



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 587, 14 July 2016

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INDUSTRY NEWS

SOLAR ENERGY CREATES CONSTRUCTION OPPORTUNITIES A significant renewable energy initiative in South Africa, the thermos-solar generating plant project, known as the Kathu Solar Park project near Upington in the Northern Cape, is currently under way. [EE Publishers, 13 July 2016.](#)

WHY AFRICA SHOULD RATIFY THE PARIS AGREEMENT At the Paris climate conference (COP21) in December 2015, 195 countries adopted the first-ever universal, legally binding global climate deal. Richard Munang and Robert Mgendi write that the terms of the deal present Africa with an opportunity for long-term sustainable economic growth. [This Is Africa, 13 July 2016.](#)

MPUMALANGA TREASURY WELCOMES 24 YOUNG GRADUATES Mpumalanga Provincial Treasury welcomed more

than twenty graduates to its skills development programme this week. The Department has enrolled 24 graduates in the 18-months long Internship Programme for 2016/17 financial year as part of the Human Resource Development Plan. The graduates who come from various academic fields such as accountancy, information technology and economics will be placed in different sections of the department in order to gain valuable workplace experience. [South African Government, 13 July 2016.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA, FRANCE INK ECONOMIC AND INVESTMENT COOPERATION AGREEMENTS South Africa's newly established investment division in the Department of Trade and Industry, InvestSA, which champions a one-stop shop approach to investing in South Africa, and France's trade and investment agency, Business France, on Tuesday signed a Declaration of Intent (DoI) on economic and investment cooperation, committing the two countries to boosting investment and trade. [Anine Kilian, Engineering News, 12 July 2016.](#)

RESEARCHERS DEVELOP NEW MATERIAL FOR EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE ORGANIC SOLAR CELLS A team of researchers from Friedrich Alexander University (FAU), Nuremberg, led by photovoltaics researcher and materials scientist Prof. Dr. Christoph Brabec have achieved an important milestone in the quest to develop efficient solar technology as an alternative to fossil fuels. [EE Publishers, 12 July 2016.](#)

EMERGING NATIONS SURGE AHEAD IN GREEN ENERGY RACE Renewable energy is making its mark globally as countries come under increasing pressure to reduce their reliance on fossil fuels and cut greenhouse gas emissions, writes Legalbrief. A report in The Guardian says an upsurge in new wind, solar and hydro plants and capacity saw renewable energy smash global records last year, according to a report on new supply. [Legal Brief Today, 12 July 2016.](#)

WHY AGRICULTURE IS VITAL FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S ECONOMIC FUTURE Countries that tax agricultural sectors are normally poor. Countries which subsidise the agricultural sector are normally rich. [Engineering News, 12 July 2016.](#)

WHAT AFRICA'S DROUGHT RESPONSES TEACH US ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE HOTSPOTS The world may still argue about whether or not climate change is for real. But in vast expanses of arid southern Africa, the daily struggle to cope with a changed climate is well under way. The lessons being learnt here on a small scale could prove vital in the fight for human survival. [Polity, 12 July 2016.](#)

FOSSIL FUEL INDUSTRY RISKS LOSING \$33TN TO CLIMATE CHANGE The fossil fuel industry risks losing \$33-trillion in revenue over the next 25 years as global warming may drive companies to leave oil, natural gas and coal in the ground, according to a Barclays Plc energy analyst. [Mining Weekly, 12 July 2016.](#)

COP21 PARIS AGREEMENT AND THE CARBON MARKETS With 177 countries now having signed the Paris Agreement agreed by 195 countries at COP21 in December 2015, the hard work starts now. And while it may not have been so apparent at the outset, the pact charts a clear path for the resurgence of carbon markets, which may help countries achieve their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the nations of the world to collectively keep the global temperature rise below 2°C. [The Green Business Guide, 6 July 2016.](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSE REQUIRES FINANCE, COOPERATION AND PARTICIPATION [Success tackling climate change and achieving sustainable development in Africa will take finance, cooperation and real engagement with non-state actors, participants heard in high-level sessions that wrapped up this year's Africa Carbon Forum. Tralac, 5 July 2016.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA NEEDS A RE-ENGINEERED APPROACH TO GROWTH Adjusting South Africa's monetary policy

would not be enough to dig the nation out of its economic slump, and the country's economy would need to be re-engineered, said National Treasury director-general Lungisa Fuzile on Tuesday. [Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 5 July 2016.](#)

