

NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2019



NBI
National Business Initiative

On A Clear Day: Issue 708, 9 May 2019

NBI IN THE NEWS/NBI NEWS

NBI LAUNCHES FINDINGS ON WATER INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA The NBI will be launching the findings of its **Kopano ya Metsi** project at African Utility Week in **Cape Town** next week on Tuesday (14 May 2019) and at **The Venue, Sandton** in early June. Over 18 months, Kopano ya Metsi has engaged with hundreds of experts to understand how national water investment can be unlocked, what role **Public Private Partnerships** can play in closing the water sector funding gap, and how we can strengthen municipal water management. Kopano ya Metsi ('meeting for water' in Sesotho) speaks directly to the need to investigate alternative delivery models and ways to improve the sector's financial viability, as outlined in the National Water and Sanitation Master Plan. Please click [here](#) for the details of each launch and for further information, kindly contact: [Alex McNamara](#) or [Mmaphefo Thwala](#).

LAUNCH OF SWISS SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITALITY APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME The first cohort of 37 apprentices on the Swiss South African Hospitality Apprenticeship Programme (SSHAP!) began their 6-month apprenticeship at the Hilton Sandton, Hyatt Regency and Park Inn Sandton Hotels. [Read here](#).

NBI SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME aims to challenge and support our member companies to collectively work towards transforming to become an equal, equitable and inclusive society. Please click [here](#) to view further details and to see how your company can participate in this programme.

NBI'S NEW BOARD APRIL 2019 The National Business Initiative (NBI) recently held its 2019 Membership Council Meeting hosted by FirstRand in Sandton to appoint a new board and would like to take the opportunity to congratulate its board members as follows: **Professor Anita Bosch** (USB), **Brigitte Burnett** (Nedbank), **Bheki Khumalo** (Anglo American), **Candy Tothill** (Tsogo Sun), **Cas Coovadia** (Independent), **Cindy Mogotsi** (Sasol), **Fumani Mthembi** (Independent), **Kamal Harilal** (Tiger Brands), **Khanyi Chaba** (Old Mutual), **Kirti Narsai** (Johnson & Johnson), **Mandy Rambharos** (Eskom), **Shireen Naidoo** (Independent), **Zingisa Mavuso** (Tongaat Hulett) and **Zinhle Mariani** (Hollard). The NBI looks forward to continuing with its strategic contribution and collective action towards economic and social transformation in South Africa, with all of you.

INDUSTRY NEWS

SCIENTISTS HAVE DECLARED A BIODIVERSITY CRISIS — HERE'S WHAT THAT MEANS FOR BUSINESS The news of the United Nations' dire warning on the state of the world's natural life-support systems led BBC News bulletins throughout the day, and a number of newspapers made space on their front pages to report on the crisis. [Madeleine Cuff, GreenBiz, 8 May 2019.](#)

BIODIVERSITY LOSS MARS SDG SUCCESS, REPORT FINDS An “unprecedented” loss of global biodiversity threatens the progress of more than 80 per cent of the UN Sustainable Development Goals and puts 1 million animal and plant species at risk of extinction, a landmark scientific report has warned. [Inga Vesper, Responsible Business/SciDev.Net, 8 May 2019.](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE IS A KEY DRIVER FOR SPECIES EXTINCTION Nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history, and climate change is amongst the five direct drivers of change in nature with the largest relative global impacts so far. [Aqri Portal South Africa, 8 May 2019.](#)

WHAT'S THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CLIMATE-FOCUSED URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA? Water was a critical factor in the demise of the Mayan cities. In Africa, a major challenge today is how to grow an adequate supply of food to feed city dwellers at a time of water insecurity. [Chris Gordon, GreenBiz, 8 May 2019.](#)

SA PLUNGES TO 117 OUT OF 149 IN GENDER WAGE EQUALITY Eradicating the gender pay gap will make a significant contribution to transformation of the South African economy by improving workplace equality and alleviating poverty and financial vulnerability that particularly affects women – and corporate board directors and investors have a key role to play. [MBA.co.za, 8 May 2019.](#)

NEW UN CAMPAIGN TO BRING YOUTH INTO GENDER EQUALITY FIGHT The U.N. women's agency launched a campaign Monday to bring a young generation of women and men into the campaign for gender equality ahead of next year's 25th anniversary of the conference that adopted the only international platform to achieve women's rights and empowerment. [South Africa News.net, 8 May 2019.](#)

