

Diversification in East and Southern Africa

## **Charting New Horizons:**

## 2023 Media Coverage Report

## **Diversification Initiatives in East and Southern Africa**

This media report delves into the dynamic landscape of economic transformation, examining regional efforts to diversify industries, foster innovation, and attract investments. From agricultural initiatives to green energy projects, we analyze the multifaceted approaches shaping the future. Unveiling trends, analyzing key initiatives, and decoding media perspectives, the report offers an insightful exploration of how the media landscape has influenced and reflected the dynamic economic transformation unfolding across East and Southern Africa throughout the year 2023.

Phindiwe Nkosi

31 December 2023

# Acknowledgement

#### The Author

Phindiwe Nkosi, Communications and Knowledge Management Expert, International Water Management Institute (IWMI), South Africa

#### About the CGIAR Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa

The CGIAR Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa aims to help smallholders transition to sustainably intensified, diversified, and derisked agri-food systems based on maize in 12 ESA countries. Specifically, it seeks to enable 50,000 value chain actors, including farmers (at least 40% women, 40% youth), to adopt climate-smart maize-based intensification and diversification practices and one million to access digital agro-advisory services. Emphasizing the role of the private sector in driving such transformation, UU targets to support at least 30 start-ups and SMEs.

#### Citation

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#### Disclaimer

This publication has been prepared as an output of the CGIAR Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa, and has not been independently peer-reviewed. Responsibility for editing, proofreading, and layout, opinions expressed and any possible errors lies with the author and not the institutions involved.

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# 1. Executive summary

For a non-profit research organization, tracking media coverage reports is essential for demonstrating impact and garnering support. According to a report by the Pew Research Center, effective media coverage not only increases public awareness but also aids in fundraising efforts, playing a vital role in sustaining and expanding the organization's valuable contributions to society.

Analyzing **100 randomly selected media coverage pieces** on the CGIAR Regional Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa, known as Ukama Ustawi, from diverse sources including online, social, traditional, and broadcast media outlets in 2023 provides valuable insights into the initiative's visibility and impact. This report delves into crucial metrics such as estimated views, audience engagement, and other related aspects, offering a comprehensive perspective on the media landscape surrounding Ukama Ustawi in the specified timeframe.



#### **Overview of media highlights**

Source : App.coveragebook.com

#### Glossary

- Pieces of Coverage: Total number of online, offline and social clips referred to in this report
- Online Pieces: Amount of coverage published on websites, blogs and online outlets
- Social Pieces / Posts: Number of posts on social media channels such as Instagram, Twitter and Facebook
- YouTube Videos: Number of videos on YouTube
- Estimated views: Prediction of lifetime views of coverage, based on audience reach and engagement rate on social
- Est. Social Views: Prediction of lifetime views of social posts, based on audience reach and engagement rate
- YouTube Views: Total number of times video content has been viewed on YouTube
- Engagements: Combined total of likes, comments and shares on social media platforms
- Avg. Domain Authority: A 0-100 measure of the authority of the site coverage appears on. Provided by Moz
- Audience: Combined total of publication-wide audience figures for all outlets featuring coverage

# 2. Summary of key findings

We recognized the dynamic nature of audience preferences and the evolving landscape of media consumption. To stay relevant and engaging, our narrative underwent adaptive evolution throughout the year. We adapted our storytelling to reflect emerging trends, societal shifts, and the changing needs of our audience. By staying agile and responsive, we not only maintained the attention of our existing followers but also attracted new audiences, ensuring our messages remained compelling and resonant in an ever-shifting media environment. The commitment to both consistency and adaptability in our messaging efforts proved instrumental in building a robust and enduring presence across diverse media platforms in 2023. This was further reverberated by sharing content with communication and media partners so that we could dare to use the voices of others to share and reshare our stories.

Our stories needed to emphasize and reinforce the objectives of the CGIAR Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa, which are achieved through:

- Diversifying and sustainably intensifying production by assessing needs and options for the introduction of crops, livestock, mechanization and irrigation, applying innovations in value chains and building capacity while scaling to larger farming communities.
- Reducing risk and digitalizing value chains by co-designing and delivering "Innovation Package" bundles of digital agroadvisory systems and research management products – including mobile apps, TV programs and social media – to build resilience and improve productivity.
- Supporting and accelerating value chain business enablers in maize mixed systems by using CGIAR's expertise and partner network to unlock access to funding, investment and tailored technical assistance.
- Promoting the governing and enabling of multifunctional landscapes for sustainable diversification and intensification with a focus on strengthening the evidence base for decision-makers.
- Empowering and engaging women and youth in agribusiness ecosystems by mapping challenges and opportunities to address gender and social inequality and applying inclusive and coordinated interventions for transformative change.
- Scaling innovations and coordinating CGIAR and partner activities in the region through a scaling hub that uses the "scaling readiness" approach to inform, activate and bring to scale innovations that respond to regional or country demand.

#### **Geographic distribution**

This Initiative is aimed at working in the following countries: Eswatini, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Uganda, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Media coverage, therefore, was predominantly targeted to these countries - as well as establishing trusted media groups from these target areas spilling over onto other African countries.

Among the top distribution countries that covered Initiative stories in 2023 were:

- South Africa
- Kenya
- Malawi
- Rwanda
- Zambia
- o Tanzania
- o Uganda
- Ethiopia

#### Key messages and themes

To this end, it is worth noting that the key messages from media coverage received was predominantly on the following:

- What is the Initiative and what does it do?
- Positioning agriculture as a job creation means
- Supporting youth, women and the margionalized in agriculture
- Funding opportunities in agriculture
- Working with Initiative partners to stretch impact
- The Initiative's role in assisting governments (eg with policy work)
- Virtual field trips
- Country specific assistance and opportunities
- Inclusivity

#### **Main media targets**

Media coverage was spread across the board and expressing various voices from the Initiative though featuring various voices. Among the top voices from the Initiative who were covered were the following:

- Initiative Lead
- Communications and Knowledge Management Expert
- Initiative Work Package Leads and Co-Leads
- Initiative Partners
- Beneficiaries (eg Farmers)

#### Challenges

- Getting coverage in ALL of the 12 East and Southern African target countries
- No media training may have lowered the number of spokespeople willing to engage with media
- Media not having an understanding of scientific and explanation of terms and in turn doing topics injustice
- Working with media who is not fluent in English attending an event in English and then reporting it in another language
- Not being able to vet, track or analyze content from media coverages in local languages

#### **Lessons learned**

- To share reach, encourage media to also share their stories in their local languages
- Events in remote locations garnered more reach when transport was organized to take media to the event and back to a central location
- Encourage partners to also share
- Encourage multiple voices
- Personal testimonials from farmers go a long way

