

# ACB publications and media report

September 2022 – February 2024



**AFRICAN CENTRE**  
FOR BIODIVERSITY

## Programme 1: GM and biosafety and new technologies publications released, September 2022 – February 2024

Publication Title	Type	Lang	Date publication	Reposts/ reach	Mail list General (G) Media (M)	Mail open	Mail click	Web view	FB Reach (FR) Share (FS) Engagement (FE) / X Impressions (XI) Engagement (XE)/
Landmark legal challenge against Monsanto/ Bayer's "bogus" drought tolerant GM maize finally to be heard in South African High Court	Press release	Eng	3 February 2023	GM Watch EnviroNews Nigeria News Ghana Netwerk24 IOL	4168	775	31	493	179 (FR), 4 (FS); 783 (TI), 44 (TE)
Judgment on ACB's high court review of Monsanto's alleged drought tolerant gm trait pending	News	Eng	10 February 2023		4 160	924	26	178	372 (FR), 4 (FS); 307 (TI), 11 (TE)
Global biodiversity framework and synthetic biology: missed opportunity for biosafety and biodiversity protection for Africa	Blog	Eng	3 March 2023	AFSA Weekly media digest	4,122	873	38	320	367 (FR), 1 (FS); 118 (TI), 17 (TE)
Resistance against "bogus" drought tolerant (DT) maize in South Africa: a snapshot of two decades of activism	Blog	Eng	8 March 2023		4151	745	63	300	183 (FR), 1 (FS); 344 (TI), 11 (TE)
2,4-d GM maize and the regulatory anomalies regarding GMOs and associated pesticides	Briefing	Eng	17 March 2023		3920	728	43	113	197 (FR), 3 (FS); 309 (TI), 17 (TE)
Experts on Gene Drives	News	Eng	1 May 2023					13	

Unsafe GM wheat to enter South Africa's food systems	Briefing	Eng	5 May 2023	Biosafety Information Centre	3913	812	51	384	149 (FR), 3 (FS); 1329 (TI), 76 (TE)
No to GM wheat in South Africa!	Petition	Eng	10 May 2023	The Green Time				379	
No to GM wheat in South Africa!	Briefing	Eng	10 May 2023	The Green Time					3711 (FR), 19 (FS); 5917 (TI), 231 (TE) (campaign totals)
No to GM wheat in South Africa!	Policy submission	Eng	10 May 2023	The Green Time					
Trigo transgénico fuera de África	Press release	ES	22 May 2023						
Trigo GM fora da África!	Press release	PT	22 May 2023						
GM wheat out of Africa!	Press release	Eng	22 May 2023					92	
High Court Decision on GM 'bogus' drought tolerant maize – significant blow to advancement of environmental law in GMO decision making	Press release	Eng	26 July 2023	Environews Nigeria	4504	1130	35	187	114 (FR), 1 (FS); 684 (XI), 44 (XE)
Review and deregistration of toxic pesticide 2,4-D in terms of the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act 36 of 1947	Submission	Eng	28 November 2023						
Call on South Africa to deregister agrototoxin 2,4-D	Web post	Eng	7 December 2023		2801	899	159	183	444 (FR), 13 (FE), 380 (XI), 12 (XE)

Request for intervention on drought and herbicide resistant GM wheat	Submission	Eng	26 January 2024						
Solicitud de intervención sobre trigo transgénico resistente a la sequía y al herbicida glufosinato de amonio	Submission	Esp	26 January 2024						
Pedido de intervenção sobre trigo transgênico resistente à seca e ao herbicida glufosinato de amônio	Submission	Pt	26 January 2024						
No to GM wheat!	Press release	Eng	30 January 2024	Mention: GM Watch Mirror: GRAIN Coverage: Pagina 12, GM Watch	3504	698	377	212	490 (FR), 22 (FE), 2877 (XI), 113 (XE)
Game-changer for regulation of genome editing and new tech as SA's Ag Minister overrules Industry and Appeal Board	Press release	Eng	5 February 2024	Mirror: Biosafety Information Centre Mention: GM Watch Mention: Informationsdienst Gentechnik	2362	383	169	605	89 (FR), 18 (FE), 2446 (XI), 110 (XE)

General media coverage of ACB work on GM and Biosafety and new technologies, September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Article Title	Publication Name	Description
5 October 2022	No Environmental Release of Gene Drive Organisms	Foundation for Future Farming Stop Gene Drives	ACB endorsed Stop Gene Drive’s open letter urging governments to prevent the environmental release of gene drive organisms and to establish a global moratorium on the release of gene drive organisms at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).
8 October 2022	Sieg der Gentechnik-Lobby	Spiegel	ACB’s Sabrina Masinjila provides a comment in this article about Kenya’s decision to lift the ban against GMOs and to further allow a GE crop variety, MON810, that is banned in

			Germany. Her comment stresses that the ACB has done years of research proving that the GE Crop is a failed solution and will worsen food security in Kenya.
17 January 2023	Kenya : Le moratoire sur les OGM sur la sellette	InfoGM	The article discusses how seed companies want to make Africa the new extension zone for transgenic crops and provides. With the focus on Kenya and its moratorium on GMOs to prevent the privatisation of the African seed sector through pushing WEMA onto the continent – on the notion that Kenya is in deficit due to drought, and the GMO varieties will be more "resilient" – the article mentions ACB's research on WEMA drought tolerant maize as evidence showing that planting this GM corn variety is not the solution and has never been demonstrated in any country.
23 January 2023	Statement on the Dakar 2 Summit: "climate smart agriculture" will worsen the climate crisis	News Ghana CIDSE Assess.technology ETC Group	ACB, together with 83 organisations, signed onto the collective statement opposing the Dakar for the Dakar 2 African Food Summit's "climate smart agriculture" approach, which includes the promotion of the Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA) project. The article mentions the ACB, which explains how WEMA aims to build a private-sector seed industry in Africa and spread hybrid maize varieties. The statement was organised by the AfDB and written by the organisations which are part of AfriTAP (the African Tech Assessment Platform).
7 February 2023	Monsanto-saad: Hof gevra om besluit tersyde te stel	Netwerk 24	Ibid.
7 February 2023	Landmark legal challenge against controversial drought tolerant GM maize to be heard	Cape Argus	This article reports on ACB's long awaited day in court against Monsanto/ Beyers. The ACB lodged legal proceedings with the High Court of SA to review and overturn the decisions of the SA government for approving Monsanto/Bayer's GM drought-tolerant (DT) maize variety MON 86470 for commercial cultivation in South Africa – based on insufficient data to demonstrate the claimed drought tolerance benefit, based either on yield or agronomic performance. The hearing was heard in the SA High Court 7-8 February.
1 April 2023	Why GM crops threaten to replace natural seeds	Monitor	With the focus on smallholder farmers in Uganda, this article sheds light on the challenges concerning farmers who do not have power to manage their seed system due to the pressure of Ugandan govt putting on scientists to devise ways of ensuring food security through GMOs. ACB is mentioned in the article to emphasise the Ugandan government's support for GMOs, as a number of GMO crops are already under testing by the National Agricultural Research Organisation to boost farm productivity and fight hunger.
5 June 2023	Afrika will nicht mehr Versuchskaninchen für die Genlobby sein!	Netzfraun	Look at how Africa is being considered a test area for genetically modified crops. However, many countries are refusing to grow GM crops because they have seen the negative consequences.
10 August 2023	Does the truth about GMOs in food and pharmaceuticals lie in the funding behind the messaging?	Artist as Family	Dr Patrick Jones examines the current messaging promoting GMOs and reveals that decades of careful legal work concerning GMO use has been undermined over the past three years, green-lighting a potential surfeit of novel GMOs in both food and pharmaceutical products.
10 August 2023	Press review: African media reporting on GMO positive	ISAAA - Africentre	Review on media sentiment in Africa around genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and biotechnological developments in agriculture for July 2023.
21 August 2023	Recent advances in cowpea IPM in West Africa	Frontiers in Agronomy	This review examines recent advances in West Africa in cowpea IPM approaches, highlighting research on host plant resistance, biological control, biopesticides, good cultural practices,

			and on-farm participatory research and training undertaken to support sustainable cowpea production.
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**Online broadcasting coverage/webinars/ of ACB's work on GM and Biosafety and new technologies, September 2022 – February 2024**

