The enactment of the Native Land Act in 1913 was one of the most significant events in South African history, affecting thousands of rural communities and the lives of millions of South Africans. To mark its centenary, Tshintsha Amakhaya, an alliance of NGOs in land and agrarian reform, and LAMOSA, will journey through the rural areas of South Africa in two Mayibuye iAfrika Caravans to show how after 100 years the 1913 Land Act continues to impact on the lives of rural people.

The Caravans will depart from Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg on 1 June 2013, each traveling to rural sites to share experiences and campaign for the rights of farm workers/dwellers, smallholder farmers, fisherfolk, and mining communities. Both caravans will meet up in Pretoria for a rally and petition hand-over at the Union Buildings on 8 June.

100 years since the promulgation of the infamous Native Land Act of 1913 and nearly 20 years into democracy, South Africans are faced with a changing social environment and increasingly polarized society. As an alliance of civil society organizations we are particularly concerned with the lack of progress in land and agrarian transformation.

The failure of Government land reform has been well-publicized. Our research has shown that skewed land ownership patterns and insecure tenure compound high levels of poverty and unemployment prevalent in rural areas. Fuel prices continue to push up the price of food and other commodities. Transnational agrochemical companies and national supermarket chains dominate the agro-food value chain. The commodification of food from seed to table and monopoly of large agribusinesses keep micro- and small-scale farmers on the margins, while rural households still go to bed hungry.

To highlight the lack of land reform and agrarian transformation and provide a platform to unite people, the journey of the Caravans will demonstrate the various ways in which dispossession and patterns of accumulation play themselves out in the lives and struggles of rural people. As the Caravans engage with the various sectors and collect stories of real people who face daily challenges in reclaiming rights to land, healthy food, control over natural resources and lives of dignity, so the picture of what is needed to realize agrarian transformation will become clearer.

The caravan is symbolic of the movement of the people of South Africa to reclaim their heritage and their rights to land and livelihoods. The caravan demonstrates the opportunity of a vibrant and prosperous rural countryside where people live with secure tenure, take control over their own food and determine their own future. The caravans will end in Pretoria, the administrative capital of South Africa, where a submission, videos and testimonies will be presented to decision makers with demands for pro-active action towards agrarian transformation.
The Mayibuye iAfrika! Caravan is part of the Mayibuye iAfrika! Campaign and seeks to:

- Bolster solidarity among landless people, farm workers/dwellers, smallholder farmers, and other resource users in rural areas
- Raise public awareness on the history and continued impact of the Native Land Act on rural people’s lives
- Showcase success stories of land reform, agrarian development, and food sovereignty
- Generate political pressure for just and equitable land reform and agrarian transformation

Participants: Each caravan will comprise of a 16-seater bus with 6 NGO staff and 6 community members (1 from each of the sites to be visited), 1 caravan coordinator, 1 journalist/media person to report (tweet/blog) on the journey, 1 camera person to film, and 1 designated driver. At the various sites, local people will join and there are opportunities for others to join the Caravan for any part of the journey. Route maps and detailed site descriptions are provided in Annexure 1 and 2.

**ROUTE 1 TREK FROM THE CAPE - Western and Eastern Cape**

This Caravan will set off from the Cape where the Dutch settlers first set foot on South African soil.

**June**
1. Citrusdal - Farm workers, farm dwellers and people living on church land (SPP)
2. Rawsonville – Female farm workers (WFP)
3. Suurbraak – Smallholder farmers (TCOE)
4. Hessequa – Act 9 settlements, commonage, forestry settlements and smallholder farmers (SCLC)
5. Keiskammahoek – Betterment restitution and smallholder agriculture (BRC)
6. Hobeni – Fishing communities (TRALSO)
7. Travel to Pretoria and meet with other caravan and groups to prepare for event on 8 Jun
8. Pretoria - March to Union Buildings
ROUTE 2 TREK FROM THE BERG – Kwazulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo

This Caravan will depart from Pietermaritzburg where a send off event will be held. From there, the Caravan will travel to Bergville. Pietermaritzburg is the Capital of KwaZulu-Natal Province, named after Piet Retief and Gert Maritz who led the Voortrekkers across the Drakensberg Mountains into Natal and the Transvaal.

