

# NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2017



## On A Clear Day: Issue 610, 9 February 2017

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## INDUSTRY NEWS

**FS GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES CLIMATE CHANGE AWARENESS** The Free State provincial government has set out on another first, this time with a Climate Change Awareness Campaign which has already kicked off in schools and communities in Bloemfontein and surrounding areas. [\*OFM, 9 February 2017.\*](#)

**BETTER AGRICULTURE REGULATIONS COULD HELP FEED WORLD'S GROWING POPULATION, SAYS WBG REPORT** Improving agriculture regulations in low and middle income countries could go a long way toward feeding the world's growing population and improving farmers' livelihoods around the world, says the latest edition of the World Bank Group's [\*Enabling the Business of Agriculture \(EBA\) 2017\*](#) report, released on Tuesday.

**BIOCHAR COULD HELP CLEAN POLLUTED WATER** A type of charcoal made from eucalyptus trees could provide the solution to South Africa's polluted water. A University of Stellenbosch academic is developing a low-cost,

low-tech water purification system with the charcoal, which will remove organic compounds from wastewater in urban areas, the DST-NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security said on Monday. [BizCommunity, 8 February 2017.](#)

**WATER SCARCITY TOPS LIST OF WORLD MINERS' WORRIES** The world's top [mining](#) companies warned on Tuesday that assets will be stranded and investors will walk away unless they deal with [water](#) scarcity in key mining regions such as [Africa](#), [Australia](#) and [Latin America](#). [Engineering News, 8 February 2017.](#)

**REDRESSING INEQUALITY IN SA THROUGH SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP** Inequality emerged as a major theme at the 47th World Economic Forum in Davos, and remains a pressing concern globally and in SA. [HR Future, 8 February 2017.](#)

**TRANSFORMING URBAN HEALTH IN AFRICA** Global experts and stakeholders convened in Cape Town to share research, education, policy and capacity building ideas for improved urban health in Africa. [EHealthNews, 8 February 2017.](#)

**BACKSBERG UPS ITS GAME** Since being recognised as the first carbon neutral winery in South Africa, and the third in the world in 2006, some things have changed, and some have remained the same, at Backsberg Estate Cellars, on the slopes of the Simonsberg Mountain in Paarl. [IOL, 8 February 2017.](#)

**DECISION TO ALLOW COAL MINING IN MABOLA PROTECTED ENVIRONMENT CONCERNING** WWF South Africa has learnt with deep concern that the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Dr Edna Molewa, has signed off an application for coal-mining to go ahead in the Mabola Protected Environment (MPE) in Mpumalanga. [WWF-SA, 7 February 2017.](#)

**MINING INDABA FOCUSES ON ECONOMIC GROWTH HEADWINDS** The 2017 Mining Indaba conference kicked off on Monday in Cape Town, CNBC Africa spoke to Dambisa Moyo, Global Economist and Author on some of the economic concerns highlighted by economic growth forecasters. [CNBC Africa, 6 February 2017.](#)

**CHINA IS THE WORLD'S BIGGEST PRODUCER OF SOLAR ENERGY** China is now the world's biggest producer of solar energy by capacity, according to a report by [Reuters](#).

**THE IMPACT OF FALL ARMYWORM OUTBREAK ON FOOD SECURITY** The Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has confirmed that the recent pest infestation to crops across Limpopo and North West provinces is in-fact the fall armyworm. [CNBC Africa, 6 February 2017.](#)

**SWEDEN SET TO BRING IN CLIMATE LAW BY 2018** Legislation will create the framework to deliver a cross-party agreement to go carbon neutral by 2045. [Climate Change News, 2 February 2017.](#)

## **NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS**

**Bringing you news and the latest research from our international partners**

**CDP** The CDP in South Africa is a long-standing partnership between the London-based CDP and the NBI. Read their latest press release entitled: "Suppliers report 434 million tonnes of emissions reductions as big buyers flex purchasing muscle", [here](#).

**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. Access the “*UN Global Compact 2017 Toolbox*”, [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: “*What Do “Water Scarcity”, “Water Stress”, and “Water Risk” Actually Mean?*”, [here](#).

**WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD)** NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read their latest publication entitled: “*Sustainability and enterprise risk management: The first step towards integration*”, [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 ‘*NBI’s Special Edition 2: We Mean Business Newsletter December 2016*’, on the [NBI Website](#).

## NBI IN THE NEWS/NBI NEWS

**OPPORTUNITIES WORTH US\$ 12 TRILLION FOR BUSINESS THROUGH SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS** One year after Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) became effective, a report titled Better Business, Better World by Business Commission on Sustainable Development (BCSD) estimates that the SDGs will open up business opportunities to the tune of US\$12 trillion across four economic systems. The 4 systems researched are Food and Agriculture; Cities; Energy & Materials; and Health & Well-Being. [NBI Quick Brief, 7 February 2017](#).

