

NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2019

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 706, 11 April 2019

NBI IN THE NEWS/NBI NEWS

Please note that due to the Easter weekend, the next edition of On A Clear Day will be published on Thursday, 25 April 2019.

SWISS-SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITALITY APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME (SSHAP!) The Embassy of Switzerland and the National Business Initiative (NBI) congratulate all the trainers from Hilton Sandton, Park Inn Sandton and Hyatt Regency Rosebank for completing the **Train the Trainers Course** for the Swiss-South African Hospitality Apprenticeship Programme (SSHAP!) conducted by HTMi-Hotel and Tourism Management Institute, Switzerland. SSHAP! comprises a six-month accelerated dual apprenticeship, with integrated theoretical and practical training, targeting three occupational roles in the hospitality industry: front desk, housekeeping and waitering. The programme is a partnership between the Embassy of Switzerland to South Africa, NBI, HTMi-Hotel and Tourism Management Institute, Switzerland, Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator and large hotel groups. Please contact: [Shavilla Harpal](#) for additional details.

STEVE NICHOLLS: NBI HEAD OF ENVIRONMENT attended the **We Mean Business Global Strategy Session in Brussels, Belgium** from 26 to 28th March 2019. This was an excellent occasion for the NBI to bring a developing country voice to the planning of one of the world's most influential business organisations. The NBI was also able to share our thinking of economic transition risk that developing countries experience as a result of climate change and the shift to a low carbon economy. Steve then attended the **World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) Delegate Liaison Meeting in Montreux, Switzerland** which took place the week after, 1 to 4 April 2019. Here the WBCSD shared their long-term strategy and work programme with their member companies and global partners (the NBI is the South African partner). It was also an opportunity for the NBI to determine which WBCSD programmes would have most relevance for our own members. WBCSD priority focus areas include a Vision 2050 refresh, SDG sector roadmaps and nature-based solution. For more information on both meetings, kindly contact: [Steve Nicholls](#).

ALEX MCNAMARA, NBI'S PROGRAMME MANAGER: CLIMATE & WATER participated at the World Water Day Media Networking Breakfast hosted by the Department of Water & Sanitation on 22 March 2019 in Pretoria. The session held under the theme: **"Leaving no one behind, water for all"**, was transmitted to 21 radio stations across the country and the topics discussed during two panel sessions, included Water Quality and Water Stewardship in South Africa. Alex shared possible collaborative ways to improve water quality in the country. [View here.](#)

MICHELLE HIESTERMANN, THE NBI MANAGER OF THE UMHLATHUZE WATER STEWARDSHIP PARTNERSHIP facilitated a session on building resilience in water security at the Alternative Africa Climate Week on 19 March 2019. The Alternative Africa Climate Week was run as a Wilton Park dialogue in association with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and African Climate Reality Project and focused on working with 40 young leaders under the age of 40. The dialogue shared expertise between the next generation of leaders across the continent, looked at ways to harness their energy and imagination, and equipped them with insights and tools to help mobilise their communities to increase climate resilience. For more information please contact: [Michelle Hiestermann.](#)

THE SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION TEAM INVITES NBI MEMBER COMPANIES to participate in the innovation working group focused on creating a culture of inclusion and belonging, which is interested in how organisations unlock value and innovation through improving representation and diversity. **The Innovation Working Group** aims to create a space where member companies can build innovative and collaborative approaches to transformation challenges that will ensure diverse and productive workforces with improved retention. The first meeting takes place on **Tuesday, 16 April 2019** in Johannesburg with video-conferencing available for Cape Town and Durban. To join the working group, please contact: [Khule Duma.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

THIS IS WHAT THE GENDER PAY GAP LOOKS LIKE IN EIGHT COUNTRIES There's good and bad news for working women across the globe: the gender pay gap is narrowing, but it still persists. [Kate Whiting, European Sting/WEF, 9 April 2019.](#)

THE 3 STEPS TO THRIVING, ZERO-CARBON CITIES Cities are currently both climate-culprit and climate-victim. They are already responsible for 70 percent of global energy-related greenhouse gas emissions and 65 percent of global energy demand; they could easily account for more than three-quarters of electricity use by 2030. [Emma Stewart and Eric Mackres, GreenBiz, 9 April 2019.](#)

TWO-THIRDS OF GLACIER ICE IN THE ALPS 'WILL MELT BY 2100' If emissions continue to rise at current rate, ice will have all but disappeared from Europe's Alpine valleys by end of century. [Damain Carrington, The Guardian, 9 April 2019.](#)

