



Quick Brief

A news update from the NBI on its programmes, business leadership and issues on sustainable development.

31 May 2018

A Just and Equal South Africa

Transformation and Social Cohesion Visioning

We are reminded constantly, in the news, on social media and through our own daily experiences, of the massive divisions in our society fuelled by lasting and deeply entrenched inequality and inequity. The increased visibility and public conversation on these tough and critical issues, supports the need for urgent and decisive action towards economic and social transformation.

Within this context, the visioning process, which the National Business Initiative (NBI) is currently facilitating, is both timely and important in setting out pathways for business' response for more proactive approaches towards driving change within organisations and broader society. This process aims to collectively re-think a future where all people have access to the economy and to equality, in society.

The purpose of the visioning process is to galvanise business to work towards a shared and collective goal, and to provide clear priorities along with pathways to achieve it. Attaining these goals will require understanding best practice and learnings, as well as creating new, different and innovative approaches to making meaningful change for individuals and organisations within society.

Some of the key discussion points at the first workshop were:

- **The need to have engagement that is more diverse on issues of transformation, with the understanding that we are all required to take a meaningful role in creating change; and**

- **The importance of dialogue that unpacks issues of identity, prejudice and bias in a way that builds empathy through understanding.**

Through a lengthy and intensive process, underpinned by a robust visioning methodology, participants identified a number of priorities to be addressed through the Transformation programme.

These included:

- Inclusion, representation and diversity;
- Leadership and organizational culture;
- Operating context and integrated business strategy;
- Education, skills and youth employability; and
- Enabling small and medium-size businesses.

The upcoming national NBI visioning workshops will build on the above priority areas as well as on points noted from the first discussion, to create a collective vision of what a **Just and Equal South Africa** could look like if business re-commits to economic and social transformation. The themes identified will form the project streams for collective action by participating NBI members and by business, more broadly.

The details for the next visioning workshops taking place in June and July are as follows:

Durban | Wednesday, 27 June 2018 | Venue TBC

Cape Town | Tuesday, 3 July 2018 | Durbanville Hills

Johannesburg | Thursday, 5 July 2018 | Venue TBC

Please get in touch if you would like us to send you the full workshop report. Also, if you would like to participate in any of the above workshops or have any feedback to share, kindly e-mail: Gugu McLaren-Ushewokunze.

A small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world, indeed it is the only thing that ever has.

- Margaret Mead

Business Action for Sustainable Growth

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