**NBI ANNOUNCES CDP KEY PROCEDURAL CHANGES** The NBI has implemented a key methodological change for CDP South Africa reports, along with CDP Global announcing two main high level changes: an administrative fee to be paid by all responding companies and sector-focussed questionnaires. [Read NBI Notification here](#).

**CALL FOR TVET COLLEGE GRADUATES** As a result of the successful implementation of a structured placement programme in 2016 of Civil Engineering and Building Construction graduates in bricklaying and carpentry for the construction sector, the National Business Initiative (NBI) is scaling-up the placement programme in 2017. For 2017, the structured placement programme will include Hospitality and Tourism TVET College graduates. The NBI has entered into a partnership with the Nedbank Foundation, Harambee and the Institute of Plumbing South Africa to train plumbing graduates in the installation and maintenance of Solar Water Heaters. The NBI is inviting applications from: 1. Civil Engineering and Building Construction TVET graduates with NCV Level 4 qualification achieved between 2012 & 2016, in carpentry and roof work, concrete structures, bricklaying, plumbing, roads or electrical systems and construction. 2. Hospitality and Tourism TVET college graduates with NCV Level 4 qualification achieved between 2012 & 2016. For further information please contact [Shavilla Harpal](#) or call 011 544 6000 **by 17 February 2017**.

**ACHIEVING DIVERSITY OF SUPPLIERS IS A WIN-WIN** There is a business case for black economic empowerment (BEE) that will benefit all stakeholders, the South African Supplier Diversity Council believes. [Business Day, 19 January 2017](#).

## NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

**SAPPI TO INVEST \$305M IN US, EUROPE MILLS** JSE listed Sappi will invest \$305-million over a three-year period in certain of its operations in the US and Europe, the company said on Wednesday. **Engineering News, 8 February 2017.**

**BARLOWORLD ENTERS NEW FINANCIAL YEAR ON STRONG FOOTING** JSE listed Barloworld has experienced a strong start to its 2017 financial year, with its Southern African equipment division's order book already standing at R1.7-billion at end-January, up from the previous quarter's R1.3-billion. **Engineering News, 8 February 2017.**

**HUMAN SETTLEMENTS AND VODACOM FOUNDATION IMPROVING LEARNING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT IN DUNOON, CAPE TOWN** Human Settlements Deputy Minister, Zou Kota-Fredericks in partnership with Vodacom Foundation will hand over a fully equipped cyber lab to Dunoon Primary School to address socio-economic challenges, amongst them the issue of access to education and internet to learners from vulnerable households in the area. **Knowledge Bylanes, 6 February 2017.**

**MONDI ACQUIRES UK FOOD PACKAGING MANUFACTURER FOR £33M** JSE and LSE-listed Mondi has acquired packaging producer Excelsior Technologies for £33-million. **Engineering News, 6 February 2017.**

**MONDI APPOINTS NEW CEO AS HATHORN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT** David Hathorn will step down as CEO of packaging and paper group Mondi on May 11. He will be succeeded by Peter Oswald, who is currently CEO of Mondi's Europe & International division. **Engineering News, 1 February 2017.**

**ANTHONY LEEMING TAKES THE HELM AT SUN INTERNATIONAL** Hotel and casino group Sun International's chief financial officer Anthony Leeming succeeded Graeme Stephens as CEO on Wednesday, three months earlier than originally scheduled. **Business Day, 1 February 2017.**

**WOOLWORTHS PALMYRA STORE RECEIVES SOUTH AFRICA'S FIRST 5-STAR RETAIL TENANT GREEN BUILDING RATING** The Woolworths Palmyra store in Claremont, Cape Town has become the first retail outlet in South Africa to achieve a 5-star rating certified by the Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA), using the Green Star SA – Existing Building Performance Custom Tenant rating tool. **Supermarket & Retailer, 31 January 2017.**

**BARLOWORLD AND BAYWA EXTEND COLLABORATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA** South Africa's Barloworld Limited and BayWa AG of Munich, Germany, are to establish a new joint venture to further their agriculture and materials handling operations in southern Africa. **Crown Publications, 18 January 2017.**

**SASOL CEO OUTLINES EXPANSION PLANS** **CNBC Africa, 18 January 2017.**

**CARBON TAX LAGGARDS MAY PAY DEARLY** Some mid-size companies not generally viewed as big polluters could end up paying more carbon tax than mining, manufacturing and metals-processing players with larger CO<sub>2</sub> footprints. The alert has been sounded by ERM Southern Africa, part of the global Environmental Resources Management group, the world's leading sustainability consultancy. **Africa Science News, 12 January 2017.**

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

**THE NDP - ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW** In 2012, the government adopted the National Development Plan (NDP) which is a long term vision and plan for the country. [City Press, 1 February 2017.](#)

**2017 CDP SUPPLY CHAIN REPORT LAUNCHED: 'The Missing Link: Harnessing the power of purchasing for a sustainable future'** which was recently launched online.

