



On a Clear Day

A news update from the NBI on its programmes, business leadership and issues on sustainable development.

On A Clear Day: Issue 583, 15 June 2016

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INDUSTRY NEWS

NEW ATLAS SHOWS EXTENT OF LIGHT POLLUTION - WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR OUR HEALTH? The new comprehensive World Atlas of Artificial Night Sky Brightness has just appeared in Science Advances. Written by a group of distinguished scientists lead by Italian Fabio Falchi, it is a noteworthy accomplishment. The first atlas appeared in 2001, but was based on a less precise satellite measurement system. This latest atlas provides far more clarity. [*Richard G. Stevens BizCommunity, 15 June 2016.*](#)

THE NEXUS BETWEEN WATER, ENERGY, FOOD AND THE MACRO-ENVIRONMENT With South Africa being a water-stressed country and the recent drought propelling the country into a panic, there is an evident necessity for more efficient application of water conservation and management. The availability of water or lack thereof, affects various sectors that consequently affect the country's economy. [*Zamazima Mazibuko, BizCommunity, 15 June 2016.*](#)

AFRICA'S FOOD SECURITY DEPENDS ON RESEARCH, INNOVATION Agricultural researchers in Africa have been urged to come up with more innovations in agriculture, through research, to accelerate transformation of the sector across the continent. [Tralac, 14 June 2016.](#)

CAPTIVE POWER: AN ENERGY SOLUTION FOR THE MINING SECTOR? The mining industry is under increasing pressure to consider alternative means of power supply. The industry is faced with the effects of a growing energy deficiency as evidenced by the recent approval, by NERSA, of an Eskom tariff hike exceeding 9%, in addition to energy supply constraints to the mining industry and resulting losses in excess of R1,3-billion, as reported by Consultancy Africa Intelligence. [EE Publishers, 14 June 2016.](#)

SA SCHOOLS FACE EDUCATION OVERHAUL WITH 3-STREAM SYSTEM IN 2017 A 3-stream education system will be introduced to South African schools in accordance with the objectives of the National Development Plan. [702 Talk Radio, 14 June 2016.](#)

FIRST MAMMAL SPECIES WIPED OUT BY CLIMATE CHANGE REVEALED According to a report in The Guardian, the small rodent that lives on a tiny island in the eastern Torres Strait, has been completely eliminated from its only known location. This is the first recorded extinction of mammal that could be exclusively down to climate change caused by humans. [The South African, 14 June 2016.](#)

AFRICA AND THE EU COMMIT TO RENEWABLE ENERGY ROLL-OUT Africa doesn't need Europe's help, it needs partnership," says David Otieno, head of the Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) Secretariat. [Alive2Green, 13 June 2016.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA'S DAM LEVELS FALLING WEEKLY Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) has warned that dam levels across all South Africa's provinces continue to steadily decline each week, with the overall average dam levels falling 0.4 percentage points from 53.8% capacity two weeks ago to 53.4% by June 6. [Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 13 June 2016.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA'S FARMERS CAN BENEFIT BY REDUCING THEIR WATER USE South Africa's agribusinesses will find themselves at the back of the queue for water in future. The demands for water for urbanisation and associated industrialisation will take priority. [The Conversation, 13 June 2016.](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE IS MAKING FOOD TOXIC Poisonous crops are just one of the problems caused by extreme climate change, say scientists. As South Africa battles the worst drought in its history, scientists warn that extreme weather is causing hazardous changes in crops. [Zukiswa Zimela, Destiny Connect, 13 June 2016.](#)

NEW TECHNOLOGY OFFERS HOPE FOR STORING CARBON DIOXIDE UNDERGROUND To halt climate change and prevent dangerous warming, we ultimately have to stop pumping greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. While the world is making slow progress on reducing emissions, there are more radical options, such as removing greenhouse gases from the atmosphere and storing them underground. [Dom Wolff-Boenisch, BizCommunity, 13 June 2016.](#)

IN PURSUIT OF EXCELLENCE: TVET COLLEGES Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges provide education and training opportunities that are responsive to the human resource requirements of a diversified economy. [The Careers Portal, 13 June 2016.](#)

