



# 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 600, 27 October 2016**

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

**INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT REMAINS A PRIORITY** In line with the National Development Plan, investment in infrastructure remains a policy priority with public-sector infrastructure investment plans totalling R987.4bn over the medium-term. [\*Cape Business News, 27 October 2016.\*](#)

**SA BASED CONSORTIUM DRIVING DOWN GLOBAL COSTS OF SOLAR ENERGY** With greater energy demands globally, driving down the cost of producing electricity becomes an imperative. Coupled with a strong push to combat climate change, worldwide people have turned to renewable energy as the solution to the current energy challenges that the world faces. But, are renewable energy solutions a realistic and affordable alternative to traditional energy supplies? [\*Insurance Gateway, 27 October 2016.\*](#)

**MINI-BUDGET IN A NUTSHELL** Update on budget deficit, growth and expenditure. [\*Ryk van Niekerk, Moneyweb, 26 October 2016.\*](#)

**UNIVERSITIES AND STUDENTS ARE THE BIGGEST WINNERS IN PRAVIN GORDHAN'S MEDIUM-TERM BUDGET** Universities and students will receive an additional R17bn over the next three years, making them the biggest

winner in Wednesday's medium-term budget policy statement. [Carol Paton, BizCommunity, 26 October 2016.](#)

**BEYOND COAL: SCALING UP CLEAN ENERGY TO FIGHT GLOBAL POVERTY** Eradicating global poverty is within reach, but under threat from a changing climate. Left unchecked, climate change will put at risk our ability to lift people out of extreme poverty permanently by 2030, the first target of the Sustainable Development Goals. [Polity, 26 October 2016.](#)

**REDUCING EMISSIONS IN POWER SECTOR - SA'S TOP PRIORITY** The Department of Environmental Affairs says emission reduction options in the power sector remain a priority to meet the country's overall greenhouse gas reduction targets over the coming few years. [BizCommunity, 26 October 2016.](#)

**RENEWABLE ENERGY BEATS COAL IN ELECTRICITY PRODUCTION** The International Energy Agency says that the world's capacity to generate electricity from renewable sources has now overtaken coal. In its new report, renewables accounted for more than half of the increase in power capacity and nearly half a million solar panels were installed every day last year around the world. Here's Jessica Stone with the story. [AFRICA TV24h, 26 October 2016.](#)

**NUCLEAR BUILD TIED TO OUTDATED INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN** The storm over nuclear may continue to rage but, until a new Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) replaces the current but outdated one produced in 2010, 9 600 megawatts (MW) of nuclear power is officially part of South Africa's energy future. [Lisa Steyn, Mail and Guardian, 26 October 2016.](#)

**MINISTRY OF ENERGY OFFICIALS GET FRESH POWER TO DISH OUT ENERGY** Ministry of Energy officials are set to get sweeping powers to award multi-billion shilling electricity generation contracts to investors in an impending policy shift that is intended to yield lower consumer tariffs, but is also fraught with the risk of conflict of interest. [Green Business Guide, 26 October 2016.](#)

**THESE AFRICAN ECONOMIES HAVE JUST MADE ENTREPRENEURSHIP EASIER** Sub-Saharan Africa economies carried out a record number of reforms in the past year to improve the business climate for local entrepreneurs, says the World Bank Group's annual ease of doing business report. [CNBCAfrica, 25 October 2016.](#)

**BUSINESS CALLS FOR A GOOD, HARD LOOK AT THE SKILLS THE COUNTRY REALLY NEEDS** The flames of discontent currently engulfing our universities and mindless rhetoric from student leadership are causes for grave concern. Our universities have long been a source of pride and hope in an environment where poor political leadership has resulted in minimal economic growth and mass unemployment. [Ryan Ravens, Transform SA, 25 October 2016.](#)

**S.A'S CEOS PLEDGE SUPPORT FOR FINANCE MINISTER GORDHAN AHEAD OF MINI-BUDGET** On last Sunday close to 100 CEOs from both listed and unlisted South African companies issued the following pledge in the wake of fraud charges against the country's finance minister. [CNBCAfrica, 24 October 2016.](#)

**WORLD BANK RELEASE REPORT ON TRENDS IN CARBON PRICING** According to a new World Bank report released this week, increased global cooperation through carbon trading could reduce the cost of climate change mitigation by 32% by 2030. [Green Business Guide, 24 October 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: *"The SDGs Explained for Business"*, [here.](#)

**UNGC CEO WATER MANDATE** NBI partners with the CEO Water Mandate to encourage water stewardship in South Africa. Established by the UN Global Compact in 2007, and rooted in the belief that cross-sectoral collaboration on shared water goals is the most effective path to more sustainable water management, the CEO Water Mandate is a unique public-private initiative that mobilizes business leaders for water stewardship. Read their: *“Stewardship is Good for Business”*, [here](#).

