

NEDLAC/ MISTRA webinar on
partnering during the Covid-
19 pandemic, 2 August 2022

Collaboration between government and social partners around the Covid-19 food crisis: A case study of the Western Cape Food Forum

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What problem were/ are we solving for?

The impact of the Covid pandemic made an existing problem worse.

27% of children under five in South Africa are stunted (SA Demographic Health Survey 2016).

The response to Covid had to steer a difficult path between saving lives and preserving livelihoods.

The impact of lockdown on access to food in poor and vulnerable communities was catastrophic.



FOOD KITCHENS IN THE TIME OF COVID-19

APRIL 2020

HOW TO SANITISE BEFORE SERVING:

HAVE A TUB OF JIK & WATER SOLUTION



4 TSP OF JIK FOR EVERY

1 LITRE OF WATER

SANITISE THE PERSONS HANDS WHILE THEIR DISH IS BEING RINSED



PREPARE YOUR COOKING AREA TO BE SAFE & EASY TO CLEAN



WATCH OUT FOR FIRE HAZARDS



WASH & SANITISE SURFACES OFTEN

STAY AT HOME

& REST IF YOU FEEL UNWELL
LET SOMEONE WHO IS HEALTHY & STRONG DO THE COOKING/SERVING



WASH HANDS OFTEN WITH SOAPY WATER FOR 20 SECONDS



THE VIRUS CAN LIVE ON SURFACES FOR UP TO 5 DAYS!
SANITISE SURFACES OFTEN

PHYSICAL DISTANCING WHEN SERVING FOOD

DRAWING LINES OR CIRCLES ON THE GROUND WILL HELP TO MANAGE CROWDS



SHOPPING FOR FOOD

SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES & TRADERS FIRST
*USE CASH VOUCHERS IF POSSIBLE

[THIS KEEPS THE MONEY CIRCULATING WITHIN YOUR COMMUNITY & ENABLES TRADERS TO BE STOCKED WITH FOOD SUPPLIES]



WASH HANDS BEFORE & AFTER SHOPPING



WIPE ALL SHOPPING WITH THE JIK & WATER SOLUTION



WEAR YOUR MASKS

WASH & IRON YOUR MASK AFTER EACH USE
DON'T TOUCH YOUR MASK WHILE WEARING IT
DON'T TOUCH YOUR EYES, MOUTH OR NOSE
GLOVES DO NOT HELP WHEN TOUCHING MANY SURFACES, WASH YOUR HANDS OFTEN



WC Food Forum convened in April 2020 to coordinate food relief efforts

Categories of participants:

Civil society organisations

- Food NPOs
- Grassroots community responses such as Community Action Networks, food kitchens and faith-based organisations
- Intermediary funding and supply networks including business and donors

