

In the last decade, Southern Africa has been faced with a number of food security challenges that have contributed to the growing numbers of vulnerable people in rural and urban areas.

In response to the food crisis and the need for building partnerships in the region, SARPN is endeavouring to achieve more effective responses to food insecurity. Key to this is identifying organizations in the region focusing on food security and vulnerability - compiling, disseminating and promoting the use of information relating to these issues in the region.

SARPN is developing a guide and directory of organizations on food security and vulnerability in SADC. The guide and directory will:

- Provide an overview of food security issues, definitions, debates and statistics in the region
- Facilitate links between players in food security and vulnerability issues
- Facilitate exchange and dissemination of experiences and best practices
- Support coordination and cooperation efforts already taking place (e.g. NGO networks, international networks, government and community networks etc).

SARPN is creating a comprehensive directory of stakeholders and is utilising various methods through which to collect this information.

If you feel that your organisation is a stakeholder in the area of food security and should be included in the directory, please contact SARPN for an information collection form - [info@sarpn.org.za](mailto:info@sarpn.org.za). The deadline for the completed forms is the **1 September 2005**. If you know of another organisation or entity that you feel should be included, please refer them to SARPN

Any questions regarding the guide and directory are welcomed and encouraged.

Stakeholders that are included in the directory will receive a copy of the user guide and directory when it is completed.

*In the interest of creating a public good*