Date	Title of Webinar	Hosts Name	Description
22 September 2022	Gene drives #shorts: governance   Sabrina Masinjila	Save our Seeds	Adam Breasly speaks to ACB's Sabrina Masinjila, an expert on gene drives, in this interview about the challenges to regulate gene drives. Sabrina shares that text and language is a huge problem in having gene drives regulated, which is why part of the ACB's work is to advocate for the text around horizon scanning and technologies to be safe and appropriate for developing countries, and less risk to humans and the environment.
1 December 2022	Off Target: Gene Drives and the Balance of Life. Mariam Mayet, in an interview with Adam Breasly (Save our Seeds)	Save our Seeds	ACB's Mariam Mayet, in an interview with Adam Breasly (Save our Seeds), questions why African governments have become so deeply indebted that they are unable to deliver basic public health for their populations. Save our Seeds travelled the world speaking to some of the world's leading thinkers, activists and academics on the impact of gene drives and have rated ACB's <i>The financialisation of malaria in Africa: Burkina Faso, rogue capital &amp; GM /gene drive mosquitoes (2022)</i> , the most in-depth analysis of the financial dynamics underpinning Target Malaria's gene drive mosquito project to date; and that the African Centre for Biodiversity's report is a major contribution to the debate around gene drives. <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WOMd24NwRw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2WOMd24NwRw</a>
13 February 2023	GMOs	Power fm. 98.7	Sabrina Masinjila is interviewed about GMOs in this interview about food security, climate change and the current state of the ecosystem on the African continent, what we eat and how it is produced.

**International, regional and national meetings attended/hosted by ACB, on GM and biosafety, September 2022 – February 2024**

Date	Title of meeting	Host Name	Attended by	Description
7-9 October 2022	UnPoison Convening re Highly Hazardous Pesticides	UnPoison SA	Mariam Mayet	ACB hosted an Agrochemicals Meeting in Johannesburg, supported by Unpoison SA, a network of CSOs working to ban chemical pesticides in SA, in collaboration with Trust for Community Outreach and Education (TCOE), the South African Catering and Allied Workers Union (SACCAWU), and the University of Cape Town (UCT). CSOs, scientific experts and researchers working in the realm of agrochemicals across SA and key African countries came together to discuss the political economy and legislative climate of agrochemicals in SA, and impacts of agrochemicals on farm workers and dwellers, and other workers, in the chemicals industry, the environment, and human health.

				Preparatory meetings were convened in the latter half of 2022.
10 October 2022	Brainstorming session for the Peoples' Tribunal on Pesticides	ACB, TCOE and AIDC	Mariam Mayet	Following on from the SA Agrochemical national meeting convened by the ACB in April 2022, when it was decided that we would host and convene a Peoples' Tribunal on pesticides, further informal meetings have taken place. This meeting was held to formulate a tentative draft of the core focus of the tribunal.
1 November –1 December 2022	BftW Participatory Video Training workshop	BftW	Rutendo Zendah, Tamara Reddy, Rifqah Tifloen	ACB staff attended a three-week participatory video training workshop organised by Bread for the World. The workshop aimed to develop foundational skills in participatory video facilitation, participatory filmmaking, and editing, and supported trainees in applying these skills in their contexts. The team was also trained in storyboarding and narrative development tools, including tools and activities for developing advocacy narratives, PV to advocacy, knowledge transfer, and community documentation.
3 October 2023	GM Wheat Meeting	ACB	Mariam Mayet, Deidre May, Sindy Peters	ACB hosted an online meeting with organisations based in the Global South on the current status of food safety issues around wheat and pesticides and how they could collaborative address some of the challenges.

#### Programme 2: Seed Sovereignty, publications released, September 2022 – February 2024

Publication Title	Type of Public	Lang	Date public	Repost/reach	Mail list General (G) Media (M)	Mail open	Mail click	Web views	FB Reach (FR) Share (FS) / Twitter Impressions (TI) Engagement (TE)	YouTu be/ IG TV
Breaking from the rest of the continent. South Africa moves towards recognising smallholder farmers' Right to Seed and farmer seed systems – but the road ahead is still long	Blog	Eng	14 September 2022		4233	920	75	305	714 (FR), 87 (TI)	
The changing nature of Kenya's seed industry sectors. Lessons for the potato seed sector industry	Briefing paper	Eng	29 November 2022	Farmbiz Africa	4,204	878	46	81	220 (FR); 330 (TI), 10 (TE)	

Zimbabwean smallholder farmers show us the way towards alternative food systems	Blog	Eng	26 January 2023		3893	723	64	221	192 (FR)	
Farmer to Farmer Exchange, Knowledge Sharing and Training	Report	Eng	30 January 2023		Shared with participants of the exchange			19		
Échange entre agriculteurs, partage des connaissances et formation	Report	FR	30 January 2023		Shared with participants of the exchange			5		
Reflections from Zimbabwean farmers on West Africa peasants' seed fair	Blog	Eng	28 March 2023		4137 Shared with participants of 2022 Zimbabwe Farmer Exchange	893	52	266		
Reflexions des agriculteurs Zimbabwéens sur la foire aux semences paysannes d'Afrique de l'Ouest	Blog	FR	3 April 2023		184 (French list) Shared with participants of 2022 Zimbabwe Farmer Exchange	43	3	70		
The Last Seed – A film produced by Rosa Luxemburg	News	Eng	16 May 2023					73		
Seed harmonisation in Eastern and Southern Africa	Briefing	Eng	28 August 2023		4451	905	49	56	74 (FR); 744 (TI), 8 (TE)	
Preliminary comments on Mozambique's seed legislation: draft National Seed Policy and Seed Law	Comment	Eng	13 October 2023							
Additional comments on Draft PBR and PI Regulations	Comment	Eng	1 December 2023							
Draft Plant Breeders' Rights and Plant Improvement Act Regulations	Web post	Eng	5 December 2023					38	100 (FR), 2 (FE), 64 (XI), 1 (XE)	
UPOV-aligned PVP laws impinge on farmer seed systems	Submission	Eng	5 December 2023					40	204 (FR), 24 (FE), 1173 (XI), 47 (XE)	

#### General media coverage of ACB work on Seed Sovereignty, September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Article Title	Publication Name	Description
22 September 2022	Die Wächterinnen des Saatguts	Enorm	ACB's Mariam Mayet is quoted in this article, providing an explanation for why South Africa's state of food security is shaped by the history of racial segregation and discrimination against the non-white population during the apartheid regime.
6 March 2023	How to end capitalism's grip on what you eat	Mediafeed	Features quote from ACB's Mariam Mayet on exceptions to seed legislation to allow for farmers' autonomy to preserve indigenous agriculture that is "the bedrock to ensure ecological integrity, sustainability of nature, biodiversity, landscapes, and ecosystems".