June
1 Pietermaritzburg – send-off event
2 Bergville – Communal grazing and land reform (FSG)
3 Amajuba – Farm dwellers/Labour tenants (AFRA)
4 Moutse – Land reform community (LAMOSA)
5 Ngwaabe – Mining, land reform, and game reserve (LAMOSA)
6 Mokopane – Mining community (Nkuzi)
7 Travel to Pretoria, and meet with other caravan and groups to prepare for event on 8 June
8 Pretoria – March to Union Buildings

Due to the historical significance of this event and the opportunity it provides to cover a wide range of agrarian issues we will seek extensive media coverage in print media, radio, TV, and social media. Mainstream media will be invited to join the caravan and to be part of all of the events at the specific sites. It is also envisioned to have a camera person for each caravan to document the entire journey. In addition, representatives from the various sectors and the accompanying NGOs will be recording videos, interviews and case studies.

The outcome will be a comprehensive story of the effects of dispossession on rural people, the actions which people are pursuing to take back control over resources and their lives, and the actions required of all spheres of government, the private sector and other stakeholders to foster agrarian transformation. The evidence will be used to inform on-going lobbying, advocacy and mobilization both nationally and internationally.

The Mayibuye iAfrika! Campaign and the proposed Caravans are informed by and built on local concerns and actions. Besides close collaboration with NGO partners and local community organizations, other organizations have also expressed interest in participating in the starting event in Cape Town and Pietermaritzburg, joining part of the caravan route, and/or mobilizing their constituencies at one of the site stops.
ANNEXURE 1   ROUTE MAP
ANNEXURE 2 ROUTES WITH SITE DESCRIPTIONS

ROUTE 1 TREK FROM THE CAPE - Western and Eastern Cape

This Caravan will set off from the Cape where the Dutch settlers first set foot on South African soil.

1 Jun: Citrusdal - Farm workers, farm dwellers and people living on church land (SPP)

Citrusdal is an intensive citrus fruit farming area employing large numbers of farm workers. The focus will be security of tenure and rights of farm workers and dwellers as well as people living on church land, specifically Moravian church land.

Members of the Food Sovereignty Campaign will make the links between smallholder farming and the right of all to take control over production and consumption of food

Overnight in Citrusdal and depart early on 2 June.

2 June: Rawsonville – Female farm workers (WFP)

Women from various areas in the Breede Valley will join in Rawsonville to express their need for land, agrarian transformation, decent work and a living wage for farm workers, especially women. They will particularly highlight the fact that as farm workers and descendents of slaves, they did not qualify to apply for land under the former land claims provision. Neither are special measures set in place to ensure the tenure security of especially women farm dwellers.

Overnight in Rawsonville

3 June: Suurbraak – Smallholder farmers and Act 9 community (TCOE/Mawubuye)

Suurbraak is situated 19 km east of Swellendam, in the Overberg District, Western Cape Province, South Africa. Historically, the Attaqua Tribe of the Quena (Hottentot) people occupied the area who named it Xairu, meaning “beautiful” because of its natural beauty. This settlement with its myriad of kraals (for cattle and other livestock) was later translated to “Paradise” by the earliest Dutch cattle traders. The London Mission Society established a mission station in 1812, which was taken over in 1975 by the Algemeende Sending Kerk. In 1880 the congregation had split and the Anglican Church and school were built. Community involvement in the church remains strong. The first church, parsonage and school, together with the old houses and buildings around the village square have been restored and are in use. The isolation of Suurbraak is one of its charms but limits the financial resources of the people. Many still cook on wood stoves, using an abundance of alien vegetation that grows in this area. The people live close to the land using farming methods that belong to the past. The smaller farms are still ploughed using horse drawn ploughs. Agricultural work is often done manually. Donkey carts are often seen here on the streets and horses, sheep and cattle graze in the gardens behind houses everywhere.

