

Impact of the Forum



Creating new connections

- **85%** connected with organisations that they hadn't before



Bridging the gap with government

- **67%** connected with government in a new way
- **78%** got a better understanding of government plans, processes and responses



Taking action

- **61%** were better able to implement the mandate and strategy of own organisations
- **78%** collaborated better with other members on new or existing projects and processes
- **83%** were able to adapt actions of own organisations in response to information received in the Forum

n= 46



Maintaining new connections

93% would like to continue to collaborate with organisations or government officials from the Forum

... so where to from here?

Input for Recovery: Themes

From Food Relief to Food Security

- **Government buy-in and support**
- Food access and availability
- **Food gardens**
- **Access to resources**
- **Employment, entrepreneurship, and job creation**
- Planning and mobilization

“Building Back Better”

- Entrepreneurship
- SMMEs and small local suppliers
- Economic development for all
- Working with informality
- Empowerment and ownership
- Livelihoods
- Trust
- Reduced corruption
- Collaboration
- Accurate data
- Education
- Environmental sustainability
- Social programmes
- Safety and security
- Health and wellness

Supporting & Enabling Community-Led Recovery

- **Supporting CSOs and community structures**
- **Access to resources**
- Creating new markets
- Holistic community development
- Connecting funders and fostering social enterprise
- Creating relationships and networking
- Creating enabling environment
- Resuscitating economic activities
- Driving information flow
- Training and education
- Research and advocacy

Bold = most responses

n= 46

Input for Recovery: Quotes

"Support the community organizations on the front lines that rely heavily on local volunteer support- many of our community distribution partners are having to limit their programmes as more people return to work or experience burnout"

"Genuinely engage and consider input from community grassroot formations like the Western Cape Urban Farming Action Network (WC -UFAN)"

"Work directly with community structures. Our communities has proven to be resourceful. Encourage local departments to engage directly with community structures to identify needs, strengths, and weakness. We have a response group in every community where they can be assisted, referred from."

"Look at food systems and see how government can assist in partnership with the NGO space. Access to food in urban spaces is directly related to access to funds. With the formal economy going into deep recession, supporting the informal economy seems to be a major role that government and NGOs can provide."

"Support SMME's/entrepreneurs from low resourced communities who have businesses or services that are relevant to food system."

"If CoCT and WC are serious about making urban farming relevant they need to provide a wholistic package that will make it viable: capacity building support, market spaces and development, marketing support, even product development support, lower input costs (such as compost which could connect with the need to divert food waste from landfills) etc..."

"Trust and all-round accountable practices are imperative for 'building back better'. The social disparity in our country and city is an historic legacy that remains central to the challenge of 'building back better'. Alignment across provincial plans /local spatial development plans / everyday ward governance and imperatives 'appears' dysfunctional - and if so, needs urgent attention in preparation for the anticipated next global/local crisis"

"Recognize the number of new organizations who have responded to and have proven measured impact during this crisis. Many opportunities are limited to those who have been established long term."

What recommendations or actions would you propose for shifting from food relief to food security? (1/5)

