



The NBI's weekly sustainable development news update

On A Clear Day: Issue 368, 4 November 2011

This publication is made possible through the following NBI members:



CONTENTS:

- [Industry News](#)
- [Notices, Reports & Surveys](#)
- [South African Events](#)
- [International Events](#)
- [Contact | Subscribe | Unsubscribe](#)

Industry News

GLOBAL BUSINESS SURVEY FINDS WIDESPREAD OPTIMISM ON THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF SUSTAINABILITY IN CORPORATE STRATEGY Results from the BSR/GlobeScan State of Sustainable Business Poll 2011, released this week at the BSR conference 2011, show that global businesses remain highly committed to sustainability. [CSR Wire, 2 November 2011](#)

WHY WATER IS THE SHARP END OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE STICK In 2009 Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) Water Disclosure was launched, which provides a platform for the world's largest corporations to report on their water use and their water-related risks and opportunities. This year, inspired by the response from Bangkok and other cities, they have added a number of water-related questions to CDP Cities, the reporting platform for municipal governments. [Conor Riffle, GreenBiz, 3 November 2011](#)

INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE IN SCHOOLS A SUCCESS Integrating the teaching of indigenous knowledge systems into the basic education curriculum was already proving successful, with teachers reporting an improvement in argumentation and high-level thinking skills among pupils, Deputy Minister of Science and Technology Derek Hanekom says. [Karl Gernetsky, Business Day, 31 October 2011](#)

PROMISING NEW PROCUREMENT PACT The local procurement accord between business, organised labour and the government, should be viewed as a measure to provide temporary relief, rather than a long-term strategy to achieve the country's employment and economic growth targets. [Business Day, 2 November 2011](#)

GREEN CLIMATE FUND PROGRESS VITAL AT DURBAN TALKS Addressing the Socialist International Commission for a Sustainable World Society this week, President Jacob Zuma reiterated that South Africa would like to see action on the Green Climate Fund and that 'developing countries demand a prompt start for the fund through its early and initial capitalisation'. [Climate Change Headlines, 1 November 2011](#)

HEAD OF UN HEALTH AGENCY OUTLINES REFORMS TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY The head of the United Nations World Health Organisation (WHO), Margaret Chan, this week stressed that planned reforms are intended to make the agency more efficient as it strives to improve global health amid multiple challenges that have an impact on human well-being. [UN News Centre, 1 November 2011](#)

BIODIVERSITY - POWERING A GREEN ECONOMY IN SOUTH AFRICA Managing biodiversity and ecosystems allows the opportunity to create thousands of jobs and deliver on South Africa's new growth-path framework. This was mentioned by Kristal Maze, Chief Director of Bioregional Programmes, South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI). [MBA.co.za, 27 October 2011](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE COULD UNRAVEL DEVELOPMENT PROGRESS The United Nations unveiled its 22nd annual Human Development Report this week, with grave warnings that unless countries take action against climate change and implement sustainable solutions, progress in human development will be in serious jeopardy. [Elizabeth Whitman, IPS, 2 November 2011](#)

UN GLOBAL COMPACT LAYS OUT ACTIONS FOR GOVERNMENTS TO STRENGTHEN CORPORATE CONTRIBUTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AT RIO+20 The UN Global Compact Office submitted *Corporate Sustainability Leadership: A Framework for Action at Rio+20 and Beyond* as an input to the preparatory process of the UN Conference on Sustainable Development – Rio+20 outcome document. The submission calls for Governments to take steps to support corporate responsibility, arguing that with the right incentives, enabling environments and means of implementation, the private sector can make significant contributions to sustainable development. [UN Global Compact, 1 November 2011](#)

WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION'S (WTO) LAMY LAUNCHES NEW IDEA ON DOHA TALKS WTO chief Pascal Lamy is backing a new approach to the stalled Doha round of global trade talks, suggesting that the WTO's members could agree bite-sized chunks rather than swallowing the indigestible whole in one go. [Engineering News, 20 October 2011](#)

