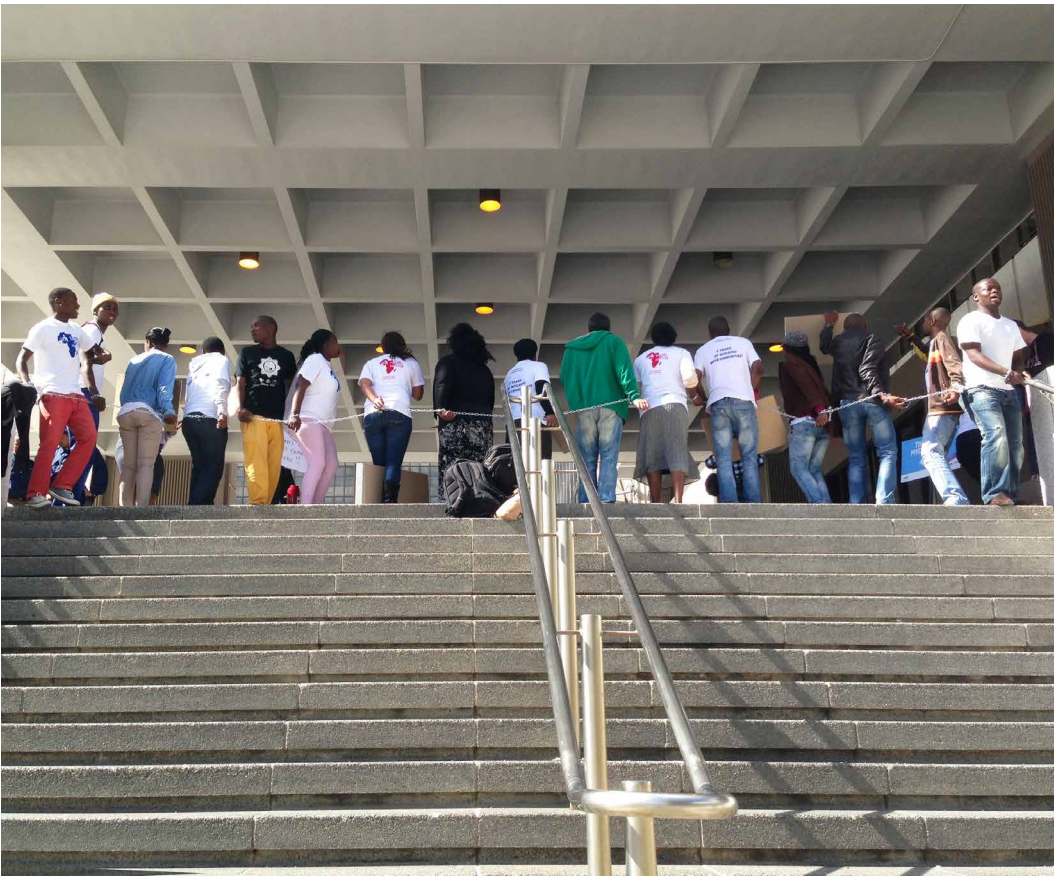
The ruling comes five years after our protest demanding a plan for water and sanitation in Cape Town's informal settlements. In our victory we remember Nolulama Jara, one of the convicted SJC leaders, who tragically passed away in August 2015. We deeply mourn the loss of Nolulama and thank her and her family for all their courage. We honour her memory and contribution to the struggle for freedom and democracy.

This ruling and its significant consequences for our democracy cannot be overstated. It is more than just a victory for the appellants whose convictions have been set aside and it is more than just a victory for the SJC. It is a victory for the many South Africans whose only way of being heard by government is through demonstration and gatherings. It is truly a victory for democracy.

The High Court judgment was scheduled to go to the Constitutional Court for confirmation. The SAPS, however, have appealed the High Court ruling. The appeal will be heard in the Constitutional Court in August 2018. We are dismayed by the SAPS' attempt to delay and obstruct necessary and constitutionally-mandated political engagement. We trust that the Constitutional Court will act in the spirit of democracy, freedom and accountability, and uphold the High Court ruling.

**Right Top:** SJC activists chained themselves to the Cape Town Civic Centre on 11 September 2013. This act of civic disobedience was an attempt to engage with the Mayor after two years of unkept promises regarding sanitation in informal settlements. **Right Bottom:** 21 SJC activists were arrested under the Regulation of Gatherings Act. Ten, the #SJC10, were given criminal records for failing to provide notice despite staging a peaceful, unarmed protest. In 2018 the High Court overturned their convictions.





# STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

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In June 2017, at the SJC's AGM, Axolile Notywala and Mandisa Dyantyi were elected as the General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary of the SJC respectively.

Phumeza Mlungwana and Dustin Kramer stepped down as General Secretary and Deputy General Secretary in June 2017 after four years as the SJC's elected leadership. Phumeza and Dustin have led the organisation courageously and with great integrity. We thank them for their commitment to the struggle for equality and justice, as well as their effective leadership. They strengthened the SJC and led it through numerous struggles to make it the strong organisation it is today.