**CDP** The CDP in South Africa is a long-standing partnership between the London-based CDP and the NBI. Download their report entitled: *“Out of the starting blocks - Tracking progress on corporate climate action”*, [here](#).

**WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD)** NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read their top messages for Cop 22, [here](#).

**WE MEAN BUSINESS (WMB)** NBI is the South African partner to WMB. WMB is a coalition of organizations working with thousands of the world’s most influential businesses and investors to accelerate the transition to a low carbon economy. Read their **Company Commitments** [here](#).

## NBI IN THE NEWS

**SAVE THE 2016 ACADEMIC YEAR** Government and business leaders have made a unanimous call to all stakeholders to help save the 2016 academic year while the engagements on fees continue. [SA Government News Agency, 18 October 2016](#).

**GOVERNMENT AND BUSINESS MEET OVER FEES** A draft proposal is expected to be ready next August. But business leaders stressed that the 2016 academic programme shouldn’t be compromised as it will affect both poor students and the economy. [ENCA, 18 October 2016](#).

## NBI NEWS

**CDP CLIMATE CHANGE SOUTH AFRICA REPORT LAUNCH 2016** The 10th successive NBI CDP Climate Change South Africa Launch made for meaningful discussion with the celebrated accelerated progress of the Paris Agreement. The event recognised **Anglo American Platinum, Gold Fields, Harmony Gold Mining Company, Kumba Iron Ore, Mediclinic International, Mondi, Nedbank, Pick n Pay Stores, RCL Foods, Remgro and Sibanye Gold** as South Africa’s top performers who compete with the best in the world. Click [here](#) to read more.

## NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

**TIGER BRANDS IS CERTIFIED AS A TOP EMPLOYER SOUTH AFRICA 2017** Tiger Brands is exceptionally proud to announce that it has once again been certified for Top Employers South Africa status in 2017. More [here](#).

**PICK N PAY PUTS JOB CREATION FIRST** Pick n Pay Stores created more than 2 000 new jobs in the first half of its financial year and opened 74 new stores as part of plans to grow its market share in the face of South Africa’s sluggish economic growth. [IOL, 19 October 2016](#).

**FNB LAUNCHES PROPERTY OWNERSHIP FINANCIAL NAVIGATION TOOL** First National Bank (FNB) has launched its nav» Home edition digital financial navigation service to simplify customers’ financial decision-making when buying or selling property. [Engineering News, 19 October 2016](#).

**SANLAM EXTENDS PARTNERSHIP WITH CAPE TOWN MARATHON** The Sanlam Cape Town Marathon has received a major boost, with Sanlam announcing it will extend its sponsorship of the event for another three years. [Sport24, 18 October 2016](#).

**ABB LAUNCHES FLEXIBLE “PLUG AND PLAY” MICROGRID SOLUTION TO BOOST RENEWABLES** ABB have announced a modular and scalable “plug and play” microgrid solution to address the globally growing demand for flexible technology in the developing market for distributed power generation. The cost-efficient, containerized solution is relevant for mature and emerging countries and will help maximize the use of renewable energy sources while reducing dependence on fossil fuels used by generator sets. [Aspire Africa, 13 October 2016.](#)

**EXXARO DEVELOPING PILOT DIGITAL MINE** Digital mine organisation, which uses the Internet of Things as a platform, is being developed as a pilot project by coal mining company Exxaro, whose CEO Mxolisi Mgojo said last night that innovative advancement is no longer a nice-to-have but an imperative for mining industry survival into the future. [Engineering News, 12 October 2016.](#)

**KPMG EXPLORES THE FUNDING CHALLENGES TO ACCESSING TERTIARY EDUCATION AND PROVIDING FREE TUITION** Click [here](#) to view infographic.