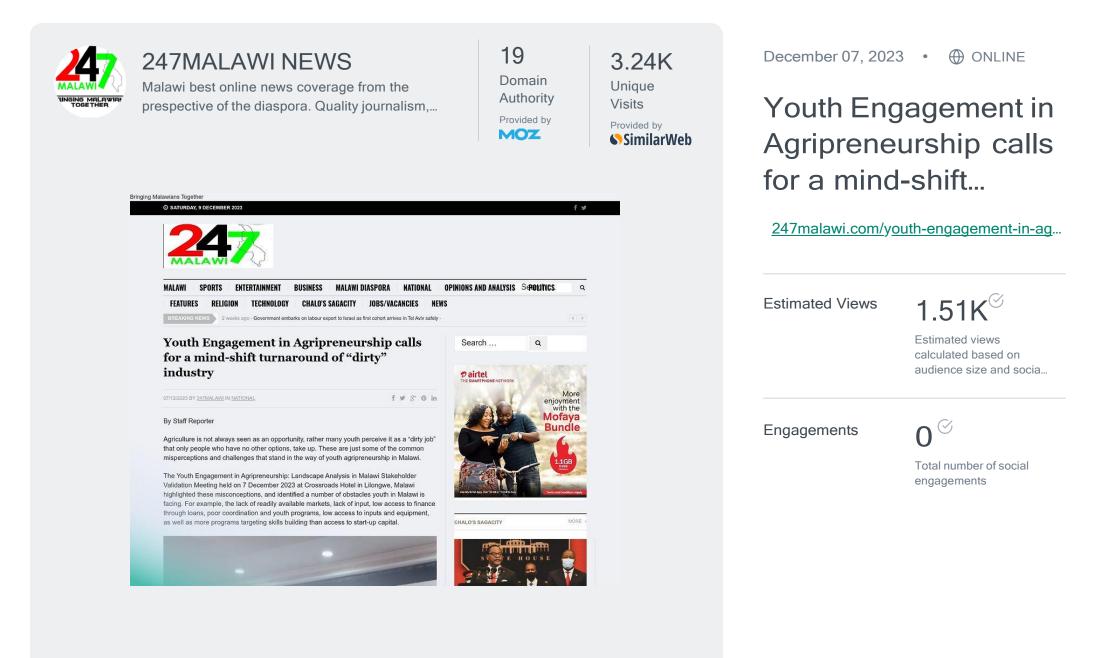
#### Way forward / conclusion

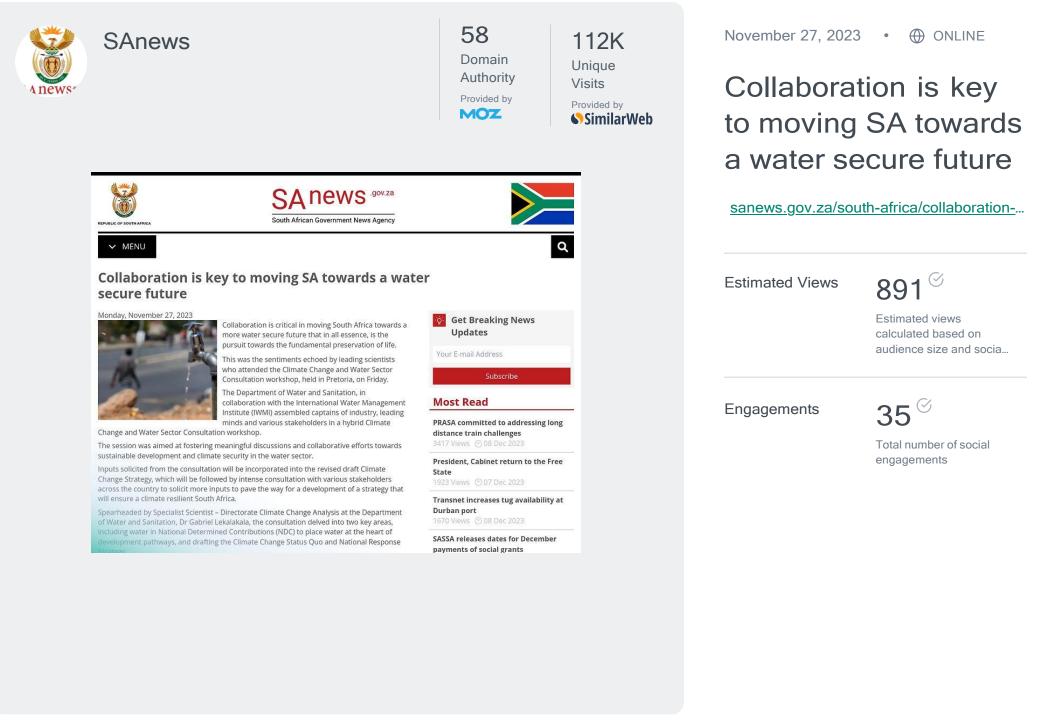
- More targeted media campaigns
- Track spending
- From 2024 set SMART Goals now that a base is established
- Media training is key
- Create an expert media database for the Initiative

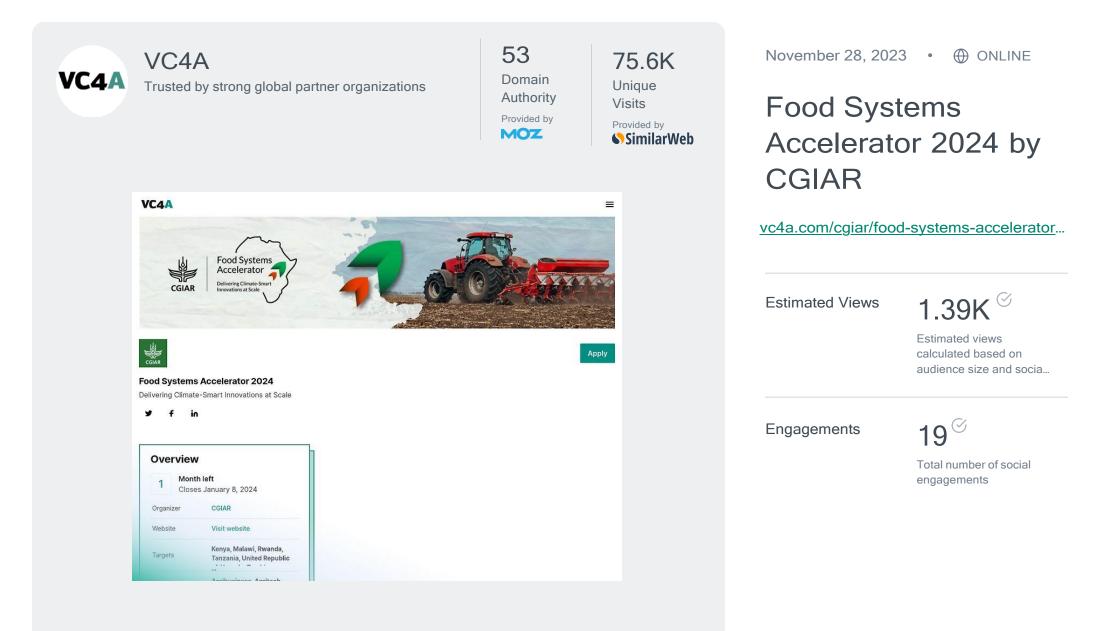
# 3. Sample media coverage

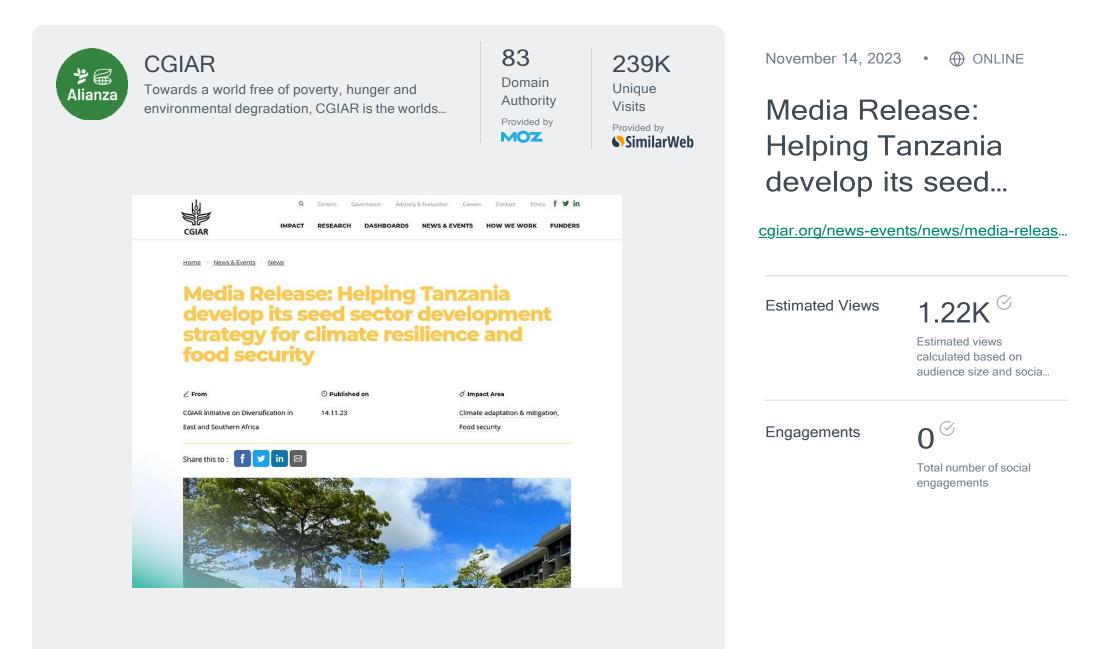
Attached are some of the 100 randomly selected media coverage pieces pertaining to the Initiative. They are mostly from focus countries in East and Southern Africa and span across online, traditional, broadcast and social media. The source of the stats is predominantly from App.coveragebooks.com.

The limitation is that for the most part, traditional print coverage as well as content in languages other than English is not adequately tracked. Other countries are also falling behind in terms of tracking analysis tools and so the media coverage distribution and representation is not all inclusive. Some of the stories are identical in that the media release was republished as is in various platforms.









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reliefweb.int/report/south-africa/climate-c...

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4.76K<sup>☉</sup>

Estimated views calculated based on audience size and socia...

Engagements



Total number of social engagements



Climate change and water sector consultation: Water security is climate security

Vews and Press Release • Sources: Govt. South Africa, IWMI • Posted: 7 Dec 2023 • Originally published: 5 Dec 2023 • Origin: View original &

South Africa's <u>Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS)</u> *e*, in collaboration with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) led a consultation to contribute to the country's revised Climate Change Strategy. The meeting of experts and stakeholders focused on the pivotal role of water in climate-resilient development pathways for water-scarce nations.

