

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 761, 25 June 2020

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

**ISAR HONOURS 2020: BEST PRACTICES ON SUSTAINABILITY AND SDG REPORTING** The UN Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has announced that nominations are open for company best practice in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) reporting. **Read NBI's latest NewsFlash, [here.](#)**

**STANDARD BANK IS HELPING AFRICA CHART A GREEN ENERGY PATH** The Covid-19 crisis is presenting governments and businesses with an opportunity to accelerate the shift to a low-carbon economy that allows current and future generations to prosper. **[Wendy Dobson, Business Day, 22 June 2020.](#)**

**RESIDENTS OF QALABOTSHA GET COVID-19 HELP** The Ekurhuleni MMC for Water, Sanitation, and Energy, Tiisetso Nkente, recently launched foot-operated handwashing facilities and distributed sanitiser in the Qalabotsha informal settlement, in Daveyton. **[Simphiwe Nkosi, Benoni City Times, 22 June 2020.](#)**

**REFLECTIONS ON SYSTEMIC RACISM AND INEQUALITY BY NBI'S CEO, JOANNE YAWITCH** The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic during the first half of 2020 has exacerbated inequalities and amplified social disparities. These difficult times pose powerful challenges but more importantly, they demand great responsibility from us all. **Read NBI's latest Quick Brief, [here.](#)**

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**A GREENER, MORE RESILIENT AND JUST RECOVERY FOR SOUTH AFRICA, POST COVID-19** An important window of opportunity exists during the development of South Africa's Covid-19 recovery plans to drive a simultaneous transition to a sustainable, inclusive, resilient, just and resource-efficient society, employing the existing blueprint of the EU Green

Deal to drive renewable energy, low-carbon technologies, sustainable infrastructure and green jobs. [HENK SA, BizCommunity, 25 June 2020.](#)

**NEW DECADE, NEW FOCUS: THE ROLE OF BUSINESS IS TO BE IN BUSINESS** Milton Friedman, the economist, said that the only social responsibility a corporate has is to increase profits within the rules of the game. In simple terms “the role of business is to be in business”. [Premal Ranchod, IOL Business, 24 June 2020.](#)

**PANDEMIC UNDERSCORES NEED FOR GREATER COLLABORATION, INVESTMENT IN WATER, SANITATION** South Africa faces serious challenges in terms of ensuring water security and equitable distribution of water, sanitation and public housing, and this has been exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. [Tasneem Bulbulia, Engineering News, 24 June 2020.](#)

**JOBS IN RENEWABLE ENERGY COULD TRIPLE TO 30M BY 2030 – IRENA** The International Renewable Energy Agency (Irena) says that, with the right investment from the private sector globally, jobs in renewable energy can triple to 30-million by 2030. [Marleny Arnoldi, Engineering News, 24 June 2020.](#)

**BUILDING RESILIENT SUPPLY CHAINS WON'T BE EASY** The pandemic has exposed one of the major weaknesses of many supply chains: the inability to react to sudden, large-scale disruptions. [David Simchi-Levi and Edith Simchi-Levi, HBR, 23 June 2020.](#)

**NEW DIGITAL ECONOMY MASTER PLAN NEARLY READY** A new Digital Economy Master Plan is being developed to build a sustainable future digital ecosystem enabling South Africa to become a hub of all digital infrastructure serving the African continent. [Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 23 June 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.](#)

**BOXER SUPERSTORES, A SUBSIDIARY OF PICK N PAY, OPENS ITS 300TH STORE** Discount supermarket brand Boxer Superstores, a subsidiary of Pick n Pay, has opened its 300th store as it continues to expand, despite the tough economic climate, which has been exacerbated by Covid-19 disruption. [IOL Business, 25 June 2020.](#)

**NEDBANK BUSINESS BANKING OFFERS RELIEF FOR CASH FLOW PRESSURES** Nedbank has assisted more than 2,000 business clients with Covid-relief measures. [TimesLIVE, 24 June 2020.](#)

**DISCOVERY JUST SIGNIFICANTLY ENHANCED THEIR GLOBAL INVESTMENT OFFERING** Discovery Invest just announced the launch of a much-enhanced global investment offering that, among other benefits, uses shared value to create the world's first exchange rate enhancer. [BUSINESSTECH, 24 June 2020.](#)

**STANDARD BANK TO DISCLOSE CLIMATE-RELATED LENDING THIS YEAR** Standard Bank Group is nearing the point where it will be able to disclose its climate-related financial exposures and should be able to announce its position by the end of this year, Chief Executive Sim Tshabalala said. [IOL Business, 23 June 2020.](#)

**FNB SHARES TIPS TO HELP ENTREPRENEURS AFFECTED BY COVID-19** Small businesses can continue to thrive despite the crisis brought about by the pandemic. [Business Day, 22 June 2020.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**NEDBANK CIB GRADUATE PROGRAMME SEEKS YOUNG ACHIEVERS** The changing world requires dynamic young people with the ability to carve out their own niche, while making a real, positive difference as they adapt to fast-changing environments. With this in mind, Nedbank Corporate and Investment Banking (CIB) is looking for young difference-makers to join its ranks through its Nedbank CIB Graduate Programme. [BizCommunity, 25 June 2020.](#)

