



Improving Supply & Food Security In Our Communities”

#“Back to basics on food security”

South Africans especially in rural areas used to have gardens and fields where they practice subsistence farming that ensured that they had food all year long. Little was needed from the shops and money secured through loved ones that worked in urban areas was used for educating children and other major necessities. The advent of democracy and the promise of a better life resulted in people abandoning subsistence farming even though it had huge benefits to them. Politicians also found a way to hold communities to ransom by offering the grant system so people can become dependent on it and not revolt against those in power. This in turn has also had a major impact on food security and people’s ability to determine their own future.

It is time to go back to basics and communities determining their own future by ensuring food security. A lot of communities still own and have access to the gardens and fields they have to plough.

Call to action

Through traditional leaders, and other community leaders, communities should:

- Demand fencing of their gardens and fields so they can cultivate crops they need
- Demand government (agriculture & rural development) involvement through the supply of necessary tractors and seeds to kick start the process
- Demand establishment of community based central secondary industries/factories e.g milling factories where communities can convert some of their crops into several finished consumable products

“we shall not be victims of circumstances”

“We will take back our power to determine our own future”

“we are not incapable but capable”

“We will be our brother’s and sister’s keepers”

Written by: Mbulelo Mayikana for Mbulelo Conversations