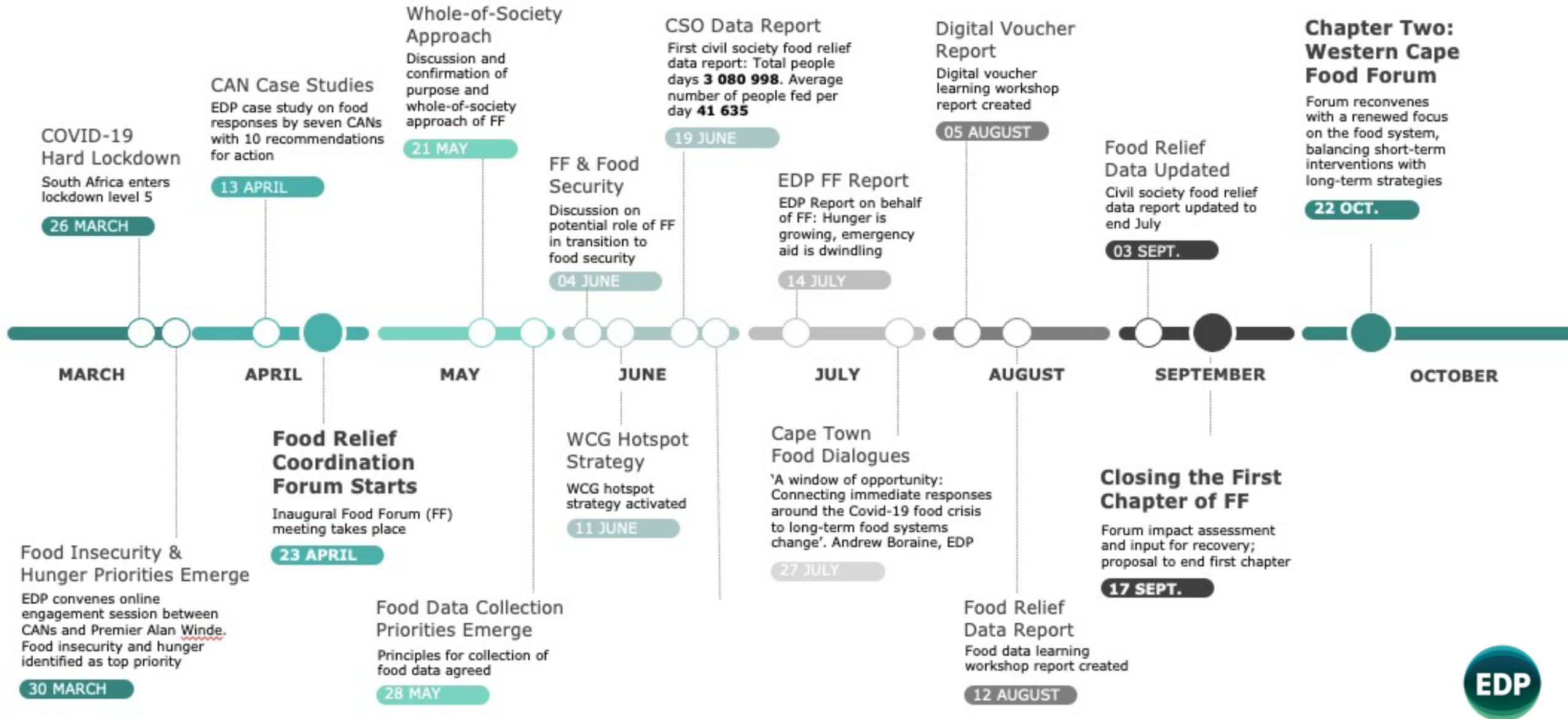
Public sector

- WCG Covid Humanitarian Cluster (representing 8 departments)
- City of Cape Town
- Municipalities



[Partnering and collaboration in a time of Covid-19: What we are learning 17 April 2020](#)

WC Food Forum Phase 1: Coordination of food relief



Adaptive approach: Take action, pause, reflect, learn, adapt and adjust, repeat...



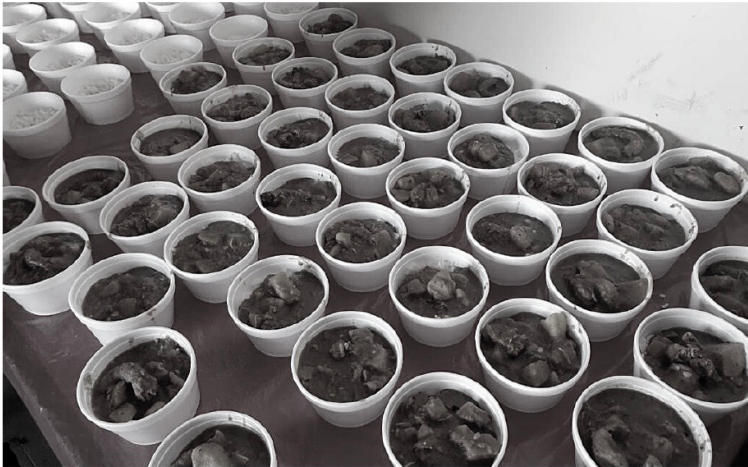
[Building back better: Download report](#)