18 September 2023	The New Colonialist Food Economy	The Nation, mirrored in Trade U, Wealth Creation Investing, Instituto Fome-Zero, Salvador Lopez Arnal	ACB's Mariam Mayet is quoted in this article, which recognises the threat posed to the livelihoods of African small farmers and their ancestral crop varieties by Western seed companies pushing for legal and financial penalties for farmers who don't adopt foreign-engineered, patented seeds, including genetically modified versions of native seeds.
18 December 2023	Las semillas son comunidades que son semillas	Des Informemonos	ACB is mentioned as a key organisation in the continued movement against UPOV and the attempted privatisation of seeds.

**Online broadcasting coverage/webinars/ interviews featuring ACB work on Seed Sovereignty, September 2022 – February 2024**

Date	Title	Host Name	Description
23 September 2022	East Africa Seed Webinar. What is the importance of Farmer Managed Seed Systems (FMSS) within the African Union Guideline on Seed Harmonisation?	AFSA, ESAFF, supported by Rosa Luxemburg Foundation	ACB's research and advocacy officer Sabrina Masinjila makes recommendations to the East African Community on farmer managed seed systems.
14 October 2022	Zimbabwe Farmer on Farmer exchange: Radio interview between Simbarashe and Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	Chimanimani FM	This radio interview took place at the Chimanimani Behu Seed festival. ACB's research and advocacy officer Rutendo Zendah-Chirape shared the purpose of ACB and PELUM hosting the Zimbabwe farmer to farmer exchange. As part of the exchange, the farmers were given a chance to spend time at the seed festival and learn about local varieties of seed from the seed custodians. The core of the interview highlighted how the seed fair was a learning experience to see how Zimbabwe farmers are able to overcome climate change obstacles in producing strong quality seed, how farmers are adapting, and the importance of technical knowledge and skills to grow seeds. The exchange was a space created for farmers, govt officials and researchers to come together to address the blockages of farmer managed seed systems and to interact with each other to witness and study the seed diversity in Zimbabwe.
14 October 2022	Seed fair gets foreign buy farmers encouraged to preserve traditional grains	ZBC News	ZBC news broadcast the seed market - the ACB – Pelum Zimbabwe Farmer to farmer exchange program, hosted by the Tsuru Trust. The broadcast featured one of the participants from the exchange, Busiswe Mhlongo, who shared her experience of the seed market and the importance of sharing and exchanging indigenous seeds.
16 October 2022	People's Food Summit 2022: Africa Section 1	Regeneration International	On #WorldFoodDay, Regeneration International hosted a global online webinar featuring ACB's Sabrina Masinjila. The webinar showcased the journey of African civil society, including that of ACB, in the struggles for seed sovereignty, depicting especially mobilisation against commercial seed laws aligned with the International Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV) 1991, which dispossesses farmers of the right to their seed and criminalises farmers' seed and their age-old farming practices.
29 October 2022	The Last Seed	Rosa Luxemburg	'The Last Seed,' a documentary film produced by Rosa Luxemburg, features ACB's Mariam Mayet as part of the powerful voices advocating for seed sovereignty on the African continent. Through the lived experiences of African small-scale food producers, scientific and political expertise advocating for seed sovereignty, the film outlines the

			reality of far-reaching consequences of corporate greed in the lives of millions enmeshed in seed and acts as a map helping us remember the lost meaning of seed.
7 December 2022	International dimensions of the EU Seed marketing reform: Seeing beyond the regulation of the EU common market	Brot für die Welt (BftW)	ACB's Mariam Mayet provides a South African perspective on the recognition of smallholder farmers' rights to seeds in a webinar organised by Brot für die Welt & HEKS - EPER World – which aims to discuss the international dimensions of the future European Union seed marketing reform, building on a concrete case of seed policy advocacy from the African continent.
28 September 2023	AFSA Seed Webinar		ACB's Sabrina Masinjila was the keynote speaker at AFSA's Seed Webinar which looked at the threat of foreign influence in African policy and development agendas and the massive uptick in efforts to harmonise Africa's seed policies. The webinar explored the importance of preserving and revitalising traditional seed systems in the face of commercial pressures. The panel discussed the role of indigenous knowledge, community-based seed initiatives, and agro-biodiversity in decolonising Africa's seed systems and empowering local communities.
5 December 2023	RWA General Assembly	Rural Womens Assembly	Mariam Mayet was invited by the Rural Women's Assembly to speak at its General Assembly, presenting on Seeds, food sovereignty and climate justice in Southern Africa during a teach-in “idea” session.

#### Webinars by ACB on Seed Sovereignty, September 2022 – February 2024

Name	Type	Lang	Date	Mail list General(G) Media (M)	Mail open	Mail click	Attendees	FB Reach (FR) Share (FS) / Twitter Impressions (TI) Engagement (TE)	You Tube/ Print
Kenya Seed Learning and Knowledge Exchange series		Eng	4/04/2023 12/04/2023 13/04/2023				Day 1: 122 Day 2: 69 Day 3: 66 (Recordings of the webinar were also shared.)		

#### International, Regional and National meetings attended/hosted by ACB, on Seed Sovereignty September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Title of meeting	Host Name	Attended by	Description
9-17 October 2022	Zimbabwe Farmer to Farmer exchange	ACB, Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM), Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Organisation (TSURO),	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	The ACB, Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Zimbabwe, in collaboration with Towards Sustainable Use of Resources Organisation (TSURO), and Community Technology Development Organisation (CTDO) Zimbabwe co-hosted a farmer-to-farmer exchange, training, and knowledge sharing with a focus on seed selection, production, storage, and distribution, as part of its overall research and advocacy strategies toward the recognition of farmer seed systems and the implementation of farmers' rights. The exchange and training is took place on the 9–17 October in Zimbabwe.

		Community Technology Development Organisation		
25-26 October 2023	Securing Farmers Rights Seminar in Southern Africa	Seed Knowledge Initiative, Zambia Alliance for Agroecology & Biodiversity, UCT	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	This event was organised to share knowledge and experiences on Farmers' Rights in practice, the revival of farmer-led seed systems, and of restrictive policies which undermine their rights and food sovereignty. The dialogue formed part of the SKI Farmers' Rights Campaign, a culmination of 8 years of SKI's work, and many generations of farmers' knowledge, through seed and food celebrations across the region, farmers' dialogues, and seed market days.
23-27 October 2022	Africa Group Regional Preparatory meeting for the Ninth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture and the Global Crop Diversity Trust	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	ACB's research and advocacy officer Rutendo Zendah, together with a group of representatives from civil society and the IPC addressed the Africa Group at the Regional Preparatory meeting for the Ninth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (ITPGRFA), New Delhi, India. This group provided interventions on some of the key issues to be negotiated by Contracting Parties which included reaffirmation of the legally binding of all articles of the treaty including Article 9 which addresses Farmers Rights, the challenges that arise from the use of Digital Sequencing Information (DSI) and the implementation of Multilateral System (MLS) obligations and ensure fair and equitable sharing arising from the utilisation of Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture in the form of DSI.
1 March 2023	Seeds and Plant Genetic Resources of the Plant Production and Protection Division in FAO HQ, Rome.	Seeds & Plant Genetic Resources of Plant Production and Protection Division in FAO	Sabrina Masinjila	The Seeds and Plant Genetic Resources team of FAO hosted an Informal Expert Consultation to provide inputs on the draft concept note around the questions, methodology and the process for oversight and validation of the research. A diverse range of global experts were invited to revise the concept note before presenting it to the Working Group for their consideration.
9-11 March 2023	West Africa Peasant Fair in Benin	West African Committee for Peasants' Seed Systems (COASP)	Ngoni Blessing Chikowe, Zimsoff, Zimbabwe and Simbisai Machava, (MDTC) (Pelum Zimbabwe	The ACB supported the participation of two Zim farmers at the West Africa Peasant Fair in Benin. Ngoni Blessing Chikowe, Zimbabwe SmallHolder Organic Farmers' Forum - Zimsoff, Zimbabwe and Simbisai Machava, Mwenezi Development Training Centre, PELUM Zimbabwe, who took part in the Farmer-to-Farmer Learning Exchange organised by the ACB and partners in Zimbabwe, attended the Benin seed fair to learn first-hand about farmer managed seed systems in West Africa, and how farmers strive for food sovereignty within the context of increasing GMOs in Africa.
13 April 2023	Strengthening Genebank and Seed System Linkages in Tanzania	Norwegian University of Life Sciences, with Alliance of Bioversity Itnal, CIAT and the National Plant	Sabrina Masinjila	This workshop introduced and presented the project Biodiversity for Opportunities, Livelihoods and Development (BOLD). Genebanks and seed systems under the BOLD project aim to explore sustainable options for increasing farmers' access to crop genetic diversity from genebanks. ACB was asked to facilitate the plenary session in the programme after the presentation was made.