**ENGEN SPONSORS SCIENCE LAB FOR CASTLE BRIDGE SCHOOL** Children of Castle Bridge School in Bloemfontein will soon reap the benefits of learning in a modern science lab and newly renovated classrooms following a donation by Engen and the owners of the Engen Bloemfontein 1-Stop. [FleetWatch, 5 October 2016.](#)

**SOUTH AFRICA'S WOOLWORTHS TO BUY AUSTRALIAN MEN'S FASHION RETAILER POLITIX** South Africa's Woolworths Holdings plans to buy Australian men's fashion brand Politix through its subsidiary, Country Road Group, the retailer said on Wednesday. [CNBCAfrica, 5 October 2016.](#)

**INVESTEC BUYS STAKE IN BERLIN-BASED OFF GRID SOLAR DEVELOPER** Investec Asset Management Ltd. bought a stake in Mobisol GmbH in the biggest yet round of equity financing for the off-grid solar industry. [Liquid Africa, 4 October 2016.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

**CEO INITIATIVE PLEDGE** Click [here](#) to view the growing support by South African CEOs in support for Finance Minister Gordhan ahead of him appearing in court on fraud charges on 2 November 2016.

**MESSAGE FROM THE PROJECT PARTNERS** If you need to understand what it means to do business with respect for human rights, look no further than this guide. Read [here](#).

**WWF LIVING PLANET REPORT MEDIA RELEASE** Please find attached a media release about WWF International's latest Living Planet Report which was released internationally today. Published every two years, the report has become the world's leading, science-based analysis on the health of our planet and the impact of human activity. Knowing we only have one planet, WWF believes that humanity can make better choices that translate into clear benefits for ecology, society and the economy today and in the long term. For more on the report and to download the full document, please click on this [link](#).

**MID-TERM BUDGET WRAP: GOVT DEBT AT 44.3% OF GDP** [CNBCAfrica, 26 October 2016.](#)

**RENEWABLE ENERGY IN CITIES** The transition to renewables cuts across the entire urban energy landscape, from buildings to transport, to industry and power. Renewables can bring tremendous benefits to cities, including cleaner air, modern services and improved living spaces. At the same time, cities are crucial to the world's transition to a low-carbon economy, accounting for 65% of global energy use and 70% of man-made carbon emissions. Download the report [here](#).

**INVESTING IN RENEWABLE ENERGY** Whether you are an economist, an energy financier, a multilateral organisation or an investment professional, the 2016 RE Investment Africa Summit is not one to miss. [The Green Business Guide,](#)

**19 October 2016.**

**KPMG: THE ECONOMICS OF #FEESMUSTFALL** The economics of #FeesMustFall Economic challenges to accessing tertiary education and providing tuition-free universities in South Africa. Read the report [here](#).

**SOUTH AFRICAN WINS GE AWARD AT CNN AFRICA JOURNALISM AWARDS** Jay Caboz, a writer for Forbes Africa, in South Africa, won the GE Energy & Infrastructure Award at the CNN Multichoice African Journalist Awards 2016. [AllAfrica, 18 October 2016.](#)

**MAKING GLOBAL GOALS LOCAL BUSINESS – DUBAI** Bringing together leaders across sectors to explore the transformative platforms and partnerships needed to advance the SDGs on the ground: **24 to 27 October 2016**. This closed conference will help inform the work of the UNGC local network with respect to among others the domestication of the SDG as well as measurement of their impact. Please contact [Achieng Ojwang](#) if you require further information.

**PARIS AGREEMENT TO ENTER INTO FORCE MUCH EARLIER THAN EXPECTED** Read an NBI Quick Brief entitled: “*Paris Agreement to enter into force much earlier than expected*”, on our [website](#).

**THE GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT 2016–2017** The World Economic Forum Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017 assesses the competitiveness landscape of 138 economies, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity. Download the report [here](#).