"According to the World Bank, <u>water scarcity affects over 40% of the global population</u> #, with water-related disasters accounting for 70% of all deaths related to natural disasters. South Africa, among the 30 most water-stressed countries, faces increasing water stress exacerbated by population growth and climate variability. The World Resources Institute reports on South Africa's critical water situation. To address these challenges, IWMI is working with the South African government to integrate water management strategies into climate policies. The Climate Change and Water Sector Consultation signified a crucial step In fostering resilience against climate change impacts," said Dr Henry Roman, Country Representative, IWMI Southern Africa. Primary country: South Africa

Sources: Government of South Africa / International Water Management Institute

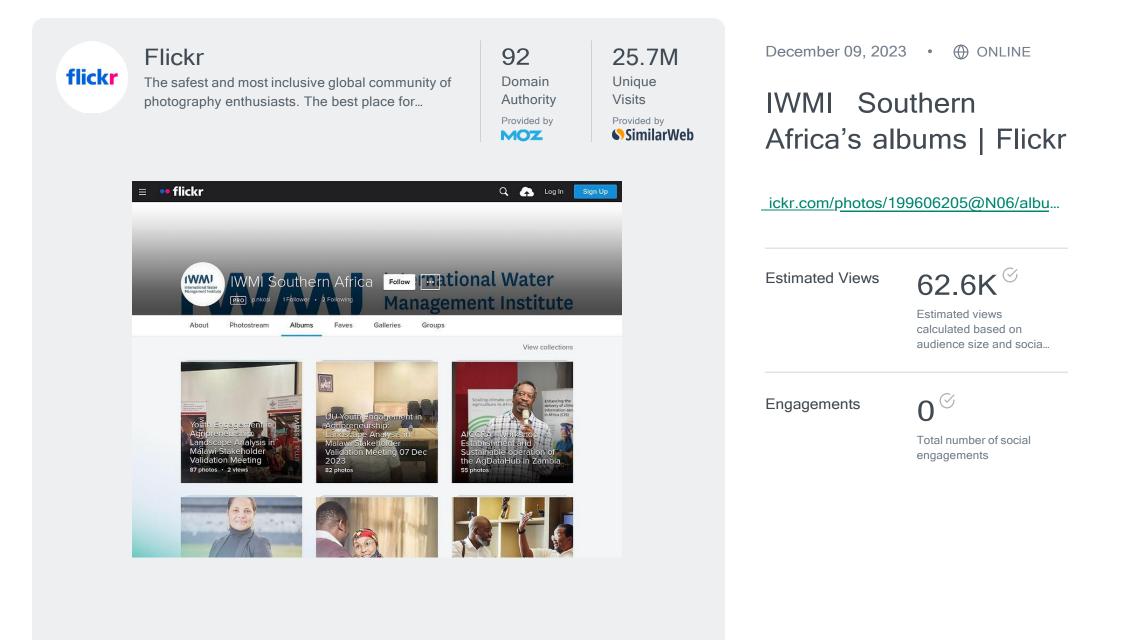
TOPICS

Format:

News and Press Release

Theme: Water Sanitation Hygiene

Language: <u>English</u>



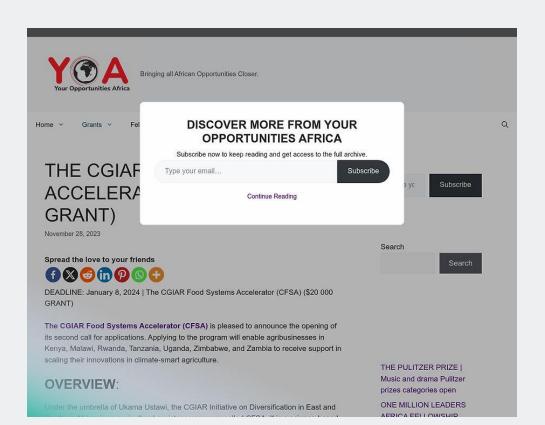


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November 28, 2023 •

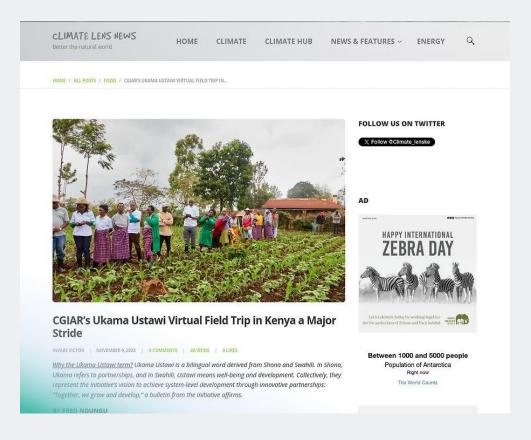
The CGIAR Food

ONLINE

Frontpage   South Government	68 Domain Authority Provided by	Unique Visits Provided by SimilarWeb	hosts hyb	and Sanitation hybrid Climate e and Water	
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA	South African Government gov.za   Official Information and Services			gov.za/news/media	-statements/water-and
MENU Home > News > Media Statements > We	ter and Sanitation hosts hybrid Climate Change and Wate	ļ	Q		
Keyword Categories	Water and Sanitation hosts hybrid Climate Change and Water Sector Consultation workshop	TRANSLATIONS		Estimated Views	<b>9.98K</b> Stimated views calculated based on audience size and socia
Government Level	26 Nov 2023 Leading scientists converge to make inputs on the revised				
- Any- Province - Any - Subjects 16 days of activism 20 years of freedom Africa African Peer Review Mechanism Agriculture Anti-corruption initiatives Arts and culture Anti-corruption initiatives Arts and culture Aution Black Economic Empowerment Rudget: national Start Date	Climate Change Strategy The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), in collaboration with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) assembled captains of industry, leading minds and various stakeholders in a hybrid Climate Change and Water Sector Consultation workshop on Friday, 24 November 2023 in Pretoria. The workshop was aimed at fostering meaningful discussions and collaborative efforts towards sustainable development and climate security in the water sector. Inputs solicited from the consultation will be incorporated into the revised draft Climate Change Strategy. This will be followed by intense consultation with various stakeholders across the country to solicit more inputs to pave way for a development of a strategy that will ensure a climate resilient South Africa.			Engagements	0 Total number of social engagements

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Latest Climate Lens News, opinions, comments, and analysis from Kenya and across the globe focused on developments in global climate.



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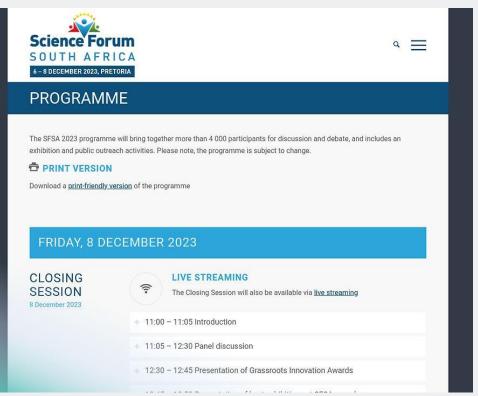
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# Science Forum South Africa - Igniting conversations about science

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<u>sfsa.co.za/programme/</u>				
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Engagements	1 Total number of social
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Views



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Engagements

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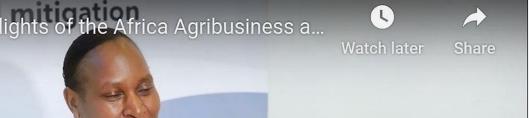


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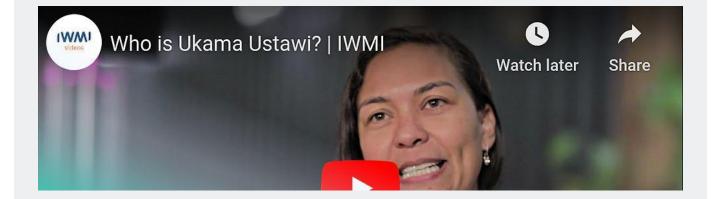
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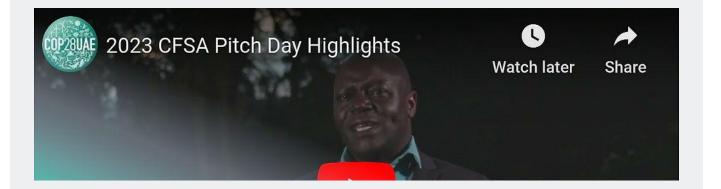