		Genetic Resource Centre (NPGRC) of Tanzania		
11 October 2023	SA seed law consultations PBRA & PIA Regulations consultation workshop (Pretoria)	South Africa Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Mariam Mayet Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development held a multi-stakeholder consultation workshop in Pretoria on Plant Breeders' Rights and Draft Regulations of the Plant Improvement Act in Pretoria.
13 October 2023	Zanzibar Seed Law	MVIWATA, ACB	Sabrina Masinjila	ACB and Mtandao wa Vikundi vya Wakulima Tanzania (MVIWATA) held an online bilateral meeting to strategise, analyse our involvement and input (including technical expertise) in assisting the Tanzanian Ministry of Agriculture in developing its Seed Act. The ministry has requested technical and financial expertise to help them develop and finalise the Act.
25-28 October 2023	Africa Group Regional Consultation Workshop for 10th Session of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	Secretariat of Intl Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture & Global Crop Diversity Trust	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	ACB's Rutendo Zendah-Chirape attended the Africa Group Regional Preparatory meeting ahead of the Tenth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture that will be held 18-24 November 2023 in Rome. ACB joined the last three days which were dedicated to policy matters including regional preparations for the Tenth Session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty and a closed segment for delegates to the Session.
7 November 2023	Pre-consultation workshop on Plant Breeders' Rights and Draft Regulations of the Plant Improvement Act	ACB	Mariam Mayet, Dr Stephen Greenberg	ACB co-hosted a pre-consultation workshop on 7 November with CSO representatives in preparation for a multi-stakeholder consultation meeting with the Dep. of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development on Plant Breeders' Rights and Draft Regulations of the Plant Improvement Act in Cape Town.
8 November 2023	SA seed law consultations PBRA & PIA Regulations consultation workshop (Cape Town)	Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development	Mariam Mayet, Dr Stephen Greenberg	The Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development held a multi-stakeholder consultation workshop in Cape Town on Plant Breeders' Rights and Draft Regulations of the Plant Improvement Act in Cape Town.
21 November 2023	GB10 ITPGRFA side event: Removing the bottlenecks: How to create space for farmer managed seeds	SWISSAID, Fridtjof Nansen Institute, Development Fund, AFSA, University of Cape Town	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	ACB's Rutendo Zendah-Chirape presented at this side event at the 10th session of the Governing Body of the ITPGRFA on how to create space for farmer-managed seed systems. The event brought together perspectives from research, state actors and civil society. ACB's presentation looked at introducing an exemption for smallholders in seed regulation and plant breeders' rights in South Africa.
20-24 November 2023	10th session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture	FAO	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	ACB's Rutendo Zendah-Chirape attended the 10th session of the Governing Body of the International Treaty for Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture which took place in Rome, Italy. The theme of the session was "From seeds to innovation solutions, safeguarding the future", and it was based on the exploration of the links between the GBF and the Treaty and identified relevant GBF targets. The session highlighted the need to ensure close collaboration with the CBD, following adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and its Decision 15/9 on benefit-sharing from DSI on genetic resources. It featured calls for implementation of

				farmers' rights across the Treaty's work streams, including in relation to DSI and during the negotiations on enhancement of the MLS, in collaboration with human rights bodies and instruments such as the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants.
30 November 2023	Markets and Seeds Access Project (MASAP) Inception Workshop	CTDT	Stephen Greenberg Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	ACB's Stephen Greenberg and Rutendo Zendah-Chirape attended the MASAP workshop in Lusaka, Zambia, virtually. The workshop outlined what the project entails and addressed the registration of farmer seed varieties in Zambia and Zimbabwe.

### Corporate expansion, publications released, September 2022 – February 2024

Publication Title	Type of Publication	Lang	Date of publication	Reposts/ Reach	Mail list General(G) Media (M)	Mails opened	Mail clicks	Web views	FB Reach (FR) Share (FS) / Twitter Impressions (TI) Engagement (TE)
ACB comments on the Draft White Paper on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of South Africa's Biodiversity 2022	Submission	Eng	19 September 2022		Submitted to Dep of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, 4219	808	56	32	303 (FR), 2 (FS); 85 (TI), 1 (TE)
Global Biodiversity Framework stuck in a paradigm of catastrophic growth: what future for Africa?	Briefing paper	Eng	20 October 2022		4585	826	107	79	314 (FR); 180 (TI), 5 (TE)
Extractive tourism A case study of biodiversity conservation in Tanzania, a legacy of gross human rights violations, and what the GBF's 30x30 Target really means for Africa	Briefing paper	Eng	2 December 2022		4410	800	51	140	271 (FR); 306 (TI), 8 (TE)
Civil society and farmer network organisations call on the South African Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to initiate an agroecology strategy and programme	Open letter	Eng	2 December 2022		4250	789	42	195	167 (TI), 3 (TE)
The Africa we want	Briefing paper	Eng	5 December 2022		4556	841	65	259	313 (TI), 5 (TE); 319 (FR)

A neo-imperialist food regime reinforced by Agenda 2063, the UNFCCC, and the CBD: Part 1 of 5									
The Africa we want A neo-imperialist food regime reinforced by Agenda 2063, the UNFCCC, and the CBD: Part 2 of 5	Briefing paper	Eng	5 December 2022		4556	841	65	259	313 (TI), 5 (TE); 319 (FR)
The Africa we want A neo-imperialist food regime reinforced by Agenda 2063, the UNFCCC, and the CBD: Part 3 of 5	Briefing paper	Eng	5 December 2022		4556	841	65	259	313 (TI), 5 (TE); 319 (FR)
The Africa we want A neo-imperialist food regime reinforced by Agenda 2063, the UNFCCC, and the CBD: Part 4 of 5	Briefing paper	Eng	5 December 2022		4556	841	65	259	313 (TI), 5 (TE); 319 (FR)
The Africa we want A neo-imperialist food regime reinforced by Agenda 2063, the UNFCCC, and the CBD: Part 5 of 5	Briefing paper	Eng	5 December 2022		4556	841	65	259	313 (TI), 5 (TE); 319 (FR)
30x30 Target – sanctioning extractive tourism and human rights violations in Africa?	Submission	Eng	8 December 2022	CBD Alliance, ECO, volume 65, issue 2	This submission was published on ECO Volume 65, Issue 2.				
CFS Leadership and response to Global Food and Food Price Crises	Submission	Eng	8 December 2022		This letter was submitted on behalf of ACB and Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (CSIM) to Minister Didiza of the DALRRD.				
Smallholder food producers – the key towards an	Submission	Eng	9 December 2022	CBD Alliance,	This submission was published on				