**NATIONAL SANITATION CAMPAIGN** The Department of Water and Sanitation will embark on a month long sanitation campaign (**from 15 October to 19 November 2016**), which seeks to elevate discussions around education and awareness on sanitation issues. This will be done through collaborative efforts with business, civil society, communities and all relevant stakeholders. Given the severe drought conditions that are experienced across the country, the need for efficient water use, as part of correct sanitary practices, has become more important than ever before. The campaign will incorporate two United Nations commemorative days, namely **Global Handwashing Day on 15 October 2016 and World Toilet Day on 19 November 2016**. For further information on this campaign kindly contact **Mandy Reddy** at **012 336 7281** or [ReddyM@dws.gov.za](mailto:ReddyM@dws.gov.za).

**CITY OF CAPE TOWN IS OFFERING INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES** Closing date: 28 October 2016. Details [here](#).

**CALLING ALL ENTREPRENEURS! August to November 2016.** The Enterprise Academy at the Gordon Institute of Business Science is calling for delegates in the green economy and the home building industry to join them and up their business game. The two programmes funded by JP Morgan, are fully sponsored for those candidates who fulfil the criteria. Interested candidates may call **(011) 771 4260**, or contact [Phumlani Nkontwana](#) for more details.

**ENTRIES NOW OPEN FOR ECO-LOGIC AWARDS 2017** [The Green Times, 23 August 2016.](#)

## **NBI EVENTS 2016**

**BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN** **Tuesday, 8 November 2016 at Nedbank Sandton.** Each year, millions of children around the globe are lured or forced into exploitation. The trafficking in adults and children for sexual purposes is a lucrative illegal business everywhere in the world. Globally, children comprise nearly one-third of all trafficking victims. In Africa, nearly two-thirds of victims are believed to be minors. In May this year, CRES in partnership with Nedbank and the Global Compact Network South Africa hosted an initial business dialogue on how South African business can act against exploitation of children and promote children’s rights in the region. Together with the Global Child Forum, we are now inviting you to a full day conference on how business can protect children. The conference will feature leading national and global experts from all sectors. Please contact [Egnatious](#)

Phiri should you wish to attend this dialogue.

**NBI MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING Thursday, 17 November 2016 at ARUP, Melrose Arch.** Please contact Jo-Anne Stanford should you wish to attend this. The meeting will take place at 15:30 for 16:00 to 18:00 followed by cocktails.

**UPCOMING THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES (TLS) EVENTS TAKING PLACE IN NOVEMBER 2016 FOR NBI MEMBER COMPANIES**

22 November – **Transformation Dialogue** and 29 November - **Updated WWF Water Risk Filter**. Details to follow.

## **SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS 2016**

**CISL SA MASTERCLASS LAUNCHING IN OCTOBER** Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership SA will be launching our first Masterclass in 3 locations. Please check the website for details of the first one of 4 over the next months. For even more information, contact magda.dekok@cisl.cam.ac.uk.

**KING IV LAUNCH CONFERENCE 1 November 2016 Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg.** “King IV introduces some important updates to the landmark King III’s report. In addition, it breaks new ground by differentiating clearly between principles and practices, and linking practices to outcomes—all with a view to making implementation easier,” says Angela Cherrington, CEO of the Institute of Directors in Southern Africa (IoDSA). “Governance is ever evolving, and King IV provides closer, more practical guidance on how to integrate its principles into the way organisations do business.” Online Registration.

**ENERGY EFFICIENCY FORUM AWARDS 1 November 2016 City of Cape Town Electricity Services Head Office, Belville.** Well-known scenario planner, futurologist and author Clem Sunter is the keynote speaker and Steve Nicholls from the National Business Initiative (NBI) will present socio-economic scenarios and a business perspective on energy pathways in South Africa. The winners for this year’s Energy Efficiency Forum Awards will be announced on the morning of 1 November 2016, as judged by UCT’s Energy Research Centre. Clem Sunter will be the keynote speaker. Updates will be given by the City of Cape Town and SAPOA. This meeting is supported by the Western Cape Government. Attendance is free. Please click here to RSVP or call **Busiswa Galada** on **021 487 2022**. Map/directions to the venue and the final programme are available on request.

**INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING COURSE 2 to 4 November 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**.

**SEMINAR THEMED “MAKING ENERGY EFFICIENCY MORE COST EFFECTIVE” to be hosted by the Department of Energy during the 2016 Southern African Energy Efficiency Convention 9 November 2016, Emperors Palace, Ekurhuleni, Gauteng.** This seminar is aimed at re-launching the Energy Efficiency Leadership Network (EELN) and igniting dialogue among EELN signatories on the cost-effectiveness of energy efficiency in South Africa. It will bring together senior and executive officials from the public and private sectors with a view of increasing signatories of the EELN and sharing energy efficiency experiences. Click here to RSVP or call **Pamela Twala** on **012 406 7611**.