NORWAY'S ELECTRIC CAR MARKET HAS OVERTAKEN TRADITIONAL VEHICLE SALES When it comes to electric vehicle uptake, Norway is streets ahead of any other country. With a series of incentives introduced by successive governments over the last two decades, it is on a mission to phase out sales of diesel and petrol cars by 2025. [Charlotte Edmond, The European Sting/WEF, 9 April 2019.](#)

CONSUMERS URGED TO DOUBLE CHECK WWF-SASSI STATUS OF FISH ON RESTAURANT MENUS Consumers should scrutinise seafood menus closely to ensure that they are not being served fish that are red-listed by the WWF-Southern African Sustainable Seafood Initiative. [WWF-SA, 9 April 2019.](#)

ALMOST HALF UK COMPANIES FAILED TO NARROW GENDER PAY GAP Nearly half of all major British companies have failed to reduce their gender pay gap over the last year, data released on Friday showed, despite rising government pressure and public scrutiny. [Emma Batha and Lin Taylor, Thomson Reuters Foundation, 5 April 2019.](#)

URBAN TRANSFORMATIONS: IN DURBAN, INFORMAL WORKERS DESIGN MARKETPLACES INSTEAD OF GETTING DISPLACED BY THEM Warwick Junction's maze of stalls, arches and bridges can elicit wonder in any first-time visitor to South Africa's largest marketplace. The area's nine distinct markets are wedged between Durban's major train station, three highway overpasses and dozens of taxi ranks. [Anne Maassen and Madeleine Galvin, WRI, 5 April 2019.](#)

WHY GLOBALIZATION NEEDS AN UPGRADED OPERATING SYSTEM The G20 Leaders' Summit in London on April 2, 2009, is widely regarded as one of the best examples of global cooperation in a generation. [Richard Samans, WEF, 4 April 2019.](#)

MARINE PLASTIC POLLUTION COSTS THE WORLD UP TO \$2.5TN A YEAR, RESEARCHERS FIND Plastic pollution in the world's oceans costs society billions of dollars every year in damaged and lost resources, research has found. [Kate Hodal, The Guardian, 4 April 2019.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

MTN BACKS SMALL BUSINESS PLATFORM SEEKING TO BOOST SMES Small businesses are essential for economic growth and job creation in a sluggish economy like South Africa's. But WeAreSME is trying to do its bit to empower small businesses. [Power 98.7, 9 April 2019.](#)

PICK N PAY SHARES RISE ON ANNUAL TURNOVER GROWTH OF NEARLY 10% Pick n Pay, one of South Africa's largest supermarket chains, yesterday rose after the group reported turnover growth of almost 10 percent in the financial year to the end of March, underscoring the resilience of its South African division, which clawed back market share from competitors. [IOL Business, 9 April 2019.](#)

HARMONY GOLD SHINES ON JSE AS PRECIOUS METAL PRICES CLIMB Harmony Gold Mining Company rose to become the best performer on the JSE yesterday as mining stocks marched on higher precious metals and iron ore prices. [IOL Business, 9 April 2019.](#)

TOYOTA'S PRIUS HYBRID GETS A REFRESH FOR 2019 Toyota's slow-selling Prius hybrid hatch has been given what its maker describes as a simplified design language, which is probably a nice way of admitting that its designers went a bit over the top with the previous model. [IOL Business, 9 April 2019.](#)

GROWTHPOINT TAPS DESALINATION TO ENSURE V&A WATER SUPPLY Growthpoint Properties, South Africa's largest retail and office space owner, is protecting its premier investment, the Victoria & Alfred Waterfront in Cape Town, from water shortages by building a desalination plant. [Moneyweb, 8 April 2019.](#)

SHELL TO INVEST \$300M TO OFFSET CARBON EMISSIONS Royal Dutch Shell has committed to invest \$300 million (£230m) over the next three years in projects that help offset carbon emissions. [Energy Live News, 8 April 2019](#)

SAPPI, BORREGAARD CELEBRATE 20 YEARS OF BIOREFINERY INVESTMENT LignoTech South Africa – the 50:50 joint venture between South Africa's Sappi and Norway's Borregaard – is celebrating 20 years of operations. [Engineering News, 8 April 2019.](#)

FNB EXPANDS OFFERING AS COMPETITION IN SECTOR STIFFENS The bank is investing in financial planning capabilities and plans to sell more comprehensive life insurance. [BusinessLIVE, 8 April 2019.](#)

MTN HAS BEST MOBILE NETWORK – MYBROADBAND INSIGHTS Telecommunications giant MTN has once again secured the top position in MyBroadband Insights' quarterly 'Mobile Network Quality' report. [Engineering News, 8 April 2019.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

