

ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 765, 30 July 2020

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

LAUNCH OF THE NBI JUST TRANSITIONS PATHWAYS PROJECT The **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, in partnership with **Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)** and the **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)** on Tuesday launched this exciting new project, which explores a just transition to a low carbon economy for South Africa. The Just Transitions Pathway project is a collaborative study to accelerate Green Stimulus and create a unified voice for South African business at COP26. The project aims to unlock and channel both local, as well as international support, towards high impact areas while mobilising co-ordinated cross-industry collaboration. The first phase of the project will generate a high-level pathways blueprint, including detailed design of the pathways. For further details on this project and the opportunities for you and your CEOs to get involved, please contact: [Steve Nicholls.](#)

COVID-19 LAYS BARE IMPACT OF INEQUALITY, HISTORICAL PRIVILEGE On a trip to Denmark to discuss the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with the National Business Initiative's (NBI) counterparts there, the one issue on which we struggled to connect was inequality. [Steve Nicholls, BizCommunity, 30 July 2020.](#)

THE NBI IS HIRING: Project Manager: Climate Change and Energy, **Project Coordinator:** Climate Change and Energy and Water; and **Appointment of a Consulting Panel.** Please click [here](#) to view full details of these current vacancies on our LinkedIn page.

INDUSTRY NEWS

WATER OUTAGES HIT NELSON MANDELA BAY AS DAMS DROP TO 17% With a combined dam capacity of 17%, and restrictions of up to 70% on water extraction from supply dams, Nelson Mandela Bay is running at a water deficit of 40 to 50 megalitres a day, which coupled with infrastructure failures, led to large water outages in the city last week. [Estelle Ellis, Daily Maverick, 30 July 2020.](#)

FIGHTING COVID-19 SHOULD NOT RESULT IN LOSING THE WAR AGAINST PLASTIC POLLUTION As the country balances the reopening of our economy with saving lives, there also needs to be a balancing use of plastic with the protection of the environment. [Eunice Ubomba-Jaswa, News 24, 29 July 2020.](#)

BLSA: REALITY BITES WITH IMF LOAN If the state ever wanted anecdotal evidence of South Africa's crisis of confidence in government's ability to lead the health and economic response to Covid-19, it has been in the response to the R70bn International Monetary Fund (IMF) loan. [Busi Mavuso, IOL Business, 29 July 2020.](#)

INSIGHTS FOR QUANTIFYING SDG AMBITIONS It's been well-established that businesses are not on track to meet the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals by 2030. While 84 percent of businesses surveyed by the United Nations (UN) said they are acting on the SDGs, only 39 percent of their corporate goals are aligned to societal and environmental needs. [Aaron Mok, GreenBiz, 28 July 2020.](#)

GUARDIAN US LAUNCHES SPECIAL SERIES MARKING 100 DAYS UNTIL PLANNED US WITHDRAWAL FROM PARIS AGREEMENT Guardian US today launched [100 Days to Save the Earth](#), a special series focused on the implications of US withdrawal from the Paris accord, which is slated for 100 days from today. [Guardian US, 27 July 2020.](#)

B4SA PREDICTS COVID-19 DEATHS TO PEAK IN LATE AUGUST; CALLS FOR BEHAVIOUR CHANGE AND ECONOMIC REFORM Business for South Africa (B4SA) calls on business and all South Africans to continue to take preventative action to curb the rapid rate at which COVID-19 is spreading through the country. [B4SA, 27 July 2020.](#)

SUPPLY CHAIN RESILIENCE AND PARTNERSHIPS KEY TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY Now is the time to develop a supplier development strategy to bolster small supplier resilience. [Business Day, 27 July 2020.](#)

THE CORRESPONDING CRISES OF COVID-19 AND CLIMATE CHANGE: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGES The massive, urgent global response to the Covid-19 pandemic shows that it is possible to bring foresighted leadership to existential threats to humanity. [Steve Thorne and Lester Malgas, Daily Maverick, 27 July 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.](#)

