



The NBI's weekly sustainable development news update

On A Clear Day: Issue 378, 10 February 2012

Dear

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Industry News

BUSINESS WELCOMES ZUMA'S POWER PRICE STANCE, ESKOM PREPARES OPTIONS The focus in President Jacob Zuma's State of the Nation address on moderating the rate of increase in South Africa's electricity tariffs has received strong support from business groupings. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 10 February 2012](#)

AGREEMENT TO AGREE AT COP 17 REPRESENTED REAL PROGRESS – NBI Speaking at a meeting of the South African National Energy Association in Cape Town last week, Yawitch said that many participants, including the South African government, believed that the COP17 outcomes were "precedent setting" and even comparable to the negotiations of the Kyoto Protocol. [Jean McKenzie, Engineering News, 3 February 2012](#)

UN SECRETARY-GENERAL URGES BUSINESS LEADERS TO ADVANCE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY Marking the first anniversary of Global Compact LEAD, a platform for advanced corporate sustainability performance, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon challenged private sector leaders to accelerate uptake of global corporate sustainability practices in the months leading up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). [UN Global Compact, 27 January 2012](#)

'UNDERPERFORMING TEACHERS MUST LEAVE' Teachers should be required to sign performance contracts and those who failed to achieve the objectives stipulated in these agreements should be "managed out of the system", Democratic Alliance (DA) parliamentary leader Lindiwe Mazibuko said this week. [Linda Ensor, Business Day, 7 February 2012](#)

EU CLIMATE CHIEF CALLS FOR 'MUCH CARE' ON BIOFUELS The European Union's climate commissioner, Connie Hedegaard, has warned about expanding the use of biofuels as the EU executive finalises an assessment of the potentially damaging effects they may have over the earth's climate. She spoke to EurActiv as part of a wide-ranging exclusive interview on sustainability issues. [EurActiv, January 2012](#)

BUSINESS ENCOURAGED BY FIRST DRAFT RIO+20 OUTCOME DOCUMENT Welcoming the prominent role of business in the latest draft outcome document for this June's UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20), Business Action for Sustainable Development 2012 (BASD) stressed that private sector engagement in policy development and implementation is critical to advance global partnerships for sustainable development. [UN Global Compact, January 2012](#)

SA FACES UP TO SKILLS CONUNDRUM The European debt crisis has created opportunities for South Africa to import the critical skills it needs to cut high levels of unemployment. [Alastair Anderson, Business Day, 9 February 2012](#)

GOVERNMENTS EVERYWHERE BARRIER TO INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT, SAYS SURVEY Speaking at the release of the survey in Johannesburg on Thursday, KPMG Africa construction leader Gavin Maile said just over 40% of the 161 engineering and construction companies that took part in the survey indicated that the energy sector offered the greatest opportunity for revenue in the next 12 months. [Irma Venter, Engineering News, 9 February 2012](#)

SOUTH AFRICA LOOKS AT WAYS TO USE MINERAL WEALTH South Africa could raise R40bn a year, at current commodity prices, through new taxes on the mining industry that could be used to establish a sovereign wealth fund, according to a report commissioned by the ANC. [Andrew England, Financial Times, 8 February 2012](#)

2012: A BREAKTHROUGH FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY? In his annual State of the Union address, President Obama declared: "I will not walk away from clean energy." [Manish Bapna, WRI, 9 February 2012](#)

DELIVERING SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS Regulation, along with a drive to improve efficiency and enhance corporate reputation, has encouraged the majority of large organizations to look at how they can measure and reduce carbon in their own business. As this becomes standard business practice, leading businesses are now focusing on how to make continual, ongoing improvements to their carbon footprint and taking steps to understand the wider impact of their indirect emissions. [Environmental Leader, 9 February 2012](#)

Notices, Reports & Surveys

FOOD AND TREES FOR AFRICA LAST CALL to enter the Climate Change Leadership Awards Winners are acknowledged in the media and are held up as examples of Climate Change leaders throughout the year. Go to www.ccla.co.za to register and enter. Closing date is 10 February 2012.

MAIL & GUARDIAN GREENING THE FUTURE South Africans put on an impressive display of climate action at the COP17 conference in Durban. The Mail & Guardian invites you to showcase your success stories and to encourage others to follow your example in their prestigious Greening the Future Awards and supplements. Entries close 20 April 2012. For more info click [here](#)

STUDY FINDS THAT CARBON DISCLOSURE RAISES STOCK PRICES Companies that voluntarily issue press releases disclosing their carbon emission information see their stock prices rise significantly in the following days, according to a University of California study. [Environmental Leader](#)

GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY PANEL CALLS FOR TRANSFORMATION OF GLOBAL ECONOMY, MAKES PUSH FOR CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY ON BROAD SCALE Highlighting the role of the UN Global Compact in advancing a more sustainable global economy and calling for wider adoption of corporate sustainability principles, the UN Secretary-General's High-level Panel on Global Sustainability released its final report this week, titled *Resilient People, Resilient Planet: A Future Worth Choosing*. [UN Global Compact, January 2012](#)

