Rethinking the Food Narrative, Pt. 2

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The South African food retail industry faces a number of critical environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues and challenges. These include the need to address urban food security, food safety and the economic viability of small-scale farming. The corporate supermarket is transforming the food retail sector in South Africa, already expanding into low-income areas.

Small producers risk exclusion from dynamic urban markets increasingly dominated by supermarkets. This affects directly the ecological, social and spatial dimensions of low-income communities in South Africa. "While global networks transcend limitations of distance and climate, they also have uneven impact on places, intensifying production in some regions while pushing others to the margins of economic viability" (1)

**Small Scale Farmer / Food Activist**

- "In the context of rapid South African urban growth, the small-scale farmer faces a number of challenges, including the lack of infrastructure for processing and transport, lack of access to markets, and limited access to agricultural inputs.

**Corporate Food Retail Sector**

- "Corporate food retailers face increasing pressure to reduce their carbon footprint and mitigate the environmental impacts of their operations. This includes increasing the use of sustainable practices and reducing waste."