

ACCOMPANIMENT PROGRAMME

Strides have been made to include previously excluded blacks into the main stream economy with limited results because of the inherited structures and foundations of the apartheid capitalist system. At all levels of society, policy is still determined by and biased towards the elites. Business and economic policies are not generally made with the poor's input or with their needs prioritized. ESSET therefore seeks to support the formation of community initiatives that respond to and represent the voices of marginalized groups within the community or movements. We do this by listening respectfully to the voices of the disadvantaged and marginalised as they articulate their struggles and aspirations and walking alongside them in their struggles.

ESSET supports marginalized communities to analyze their context and policies affecting their lives. We take advantage of policy platforms open to us by inviting these groups and communities to share their struggles and aspirations. We also support disadvantaged groups to make input into various policy-making processes. Monitoring and documentation of human rights violations perpetrated against the marginalized and disadvantaged forms part of our accompaniment process. Furthermore, we connect the marginalized and disadvantaged to different struggles to enable them to learn and support one another. ESSET supports advocacy campaigns of the marginalised groups. This, we do by promoting the agenda set by the marginalized communities and work with them to devise strategies to overcome their challenges.