HOW SA FIRMS HAVE FARED IN THE REST OF AFRICA Africa's "lion" economies are due for a reality check. The continent's growth has slowed in past months because oil and other mineral commodity prices have fallen and countries are too dependent on these sectors. The World Bank, in its most recent estimate, says African growth

has slowed to 3% in 2015, down from 4.5% in 2014, the weakest pace since 2009. [Mark Allix, Financial Mail, 10 June 2016.](#)

NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Bringing you news and the latest research from our international partners

UN GLOBAL COMPACT (UNGC) The UN Global Compact is a strategic policy initiative for businesses that are committed to aligning their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. The NBI hosts the Local Network of the UNGC. Read their news article entitled "*UN Global Compact and Volans Announce Strategic Partnership on Breakthrough Innovation for the Sustainable Development Goals*", [here](#).

CDP The CDP in South Africa is a long-standing partnership between the London-based CDP and the NBI. Read their news article entitled "*Future in the mix for cement companies with some facing entire earnings at risk*", [here](#).

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read their news article entitled "*Two Degrees for Food: Rebuilding the Global Food System*", [here](#).

WE MEAN BUSINESS (WMB) Click [here](#) to view NBI's Final We Mean Business Newsletter - Edition (7) 2016.

NBI NEWS

ON 26 MAY 2016 A UNIQUE BUSINESS LEADERS CONFERENCE WAS HELD ON THE TOPIC OF CORPORATE RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN CONTEXT. The conference was attended by 100 business leaders and other experts. The event focused on case studies and real-life examples of how South African and multi-national companies are responding to and managing human rights in their businesses. It was an opportunity to hear about how companies are responding to specific human rights challenges, learn about strategies and approaches to human rights and connect with peers and local experts. Click [here](#) to read the summary.

STRUCTURED WORKPLACE-BASED LEARNING (WBL) provides learners the opportunity to apply and integrate knowledge, skills and attitudes and workplace requirements. It also affords business the opportunity to inform the development and delivery of curriculum that is responsive to employer needs. The National Business Initiative (NBI) on behalf of the Education and Skills Task Team which forms part of the Presidential Business Working Group is conducting research into the blockages and opportunities relating to the implementation of effective WBL across the South African economy. The research seeks to: understand the practical implications of WBL for employers; and find ways in which to support the employability of learners who proceed through different forms of WBL. The research report will: identify steps to be taken to eliminate the blockages identified; make recommendations as to how to facilitate and expand employer engagement in offering WBL;

and provide a practical guide for employers to implement WBL. The NBI would like to draw on as many business models and approaches to WBL as possible and invites you to participate in the research. Please contact [Makano Morojele](#).

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

APPLICATION OF GOOD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES IS KEY TO SA'S RETIREMENT FUND INDUSTRY [PwC, 13 June 2016.](#)

READ DOLPHIN BAY'S LATEST BRIEF [here.](#)

ENTRIES OPEN FOR 2016 ESKOM BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPETITION [Engineering News, 13 June 2016.](#)

SANLAM CAPE TOWN MARATHON PLAYING ITS PART TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT [Website.](#)

CANON SOUTH AFRICA MOVES TOWARDS CARBON NEUTRALITY [Steadfast in its commitment to optimise resource efficiency and contribute to environmental sustainability, Canon South Africa is working with the Carbon Neutral Group to offset its carbon emissions by supporting carbon reduction projects. Read here.](#)

NATIONWIDE YOUTH BUSINESS START-UP TRUCK MARKS CALL-TO-ENTRY FOR SAB KICKSTART 2016 COMPETITIONS [SAB's flagship enterprise development programme, SAB KickStart will embark on a month-long recruitment campaign this Youth Month, using a new innovative #StartupTruck that will travel across the country on a youth entrepreneurship drive to find South Africa's promising young entrepreneurs. Information.](#)

ENERGY STRATEGIES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR [Deloitte and Standard Bank experts share their insights into renewable energy trends and challenges for businesses involved in the construction sector. BizConnect, 7 June 2016.](#)

VODACOM LAUNCHES FREE JOBS BROWSING PLATFORM [South African job seekers now have the option of reducing their data consumption with a new zero rating platform from Vodacom. Fin24, 7 June 2016.](#)

