

NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2019

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 705, 28 March 2019

NBI IN THE NEWS/NBI NEWS

Please note that due to the NBI being the official Secretariat for the BRICS Business Council Mid-Term Meeting taking place in Johannesburg, South Africa next week, the next edition of On A Clear Day will be published on Thursday, 11 April 2019.

THE NBI IS GIVING ITS MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROFILE THEIR COMPANIES ON OUR WEBSITE Please contact: **Tumi Nkosi** for further information regarding this. Check out NBI members in action, [here](#).

GENDER PAY-GAP The NBI marked International Women's Day on Friday, 8 March 2019 by holding a Gender Pay-Gap Dialogue, hosted by Sanlam. The Dialogue forms part of a study into the gender pay-gap which is a strategic priority of the NBI's Transformation and Social Cohesion Programme. Read NBI's latest Quick Brief [here](#).

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](#).

UPDATE ON NBI AND NSF PLACEMENT PROGRAMME In 2017, the National Business Initiative (NBI) and the National Skills Fund (NSF) entered into a partnership aimed at enhancing the employability of graduates from Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) colleges through structured workplace-based learning in occupations linked to their areas of study. [Read here.](#)

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

MINISTERS PLEDGE ACTION ON CIRCULAR ECONOMY, SUSTAINABILITY The fourth UN Environment Assembly in Nairobi has closed with a series of pledges from national governments to embrace circular economy models, promote sustainable consumption and production and protect natural resources. [Responsible Business, 28 March 2019.](#)

COOPERATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN AFRICA Africa must prioritise domestic revenue mobilisation to triple growth and meet its development goals and targets over the next few decades. [BizCommunity, 28 March 2019.](#)

ONLINE PLATFORM LINKS SMMEs TO OPPORTUNITIES President Cyril Ramaphosa's drive of promoting SMMEs and stimulating job creation received a shot in the arm on Thursday when Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) launched an innovative business funding platform. [SA Government News Agency, 28 March 2019.](#)

NEW INITIATIVE DOCUMENTS LESSONS FROM CAPE TOWN WATER CRISIS A collective of academics and practitioners has launched a new initiative that will document and capture key learnings from the 2017-2018 Cape Town water crisis that came close to being a catastrophe for the city. [BizCommunity, 27 March 2019.](#)

ENERGY EFFICIENCY KEY TO STABLE ELECTRICITY SYSTEM Energy efficiency is the short-term answer to balancing electricity supply and demand, says Energy Minister Jeff Radebe. [BizCommunity, 27 March 2019.](#)

THE COUNTRIES MOST READY FOR THE GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION Countries around the world are upping the share of renewables in their energy mixes. The bad news is, they're not doing it quickly enough to meet the Paris Agreement goal, to hold the global average temperature increase to "well below" 2°C above preindustrial levels, and as close as possible to 1.5°C. [Harsh Vijay Singh, WEF, 25 March 2019.](#)

5 WAYS GOVERNMENTS CAN UNLEASH THE POWER OF YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS Meeting the sustainable development goals (SDGs), addressing youth unemployment and promoting entrepreneurship are all top issues on global and national agendas. But do governments have a plan to address them in a cohesive way? [James Dacosta, The European Sting/WEF, 26 March 2019.](#)

4 WAYS LOCAL SOLAR PROJECTS CAN BENEFIT CITIES When a city decides to transition from fossil fuels to clean energy, headlines follow. But the work has only just begun. Cities have many options for generating and purchasing renewable electricity, each of which comes with distinct benefits and challenges. [Lacey Shaver, WRI, 26 March 2019.](#)

TO ADVANCE GENDER EQUALITY, WE NEED TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE Tackling climate change requires tackling gender inequality. On International Women's Day, an article in Business Green quoted L'Oréal's Chief Sustainability Officer

Alexandra Paltas saying, "I do not think we will see any advances in gender equality if we do not succeed in mitigating the consequences of climate change on women's lives." [Samantha Harris, BSR, 22 March 2019.](#)

WASTEWATER IS AN ASSET, WITH NUTRIENTS, ENERGY AND PRECIOUS METALS — AND SCIENTISTS ARE LEARNING HOW TO RECOVER THEM Most people think as little as possible about the wastewater that is produced daily from their showers, bathtubs, sinks, dishwashers and toilets. But with the right techniques, it can become a valuable resource. [Yalin Li, GreenBiz, 22 March 2019.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

FARMERS GET DROUGHT RELIEF FROM OLD MUTUAL Old Mutual supported drought-stricken farmers with N\$385,000 through the 'Dare to Care disaster Relief Campaign'. [The Namibian Economist, 28 March 2019.](#)

GOLDMAN JOINS CHORUS DOWNPLAYING INVERTED YIELD CURVE MENACE Goldman Sachs has added its voice to those advising against panic over the inversion of the U.S. yield curve, which has served as a recession warning in the past. [Business Maverick, 27 March 2019.](#)

HOW LEADERS ARE NAVIGATING THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION Industry 4.0 holds the promise of a new era of globalization. Yet while **Deloitte's** latest survey identifies companies successfully implementing Industry 4.0 technologies, many senior executives remain less prepared than they think they are. [HBR, 26 March 2019.](#)

ABB TECHNOLOGY TO POWER FIRST CHINESE-BUILT CRUISE VESSEL ABB's deep domain knowledge in cruise ship technology supports a significant milestone in the evolution of China's shipbuilding industry. ABB, a pioneering technology leader focused in digital industries, will supply an integrated power and propulsion package, including two Azipod® steerable propulsion systems, for the construction of China's first domestically built cruise ship. [ABB Website, 26 March 2019.](#)