WESTERN CAPE
Economic
Development
Partnership

OCTOBER 2020

CO-ORDINATING FOOD
RELIEF DURING
COVID-19



Lessons from the NGO-Government
Food Relief Forum in the Western Cape,
April – September 2020

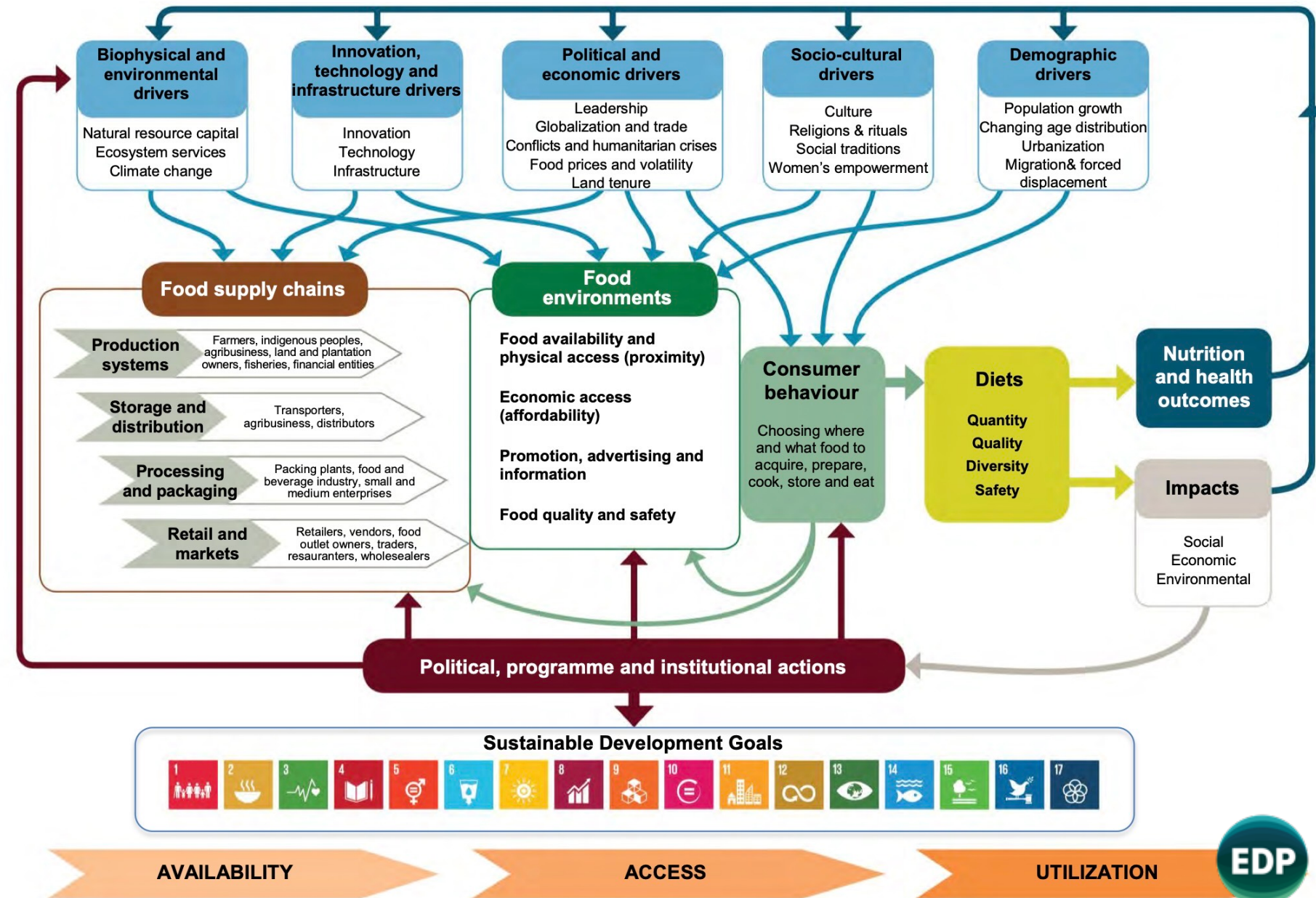
[Lessons from the Forum:
Download report](#)

