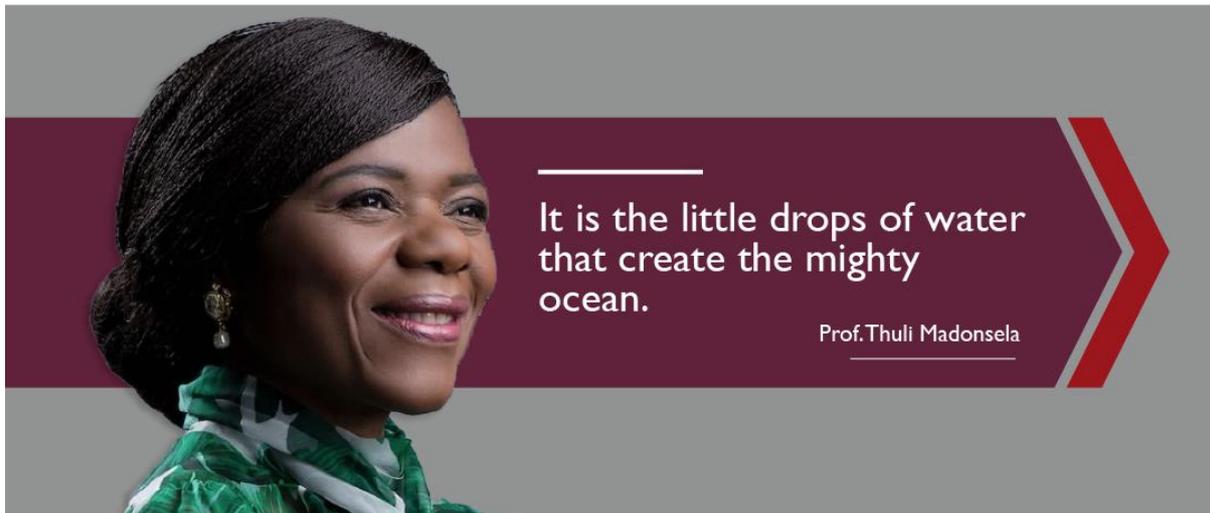




**SUMMARY REPORT ON THE SECOND ANNUAL SOCIAL JUSTICE SUMMIT  
LAW TRUST CHAIR IN SOCIAL JUSTICE, STELLENBOSCH UNIVERSITY**

*All hands on deck to leave no one behind in the post COVID-19 recovery agenda.*





2nd Annual Social Justice Summit | 4 November 2020



## INTRODUCTION

As South Africa continued to grapple with the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Stellenbosch Law Trust Chair in Social Justice hosted its Second Annual Social Justice Summit on Wednesday 4 November 2020. The unique circumstances caused by the pandemic necessitated a virtual event, broadcast from the studios of the Spier wine estate outside Stellenbosch. An even wider attendance than that of the 2019 inaugural meeting was facilitated in this way. Over 400 registered attendees from 17 countries on 4 continents, represented a multitude of sectors, including private citizens, civil society, government, legislators and other policy-makers, judicial officers, business, the faith community, academia, media, as well as international stakeholders.

This was the second summit organised by Professor Thuli Madonsela, the Social Justice Chair at Stellenbosch University and her team and followed on from decisions taken during the inaugural event held in 2019.

“At the Inaugural Social Justice Summit in August 2019, delegates approved a Social Justice Declaration adopting the Social Justice M-Plan and committing to join hands to accelerate progress on poverty and inequality. The International Conference that followed further adopted a resolution that committed the academic, civil society and business community to join hands with government to drive the eradication of poverty and inequality in pursuit of social justice.”

“Our 2020 event was arranged to take this work further and this was the key driving force behind the keynote speakers and the topics we chose for the day. Parallel

breakaway plenary sessions in the afternoon delved deeper into themes that have an impact on the likelihood that social justice can be realised, such as land and poverty, economic inclusion and well-being, education and training, data analytics and poverty mapping, health, mental health and nutrition, access to justice and the rule of law, peace and social cohesion, climate change and environmental sustainability, politics and democracy, and gender and other excluded groups.” –Professor Madonsela. The summit called for an approach of “all hands on deck and to leave no one behind in the post-COVID-19 recovery agenda” and for drawing attention to social justice issues and inequalities in all sectors of the national recovery strategy.