ENERGY DEPT LAUNCHES UPDATED WIND ATLAS FOR SOUTH AFRICA Department of Energy (DoE) acting director-general Zizamele Mbambohas launched the Wind Atlas for South Africa (Wasa) High Resolution Wind Resource Map, which has expanded its coverage to three-quarters of the country. [Marleny Arnoldi, Engineering News, 7 May 2019.](#)

4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION SUCCESS DEMANDS COHESIVE NATIONAL EFFORT Automation impacts all industries, could grow business and create jobs, and SA can't afford to fall behind. For South Africa to compete successfully in a 4th Industrial Revolution economy, stakeholders across all sectors must work together to drive progress in this country. [Automotive Business Review, 7 May 2019.](#)

AFRICAN UTILITY WEEK EXPECTED TO ATTRACT MORE THAN 10 000 PROFESSIONALS The African Utility Week and POWERGEN Africa conference and exhibition will take place in Cape Town from May 14 to 16, 2019, in partnership with the SA Ministry of Energy. [FIN24, 6 May 2019.](#)

CARBON TAX: STRONG MEDICINE FOR THE MINING INDUSTRY It has been almost a decade in the making, but after a few postponements, Carbon Tax bill will come into effect on 1 June. [Mining Review, 6 May 2019.](#)

JEFFREYS BAY WIND FARM SUPPORTS SUSTAINABLE FARMING DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES The pressing issue of climate change is inextricably linked to the global Sustainable Development Agenda and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's), all of which have an undeniable bearing on our immediate environment and an impact across the world. [R News, 6 May 2019.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

MTN REPORTS STRONG FIRST QUARTER SERVICE REVENUE GROWTH IN SA, NIGERIA, GHANA Mobile phone company MTN said on Thursday it met its medium-term revenue growth target in the first quarter by delivering 10 percent year-on-year growth led by strong operational performance in South Africa, Nigeria and Ghana. [IOL Business, 9 May 2019.](#)

PICK N PAY LAUNCHES NOVELTY SLIPPERS FOR SLIPPER DAY 2019 Friday, 10 May, is the Reach For A Dream Foundation's annual Slipper Day. By purchasing a Slipper Day wristband for R10 at any Pick n Pay, Wimpy or Dis-Chem, participants will contribute to providing strength, hope and courage to children with life-threatening illnesses. [BizCommunity, 9 May 2019.](#)

ABB UNVEILS ITS FIRST CARBON-NEUTRAL FACTORY Following two years of design and construction, ABB has unveiled its first carbon-neutral factory in Germany. [Energy Live News, 8 May 2019.](#)

AB INBEV FIRST QUARTER REVENUE RISES 5.9% The world's largest brewer AB InBev said on Tuesday its revenue grew by 5.9% in the first quarter of 2019, driven by healthy volume growth, among other factors. [Engineering News, 7 May 2019.](#)

ABSA PARTNERS WITH GIBS ON THE 2019 SPIRIT OF YOUTH LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME Absa has partnered with the Gordon Institute of Business Science (GIBS) to roll out the Spirit of Youth (SOY) leadership development programme. The one-year partnership which commenced on 4 May 2019, will see the development of 100 high school students across the Gauteng province. [BizCommunity, 7 May 2019.](#)

3315 YES RECRUITS JOIN NEDBANK Late last week the Nedbank Group hosted President Cyril Ramaphosa as the bank welcomed and inducted 3315 previously unemployed youth who are beginning their 12-month Youth Employment Service (YES) journey. [BizCommunity, 6 May 2019.](#)

HOW VODACOM IS ADAPTING ITS CSI APPROACH TO CHANGING CONDITIONS Rather than doggedly following an approach which may no longer be relevant, business has an obligation to adapt its corporate social investment (CSI) to changing needs and conditions. [BizCommunity, 25 April 2019.](#)

SASOL GIVES PLUMBING CONSUMABLES TO LEKWA MUNICIPALITY Sasol handed over 1 000 plumbing consumables to the Lekwa Municipality on 10 April in appreciation of their workplace exposure to plumbing learners. [Standerton Advertiser, 25 April 2019.](#)

WOOLWORTHS ANNOUNCES NATIONWIDE ROLL OUT OF LOW-COST, REUSABLE BAGS After a six month trial in four of its Western Cape stores, including the launch of their first plastic bag free store, Woolworths will be rolling out its new low-cost, reusable bag to more stores across the country as well as announcing three more 'plastic shopping bag free' stores. [IOL Business, 24 April 2019.](#)