Hessequa Municipality (SCLC) – Commonage farmers and Act 9 communities

Slangrivier is one of 23 Act 9 settlements which are the former so-called “coloured reserves”, currently held in trust by the Minister, with a process of transfer of the townships to local municipalities and agricultural land to community structures. While a national process of transfer is underway the process has been protracted and the settlements are mobilized for finalization of transfer and post settlement support. The Caravan will highlight the mobilization of Act 9 settlements towards transfer of land and the role of local municipalities in post settlement support.

The 16 small-scale farmer associations in the Hessequa Municipality have organized themselves to access longterm lease agreements on municipal commonage and multi-stakeholder support. The farmers still face challenges of access to sufficient land, control over water, appropriate extension services and
access to markets. The Hessequa Agricultural Forum will share their successes and challenges with the Caravan.

The forestry settlements have been negatively affected by the privatisation of state assets which left entire villages facing relocation into urban townships. People living in forestry settlements are mobilized for security of tenure, service provision and opportunities to strengthen rural livelihoods particularly through small-scale agriculture and the forests in which they have lived and worked for generations. The Garcia forestry settlement, in the Hessequa Municipality, has been transferred to a CPA. The community face many challenges in service provision and securing post settlement support. Garcia will share their learnings with the caravan.

The Khoi San were of the original inhabitants of the Southern Cape dispossessed of their land and livelihood rights. The Khoi San are mobilized to reclaim their rights to land, control over natural resources and sustainable livelihoods. The Khoi will share their struggle.

Overnight in George

4 June: Travel to Keiskammahoek

Overnight in Cata Community Tourism Centre and homestays

5 June: Keiskammahoek – Betterment restitution and smallholder agriculture (BRC)

The community of Upper Gxulu, 10 km from the rural town of Keiskammahoek, will give testimony of their forced removal under the betterment policy during the apartheid era, and how, as one of 10 communities, they successfully lodged restitution claims for loss of arable land, residential plots and houses. Community leadership will lead a tour to show the agricultural development that has taken place since, without Government extension support: a cooperative, an irrigation scheme, and 27 hectares of land producing lucerne, vegetables and blue berries, and museum. Vulamasango Singene will draw lessons learnt from mobilizing communities around Betterment claims, current status of the campaign and their demands. The importance of land and water for food security and economic development will be highlighted. Cultural activities and traditional music will be offered as educational entertainment.

Travel to Mthatha and overnight

6 June: Hobeni – Fishing communities (TRALSO)

Hobeni is a fishing village in Dwesa-Cwebe. The focus of the day is "ten years of warfare against the rural poor in the name of land reform" which will highlight the human rights issues that the communities in Dwesa-Cwebe are experiencing. People will share their stories. Traditional dancing and fire dancing will be demonstrated. Around 100 local people are expected.

Travel to and overnight in Underberg or Durban area

7 June Travel to Pretoria and meet with other caravan and groups to prepare for event on 8 Jun

Overnight in Pretoria

8 June Pretoria - March to Union Buildings (see below)

ROUTE 2 TREK FROM THE BERG – Kwazulu-Natal, Mpumalanga, Limpopo

1 June Pietermaritzburg

This caravan will depart from Pietermaritzburg, the Capital of KwaZulu-Natal Province, was named after Piet Retief and Gert Maritz who led the Voortrekkers across the Drakensberg mountains into Natal and
the Transvaal. A sent-off event will be held in Pietermaritzburg, from where the caravan will travel to
Bergville

2 June: Bergville – Communal grazing and land reform (FSG)

Okhahlamba Local Municipality (OLM) is situated in the mountainous region of KwaZulu-Natal between
Lesotho, the Free State, Emnambithi and Mtshezi. OLM is made up of privately owned commercial
farmland, smallholder settlements, the urban areas of Bergville, Winterton, Cathkin Park, Geluksberg, and
three traditional authority areas, i.e., AmaNgwane, AmaZizi and AmaSwazi. The AmaZizi traditional
authority consists of four villages.