Government Buy-In and Support

- Buy in of street committees, stipend structure, micro site kitchens, food gardens, recycling, line chef training. Helping communities to take responsibility for their own food security.
- When awarded funds from local or provincial government to be trusted to deal with food distribution without all the red tape and conditions set out by government, this take sup time and it is exhausting.
- Cash transfers would be preferable than distributing food through parcels and from soup kitchens
- It is imperative for communities to implement food security activities but some of these may need to be actioned outside of the impacted communities. So many live in areas where there is either no space or suitable land - access to water etc. And government support will be required to provide access to farmable land
- support people on the ground and give them skills to run and work on ways of food security.
- Educating municipalities on how to move out of "silo" mode into collaborative mode both within municipalities and outside stakeholders. Social development needs to work with LED, who works with town planning, etc.
- To build local based agricultural economy where people are not only growing food for sustenance and nutrition but also for building a resilient growing market. Communities must be able to sell organic food, chickens, piggery to each other. Local fresh markets must be promoted as well as local food growers supplying to major food stores and local spaza shops. This is a program that government and business must support.
- Looking at food systems and seeing how government can assist in partnership with the NGO space. Access to food in urban spaces is directly related to access to funds. With the formal economy going into deep recession, supporting the informal economy seems to be a major role that government and NGOs can provide
- A sustainable plan to be implemented such as a standing supporting from Government or a way to alleviate hunger in a way that is continuous. We propose that the Basic Income Support is also a way this can help.
- Community led / government funded / full transparency and accountability
- I would love to see an economic recovery that starts with the recovery of our food system... Food security and nutrition is the strategic foundation of a nation's prosperity. Without food, children cannot learn and adults cannot think, work and often grow violent. Food security is a right and not a privilege, its enshrined in our constitution, yet this has been horribly unrealized. I would love to see a economic recovery that realizes that food is essential for life. Why can't the government fund high risk, high reward research, surrounding food-water-waste-energy nexus? Why don't we experiment these creative and sustainable technologies in schools across the province? This could inspire the youth, develop contextual, circular and sustainable technologies and improve resource efficiency (food-water-energy-waste) in schools and beyond. Government funded and community led. I think the crowd (public) should decide on what solutions get funded so that its participatory decision making.
- Land and food goes hand in hand in the long term- call on the City to re-imagine the use of our public land to benefit all Capetonians! ... For *one* thing if affordable housing had integrated food gardens run on biodiversity and soil regenerative principles (which has a beneficial knock on effect downstream for birds, bees, estuary-life and ocean health.) Where poor and unemployed have opportunity for ongoing skills education/training and employment or entrepreneurial avenues into a green economy and not dependent on handouts and limiting job markets.

What recommendations or actions would you propose for shifting from food relief to food security? (2/5)

Government Buy-In and Support (continued).

- Look at food gardens attached to housing blocks and communal spaces = supplement food costs with healthy fresh produce and perhaps create an income stream from surplus produce.
- Affordable urban housing where the lease requires waste recycling & on-site composting. Residents can feel the immediate benefit of a collective drive for frugality. Garden layout includes compact greywater systems (whether reedbeds and charcoal EM sumps to filter and clean urban water for use for fruit trees combined with beneficial indigenous pest control & protective windbreak plants... instead of waste water being dumped onto golf greens which is in fact just problematic low-grade sewerage dumping ...Which builds up into toxic levels downstream when it reaches our ocean ... traditional and problematic dumping via municipal rainwater & sewer systems into waterways leading to further detrimental waterway & ocean pollution... Lets rather alleviate the problem causing excessive sewerage instead of trying to put a band-aid plaster on it's resulting symptoms !?!?)
- Small + impactful and ongoing projects - integrated within affordable (& even social) housing blocks to benefit ecology + economy of ethical land stewardship within degraded and soul degrading urban settings we currently endure.
- Use existing buildings standing empty and regenerate and renew instead of allowing dilapidation and rotten corruption for profiteering by a few based on the suffering of the many. This would apply to food growing spaces attached to schools, places of worship, community centres verges and curbs (with investment from those residents to care for curbside gardens)
- Think green economy based on ethics and fair play considering the knock on ecological effects of greed for the sake of hoarding and lording it over the less fortunate.
- Personally would like support for home gardeners; support via infrastructure (raised bed construction & water storage for e.g.) and garden tools from municipality ... A set period of time for support received would be fair ... perhaps with a stipend for paying labour for start up implementation phase. [Rather preferring to call these helpers 'trainee food gardeners in co-learning'] e.g. a year period to get project up and running and earning income to support itself. Then paying it forward by supplying a soup kitchen. If production vs overhead costs does not allow full time free supply to local soup kitchen some other form of civic contribution back into the neighbourhood.
- Sadly security is priority in certain areas; whether protecting private home growing or neighbourhood communal area from vandals; protection from those who don't want to learn how to harvest for sustainability (those few destructive people with bad attitudes or who feel entitled to take their share without contributing or supporting food growing project or those who simply come destroy out of frustration with their personal situation. This is the reality within our areas.
- Training and labour stipends = Would like to see a synergy between CAN's, ZLTO, municipality and commerce to enable fair payment for labour exchange + produce to free markets. Expecting small scale growers to follow the cold chain to supermarkets is unfair and the financial layout required for commercial growing is a debt trap at best. This is why I feel that cost effective soil regenerative food growing practices is extremely important.