In 2017 we appointed a Communications Officer and replaced the Community Advocate positions with Organiser and Educator positions. At the end of 2017 we made the decision to revise the structure of our staff teams in order to improve communication and remove some of the barriers that were preventing coordination between programmes. This meant that the Safety and Justice Programme and Local Government Programme were merged into a joint "Programmes Department" with two Co-Heads that housed both the Safety and Local Government campaigns. The educators and organisers that had existed in the different programmes were brought together into two consolidated teams, with the education team led by the Education Coordinator, and the Organising team led directly by the Heads of Programmes. This restructuring has greatly improved internal communication, planning, and general coordination of SJC activities and events.

## SECRETARIAT

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CHAIRPERSON  
**Wiseman Mpepo**



DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON  
**Sisanda Makumsha**



GENERAL SECRETARY  
**Axolile Notywala**



DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY  
**Mandisa Dyantyi**



TREASURER  
**Andrew Ardington**

## GENERAL SECRETARY'S OFFICE

---



GENERAL SECRETARY  
**Axolile Notywala**



DEPUTY GENERAL SECRETARY  
**Mandisa Dyantyi**



CHIEF OF STAFF  
**Tyrone McCrindle**



## OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT



OPERATIONS MANAGER  
**Siham Surve**



FINANCE & OFFICE  
ADMINISTRATOR  
**Thabo Gumede**  
(From May 2017)



OFFICE KEEPER  
**Nandipha Qegu**

## EDUCATION



EDUCATION CO-ORDINATOR  
**Ntebaleng Morake**  
(From August 2017)



POLITICAL EDUCATOR  
**Bonga Zamisa**  
(From March 2017)



EDUCATOR  
**Zingisa Mrwebi**



EDUCATOR  
**Nosiphelele Msesiwe**

## PROGRAMMES



CO-HEAD OF PROGRAMMES  
**Musa Gwebani**  
(From November 2017)



CO-HEAD OF PROGRAMMES  
**Dalli Weyers**



BRANCH SUPPORT OFFICER  
**Ntuthuzelo Vika**



PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATOR  
**Thozama Mngcogo**



SOCIAL AUDIT NETWORK  
COORDINATOR  
**Thando Mhlanga**



PROVINCIAL ORGANISER  
**Zukiswa Qezo**



COMMUNICATIONS  
OFFICER  
**Darsha Indrajith**  
(From March 2017)



HEAD OF PROGRAMME  
**Chumile Sali**  
(Until August 2017)



PROGRAMME  
ADMINISTRATOR  
**Amkelwa Mapatwana**  
(Until November 2017)



SENIOR RESEARCHER  
**Dylan Majoo**  
(From June 2017 until May 2018)



ORGANISER  
**Nontando Mhlabeni**



ORGANISER  
**Xoliswa Mbadlisa**

# AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As at 28 February 2018  
Registration Number 067-689 NPO

This year the total grant funding received was R10 034 724. An amount of R3 975 564 was brought forward from 2017 and we deferred an amount of R4 923 154 to the 2018/2019 year. This means that for the 2017/2018 year, we had grant and donation income of R8 778 524 for our 2017/2018 programmes. Other income received totalled R6 379. Total expenditure for the 2017/2018 year was R8 693 596. Our annual expenditure was fully met by donor funding.

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION:

ASSETS:	2017	2018
<b>Non-Current Assets</b>		
Property, plant & equipment	353 377	353 266
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Receivables	60 190	329 108
Cash & cash equivalents	7 549 819	5 865 563
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>7 963 386</b>	<b>6 547 937</b>
<b>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES:</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Equity</b>		
Accumulated surplus	2 798 976	2 343 473
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Trade & other payables	241 256	228 900
Deferred income	4 923 154	3 975 564
<b>Total Equity &amp; Liabilities</b>	<b>7 963 386</b>	<b>6 547 937</b>

## DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT:

INCOME:	2017	2018
Grants and Donations	8 778 524	9 867 416
Sundry income	6 379	10 860
Interest received	364 197	275 351
<b>Total income</b>	<b>9 149 100</b>	<b>10 153 627</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE:</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Programme expenses:</b>		
Governance & branch development	3 016 231	2 348 700
Local government programme	2 028 615	3 083 964
Safety & Justice programme	1 675 859	1 856 818
<b>Total programme expenses</b>	<b>6 720 705</b>	<b>7 289 482</b>
<b>Operations, overheads &amp; administration</b>	<b>1 972 891</b>	<b>2 125 404</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>8 693 596</b>	<b>9 414 886</b>

<b>SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR</b>	<b>455 504</b>	<b>738 740</b>
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BERTHA  
FOUNDATION



FORD FOUNDATION

CONSTITUTIONALISM  
FUND



We would like to thank our institutional funders and every individual and organisation that contributed so generously to our work this year.

There are so many people that have been central to our struggles. With your support we will continue to fight for safety, justice and equality.

Viva SJC Viva!



# Fighting for Justice and Equality!

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TOWARDS DIGNITY &  
DEMOCRATIC POWER



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[www.sjc.org.za](http://www.sjc.org.za) 

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