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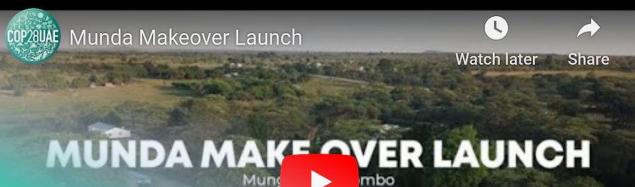




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## Ukama Ustawi project impacts farmers in Embu County

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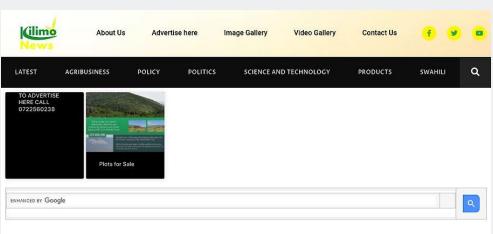






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By Killmo News Cotober 26.2023

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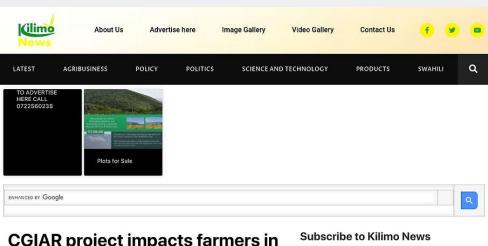
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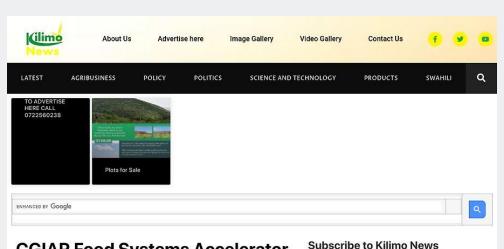
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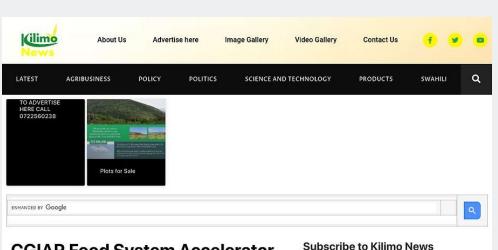
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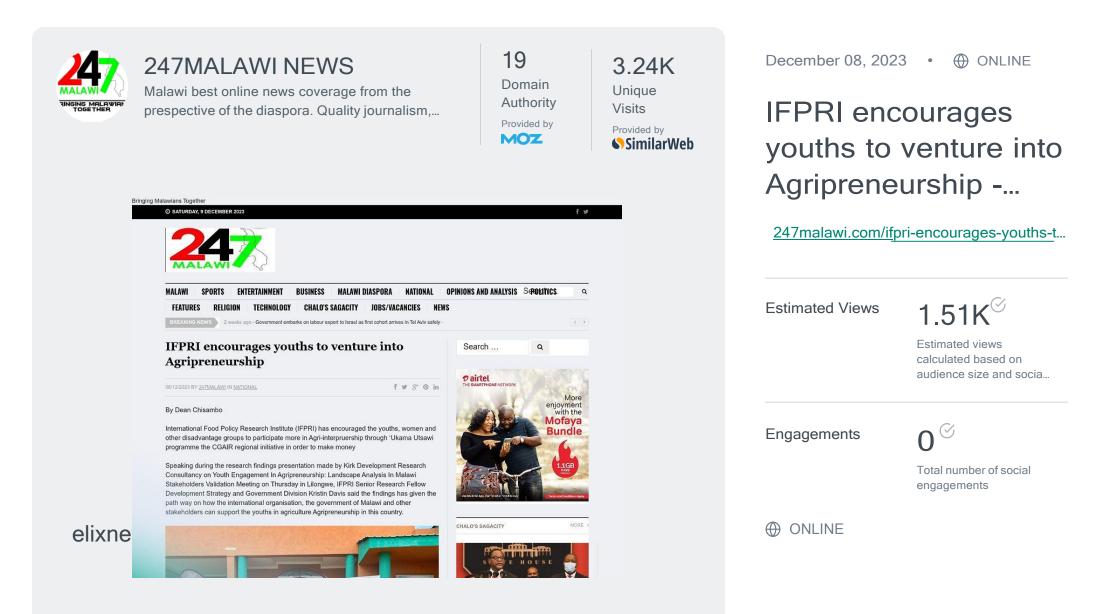
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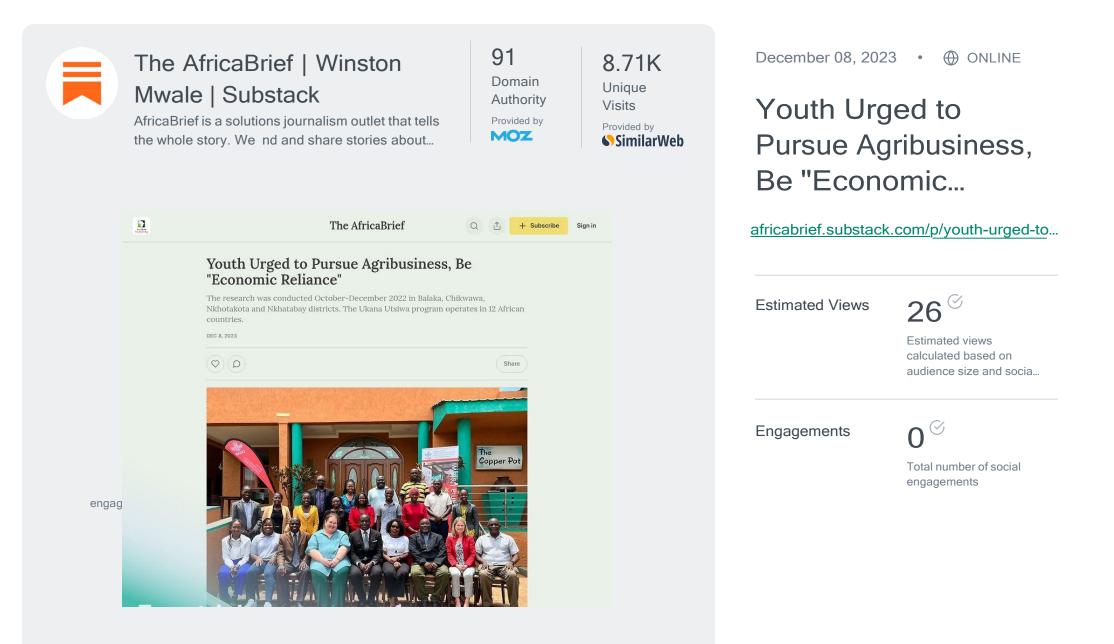
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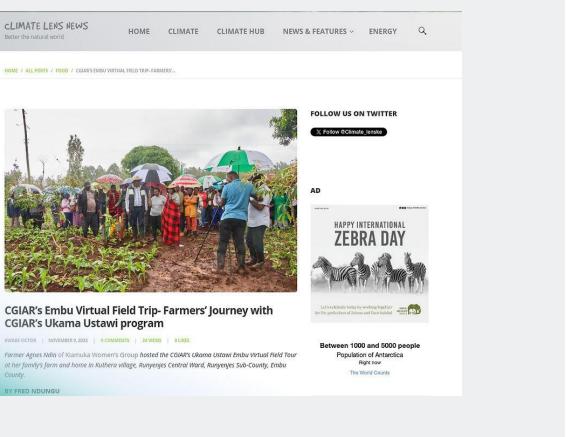
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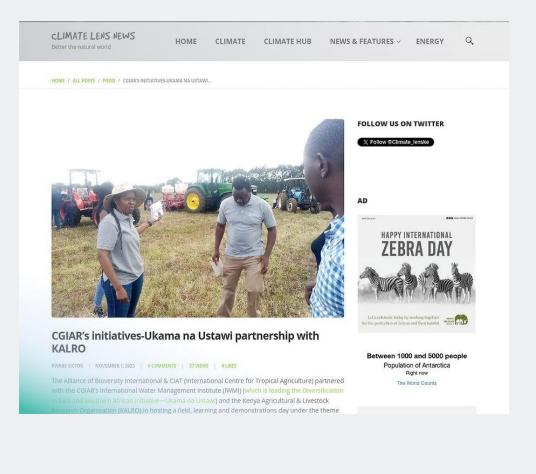
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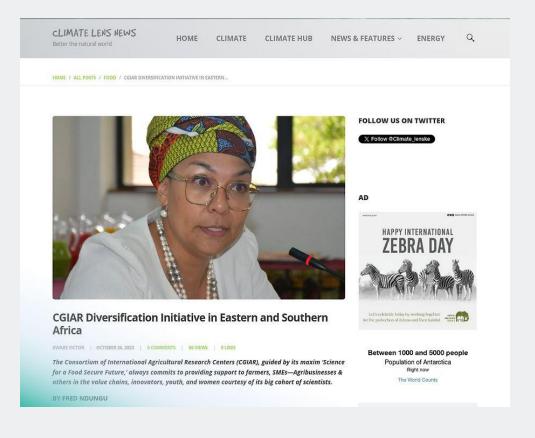