## **Purpose**

The broad objectives of the summit were to:

1. launch the M-Fund, a crowd-funding initiative aimed at acceleration of the advancement of equality and the elimination of poverty in pursuit of SDG 10;
2. increase stakeholder buy-in and involvement in the M-Plan and its projects; and
3. integrate the post-COVID-19 recovery programme with the SDG quest.

## **Objectives**

The Law Trust Chair in Social Justice aimed to:

1. launch the M-Fund and the crowd-funding app and to introduce the Council of Champions;
2. report on data-analytics research already completed and to introduce the SIAM (Nine (9) Dimensional Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix);
3. report on the Poverty and Inequality Mapping initiative’;
4. report back on the work of SCOPRA (Social Justice and COVID-19 Policy and Relief Monitoring Alliance);
5. agree on a Decade Plan of Action
6. strengthen synergies with the Solidarity Fund;
7. launch a Global Social Justice Champion and Ambassadorship Initiative; and
8. announce the Social Justice Champion of the Year.

## **Outcomes**

The outcome of the summit was to emerge with a decade plan of action that is aligned with the M-Plan’s key objectives and the SDG’s.

## Background to the summit



The summit sought to advance commitments made by government, business, civil society and academia to join hands in the implementation of the M-Plan for Social Justice. It also aimed at ensuring a resonance between the M-Plan and COVID-19 responses, including the Solidarity Fund, while intensifying the COVID-19 monitoring work of the Social Justice Chair through the Social Justice and COVID-19 Policy and Relief Monitoring Alliance (SCOPRA). This, together with the campaign proposed by the summit presented a platform to launch the M-Fund, a crowd-funding initiative aimed at harvesting small amounts of money to enable the investment of capital in sustainable development initiatives in 4392 municipal wards that specifically seek to end poverty and significantly reduce structural inequality at ward level and in the education system.

At the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic, reflections in the Social Justice thinktank and conversations with some of the key stakeholders led to the conclusion that the M-Plan does not only remain relevant, but that it is also crucial for the post-COVID-19 recovery period. A collateral benefit of COVID-19 is that it has given us, including government and mainstream business, a new insight into the injustice and threat to peace and stability encapsulated in systemic poverty and inequality, mostly along contours of historical injustices. The M-Plan fund has an opportunity to plug the gap that may arise from the contestations over redressing racial, gender and other inequalities through COVID-19 funds, including the Solidarity Fund. It has become clear to all that we can only move forward together. There is agreement that the M-Plan, government's Social and Economic Assistance Package and the Solidarity Fund ideally complement one another for the acceleration of South Africa's recovery from the COVID-19 disruptions, while catalysing the country's progress towards obtaining SDG goals intended to end poverty and break the back of structural inequality by 2030.

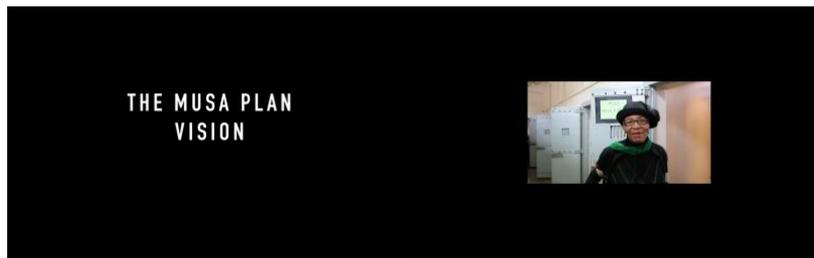
"A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step. I am confident that our summit saw us taking more than just a few steps on this crucial journey towards making social justice a reality," says Professor Madonsela

The summit called for national and international collaboration under the M-Plan. The establishment of the Council of Champions during this second summit augmented the M-Plan with a visionary leadership team. It was announced that the Council will be co-chaired by Prof Wim de Villers, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Stellenbosch and Basetsana "Bassie" Kumalo, a media entrepreneur and former Ms South Africa, who will together drive the vision and act as guardians of the M-Plan fund. The Council includes doyens of social investment, captains of industry, community leaders and, including Dr John Kani, Justice Yvonne Mokgoro, Justice Edwin Cameron, Sello Hatang, Doreen Morris, Kate Robertson, Busisiwe Mavuso, Felicia Mabuza-Suttle, Futhi Mtoba, Dr Beatrice Wiid, Ashraf Garda, Advocate Xoli Maduna, Professor Adam Habib, Professor Sakhela Buhlungu and Professor Francis Petersen.