MEET THE FINALISTS FOR THE 2019 ABSA BUSINESS DAY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT AWARDS The finalists of the second annual Absa Business Day Supplier Development Awards have been announced. The awards recognise supplier development best practice in South Africa and acknowledge those successful programmes that are making a lasting impact on the SA economy. [BizCommunity, 24 April 2019.](#)

VODACOM'S FEMALE FARMER PROGRAMME SHINES THE SPOTLIGHT ON EMERGING SMALL SCALE FARMERS IN RURAL PARTS OF SOUTH AFRICA In a move that creates equal opportunities for women and youth from South Africa's deep rural areas by equipping them with digital literacy for today's digital economy and knowledge society - Vodacom Foundation, in partnership with UN Women introduced Female Farmers programme in 2018. [Agri Portal South Africa, 24 April 2019.](#)

STANDARD BANK SHAREHOLDERS TO VOTE ON CLIMATE CHANGE Upcoming AGM includes a resolution on whether the bank should disclose more on climate risk in its lending business. [Moneyweb, 23 April 2019.](#)

ENGEN INTEGRATED ENERGY CENTRE UPLIFTS BUSHBUCKRIDGE COMMUNITY Engen in partnership with the South African Department of Energy and the Bushbuckridge local municipality officially launched an Integrated Energy Centre (IEC) in Bushbuckridge, Mpumalanga. [BizNis Africa, 23 April 2019.](#)

ARUP BREAKS GROUND ON NEW HOTEL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT IN AIRPORT CITY IN ACCRA Arup is providing full multidisciplinary services for a new 15-storey mixed-use development in Airport City in Accra, Ghana. It will include 214-room Pullman-branded hotel and 150-serviced residential apartments, as well as a conference centre and is a project of many firsts in Ghana. [Media release, April 2019.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

SA'S GREENEST ANNOUNCED: MEET THIS YEAR'S ECO-LOGIC AWARDS FINALISTS! The 8th annual Eco-Logic Awards event, presented by The Enviropaedia, South Africa's online environmental encyclopaedia, green directory and repository of sustainability thought leadership will be held on 5 June 2019, which is World Environment Day. [Good Things Guy, 9 May 2019.](#)

ESKOM: SOCIAL PLAN WITH RESPECT TO COAL-FIRED POWER STATIONS Eskom is undertaking a study to develop a social plan with respect to coal-fired power stations. [View here.](#)

NERSA SETS MAY 24 DEADLINE FOR COMMENT ON OVERHAULED SSEG EXEMPTION RULES The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (Nersa) has finally released a consultation paper for an updated Licensing Exemption and Registration Notice for certain categories of small-scale embedded generators (SSEGs), which was submitted to the regulator for its concurrence by Energy Minister Jeff Radebe late last year. [Engineering News, 9 May 2019.](#)

FREE LEARNING CENTRES OPEN IN SOWETO Educo Solutions has opened two new learning centres in Soweto, offering free education to unemployed South Africans between the age of 18 and 28. [BizCommunity, 7 May 2019.](#)

A SHOCKING NEW REPORT REVEALS WHAT WE'VE DONE TO THE NATURAL WORLD As a result of human activity, one million animal and plant species could disappear in the next few decades - the most that have ever been at risk in human history. [WEF, 6 May 2019.](#)

SANEA: HOW TO PLAN FOR ENERGY RISK & TURN IT INTO OPPORTUNITIES? We are facing far bigger energy troubles than we realise. Find out why in the [2019 Energy Risk Report.](#)

COMMENTS INVITED ON DRAFT CENTRAL APPLICATION SERVICE BILL Higher Education and Training Minister Dr Naledi Pandor has invited the public to submit comments on the draft bill to support students' access to post-school opportunities and make informed choices. [BizCommunity, 24 April 2019.](#)

THE CRITICAL ROLE OF BUILDINGS IN THE GREEN ENERGY TRANSITION The International Energy Agency (IEA) has released a report which explores the critical role buildings can play in meeting climate change ambitions, using a portfolio of clean energy solutions that exist today. This is the executive summary of that report. [EE Publishers, 24 April 2019.](#)

WBCSD: OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE YOUR COUNTRY-LEVEL INSIGHTS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGS AGENDA We have been working with a number of Global Network partners to display important insights on country-specific developments and trends when it comes to the implementation of the SDGs agenda. So far we have featured on the [SDG Business Hub](#) information from Argentina, Austria, Brazil, Germany, Greece, Indonesia, India, Ireland, Korea, and Spain. Please contact: [Uta Jungermann](#) if you would like to explore this opportunity to gain visibility for your institution and country.