ecologically sound and just transition in agricultural and food systems				ECO, volume 65, issue 3	ECO Volume 65, Issue 3.				
Reject false solutions and uphold agroecology in the Global Biodiversity Framework	Submission	Eng	15 December 2022	CBD Alliance, ECO, volume 65, issue 4	This submission was published on ECO Volume 65, Issue 4.				
Outcomes of COP 15: Synbio, techno-fixes and false solutions need to be challenged nationally	Submission	Eng	16 February 2023	Shared with CBD Alliance blog.					
Rich appetites	Web post	Eng	10 May 2023					31	
Assessment of support for agroecology in South Africa's policy landscape	Briefing	Eng, FR	26 May 2023		4318	866	60	166	198 (FR), 2 (FS); 581 (TI), 11 (TE)
Cultivating diversity for a just agroecological transition in Africa	Briefing	Eng	16 August 2023		4586	883	55	116	120 (FR); 598 (TI), 9 (ET)
South African People's Tribunal on AgroToxins welcomes UN Expert's assessment highlighting human and environmental rights violations	Press release	Eng	17 August 2023		4016	925	45	95	1171 (FR), 4 (FS); 97 (TI), 2 (TE)
South Africa's list of highly hazardous pesticides researched and published by the network Unpoison	Press release	Eng	21 August 2023		320	55	3	51	166 (FR), 3 (FS); 545 (TI), 5 (TE)
The rise of digital agriculture and dispossession in Africa: implications for smallholder farmers	Briefing	Eng	30 August 2023	Modern Ghana	4698	1004	81	58	85 (FR), 1 (FS); 2778 (TI), 17 (TE)
Rise of the digital economy in Africa (part 1)	Fact sheet	Eng	30 August 2023		4698	1004	81	58	85 (FR), 1 (FS); 2778 (TI), 17 (TE)
Financialisation, dematerialisation,	Briefing	Eng	19 September 2023		4578	1011	75	484	89 (FR), 2 (FE); 509 (XI), 24 (XE)

digitalisation & distancing of Africa's agriculture									
Rise of the digital economy in Africa (part 2)	Fact sheet	Eng	19 September 2023						
Just Transition in the South African Food System: Synthesis report on pre-dialogue consultations	Report	Eng	19 September 2023						
Ambitious action to phase out world's most dangerous pesticides urged	Press release	Eng	26 September 2023		4751	1080	50	135	130 (FR), 5 (FE); 82 (TI), 5 (TE)
Just transition and adaptation in the food system: national policy dialogue	Web post	Eng	28 September 2023	Institute for Economic Justice	3186	575	78	199	832 (FR), 27 (FE); 1021 (TI), 70 (TE) (campaign totals)
Fact sheet 1: Towards a just transition	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						
Fact sheet 2: Need for a just transition in SA's food system	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						
Fact sheet 3: Climate change emissions in the food system	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						
Fact sheet 4: Impacts of climate change on the food system	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						
Fact sheet 5: Overview of the agriculture CCAMP	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						
Fact sheet 6: Towards a just and climate-resilient food system	Fact sheet	<b>Web versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu <b>Mobile versions:</b> English, Afrikaans, Sepedi, Xhosa, Zulu	28 September 2023						



NBS, the myth of a solution for our multiple crises: Financialization of nature won't solve the crisis – agroecology will	Submission	Eng	15 October 2023	Published in CBD Alliance, ECO					
World Food Day 2023: Working towards a just food system for all	Web post	Eng	16 October 2023					16	150 (FR), 18 (FE)
Governments urged to consider the interconnectedness between agricultural biodiversity, farmers' rights, food systems and climate change	Submission	Eng	17 October 2023	Published in CBD Alliance, ECO					
ACB attends 25th SBSTTA meeting in Kenya - 19 October	Web post	Eng	19 October 2023					24	55 (FR); 97 (TI), 9 (TE)
Ultra-processed food in Africa	Web post	Eng	8 November 2023					1146	
Introduction to UPF	Fact sheet	Eng	8 November 2023	Platform for African – European Partnership in Agricultural Research for Development	4401	968	120		81 (FR), 3 (FE), 133 (XI), 12 (XE)
UPF consumption in Africa	Fact sheet	Eng	13 November 2023		4390	833	104		143 (FR), 45 (XI)
Just Transition in the SA Food System - Thematic synthesis and priorities	Report	Eng	4 December 2023						
Civil Society Just Transition Framework for the Food System	Other	Eng	4 December 2023						

National Dialogue on Just Transition and Adaptation in the Food System in SA: Synthesis of presentations	Other	Eng	4 December 2023						
Dictatorship of UPF food companies over African diets and food markets	Fact sheet	Eng	8 February 2024		2171	349	77		66 (FR), 5 (FE) 365 (XI), 20 (XE)
African Perspectives on Agroecology now available for free online	Web post	Eng	9 February 2024					53	1061 (FR), 31 (FE) 306 (XI), 32 (XE)
Multi-pronged capture of consumer markets in Africa by UPF companies	Fact sheet	Eng	16 February 2024		1950	335	58		61 (FR), 2 (FE) 75 (XI), 7 (XE)

#### General media coverage of ACB work on Corporate Expansion, September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Article Title	Publication Name	Description
6 September 2022	Abahlali baseMjondolo human rights defenders assassination CSO letter	Socio-economic rights institute (SERI)	ACB endorses CSO letter holding the government accountable for the recent assassinations of Abahlali baseMjondolo human rights activists.
22 September 2022	Chinese, African experts call for adoption of nature-positive food systems	English.news.cn	This article quotes ACB's Linzi Lewis when highlighting key findings from the Protecting Agricultural Biodiversity and Constructing Scientific Food System Security virtual webinar hosted by African CSO Biodiversity Alliance (ACBA) on the 21 September, in which Lewis presented.
29 September 2022	#VoicesFromTheGround2: Grassroots impacts of COVID-19, conflicts, and crises on the right to food and food sovereignty	CSIPM Youtube	ACB signs on to the declaration statement calling on the inadequacy of government and multilateral responses that have resulted in increased inequalities, and heightened the fragility of the global food system. The statement was the result of the roundtable discussions from the 'VoicesFromTheGround2: Grassroots impacts of COVID-19, conflicts, and crises on the right to food and food sovereignty, hosted by Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM) , which ACB helped organise. The report outlines clear demands to governments and the UN system, identifying actions which need to be undertaken to transform a dangerously unfair and unsustainable system that is perpetuating hunger and poverty.
14 October 2022	Solidarity statement in support of the Maasai Indigenous Peoples of Loliondo and Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Tanzania	AFSA  Africa Europe Faith and Justice Network (AEFJN)	ACB signs on to this CSO letter expressing solidarity with the struggle of the Maasai communities living in Loliondo and in Ngorongoro Conservation Area in Tanzania. Around 160,000 Maasai Indigenous Peoples are currently affected by the unilateral decision of the Government of Tanzania to forcefully evict them out of their ancestral lands. The letter urges the Tanzanian government to halt forced evictions and start consultations with the Maasai in compliance with international human rights.
26 October 2022	Did West Africa's Ebola Outbreak of 2014 Have a Lab Origin?	Bioscience Resource Project	This online publication lists ACB as one source of information, particularly referring to its work done on Multiple shocks and the Ebola and COVID pandemics in West and Central Africa: extraction, profiteering and shattered food systems and livelihoods.
22 November 2022	An Open Letter to Bill Gates on Food, Farming, and Africa	Tageslicht	ACB, together with 50 organisations, signed the open letter by AGRA Watch responding to Bill Gates' op-ed published in the New York Times by David Wallace-Wells and also in an Associated Press article,

