



Concept Note

1. Name of the Organization: Alliance for Rural Democracy c/o Rural Democracy Trust

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2. Title of the Proposed Campaign: Stop the Bantustan Bills.

www.stopthebantustanbills.org

3. Context

Resourcing the on-going campaign on Stop the Bantu Stan bills should be a game-changer in the on-going struggle to defend rural land rights and democracy against the recent onslaught of new laws and policies that favour the interests of traditional leaders and politically connected business investors at the expense of the land and political rights of poor South Africans living in the former Bantustans. The Bantustans are home to the 18 million poorest South Africans whose tenure is insecure as a result of the apartheid systems.

This document motivates for a budget that would scale up and enhance current strategies and make them sustainable. The vested interests and state resources we are up against have gathered momentum, and we can feel it. We are unlikely to be able to maintain our successes to stop the bills, but we will not despair or give up, we aim to mobilise beyond the 2019 elections and make the ruling party



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realise that we are a force to reckon with, and worth listening to. We have seen remarkable levels of rural mobilisation and litigation in opposition to new laws that are aiming to strip rural people of the hard-fought gains they won with the defeat of apartheid and its Bantustans, and the recent progressive judgements.

<https://www.gov.za/speeches/statement-cabinet-meeting-21-november-2018-22-nov-2018-0000-0>.

4. Rationale for the Proposed Project

We are of the opinion that litigation should be the last option, and should always support mobilisation.

The last three weeks saw the NCOP will be convening special meetings to rush through a number of bills, namely the Traditional and Khoisan Leadership Bill, The Traditional Courts Bill. These bill are proposing separate laws that would exclusively apply to the 18 million South Africans that live in the former Bantustans. They also make those living under traditional leaders vulnerable to having the land they lived on seized and given to multinational corporations to exploit the land without consultation and without benefit to the communities living there.

These shocking special sittings happen when Parliament is in recess, leaving us to wonder. What is the rush? These sittings follow a failed attempt to ram the bills through in the last week of parliament. At face value last minute amendments to the bill are an attempt to override important legal victories for mining affected rural communities in October and November of 2018. We already had two letters written by our Alliance partners to the president requesting him not to sign the bills (insert links) we are hoping that the President will listen and not sign. Should he sign these bills into law, our litigation partners are preparing a legal challenge to these bills is on both procedural and substantive grounds.

These Bantustan bills are also a threat to subsistence farmers who depends on communal land for their small enterprises. South Africans have the right to choose their leaders, decide what they eat and to ensure that food in their community is healthy and accessible for everyone. However, lack of reliable Governance and Tenure has hampered access and control to their food systems and left them vulnerable and with no choice but to buy what is already on the supermarket shelves. If we want to support small scale family farmer's sovereignty, let's join hand to stop the Bantustans.

6. Goals and Objectives of STTB

- To raise awareness on the rights of Informal Land Rights holders and promote Interim Protection of Land Rights Act as an alternative content to protect communities living in the former Bantustans



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- To showcase that these Bantustan bills are unpopular, toxic and very bad for any campaigning political party aiming to win the elections.
- To ensure that this Bantustan Bills do not become law
- To demand equal citizenship for all South African, One Country One law

7. Duration: November 2018- October 2019

We envisage a short lived campaign medium term in which we are able to measure the successes. We believe that long term campaigns can be distracted, hijacked and make it difficult to measure the victories. Victories are empowering no matter how small they are, so it could always be reviewed depending on the need to continue.

8. Project Strategy/ Listing of Project Activities

- Already launched a petition tab on the website www.stopthebantustanbills.org
- We have staged a Facebook page, twitter handle and instant gram
- Printed a pamphlets and flyers on the Bantustan bills
- Established Provincial outreach teams
- Identified rural woman as an ambassador for the campaign
- Information and fact sheets on these Bantustan bills by our alliance partner, LARC
- Targeted phone calls, WhatsApp groups and a teleconference campaign (weekly teleconferences) to inform and update key provincial organisations;
- March at the end of April 2019, with a press conference hosted a day before the March
- Leaflets for the hearings and Mass written submissions to the President and his advisory panel on land reform
- Monthly Dialogues and Roundtable discussions on contents of the bills
- Concerts, drama and innovation to target young activists

What we need to do to intensify the campaign? Plan of Action going forward:

The following is an outline of a series of activities that could be undertaken in our campaign to Stop the Bantustan Bills. Specific resources and a basic description of activities are listed below.

Mobilisation

- Seminars, planning meetings and dialogues.
- A speakers training Workshops
- 1 x 5 Provincial Workshops, Pickets, Street and office Occupation
- Village workshops done by the Provincial outreach teams



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- Organisational workshops upon invitation – up to 10 other organisations in uncovered districts reaching 50 activists and leaders per organisation:

Pickets

Picketing would involve groups of 10-15 individuals with posters protesting outside relevant locations that would be relevant to the Bills. This could be parliament, traditional courts, government offices or the union buildings.

Resources Needed:

- Transport
- A2 Posters (dowl sticks optional)
- Statement to the media
- Video coverage
- Shirts

Occupations

This would involve camping out at a relevant and visible location with a demand until the demand is met. This camp can expand over time as more support is gained. A good location would be the park outside the Union Buildings. For this activity to be safe, you would need 10+ permanent campers.

Such a camp could also serve as a Head Quarter for a larger campaign that supports other activities listed.