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (SDP) OF THE INTERNATIONAL TRAINING CENTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ITCILO) FOR 2017** ITCILO is the training arm of the International Labour Organization (ILO), the United Nations agency entrusted with promoting social justice, including internationally recognized human rights and labour standards. We offer a range of learning modalities, mostly professional training courses and Masters programmes (in association with the University of Turin, the University of Barcelona and SciencesPo, Paris). For more information on the content and the specific objectives of the courses offered in each of these areas of expertise, click on the following links: [Procurement management](#), [Programme and Project Cycle Management](#), [Green Jobs](#), [Multinational Enterprises and Global Supply Chains / Enterprise Development](#). The complete brochure of SDP on short professional courses for the year 2017 as well as on the upcoming Masters programmes is available [here](#).

**RETHINKING ENERGY 2017: ACCELERATING THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSFORMATION** Renewable energy is a fundamental and growing part of the global energy transformation. Increasingly, renewables have become the first choice for expanding, upgrading and modernising power systems around the world. Download Rethinking Energy 2017 [here](#).

**UNGC EXECUTIVE UPDATE: ANNUAL LETTER TO UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT PARTICIPANTS** Read [here](#).

**COMMENTS REQUESTED ON THE NATIONAL ENERGY EFFICIENCY STRATEGY, INTEGRATED ENERGY PLAN (IEP) AND INTEGRATED RESOURCE PLAN (IRP)** Click [here](#) for further information.

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: SWITCH AFRICA GREEN – SEED AWARDS 2017** SEED has opened the Call for Applications for the 2017 SWITCH Africa Green (SAG) – SEED Awards. The SEED Awards for Entrepreneurship in Sustainable Development is an annual awards scheme designed to find the most promising, innovative and locally led start-up eco-inclusive enterprises in countries with developing and emerging economies. The deadline for applications is **8 March 2017**. [Further information](#).

## NBI EVENTS 2017

**ACCELERATING YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY - HARNESSING THE COLLECTIVE ACTION OF SMALL AND EMERGING CONTRACTORS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY** Wednesday, 15 February 2017, The Peter Clogg Auditorium, Group Five, Waterfall Business Estate, Midrand. There is growing realisation of the vital role of small and emerging contractors in developing a pipeline of skilled youth for the construction sector. The National Business Initiative is hosting a Thought Leadership and Dialogue Discussion on the role and contribution of sub-contractors in accelerating youth employability for the construction industry. Discussions will draw on the reflections and lessons learnt from the implementation of a structured workplace-based learning programme, purposefully designed for



the construction industry. Please contact [Shavilla Harpal](#) should you wish to attend this session or call 011 544 6000.

## SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS 2017

**2017 ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 14 February 2017 at GIBS, Illovo, Johannesburg.** This highly anticipated annual event is an ideal opportunity for you to gain exclusive insights from business leaders, economists, analysts, government, strategists, entrepreneurs, experts and investors on the major developing trends and influences in the economy as well as impact on businesses in South Africa. [GIBS](#).

**AFRICA ENERGY INDABA 21 to 22 February 2017 at the Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg.** The 2017 Africa Energy Indaba Conference will discuss debate and seek solutions to enable adequate energy generation across the continent. [Registration Form](#).

**INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS COURSE** followed by the **Workshop on GRI Disclosures (Performance Indicators) based on the new Standards 21 to 23 February 2017 at the Glenhove Conference Centre, Melrose, Johannesburg.** Participants receive a GRI certificate. For more information visit [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone 082 395 7582.

**INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI WORKSHOP ON THE TRANSITION FROM G4 TO THE NEW GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS 24 February 2017 (morning session) at the Glenhove Conference Centre, Melrose, Johannesburg.** Participants receive a GRI certificate. For more information visit [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone 082 395 7582.

**SKILLS DEVELOPMENT EXHIBITION 1 March 2017 at the Durban Chamber Of Commerce and Industry.** The Durban Chamber is hosting a skills development exhibition for you to learn more about implementing skills development and/or training in your organisation. For further information please contact [Diana Boast](#) or [Prudence Sakala](#) or [RSVP here](#).

**EXECUTIVE BRIEFING - WATER AS A BUSINESS RISK 3 March 2017 at the Maslow Hotel, Sandton.** Don't miss this opportunity to learn from South Africa's best in water as they provide essential insight into: The state of the nation's water/Financing water infrastructure solutions/Unlocking real business value and financial rewards through water stewardship/Real examples and success stories from South African businesses. Register [here](#).