"We are honoured that these leaders who are already championing social justice in their own spaces, have agreed to be a part of this project" – Professor Madonsela.

### **BACKGROUND: The Social Justice M-Plan**

The M-Plan aims to create an awareness that social justice and equity are pivotal to South Africa's prospects of defying and overcoming the many crises faced by our country at this time. It takes as its inspiration the Marshall Plan that served to rebuild Europe after World War II. In a South African context, the 'M' signifies and honours Palesa Musa, a woman who was arrested as a youth in 1976 and who has lived through all our tumultuous times.



“I wanted to give (South Africa’s M-Plan) the face of someone who reminds us of where we came from, where we are and where we still need to be,” stated Professor Madonsela.

The M-Plan is built on the legacy of freedom afforded us by Nelson Mandela and everyone else involved in establishing a free democracy, and on Pope Paul IV’s notion that there cannot be sustainable peace whilst injustice remains.

The M-Plan was based upon the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, the National Development Plan and the Global Human Rights Agenda. It aims to gather evidence and data, to boost civil society and to activate resources behind a shared quest for social justice. The M-Plan’s advocacy for change proposes that poverty and inequality be approached systemically and aims to provide data analytics for legal and policy reform, the promotion of social accountability, to mobilise resources, and to encourage agency and leadership. In addition, the Social Justice hub, established by the Social Justice Chair earlier in the year, serves as a base from which to create national and global alliances, to explore and co-ordinate pathways and to find and accelerate opportunities to address social injustice.

Professor Madonsela summed up the aim of the M-Plan during the inaugural Social Justice summit eloquently: “If we work together, then poverty will be nothing against us; it will be history. It will take all of us to build a society where there is a place for everyone in all areas of our lives.”

The Second Social Justice Summit strategically strengthened this initiative, solidifying structures to host and drive the vision.

### **Post-COVID national recovery strategy**

The summit was hosted in the midst of a national crisis and thus focused on the social justice dimensions of the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic, and regulatory, relief and recovery responses to it. The proceedings aimed to both applaud the government and all sectors of society for their endeavors in helping the country and continent navigate

their way through this unprecedented challenge, and to provide cutting-edge ideas and proposals for regulations, policies and strategies to improve social justice considerations and ensure nobody gets left behind during the recovery. The M-Plan vision was expressed within the context of these unique global circumstances.

## **METHODOLOGY AND SUMMARY**

The Summit opened with the National Anthem, accompanying a reading of the Preamble of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa (1996) which drew attention to our constitutional call to advance equality.

“Depending on which part of the world or perspective you are coming from, the most pressing social justice issues for you could be, for instance, gun violence or voting rights, as you have just seen in the United States. As we hold this conversation, very aware of the global social justice conversations, we are also acutely aware of the urgent necessity to respond to pressing local challenges.

“26 years into democracy, South Africa has not been able to shake of racial divisions. COVID-19 has highlighted the unequal access challenge. Our country has a gender-based violence problem. Women have to sacrifice so much, sometimes their lives in their quest to achieve equal status in their relationships and so on.” Desiree Chauke

## **Welcoming and Opening Remarks**



The Summit was hosted by SABC news anchor and senior producer Desiree Chauke, and was opened by Professor Wim de Villiers, Rector and Vice-Chancellor, Stellenbosch University, who has been partnered with the M-Plan as co-chair of the Council of Champions. Professor de

Villiers opened the summit by injecting a sense of urgency in tackling the pressing challenges of poverty, inequality, unemployment and corruption, in the light of lessons learnt from the Coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown. He reiterated Stellenbosch University’s commitment to this vision by referring to an art installation that has recently been unveiled at the entrance to the Old Main Building,

home of the Faculty of Law, in celebration of and for the promoting of transformative constitutionalism. The installation is part of Stellenbosch University’s “commitment to be a force for good in the transformation of South Africa into a place of opportunity for all, a place of shared prosperity and a place where there’s sustainable peaceful co-existence.”