Resources Needed:

- Transport
- Tents
- Mobile Toilets
- Food and water for campers
- Video coverage
- Statements to the media
- Lawyer on standby
- Shirts

Public Disobedience

This would involve engaging in an activity that you would be arrested for. This could include closing roads where the President is expected to travel, occupying a Government office (COGTA, DMR, DRDLR, Justice), chaining oneself to the entrance of a government legislature etc. Ideally you would need a group of 10+ individuals

Resources Needed:



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- Transport
- Props (such as chains etc)
- A2 posters (dowl sticks optional)
- Lawyer on standby, bail money
- Video coverage
- Statements to the media
- T-Shirts

Leafleting

This would involve going into various communities with leaflets and spreading the message about the Bantustan Bills, groups of 5+ individuals would be ideal.

Resources Needed:

- Transport
- A2 posters (dowel sticks optional)
- Leaflets (thousands)
- Video coverage
- Shirts

Mass March - Marching

This would involve large scale mobilization, for this to be effective you will want at least 5000 individuals marching. The march should not be too long a distance, otherwise could be harmful for individuals involved.

Resources Needed:

- Transport
- Marshals (1 per 10 marchers)
- Banner (10 by 2 meters)
- Sound truck / Stage
- Shirts
- Water
- Lawyer on Standby
- Media Statement
- A2 Posters
- Video Coverage
- Memorandum of demands
- Mass mobilisation

Press Conference



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This would involve high profile members of the movement speaking directly to reporters and answering questions. This would need to go alongside a major event such as an occupation, marching or public disobedience.

Resources Needed:

- Transport, Shirts, Media mobilization, Venue hire

9. Expected Results

- Small-scale farmers living in communal land are better positioned to lobby for enabling legislation.
- Scrapping of Bantustan legislation and introduction of tenure legislation that promote and protect female small-scale farmers to address their own specific needs and requirements to support their households.
- Sustained Movement Building that unites urban and rural voices behind the issue
- Coherent Strategy to transit social justice activities beyond the campaign (Keeping track of legislation and disseminating facts to the masses)
- Amplified massive rural voices

10. Innovation: How different it is for other or earlier projects?

We see Stop Bantustan Campaign as a vehicle that could connect ordinary people across the country around these issues, something that was last seen in the days of the United Democratic Front (UDF). The campaign is also hotspot for diverse political and business interest, and is careful not to be hijacked. It is unfortunate that it was launched during election times, but circumstances beyond our control which is Parliament and its conniving agenda to push through these bills before the end of their term. We have to be highly strategic and resilient to manage these unnecessary distractions.

The Campaign is also independent, as much as we depend on non-conditional financial support from Alliance for Rural Democracy and partners such as Land and Accountability Research Centre, it is not a democratic body, and we are non-apologetic of the fact that we are not mandated by anyone, and we owe no group an explanation except signatories of our campaign and our donors. We aim to push for a non-partisan, non-racist and gender sensitive movement. We aim to have a very broad group of supporters including faith based and LGBTI groups.

10.1 STTB Structure - We can change the structure as and when we need.



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- **Campaign Secretariat** – They are volunteers with a campaign secretary. The secretariat in urgent need of dedicated Campaigns Manager and 3 volunteers.
- **Patrons:** We have also identified patrons, allies, possible coalition members and have established an independent steering committee with a committee secretary, led and informed by ARD provincial groups established by affected groups.
- **Coalition NGO's:** We recognise the role of NGO's in influencing laws and policies, and the role of political parties in making laws. Our goal is to change certain sections of these bills e.g. Section 24 of the Traditional and Khoisan Bill, and including opt out clause in Traditional Courts Bill and therefore we will find ways of engaging them.

11. Organizational Background, including the expertise and experience.

Stop the Bantustans is an initiative of the Alliance for Rural Democracy and its partners; however it is was conceptualised independently by sympathisers to our struggle against these bills. The campaign is there for independently managed to ensure that mass support against these Bantustan bills is acquired. The Campaign is envisaging a loose coalition where supporters can join and opt out at any time. This Campaign is careful not to be infiltrated or hijacked by any political party or any interest, so we will develop bottom lines to ensure that members of political parties who are sympathetic to our course can participate but not try to advance their party politics.

12. Budget Estimate = R 1,192,000.00

Activities

Local Mobilisation – 50,000 x 5 provinces = R 250,000.00

Pickets – 3000 per 15 picketers per province = R 15,000

Public Disobedience = 10,000 per 5 provinces = R 50,000.00

March = 500,000 for Buses, Catering, Camping Venue and Printing (figures where based on previous activities e.g. September Land March costs)

Total Activities: R 815 000

Publication

Printing banners, Z3 Pamphlets, Stickers = 10,000

Animation videos, you tube video clips = 12,000

2000 T Shirts x 35, 00 = 70,000 (could be included in the March Costs)

Total Publications: 92,000

Human Resources

1 x Campaign Manager @ R25, 000 x 4 months = 100.000

1x Retainer Communications and Media Person @ 15,000 x 4 months = 60,000



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5 x Volunteers @ 5,000 x 4 months 125,000

Total Human Resources: R 285,000

13. NOTE TO PARTNERS and friends

I am writing to request your attention to the above-mentioned concept, and to request your contribution to any part of the budget. If there are any resources from your organisations to contribute to the above budget kindly assist by paying suppliers directly, such as printing, buses, caterers etc.

We will have periodic meetings to assess progress and should we run short of the budget, we will downscale the activities and do what we can afford, but We Will March to stop the Bantustan bills. nomakanjani!!!



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