Food Forum Phase 2: Food systems approach

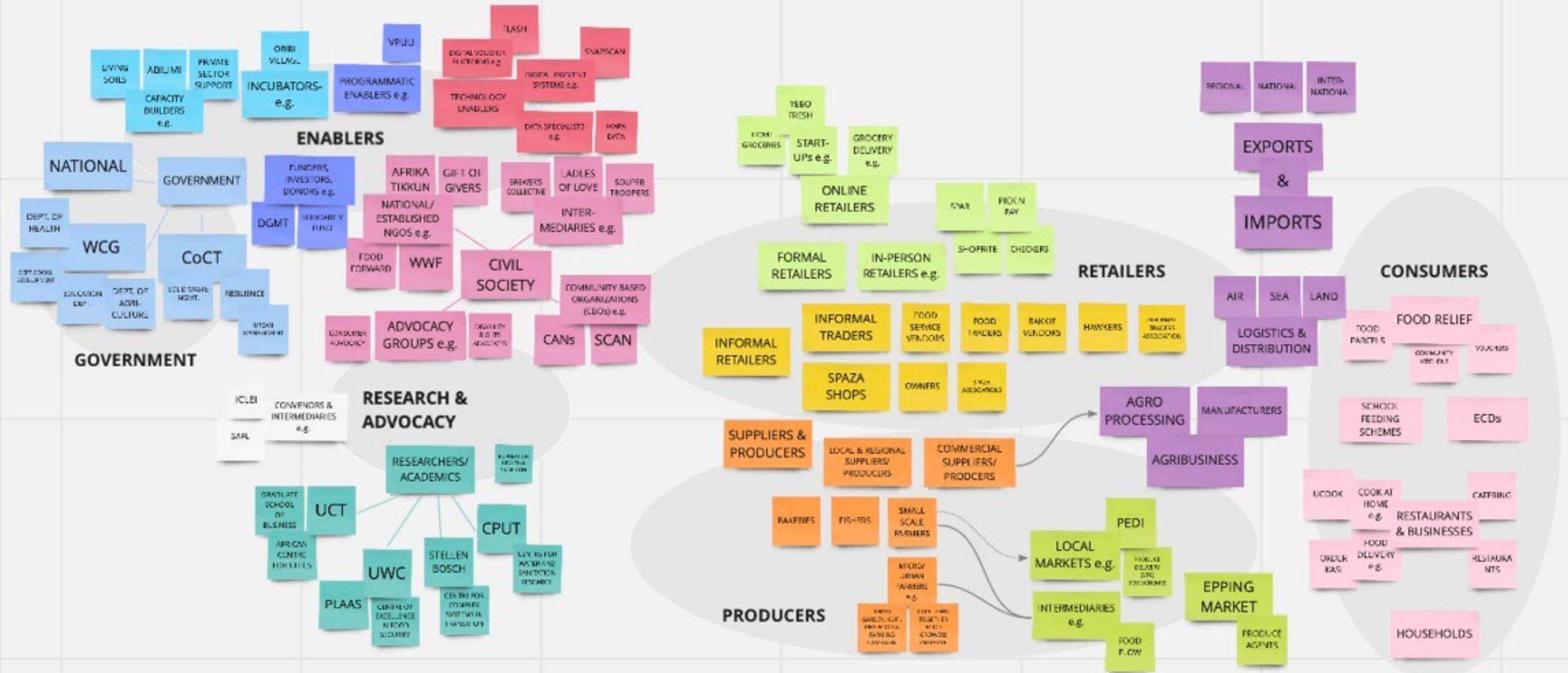
Challenge: how to translate a highly conceptual framework into concrete action

The Food Forum decided to reach out to new partners in different parts of the food and nutrition system, and to build a common agenda around shortening the food supply system:
Local Production for Local Consumption