MAKING EFFECTIVE DECISIONS IN A CHANGING CLIMATE Despite clear links between human well-being and ecosystems, many countries have not prioritised the maintenance of ecosystem services when deciding where to site large infrastructure and plot urban expansion. An example from South Africa shows how short-sighted choices can be avoided. [WRI Insights, 2 November 2011](#)

'START SAVING TO CREATE NEW JOBS', MANUEL TELLS SOUTH AFRICANS Addressing this year's Consumer Rights Forum, in Johannesburg this week, Minister in the Presidency responsible for national planning, Mr Trevor Manuel, said that South Africans' free-spending ways are hobbling the economy's ability to create jobs. [Moyagabo Maake, Business Day, 3 November 2011](#)

Notices, Reports & Surveys

NBI COP 17 WEB PORTAL The hosting of COP 17 by South Africa in Durban soon has attracted many companies to attend and experience being part of this important event. The NBI is currently organising and hosting a series of seminars and workshops, in collaboration with other organisations, where the South African negotiators and experts are giving detailed breakdown on the negotiation process on mitigation, adaptation, technology, finance and other related topics. Visit the [National Business Initiative](#) website for more information.

AID, PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs): IS COLLABORATION POSSIBLE? Is public expenditure in developing countries inefficient and biased against the poor? How could better aid delivery enhance the likelihood of achieving MDGs? What changes are required in current patterns of public expenditure and monitoring and in-donor-recipient relations? [Eldis](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE LEADERSHIP AWARDS OPENS FOR ENTRIES This is the third year of the Climate Change Leadership Awards (CCLA) competition and the CCLA is hoping to reach out to an even greater number of people and companies to widen the circle of climate change responsibility. Individuals, schools, local municipalities and companies are encouraged to enter on www.ccla.co.za. Entries close **30 January 2012**.

HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2011 – SUSTAINABILITY AND EQUITY: A BETTER FUTURE FOR ALL (NOVEMBER 2011) 'Sustainability and Equity: A Better Future for All' argues that environmental sustainability can be most fairly and effectively achieved by addressing health, education, income, and gender disparities together with the need for global action on energy production and ecosystem protection. [Polity](#)

BASF, BAXTER LEAD CARBON RANKINGS THAT STRESS SCOPE 3 BASF has topped carbon rankings of the world's largest 1 270 companies, as the only one to disclose complete scope 3 emissions data, according to the Environmental Tracker from the Environmental Investment Organisation. [Environmental Leader](#)

CSRWIRE RELEASES SECOND ANNUAL UNITED NATIONAL GLOBAL COMPACT COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS CSRwire has released its second annual United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) Communication on Progress, the largest corporate responsibility initiative in the world that asks companies and organisations to honour UN goals including the Millennium Development Goals. [CSRWire](#)

BUILDING THE CLIMATE CHANGE REGIME: SURVEY AND ANALYSIS OF APPROACHES This working paper seeks to identify concrete pathways for building an international 'climate change regime'. It surveys and analyses the academic literature as well as proposals by non-governmental organisations and governments. [WRI](#)

PAPER OFFERS OPTIONS TO SCALE UP CLIMATE ACTION GLOBALLY IN DURBAN, RIO AND BEYOND A new paper published by the World Resources Institute (WRI) and the United National Environment Programme (UNEP), with the support of the Government of Ireland, entitled *Building the Climate Change Regime: Survey and Analysis of Approaches*, reviews more than 130 proposals put forward by governments, non-governmental organisations (NGO's) and academics to design a climate regime capable of delivering adequate mitigation action. [WRI](#)