UNLOCKING THE POTENTIAL OF LOW-CARBON SUPPLY CHAINS A study was released last week by the Carbon Disclosure Project which shows that companies including Walmart and PepsiCo are moving to capitalise on the advantages presented by reducing carbon emissions across their supply chains. [GreenBiz](#)

CALL FOR EXAMPLES: GUIDANCE ON ANTI-CORRUPTION RISK ASSESSMENT The Global Compact Sub-Working Group on Anti-Corruption Risk Assessment is collecting examples of company practices, policies and other methods for reducing corruption risk. Contributions will help to develop robust guidance material to help companies improve anti-corruption risk assessment. Examples and questions may be sent to Olajobi Makinwa (makinwa@un.org) or Donna Chung (chungd@un.org).

LOW-CARBON LEADERS PROJECT The Low-Carbon Leaders Project (LCLP) is an open source, multi-media platform aimed at capturing and sharing transformative low-carbon solutions. Global Compact signatories are encouraged to submit, rate and comment on low-carbon solutions. To access the mobile application to rate these solutions and for more information on Beyond Carbon, please visit the [LCLP website](#).

GLOBAL COMPACT LAUNCHES WEB PLATFORM TO MOBILISE BUSINESS FOR RIO+20 The UN Global Compact recently launched a new website – www.compact4rio.org – in support of the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum: Innovation & Collaboration for the Future We Want, to be held in Rio de Janeiro from 15-18 June 2012.

GREEN PAPER FOR POST-SCHOOL EDUCATION AND TRAINING : INVITATION TO RESPOND The public is kindly invited to respond to the Green Paper for Post-School Education and Training. Written responses should reach the Department not later than **30 April 2012**. Click [here](#) for a copy of the Green Paper.

ADAPTING TO THE CONSEQUENCES OF CLIMATE CHANGE The Global Adaptation Institute have created The Global Adaptation Index™, a compelling online database that summarises a country's vulnerability to climate change and contrasts this with its preparedness to adapt to the consequences. [Environmental Leader](#)

WORLD REPORT 2012 (JANUARY 2012) This 22nd annual World Report summarizes human rights conditions in more than 90 countries and territories worldwide in 2011. It reflects extensive investigative work that Human Rights Watch staff has undertaken during the year, often in close partnership with domestic human rights activists. [Polity](#)

South African Events

INTEGRATING CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION INTO YOUR ORGANISATION: A LEGAL AND TECHNICAL WORKSHOP FOR THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS 21 February 2012, Johannesburg. It has become critical to ensure that climate change adaptation considerations are effectively and efficiently integrated into the day-to-day operations of South African businesses and non-governmental organisations. This workshop is aimed at facilitating such a process and will provide strategic and practical guidance for the public and private sectors. For more information or to book your seat at this workshop, please contact Lulu Lewis (lulu@imbewu.co.za / 011 214 0660/1)

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.

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING COURSE 14-16 February 2012, Johannesburg. The Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) certified course is offered back-to-back with a GRI Performance Indicator Workshop. This course and workshop will enhance participants' ability to participate in and manage their organisation's sustainability reporting process. For more info visit www.envsustsol.co.za, e-mail envsustsol@mweb.co.za or phone 082 395 7582.

ICOLOGIE SUSTAINABILITY AUDITING COURSE 15-16 February 2012, Intaka Island, Century City, Cape Town. This 2-day training workshop will provide you with the principles, process and practice for conducting a Sustainability Audit. For more information: <http://www.icologie.com/training/scheduled-courses/sustainability-auditing/>

LEADERSHIP ETHICS AND GOOD GOVERNANCE SEMINAR 24 February 2012, Midrand, Johannesburg and 1 March 2012, Durbanville, Cape Town. This full-day seminar puts forward and supports the proposition that Corporate Governance, Leadership and Ethics are interrelated and part of a collective that delivers optimum results. For more information contact seminars@norcaacademy.co.za.

6TH AFRICA ECONOMIC FORUM 5-7 March 2012, Cape Town. The 6th annual Africa Economic Forum will bring together Africa's leading industries, companies, state players, senior executives and African government officials to interface in a content rich meeting, including those from countries outside Africa, and so connect fast-growth core industries and players driving Africa's economies forward. Click [here](#) for more information.

