

# The People's Earth Summit – World Sustainability Hearings

*“We must be the change we wish to see...” - Mahatma Gandhi*

## A parallel event to the WSSD in Jo'burg

The **People's Earth Summit (PES)** is a global event at the time of the WSSD. Its purpose is to move beyond the realm of conflict and chaos to show that “another way is happening” and to launch a **Decade of Commitment** to fairness and well-being for the whole Earth Community - to reach beyond the converted, inviting people to help build a critical mass to turn the tide.

In **Jo'burg PES** is partnering with **WoSH** to create a space of calm, clarity and celebration. Some of our planned events:

- **WoSH** - A seven day Hearing on the true state of the world and the actions/inactions of governments, corporations and local people regarding sustainable development and social justice, featuring testimony by award-winning activists and grassroots experts, international leaders and thinkers
- **Biowatch** - Coordinating an exhibition, celebrating biological and cultural diversity to create a convivial space in which people can eat delicious organic cultural foods
- **New Economics** - presenters from the N.E.F., S.A.N.E., The Market Society and others presenting models of monetary management suited to sustainability;
- **The Natural Step** - a model for corporate and local government managements wishing to take on board SD priorities;
- **Puppets** - a Colombian group will give regular shows commenting on the more formal happenings at the WSSD;
- **Earth Justice** - workshop on developing governance systems, modeled on ecological

and cultural systems that regulate human behaviour to ensure justice for all elements of the Earth Community.

- **Traditional Wisdom** - a space for the expression and sharing of wisdom and ceremony from Indigenous Peoples;
- **Earth Celebration** - people everywhere invited to join at home, on the streets, to create or dedicate a happening to celebrate life on Earth and make their commitment to the decade. Drummers and musicians invited to help make this happen.
- **Humanity At The Crossroads: A Decade Of Commitment** to Earth Democracy. A celebration to launch the decade on Sunday 1st September.
- **Caravan of Hope** - an exciting bus-born project to tour Southern Africa after the Summit to discover and amplify local learning for global sustainability.

We also have links with other key Summit initiatives, particularly the Children's Earth Summit at SOMOHO in Soweto and the Farmers' Convergence.

**PES Jo'burg** will be Friday August 23 – Tuesday September 3 at St Stithians School, Peter Place (off William Nicol), 10 minutes from Sandton Centre.

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