

AFRICA ACTION SHEET

AUTUMN 2014



Stop the corporate takeover of Africa's food

The UK government is supporting a series of initiatives which help corporations to take over Africa's food under the guise of tackling hunger

In the nineteenth century scramble for Africa, European colonial powers took control of the continent's land, resources and people. Today's multinational corporations, aided by governments, are taking control over Africa's food system. The UK government is supporting the **G8 New Alliance for Food Security and Nutrition** which will help corporations take control over Africa's land, seeds and markets at the expense of small-scale farmers, who feed most of the continent.

The **New Alliance** provides aid money and facilitates big business to invest in the African agricultural sector. In many cases the aid money and investment promised by the corporations prioritises crops for export (including tobacco, palm oil and biofuel crops) rather than supporting farmers to grow crops sustainably for local consumption.

There are currently ten African countries signed up: **Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Tanzania, Benin, Malawi, Nigeria and Senegal.** In addition, around 50 multinational companies, including Monsanto, Cargill and Unilever and about 100 African companies are involved.

In return for aid money and corporate investment, African countries signed up to the **New Alliance** are required to make policy changes in their land, seed and trade rules. These changes will:

- make it easier for corporations to grab land
- prevent farmers from breeding, saving and exchanging seeds
- promote increased use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides
- create low paid, insecure jobs,

Read more and take action at :
www.wdm.org.uk



FOOD SECURITY

THREATS TO AFRICA'S FOOD SECURITY

What we can do?

Saturday, 18th October 2014

12.30—6 pm

**Our Lady of Grace RC Church Hall
Charlton Rd. Charlton,
London SE7 7EZ**

**EXPERT SPEAKERS
REFLECTION / DISCUSSION
A SIMPLE MEAL**

**To reserve your place email: aefjnuk@yahoo.co.uk
text: 07787 078833**

**FREE ENTRY
(contributions welcome)**

**To find out more about this event
and for travel directions
visit: www.aefjn.org.uk**

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produced by the:

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Hunger for Justice

HUNGER FOR JUSTICE WEEKEND

18-19 October

Over the weekend hundreds of churches nationwide will be urging their local MPs to tackle climate change and praying for our sisters and brothers around the world.

Millions of the world's poorest people are feeling the impact of climate change now. They are suffering first and worst from the consequences and yet they are least to blame. But millions of us hold a vision of a better future. We can show our love for the world by making changes about our lives to tread more lightly in solidarity with those who are already bearing the brunt of climate change chaos.

Collectively we need to **stop the temperature rising above 2C** worldwide, otherwise experts predict more droughts, floods and extreme weather with dire consequences such as:

- less crops and more hunger
- sea acidification causing fish stocks and coral reefs to diminish
- people of Africa to lose up to half of their farming yields by 2020

What needs to happen? In 2014-2016 we want:

- The **UK government** to stand firm on its commitments in the 2008 Climate Change Act for reducing the UK's carbon emissions
- The **UK Prime Minister** to show leadership globally at the special Climate Change Summit in to be held in New York in September
- The **EU**—including UK - to agree ambitious targets for reducing carbon emissions and increasing energy efficiency and the amount of energy generated from renewable sources such as wind and solar power
- A fair and ambitious global deal on climate change at the **UN climate change talks in Paris in December 2015.**

Take action today

Email party leaders in Westminster and urge them to put climate change at the heart of their agendas

www.christianaid.org.uk/ActNow/climate-justice/Index.aspx



The Call of Pope Francis

"We must never forget that the planet belongs to all mankind. The

mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or with less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity....

Economy, as the very word indicates, should be the art of achieving a fitting management of our common home, which is the world as a whole. Each meaningful economic decision in one part of the world has repercussions everywhere else; consequently no government can act without shared responsibility.

Small, yet strong in the love of God, like Saint Francis of Assisi, all of us as Christians are called to watch over and protect the fragile world in which we live, and all its peoples.

The Joy of the Gospel

"Faith is a highly political thing.. as followers of God we too must be politically engaged. If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor." *Archbishop Desmond Tutu*

CAAT Christian Network

Day of Prayer 7th September

Join the CAAT Christian Network in prayer and action for an end to the arms trade. To order a pack, email:

enquiries@caat.org.uk

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