

# NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2017



**On A Clear Day: Issue 607, 19 January 2017**

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**We wish our readers a happy and successful 2017!**

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**DAVOS 2017: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM** The best bits from Bloomberg Television's coverage of the first day of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland. [\*Bloomberg, 18 January 2017.\*](#)

**HOW AFRICA IS REPRESENTED AT WEF 2017** The World Economic Forum's kicked off in Davos, Switzerland. A record 3,000 leaders from government, business and civil society have gathered for the annual meeting. [\*ENCA, 18 January 2017.\*](#)

**EDUCATION AND RIGHT MIX OF SKILLS CRUCIAL TO GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT** Investing in education and the right skills have become vital elements to a country's economic growth, development and competitiveness in a global setting. [\*Engineering News, 18 January 2017.\*](#)

**SOUTH AFRICAN FARMERS PLANT A THIRD MORE MAIZE AS RAINS RETURN** South African farmers have planted a third more hectares with maize this season following increased rainfall and favourable climate

conditions, a Reuters poll showed on Wednesday. [CNBC Africa, 18 January 2017.](#)

**SOUTH AFRICA ECONOMIC UPDATE: WELL-TARGETED PRIVATE INVESTMENT COULD CREATE ADDITIONAL JOBS** Re-orienting tax incentives could boost growth, jobs and support poverty alleviation. [Tralac, 17 January 2017.](#)

**ALIEN ARMYWORMS INVADE CORN IN DROUGHT-HIT SOUTHERN AFRICA** After southern Africa's worst drought in more than 35 years ravaged crops and sent food prices soaring, farmers are battling a new crisis: alien armyworms. [Africa Investor, 17 January 2017.](#)

**GLOBAL SEA ICE AT LOWEST AREA EVER RECORDED** Scientists mystified by a sudden fall in sea ice around Antarctica, but said there was no evidence it was related to global warming. [Climate Change News, 16 January 2017.](#)

**SA CITIES FIRST IN AFRICA TO BE INCLUDED IN GDS-INDEX** The first cities in Africa to be included in the Global Destination Sustainability Index (GDS-Index), an innovative new way to measure the level of sustainability cities offer to the MICE events (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions, and Exhibitions) industry, are Durban, Cape Town, and Tshwane. [BizCommunity, 16 January 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: *"Industry leads new initiative to revolutionize carbon pricing for investors"*, [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: *"Sustainable Business Can Unlock at Least US\$12 Trillion in New Market Value, and Repair Economic System"*, [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 their article entitled: *"WBCSD Insider perspective: Business and Biodiversity Forum"*, [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

**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.](#)

**TOOLS AND REFERENCES TO MAKE SENSE OF COP22** Despite the political uncertainty introduced by President-Elect Trump's electioneering statements, such as his stated intention to "End the War on Coal" and to withdraw from the Paris Agreement, nearly 30 additional countries ratified the Paris Agreement in the run up to the COP. In particular, key emitters such as the UK and Australia joined after the US elections had taken place. [NBI Quick Brief, December 2016.](#)

**UNDERSTANDING SCIENCE BASED TARGETS** The National Business Initiative (NBI) has chosen to prioritise Science Based Targets (SBTs) as an important focus area in our on-going campaign with the international coalition, We Mean Business (WMB). [NBI Quick Brief, November 2016.](#)

**2016 CDP WATER REPORT LAUNCH:** 2016 was 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

**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.](#)

**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.](#)

**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.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINION AND SURVEYS

**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](#).

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

**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](#).

## NBI EVENTS 2017

**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 2017

**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.](#)

**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.

**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.](#)

**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.

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

**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.](#)

## 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](#)

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CLIMATE MITIGATION

ANTI-CORRUPTION

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

HUMAN RIGHTS

## **NBI: Business Action for Sustainable Growth**

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

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