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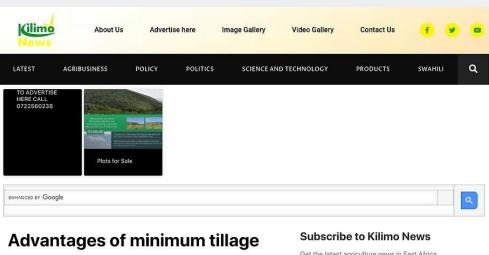
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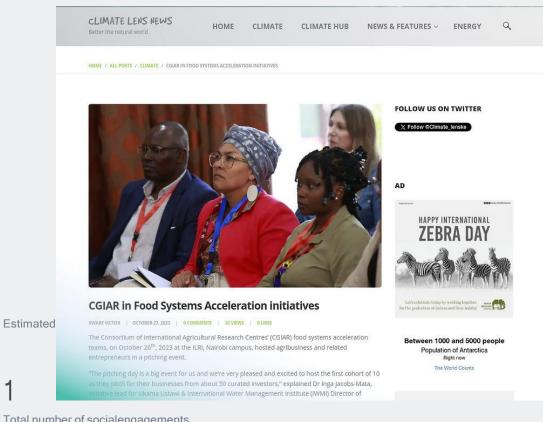
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Source: International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

South Africa's Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), in collaboration with the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) led a consultation to contribute to the country's revised Climate Change Strategy. The meeting of experts and stakeholders focused on the pivotal role of water in climate-resilient development pathways for water-scarce nations.

"According to the World Bank, water scarcity affects over 40% of the global population, with water-related disasters accounting for 70% of all deaths related to natural disasters. South Africa, among the 30 most water-stressed countries, faces increasing water stress exacerbated by population growth and climate variability. The World Resources institute reports on South Africa's critical water situation. To address these challenges, IWMI Is working with the South African government to integrate water management strategies into climate policies. The Climate Change and Water Sector Consultation signified a crucial step in fostering resilience against climate change impacts," said Dr Henry Roman, Country Representative, IWMI Southern Africa.

peakers relterated that the drive for water security calls for a collaborative response from government, NGOs, and the route sector. They agreed that combining efforts was essential to ensure sustainable water management, improve access, environmental-expert.com/news/climate-...

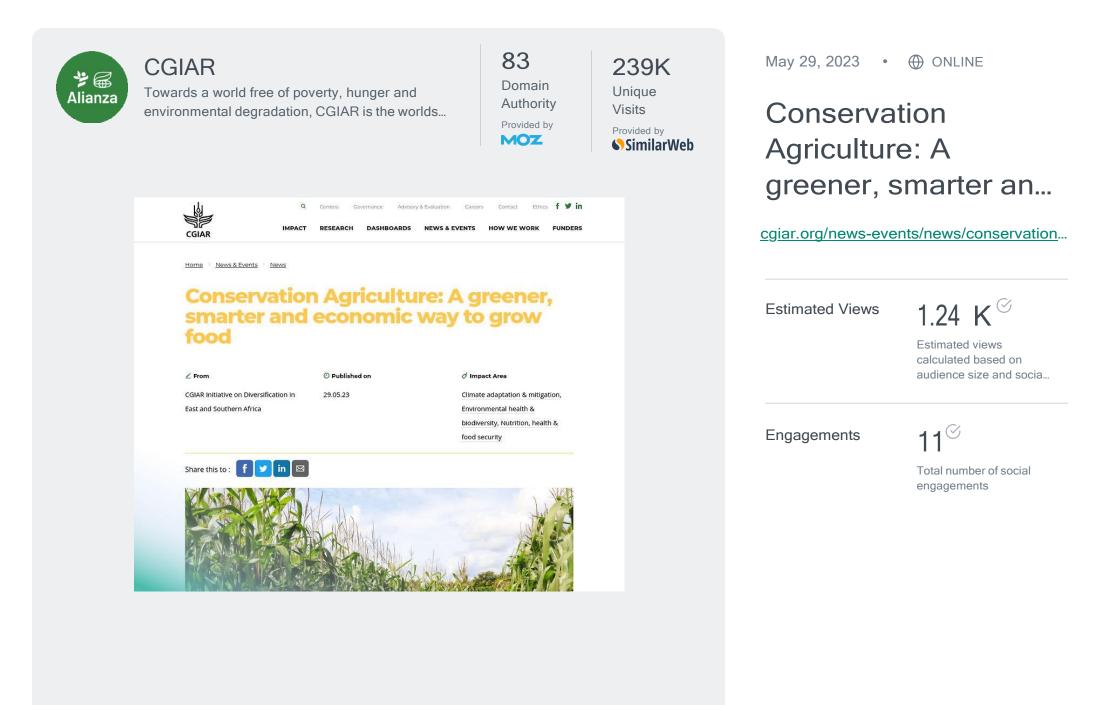
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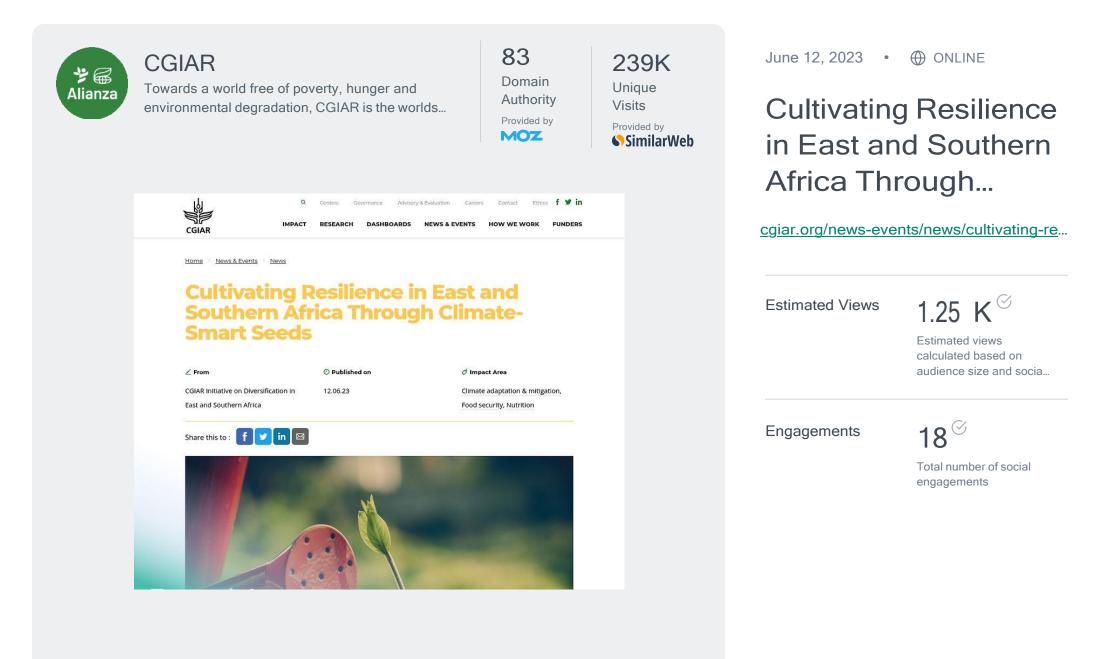