A LOW CARBON FUTURE – MEANING OF CARBON TAX AND OFFSETS The key question for South Africa is how will it be done, and how we ensure it that it does not hurt the economy, nor the poor. [The Green Business Guide, 4 July 2016.](#)

BELOW 2°C CARBON BUDGET MIGHT BE REACHED BY 2030 According to a new assessment, individual country pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions would need to be strengthened in order to limit future climate change to well below the 2°C limit included in the Paris climate agreement. [BizCommunity, 1 July 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: *“Our Journey to 2030 Is Underway”*, [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 *“Business will be key driver of global climate action, new research report reveals”*, [here.](#)

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read their news article entitled *“The making of the Natural Capital Protocol: What made this project such a special success?”* [here.](#)

WE MEAN BUSINESS (WMB) Click [here](#) to view their website.

NBI NEWS

SKILLS CRISIS: NEW SYSTEM TO TRAIN ARTISANS [Stephen Timm, Financial Mail, 30 June 2016.](#)

STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING COLLEGES IN SOLAR WATER HEATER INSTALLATION AND MAINTENANCE The National Business Initiative (NBI) has entered into a partnership with Nedbank to strengthen the capacity of public Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges to enhance the employability of graduates in the installation and maintenance of solar water heaters. The project which started in June 2016, will train 30 graduates from TVET colleges in Gauteng for absorption into jobs and self-employment. Read [here.](#)

RIVERS TO BE CLEANED The Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF), the Strategic Water Partnership Network (SWPN), as well as the National Business Initiative (NBI) – which has an affiliation with hundreds of South African corporates – are the official partners of the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in the Clear Rivers Campaign. [Netwerk24, 28 June 2016.](#) Click [here](#) to view the Clear Rivers booklet. More information including a toolkit of information and communication tools is available on the [DWS website.](#)

REMINDER: If you have a successful model or approach to Structured Workplace-based Learning (WBL) and would

like to share it with the National Business Initiative for research purposes, please contact [Makano Morojele](#).

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

AFRICA'S BIGGEST COKE BOTTLING OPERATION IS OFFICIALLY OPEN FOR BUSINESS Two months after the Competition Commission approved a merger between SABMiller, the Coca-Cola Company and Gutsche Family Investments; Coca-Cola Beverages Africa (CCBA) officially opened its doors on Monday. [Destiny Man, 5 July 2016.](#)

ESKOM ON A SOUND FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL FOOTING Eskom is on a sound financial and operational footing compared to a year ago. Releasing the company's financial results for the year ended 31 March 2016, Eskom's Group Chief Executive Brian Molefe said today that the stability at both Board and Executive Management levels of the company was a launchpad to drive accountability and better manage the business. [Politicsweb, 5 July, 2016.](#)

IMPROVED ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN CAR FACTORY ABB will supply energy-efficient, low-voltage power distribution solutions to COMPAS (Cooperation Manufacturing Plant Aguascalientes), the new car manufacturing facilities of Renault-Nissan and Daimler's strategic joint venture located in Aguascalientes, Mexico. [EE Publishers, 4 July 2016.](#)

BARCLAYS AFRICA TO INVEST IN SKILLS DEVELOPMENT Banker Barclays Africa will invest more than R2.7bn over the next three years in its shared growth programme, CEO Maria Ramos said on Wednesday. [BDLive, 29 June 2016.](#)

GROWTHPOINT INTRODUCES ELECTRIC BIKES, SOLAR CHARGING HUBS TO SANDTON Growthpoint Properties has introduced two electronic bike hubs to the Sandton business district, in a pilot project the company hopes will grow its footprint, says Growthpoint head of energy sustainability. [Engineering News, 29 June 2016.](#)