GENDER AND EQUITY ISSUES IN LIQUID BIOFUELS PRODUCTION – MINIMISING THE RISKS TO MAXIMISE THE OPPORTUNITIES The production of liquid biofuels such as bioethanol and biodiesel is rapidly increasing in developing countries, due mainly to the establishment of large-scale biofuel feedstock plantations. This results in potential socio-economic benefits, particularly in terms of agricultural employment, but also in risks, which tend to be context-specific. [Eldis](#)

DEADLY SILENCE: BARRIERS TO COMMUNICATING HIV/AIDS IN SCHOOLS An estimated 11.8 million 15 to 24-year-olds are living with HIV worldwide. Schools are the obvious place to teach young people about the risks of infection. But what is the best way to do this? [Eldis](#)

HOW POLICY-MAKERS CAN ESTABLISH A NATIONAL PROGRAMME ON SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION In the context of climate change, it has become clear that our global community urgently needs to adopt more sustainable life-styles to both reduce the use of natural resources and CO2 emissions. In accordance with the 'Marrakech process', these guidelines have been developed for governments and other stakeholders to establish national programmes on sustainable consumption and production (SCP). [Eldis](#)

South African Events

9TH CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER SEMINAR Diemersfontein, Wellington, Western Cape, 7–9 November 2011, for managers in the private or public sector who have responsibility for the sustainability, environmental, social, corporate affairs or supply chain dimensions of their organisation. For more details, please go to www.cpsl.co.za or contact Magda on +27 21 469 4765.

CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY SEMINAR 8 November 2011, Indaba Hotel, Fourways, Johannesburg. The Swedish Trade Council (STC), with the support of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA), will launch a CSR programme aimed at helping companies identify areas of possible improvement within CSR in their companies. For more information please email maria.nordstrom@swedishtrade.se or sibongile.ngubane@swedishtrade.se or contact on 011 300 5600.

PRE-COP 17 SUMMIT MEETING 8 November 2011 Auditorium Phase One, Nedbank, 135 Rivonia Sandown, Johannesburg. A high-level event with representation from emerging economies to identify shared perspectives on opportunities and challenges for a common vision, practical strategies and priorities for COP17 and beyond. For more information contact Dunbar.christine@nbi.org.za or 011 544 6000.

CLIMATE CHANGE & RENEWABLE ENERGY LAW WORKSHOP 8 November 2011 in Rosebank, Johannesburg. This workshop is aimed at providing a strategic understanding and analysis of the policy and legal frameworks relating to climate change and renewable energy in South Africa. For more information or to book your seat at this workshop, please contact Lulu Dutton : lulu@imbewu.co.za or +27 11 214 0660/1.

THE WASTE IN BUSINESS SEMINAR 9 November, Emperor's Palace, Johannesburg. South African environmental legislation is putting more emphasis on waste minimisation and recycling. What are the benefits for this change in legislation? Are there any other instruments available to effectively drive this change? Click [here](#) for more information.

THE BUSINESS OF SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL INNOVATION CONFERENCE 14-16 November 2011, Cape Town. In this conference we will seek to connect and cross-fertilize various narratives on the business of social and environmental innovation, and to share and distil lessons from across academic disciplines and from successful initiatives in Africa and beyond. The conference will ask whether some form of research network would be of value, and if so, in what form. Visit the [conference website](#) for more information.

COP17 SEMINAR - STATUS QUO ON CLIMATE CHANGE NEGOTIATIONS 21 November 2011, AfriSam, (The Auditorium in Cycad House), Cnr Hendrik Potgieter & 14th Avenue, Roodepoort. This is the last seminar in our COP 17 Lead up Series. South Africa's Chief Negotiator Alf Wills will conclude the seminar series with a roundup of the latest information on the United Nations negotiations, what South Africa's position will be going into the negotiations and what the business community can expect as an outcome from the deliberations in Durban. For more information, contact Christine Dunbar at Dunbar.christine@nbi.org.za

DURBAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONVENTION 2–4 December 2011, Durban, South Africa. Durban is hosting this conference to mobilise the participation of local governments in the UN climate talks. For more information please contact ICLEI Africa convention team at lgconvention@iclei.org or iclei-africa@iclei.org.

