

WRC Khuluma Sizwe Series– The Nation Speaks

We are what we eat: interrogating water use for food production, nutrition and health amongst rural households in South Africa

17 October

Faculty of Health Sciences,
University of Pretoria



UNIVERSITEIT VAN PRETORIA
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What are the WRC Dialogues?

The WRC Dialogues are discussion-based events on topical water issues affecting the South African public, the aim of which is to serve as a platform to exchange ideas and opinions related to water.



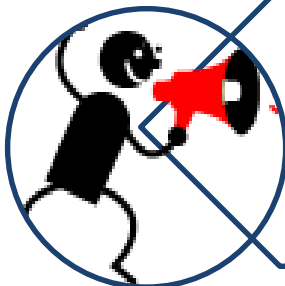
Three types of discussion-based events



Wat-Indabas



Water Currents
Policy Series

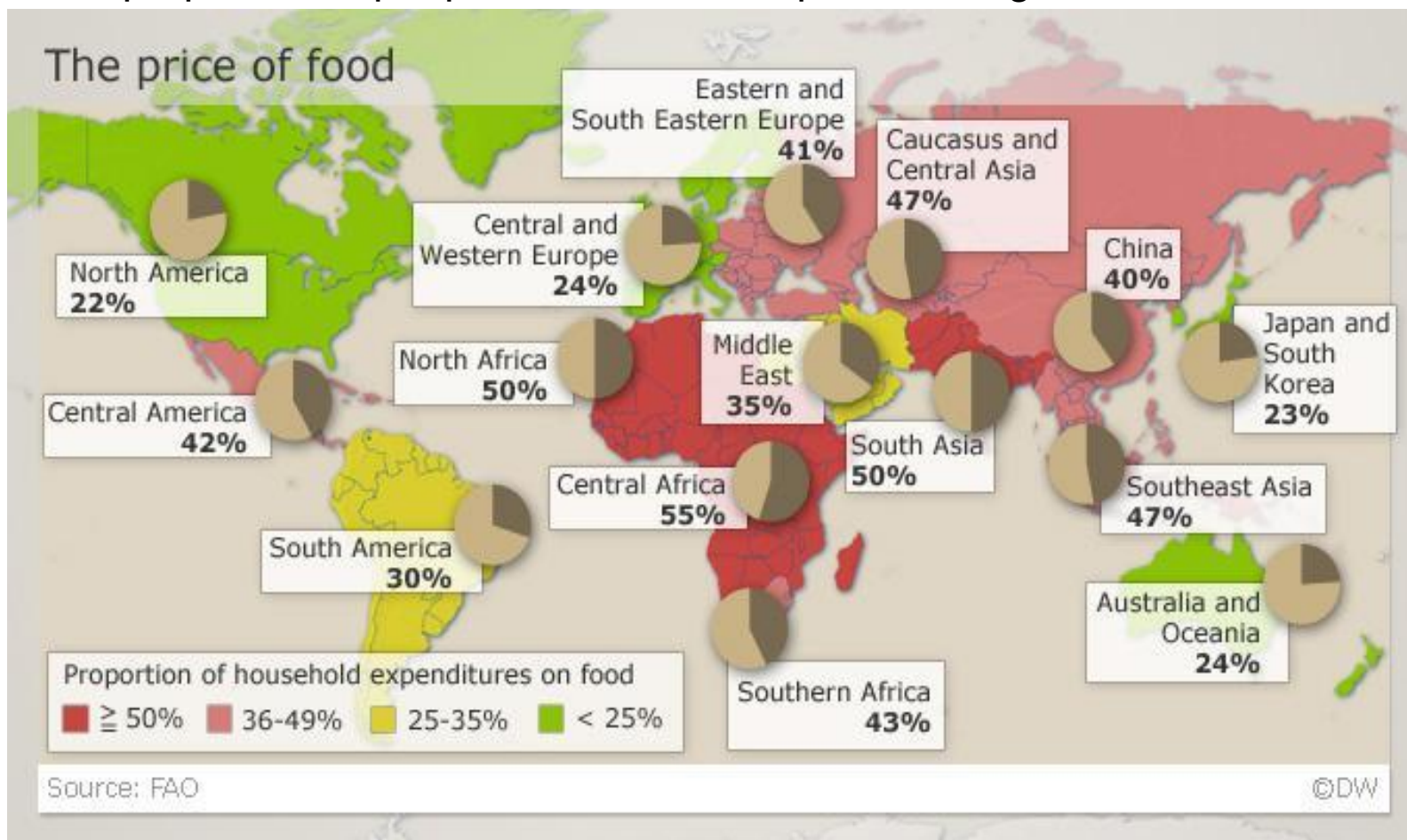


Khuluma Sizwe
Series



What we know: Affordability of food is a global challenge

What proportion of people's household expenditures go to food?