BARLOWORLD IN THE BUSINESS OF YOUTH DEVELOPMENT Barloworld's commitment to youth development is reflected in all aspects of the business. The company is involved in several youth development initiatives in South Africa. [BizCommunity, 17 June 2016.](#)

ABB'S MICROGRID TECHNOLOGY: CAN HELP BRIDGE THE POWER GAP IN AFRICA Greater access to electricity and a reliable energy supply could play a key role in accelerating development across Africa. By integrating renewable energy resources like sun, wind and hydro into the power grid, microgrid technology like that supplied by ABB can support more reliable electricity supply, help avoid industry downtime and substantially reduce carbon emissions. [Read here.](#)

RBCT UNVEILS NEW R49M COAL SAMPLING LAB The new R49-million coal sampling laboratory opened at the Richards Bay Coal Terminal (RBCT) on Wednesday ensures faster sample turnaround times from a state-of-the-art facility built in partnership with leading sampling service provider SGS South Africa. [Martin Creamer, Engineering News, 22 June 2016.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

MINISTER NOMVULA MOKONYANE LAUNCHES TECHNICAL SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME The Minister of Water and Sanitation, Ms. Nomvula Mokonyane, has launched a partnership with leading South African construction firm, Group 5, aimed at providing technical skills training to young people. [Business Media Live, 7 July 2016.](#)

BUSINESS & CLIMATE SUMMIT 2016 On the 28 & 29 of June, The Climate Group convened the second Business & Climate Summit at the historic Guildhall in London. Just under 800 people representing 39 countries came together to discuss what the Paris Agreement means for business and how we can collectively move this forward and mainstream action. Read the highlights [here.](#)

MANDELA MONTH JULY 2016 CLEAR RIVERS CAMPAIGN ANNOUNCEMENT TO CONFERENCE When rivers run dry, it reminds all of us that water does not come from the tap. The drought conditions that persists across all parts of South Africa, calls for a national approach on protecting the country's freshwater ecosystems. It is for this reason that government, business and civil society initiated the Clear Rivers campaign. The campaign calls on everyone to dedicate their 67 minutes of goodwill activities towards cleaning up streams, wetlands, dams, canals and any freshwater source. **So we encourage everyone to participate in cleaning up our water ecosystems; on any day during Mandela Month 2016.**

2016 GLOBAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT FINDINGS [CNBCAfrica, 6 July 2016.](#)

UN GLOBAL COMPACT ACCENTURE CEO SURVEY 2016 Click [here](#) to view the infographics and [here](#) to access the study.

DESPITE NEW CHALLENGES, CEOS CONFIDENT IN GROWTH THROUGH TRANSFORMATION KPMG's 2016 Global CEO Outlook reveals that CEOs are increasingly confident in achieving growth in the next 3 years. Despite having realistic concerns with their current readiness to face emerging challenges, CEOs are confident they can transform their companies for the future. Read [here.](#)

DRAFT CARBON OFFSETS REGULATIONS PUBLISHED FOR COMMENT by 29 July 2016 [Polity, 22 June 2016.](#)

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

NBI EVENTS 2016

DIALOGUE ON BUSINESS ACTION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Friday, 22 July 2016 **The Maslow Hotel, Sandton.** 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 link to register: [Johannesburg - Friday, 22 July 2016.](#) Alternatively contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) for additional details.

CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY STRATEGIC ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION Wednesday, 27 July 2016 at **Harambee Offices in Johannesburg.** The National Business Initiative (NBI), on behalf of the Construction Industry Partnership (CIP) and in partnership with Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator (Harambee) is piloting a tailor-made workplace-based learning programme for the construction industry in bricklaying and carpentry trades. The

Partnership aims to address key obstacles in the pipeline of technical skills for the construction sector. Harambee, founded in 2011, has partnered with 250 South African employers to understand and overcome barriers that keep high-potential young people locked out of the formal economy. Harambee is hosting a Construction Industry Strategic Roundtable discussion for stakeholders in the construction industry and related services to share learnings that are emerging from the CIP pilot programme. Should you wish to attend this please contact [Shavilla Harpal](#).