		From the trenches world report Common Dreams Resilience	which were extremely dismissive of agroecology and his critics. The open letter was submitted to various media outlets which included: Common Dreams, Grist and The Nation.
27 November 2022	Alimentos, agricultura y África: una carta abierta a Bill Gates	Loque Somos	Ibid.
6 December 2022	Interview: One World Magazine and ACB's ED Mariam Mayet	One World Magazine	ACB's Mariam Mayet was interviewed by One World's Samuel Schlaefli about the political and socio-economic challenges regarding the promotion of biodiversity in Africa and the ACB's work within African CSOs Biodiversity Alliance (ACBA). The article focuses on how the ACB is pushing for biodiversity policies within the post-2020 Global Framework under the CBD.
6 December 2022	Landmark 'nature' COP taxis for take-off	ETC Group	The text of the Global Biodiversity Framework is written in draft form, and contains mostly a series of targets to achieve in the coming decade. ACB is mentioned as one of the organisations concerned with a particular handful of these targets and how it will be reflected in the text at the COP 15 negotiations which took place 7-19 December. ACB's focus was to draw attention to specifically Target 10 which has to do with agriculture and how the target needs to include language that reflects the importance of agroecology and the rights of small farmers.
7 December 2022	AGRICULTURAL EMPOWERMENT: State urged to implement agroecology programme 'as a guiding framework for SA's food system'	Banoyi  Head Topics  Daily Maverick	This article mentions the ACB's call [together with 58 co-signatory organisations] in an open letter submitted to Minister Thoko Didiza on 2 December calling on the SA Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development (DALRRD) to initiate an agroecology strategy and programme.
7 December 2022	The IPC fight for peasant biodiversity lands in Montreal for COP15	Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance (AFSA)	In AFSA's blog about the key insights and outcomes from the 15th Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP15), the ACB is mentioned as one of the speakers AFSA participated with in <i>Missing the Mark? Global Biodiversity Targets Risk Failure without Agroecology and Agricultural Biodiversity</i> – a side event hosted by the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, and co-sponsored by the ACB.
8 December 2022	CFS Leadership and response to Global Food and Food Price Crises	Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM) for	ACB and the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples Mechanism (CSIPM) made this submission to Minister Didiza (DALRRD) calling for engaging an inclusive member-led dialogue to propose an approach for providing globally coordinated policy guidance to CFS51 to address the current and prevent future crises.
11 December 2022	CBD COP15 needs to reinforce precaution against geoengineering to protect biodiversity and communities.	ETC Group  Geoengineering Monitor	The ACB, together with more than 80 national & international CSOs, signed an open letter calling on COP15 CBD to say no to geoengineering and yes to protecting biodiversity, the environment, human rights and the rights of Indigenous people.
13 December 2022	Four African CSOs on agroecology, biotechnologies and the "free, prior and informed consent	CBD-Live	In this press conference, organised by the Convention for Biological Diversity Alliance (CBDA) at the Montreal COP15, ACB's Sabrina Masinjila was one of the partners from four different African CSOs, talking about the risks of biotechnology for agricultural biodiversity and the need for a precautionary approach.

14 December 2022	COP15: Voices from the global biodiversity conference with Sabrina Masinjila	The Global Alliance for the Future of Food	Experts in food systems and biodiversity were asked what they hope to see come out of the UN Biodiversity Conference, also known as COP15. One of the experts was ACB's research and advocacy officer Sabrina Masinjila who shared ACB's perspective on what is holding back action when it comes to recognising the connection between food systems and biodiversity loss. <a href="https://bit.ly/3wg4R5X">https://bit.ly/3wg4R5X</a>
19 December 2022	COP15: An interview with Sabrina Masinjila	ETC Group	In this interview, ACB's Sabrina Masinjila speaks to ETC Group about some key targets in the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) being negotiated at COP15 in Montreal. She explains the importance of agroecology and agricultural diversity in Target 10 of the GBF, and why these are so important for biodiversity in the future.
30 January 2023	Soil to Sky: Climate Solutions That Transform	Clima Fund	ACB's Mariam Mayet was one of the advisors consulted on the process of overseeing the compilation of evidence and research of Clima Fund's latest report, Soil to Sky 2: Climate Solutions That Transform. In a press release about the launch of this report, Mayet comments on the value it has for substantially increased funding and support for socially just, equitable, and ecologically sustainable food systems to address the converging climate and biodiversity crises, in large part driven by industrial agriculture.
8 March 2023	Meet the women working for a just rural transition	Just Rural Transition	ACB's Sabrina Masinjila was featured in JRT's article written for International Women's Day. The piece showcases a group of women who are playing an important part in a 'just rural transition' – that is, a transition to sustainable farming that is good for the climate, food systems, natural ecosystems and farmer/rural community livelihoods.
14 March 2023	Agroecology Strategy and Plan for South Africa: stakeholder input	Parliamentary Monitoring group	Agroecology practitioners and advocates led by the African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB), the Association for Rural Advancement (AFRA), Agrarian Reform for Food Sovereignty Campaign (FSC), Biowatch, the Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG), the Surplus People Project (SPP), and Tshintsha Amakhaya (TA) convened in parliament to engage on an agroecology strategy plan for South Africa. This report provides a summary of the meeting that took place.
30 March 2023	WikiForHumanRights	Wikimedia	ACB is listed as one of the organisations under the database of African Climate Research Orgs.
21 April 2023	Cash crops potential for Africa	Farming and technology	This article provides insights on African cash crops and explores some of the top cash crops in Africa, their impact on the economy, and the potential they hold for the future. The article recommends the ACB's work as a resource to learn more about cash crops in Africa.
21 July 2023	Corporate capture of Africa's food systems and natural resources	Capire	Leonida Odongo denounces corporate expansion in African countries and shares popular alternatives based on agroecology.
1 October 2023	South Africa's commercial farming sector since 1994	Amandla	In this feature article, ACB's Dr Stephen Greenberg provides an overview of the commercial farming sector in South Africa under apartheid and the changes made since 1994 in the post-apartheid era. He also looks at how the food system has been restructured and potential alternatives, such as agroecology.
31 October 2023	Justice in nature conservation: limits and possibilities under global capitalism	Climate and Development	In this journal article, in which Aby L. Sène argues that "justice whereby the rights and self-determination of Black and Indigenous peoples are upheld is incompatible with global conservation", ACB is cited as an African-led organisation that is working to protect Africa's biodiversity by resisting corporate-industrial expansion in the continent's food and agriculture systems while working towards food sovereignty and agroecology.
1 November 2023	From local initiatives to coalitions for an effective agroecology strategy: lessons from South Africa	Sustainability	ACB's Dr Stephen Greenberg is the lead author on this paper which provides an in-depth case study of the importance of promoting agroecological transitions. Following a qualitative research methodology based on a literature review for context, preparatory discussions with local contact points, and semi-

			structured interviews and focus group discussions with local actors in the field, the paper describes, analyses and characterises the agroecological transitions in the Overberg District in the Western Cape.
1 December 2023	Critiques of Gates Foundation agricultural interventions in Africa	US Right to Know	<p>In this article, putting forward a critique of the Gates Foundation's agricultural interventions in Africa, the work of experts and expert organisations from around the world is cited, with links to reports and news articles documenting these concerns provided.</p> <p>The ACB's work over many years, including its most recent publications, are cited in the article, highlighting the numerous problems associated with the Gates-led “green revolution” for Africa.</p>
18 January 2024	Agriculture in a changing climate: we only have a future with agroecology	Climate.Table (EN)	Mariam Mayet wrote an op-ed for Table Media on how promoting climate-smart agriculture as a climate solution is misleading and noted that agroecology is essential if humanity wants to have a future on the planet.
23 January 2024	Landwirtschaft im Klimawandel: Nur mit Agrarökologie haben wir eine Zukunft	Climate.Table (DE)	Mariam Mayet wrote an op-ed for Table Media on how promoting climate-smart agriculture as a climate solution is misleading and noted that agroecology is essential if humanity wants to have a future on the planet.