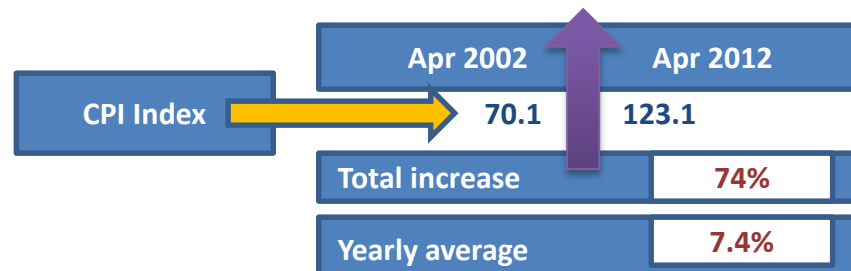
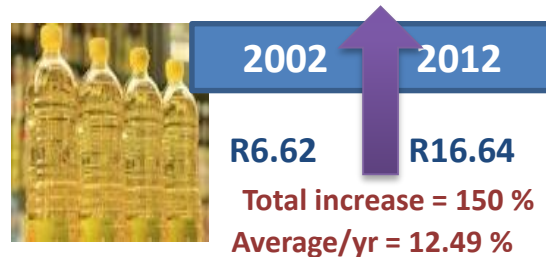
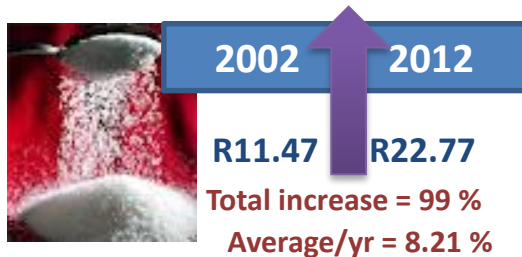
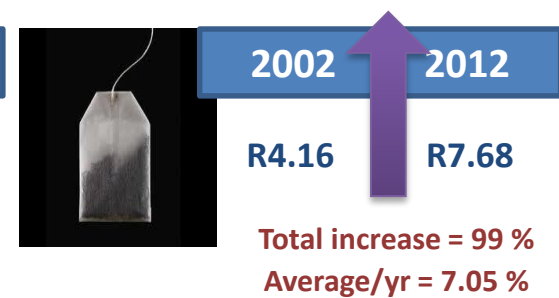
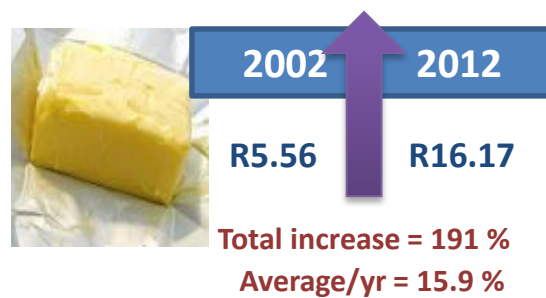
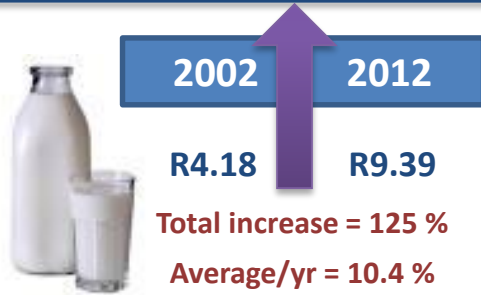
Affordability of food is a growing concern in SA



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National Agricultural Marketing Council
Promoting market access for South African agriculture



