

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 758, 4 June 2020

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

**THE NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE'S (NBI'S) RESPONSE TO COVID-19** [View here.](#)

**THE NBI TAKES GREAT PLEASURE IN WELCOMING BOTH FAMOUS BRANDS AND SEA HARVEST AS NEW NBI MEMBER COMPANIES** At the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, we believe in making change happen. And we believe our member companies are crucial implementation and collaboration partners. This requires courage, driving change through bold thought leadership, capacity building and collective action. That is why we are delighted to have both these leading companies join us on this journey. Both **Famous Brands and Sea Harvest** join a collective of businesses who are committed, determined and courageous in tackling the most pressing issues facing South Africa today. Please contact [Gillian Hutchings](#) should your company wish to join the NBI.

**IS YOUR BUSINESS PAYING ATTENTION TO MENTAL HEALTH?** The NBI's Social Transformation Unit has developed an Inclusivity Blueprint, focusing on how businesses can respond effectively to ensure employees feel safe to discuss, disclose and receive support on matters regarding mental health and wellbeing. **Read NBI's NewsFlash, [here.](#)**

**REGISTER NOW FOR CDP ANNUAL UPDATE ONLINE WORKSHOPS:** CDP has announced that its capacity building workshops will be held online between the **9th June and the 10th July 2020**. These are critical workshops to attend, for first time as well as seasoned CDP contributors. Click [HERE](#) for further detailed information.

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**RESPONSIBLE SOURCING OF CRITICAL MINERALS IN FOCUS AS ENERGY TRANSITION DRIVES UP DEMAND** The accelerating pace and scale of the global clean-energy transition is poised to dramatically increase demand for critical energy minerals and metals, from aluminium to zirconium, with implications not only for the resources sector, but for geopolitics. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 3 June 2020.](#)

**IVRS DAMS RECORD LOWER WATER LEVELS** The dams within the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) continue to decline, the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) said in a statement on June 3. [Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 3 June 2020.](#)

**EUROPE CHARTS A COURSE FOR SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY FROM COVID-19** On May 27, the European Union unveiled a €750 billion (\$826 billion) recovery proposal as a centrepiece of its economic response to the coronavirus crisis, while also increasing its existing budget. [Joel Jaeger, WRI, 2 June 2020.](#)

**TECHNOLOGY AND THE WORKPLACE: PUTTING PEOPLE FIRST** Over 20 global member companies of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) have collaborated to develop shared business principles aimed at putting people first when it comes to the impact of technology on how work is carried out by direct employees, contract and temporary workers, and workers throughout the supply chain. [WBCSD, 2 June 2020.](#)

**RETHINKING PLASTICS DURING COVID-19** Since the emergence of the COVID-19 outbreak, many countries have been taking measures to contain the spread of the virus. [Cedric Choo, Global Initiatives/Responsible Business, 2 June 2020.](#)

**GOVERNMENTS COMMIT TO TAKE FORWARD VITAL WORK TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE IN 2020** At a virtual meeting today, the Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC committed to take forward crucial work to tackle climate change under the umbrella of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), despite the COVID-19 crisis. [UNCC, 28 May 2020.](#)

**TRANSPARENCY ON PAY COULD CLOSE THE GAP FOR WOMEN** The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for progressive economic policies to address deep socio-economic inequalities in South Africa, including transparent pay reporting towards closing the persistent gender pay gap. [Prof Anita Bosch, USB, 26 May 2020.](#)

## NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

**WHAT NBI MEMBER COMPANIES ARE DOING IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19** [View here.](#) If you are an NBI member company and would like to be profiled on this website page, please contact: [Gillian Hutchings.](#)

**VODACOM ACHIEVES LEVEL 1 BEE STATUS** Telecommunications group Vodacom Group has achieved a broad-based black economic empowerment (BBBEE) contributor score of Level 1 as its local subsidiaries accelerate a concerted transformation strategy. [Engineering News, 3 June 2020.](#)

**COVID-19: FNB GIVES R4.2BN RELIEF TO CLIENTS** FNB adopted a different approach to its Covid-19 financial relief for clients compared with the other banks, by offering a three month break on loans, telecommunications and insurance premium agreements the bank had with clients, with emergency relief funding, and so far some R4.2 billion of relief has been made available to clients. [IOL Business, 3 June 2020.](#)