**Webinars and events hosted by ACB on monitoring Corporate Expansion, September 2022 – February 2024**

Name	Type	Lang	Date	Mail list General(G) Media (M)	Mail open	Mail click	Attendees	FB Reach (FR) Share (FS) / Twitter Impressions (TI) Engagement (TE)	You Tube/ Print
Global Biodiversity Framework and its implications for Africa// Le Cadre Mondial pour la Biodiversite et ses implications pour l’Afrique	Webinar	ENG, FR	3 November 2022	4418			80		
South South Dialogue Exchange	Live event	ENG, SP	27/08/2023-29/08/2023				29		
National Policy Dialogue on a Just Transition and Adaptation in the South Africa Food System	Live event	ENG	20/09/2023-22/09/2023				78 in-person participant, 32 online		
Looking forward from National Dialogue on Just Transition and Adaptation in the SA Food System	Webinar	ENG	04/12/2023				40		

Online broadcasting coverage/webinars/interviews featuring ACB's work on Corporate Expansion, September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Title of Webinar	Host Name	Description
21 September 2022	Protecting Agricultural Biodiversity and Constructing Scientific Food System Security	African CSO Biodiversity Alliance (ACBA)	ACB's Linzi Lewis presented in this webinar on the topic: Agriculture is dependent on biodiversity and biodiversity is an essential component of the agricultural landscape and a cornerstone of food and nutrition security, climate change adaptation, and sustainable livelihoods.
16 October 2022	My food is Africa	AFSA	On #WorldFoodDay, the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa (AFSA) hosted an online webinar, My food is Africa, featuring ACB's Sabrina Masinjila.
10 November 2022	No Biodiversity, no food.	European Left	Mariam presented in this webinar focusing on the severity of biodiversity loss, its consequences and how to counteract the 6th mass extinction.
8 December 2022	Missing the Mark (Future of Food)	Future of Food	Co-hosted by ACB, African Biodiversity Network, Biovision Foundation, Agropolis Foundation, Coventry University Centre for Agroecology, Water and Resilience (CAWR), Cultivate!, EcoNexus, Friends of the Earth International, Global Alliance for the Future of Food, Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP), IPES-Food, Latin American Scientific Society for Agroecology (SOCLA), Laurier Centre for Sustainable Food Systems (Canada), Third World Network (TWN), UNESCO Chair on Food, Biodiversity and Sustainability Studies, and the University of Vermont.  This side event shed light on emerging coalitions and policy actions that are linking agroecology and agricultural biodiversity as crucial pathways to transform food systems. Sabrina Masinjila is featured in a series of short interviews that were released on social media, talking about the importance of biodiversity and what the ACB hopes to get out of the summit.
9 December 2022	LMOs, new genomic techniques & asymmetric authorization – Approaches to international documentation and traceability	Bundesamt für Verbraucherschutz und Lebensmittelsicherheit (BVL)	In the area of biosafety, the Cartagena Protocol is the international treaty governing the safe transfer, handling and use of living modified organisms (LMOs) with a focus on their transboundary movement. Development of new genomic techniques, like genome editing, fundamentally changed natural sciences in recent years. This subsequently led to breeding of new varieties that, however, can present challenges, e.g., in global trade or in GMO-free farming.  Against this background, ACB's Sabrina Masinjila shed light on approaches for the safe transfer and handling of LMOs and organisms developed using new genomic techniques, and addressed aspects such as asymmetric regulation as well as detection and identification of LMOs in a panel discussion, hosted by BVL as one of the side events for COP 15 Montreal.
9 December 2022	Debt, biodiversity and climate crises: addressing fiscal barriers on the path to transformative change	TWN	The debt, biodiversity and climate crises are closely intertwined. For some countries, pressure to repay debt keeps them locked into biodiversity-degrading sectors in order to earn foreign currency, driving biodiversity loss.  ACB co-hosted the second side event which featured experts from TWN, Climate and Community Project, University of British Columbia, African CSO Biodiversity Alliance, and others discussing debt, biodiversity, and climate crises. With a strong focus on addressing fiscal barriers on the path to transformative change, participants at the event explored how to mobilise resources, eliminate debt, and maintain debt sustainability for CBD goals.

2 February 2023	Soil to Sky 2 briefing	ClimaFund	In this webinar that launched the Soil to Sky: Climate Solutions That Transform, Mariam Mayet, one of the advisors in the process of overseeing the compilation of evidence and research of this report, presented on successful agroecology systems in Africa, with a focus on Benin.
16 February 2023	Biodiversity COP15 in Montreal: Looking and acting beyond what the media told us	CBD Alliance	ACB's Sabrina Masinjila joined CBDA members to provide an update and critical analysis of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) and related decisions adopted at COP 15. Masinjila's presentation uncovered the false solutions of agriculture and synbio techno-fixes, as well as a way forward.
27 March 2023	Intercontinental Forums on Nature and Nature's Rights	Accion Ecologica	Sabrina Masinjila shared reflections on what we understand by nature, its rights, practical experiences of defence and strategies to confront the instrumentalisation to which nature is subjected by capital.
25 April 2023	Rich Appetites Screening: The Corporate Capture of African Food Systems and the Hunger for Justice	Community Alliance for Global Justice	ACB's Mariam Mayet, together with food sovereignty activists in Africa, were a part of the virtual screening and panel discussion of Rich Appetites: The Corporate Capture of African Food Systems and the Hunger for Justice – hosted by AGRA Watch. Co-produced by AGRA Watch and AFSA, Rich Appetites is a 5-part series that exposes how billionaire philanthropists have pushed industrial agriculture around the globe—including in Africa. Mayet, who was featured in the third installation of the Rich Appetites' films, titled 'Money', joined panellists in unpacking how various national governments and regional institutions have navigated this issue, and what can be done to ensure self-determination in African agricultural systems.
6-8 November 2023	National Farm Worker Platform	Women on Farms Project	Women on Farms Project (WFP) hosted its annual National Farm Worker Platform (NFWP), 6-8 November 2023. This year, NFWP focused on the current state of landlessness, hunger and health of workers who are precariously employed on farms. The theme was 'Dignity and decent livelihoods through a just transition of the agricultural system'. ACBs Mariam Mayet joined the panel on alternatives to the dominant industrialised agricultural model practiced in South Africa and shared the thinking and strategy behind the People's Pesticide Tribunal.