ENTRIES FOR GREEN TALENTS 2019 OPEN The Green Talents - International Forum for High Potentials in Sustainable Development looks at how research can contribute to more sustainability, how we can , and preserve our planet's resources for future generations, and how we can realise good and healthy living conditions for everyone around the world when global climate change challenges today's economies and lifestyles. [BizCommunity, 10 April 2019.](#)

AFRICA: WHY FIXING FOOD SYSTEMS IS CRUCIAL FOR MEETING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Global leaders have set themselves a series of ambitious goals and targets in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Ending hunger by 2030 (SDG 2) or reducing premature mortality from non-communicable diseases by a third (SDG 3), for example, will be no mean feat. Faced with such a plethora of commitments, policymakers should look to fixing global food systems as a treasure trove of opportunity. [Martin Koehring, All Africa/Thomson Reuters Foundation, 8 April 2019.](#)

COST OF DECARBONISING GLOBAL ENERGY SYSTEM FALLS SHARPLY, NEW REPORT SHOWS Rapidly falling renewable-energy costs, together with emerging opportunities to electrify other energy end-uses such as transportation and heating, are continuing to reduce the investment premium associated with placing the world on a more climate-friendly path, a new international report highlights. [Engineering News, 9 April 2019.](#)

INNOVATIVE TOOLS NOW AVAILABLE TO STRENGTHEN MANAGEMENT AND DISCLOSURE OF ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) INFORMATION For many businesses, managing multiple disclosure demands and increasing stakeholder pressure for disclosing environmental, social and governance (ESG) information is an ongoing challenge. [WBCSD, 3 April 2019.](#)

GLOBAL STANDARD FOR DIGITAL LITERACY, SKILLS AND READINESS LAUNCHED The Coalition for Digital Intelligence (CDI), a platform created in association with the World Economic Forum (Forum) and formed jointly by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), IEEE Standards Association (IEEE), and DQ Institute, has launched the DQ Global Standards Report 2019 which is the world's first attempt to define a global standard for digital literacy, skills and readiness across the education and technology sectors. [BBrief Online, 28 March 2019.](#)

WBCSD: THE GOOD LIFE GOALS NOW AVAILABLE IN MULTIPLE LANGUAGES UN Environment, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and Futerra have recently released translations of the Good Life Goals into six languages – Brazilian Portuguese, Chinese, French, German, Japanese and Spanish. [WBCSD Website.](#)

TIME FOR SA ECO-CHAMPIONS TO SHINE The 8th annual Eco-Logic Awards event, presented by The Enviropaedia, South Africa's online environmental encyclopaedia, is set to take place on 5 June 2019, which is World Environment Day. [Infrastructure News, 20 February 2019.](#)

2020 ZAYED SUSTAINABILITY PRIZE OPEN FOR ENTRIES Applicants from across Africa are invited to enter the 2020 edition of the Zayed Sustainability Prize which rewards innovation, impact and inspiration in the sustainable development space. The deadline for entries is 30 May 2019. The five categories are Health, Food, Energy, Water and Global High Schools. [BizCommunity, 14 February 2019.](#)

NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Bringing you news and the latest research from our international partners

CDP CDP in South Africa is a long-standing partnership between the London-based CDP and the NBI. They have built the most comprehensive collection of self-reported environmental information in the world. Over the past 18 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their **latest blog article**

entitled: “Getting ready for the 2019 disclosure cycle? Find out how CDP’s accredited solutions providers could help you”, [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 **latest blog article** entitled: “**CDP Water Report 2018: Celebrating Progress and Acknowledging the Long Road Ahead**, [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 **March 2019 Newsletter** just published, [here](#).

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) WBCSD is a global, CEO-led organization of over 200 leading businesses working together to accelerate the transition to a sustainable world. The NBI is the global partner of the WBCSD in South Africa. Read their **latest news article** entitled: “**Why healthier diets make it easier to realise universal health coverage**, [here](#).

NBI EVENTS/WORSHOPS | 2019

CREATING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION INNOVATION WORKING GROUP | Tuesday, 16 April 2019 | GE, Houghton | The National Business Initiative (NBI) invites you to participate in the innovation working group focused on creating a culture of inclusion and belonging, which is interested in how organisations unlock value and innovation through improving representation and diversity. The Innovation Working Group aims to create a space where member companies can build innovative and collaborative approaches to transformation challenges that will ensure diverse and productive workforces with improved retention. Please contact: [Khule Duma](#) should you wish to participate.

NBI SDGS BOOTCAMP FOR AGRI-PROCESSING SECTOR - CAPE TOWN | 24 to 25 April 2019 | Workshop 17, V&A Waterfront | Kindly contact [Geeta Morar](#) for further details.