NEW TOYOTA HYBRID PART OF R2.5BN DURBAN INVESTMENT Japanese automobile giant Toyota is set to produce its first 'hybrid synergy drive' (petro-electric) car on the African continent at its Prospecton plant in Durban, as part of a R2.5 billion investment in a new production line. [Moneyweb, 29 July 2020.](#)

FNB LAUNCHES A VIRTUAL CARD FOR INDIVIDUALS AND BUSINESSES FNB is expanding its digital payments ecosystem by launching a Virtual Card for individual and business customers. [IOL Business, 29 July 2020.](#)

ABSA WINS THE EUROMONEY 2020 EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP IN AFRICA AWARD Absa Group, one of Africa's leading diversified financial service group, was recently awarded the Euromoney 2020 Excellence in Leadership in Africa Award as a result of their integrated Covid-19 response for their employees, clients and communities. [BusinessLIVE, 28 July 2020.](#)

#SAVEMYLIVELIHOOD The South African alcohol industry is unable to survive the extended suspension of alcohol sales. If it continues, it will contribute to the growing poverty, hunger and mortality rates in the very communities it aims to protect. Millions of people's livelihoods are at risk right now. [Join the movement.](#)

SANTAM SETS ASIDE R1BN RELIEF FUND Santam has set aside a R1billion relief fund for potential business interruption claims from its policy holders. [IOL Business, 27 July 2020.](#)

OLD MUTUAL NAMED TOP EMPOWERED BUSINESS OF THE YEAR Insurance giant Old Mutual has won the Top Empowered Business of the Year award at the Top Empowerment virtual awards last night, joining CNBC Africa for more is Iain Williamson, CEO of Old Mutual. [CNBC Africa, 24 July 2020.](#)

SPAR CONTRIBUTES MASSIVELY WITH R12 MILLION FOOD PARCELS TO VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES The SPAR Group continues to support South Africa, helping towards thousands of food parcels which are being sent to the most vulnerable communities. [Good Things Guy, 23 July 2020.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

USB RESEARCH: THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE INCLUSION OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES IN THE WORKPLACE We would like to invite your organisation to participate in the study provisionally titled: *The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the workplace*. This study forms part of a series related to the impact of COVID-19 and the employment experiences of people with disabilities (PWD). The intended benefit of this research is to gain a deeper understanding of the inclusion of PWD in working communities during disasters. To complete the questionnaire and for further information, kindly [click here](#).

THE STATE OF FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION IN THE WORLD 2020 – BUSINESS SUMMARY The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) “The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World” (SOFI2020) report, launched on 13 July 2020, is an annual report that estimates worldwide hunger levels and provides a spotlight on the diet quality around the world. [WBCSD, 24 July 2020.](#)

ANALYSIS OF CA100+ COMPANY DATA FOR CDP INVESTOR SIGNATORIES In this report, we have provided analysis and samples of the full set of environmental data available to CDP through company-level disclosure on climate change, deforestation and water security of the 160 companies targeted by the CA100+ initiative. [Download here.](#)

GSB: POWER SECTOR INVESTMENT AND MARKET TRANSITIONS IN AFRICA PHD SCHOLARSHIP 2021 Applications are invited for the above scholarship for PhD students in the Power Futures Lab at the Graduate School of Business (GSB) to conduct full-time research in one of the following areas: Chinese investments in the power sector in Africa; or Distributed energy resources and power market transitions in Africa. Please note that the closing date for applications is 30 August 2020. [Full details here.](#)

WBCSD LEADING WOMEN AWARDS NOW OPEN FOR 2020 NOMINATIONS The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) is pleased to announce the fourth edition of the Leading Women Awards (LWA), designed to recognize outstanding female leaders and to showcase their work in sustainability towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [WBCSD, 16 July 2020.](#)

ENERGY WATER WASTE FORUM REPORT – JULY 2020 [View here.](#)

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 tomorrow, 31 July 2020.** **NBI’s Head of Social Transformation, 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 **News Article** entitled: “Climate momentum continues building: Our global network of CDP accredited solutions providers is growing”, [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** just published – **27 July 2020**, [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 **July 2020 Newsletter: Accelerating bold climate action**, 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 **Member Spotlight Article**, entitled: *"Apple commits to be 100 percent carbon neutral for its supply chain and products by 2030"*, [here](#).

