JACK SIMONS PARTY SCHOOL WEBINAR

BUILDING OF CO-OPS – LEARNING THROUGH PRACTICE

CONCEPT NOTE:

1. **Background**

The SACP programme – *The South African Struggle for Socialism* – has identified the the **building working class and popular power in our proletarian communities** as of the strategic tasks of building a powerful movement of the workers and poor.

Building working class and popular powers in our proletarian communities is the SACP response to ravages of neo-liberal capitalism in our townships and villages over the past few decades, in which the working class has to battle daily for basic survival, facing the crises of mass poverty, unemployment/under-employment amidst the obscene widening of income and wealth inequality, and climate change.

The **Jack Simons Party School** is hosting a series of webinars on how communities as residents, are building (or can build) such power in a collective self-organisation and struggle to address these crises.

2. **Title of the virtual Webinar**
   - **Building co-operatives, learning through practice.**
   - **Building a powerful socialist movement of the workers and poor.**

3. **Purpose**

   As the title indicates the purpose of is draw learnings on the workings of the co-operatives, and learn from concrete experience of practitioners involved in the development of different types of co-operatives in South Africa, the ABCs of establishing a successful co-operatives of different types and why others fail.

4. **Date and Time**

   The webinar will take place on **25 June 2023, 16:00-18:00.**

5. **Topics and Speakers**

   The topics and Panel for discuss are as follows:

   a. **The Struggle for Socialism and SACP 15th Congress resolutions in relation to residential struggles** – Comrade Pat Horn, Secretary for Resident Struggles and development activist in the informal sector.

   b. **Miners workers and co-operatives, lessons learnt** - Dr Kate Phillip, development strategist and author of *Market on the Margins – Mineworkers, Job Creation and Enterprise Development*

c. **How we set up savings and credit co-operative 15 years ago,** *by Patiswa Kruca, Managing Director of NEHAWU Savings and Credit Co-operative Limited.*

The Webinar will also outline **Dora Tamana Co-operative Agency current co-operative projects for 2023 and beyond** at the end of the session, by Comrade Sesedi Pelo.

(**Note:** *Speakers are expected to make PowerPoint presentations, and given this is a 2hr webinar, speakers are advised not to spend more than 1 minute on one slide to allow more interaction with participants during question and answers question*).

6. Agenda format

#	Time	Topic	Person
1.	5 min	Welcome and introduction by the Chairperson of the Session	Tebogo Phadu
2.	15min	The Struggle for Socialism and SACP 15th Congress resolutions in relation to residential struggles	Comrade Pat Horn
3	25min	Mineworkers experience in co-operative development in the late 1980s, key lessons learnt	Comrade Kate Phillip
4	25min	How we set up a Savings and Credit Co-operative 15 years ago.	Comrade Patiswa Kruca
5	30min	Questions and Answers	Panel members
6	15 min	Outline of DTCA projects for 2023 and beyond	Comrade Sesedi Pelo
7	10min	Summary of key points from the session and Way Forward	Comrade Jenny Schreiner

7. Expected Participants

The key participants to this seminar should include but not limited the following:

a. SACP DEC members
b. SACP PEC
c. DTCA members and staff
d. COSATU and its affiliates
e. Co-operative organisations, including support organisations
f. Individuals and activists involved in community development

At its highest peak, JSPS webinar can attract between 80-100 participants.

8. Support team during live session

To be guided by comrade Jenny, but could include staff responsible for residential struggles, and as well political education