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.](#)

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 insights, 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 **April 2019 News Update**, [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 **latest blog article** entitled: **"UK Should Reach Net Zero Emissions by 2050, Climate Change Advisory Body Says"**, [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: **"WBCSD in China to promote business leadership and sustainable development"**, [here](#).

NBI EVENTS/WORSHOPS | 2019

UNLOCKING NATIONAL WATER INVESTMENT - KOPANO YA METSI LAUNCH: CAPE TOWN | Tuesday, 14 May 2019 | Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) | Over a period of 18 months, the NBI's **Kopano ya Metsi** project has engaged with hundreds of water experts in South Africa to understand how we unlock national water investment. Please join us as we launch the project findings in Johannesburg where we will discuss: where the main opportunities for private sector involvement lie, the key barriers to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and how these can be addressed, how municipal water management can be strengthened; and the future of water financing in South Africa. The Cape Town launch will be taking place next week on Tuesday, during African Utility Week. [RSVP here](#).

NBI/BRAND SOUTH AFRICA - AN INVESTOR'S PERSPECTIVE ON SOUTH AFRICA'S INVESTMENT CONTEXT | Wednesday, 22 May 2019 | Capital Pearls Hotel, KwaZulu-Natal | If you are an NBI Member Company please join us for this engagement as we explore and take stock of the economy through the eyes of the investor and to gather information on the on-the-ground experiences of doing business in South Africa. Brand South Africa will share findings from its International Investor Perceptions Research and the implications thereof for the South African business community. The Nation Brand Performance, a product curated by Brand South Africa, will provide rich content on industry highlights from 2018 and industry prospects for 2019. Please click to RSVP: [The Capital Pearls Hotel, uMhlanga, 22 May 2019](#).

NBI TLS: THE TASK FORCE ON CLIMATE RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES (TCFD) AND TRANSITION RISK - CAPE TOWN | Wednesday, 22 May 2019 | Santam, Tygervalley, Western Cape | Since its publication in 2017, the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) have attracted significant local and international interest, with their recommendations incorporated into key disclosure platforms. The Task Force's recommendations represent a significant step in enabling markets to support the transition to a low-carbon economy, by identifying the information needed to appropriately assess and price climate-related risks and opportunities. The National Business Initiative (NBI) and University of Stellenbosch Business School (USB) are hosting a half-day roundtable focused on: an introduction to TCFD and transition risk, the implications of the TCFD's recommendations for South African organisations and their key stakeholders, current company approaches as well as practices and future engagement; and work areas in relation to TCFD. Kindly click [here](#) to RSVP. For NBI member companies only.

NBI TLS: A CULTURE OF INCLUSION TO DRIVE TRANSFORMATION AND UNLOCK INNOVATION | Thursday, 30 May 2019 | The Other Foundation, Rosebank, Johannesburg | The NBI is hosting a Thought Leadership Dialogue to unpack how inclusive work environments are key to driving transformation and enhancing innovation. The aim of this roundtable is to: unpack the experiences and impact of exclusionary workplace cultures, explore the opportunities that inclusive workplaces unlock; and share thoughts on what is required to change organisational cultures Please contact: [Khule Duma](#) for further information or to RSVP.

UNLOCKING WATER INVESTMENT - KOPANO YA METSI LAUNCH: JOHANNESBURG | Thursday, 6 June 2019 | The Venue, Green Park, Morningside | Over a period of 18 months, the NBI's Kopano ya Metsi project has engaged with hundreds of water experts in South Africa to understand how we unlock national water investment. Please join us as we launch the project findings in Johannesburg where we will discuss: where the main opportunities for private sector involvement lie, the key barriers to Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) and how these can be addressed, how municipal water management can be strengthened; and the future of water financing in South Africa. [RSVP here.](#)

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS/WORKSHOPS | 2019

AFRICAN UTILITY WEEK | 14 to 16 May 2019 | Cape Town International Conference Centre | The 19th annual African Utility Week is the leading conference and trade exhibition for African power, energy and water professionals. [Further details.](#)