AFRICA DIRECTORS DUTIES & THE PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES OF WORLD CLASS CORPORATE GOVERNANCE 7–9 March 2012 at Birchwood Hotel, Johannesburg, South Africa. This workshop will equip Directors, Company Secretaries, Finance Directors, Senior Managers, CFO,s Compliance Officers, CEO's, Company Directors, Financial Controllers, Risk Managers, Chief Operation Officers and any Manager who is directly/ indirectly handling Corporate Governance Matters. For more information, call +27 11 025 1264 or e-mail info@upgrademanagement.co.za

GDE MINN 7079: SAFETY, HEALTH, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SYSTEMS 12-16 March 2012, CSMI Seminar Room, 3rd Floor, Quadrant Four, Chamber of Mines Building, West Campus, Wits University, Johannesburg. For more information, contact Najmia Moosa on +27 11 717 7037 or e-mail: Najmia.Moosa@wits.ac.za

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SERIOUS SOCIAL INVESTING WORKSHOP: TSHIKULULU SOCIAL INVESTMENTS 14-15 March 2012, Gordon Institute of Business Science, Illovo Campus, Johannesburg. Practical knowledge on how to support corporate social investment that works. For more information contact Gina de Villiers on GDeVilliers@TSI.ORG.ZA

POWER AND ELECTRICITY WORLD AFRICA 26–29 March 2012, Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa. Exhibiting over 250 solution providers from across Africa and the world, free seminars, conferences around clean technology, power generation and green buildings. For more information click [here](#).

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10th CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER SEMINAR 21-23 May 2012, Devon Valley, Stellenbosch. 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.cam.ac.uk or www.cpsl.co.za or contact Magda on 021-469-4765.

13TH INTERNATIONAL WINELANDS CONFERENCE 2012 2-4 April 2012, Stellenbosch South Africa. The conference will

focus on three inter-related themes: 'What's wrong? Corruption in Governance', 'What's good? Good governance in the public and non-profit sector' and 'What's next? Innovations in governance and research'. For more information go to www.winelands2012.co.za

International Events

THE SEVENTH ANNUAL RESPONSIBLE SOURCING SUMMIT 2011 9 February 2012, The Marriott Hotel, 5855 West Century Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90045. Refocusing the lens on human rights. For more information contact gina.gelber@strrs.com

NEW CORPORATE ECOSYSTEM SERVICES REVIEW (ESR) VERSION 2 LAUNCH WBCSD and the World Resources Institute will be releasing a revised version of the **Corporate Ecosystem Services Review (ESR)** on 8 February during two free and open webinars. The ESR is a tool to strategically assess company impact and dependence on ecosystems and is the recommended first step before undertaking a **Corporate Ecosystem Valuation (CEV)** exercise.

BUSINESS PERSPECTIVE ON SUSTAINABLE GROWTH: PREPARING FOR RIO+20 14–16 February 2012, New York, USA. Convened by KPMG International, in cooperation with the Global Compact, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), "Business Perspective on Sustainable Growth: preparing for Rio+20" is a global summit to facilitate business solutions to sustainability challenges. This summit aims to craft a forward looking agenda to focus on global green growth and its outcomes will be shared at Rio+20. To register contact: us-cssccsgosummit@kpmg.com.

COLLECTIVE ACTION : LAUNCH WORKSHOP 15 February, New Delhi, India. Initiated in January 2011, the collective action project in India has raised awareness within the business community of the important role that companies can play in promoting anti-corruption issues. In 2012, the project will officially launch during the GCN National Convention. Corporate anti-corruption efforts will be showcased and discussions will be held on how to advance notable practices through collective action. For more info contact Da Woon Chung on chungd@un.org

PARTNERING WITH THE PHILANTHROPIC COMMUNITY TO PROMOTE EDUCATION FOR ALL 28 February 2012, New York. The key objective of this event is to increase focus on issues central to the achievement of education for all. The event is co-convened by the Global Compact, UNDESA, UNICEF, UNESCO, UNOP and CECF. For more info please contact Rosalinda Sanchez on sanchez2@un.org

GLOBE 2012 12th BIENNIAL CONFERENCE & TRADE FAIR ON BUSINESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT 14–16 March 2012, 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](#).

THE UN MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS, THE GLOBAL COMPACT AND THE COMMON GOOD 20–22 March 2012, South Bend, IN, USA. The conference will bring together leading businesses that are both mainstreaming the UN Global Compact's ten principles concerning human and labour rights, environmental care and anti-corruption in their businesses and taking action to advance the Millennium Development Goals. Click [here](#) to find out more.

ASIA MINING CONFERENCE 26–30 March 2012, Marina Bay, Singapore. This event hosts a diverse group of investors from major miners to Asian industrial conglomerates, sovereign wealth funds, private equity firms, hedge funds, family offices and many others gather to discuss investment strategies in the mining sector. Click [here](#) for more details.

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 2012, 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.

RIO+20 CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM: INNOVATION & COLLABORATION FOR THE FUTURE WE WANT 15-18 June 2012, Rio de Janeiro. In cooperation with the Rio+20 Secretariat, the UN System and the Global Compact Local Network Brazil, the UN Global Compact will host this forum which aims to strengthen the business contribution to sustainable development globally – seeking to bring greater scale to responsible business practices, to advance and diffuse sustainable innovation, and to stimulate broader collaboration between companies, governments, civil society and the UN. For more info click [here](#).

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Shaping a Sustainable Future

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