Other Facts



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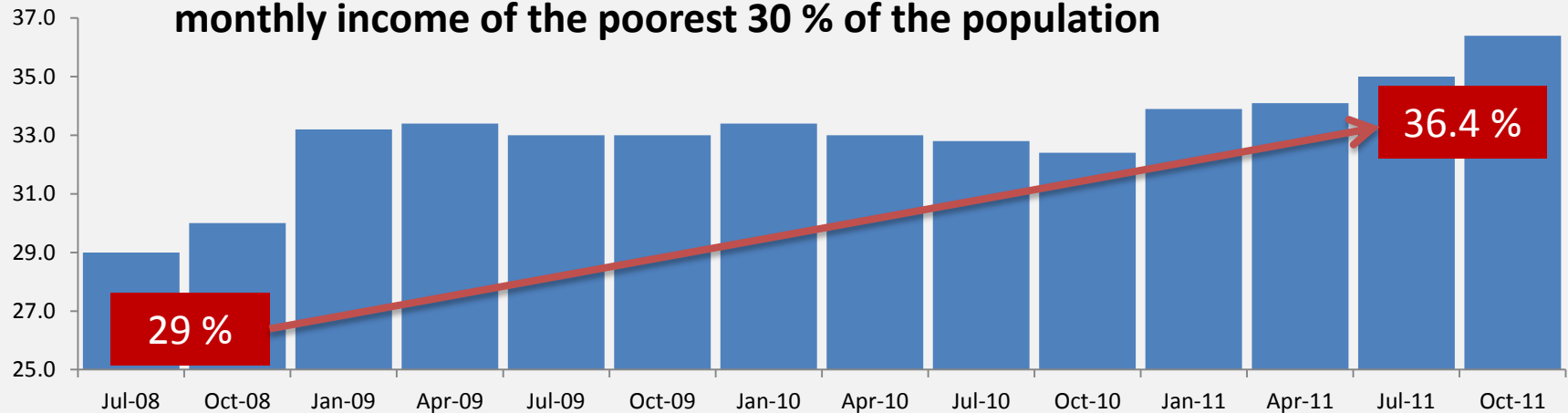


National Agricultural Marketing Council
Promoting market access for South African agriculture

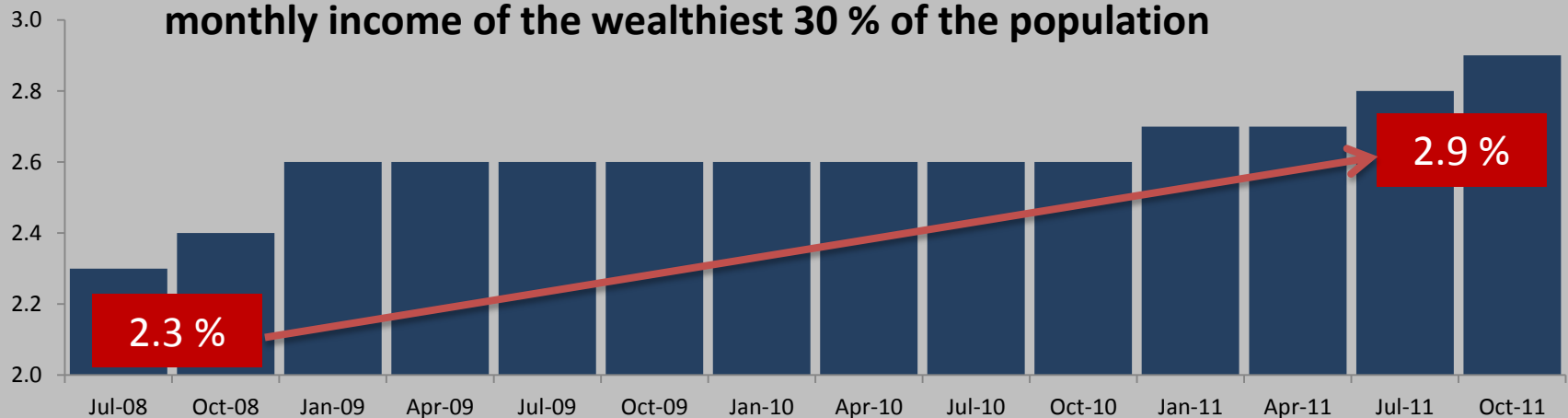


WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION

The cost of a basic food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the poorest 30 % of the population



The cost of a basic food basket expressed as a share of the average monthly income of the wealthiest 30 % of the population



Key questions

1. Do we truly understand value chains (do we know enough?), and its relation to growth, poverty alleviation and food security?
2. What is the role of the market (as the main source of food for households)?
3. How do we create a more integrated legislative response? What conversation do we need to start with other sectors like water and energy?



'[It is] genocide of the mind ... because it affects the mind (fosters negative thoughts), the spirit (state of hopelessness) and the physical being (hunger).'

Chief of Khoisan, Bloemendal, Eastern Cape





"We go hungry on a regular basis, mainly because of a shortage of money. We spend days and sometimes even weeks without proper nutritious food in our homes.'

Member of Coastal community, Ocean View, Western Cape