What recommendations or actions would you propose for shifting from food relief to food security? (3/5)

Government Buy-In and Support (continued).

- 1. RESPECT CANS as a model of mobilising citizens across all divides towards more resilient communities - use the CTT network and street committees as conduits for information and resources; 2. REMOVE barriers to utilising available land for decent housing and for growing food - include green spaces for wellbeing in all new housing developments 3. RE-ALLOCATE resources to support pro-poor initiatives such as the setting up and development of community food gardens in support of producing a variety of nutritious foods - training, water tanks, grey water technology, seeds, etc. 4. RE-PURPOSE communal facilities such as recycling depots to provide resources to such community and individual household gardens - compost, soil, plant containers 5. START rolling out basic gardening courses from public facilities such as schools, clinics, libraries, community centres - Lets grow vegetables and fruit at these facilities instead of lawns whilst sharing information and skills for self and community sufficiency 6. INCREASE access to free WI-FIand data prices MUST fall to connect as many people as possible to information and opportunities. 7. OVERHAUL procurement policies to encourage and support local producers especially cooperatives - in fact, actively invest in co-operatives and other community-based service providers when creating jobs 8. FREE UP your most talented and creative officials to support community initiatives with their skills, time and knowledge in exchange for free courses from the university of life which will hopefully make them better civil servants and human beings. 9. REDUCE the cost of basic services and foodstuffs - the latter by supporting the call for food pantries or food banks 10. INVEST in alternative energy technology for everyone....specifically solar and biofuels. 11. TRANSPORT - affordable and accessible. safe, available, etc., etc.
- Create an easy process to lease land and create a combined COVID emergency task team with all role-players included particularly community networks and smallholders
- 1. Procedure to access land. Single application process for any Government land within COCT spatial plan (urban edge) a. and COCT does own internal liaison with Govt departments to find correct people to talk to. b. List of land already identified... c. One week turnaround time.
2. Free access to curbs and street islands and verges. 3. Process to access public parks and gardens 4. Budget to pay for community teachers identified by community. 5. Budget to pay for community sourced materials . Not imported from China. 6. City provide Infrastructure like water tanks and water refill service. And switch on watering system of curbs verges and islands in summer again. No more spraying roundup or other poisons. 7. Easy access to identified municipal and other govt materials rotting in land lots. 8. Change bylaws to allow all small animals integration in food gardens (includes roosters) 9. Allow Community invented solutions to be supported by govt and community produced worm farms and compost bins etc. etc. etc.

What recommendations or actions would you propose for shifting from food relief to food security? (4/5)

Food Access & Availability

- Focusing on supply chains in various communities - what food is available in what quantities in different areas.
- I would recommend dealing with food sovereignty
- Get food from the government to the people on the ground and also reduce unemployment by teaching the poor how to make food. e.g. gardening they need need sustainable development
- Better flow of produce within communities. Mentorship and training to increase quantity and quality of harvest. Secure market access for produce.
- "During a conversation with an elderly woman in KwaZulu-Natal, she mentioned how indigenous plants have sustained her over the years – both as food, medicine and a source of income. Of the greatest concerns that she mentions is the sudden over-reliance of black Africans on western foods and medicine, which she believes reduces their quality of life."