**B4SA PUBLISHES GUIDE TO ASSIST INFORMAL SECTOR RETURN TO WORK** Industry organisation Business for South Africa (B4SA), working with partners, is providing businesses in the informal sector a set of easy-to-use return to work resources

to help guide them on how to operate within the new requirements for health and safety amid the Covid-19 pandemic. [Engineering News, 23 June 2020.](#)

**WBCSD: A RECIPE TO REDUCE FOOD LOSS AND WASTE** Reducing food loss and waste is one of the most important levers to transform our food system to achieve our healthy people healthy planet goal. [WBCSD, 23 June 2020.](#)

**SOLIDARITY FUND INCLUDES SUPPORT FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE VICTIMS** The Solidarity Fund has, to date, approved about R1.4-billion to fund initiatives to prevent, support, detect and care for those affected by Covid-19 in South Africa. [Engineering News, 22 June 2020.](#)

**TRIALOGUE'S STRATEGIC CSI AWARD** recognises a single corporate social investment (CSI) project that delivers significant social benefits as well as competitive business benefits. The winner receives a double-page feature in the 2020 Trialogue Business in Society Handbook, worth R89 000, as well as extensive media coverage. If you think that your company has a CSI project worth entering, download the application form [here](#). The deadline for entries is 30 June 2020. **NBI's Gugu McLaren-Ushewokunze**, has been appointed as a judge for the 2020 Trialogue Strategic CSI Award.

## 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 **Press Release** entitled: "Chinese companies urged to ramp up actions to decouple deforestation risks across the palm oil value chains", [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 **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 **Blog Article** entitled: "Zero-Carbon Transition": Latest signals of change, [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 **Case Study** published today, entitled: "LeasePlan fleet conversion case study: EV adoption for employee vehicles", [here](#).

## NBI WEBINARS | 2020

**ONLINE EVENT: SDG REPORTING - CORE INDICATORS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) | Friday, 3 July 2020 | 15:00 to 16:00** | You are invited to join the NBI and the UNCTAD webinar if you are interested to learn more about the core indicators and discover insights into how they align with what South African companies already report on. In addition, we will cover how standardised data from the private sector can benefit national level reporting of the private sector contribution towards the implementation of the SDGs. [Detailed information and RSVP link.](#)

**UWASP - VIRTUAL PARTNERS PLATFORM MEETING | Wednesday, 8 July 2020 | 09:30 to 12:00 | The uMhlathuze Water Stewardship Partnership (UWASP)** serves as a coordination hub for collective action on water security across the uMhlathuze region. UWASP's approach is collaborative, with all partners working collectively to identify focus areas and implement projects across industry, agriculture and communities. Please note that this meeting is by invitation only. Please contact [Mmaphefo Thwala](#) for further details.

**NBI ONLINE EVENT: GREEN RECOVERY - STIMULATING POST-COVID ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS IN SOUTH AFRICA | Thursday, 9 July 2020 | 14:00 to 15:30** | Join expert speakers from National Treasury, IFC/World Bank, the Climate Bonds Initiative and local financial sector practitioners, to discuss the opportunities and priorities for a green stimulus response to COVID-19, and help inform the development of a South African Green Finance Taxonomy. [Detailed information and RSVP link.](#)

## WEBINARS | 2020

**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).

**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.](#)

**WBCSD: CTI WEBINAR FOR GLOBAL NETWORK PARTNERS | 1 July 2020 | 14:00 CET** | This Session is for Global Network Partners to introduce the WBCSD Circular Transition Indicators v1.0 - Metrics for business, by business. [Registration link.](#)

**WEBINAR: BUILD BACK BETTER: HOW CLIMATE ACTION CAN ACCELERATE COVID-19 RECOVERY | 1 July 2020 | 15:30 BST** | Join this London Climate Action Week virtual event, co-hosted with the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, for a dialogue on how governments and international development institutions can tackle the dual challenges of climate change and COVID-19 recovery. [Details and registration.](#)

**WEBINAR: BUILD BACK BETTER: HOW TO PREPARE FOR THE COMING CLIMATE DISRUPTION | 7 July 2020 | 10:00** | WRI is convening experts across sectors and geographies to provide insights about how to shift to a more sustainable and equitable model after COVID-19. Tune in to an upcoming webinar to engage in a conversation about the pandemic's long-term implications and how recovery can support a range of environmental, economic, social and health benefits. Recorded webinars, slides and podcasts are also available. [WRI Website.](#)

**WEF: VIRTUAL INDUSTRY TRANSITION DAY | 7 July 2020** | The Industry Transition Day will convene leaders, communities and the general public online from across the global industry transition and climate space, and will raise ambition for the industry transition towards net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. This one-day virtual event is curated by The World Economic Forum, in collaboration with LeadIT and Mission Innovation. [Read more.](#)



### National Business Initiative (NBI)

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.