As De Villiers reminded us, “we have our work cut out for us”.



The keynote address of this first session was delivered by Justice and Correctional Services Minister, Ronald Lamola, in which he explained the role that government should be playing in the achievement of social justice.

“The role of the state, amongst other things, is to deepen equality in our society. Although we as a nation-state celebrate 25 years of being a constitutional and democratic state, we must be honest – obtaining social justice is still elusive in various communities and spheres of society in general. Politically, equality is afloat but social justice requires a substantial amount of work,” he told delegates.

Lamola cut to the centre of the national crises, identifying data analysis and corruption as two primary stumbling blocks in the implementation of “the greatest constitution in the world”.

He reminded delegates of the words of Paulo Freire that “...dialogue cannot be carried on in a climate of hopelessness. If the dialoguers expect nothing to come of their efforts, their encounters will be empty and sterile, bureaucratic and tedious.” He pointed out that although the fight against corruption is often tedious and bureaucratic, it is not sterile and is not hopeless.

Lamola pointed out that “Data is said to be the lifeblood of decision-making and the raw material for accountability” and has the potential to represent the silenced voice, to make the constitution “felt and touched by people in Poffadder, Thoyandou and Mqanduli”. He concluded with an inspiring call to work at the task of implementation: we ought to vigorously implement policies; we cannot falter; the future of this great nation is at stake”.



In her opening remarks Professor Madonsela emphasised how “in times of adversity, like the time we are going through, it is very easy to become despondent and lose hope. It is also easy to get angry and start blaming others, especially people who do not look like us. But we are a resilient nation and if we look back at where we come from as a country, we’ll realise that when we faced adversity together, recognised the challenges we heard and joined hands, we triumphed. Of course, now we cannot literally join hands, but we can figuratively join hands as the M-Plan asks us to. And if we do so, 2021 will start looking better and by 2030 poverty will be history and structural inequality would have been reduced visibly.

Thank you for joining us. My wish for you and for all of us is that we come out of this summit with a sense of burning optimism, a sense of believing that we can achieve social justice, we can reduce inequality, we can end poverty and we can work together in reflecting about where we are, researching our journey and building better together.”



Dr Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka delivered a pre-recorded message and stressed the need for this added intervention (the M-Plan), especially for women, to move the agenda forward.

“2020 to 2030 having been declared a decade of action by the secretary-general, after realising that we were not on track for meeting the goals of Agenda 2030, as well as delivering on the SDGs. With COVID-19 the situation is even more dire. Poverty is likely to deepen as a result of COVID-19. In fact, we are already seeing, also in South Africa, how poverty has deepened because of COVID-19. We are expecting 47 million people to fall into poverty as a result of COVID-19. Young women between the ages 24 and 35 are worst affected because of their reproductive responsibility, young children, bearing children, and at the same time needing to go and work but unable to hold a job in some cases because of their unpaid care responsibilities.

Under COVID we have also seen women being highly affected by gender-based violence and the burden of care. Women are also affected because the sectors that are bleeding jobs because of COVID-19 are the sectors in which women are highly represented, the service sector, tourism, hospitality and the care services. We therefore are urging you to assist with collecting data to assist governments to make evidence-based policy changes to monitor and ensure that there is effective implementation. We also would urge that while we do this work, we are inclusive, so that young academics, black academics and women are also part of this work, so that we are also able to reflect their lived experience as best as possible and of course fortify their intellectual prowess as well.”

During a question-and-answer session between Professor Madonsela and Desiree Chauke the importance of the preamble to our Constitution was emphasised and the commitment to social justice as envisaged therein singled out for advancement country-wide. Professor Madonsela emphasised that the law students of today will tomorrow be playing an important role in the foundation of the country we are building.



“It is our hope and dream as Stellenbosch University and as the social justice team that the people of this country is going to put the preamble where everyone can read it. Secondly, when meetings are hosted, especially policy meetings, that this preamble will be read first, so that we are always reminded of where we are going.”