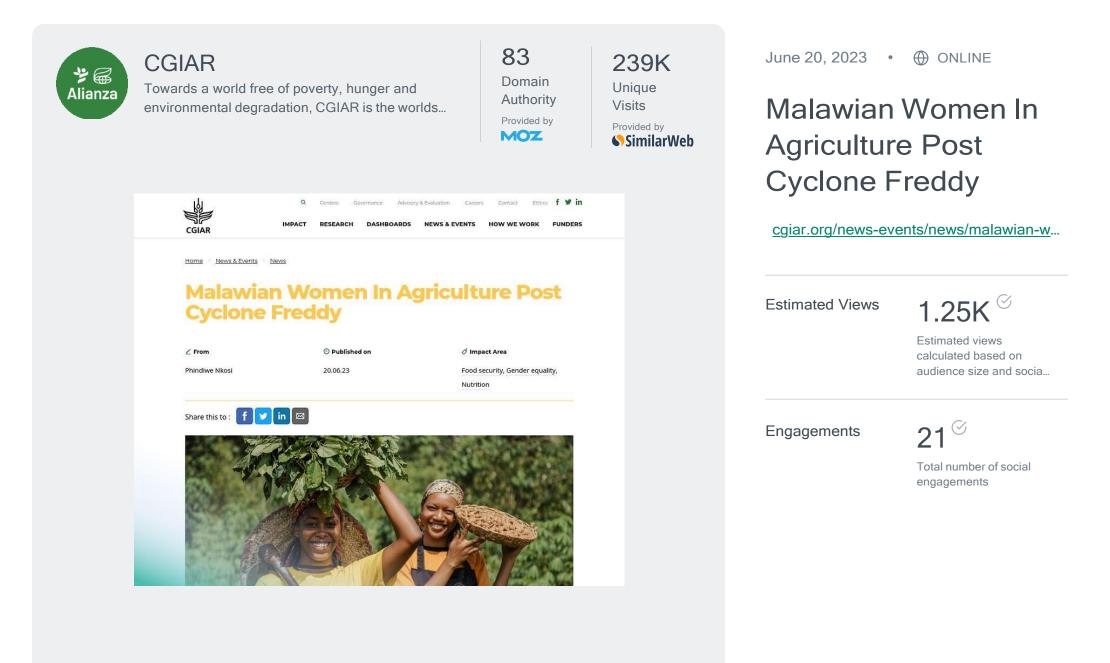
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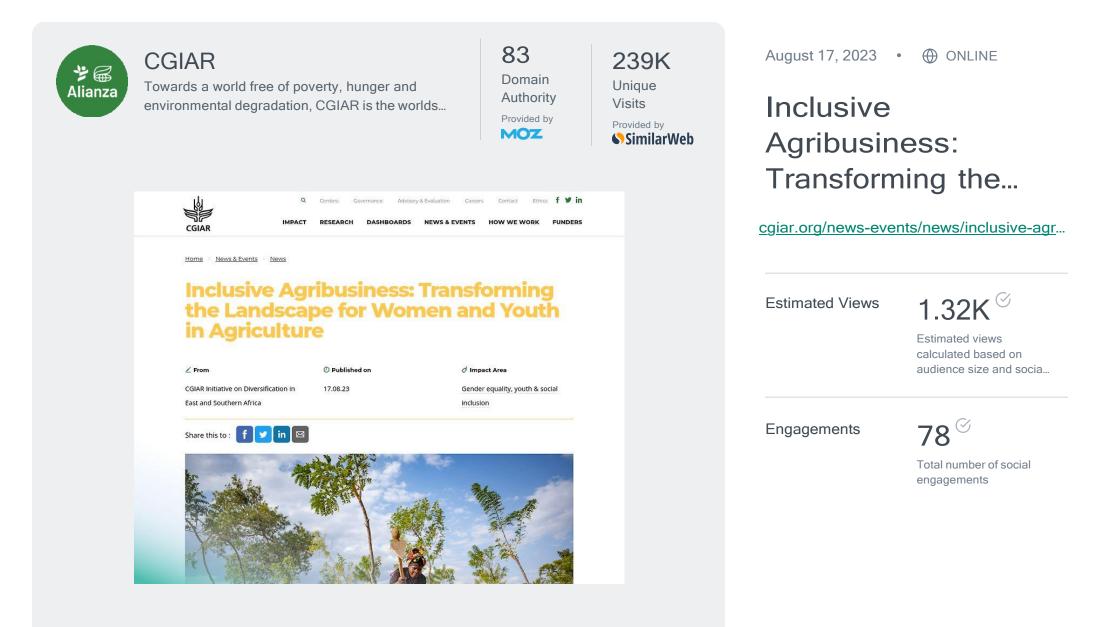
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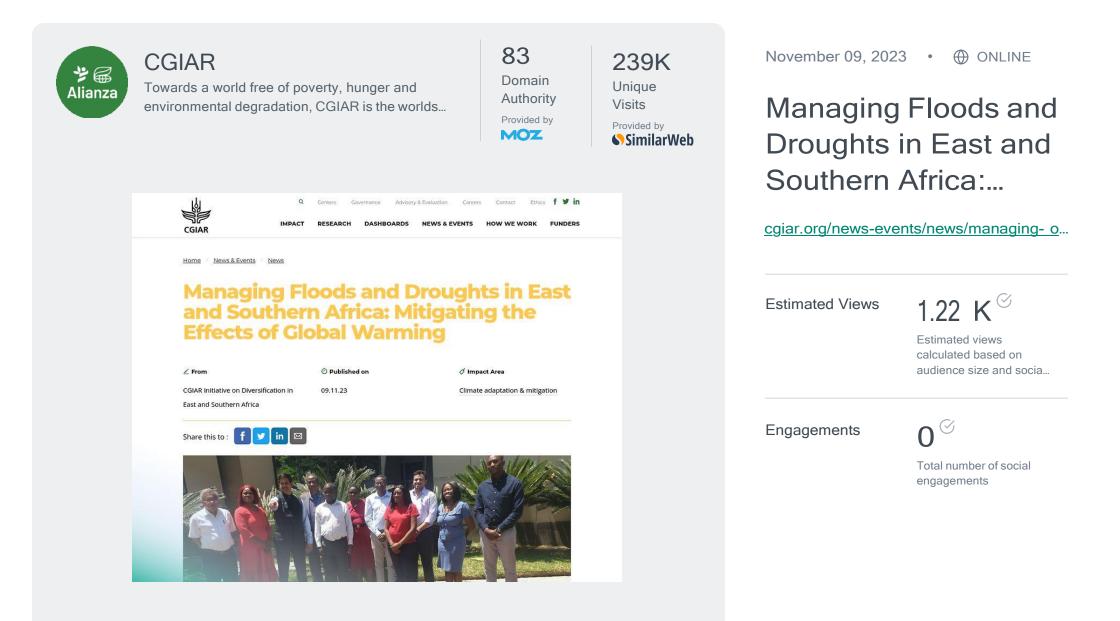


