Dear Earth Keeper,

“We have lived our lives by the assumption that what was good for us would be good for the world. We have been wrong. We must change our lives so that it will be possible to live by the contrary assumption, that what is good for the world will be good for us. And that requires that we make the effort to know the world and learn what is good for it”. Wendell Berry

With the signs of Spring’s abundance all around us, it’s the time of regeneration and new growth. Our NEW website is now live, we ask that you explore and share it with your communities. We have also just launched our press release to ask Famous Brands to commit to go “cage-free” for all its hens and their eggs by 2025. The campaign was kicked-off with a petition earlier this month. In an effort to eradicate inhumane battery cage farms for hens. Read more about the campaign below and please sign and share the petition. We share the summary and outcomes of the Colloquium on Captive Breeding for Hunting. SAFCEI is offering members of faith communities in Namibia the opportunity to take part in an eco-audit training workshop in Windhoek from the 13th to the 15th of November, read below to see how to apply.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to the people of the Philippines and Carolina as category 5 Typhoon Mangkhut and Hurricane Florence
reminded us of our human frailty and Nature’s loud and clear message that we need to collectively act now to dramatically reduce our fossil fuel and natural resource consumption.

MEDIA RELEASE: "FAMOUS BRANDS, UNCAGE YOUR EGGS!" - SAFCEI

In an effort to eradicate inhumane battery cage farms for hens, SAFCEI has launched a public campaign urging restaurant giant, Famous Brands to commit to go “cage-free” for all its hens and their eggs by 2025.

SAFCEI’s campaign lead, Mandla Gqamlana says that popular SA restaurants in the Famous Brands group - such as Wimpy, Mugg&Bean, Steers, and House of Coffees, among others - will be targeted. The goal, adds Gqamlana, is to ensure that the sourcing of cage-free eggs forms part of the group’s policy, for all franchisees.

Gqamlana says, “Battery cage farming subjects hens to unnecessary cruelty, distress, discomfort and extreme pain. The hens spend their entire lives in a wire box the size of an A4 paper and never see

ATTEND AN ECO-AUDIT WORKSHOP IN WINDHOEK & REDUCE YOUR ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT! - ONLY FOR NAMIBIAN PARTICIPANTS.

The water crisis across Southern Africa has been a timely reminder of our dependence on nature’s abundance and the impacts of climate change. It is a call to action for us to reduce our impact, or ecological footprint, on creation.

SAFCEI is offering members of faith communities the opportunity to do an eco-audit training workshop.

This will be an intense 3-day process of practical audits, as well as collective sharing and learning with our eco-audit specialist, Kim Kruyshaar. Audits of energy, water and waste will be demonstrated, and practical interventions will be presented.
sunlight or take a breath of fresh air. They end up suffering from diseases, feather loss and broken bones, as a result of being confined in these cages. This is the life of hens that produce the eggs that we, the consumer, end up eating.”

Please sign and share our petition and tell Famous Brands that you will not be purchasing any of its products until it stops supporting this heinous animal abuse.

Wimpy SA MUGG & BEAN SA why don’t you follow other leading local and international food chains and do the right thing.

Venue: Windhoek

Please email zainab@safcei.org.za for an application form or with any queries. Due date for applications: 1 October 2018

Summary & outcome of the Colloquium on Captive Breeding for Hunting.

The undersigned attended the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs Colloquium on Captive Lion Breeding for Hunting on 21 and 22 August 2018 and/or a follow-up informal workshop on 23 August 2018. This historical event is a turning point in South Africa’s conservation history.

The two days of analysis, dialogue and information sharing were extremely valuable.

Read what we believe are the key outcomes of the colloquium were here
#CAGEFREE #ANIMALJUSTICE
#WEAREWHATWEEAT

WHAT CAN YOU DO?
Let Famous Brands know that we will not accept animal abuse of any kind and that their Wimpy, Mugg and Bean and their other franchises. Boycott their stores until they act to change.

SIGN THE PETITION HERE

READ MORE HERE AND SHARE THE VIDEO AND THE PETITION LINK ON ALL YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

South Africa's Wild Coast under threat of mining - photo essay.

Thom Pierce photographed the people of Xolobeni, who have campaigned for decades to stop titanium mining on their land. Xolobeni is a cluster of rural communities on the eastern coast of South Africa. Tourists know the beautiful and rugged area as the Wild Coast. The people of Xolobeni are mostly self-sufficient, living off the land and fishing in the sea, and often only travelling the two hours to the closest shops once a month to buy sugar, oil and other basic provisions.

Multi-Faith Women’s Assembly Event Report Back

As part of Women’s Day celebrations, SAFCEI held its first Multi-Faith Women’s Assembly on 24 August at the Muizenberg Civic Centre. The event was attended by 140 women from different faith communities and environmental activists.

READ MORE HERE

Multi-Faith Women’s Assembly Event Synopsis

On 8 September a Climate Rise Mini-Summit was jointly hosted by SAFCEI, 350.org, and WESSA. A diverse group of 170 stakeholders including environmental activists, members from faith community, youth, government and community based activists attended the event. Climate Rise was part of a Global Rise events. Panel discussions were held to ensure that a multitude of voices were heard.

READ MORE HERE
SAFCEI recently held two Faith Leader Environmental Advocacy Training workshops (FLEAT) in Malawi and Zimbabwe.

Read more on our blog page here

Blessing of Animals at St George’s Cathedral, Cape Town.

Shall be starting their main morning service on Sunday 7th October with a Blessing of Animals in the Cathedral at 5 Wale Street, Cape Town. As was experienced over the past two years, the symbolism of bringing the animals inside the church rather than having a separate service for them elsewhere at another time, is significant and powerful.
It’s time for a food revolution in Africa!

Currently, in Africa more than 200 million people are undernourished and approximately 33 million children go to sleep malnourished and hungry every night.

“Overcoming poverty must become an act of justice” and the need for food security, improved nutrition and sustainable livelihoods is critical in Africa.

Garden Heroes is the first educational comic to educate and inspire people to grow their own food.

The comic equips small scale farmers and communities with the skills necessary to develop and maintain food systems.

VIDEO: Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned Monday that the world is facing “a direct existential threat” and must rapidly shift from dependence on fossil fuels by 2020 to prevent “runaway climate change.”

The U.N. chief called the crisis urgent and decried the lack of global leadership to address global warming.

“Climate change is moving faster than we are,” Guterres said. “We need to put the brake on deadly greenhouse gas emissions and drive climate action.”

READ MORE AND WATCH THE VIDEO HERE

Eskom’s latest bid to continue deadly pollution strongly contested

Five of South Africa’s largest environmental justice organisations have come out strongly against Eskom’s further round of multiple applications to postpone compliance with air pollution standards.

Allowing Eskom to continue with its pollution will mean that at least 2200 people in affected areas will die premature deaths every year as a result of exposure to this pollution.

Let us continue to work together for Energy Justice in Southern Africa that is accessible, affordable and sustainable energy for
their own food garden. It is based on sustainable agricultural principles that will help communities achieve food security in Africa. Please download & share the comic here.