Food Gardens

- Education about household food gardens would help people have access to their home-grown vegetables.
- Teaching organizations, communities and NGOs to start building their own vegetable gardens
- Encouraging communities and organisations to start with food gardens.
- Encourage and support local entrepreneurs, seed savers, and alternative exchange systems. Form COVID recovery task team across Govt org, CANs, large and smalls to address rapid community garden application deployment with special Covid clauses allowing actions over next 6 months to prove the worth of application. Provide Budget for rapid deployment of startup aid (fencing, compost, seedlings, implements) and water.
- Expedite availability of under-utilized public open spaces for community gardens via "adopt public space" agreements or equivalent.
- Food Gardens in schools, provide stipend for people working in such gardens
- Food gardens in all public spaces. Assisting organisations with space and water supply to continue growing food long-term. A stipend to be paid to people working in these food gardens
- Investing in training, capacity building of CBO's/Schools etc. in food gardens.
- Food Relief is very much the approach during a crisis & whilst the ideal would be Food Security, many Veggie Garden projects has been "wasted" in that the beneficiary organizations does not always look after it & the garden just dies & money is "wasted."

Access to Resources

- Support for those community organizations on the front lines that rely heavily on local volunteer support- many of our community distribution partners are having to limit their programmes as more people return to work or experience burnout.
- It's Spring now... DO . Stop talking. Water is for people and to grow food first. Turn on the irrigation systems on Parks and verges and curbs etc. Restore the water cycle. Remove the politicians and their laws from giving the resources to profiteers (e.g. water bottling plants, developments on prime growing land/wetlands/aquifer recharge zones)
- Provide proper coverage for communications in ALL areas, not just DA wards
- Provide training for our communities to gear them towards sustainability.
- Simplify the process of qualifying plus give NGO's more money to build food gardens in their areas and open up public land for growing food in communities
- Advocating for subsidies for permaculture vs agriculture and also community/local level farming and food production a 'special economic' policy that is not one area specific or if it is a zone then to focus that in the most vulnerable locations
- Supporting SMME's/entrepreneurs from low resourced communities who have businesses or services that are relevant to food system.

What recommendations or actions would you propose for shifting from food relief to food security? (5/5)

Employment, Entrepreneurship & Job Creation

- The community action groups could look at not just immediate relief but the creation of local jobs through SMME development including new and innovative ideas. How can wealthy households contribute to funds that employ people to do after school care programmes, shopping for the elderly, cleaning up our rivers, etc.
- For food justice to take place we need to create jobs. For food security to take place we need community food gardens built around business
- Self-employment by growing/making to sell & generate income
- Food security will only happen when more people have an income and they also make food a priority. This will avoid food relief to a large extent.
- Create opportunity for employment for self sustainability
- Develop a new lifestyle away from hand-outs
- Business/social enterprise rather than charity is the only way forward
- We need to engage in training programmes in exchange for food. I believe people want to be employed and want to be skilled up, why not couple a training programme to run alongside the feeding programme to enable the food investment to be achieving a developmental goal too.
- Empowering micro enterprise and co-ops
- Provide training for our communities to gear them towards sustainability.
- Consider alternate economies that reward volunteering for community and no money barrier or government red tape. Use zlto and CES (complex tech enabled barter system)

Planning & Mobilization

- Establish a task team / workstream of this food security forum which is tasked with creating a strategic action plan focused on the best ways to motivate community food gardens/ ECD / school based food gardens , preferably with some incentives , and partnership with depts to access to seeds and water support - see list in answer to number ten
- A similar network for everyone involved in growing food gardens

Other:

- The food crisis alerted us (Cape Town, and cities in general) of how important food is to our social economy and well-being. The catalytical value of food across all scales of society has also been underscored: health, education, jobs, social mobilisation, etc. A food valued and inclusive knowledge economy offers potential for achieving food and social security.

Are there specific ideas or actions you can recommend for “building back better”? (1/3)

SMMEs & small local suppliers

- Ensuring that smaller suppliers into communities are supported - that it isn't only the big retailers that are providing enough quantity of food.
- Better engagement with food producers. Look at the micro producers and bring them into the LED and food production. Link small rural producers directly with markets

Entrepreneurship

- Creating lots of new social enterprise businesses either as start-ups or in conjunction with bigger business. There is a distinct lack of business in the forum.