Farmer Support Group conducted a baseline survey in AmaZizi and AmaNgwane tribal areas and
presented the findings and issues in July 2012 to the communities and traditional authorities. In AmaZizi,
the presentation triggered a discussion on land under claim. Further understanding of the issues
regarding the land under claim emerged during participatory video recording in September 2012.

The Nkonyeni village in AmaZizi Tribal area will be the focus of the Mayibuye iAfrika! Campaign.
According to the Traditional Council members, historically the land under claim used to be part of the
community’s grazing areas which was leased to commercial farmers for grazing. However, the
commercial farmers went on to take ownership of the land outside the agreement and built holiday
resorts. Furthermore, the commercial farmers are threatening to fence off the land in order to prevent
access for communal grazing. The Traditional Council had applied to reclaim the land but has had no
response to date. This site was chosen for the Mayibuye iAfrika! Campaign as it exposes the unequal
distribution of land and its negative impact on the community members who now have limited access to
land for grazing and crop production.

Overnight in Bergville

3 June: Amajuba – Farm dwellers/Labour tenants (AFRA)

Amajuba is a product of intense battles over land. In the former central and northern Natal, labour
tenancy was deeply entrenched as the most common form of labour. The Amajuba District Municipal area
- legally constituted in December 2001 - is made up of three sub-districts: Utrecht (Emadlangeni),
Newcastle and Dannhauser. It is approximately 693,769 ha in extent. It includes the former KwaZulu
areas which now fall under the Ingonyama Trust, making up around 18% of the total area. An estimated
65% (552,977ha) of the land was under commercial agriculture for the last century at least.

There is no reliable information regarding the actual number of farms in the district. Formal statistics state
that Amajuba has an estimated 289 farming units (not individual farms), with about 45,000 farm dwellers
resident on farms in the area. However, a farm dweller survey estimated 575 farms in the Amajuba
District Municipality, while the Department of Rural Development and Land Reform reported outstanding
claims on 825 farms. It is also not clear how much land has actually been transferred to land reform
beneficiaries. At present there are no state commonages except around the large sprawling townships of
Madadeni and Osizweni.

The majority of farm dwellers that AFRA works with envision for their future access to more land for
cropping and keeping livestock for food security purposes. There is an understanding that resources will
also be required (e.g. equipment and inputs) and a strong expectation that these will be supplied through
projects. About a third of farm dwellers are interested to move into commercial ventures in livestock,
poultry and cropping. Access to markets, transport and start-up capital is expected.

Travel to Moutse and overnight.

4 June: Moutse – Land reform community and traditional administrative authorities (LAMOSA)

Moutse at Ga- Matlala is a land reform community. The land was claimed under restitution and due
process was followed. The files then disappeared and the Mpumalanga Land Claims Commission
(RLCC) told the people that their file was in Limpopo with the Land Claims Commission. When the community made follow-ups they were told that the file was with the Mpumalanga RLCC. In this area Traditional Administrative Authorities are dominant, and where LAMOSA campaigned around the draft Traditional Courts Bill.

Travel to Ngwaabe and overnight

5 June: Ngwaabe – Mining, land reform, and game reserve (LAMOSA)

This community is in Sekhukhune District in Steelpoort. It is claimed land surrounded by mines, and includes mining communities, land reform communities (Bahlakoana-ba-Rantho, Tshehla Trust), and a White owned company claiming a game reserve with impalas as theirs. It has been a slow process of issuing the communities with title deeds. People are involved in small scale farming.

Travel to Mokopane and overnight

6 June: Mokopane – Mining community (Nkuzi)

In Mokopane at a farm called Sterwater, pressing issues will be highlighted on land dispossession by the mine and creation of a township that has no means to provide food security for the families who were evicted to accommodate the mine expansion program along the Limpopo Platinum belt.

Travel to Pretoria and overnight.

7 June: Travel to Pretoria, and meet with other caravan and groups to prepare for event on 8 Jun

8 June: Pretoria – March to Union Buildings

Both caravans end in Pretoria and will overnight there.