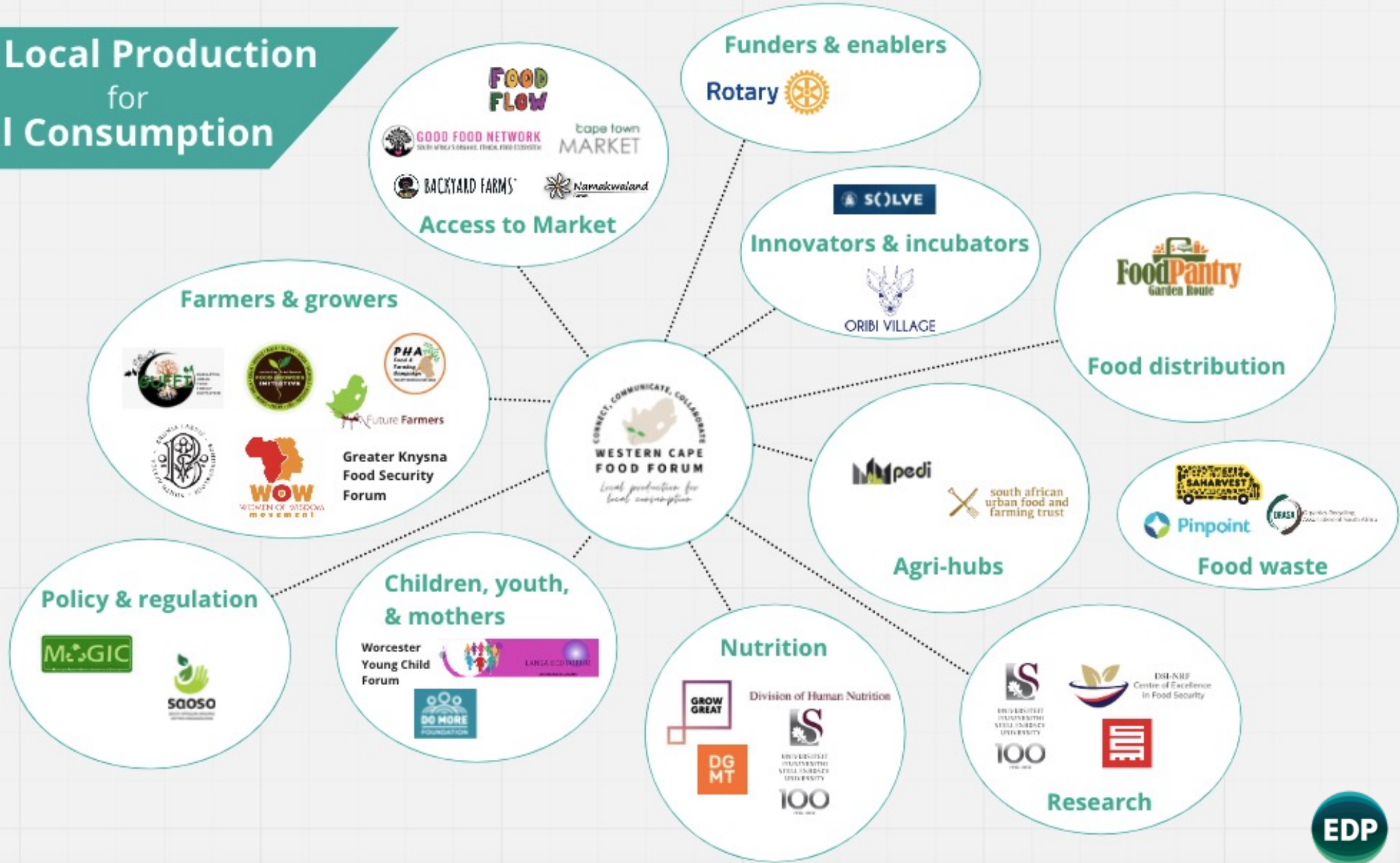
Figure 1 Conceptual framework of food systems for diets and nutrition



WESTERN CAPE FOOD SYSTEM ACTOR MAP



Local Production for Local Consumption



Western Cape Government: Nourish to Flourish programme

Through learning journeys with local partners in selected pilot sites: 'talk once, listen twice'