**INFRASTRUCTURE DIALOGUE ON URBAN SAFETY 16 November 2016 at DBSA, Midrand.** This Infrastructure Dialogue looks at how public spaces in South Africa can be made safer and more inclusive, in order to realise their full value. One of the defining characteristics of public spaces in South Africa is that they are, or are perceived to be, unsafe. In the most recent National Victims of Crime Survey, more than a third (nearly 37%) of respondents reported that they are prevented from going to open spaces or parks due to fear of crime. RSVP.

**CAMBRIDGE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME 12 to 15 March 2017, Diemersfontein, Wellington,**

**Western Cape.** The resilience and wellbeing of the people and societies that organisations' impact are becoming increasingly material to their success. Sustainability is no longer simply a bolt-on to a 'business-as-usual' approach, but is something that must become deeply embedded in the day-to-day operations of all organisations. This seminar is designed for all middle to senior managers in organisations from the private or public sector to equip them with a high-level understanding of what is required. 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](mailto:magda.dekok@cisl.cam.ac.uk).

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2016

**BSR CONFERENCE 2016: BE BOLD 1 to 3 November 2016 Grand Hyatt New York, NY, USA.** This year's Conference theme is a rallying cry for businesses addressing the toughest issues our time: BE BOLD. The challenges of building a sustainable future are immense, and will require collaborative, innovative thinking from all sectors of society. We know there are substantial opportunities to build inclusive, sustainable economies through business leadership and partnerships—and we also know that we won't achieve these goals unless we think big, and think bold. At the BSR Conference 2016, we'll hear compelling stories from companies, foundations, big thinkers, and creative doers who are making big bets in building a better world. [WEBSITE.](#)

**THE AFRICA RENEWABLE ENERGY FORUM 2 to 4 NOVEMBER 2016, Four Seasons Hotel, Marrakech, Morocco.** Click [here.](#)

**UNFCCC COP 22 7 to 18 November 2016, Marrakech, Morocco. Less than 3 weeks to go!** This will be the 22nd session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 22) to the UNFCCC. Details [here.](#)

**AFRICA BUSINESS COMMUNITIES NETWORKING EVENT 21 November 2016, InterContinental Park Lane, London, UK.** Following successful networking events in Accra, Lagos, Hamburg, Kigali and most recently in Amsterdam, Addis Ababa and Nairobi, Africa Business Communities will be coming to London in November 2016. Click [here.](#)

**WEBINAR: JOIN CLIMATE DISCLOSURE STANDARDS BOARD AND WE MEAN BUSINESS: Commit To Action** to find out how the changing policies in the remainder of 2016 may affect the way companies report climate change information in their mainstream annual reports **22 November 2016 at 9 AM GMT // 10 AM CET // 4 PM HKT.** This webinar will cover the ways companies can be first movers ahead of the G20 Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures and EU Non-Financial Reporting Directive, through the Commit to Action platform. Read about the initiatives at [www.cdp.net/commit](http://www.cdp.net/commit). Registration link: <http://conta.cc/2dAX5t3>

**GLOBAL SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT CONFERENCE 26 to 27 NOVEMBER 2016, Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.** Recognizing the fundamental role of sustainable transport in fighting climate change and achieving the sustainable future we want, Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon will convene the first ever global conference on sustainable transport. In resolution 70/197 titled "Towards comprehensive cooperation among all modes of transport for promoting sustainable multimodal transit corridors", the General Assembly welcomed the initiative of the Secretary-General to convene the Conference. [WEBSITE.](#)

**FOURTH MEETING OF THE TASK FORCE ON THE WATER-FOOD-ENERGY ECOSYSTEMS NEXUS 8 December 2016, Geneva, Switzerland.** This meeting will discuss, plan and provide guidance to the implementation of activities on the water-food-energy-ecosystems nexus under the programme of work for 2016-2018 of the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes (Water Convention). Further details [here.](#)

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**Business Action for Sustainable Growth**

[www.nbi.org.za](http://www.nbi.org.za)

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