NBI WEBINARS | 2020

NBI ONLINE EVENT: ENERGY MANAGEMENT, CRISES AND COMPETITIVENESS | Wednesday, 5 August 2020 | 14:00 to 15:30 | Energy efficiency is the basis for competitiveness, long-term resilience and a vital part of a business' crisis management toolkit. Integrating ambitious energy targets into a business strategy therefore allows leading companies to drive innovation in energy efficiency; achieving significant long-term value and increased reliability | [Detailed information and RSVP link](#).

ONLINE EVENT: NBI'S SDGS ROADSHOW 2020 | Thursday, 6 to Friday, 7 August 2020 | 12:00 to 15:00 | The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are a global framework for sustainable development that call for business involvement in their implementation at global, national and local scales. This year, the NBI will again team up with DI to hold the SDGs Roadshow 2020 online. Join us for two engaging sessions designed to help you take your company's SDGs process to the next level, with key insights provided from experts in the field and case studies presented by other leading companies, who have made significant progress. | [Detailed information and RSVP link](#).

ACA SA - INNOVATIVE COLLABORATIONS TO DRIVE OUR CLIMATE-SMART ECONOMIC RECOVERY | Thursday, 13 August 2020 | 11:30 to 13:00 | This event, hosted by the Alliances for Climate Action South Africa (a partnership Initiative convened by C40, NBI and WWF), aims to build the capacity of city representatives as well as private sector stakeholders to engage on what a post-COVID green economic recovery could look like for South Africa and to share insight into what different stakeholders are doing in the space. | [Detailed information and RSVP link](#).

WEBINARS | 2020

CDP WEBINAR: CLIMATE AND URBAN HEALTH | NET ZERO: A GLOBAL HEALTH OPPORTUNITY | 5 August 2020 | 15:00 GMT | As the world continues to tackle the coronavirus pandemic, global cities are taking steps to protect their citizens from the climate crisis and future public health shocks. In this fourth and final webinar in CDP's Climate and Urban Health series, we will enable cities to better understand what it means to set a 'net zero target' and how science-based targets and co-benefit solutions drive the low-carbon transition in ways that work for and protect citizens. [Register here](#).

GIBS ONLINE: WOMEN IN BUSINESS BREAKFAST | 11 August 2022 | The session is an opportunity to find inspiration and celebration in the stories of successful women, discuss challenges and to share lessons learned along the journey. [GIBS Website](#).

CEO WATER MANDATE WEBINAR: LESSONS FROM INDIA AND SOUTH AFRICA: SETTING SITE WATER TARGETS TO DRIVE ACTION | 18 August 2020 | 17:00 SAST | This webinar will showcase lessons learned piloting the site water targets guide in India and South Africa. The project team will share insights and companies will discuss their experience setting site

water targets collectively, how site water targets fit into their water stewardship strategy, and how this work drives action in the long-term. [Register here.](#)

WWWEEKATHOME | 24 to 28 August 2020 | The annual World Water Week in Stockholm has been cancelled this year and in its place WWWeekAtHome, a series of online sessions will be organised during the week of 24-28 August. The **World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)** will be participating in the WWWeekAtHome through co-organised sessions and contributing to other sessions. View programme [here](#).

ONLINE EVENT ACCELERATING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY | 25 to 27 August 2020 | This time of unprecedented challenges requires systemic solutions and radical new ways of doing business. Join industry-leading speakers and more than 10,000 professionals participating from around the world to learn, connect and accelerate the circular economy. [GreenBiz Website.](#)

CLIMATE WEEK NYC | 21 to 27 September 2020 | Run in coordination with the United Nations and the City of New York, Climate Week NYC continues to grow as the time and place for the world to showcase amazing climate action and discuss how to do more. The number of events is increasing, and Climate Week NYC 2020 is on track to surpass last year's record of 150 events. Find out more about [Climate Week 2020](#).



National Business Initiative (NBI)

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Sandton

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