



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 606, 8 December 2016

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Please note that this is the last edition of On A Clear Day for 2016 and the first edition of 2017 will be published on Thursday, 19 January 2017. We would like to wish our readers a happy and safe festive season and a prosperous 2017.

INDUSTRY NEWS

UN TO EXTEND FREEZE ON CLIMATE CHANGE GEOENGINEERING Draft documents suggest countries will agree to further ban on large-scale climate techno-fixes, warning risks of damage to biodiversity outweigh potential benefits. [*Climate Home, 7 December 2016.*](#)

AFRICA: MOROCCO AND NIGERIA ANNOUNCE TRANS-AFRICAN PIPELINE In a major initiative to strengthen the West African economy, the Kingdom of Morocco and Federal Republic of Nigeria have announced that they will jointly develop a new regional gas pipeline connecting the two countries, bringing the resources of Nigeria to Morocco, its neighbours and Europe. [*Western Cape Business News, 7 December 2016.*](#)

PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS FOR IRP, IEP GET UNDER WAY AS DOE ATTRACTS CRITICISM OVER TIMELINES, PRICING BASIS Planned nationwide public consultations got under way in Boksburg yesterday for the Department of Energy's (DoE's) long-awaited draft Integrated Energy Plan (IEP) and updated Integrated Resource Plan (IRP), drawing some industry criticism regarding timelines and an outdated pricing structure.

Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 7 December 2016.

POWER GRID GETS BOOST FROM ELECTRIC CARS South African technology is making it possible for electric vehicles to provide power to homes. *Heather Duqmore, Business Live, 7 December 2016.*

BCSA LAUNCHES GREEN STAR – COMMUNITIES PILOT PROGRAMME Green Building Council South Africa (GBCSA) on Wednesday announced the launch of the locally applicable version of the Green Star – Communities rating tool in South Africa. *Anine Kilian, Engineering News, 7 December 2016.*

STELLENBOSCH RIVER PARTNERSHIP CELEBRATES TWO-YEAR MILESTONE The Stellenbosch River Collaborative (SRC) recently celebrated two years of a successful partnership to improve the water quality of the rivers that run through this beautiful Winelands town. *WWF-SA, 7 December 2016.*

FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA The underdevelopment of Africa's agriculture sector is a real threat to national security across the continent. That's a view expressed by panellists at the 11th Africa Economic Conference held in Abuja. *CNBC Africa, 6 December 2016.*

CITY SETS SIGHTS ON NEW AIRPORT SITE More than 20 consultants recently attended a tender briefing session at the uMhlathuze Municipality hoping to conduct the feasibility study for the relocation of the Richards Bay Airport. *Zululand Observer, 7 December 2016.*

HOLD TIGHT, IT'S GOING TO BE AN ELECTRIC RIDE: CAPE TOWN SCOOPS BUS FACTORY Cape Town's dream of becoming the heart of Africa's green economy got a boost on Tuesday with the announcement of an electric bus manufacturing plant that will create hundreds of jobs. *Times Live, 6 December 2016.*

COLLEGE VOCATIONAL TRAINING PLAN MAY FAIL BECAUSE OF LACK OF MONEY: NZIMANDE The government's plan to boost enrolments in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) colleges is likely to fail because of lack of funding, Higher Education and Training Minister Blade Nzimande has warned. *Bekezela Phakathi, BizCommunity, 6 December 2016.*

FOOD TRADE TO ENHANCE STORAGE CAPACITY IN EAST AFRICA Although food production and marketing systems throughout East Africa have under-performed for the past few years, Food Trade East and Southern Africa has found a way around this through stimulating regional trade in surplus staple foods and ultimately trade. *CNBC Africa, 6 December 2016.*

THREE KEYSTONES IN REACHING AFRICA'S ENERGY GOALS African countries have in the past several years worked round the clock spending millions on energy projects that aim to increase access and distribution of energy. However, overcoming energy poverty is still one of the greatest challenges facing Africa that has 13% of the world's population, but 48% of the share of the global population without access to electricity. *Fola Esan, BizCommunity, 6 December 2016.*

SOIL AND PULSES STRATEGIC ALLIES IN CREATING FOOD SECURITY, COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE According to a new report by FAO released on World Soil Day titled Soils and Pulses: Symbiosis for Life, soil and pulses, especially when deployed together, can make significant contributions toward feeding the world and combating climate change. *BizCommunity, 6 December 2016.*

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: *“Revenues in jeopardy as companies reliant on commodities linked to deforestation underestimate risk”*, [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. Read their news update entitled: *“Chief Executives Lay Out Concrete Plans to Put Global Climate Agreement into Action at COP 22”*, [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: *“How is Water Relevant to My Company?”*, [here](#).

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read the latest news article entitled: *“Sustainability beyond fence-lines: why landscape approaches make business sense”*, [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 1: We Mean Business Newsletter November 2016’*, on the [NBI WEBSITE](#).