She further mentioned the strides that had been made in social justice research, in particular with the design of the Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix tool (the SIAM), a tool that is informed by Constitutional Court judgments and that is meant to remind the country that in everything we do, we must first ask whether this will advance equality and reduce poverty. If not, it will not be in line with the social justice commitment in the Constitution and a rethink will be called for.



In thanking the opening keynote speakers, the Dean of the Stellenbosch University Faculty of Law, Professor Nicola Smit, underscored the University's commitment to the M-Plan, stating that we “cannot go about our business as usual”, describing an urgent need to “mobilise large-scale participation, law reform and smart processes using relevant data and accurate analytics”.



## Faith Community

The faith community was represented by Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of the Anglican Diocese of Cape Town and Primate of the Anglican Church of Southern Africa, and Pastor At Boshoff, founder of the Christian Revival Church (CRC) of South Africa. Pastor Boshoff reminded the gathering that social justice is part of the tradition of the faith community and called upon all to stand up against poverty and hunger. Reverend Dr Makgoba made a resounding call to inter-faith and church unity as the ground for social justice dialogue, pointing out that “religious institutions and their leaders should enhance mutual understanding and need to foster intra- and inter-religious harmony through creating open dialogue platforms.”

“...all faiths have common stances of upholding unity, love, compassion peace and cooperation” - Reverend Dr Thabo Makgoba, Archbishop of the Anglican Diocese of Cape Town and Primate of Anglican Church of Southern Africa.

## International Community



Kate Robertson, a co-founder of One Young World, delivered her keynote address from London and emphasised key factors to bringing the business community and others on board: those of “simplicity”, “impact-conscious communication”, “involving young people” and “seizing opportunities presented by the UN SDGs” that seek to end poverty and reduce inequality by 2030.



Clare Shine, Vice-President and Chief Program Officer, Salzburg Global Seminar, who delivered her keynote address from Salzburg, Austria, drew parallels between the original Europe Recovery Programme popularly known as the Marshall Plan and the Social Justice M-Plan, endorsing the latter as timely and offering her support.

## Business and Private Sector



Busisiwe Mavuso, Chief Executive Officer, Business Leadership SA, brought a sobering reminder that “in approximately 7 months, COVID-19 has unraveled much of the progress made over the last 25 years and has exacerbated the weaknesses of the last 10 years.”

Mavuso described diamond economic structures in countries buffered from the consequences of crises: 10% opulent citizens, 80% middle class and 10% poor. She starkly contrasted this to the South African structure of 10% opulent, 40% middle class and 50% in abject poverty, noting the danger of the current structure, with “too many people who have nothing to lose”.

She brought hope in strategic business responses to this challenging picture by proposing shareholder capitalism, or conscious capitalism in contrast to stakeholder capitalism, for the restructuring of the economy.

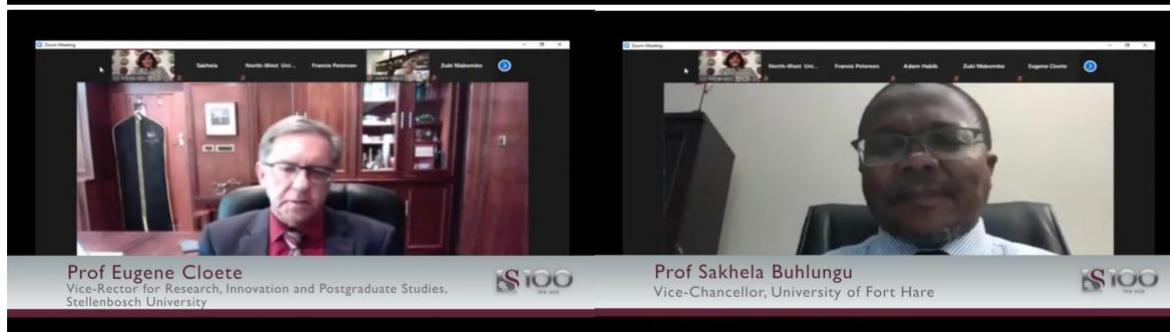


Dr Adrian Enthoven, Executive Chairman of Yellowwoods Investment Group, highlighted the importance of tackling economic growth and redistribution as twin challenges. He also outlined some of the measures the private sector is undertaking to combat poverty and hunger while advancing socio-economic inclusion.