WOOLWORTHS ACHIEVES SEAFOOD GOALS [Eight years ago, Woolworths introduced its sustainable seafood policy and since then has become South Africa's first retailer to sign the WWF-SASSI Retail Charter. BizCommunity, 3 June 2016.](#)

A GREEN FUTURE FOR MONDI ŚWIECIE [Mondi's modernisation plans for Świecie mill are on schedule. Investments to deliver environmental benefits and greater energy efficiency. Website.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

SUSTAINING SUSTAINABILITY [The sustainability debate is gaining greater momentum on an almost daily basis. Leadership, 14 June 2016.](#)

SUSTAINABLE BRANDS CAPE TOWN: [See some of the highlights here!](#)

ACTION, COLLABORATION CRUCIAL TO SA ECONOMIC GROWTH – GORDHAN [Listen here.](#)

WHAT IS THE 2030 VISION FOR SOUTH AFRICA? [It has been urged that South Africa needs to sharpen up its industrialisation programme if it is serious about reaching the 5.4% a year gross domestic product growth target](#)

[as set out in the National Development Plan, as the country can no longer depend on its declining mining sector to drive economic growth. The Times of Africa, 7 June 2016.](#)

[THE CARBON CHRONICLE FROM ECOSYSTEM MARKETPLACE](#) Access [here](#).

[CARBON PRICING WATCH 2016](#) An advance brief from the State and Trends of Carbon Pricing 2016 report, to be released late 2016. [Click here](#).

[SOUTH AFRICA'S GREEN NATION STATUS IMPROVES – GLOBAL STATUS REPORT](#) Alive2Green, 6 June 2016.

[WBCSD LAUNCHES BELOW50](#) - a major outcome of the business-led Low Carbon Technology Partnerships initiative. [Read here](#).

[2016 ENERGY EFFICIENCY CONVENTION – CALL FOR PAPERS](#) The Board of the Southern African Association for Energy Efficiency (SAEE) invites you to submit an abstract for consideration to speak at the 2016 Southern African Association for Energy Efficiency Convention (2016 SAEEC). EE Publishers, 19 April 2016.

NBI EVENTS 2016

DIALOGUE ON BUSINESS ACTION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS JUNE AND JULY 2016 DURBAN, CAPE TOWN AND JOHANNESBURG The NBI and the Global Compact Network South Africa, are hosting a series of conversations on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aimed at spurring increased business action. The SDGs provide a comprehensive set of priorities and challenges that pose threats to the well-being of society and undermine economic growth for many countries. Most importantly, the SDGs provide clear targets for action with the potential to create significant opportunities for business and society. Please click on the appropriate link to register: [Durban - Tuesday, 21 June 2016](#), [Cape Town - Wednesday, 22 June 2016](#) or [Johannesburg - Friday, 22 July 2016](#). Alternatively contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) for additional details.

CAPE TOWN WORKSHOP ON 'DEEPENING IMPLEMENTATION OF SOCIAL AND ETHICS COMMITTEE REQUIREMENTS' Tuesday, 28 June 2016 Southern Sun Waterfront Hotel, Cape Town. The NBI & the Global Compact Network SA are hosting a half-day workshop on 'deepening implementation of social and ethics committee requirements'. The session will be based on a toolkit, developed by the NBI to support companies in moving to best practice on all the key responsibility areas of the Committee. Click [here](#) if you wish to attend this workshop or contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) for further information.

WATER PUBLIC WORKSHOP: CORPORATE WATER STEWARDSHIP IN SUPPORT OF THE WATER-RELATED SDGS Friday, 1 July 2016 Sasol Auditorium, Rosebank. The NBI & CEO Water Mandate are excited to announce the hosting of a public workshop focused on two important and inter-related topics: corporate water stewardship and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Register [here](#) or contact [Alex McNamara](#) for details on this event.

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS 2016

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EDUCATION FOR THOSE IN THE GREEN ECONOMY April to August 2016. The Small Business Boost Programme, funded by J.P. Morgan, aims to promote small business growth and job creation for those involved in providing solutions for the green economy. The programme will provide four months of business and management education and six months of support services to 100 small businesses in Gauteng. It seeks to empower entrepreneurs with the knowledge, skills and resources to grow in this niche sector. Details [here](#).