NBI IN THE NEWS

CLEM SUNTER ON SA'S FUTURE South Africa is at an economic crossroads, like the political crossroads of the early 1990s, and needs to have an economic Codesa to ensure its future stability. [Forestry South Africa, 5 December 2016](#).

CEO INITIATIVE PLEDGE: Log onto the [CEO PLEDGE WEBSITE](#) and view the number of South African CEOs (including small and medium companies) who have signed the CEO Initiative Pledge. The National Business Initiative (NBI), through our CEO Joanne Yawitch, is the Secretariat to the CEO Initiative.

NBI NEWS

2016 CDP WATER REPORT LAUNCH: 2016 has been a significant year for CDP water in South Africa, with 4 South African companies out of a total of 24 companies making CDP’s global A list. **Anglo American Platinum, Harmony Gold Mining Company, Kumba Iron Ore, and Royal Bafokeng Platinum** all made this growing list of companies on the CDP Water A List. For further details please contact [Naseema Elias](#).

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

FIELDS OF BARLEY: PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE FARMING PRACTICES AND INCREASING LOCAL INPUT South

African Breweries (SAB) draws much of its success from the expansive barley fields of the Southern and Northern Cape that are flourishing under the care of both commercial and emerging farmers. [Harvest SA, 7 December 2016.](#)

PRIORITIZING RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY TO ACCELERATE GROWTH IN AFRICA ABB supported a number of pledges signed by world leaders at COP21 in Paris, including a commitment to scale up renewable energy and help emerging economies transition their markets for energy efficient products. At COP22, ABB showed how this commitment translates into solutions and services that enable access to electricity and improve lives. [Engineering News, 7 December 2016.](#)

SASOL UNVEILS NEW CORPORATE HEAD OFFICE On Tuesday, petroleum giant, Sasol, invited the media for a look at its 67,000 square metre new global headquarters in Sandton. [CNBC Africa, 6 December 2016.](#)

TIGER BRANDS: PLANNING A POWER SURGE Since becoming Tiger Brands' CEO just six months ago Lawrence MacDougall has wasted no time getting to grips with putting the food sector also-ran back on a growth track. [Financial Mail, 2 December 2016.](#)

SHELL STUDIES GREEN ENERGY DEALS TO PREPARE FOR FUTURE AFTER OIL Royal Dutch Shell, the world's second-biggest publicly listed oil company, is studying acquisitions in the green energy sector, its CEO told Reuters, as it bows to shareholder demands for a strategy beyond fossil fuels. [Sharenet, 30 November 2016.](#)

TOYOTA INTRODUCES FUEL-CELL BUSES Toyota Motor Corporation will begin to sell fuel-cell buses (FC buses) under the Toyota brand from early 2017. [Focus on Transport & Logistics, 1 December 2016.](#)

INVESTING IN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT The constraint has been a lack of a well-structured framework – Mike Peo – Head of Infrastructure, Energy & Telecoms at Nedbank. [Moneyweb, 30 November 2016.](#)

WATER WOES ON THE AGENDA FOR SA FIRMS Water risk is rapidly rising on the agenda of businesses across the country, according to Environmental Resources Management (ERM). [IOL, 27 November 2016.](#)

HISTORICAL CORPORATE SOCIAL INVESTMENT REACHES END OF USEFUL LIFE – ERM New, precise and penetrating methods of measuring social impact are driving radical revisions to corporate social investment (CSI) as practised by big business and global investors, according to sustainability consultancy Environmental Resources Management (ERM) Southern Africa. [Engineering News, 25 November 2016.](#)

TSGO SUN SEES FIRST-HALF REVENUE GROW Marcel von Aulock, CEO, Tsogo Sun speaks to CNBC Africa. [CNBC Africa, 23 November 2016.](#)

ABB DELIVERS R1.2M SUBSTATION TO CPUT Power and automation group ABB will this month deliver a R1.2-million UniPack compact substation to the Cape Peninsula University of Technology's (CPUT's) chemical engineering building, aimed at improving the university's electrical network monitoring. [Engineering News, 22 November 2016.](#)

OCEANA DELIVERED ON INVESTOR PROMISE – CEO For the year ended 30 September, group revenue of Oceana grew by 34% to R8.2bn, operating profit increased by 69% to R1.7bn and headline earnings increased by 34%. [Fin24, 21 November 2016.](#)

SOME GREEN SHOOTS VISIBLE IN MINING SECTOR, SAYS BARLOWORLD'S THOMSON For the first time in four years some green shoots are starting to appear in the mining industry, says Barloworld CE Clive Thomson.