Trust

- Trust and all-round accountable practices are imperatives for 'building back better'. The social disparity in our country and city is an historic legacy that remains central to the challenge of 'building back better'. Alignment across provincial plans / local spatial development plans / everyday ward governance and imperatives, 'appears' dysfunctional (???) - and if so, needs urgent attention in preparation for the anticipated next global/local 'crisis' ???
- Transparent engagement with communities with regard to resources, available distribution of resources.

Reduced corruption

- Education of the people and reducing corruption and other loopholes in the process.

Working with informality

- More collaboration with informal structure, as we get to service the community
- Consider placing a moratorium on certain regulations e.g. Informal trading, allow for more de-regulated trading. Build stronger links between local supply chains. Invest in 'sustainable livelihood' supporting households to grow their own food (even if on a small scale). Encourage 'barter markets' where produce can be exchanged and shared.

Collaboration

- Local food security clubs, job clubs as well as building a strong collaboration between big NGO's and small community organizations
- Paring organisation and giving goals to achieve this
- More "civil societies" collaborations particularly with corporates & their clients. Often businesses are looking for an organization to support & would value guidance re a good fit of an organization that isn't double-dipping, i.e. getting support from other corps too.

Are there specific ideas or actions you can recommend for “building back better”? (2/3)

Livelihoods

- We are undergoing a research and co-design process to bridge our initiative from a response to Covid to support livelihoods and get food into communities, to a sustainable model with scope for long-term impact.
- Employment, education and skill enhancement
- Transparent engagement with communities with regard to resources, available distribution of resources. Connecting through the food relief initiatives unemployed individuals to EPWP , creating internships for our youth to go into agriculture, entrepreneurship grant aid, training to vulnerable groups. Community food gardening assistance

Economic development for all

- Activities that stimulate township economic development is imperative - working with NGOs already active in the most impacted areas
- Ongoing discussion, connection and access to resources whether information or physical goods/food is, in my opinion, essential

Empowerment and ownership

- Beneficiaries to get involve with these type of projects and to take ownership

Accurate Data

- We need more accurate information about the cost of food security in this province. Ngo's need to be more transparent and willing to share information. Government engage with grassroots organisations and look at mechanisms for engaging with these unstructured organisations. Food sovereignty is a very different conversation from food security.
- Subgroups for themes to continue for Chapter 2. Each theme should have a channel that can use the data created within this forum to advocate for policy change. I am keen to be a part of the Data Collection system group and I think a "hackathon" type eve could be interesting to get all stakeholders in a virtual space together to work on a centralised system/aggregation of multi-systems, etc.

Are there specific ideas or actions you can recommend for “building back better”? (3/3)

Education

- Pressurize dept of education to reintroduce gardening / quality nutrition in ECD and foundation phase syllabus / curriculum
- Provide a better infrastructure in schools, facilitate permaculture design courses in townships, use unoccupied land for vegetable growers than for shacks.
- Get the kids involved it always brings their parents into the fold

Environmental sustainability

- Properly address the issues of the environment and search for better ways to package instead of single use plastics, Styrofoam, etc. Water tanks and education in water harvesting in communities. Investing in community solar power for all schools and ECDs.

Social programmes

- A new way of providing housing for the homeless that does not sperate couples or place unrealistic limitations. Better pay and working conditions for casual workers in the retail industry and farming industry.

Safety and security

- Address issues of safety and security to eliminate GBV
- How do we get rid of gangs?

Health and wellness

- A marketing campaign that focuses on health and wellness encouraging people to eat healthier and exercise.

Other:

- Fragility of state assessment, decentralization of actions, monitoring of progress from relief to security to enterprise. Involvement of business acumen.
- Plenty given to forum already. Including the build back better series information provided a month ago.