Gloria Serobe, Chairperson of the Solidarity Fund and Founder of the Women Investment Portfolio Holdings Limited (WIPHOLD), outlined the vision behind the Solidarity Fund initiative and its role in combating hunger and destitution, and supporting PPE acquisition initiatives for rural areas during COVID-19. She expressed commitment to the M-Plan and called for the strengthening of synergies.

## Vice-Chancellor Session



## Academic Institutions

Vice-Chancellors and Vice-Rectors of universities across the country united their voices in a commitment to promote social justice during the post-COVID recovery programme. Institutions represented included the University of the Witwatersrand (Professor Adam Habib, Vice-Chancellor), University of the Free State (Professor Francis Petersen, Vice-Chancellor), North-West University (Professor Dan Kgwadi, Vice-Chancellor), University of Fort Hare (Professor Sakhela Buhlungu) and Stellenbosch University (Professor Eugene Cloete, Vice-Rector for Research, Innovation and Postgraduate Studies, and Professor Nico Koopman, Vice-Rector: Social Impact, Transformation and Personnel).

Together, they described the immense challenges facing tertiary academic institutions in the wake of the COVID pandemic, and shared strategies to promote social justice and maintain open dialogue during the recovery phase. They described a commitment to a unified national vision of inclusion and equity in tertiary education.

## **AFTERNOON PARALLEL SESSIONS**

### **1. *Land and Poverty***

Facilitated by Professor Danie Brand, the Director of the FS Centre for Human Rights, University of the Free State, participating delegates expressed their optimism in the wake of the visible movement seen since the recommendations of the President's Panel on Land Reform.

They also highlighted some of the challenges arising as the first steps towards equitable land redistribution are taken: land occupation and corruption.

"It is our duty as citizens:  
that we participate in processes;  
that we give input to policy; and  
that we find solutions, no matter how difficult and messy these conversations can be. Land reform needs to happen. It needs to happen within the rule of law. And we need the government for this – by providing support, by facilitating processes or by promulgating supportive legislation."

### **2. *Economic Inclusion and Well-being***

Facilitated by Dr Lumkile Mondi, a lecturer at the University of the Witwatersrand, the discussions focused on government accountability in supporting economic recovery post-COVID-19. Key areas of intervention included fiscal policies, local production and the adoption of advanced technology in industry and investment.

The importance of social transformation along with structural transformation was emphasised. The panel called on *government* to exit a denialist mode of political economic thinking and the public to mobilise to hold government accountable.

"Human capital development strategies are as important as industrial growth."

### **3. *Education and Training***

Facilitated by Prof Jonathan Jansen, Distinguished Professor, Faculty of Education, Stellenbosch University, participants raised the points of tension between the increasing rise of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the lack of technological access in rural and disadvantaged communities.

"The readiness of the education and training system needs to anticipate the needs of the 2021 student/learner in a complex recovery climate".

#### **4. *Data Analytics and Poverty Mapping***

Facilitated by Dr Pali Lehohla, former National Statistician-General and Research Resident Advisor, examples from Stellenbosch University, Wits University and from the work of Dr Juan Daniel Oviedo (Chief Statistician of Colombia), all aligned with the conclusion woven throughout the Summit: that data science is a critical predictive tool to promote due diligence in policy- and decision-making.

Wits University's digital science programme and Stellenbosch University's Poverty Mapping of the Swartland Municipality, as well as the development of the Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix (a tool to use data to inform policy making) all contribute to using data science for social justice.

The panel was reminded of the dangers: that data is not static, but variable. How we collect data and how often it is updated are twin dangers to data-informed policy-making.

"Data science is an important partner in policy design."

"We need people with common language between the disciplines."

"Our work is aimed at using data for transcending the one-size-fits-all approach, as many fall through the crack while inequality and poverty are increased " Professor Thuli Madonsela.