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS/WORKSHOPS | 2019

TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2019 | 16 to 17 April 2019 | The Wanderers Club, Johannesburg | Education, risk and reputation and innovative finance among key themes at Triologue Business in Society Conference 2019. The Triologue Business in Society Conference is a dynamic space in which stakeholders in development can come together to share challenges, lessons and innovations to improve large-scale and lasting impact in development. [BizCommunity, 5 March 2019.](#)

TAKING THE MYSTERY AND MISERY OUT OF INNOVATION & DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION | 17 April 2019 | GIBS, Illovo | It is the human element behind technology and innovation that business success depends on. [GIBS Website.](#)

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS COURSE (earning 2 SACNASP CPD credits), followed by the course on GRI Disclosures (Performance Indicators) | 14 to 16 May 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in

Johannesburg | For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

INTERNATIONALLY LICENSED GRI SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS WORKSHOP (NEW) | 17 May 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

CARBON-RELATED COURSES | 20 to 24 May 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | SA GHG Reporting Regulations: **20 May**; SA Carbon Tax Requirements: **21 May**; Carbon Projects, Trading and Offsetting (ISO 14064-2): **22 May**; GHG Emissions Inventory (ISO 14064-1): **23 to 24 May**. Offered jointly by ESS and Water Energy Carbon Consulting. For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

WATER GOVERNANCE TRAINING COURSE | 21 to 23 May 2019 | Hatfield, Pretoria | Water Governance refers to the political, social, economic, legislative and administrative systems in place that influence the use and management of water. South Africa, a water scarce country, has a law and policy framework for water which is regarded as among the most progressive worldwide. Our water-related law is based upon the constitutional recognition of the right of access to water and the right to an environment that is not harmful to health and well-being, and ensures prevention of pollution and sustainable use of natural resources. [WISA Website](#)

RESOURCE EFFICIENT AND CLEANER PRODUCTION COURSE (earning 2 CPD credits) | 28 to 29 May 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED IIRC COURSE ON INTEGRATED REPORTING FOR PRACTITIONERS | 11 to 12 JUNE 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | Offered jointly by ESS and ENACT. For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS | 2019

WBCSD WORKSHOP: SDG INTEGRATION & REPORTING | 18 April 2019 | New York, US | This interactive workshop convened by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) will explore the implications of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for business, highlight emerging trends and developments across the business and SDG landscape, and underline best practice around strategic alignment with the SDG agenda. It will also focus on stakeholder expectations and emerging best practice in the field of SDG reporting while explaining how SDG disclosure will be further incorporated in WBCSD's Reporting matters analysis in 2019. [Details here.](#)

6TH WORLD CONGRESS: CLIMATE CHANGE AND GLOBAL WARMING | 24 to 25 April 2019 | Vancouver, Canada | Climate 2019 is based on the theme: "Adaptation to Climate Change" and the conference mainly focus on the Climate change and its effects. Study of Climate change is important in today's world if we want to leave this planet for our future generations. We have to really understand the challenges and together we have to make a pledge for a sustainable environment. [Website and details.](#)

CERES CONFERENCE 2019 | 29 April to 01 May 2019 | San Francisco, CA | The Ceres Conference 2019 will convene more than 600 influential investors, senior corporate executives, policy makers and capital market leaders to reaffirm the business case for sustainability and share best practices to empower leadership, build solutions, and drive change. This year's conference will also celebrate the milestone of Ceres' 30th Anniversary. [Ceres Website.](#)

GREENBIZ WEBCAST CIRCULAR ECONOMY: THE STATE OF THE MARKET | 1 May 2019 | Where is the circular economy going in 2019? Circularity isn't just another sustainability framework - it's a radically different way of doing business. It's an emerging business strategy that enables companies and organizations to innovate in ways that address resource scarcity and climate risk, respond to consumer and societal pressure to reduce waste, and unlock a \$4.5 trillion economic opportunity. [GreenBiz Website](#).

CDP WEBINAR: 2019 ESSENTIALS ON CDP DISCLOSURE | 8 May 2019 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM SAST | Public disclosure of environmental information is becoming increasingly important for companies, with CDP running the leading global disclosure system: last over 7,000+ companies responded to their climate change, water security and forests questionnaires. [CDP Website](#).

6TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES 2019 | 17 to 18 June 2019| Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia | The objective of the conference is to present and share ongoing research activities in the fields of Gender & Women's Studies with the relevant scientific and research communities. It will bring together leading academics, activists, scientists, and researchers from around the world. The conference aims to offer international perspectives with an emphasis on economic, social, and psychological aspects of empowerment and leadership, victimization, exclusion, and social problems. [Registration Details](#).

National Business Initiative

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Sandton

The National Business Initiative (NBI) respects your right to privacy, if you do not wish to receive any further On A Clear Day's from the NBI, please click [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) and your name will be removed from the mailing list.