How could government - and/or the Forum - best support and enable community-led recovery? (1/5)

Supporting CSOs and community structures

- Involve organisations that know and work with communities not organisations that know nothing about the social matters of impoverished societies.
- Genuinely engage and consider input from community grassroots formations like the Western Cape Urban Farming Action Network (WC -UFAN).
- Recognize the number of new organizations who have responded to and have proven measured impact during this crisis. Many opportunities are limited to those who have been established long term.
- Financial support
- Keep having these forum encourage government to have less red tapes
- There is a need for government to recognize & appreciate non-formalised community structures and networks and find a way to work with those networks without trying to fit them into a government-familiar mold. Also, redirecting budgets to increase intake into the public employment programs might create a short-term relief in contributing to the vulnerable household incomes & take pressure off the feeding schemes. Become more aware of where the local energies lie ; (economic & social activities) and find ways to add value to those vs trying to fit them into pre-determined top down plans and ideas. Investigate opportunities for wider roll out of digital voucher programs such as vollar.
- Working directly with community structures. Our communities has proven to be resourceful. Encourage local departments to engage directly with comm. Structures to identify needs, strengthen weakness. We have a response group in every community where they can be assisted, referred from.
- Government is unable to make the changes needed for food security, but government is also not open to assisting organisations and individuals that are trying to provide long term food sustainability and security. Everything is always a mission and one is sent from pillar to post when trying to engage. The forum is great, trying to assist one another, but issues like water and financial support are what individuals and organizations need most.
- Reduce policy red tape
- Request government/city to engage with gardening groups at local level to listen to what local needs are, and then work with these groups to find ways to solve challenges of land, fencing, water, waste management (compost production).
- 1. harassment by public officials to please stop. It hampers growth literally and figuratively 2. If they are serious, they should make it part of their provincial APP targets where they make land available for communal food growers /food kitchens. App targets nationally and provincially have to be monitored by auditors. Its part of outcome planning.
- 2. Get permission to grow not from councilors as they change over time. Whereas if a lease agreement is signed by a department/local government it does not change when councilors change. 3. Public open spaces could be used. Every single community has public open spaces. 4. The Western Cape dept of agriculture could get involved to assist. To provide continued support and utensils.
- protect peri urban farming areas like Philipp

How could government - and/or the Forum - best support and enable community-led recovery? (2/5)

Access to resources

- Invest efforts and resources in community-led initiatives as a priority, starting with the most vulnerable/least resourced. Ensure that we have a majority of such communities represented at all levels in these discussions.
- Force ward councilors to use their budgets for upliftment and education of food security rather than on less important things
- Start-up funding, coaching/mentoring, facilitating and incentivising access to markets.
- Diminishing livestock grazing due to land invasion is a problem in townships
- Most food growers, particularly elderly people in the townships do not follow good bookkeeping (even me, I struggle with this). Therefore the requirements to access funding/support should be considerate of this fact. This applies to food gardeners, small scale producers and informal economies generally. 1. The scope of the funding/support should include employee/volunteer salaries (this can be done in any way as long as the money gets to the employee) 2. Support funding must not have an expiry date, once the support is approved the directors and/beneficiaries be free to use the funding in a manner that best suits their business/organizations needs. I'm saying this because there were a lot of unnecessary restrictions in the COVID-19 funding
- Asking for money could be problematic, but making resources available, like seeds, soil, compost, fencing of some sort. Safety equipment. Teach first aid in case accidents occur, teach workshop growing methods to improve yield.
- If CoCT and WC are serious about making urban farming relevant they need to provide a holistic package that will make it viable: capacity building support, market spaces and development, marketing support, even product development support, lower input costs (such as compost which could connect with the need to divert food waste from landfills)...

How could government - and/or the Forum - best support and enable community-led recovery? (3/5)

Creating new markets

- Be 'dot connectors' between suppliers and retailers - and bridge the gap between food producers in our province and the sellers of food. Not everything has to go via Epping

Holistic community development

- The model of asset-based community development is suitable, except that government must not want to control the implementation and outcome. The focus should be holistic and not just a focus on specific outcomes because human beings need a multitude of services to ensure food security and an improvement in their situations. It is important to start with cash in households that is not stringently means tested
- Policy shift to rehabilitation of communities and development of communities. I.E. Resourcing, mentoring and training/development activities
- Start up packages for communities
- Would certainly recommend discussions with Cities Support Programme's township economy development project - a programme of national treasury

Connecting funders & fostering social enterprise

- Connect with funders who are genuinely interested in helping to fund real food gardens based on good business
- Continuing to connect the relevant parties to help social enterprise happen - removing red tape, introducing funders to the forum, connecting business to new initiatives.