#### **5. *Health, Mental Health and Nutrition***

Facilitated by Mark Heywood, Editor of Maverick Citizen and Human Rights Activist, the panel highlighted the three primary health challenges hidden beneath the direct and obvious threat of viral mortality and morbidity: the impact of the pandemic on the national health system, on mental health, as well as the long-term health consequences of policy interventions.

"We will all need to be active role players in finding solutions to the health crisis".

Promoting personal agency and health through steps such as "self-care, compassion, social cohesion" as well as "sound policies are key to weathering the current storm together".

## **6. Access to Justice and the Rule of Law**

Facilitated by Justice Dunstan Mlambo, Judge President of the Gauteng Division of the High Court of South Africa, the panel focused on the accessibility of the legal system to ordinary citizens. The question was raised whether a system inherited from the English legal profession suits the needs of a developing country like South Africa.

Suggestions to promote the ability of the public to hold government accountable and make justice accessible included simplifying a complex legal system, promoting public education about rights and access to justice, challenging media and public broadcasters to communicate judgments in accessible language, promoting class action for collective movements towards accountability and increasing funding for legal aid.

## **7. Peace and Social Cohesion**

Facilitated by Dr Wilhelm Verwoerd, Senior Research Associate and Facilitator, Studies in Historical Trauma and Transformation, Stellenbosch University, the discussion centered around the unique potential for peace that may arise out of the tragedy of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Arundhati Roy's contribution on "The Pandemic as a Portal" was referenced, emphasising that this transitional period can be harnessed to deconstruct the past, reconstruct the future and promote cohesion if it becomes "people-centred, people-driven – by the people, for the people, of the people - rather than state-centred and state-driven."

"Let us work to turn the forgotten paths into the remembered way...  
then make again the universe that might have been but was not,  
here in this place, now in this time freed for our new creation...  
Let us walk together, invoking the future into now."  
[Ayi Kwei Armah, 'Kmt: In the House of Life']

## **8. Climate Change and Environmental Sustainability**

Facilitated by Prof Linley Chiwona-Karlton, Associate Professor in Rural Development, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, the panel emphasised the intersection between the environmental crisis and COVID-19.

Education and collaboration between government and civil society were raised as critical to mitigating the increasing environmental risks.

The delegates cautioned that “4IR (the fourth Industrial Revolution) technology and innovation also come with challenges: waste disposal, heavy impact on water and the environment. Climate justice and accountability are key to maintaining green industry.”

“Rights come with obligations. The right to water comes with an obligation to protect water.”

### **9. *Politics and Democracy***

Facilitated by Khaya Sithole, Chartered Accountant and Commentator, the panel raised concerns about the South African state’s arbitrary exercise of power during lockdown, including police brutality.

“challenges to apparently irrational state decisions were largely unsuccessful... courts ruled almost entirely in favour of the state.”

The panel called for citizens and delegates to “find ways, before the second COVID wave hits in April, to seek accountability and oversight of these regulations – to avoid the arbitrary exercise of state power in another lockdown situation.”

### **10. *Gender and Other Excluded Groups***

Facilitated by Prof Amanda Gouws, SARChi Chair in Gender Politics, Stellenbosch University, this discussion highlighted the plight of women and vulnerable groups, including disabled and LGBTQI people, during the COVID-19 crisis and consequent lockdown. Issues such as the economic plight of domestic workers, the increase of violence against women and the particular role of women caring for children and the sick were raised, as well as the intersectionality of these burdens.

“Women faced extreme poverty and hunger, but women themselves hosted food kitchens, some being arrested and fined, including one in Dobsonville, Soweto.”

Recommendations for the way forward included “emphasising gender considerations in the economic recovery plan” and “highlighting how the unpaid care work of women subsidises the family, community and the state”.

## THE SOCIAL JUSTICE CHAMPIONS OF THE YEAR WINNERS



The announcement of the Social Justice Champion of the year was a highlight of the Summit and will be a regular feature of the yearly event. The Champions were selected via a public process of nominating and voting for community builders whose work visibly closes the inequality gap while eradicating poverty. The joint winners for 2020 are Kabelo Mahlobogwane (co-founder and managing director of The Marking App for teachers), and Eon Hendricks (founder of the CLAY Foundation, empowering young leaders in Idas Valley).