**OPEN EDUCATION GLOBAL CONFERENCE 8 to 10 March 2017 at The Cape Town International Conference Centre, Western Cape.** This is the largest international conference dedicated to the impacts and practice of open education worldwide. The conference attracts faculty, teachers, administrators, policy makers, companies and educational professionals from around the globe. The theme of the 2017 Open Education Global Conference is Open for Participation. We will discuss pressing needs in education at all levels and examine how open approaches in education can increase access, equity and opportunities. [Website](#).

**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 De Kok** on [magda.dekok@cisl.cam.ac.uk](mailto:magda.dekok@cisl.cam.ac.uk).

**ENERGY REVOLUTION AFRICA 16 to 18 May 2017 Cape Town International Convention Centre, South Africa.** Everything you want and need to know about renewable energy and the future of energy development and growth in Africa comes under the spotlight at [Energy Revolution Africa 2017](#). This co-located event to African Utility Week will be hosted for the first time in Africa.

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2017

**2017 CARBON TRUST PUBLIC SECTOR CONFERENCE 21 February 2017 London, United Kingdom.** Join 250+ public sector colleagues at the Carbon Trust Public Sector Conference 2017 to discuss ideas, share best practice and learn about how different public sector organisations are reducing their carbon, water and waste emissions and leading the response to climate change amongst the communities and businesses that they serve and support. [Read more & register.](#)

**BETTER BUSINESS BETTER WORLD CONFERENCE 23 February 2017 Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.** The objective of this conference is to build support for the Global Goals as the right strategy for growth for business in Africa, and at the same time to launch the **Better Business, Better World Report** by the Business and Sustainable Development Commission. For further details or to RSVP, please click [here](#).

**A CARBON TRUST WEBINAR: SETTING SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS 23 February 2017 On-Line.** A webinar discussion on Science-based targets, why they are important and the benefits companies can experience by setting them. [Register.](#)

**INTRODUCTION TO ENERGY EFFICIENCY & REGIONAL BUSINESS SUPPORT INITIATIVES FOR SMALL Businesses 23 February 2017 Nottingham, United Kingdom.** Receive free energy efficiency training from a Carbon Trust expert and explore some of the East Midlands regional initiatives that provide support and funding to develop and grow your business. Details [here](#).

**POWERING AFRICA 9 to 10 March 2017 Washington DC, USA.** The annual [Powering Africa: Summit](#) returns to Washington DC this March, providing a platform for Africa's energy sector stakeholders and developers to engage multilaterals, global investors and technology providers. The meeting will present backbone energy and infrastructure projects to proactive partners.

**WORLD WATER DAY 22 March 2017** View [here](#).

**WATERSHED – REPLENISHING WATER VALUES FOR A THIRSTY WORLD** On March 22nd, World Water Day 2017, Pope Francis will inspire a global conversation. His address from the Vatican will help shift how the world values and understands its single most precious resource: water. Immediately following the Papal address, at 10:30am CET, 400 thought leaders from around the world will convene at WATERSHED. These policy makers and academics, together with students, artists, business leaders and men and women from the most at-risk populations will begin an unprecedented dialogue around the value and values of water. The conference will be co-hosted by the [Vatican's Pontifical Council for Culture](#) and [the Club of Rome](#). [WEBSITE.](#)

**2017 WBCSD LIAISON DELEGATE MEETING 27 to 30 March 2017 Montreux, Switzerland.** The urgency of building a sustainable world is more acute than ever. And while the opportunities offered by sustainable and inclusive growth are outstanding, companies everywhere are now grappling with the uncertainty of today's social, economic and political realities. The 2017 LD meeting will put the spotlight on some of the most critical issues for business. [Register](#) to take advantage of the early bird rates, which close on 20 February.

**2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, DEVELOPMENT, AND PROTECTION (ICESDP'17) 2 to 4 April 2017, Barcelona, Spain.** ICESDP'17 aims to become the leading annual conference in fields related to environmental sustainability, development and protection. [WEBSITE.](#)

**2017 WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ON AFRICA 3 to 5 May 2017 in KwaZulu-Natal at the Durban ICC, South Africa.** WEF Africa comes four months after the conclusion of the 47th WEF annual meeting held in the Davos last week, where world leaders and business leaders gathered to address problems facing the global community. [Further information.](#)

## TELL US WHAT YOUR INTEREST AREAS ARE

*In order to refine our communications with you, please subscribe to the following interest areas. We will then notify you of NBI publications and events relating to the relevant topic.*

*The NBI's two main focus areas are: Social Transformation and Economic Transition.*

[GREEN ECONOMY](#)

[BIODIVERSITY](#)

[WATER](#)

[WASTE](#)

[CLIMATE ADAPTATION](#)

[SKILLS DEVELOPMENT](#)

[CLIMATE FINANCE](#)

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## NBI: Business Action for Sustainable Growth

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

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