

Sun International, Stop Hunger Now aim to feed two million

Marking International Mandela Day, Sun International has partnered with Stop Hunger Now to pack and distribute two million nutritious meals locally and ten million across the world.



Image source: [Stop Hunger Now](#)

The meal packing campaign, entitled Follow the Sun, will take place between Wednesday, 13 July, and Wednesday, 20 July, at five Sun International properties, namely Sun City, GrandWest in Cape Town, The Boardwalk in Port Elizabeth, Carnival City in Johannesburg and Sibaya in KwaZulu-Natal.

Graça Machel is chief patron of Stop Hunger Now Southern Africa.

Michael Farr, group general manager for Sun International Brand and Communications said, “Today, one in nine people around the world are undernourished, and as many as 45% of children under the age of five die as a result of malnutrition. It is distressing that 23-million primary school children in Africa still go to school hungry and that over 3-million of these children live in South Africa.

“Sun International’s social investment programmes focus on education as an effective social equaliser, but a hungry child can’t be expected to learn. If our children are to have any chance of reaching their potential, then nutrition is very clearly the starting point.”

Poverty and food insecurity

Research indicates that hunger is the result of both poverty and food insecurity. Among the many factors affecting the provision of food in South Africa are changing weather patterns causing droughts or floods, agricultural insecurity and the volatility of the rand which in turn drives up food inflation. Recent research from Statistics South Africa indicates that food accounts for more than 40% of South Africa’s most economically challenged peoples’ overall expenses

To supplement the campaign, Farr called on Sun International’s concessionaires, suppliers, contractors, customers and anyone who is interested in doing their bit to fight hunger, to Follow the Sun by going to the Stop Hunger Now website and

filling in the [registration form](#).

Volunteers can lend a helping hand at the various Sun International and other properties nationally, where they can assist with packing dried goods such as soya, rice, 23 vitamins and minerals and a soup mix to be delivered to hungry children around South Africa.

Feed a child for a year

Sun International will enter 15 teams of 20 at each of its five properties. Each team member will spend 67 minutes commemorating Nelson Mandela by packing products into meal boxes, which will ultimately feed a child for an entire year. The significance of 67 minutes refers to every year of Nelson Mandela's life spent in public service between 1942 and 2009 when the Nelson Mandela Foundation first introduced Mandela Day.

Stop Hunger Now Southern Africa CEO Saira Khan said, "With over 3-million children going to bed chronically hungry each night in South Africa, it is paramount that organisations like ourselves continue to do more so that we can eradicate hunger in this country. We are grateful to our strategic partners Sun International, Connecting Africa, the Mandela Centre of Memory, as well as the many other corporates who are honouring Mandela's legacy this Mandela Day by packaging meals for vulnerable children.

"This global event is the first of its kind, in which we use Sun International's facilities to get corporate South Africa to volunteer their time to package nutritious meals for children. We challenge corporate South Africa to get on board and make this a reality with the rest of the world!"

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