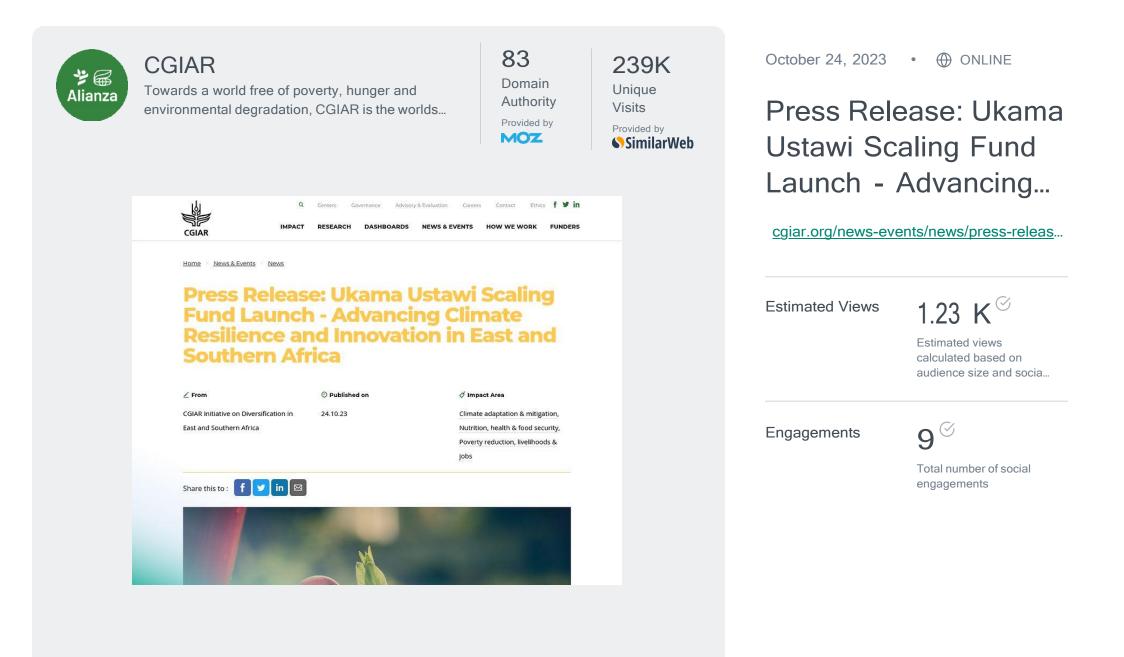


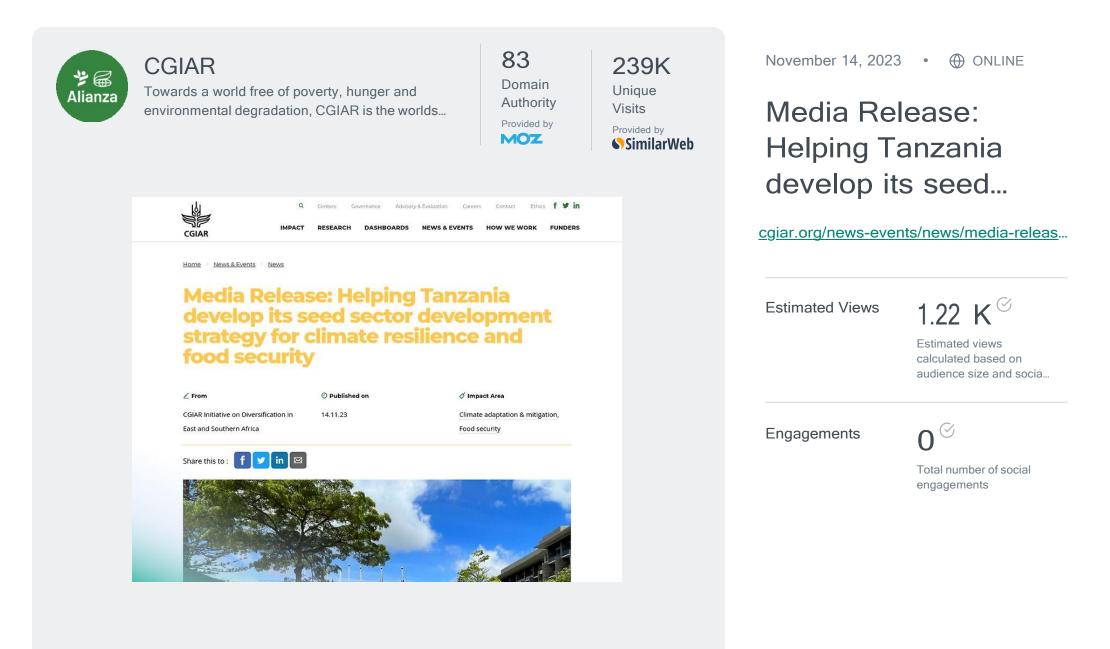


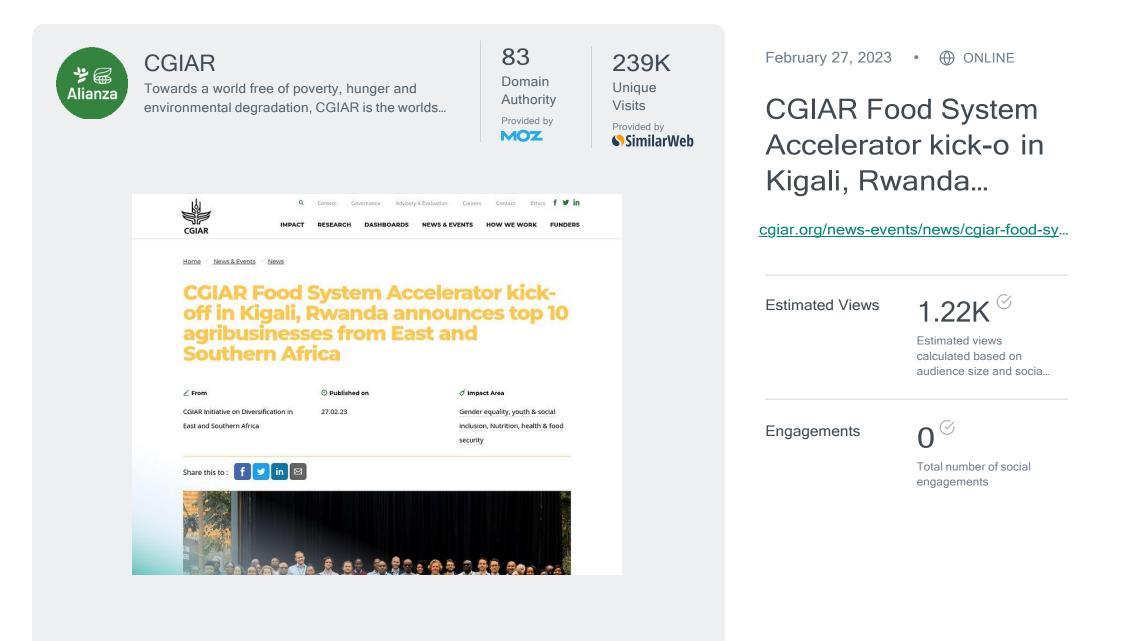














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iwmi.cgiar.org/2023/12/climate-change-an...

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#### Climate change and water sector consultation: Water security is climate security

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Climate change and water sector consultation. Phindiwe Nkosi / IWMI

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# Ukama Ustawi: Accelerating inclusive agribusiness in East and Southern Africa

#### March 8, 2023 🛛 🛛 2587

#### By

Karen Nortje, Senior Researcher, IWMI South Africa Lead WP5, Ukama Ustawi Initiative) Kristin Davis, Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI SA, WP5 Ukama Ustawi

Hauke Dahl, Scaling Lead – East and Southern Africa, Co-Lead, WP3 Ukama Ustawi

Deepa Joshi, Gender and Social Inclusion Lead, IWMI; Co-Lead WP5, Ukama Ustawi

Mercy Zulu-Hume, Sustainable Finance Specialist, Alliance Bioversity – CIAT Phindiwe Nkosi, Communications and Knowledge Management Expert, IWMI-South Africa

Florence Okot is one of ten agribusiness entrepreneurs from East and Southern Africa selected by the Food Systems Accelerator Initiative of Ukama Ustawi to accelerate climate-smart innovations addressing key problems in food value chains. Florence has not had an easy childhood, having survived conflict and immense human



A woman hawking yam. Photo: Hamish John Appleby / IWMI \_\_\_\_\_





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iwmi.cgiar.org/2023/02/iwmi-launches-hi...

Press releases > IWMI launches high-tech drought monitoring system for Zambia

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February 22, 2023 🛛 👁 2639

INTERNATIONAL WATER Management Institute

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LUSAKA, ZAMBIA – Zambia will be better equipped to cope with droughts thanks to a new satellite-based online weather-monitoring system. The Zambia Drought Monitoring System (ZADMS), developed by the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) for Zambia's Ministry of Agriculture will provide all the information needed to effectively manage drought. For example, it will enable the Ministry and partner organizations to see when a drought is emerging; identify the severity of an evolving drought; and take appropriate action early on to support citizens to avoid the worst impacts of prolonged dry spells.



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iwmi.cgiar.org/2023/04/ukama-ustawis-m...

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[April 6, 2023: Malawi] Just off the heels of Cyclone Freddy – a long-lived, deadly tropical storm that purportedly claimed over 1,200 lives in Malawi at the start of 2023 – the CGIAR's Initiative on Diversification in East and Southern Africa (also known as Ukama Ustawi) visited farmers in Malawi as part of its

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### IWMI supporting Zambian government with postflood recovery strategy assistance

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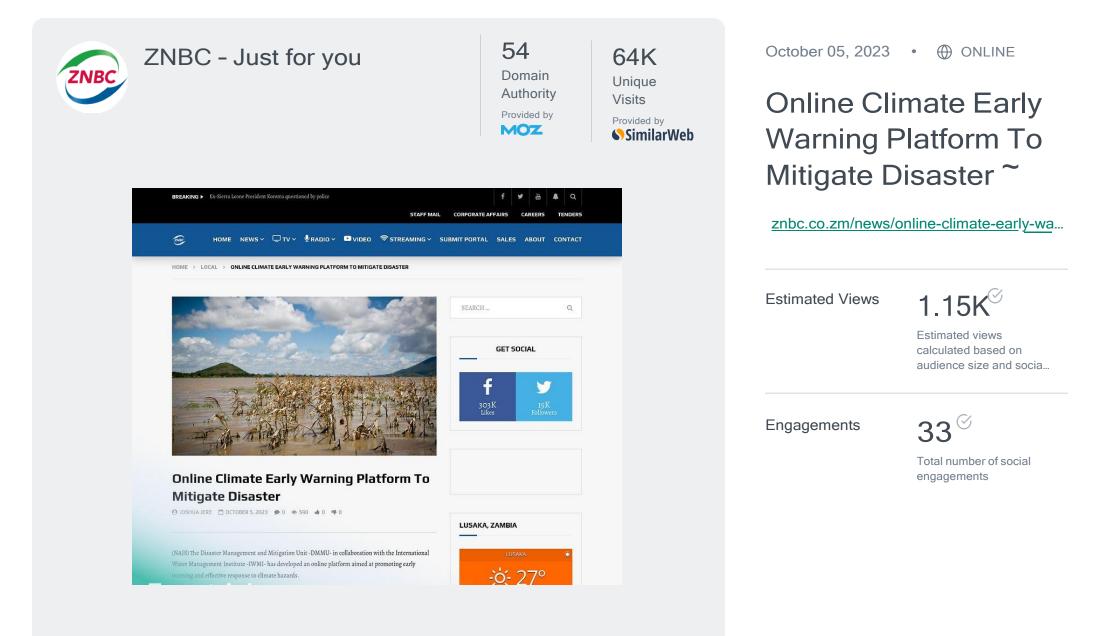
[17 February 2023: Pretoria, South Africa] - The International Water Management Institute (IWMI) is working with the Zambian government for improved knowledge generation and effective advisory services following the floods that affected more than 20,000 people in Zambia in 2023.