MANUFACTURING INDABA 28 to 29 June 2016 Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni. Manufacturing the future is the theme of the 2016 Manufacturing Indaba. Join the dti, City of Ekurhuleni, Manufacturing Circle and many other leading organisations at this leading manufacturing event. The Minister of Trade & Industry is confirmed to deliver a keynote address at this forum. [Website](#).

AWS INTERNATIONAL WATER STEWARDSHIP STANDARD TRAINING COURSES 29 June to 1 July 2016 Cape Town. Developed by leading organizations like The Nature Conservancy, SGS, WWF, Water Stewardship Australia, AWS training is at the leading edge of water stewardship thinking worldwide. Whether you are a major water user, a regulatory body, a natural resource manager or a civil society group; AWS's training can give you what you need to advocate for and implement responsible water stewardship. These courses will be offered step-wise, from introductory to advanced, with modules on specific topics according to demand. Please contact mark@allianceforwaterstewardship.org if you would like to attend or click [here](#) to access the website.

2ND SOUTHERN AFRICAN ADAPTATION COLLOQUIUM: Solution Spaces And Futures, Learning Together In A Climate Challenged World 7 to 8 July 2016 Wits Club and Conference Centre, WITS West Campus, Johannesburg. The 2nd Southern African Adaptation Colloquium provides a platform for researchers, practitioners, government officials, postgraduate students and members of the public working/interested in climate change, adaptation research, practice and policy to proactively engage on climate change challenges facing southern Africa. The programme will feature renowned keynote speakers providing thought-provoking and challenging views on particular topics, information gathering sessions, discussion sessions and interactive working sessions. To register online, please click on this [link](#).

HARD TALK: ETHICAL CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SA BUSINESS 13 July 2016, GIBS, Illovo. There is widespread concern over the ethical failures and social problems that threaten South Africa's future. Less acknowledged are the many leaders in our midst who have remarkable ethical, professional and intellectual credentials. Book now.

GREEN BUILDING CONVENTION 26 to 28 July 2016 Sandton Convention Centre, Sandton, Johannesburg. [Website](#).

CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME 14 to 17 August 2016 Intundla Game Lodge, Gauteng. We need to rapidly engineer a sustainable economy, one that meets human needs within natural constraints – within the carrying capacity of the one planet we all live on and depend on. We need organisations that are able to create jobs and increase access to products, services and livelihood opportunities in a resource-constrained and low-trust world. We need to develop leadership at all levels in organisation that understand what is required. This seminar is designed for managers in organisations from the private or public sector to equip them with a high-level understanding of sustainability. For more information as well as the application form, please have a look at the [website](#) or contact Magda on magda.dekok@cisl.cam.ac.uk

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING COURSE 6 to 8 September 2016 at the Glenhove Conference Centre in Johannesburg. This course combines the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) certified course on sustainability reporting with the GRI Performance Indicator Workshop. The course also addresses the link between sustainability- and integrated reporting. Participants receive a GRI certificate. For more information visit www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or **phone 082 395 7582**.

BI **NESS & CLIMATE SUMMIT 28 to 29 June 2016, London, United Kingdom.** The Business & Climate Summit is the leading forum for businesses, investors and policymakers on climate action. It is where business and governments meet to agree a roadmap for reaching net zero emissions over the next half century. It demonstrates how low carbon policies are good for business and good for growth – and builds the partnerships needed to scale up and accelerate the transition. [Website.](#)

AFRICA CARBON FORUM 28 to 30 June 2016 Kigali, Rwanda. The Eight Africa Carbon Forum (ACF) will invite participants on the latest investment, finance and development opportunities relating to climate change. Click [here.](#)

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ECOLOGY, ECOSYSTEMS AND CLIMATE CHANGE 11 to 14 July 2016, Athens, Greece. The Athens Institute for Education and Research (ATINER), will hold its 4th Annual International Conference on Ecology, Ecosystems and Climate Change. [Website.](#)

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYER ENGAGEMENT IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING 21 to 22 July 2016, London, United Kingdom. [Read here.](#)

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Business Action for Sustainable Growth

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