**WOOLIES WINTER WEAR INCORPORATES TEXTILES MADE FROM RECYCLED PET BOTTLES** Woolworths has diverted over a million 500ml PET bottles from waste streams and recycled them into polyester materials to be used in some of the retailer's 2020 winter fashion ranges. [BizCommunity, 3 June 2020.](#)

**STANDARD BANK, SEFA PARTNER TO HELP SPAZA SHOPS** Standard Bank has partnered with the Small Enterprise Finance Agency (Sefa) to help spaza shops operating under the constraints of the Covid-19 pandemic. [Engineering News, 3 June 2020.](#)

**DISCOVERY LAUNCHES NEW HEALTHCARE COVER FOR DOMESTIC WORKERS – HERE'S HOW IT WORKS** Discovery has launched new basic private healthcare for employees of households, including support for Covid-19. [BusinessTech, 3 June 2020.](#)

**SASOL APPOINTS MABELANE TO LEAD ENERGY BUSINESS AS RADEBE RETIRES** Chemicals and energy group Sasol has appointed Priscillah Mabelane as the new executive vice president of its energy business, replacing Maurice Radebe, who will retire from Sasol on September 30 after 16 years with the group. [Engineering News, 2 June 2020.](#)

**EXXARO NARROWS FOCUS TO EXPLORE ENERGY SECURITY TO ENSURE APPROPRIATE RETURNS** Exxaro Resources, the JSE-listed diversified mining company, told shareholders at its annual general meeting on Tuesday it would continue with its strategy to diversify into the energy security sector and would ensure appropriate returns. [IOL Business, 29 May 2020.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY | Friday, 5 June 2020** | World Environment Day, hosted by Colombia this 2020, is the most renowned day for environmental action. Since 1974, it has been celebrated every year on 5 June: engaging governments, businesses, celebrities and citizens to focus their efforts on a pressing environmental issue. This year, the **theme is biodiversity** – a concern that is both urgent and existential. [UN, 5 June 2020.](#)

**WBCSD IS PLEASED TO SHARE WITH YOU THEIR LATEST SDG BRIEFING.** [This briefing](#) aims to source and package latest insights, key developments, and emerging trends regarding the fast-evolving SDG landscape. For more details on any of these developments and resources, news and insight pieces visit the [SDG Business Hub](#). As part of [WBCSD's virtual events series](#), allow us to remind you to join us on **15 June 2020** for dedicated sessions with focus on **"Making the SDGs actionable for Business – insights from sector roadmaps"**. Hear experiences and insights from leading companies involved in developing [SDG Sector Roadmaps](#) for their industries.

**WWF: TEAMWORK REMOVES LEGAL STUMBLING BLOCK FOR KZN RESERVES** A year-long team effort on the part of NGOs WWF South Africa and Conservation Outcomes and legal firm Ndlovu de Villiers Attorneys has cleared the path for 26 areas in KwaZulu-Natal to be legally recognised as nature reserves. [WWF-SA, 3 June 2020.](#)

**BUSINESS UNITY SA (BUSA) STATEMENT ON ANC ECONOMIC RECOVERY STRATEGY** BUSA notes the release of a document reflecting some thinking from the ANC on an economic recovery strategy post-Covid 19. [BUSA, 2 June 2020.](#)

**CDP: PLAYING IT COOL - INVESTOR RESEARCH REPORT JUNE 2020:** A summary of CDP's Investor Research on the cooling sector, ranking 18 of the largest publicly listed companies. [Download report here.](#)

**SEEDING HONEYBUSH IN THE WILD** The Langkloof Valley is a large deciduous-fruit farming area that extends for many kilometres along the R62 and between the Tsitsikamma and Kouga Mountains where wild honeybush grows. [WWF Nedbank Green Trust, 27 May 2020.](#)

## NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Bringing you news and the latest research from our international partners

**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 15 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their latest **News Update and 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 latest **News Update** published this week, [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 **Newsletter**, [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 **Member Spotlight Article** entitled: “Yara takes action to avert hunger crisis in the wake of Covid 19”, [here](#).