Relationships and networking

- Communication, relationships and networking
- Ongoing discussions such as this. Attendees inviting other businesses that could contribute via the products in their own businesses.

Creating enabling environment

- Mapping stakeholders and engaging them, finding the constraints and building solutions for these constraints. Creating and enabling environment instead of regulated environment
- Be agile in regulations and processes and efficient communication platforms in this regard

Resuscitate economic activities

- Identify a long-term economic opportunity, scour the NPO partner network & business network to see who's best place to train people for such opportunities, channel people through that so that economic activities can be resuscitated.
- Work with young people that are unemployed in townships.

How could government - and/or the Forum - best support and enable community-led recovery? (4/5)

Driving information flow

- Assist to form rapid deployment COVID food growers task team and drive information flow like this forum did in past regarding food aid (April and May - then we stopped believing in govt). Continue to collect data and present findings and collect information from members to show govt how civic society is holding the line and govt is still failing to serve the people. We still do not see the will from govt. Govt is still not listening. Govt has turned this and the next 5 generations into debt slaves. Unless we start looking after our own needs, we will fall harder than Zim!!
- We need more accurate information about the cost of food security in this province
- Who / what are the accountable community / institutional structures for leading recovery? The 'status' of the forum, from 'emergency' to 'recovery', requires clarity. A duly recognised knowledge exchange forum / platform is invaluable for coordination, recovery, learning from the crisis, and future work.
- The meetings are a great platform to do this exposure to other organisations and space to learn what others are doing.

Sustainability

- Changing waste management systems to ensure separation of recyclables and "wet" waste could enable local production of compost. Incentive schemes can be put in place to promote recycling, and compost bins provided to households, as well as community composting centres. Massive education process will be required but it can be done. It has to be done because there will soon be no more space in landfills for the tons of unseparated waste that citizens produce and send to landfill.

Training and education

- By working with communities and NGO's to train, educate and support projects that will generate food and income

Research and advocacy

- The forum in my view must strengthen its research and advocacy work. This will happen government funds and/or grants capacity and support to the forum for action-oriented research that will then be shared to government and local organizations for implementation
- Policy, research, events

How could government - and/or the Forum - best support and enable community-led recovery? (5/5)

Other:

- Proposed food security community food gardens task team (with govt and civil society) could strategise how best to work with community stakeholders to get their support for creation of community food gardens and then plan series of partnerships with wide variety of govt depts (as suggested below) who could support this programme in the following ways :- > provincial dept of agriculture, (for vegetable / fruit seedlings/ soil / compost) > provincial dept of water affairs (to help provide water to sustain food gardens) > local govt (municipalities' community development & ECD programmes directorates - to encourage and incentivise community food gardens / possibly make some small allotment areas available for clusters of schools or ECDS to share a community food garden programme on a central piece of land) > dept of social development (to link their early childhood centre per child per day subsidies (which currently have a 40% allocation of this subsidy towards food) , to in future only be able to access this 40% food subsidy if ECD centres have established and maintained successful food gardens at all ECD centres (can be wall based if no land space) ; > dept of education(to ensure schools use existing land space for food gardens and link the produce produced to school curriculum and enhance the school nutrition programme with fresh vegetables (and tuck shops etc. to include food/ fruit grown on school premises) > public works to enable use of their EPWP (extended public works programme) stipends for unemployed out of school youth of about R 2500 pm, for unemployed to work on community gardens in schools (could be past unemployed learners from the schools where new community / school / food gardens are being established >partner with the NGOs who have successfully established community food gardens, such as mahani gingi, urban farmers > task team to research NGO's working in community food gardens and using GIS (geographic information systems) geographically plot where they operate so we could map exactly where experienced local NGO's in this field operate in the province and with whom they can partner with groups from this food security forum such as the CAN groups and the many other related members of this food security group