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.**

UNDERSTANDING CONTEMPORARY HR : THE CASE STUDY CONFERENCE | 15 May 2019 | GIBS, Illovo | How can HR managers become more strategic with a technologically focused workforce? [GIBS Website.](#)

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.**

IMBEWU: CARBON TAX - HALF DAY WORKSHOP | 11 June 2019 | IMBEWU's Offices, Rosebank, Johannesburg | The Carbon Tax Bill is set to come into effect on 1 June 2019. The Bill has been approved by both the National Assembly and the National Council of Province and is now awaiting the President's signature. IMBEWU will be hosting a half-day workshop on the Carbon Tax Bill to assist organisations with coming to grips with this new legislation. The workshop will also include training on the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Regulations under the Air Quality Act, which forms a critical component of the carbon tax regime. Book today by emailing the [booking form](#) to lulu@imbewu.co.za or call us on **011 214 0660** for more information.

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.**

MANUFACTURING INDABA: THE MANUFACTURING EVENT FOR AFRICANS, BY AFRICANS | 25 to 26 June 2019 | Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg | The annual 2-day event has shown impressive growth year on year and has proved its value in catalyzing business connections and helping manufacturers to innovate and grow their potential. The aim of the Indaba and its provincial roadshows is to bring together manufacturers, industry leaders, government officials, capital providers and professional experts to explore opportunities and grow their manufacturing operations. The event is designed

specifically for private and public company representatives to hear from industry experts as they unpack challenges and find solutions for growth across the manufacturing sectors and explore regional trade into Africa. For more information, visit: www.manufacturingindaba.co.za.

BIODIVERSITY AND ECOSYSTEM SERVICES | 24 to 29 June 2019 | Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | In this course, a variety of biodiversity and ecosystem service frameworks will be introduced and discussed in light of how they help us understand our connection with and dependence on nature. In the face of global change and natural resource depletion, it has become an imperative to understand the links between biodiversity and ecosystem services such as freshwater, crop production, grazing, and climate regulation, which underpin the economy and well-being of different groups in society. For more information or to apply click [here](#).

FOOD SYSTEM TRANSITIONS | 15 to 20 July 2019 | Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | Recognising the structural inequalities in the food system, and its large-scale negative impacts on the environment is key to exploring existing and proposed alternatives and responses. This course offers an overview of various responses, places them in the context of broader global transitions and provides some frameworks to guide analysis. For more information or to apply click [here](#).

GLOBALISATION, GOVERNANCE & DEVELOPMENT | 22 to 27 July 2019 | Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | This course will help participants understand the global debates about alternatives to the current crisis-ridden global economic order. For more information or to apply click [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS | 2019

CDP WEBEX: INTRODUCTION TO WATER SECURITY DISCLOSURE 2019 | 15 May 2019 | The Why and What to CDP's Water Security questionnaire. Introduction to the questionnaire and how to make the most out of the reporting framework. [Register here](#).

WEF: THE TRANSFORMATION OF INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS: GLOBALIZATION 4.0 | 15 to 16 May 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland | The need to address the fundamental changes in the functioning of the global economy was at the top on the agenda of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2019. These changes are driven by environmental challenges, geostrategic competition, economic disparities and technological disruption, which in Davos were conceptualized as Globalization 4.0. The Industry Strategy Meeting is designed to answer these two key questions: How will Globalization 4.0 affect industries? How can the Forum work with business leaders to shape the future of the global economy? [WEF Website](#).

GREENBIZ WEBCAST: CIRCULAR PACKAGING: THE STATE OF PLAY | 21 May 2019 | A confluence of forces is roiling the packaging industry. The combination of concerns about plastic waste, the emergence of the circular economy, and the blossoming of advanced, environmentally friendly materials is changing how manufacturers and brands are thinking about packaging. In this one-hour webcast, a panel of industry experts will talk about the trends: where we are, how companies and their packaging suppliers are responding, and the barriers still to overcome. [Register here](#).

CORPORATE REPORTING DIALOGUE ROUNDTABLE FOCUS GROUP | 22 May 2019 | Paris, France | Join the Corporate Reporting Dialogue focus group in Paris to have your say towards better alignment and to drive more effective corporate reporting. The roundtable will focus on identifying current confusion and barriers to effective reporting on climate, with respect to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures. In addition, participants will discuss opportunities for better alignment in wider ESG reporting and share insights on how to best integrate financial and non-financial reporting going forwards. [Information here](#).

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

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