## NBI WEBINARS | 2020

**ONLINE WORKSHOP: CLIMATE FINANCE FOR TRANSFORMING SOUTH AFRICA’S ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE – A CASE STUDY | Tuesday, 9 June 2020 | 14:00 to 15:30** | A research team at the University of Cape Town (UCT) is undertaking some exciting new research on climate finance for transforming our energy infrastructure as part of an international project on Strengthening National Climate Policy Finance Implementation (SNAPFI). The UCT team and the National Business Initiative (NBI) are hosting the second workshop on climate finance for transforming our energy infrastructure, to present findings of the South African case study for the first year of this international research initiative. [RSVP here](#).

**NBI WEBINAR: ADAPTATION FINANCE EVENT 2020 | Wednesday, 10 June 2020 | 13:00 to 15:00** | The NBI and SANBI are hosting a series of events towards building a pipeline of adaptation projects, and in particular biodiversity and ecosystem-based projects, to alleviate the acute shortage of adaptation projects locally; and to attract up to US\$50 million from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). The latest event which will take place online, will focus on biodiversity and ecosystem-based adaptation. Kindly register for the webinar, [here](#).

**NBI/BRAND SOUTH AFRICA WEBINAR: COVID-19 RECOVERY STRATEGY - HOW TO NAVIGATE THE ECONOMIC AND BRAND REPUTATION RISK LANDSCAPE DURING AND AFTER COVID-19 | Friday, 12 June 2020 | 11:00 to 12:30** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) and Brand South Africa will be exploring COVID-19 recovery strategies from a brand and reputational risk perspective. This will enable companies to navigate the complex landscape of the current pandemic, recovery phase and new normal post the pandemic. The webinar discussion and stakeholder engagement session will cover how to deal with brand reputational risk as well as priority recovery strategies in times of volatility. [Register here](#).

## WEBINARS | 2020

**CERES 2020 DIGITAL PROGRAMME | 7 April to 18 June 2020** | We are very excited to announce the virtual sessions within our reimagined Ceres 2020 digital programme! | [View full details here](#).

**WBCSD: JOIN OUR NEW VIRTUAL MEETING SERIES: BUSINESS AS UNUSUAL, RESHAPING THE PRESENT AND FUTURE**. Fully complimentary and held from April through July, these meetings will highlight innovative and collaborative solutions to face current and future challenges. Consult our [virtual meeting calendar](#) and register to the desired session to access the latest insights, exchange with leaders and actively engage. For any inquiries, please contact: [events@wbcsd.org](mailto:events@wbcsd.org).

**UNFCCC JUNE MOMENTUM FOR CLIMATE CHANGE | 1 to 10 June 2020** | A series of online events will be conducted under the guidance of the chairs of the SBSTA and the SBI and with the support of the UNFCCC secretariat, offering an opportunity for Parties and other stakeholders to continue exchanging views and sharing information in order to maintain momentum in the UNFCCC process and to showcase how climate action is progressing under the special circumstances the world is currently facing. [View list of events here](#).

**BCG WEBINAR: RESTARTING WORK SAFELY AND UNDER CONTROL | 9 June 2020 | 07:00 to 09:30** | With the easing of the current lockdown from level 4 to level 3, you are probably balancing the safe return of your employees to work, with how to bounce back and emerge even stronger from the COVID-19 crisis. In this BCG Sunrise webinar, we will discuss how countries and companies are protecting their people as they return to work, and how ways of working will fundamentally change in the ‘new normal’. [Register now](#).

**CDP 2020 GLOBAL WORKSHOP SERIES | 9 June to 10 July 2020 |** 2020 is a critical year. We are entering a historic decade of urgent climate action. Meanwhile, climate change and environmental challenges already pose major and current global threats and are exacerbating the current economic downturn. It is more essential than ever for companies, cities, states and regions to disclose their environmental data through CDP and take decisive action. As always, our workshops will support you on this journey, this year in an online format. We invite you to join us for a series of virtual events, both global and region-specific, as we drive ambitious sustainability action worldwide. [Register now.](#)

**HBR WEBINAR: WHAT RESILIENT COMPANIES DO DIFFERENTLY | 11 June 2020 | 12:00 EDT |** [Register here.](#)

**WEBINAR: 8<sup>TH</sup> WORLD CONGRESS AND EXPO ON GREEN ENERGY | 15 to 16 June 2020 |** Green Energy Webinar 2020 is the integration of new technologies in the field of environmental science to help Environmental Professionals harness the full potential of their practice. It involves the use of tools and technologies to achieve a certain degree of publicity and broaden the reach of the practice and the practitioner. For more information click [here.](#)



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