A maize farmer affected by flooding in Southern Province, Zambia. Photo:

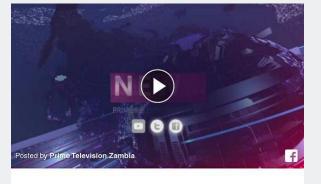
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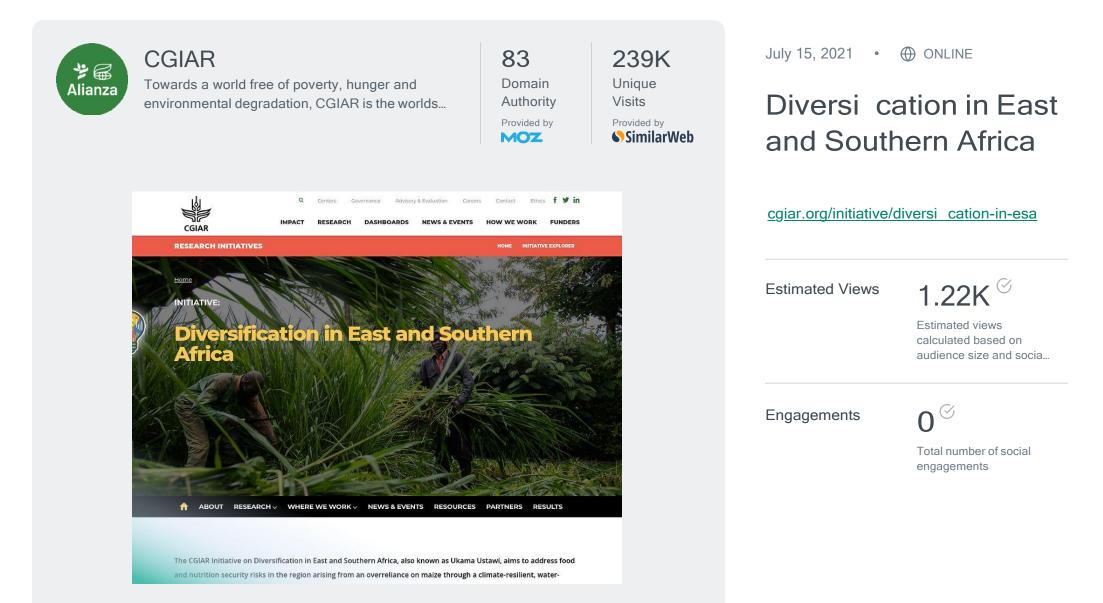
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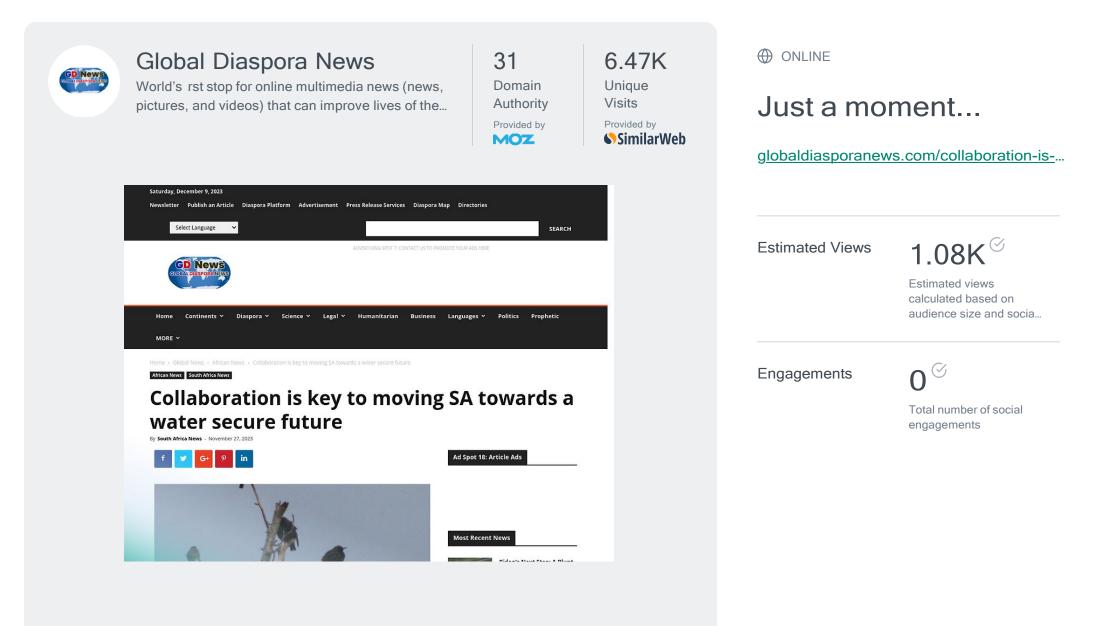
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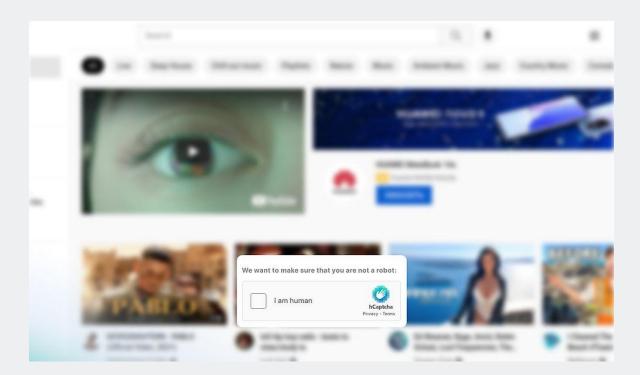
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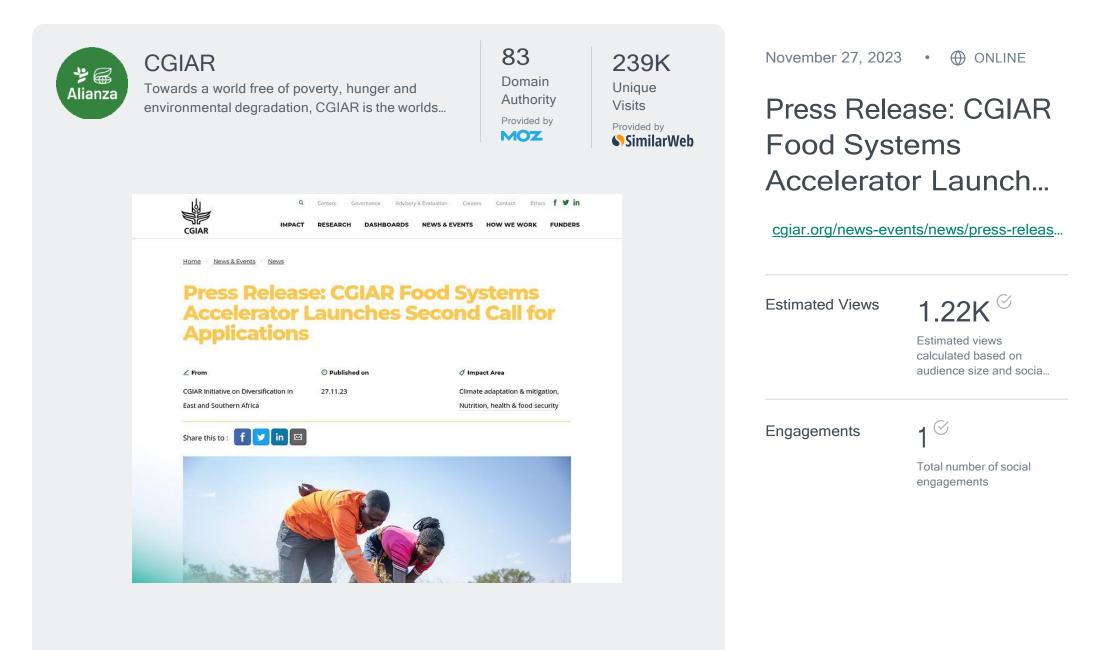
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#### Phindiwe Nkosi, Communications and Knowledge Management Expert,

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To learn more about this Initiative, please visit <u>this webpage</u>.

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