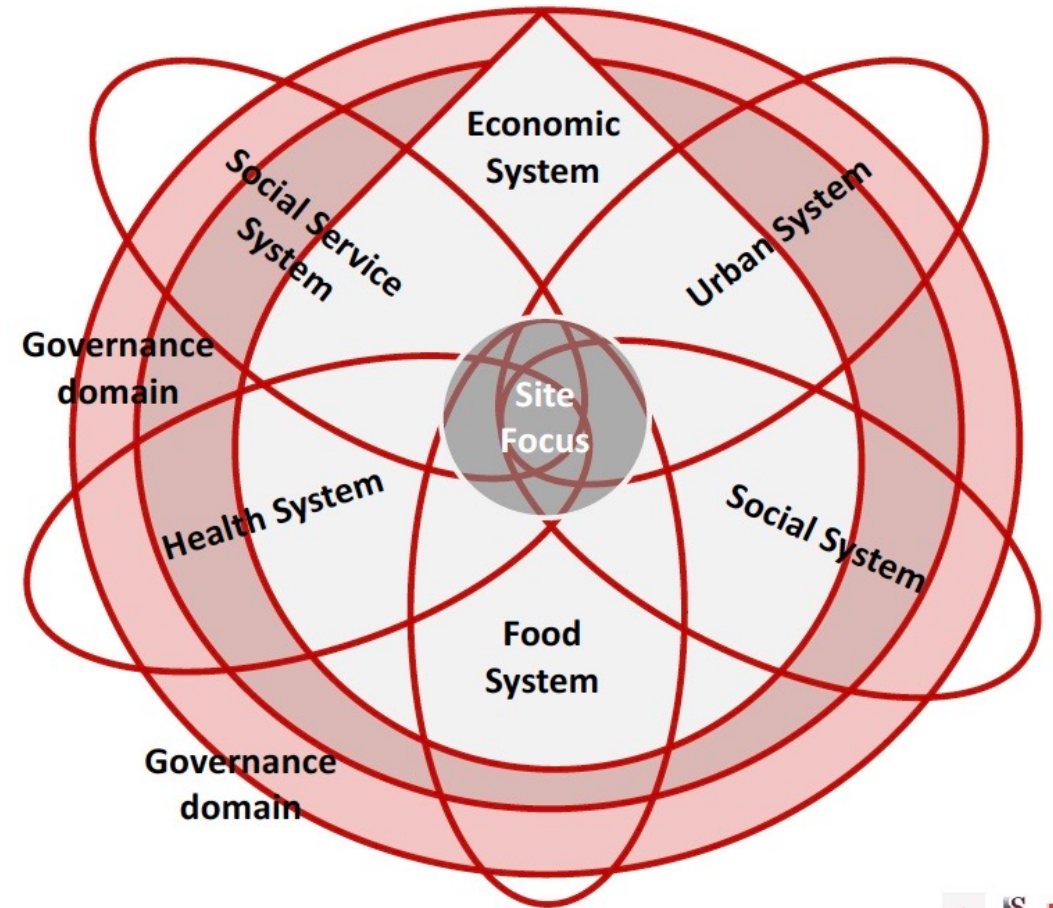
ECD gardens in Zwelethemba



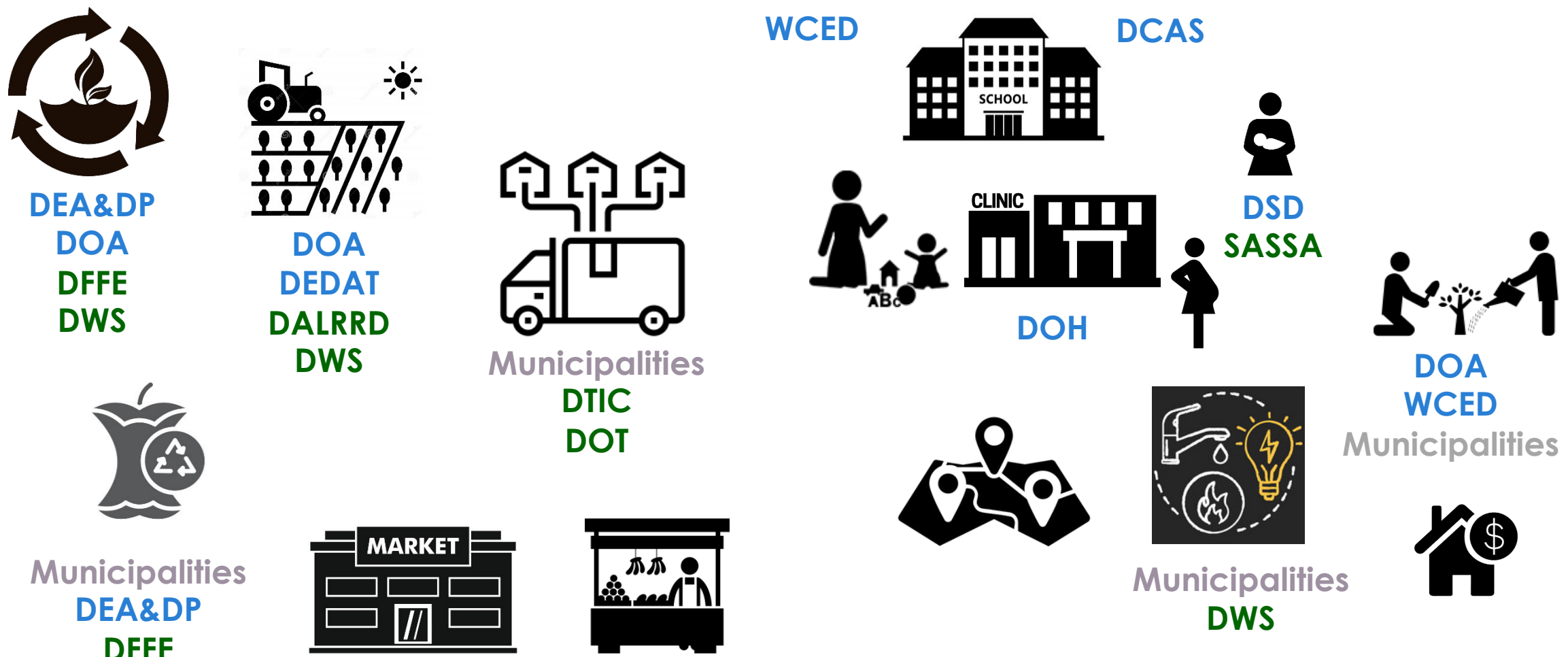
Food stalls at taxi rank, Zwelethemba

Practical steps to strengthen local food systems

1. Map elements that potentially make the difference between surviving and thriving, e.g., energy, water, storage, land for gardens and small-scale agriculture, transport costs, retail and trading spaces, regulatory environment, access to markets, support services: seeds, compost, training, social networks, public employment programmes, social grants, safety, etc
2. Map linkages to public sector functions, budgets, programmes, projects
3. Create enabling environment for non-state actors and initiatives



Who needs to work together to make things happen?



WCG N2F mapping transversal and inter-governmental functions to support local food systems. An example from an engagement with Breede Valley Municipality.

Addressing fragmented food system governance

Parallel definitions of **food security**:

- Produce more
- Rural development
- Urban systems
- Safety nets
- Consume better

Policy tensions

- Economy: jobs and growth in the industrial food system
- Environment: ecological destruction, natural resource depletion, climate crisis
- Society: hunger, stunting, obesity



'Recipes for collaboration' workshop as part of CT Food Dialogues 2022

Partnering lessons...

1. A crisis can create space for change, but you must move quickly
2. Connect short-term relief mobilisation to long-term food systems change (both/ and, not either/ or)
3. Whole of government is necessary to support whole of society approach
4. Connect 'bottom-up' mobilising and activating environment to 'top-down' authorising environment
5. Build trust in action
6. Role of collaborative intermediary organisations to convene safe spaces