To explore their passionate and innovative work in their communities, follow the links below:

<https://themarkingapp.co.za/>

<https://www.instagram.com/foundationclay/>

## CLOSING REMARKS



In her closing remarks, Executive Mayor Gesie van Deventer (Stellenbosch Municipality) was encouraged to form part of a broader community that continues the fight to end inequality, poverty and to promote social justice, particularly in a time where the entire world is facing great uncertainty. In endorsing the Social Justice M-Plan, she expressed her optimism for South Africa and commented on South Africans resilience and how the M-Plan is one such demonstration of our resilience. “This is a unique empowerment plan focusing on a ground-up approach. The Musa Plan focuses on unique and custom-made initiatives and admits that a one-size-fits-all approach is not practical in a country as diverse as ours. This plan will allow South Africans to contribute, acknowledge and even pay as little as R2. That can help to motivate and propel momentous change. It is a plan built on facts and data, not speculation and wishful thinking. It is not a magic wand to end poverty, not at all, but a combination of hard work, lobbying and accountability to remove the barriers of poverty to create a more equal society.”

“I’m convinced if there is one person in this country who can drive such a plan, it is Professor Thuli Madonsela. Her relentless pursuit of fairness and justice has made her a Champion and an icon in the fight for rights and protection of all South Africans. We have worked very hard over the past few years to cement an excellent working relationship with the university and have found it a beneficial relationship and partnership.”



Mr Alan Winde (Premier of the Western Cape) delivered the second closing remarks. He commended the theme and deliberations of the Summit and pledged the provincial government's support in ensuring the realisation of these ideals and goals, while focusing on the recovery plan and remaining safe. Other key priorities of the provincial government include job creation, reducing the murder rate in the province and ensuring dignity and well-being for all.

In her closing address, Professor Madonsela thanked the delegates and speakers for their part in what she described as an "amazing event".

"I am encouraged that the large number of people that took part in our event – which was held virtually in the age of the pandemic – shows that we have widespread support for this ideal of achieving social justice.

"We have heard from delegates and speakers that our country has achieved much in the deliverance of social justice, but much still needs to be done. The road ahead should be about implementation, and the Council of Social Justice Champions at this event appointed will lead us in this regard. My office will drive the research into the furtherance of social justice targets for South Africa."

"When we reconvene in 2021, I hope we will be able to look back on the work that has been done to address those policies that are indifferent to the differences in our society. It is only with the support and collaboration of government, civil society, big business, academia, and every ordinary South African, that we will be able to make the ideal of social justice a lived reality for everyone in South Africa".

**Asked what work lies ahead next, Prof Madonsela highlighted the following issues:**

1. Finalising the legal process regarding the M-Fund Trust.
2. Ensuring the inauguration and orientation of the Council and setting up of all relevant structures.
3. Poverty-mapping execution phase as a pilot project in Swartland.
4. Piloting the Social Justice Impact Assessment Matrix as an instrument for leveraging data analytics for social justice impact sensitive policy design and review.
5. Driving everyday justice, starting with popularising the preamble.
6. Thematic research teams with each University allocated a Centre of Excellence on a dimension of social justice.
7. Publishing research papers based on summit presentations.
8. Preparing and publishing of the summit report as a book.
9. Popularisation of the Social Justice Declaration adopted at the inaugural summit in August 2019.
10. Requesting a meeting with the President to report on the process and strengthen synergies.



# Social Justice Chair - University of Stellenbosch



THE LAW TRUST CHAIR IN SOCIAL JUSTICE  
**SOCIAL JUSTICE HUB**

[DATA & RESEARCH](#)

[PROJECTS](#)

[BLOG & EVENTS](#)

[ABOUT](#)

[COLLABORATE](#)

**SOCIAL JUSTICE  
CONSCIOUSNESS,  
SCHOLARSHIP AND  
COLLABORATION**

[EXPLORE →](#)

**Second Annual Social Justice Summit:**  
Visit the [Summit 2020 mini-site](#).



[@CISJLawFacultyTrustChairSU](#)



[@CFSJ\\_MPlan](#)

[#LawLibrarianSUN](#)