[Engineering News, 21 November 2016.](#)

BCX INTEGRATION, MOBILE BUSINESS LIFTS TELKOM'S H1 EARNINGS JSE-listed Telkom on Tuesday posted higher earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation (Ebitda) of R5.3-billion and an improved Ebitda margin of 26.1% for the six months to September 30. [Engineering News, 15 November 2016.](#)

SOUTH32 OPENS DESALINATION PLANT Diversified mining company South32 has opened a seawater desalination plant at its Hillside aluminium smelter in Richards Bay to mitigate against the drought experienced in KwaZulu-Natal in the last few years. [Engineering News, 8 November 2016.](#)

WOOLWORTHS CELEBRATES YEARS OF GIVING BACK TO EDUCATION Woolworths today announced that it is marking its 85th anniversary by partnering with the MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet fundraising programme in order to provide 50 educational bursaries of R20 000 each, totalling R1 million. [HR Pulse, 3 November 2016.](#)

JOHNSON & JOHNSON LAUNCHES AN AFRICA INNOVATION CHALLENGE FOR BUDDING HEALTHCARE ENTREPRENEURS Winners of the challenge could receive up to \$100,000 to bring their forward-thinking ideas to the next level. [WEBSITE.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

LAUNCH - TRIALOGUE CSI HANDBOOK: Keynote Speech By: Ms Nozipho January-Bardill, Chairperson: Global Compact Network South Africa Click here to [access.](#)

EDUCATING FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE Research indicates that there is a strong correlation between education and governance. There are multiple relationships between education and good governance and they are cyclical and mutually reinforcing. [MBA.co.za, 6 December 2016.](#)

HELEN CLARK: SPEECH AT THE SECOND HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON EFFECTIVE DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT GROUP SIDE EVENT: "Leveraging Finance for Sustainable Development and the 2030 Agenda". [Africa Newswire, 30 November 2016.](#)

SUPPORTING THE 'MISSING MIDDLE' IN HIGHER EDUCATION Government moves towards a sustainable solution to the higher education fees challenge. [Politicsweb, 30 November 2016.](#)

PUBLIC CALLED TO COMMENT ON DRAFT INTEGRATED ENERGY PLAN The Department of Energy released the long awaited integrated resource plan for public comment yesterday. The plan aims to secure the country's energy needs by balancing cost, job creation and minimising the harmful impact on the environment. [CNBCAfrica, 23 November 2016.](#)

OPINION: WHY KING IV MATTERS Gone are the days when corporate governance was confined to companies and their boards. Article written by Nastascha Harduth, Director, Werksmans Attorneys. [CNBCAfrica, 22 November 2016.](#)

200 COMPANIES COMMIT TO SCIENCE BASED TARGETS, SURPASSING EXPECTATIONS FOR CORPORATE CLIMATE ACTION Just 18 months after its launch, the [Science Based Targets initiative](#) announced that 200 companies have committed to set emissions reduction targets consistent with the global effort to keep temperatures well below the 2-degree threshold. In the past year, the initiative has seen a growth rate of over 2 companies per week

committing to set science-based targets, far exceeding the project's timeline and signalling that climate action has gained tremendous momentum in the private sector. [Washington, 16 November 2016.](#)

DOING BUSINESS WITH RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS' - A NEW GUIDE. *Doing Business With Respect for Human Rights'* is the comprehensive guide you need if you want to understand what it means to do business with respect for human rights. Click [here](#).

ENTRIES ARE OPEN FOR ECO-LOGIC AWARDS 2017 – LAST CHANCE TO ENTER! The Enviropaedia has officially opened the 2017 Eco-Logic Awards competition, calling on the public to help identify and nominate individuals, organisations and communities that positively contribute towards an environmentally sustainable world for us to live in. Details [here](#).

NBI EVENTS 2017

SAVE THE DATE: ACCELERATING YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY - HARNESSING THE COLLECTIVE ACTION OF SMALL AND EMERGING CONTRACTORS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY **Wednesday, 15 February 2017.** 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](#).

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS 2016/2017

2016 SCIENCE FORUM SOUTH AFRICA 8 to 9 December 2016 at the CSIR International Convention Centre, Tshwane. The final programme comprising more than 60 sessions and talks, featuring eminent South African, African and global thought leaders, is now available for [download](#). More than 2 000 registered participants from more than 70 countries will be attending this two day event. If you are planning on participating, please remember that it was essential to complete the [online registration process](#).

2017 MINING INDABA 6 to 9 February 2017 in Cape Town. Investing in African Mining Indaba is the world's largest Mining Investment Conference and the World's largest Mining Event in Africa. [WEBSITE](#).

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2017 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](#).

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 and Johannesburg.** 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.

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, e-mail seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone 082 395 7582.

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.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS 2016/2017

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT (REDWARM) 4 to 6 December 2016, Cairo, Egypt. This international conference is organized to provide a forum for researchers, academicians, and practitioners engaged in research, applied water technology, and water resources planning and management to share knowledge, experience, good practices, and research results. [World Water Council](#).

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](#).

2017 WBCSD LIAISON DELEGATE MEETING 27 to 30 March 2017 Montreux, Switzerland. [Save the Date](#).

2ND 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](#).

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

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