SA CARBON DISCLOSURE PROJECT 2011 REPORT LAUNCH 6 December 2011, Durban, South Africa. The National Business Initiative and the Carbon Disclosure Project London office will release the 2011 South African Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) report on submissions of the Top 100 JSE listed companies. For more information contact Dunbar.christine@nbi.org.za or 011 544 6000.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE - KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES - TRAINING COURSE 7-9 December 2011, Johannesburg. For further information please contact Bronwyn on 011-582 3222 or reply to this email. Alternatively to download the course brochure go to <http://www.KnowledgeDev23.co.za/courses/Corporate%20Governance/CGV20111207.pdf>. To register online go to <http://www.KnowledgeDev23.co.za/register/default.asp?CourseID=7>

AFRICA ENERGY INDABA 2012 21-23 February 2012, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa. The conference continues to grow and has become the foremost forum for debating and exchanging solutions to Africa's energy challenges and focuses on: African power suppliers; alternative and renewable energies; oil and gas; the legal and regulatory framework, and investment opportunities in African energy projects, to name a few. For more information, contact Mabel Modipa at mabel@siyenza.za.com.

International Events

BUSINESS GREEN LEADERS FORUM, 8 November 2011, Westminster, London, SW1P 3AA. Half-day event to provide UK's top sustainability leaders with invaluable opportunity to track and shape latest green business trends. [GreenBiz](#)

INTELLIGENT CITIES EXPO 8–10 November, Hamburg, Germany. This Expo brings together all urban stakeholders to discuss how to transform today's cities into sustainable, liveable cities through the large-scale adoption of intelligent systems. Click [here](#) for more information.

SMART CITIES WORLD MENA 2011 21–23 November, The Address Dubai Marina, Dubai. Brings together developers and stakeholders of urban development to discuss investment, development and innovation in creating a sustainable community. Click [here](#) for more information.

HOW TO ENGAGE SUPPLIERS IN SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE EUROPE 2011 28-29 November 2011, London. A practical 2-day conference on how to engage and sustain supplier performance on Social, Environmental, other Sustainability issues. For more information, go to: [Ethical Corporation](#).

GLOBE 2012 12th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE & TRADE FAIR ON BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT 14–16 March, Vancouver, Canada. Three days of thought-leading sessions presented by world-renowned sustainability experts, and the opportunity to see leading-edge environmental innovations and to participate in global networking opportunities. For more information, click [here](#).

WBCSD EVENTS CALENDAR Check out the [WBCSD Events Calendar](#) for conferences, workshops and seminars related to business and sustainable development.

RESILIENT CITIES 2012 12–15 May 2012, Bonn, Germany. 3rd World Congress on Cities and Adaption to Climate Change. Preceding the UN Climate Talks in Bonn (1 –25 May 2012). For more information, click [here](#).

ICLEI WORLD CONFERENCE 2012 29 May–1 June, Belo Horizonte, Brazil. This conference takes place every three years and provides Mayors, local government elected officials and staff, representatives from international agencies, national governments, donors and other partners with the opportunity for peer exchanges, knowledge-sharing, capacity building and on-site visits and exhibits. Click [here](#) for more information.

Tell Us What You Think

[SUBSCRIBE TO ON A CLEAR DAY](#)

[CLIMATE CHANGE LIST](#)

[UNSUBSCRIBE TO ON A CLEAR DAY](#)

[ENERGY AND WATER LIST](#)

Consider the environment - do you really need to print this email?

Shaping a Sustainable Future

www.nbi.org.za

"On a Clear Day seeks to notify subscribers of interesting articles, papers and news freely available from the internet. The National Business Initiative encourages debate on sustainability issues and does not necessarily endorse any particular viewpoint. We welcome any feedback you might have. Please direct comments and queries to kyle.maria@nbi.org.za