#### International, regional and national meetings attended/hosted by ACB, on Corporate Expansion, September 2022 – February 2024

Date	Title of meeting	Host Name	Attended by	Description
19 – 21 September 2022	AFSA's Climate convening. Africa's roadmap to adaptation through agroecology: defining Africa's position for COP 27. Addis Ababa, Ethiopia	AFSA	Sabrina Masinjila	This event aimed to provide a space for diverse climate actors to discuss and shape a roadmap for the transition to climate adaptation and community resilience through agroecology. ACB's Sabrina Masinjila was one of the speakers at this event who shared her expertise on how WEMA is a false solution to climate change.
8 February 2023	Meeting of SADC Directors of Agricultural Research and Extension, and Deans of Faculties of Agriculture	Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa (CCARDESA)	Dr. Stephen Greenberg	Stephen Greenberg, representing ACB, presented on agroecology to a meeting of SADC Directors of Agricultural Research and Extension, and Deans of Faculties of Agriculture in the region, hosted by the CCARDESA.

11 February 2023	Ministerial debrief on Outcomes of GBF		Sabrina Masinjila	<p>In February, the ACB attended the Ministerial debrief on the outcomes of the COP 15. Key themes discussed in the meeting included the outcomes of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF) adopted in December 2022, the means of implementation linked to biodiversity funding and sourcing of public and private sector resources, digital sequence information (DSI), biodiversity and climate change and presentation on the implementation plan for the South African government.</p> <p>The South African government expected to strengthen the implementation of the White Paper on Conservation and Sustainable Use in order to implement the Global Biodiversity Framework (GBF). In addition, the government shared an implementation plan which involved thematic consultations. Worryingly, was the push for private financing and recognition of the private sector as key implementation partners, signifying the relinquishing of the roles of state to the private sector and market-based solutions.</p>
13 February 2023	Oxfam AAMP meeting 13 Feb 2023	Oxfam	Dr. Stephen Greenberg	CSO meeting to discuss the SA government's Agriculture And Agro Processing Master Plan (AAMP), held in Gauteng.
27-28 February 2023	Agroecology advocacy meeting held in Suurbraak 27-28 Feb.	Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG)	Mariam Mayet, Rifqah Tifleon, Tamara Reddy, Deidre May, Stephen Greenberg	Co-hosted with the Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG) and TCOE, ACB attended the Suurbraak farmers meeting which covered intersecting issues on climate change, agroecology, biodiversity and industrial agriculture. Through the lens of advocacy and the challenges facing smallholder farmers, the meeting was an introductory session that explored the gaps and opportunities of the agroecology climate in South Africa.
17 March 2023	A long movement. Transforming food systems by 2045.	ETC Group	Sabrina Masinjila	ACB's Sabrina Masinjila participated in three workshops aimed at collectively considering what predictable surprises may be coming and how we can better prepare ourselves to respond to them.
3-5 July 2023	Biodiversity & the GBF meeting	Third World Network SAM	Mariam Mayet Sabrina Masinjila	ACB's Mariam Mayet and Sabrina Masinjila attended this meeting in Kuala Lumpur. There was also collaboration with other organisations who contributed to the meeting, such as Friends of Earth Malaysia. ACB supported the participation of two other African colleagues, Yemi Katerere and Simangele Msweli from the African CSOs on Biodiversity.
1 September 2023	Preparation for Global Farmers' Rights Symposium	ACB, International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty, FIAN International	Mariam Mayet, Sabrina Masinjila	ACB, the International Planning Committee for Food Sovereignty (IPC) (Biodiversity Working Group), and FIAN International hosted a meeting for African governments and civil society organisations attending the Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights in September in New Delhi, India, to share and prepare priority areas for engagement and contributions.



12-15 September 2023	Global Farmers' Rights Symposium	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare in collaboration with PPVFR Authority, Indian Council of Agricultural Research, ICAR-Indian Agricultural Research Institute, ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	<p>The Global Symposium on Farmers' Rights was organised by the Secretariat of the International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture of the Food and Agriculture Organization. It was attended by more than 500 delegates from 60 countries, including the National Focal Points of the International Treaty, more than 150 farmers, and more than 100 foreign participants.</p> <p>ACB attended the symposium as a continuation of our work on farmers' rights under the Plant Treaty, giving political support to African CSOs and governments on various issues pertaining to farmers' rights as set out in Article 9 of the International Treaty.</p>
11-13 October 2023	Biovision regional workshop on development of national agroecology strategies (NAS) in East and Southern Africa	Biovision, the Agroecology TPP, and the Agroecology Coalition	Dr Stephen Greenberg	Biovision hosted a regional workshop on the development of national agroecology strategies (NAS) in East and Southern Africa. Participants included reps from CSOs and government officials involved in the development of NAS in their countries.
16-19 October 2023	CBD's 25th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA)	Convention on Biological Diversity Alliance	Sabrina Masinjila	ACB participated in the Convention on Biological Diversity's 25th meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice (SBSTTA) in Nairobi, Kenya. This was an important convening following the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework in December 2022. Key items on the agenda include biodiversity and climate change. As a subsidiary body of the COP, SBSTTA is to report regularly to the COP on all aspects of its work.
17 October 2023	Affirming precaution on geoengineering and other dangerous distractions (SBSTTA side event)	ETC Group, AfriTAP	Sabrina Masinjila	ACB's Sabrina Masinjila spoke at a side event at the 25th SBSTTA meeting in Nairobi, Kenya, hosted by the ETC Group and HOMEF Nigeria in collaboration with the CBD Alliance, AfriTAP, and the Hands Off Mother Earth! Alliance. The event aimed to affirm the CBD's leadership in taking precautionary decisions on geoengineering, urging for the world to take real climate action and avoid false solutions.
19-20 October 2023	Swiss Cooperation Partners meeting	Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency	Rutendo Zendah-Chirape	The ACB was invited to attend the Swiss Cooperation Partners meeting held in Harare, Zimbabwe, 19-20 September. The meeting agenda included sharing news from the Swiss Development and Cooperation Agency; discussing important context developments and emerging priorities; narrow-in outcome orientation, monitoring, and evaluation topics; and fostering collaboration and synergies among Swiss-supported initiatives for the Cooperation Programme for Zambia and Zimbabwe 2023-2026. ACB attended the meeting as an SDC partner under the Strengthening Agro-Biodiversity in Southern Africa (SASA) project.

8-9 November 2023	3rd National Ecological Organic Agriculture Conference (NAEOAC)	Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement	Sabrina Masinjila	ACB's Sabrina Masinjila attended the 3rd National Ecological Organic Agriculture Conference (NAEOAC) in Dodoma, Tanzania, and participated in a panel discussion on agrobiodiversity and improved nutrition.
22 November 2023	Multiple Perspectives, One Goal: Food System Transformation		Dr Stephen Greenberg	Joining other experts on the South African food system in a collaborative webinar, ACB's Dr Stephen Greenberg presented on the High Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) on Food Security and Nutrition's 13 principles as a framing for agroecology. The webinar explored the complexity of the food system, its interconnected challenges as well as what type of interventions should be taking place.
23-24 November 2023	Agroecology core group planning meeting	ACB, SPP, TCOE, Biowatch, LandNNES, Tshintsha Amakhaya, AFRA, EMG	Mariam Mayet, Dr Stephen Greenberg, Sindy Peters	ACB's Mariam Mayet, Dr Stephen Greenebrg and Sindy Peters attended a meeting of the Agroecology advocacy group in Cape Town, hosted by partners ACB, SPP, TCOE, Tshintsa Amakhaya, Biowatch, AFRA, EMG. The meeting, which also hosted small-scale farmers, focused on the way forward for the group in terms of focus work areas over the coming year.