AB INBEV APPOINTS FORMER ALTRIA CEO AS ITS CHAIR The brewer has nominated Marty Barrington, a current board member, although the appointment still needs to be approved by investors. [BusinessLIVE, 20 March 2019.](#)

LIBERTY RADIO AWARDS ANNOUNCES FINALISTS The Liberty Radio Awards aims to motivate and inspire the radio industry to set increasingly high standards and to develop programming that will keep listeners compelled, entertained, informed and advised. [BizCommunity, 20 March 2019.](#)

CLIMATE NEUTRAL GROUP SA: CDP 2019 is here - are you ready? Download the fact sheet [here.](#)

R150M BMW SUPERTECH DEALERSHIP LAUNCHES IN PINETOWN It is all systems go for the brand new R150 million BMW Supertech Pinetown Dealership, which was launched spectacularly on Friday evening to 350 invited guests. [IOL Business, 19 March 2019.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL REVENUE UP; LATAM POSITIVE Sun International released their annual results today. For the 12 months ended December 2018 the group announced that revenue grew by 7% to R16.4 billion, while earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation rose by 5% to R4.4 billion. [Moneyweb, 18 March 2019.](#)

EXXARO'S DIVIDEND SOARS AFTER A BUMPER YEAR Exxaro Resources achieved a triple record last year as production, sales and exports of coal all rose to new highs. And shareholders get to share in its strong performance, with its pay-out up by over a half for the year. [INCE|Connect, 15 March 2019.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

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.](#)

GENDER INEQUITY IN GLOBAL HEALTH — WHO REPORT Gender inequity remains a challenge in the health workforce, with too few women making critical decisions and leading the work. The World Health Organisation (WHO), the Global Health Workforce Network, and Women in Global Health have launched a report at the Commission on the Status of Women to describe the social and economic factors that determine why few women lead in global health, and make a call for action to urgently address gender inequity. [MedicalBrief, 27 March 2019.](#)

HOW GENDER METRICS IMPACTS INVESTMENT DECISION MAKING A recent Refinitiv report on environmental, social and governance gender metrics reporting shows that investors are increasingly considering companies that engage in ESG reporting as part of their investment decision making. [CNBC Africa, 27 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.](#)

AFRICA ENERGY INDABA 2019: EMPLOYMENT THE KEY ENERGY DRIVER Click [here](#) to download and read the PDF.

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: *"Soy: China's deforestation dilemma"*, [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: *"CEO Water Mandate sets ambitious goals to scale water stewardship in strategic plan"*, [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 **Africa Climate Week Insider Perspective**, [here](#).

NBI EVENTS/WORSHOPS | 2019

NBI MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING AND BOARD APPOINTMENTS | Wednesday, 10 April 2019 | FirstRand Bank, Sandton | The National Business Initiative (NBI) wishes to notify you of the upcoming Membership Council Meeting scheduled to take place on Wednesday, 10 April 2019, from 13:30 for 14:00 to 16:30. Please note that at this meeting, given that the current NBI Board term comes to an end in April, a new Board is to be appointed. We will also report back on the NBI's impact over the last year and an exciting keynote input. Please contact: [Jo-Anne Stanford](#) for further details.

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.

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS/WORKSHOPS | 2019

INTERNATIONALLY LICENSED GRI SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS WORKSHOP (NEW) | 10 April 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**.

INFRASTRUCTURE DIALOGUE: INNER CITY HOUSING | NEW DATE: 11 April 2019 | DBSA, Midrand | This dialogue, the 50th since the Infrastructure Dialogue partnership was launched in 2009, will focus on inner-city housing as an important component of spatial transformation. It will explore problems and opportunities faced by residents, job seekers, property owners and developers, financiers and government at the local provincial and national spheres. [More information](#).

ESKOM 2.0 THE FUTURE OF ENERGY IN SOUTH AFRICA | 16 April 2019 | GIBS, Illovo | In the State of Nation address, President Cyril Ramaphosa pronounced that the state utility Eskom will be transformed into three different 'forms', Generation, Transmission, and Distribution.

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 Trialogue Business in Society Conference 2019. The Trialogue 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](#).

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**.

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**.

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**.

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS | 2019

WEBINAR: HOW TO MAKE YOUR BUSINESS FUTURE-FIT | 2 April 2019 | The Future-Fit Business Benchmark is designed to help organizations set the stretch goals needed to embed true sustainability into the core of their business. The Future-Fit Business Benchmark is different from common sustainability ratings and frameworks in that it shifts the focus away from today's best practice towards tomorrow's required practice according to the best available science. In this Academy session you will be introduced to the Future-Fit Business Benchmark, and interact with and learn directly from the experiences of the first multinational company to have completed the self-assessment process. [Science Based Targets Website.](#)

WBCSD TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: REPORTING MATTERS | 5 April 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland | WBCSD developed Reporting matters in partnership with Radley Yeldar in 2013 to help improve the effectiveness of sustainability reporting. Every year, we analyse sustainability reports from our member companies against a predefined framework and use this data to provide confidential, personalized feedback for members and produce an annual publication with reporting trends and good practice examples. For the past several years, we have supported several Global Network partners who have participated in training and used Reporting matters resources to run their own review processes. Registration details are available [here](#).

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](#).

National Business Initiative

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