CARBON OFFSETS PUBLIC SEMINAR – UNDERSTANDING THE DRAFT REGULATIONS ON THE CARBON OFFSET Thursday, 28 July 2016 at The Radisson Blu Hotel Sandton. In partnership with We Mean Business (WMB), a coalition of organizations who place strategic emphasis on carbon pricing as a key pillar in their policy and corporate engagement work, the National Business Initiative (NBI) is hosting an open seminar regarding the South African Draft Regulations on the Carbon Offset taking place on Thursday, 28 July 2016. This seminar follows on from the publication of the Carbon Offsets Paper in 2014 and the draft Carbon Tax Bill in November 2015. Register by clicking [here](#) or contact [Amy Marshall](#) for more details on this engagement.

BUSINESS & CLIMATE SUMMIT, WE MEAN BUSINESS AND GREEN ECONOMY July and August 2016 in Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg. The National Business Initiative (NBI) is delighted to announce an exciting, information packed TLS showcasing the latest international climate and policy paradigm shifts fresh from the Business & Climate Summit in London, as well as the latest news and developments from our international partners at We Mean Business. In addition to this, we will be providing feedback and insights from our Green Economy work. If you are an NBI Member Company and would like to attend one of these sessions please click on the relevant link: [Durban, 19 July 2016, Cape Town, 26 July 2016 or Johannesburg, 17 August 2016](#).

BUSINESS DIALOGUE ON SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CLUSTERS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Tuesday, 2 August 2016 Radisson Blu Hotel Waterfront, Cape Town. The National Business Initiative (NBI) and the Global Compact Network South Africa are hosting a one day business dialogue in Cape Town on the implementation of the SDGs. Please contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) for further information or click [here](#) to register.

BUSINESS DIALOGUE ON SOCIAL & ECONOMIC CLUSTERS OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Friday, 12 August 2016 Grindrod Offices, Durban. The National Business Initiative (NBI) and the Global Compact Network South Africa are hosting a one day business dialogue in KZN on the implementation of the SDGs. Please contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) for more details or click [here](#) to register.

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](#).

WWF-SA AND SANLAM: LAUNCH OF THE NEW HIGH RESOLUTION WATER RISK FILTER FOR SOUTH AFRICA 20 July 2016, Sanlam Auditorium, Sandton. A new addition to WWF's Water Risk tool that quantifies water-related risks for all industries and offers guidance on what to do to mitigate them. From risk to resilience and a water secure future for South Africa. Please click [here](#) to register by no later than 7 July 2016.

GREEN BUILDING CONVENTION 26 to 28 July 2016 Sandton Convention Centre, Sandton, Johannesburg.

Discover how we are building a better world now with over 40 international and local speakers. [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.

AWS INTERNATIONAL WATER STEWARDSHIP STANDARD TRAINING COURSES 16 to 18 August 2016 Pretoria, Gauteng. 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.

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.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2016

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

[WORLD WATER WEEK IN STOCKHOLM 28 August to 2 September 2016, Stockholm, Sweden. Event website.](#)

[CLIMATE WEEK NYC 19 to 25 September 2016, New York, USA. Details here.](#)

[INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT \(ICSD\) 21 to 22 September 2016, New York, USA.](#) The aim of the conference is to identify and share practical, evidence-based solutions that can support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The ICSD provides a unique opportunity to bring together stakeholders from government, academia, the United Nations, international agencies, NGOs, and grassroots organizers to share practical solutions towards the achievement of more sustainable and inclusive societies. Click [here](#) to register.

2016 WBCSD COUNCIL MEETING 3 to 6 October 2016 Chennai, India. [Register now](#) and benefit from the early bird rates, joining leaders from around the world as we explore **Implementing Sustainability at Scale** at the epicentre of the developing world.

AFRICAN SUSTAINABLE EXTRACTIVES SUMMIT 13 to 14 October 2016 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. Reducing operational risk through Social and Environmental Performance in the Extractives Sector. The 1st

African Sustainable Extractives Summit will cover various perspectives of Sustainable Business in the Extractives Sector -oil, gas and mining- in the African region. Core issues that will be addressed during the summit include social performance, environmental performance and stakeholder engagement. Register [here](#).

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Business Action for Sustainable Growth

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