

ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 766, 6 August 2020

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

THE NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE (NBI) has just released our latest report: **Understanding the Experiences of LGBTQI+ Employees in the Workplace**. A key insight is that meaningful transformation is reflected in workplaces where people are affirmed in their identities. View the report [here](#).

BUILDING SOCIAL COHESION STRATEGIES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 COVID-19 has changed our world, the way we live and the way we work. In a few short months, the world has started to accept that many aspects of our lives may not return to our previous 'normal'. **Read NBI's latest Thought Leadership Article, [here](#).**

BUSINESS FOR SOUTH AFRICA ISSUES CALL TO ACTION ON LOCAL PROCUREMENT Business for South Africa (B4SA) has issued a call to action for corporate South Africa to undertake four actions to assist local procurement during the Covid-19 pandemic. **[Donna Slater, Engineering News, 31 July 2020.](#)**

INDUSTRY NEWS

LOOK TO WOMEN TO FUTURE-PROOF THE WORLD The Covid-19 pandemic, amplified by heightened global awareness around inequality, has thrust a new spotlight on the struggle for gender parity. **[Christine Wu, Business Maverick, 6 August 2020.](#)**

DIGITALISATION AND AFRICA'S RENEWABLE ENERGY SECTOR POST-COVID Rapid progression in increasingly more affordable storage technologies has enabled renewable energy units to become progressively more reliable. **[BizCommunity, 5 August 2020.](#)**

FROM WATER TO CARBON, 5 NEW SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS COLLABORATIONS For decades, collaborations and partnerships have been a fundamental part of the sustainable business toolkit, enabling companies to do together what none of them can easily do alone. **[Joel Makower, GreenBiz, 4 August 2020.](#)**

CLOSING THE GENDER GAP: TRANSFORMATION IN THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR At the end of the third quarter of 2019, prior to the Covid-19 crisis, only 11% of the roughly 1.3 million people employed by in South African construction industry were female. [BizCommunity, 4 August 2020.](#)

HOW COVID-19 CAN BE THE GREAT RESET TOWARD GLOBAL SUSTAINABILITY As world leaders rush to deploy trillions of dollars in bail-outs and stimulus, and impose once-unthinkable emergency limits on the freedoms of their people, it would be easy to dismiss as irrelevant the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [Jeroo Billimoria and Matthew Bishop, The European Sting/WEF, 30 July 2020.](#)

BUILDING YOUR UNCERTAINTY ADVANTAGE Managing uncertainty has always been part of the executive remit. But rarely have leaders been forced to tackle volatility in so many areas all at once. [Hans Kuipers, Alan Iny and Alison Sander, BCG, 29 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.](#)

ABSA WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR ITS RESPONSE TO COVID-19 The bank is one of only six in the world to be recognised in this way for outstanding performance during the global health crisis. [Cape Talk, 5 August 2020.](#)

THE DOLPHIN BAY BRIEF [Dolphin Bay, 5 August 2020.](#)

SASOL INVITES BIDDERS FOR 10MW SOLAR FACILITIES IN SA Sasol yesterday invited interested bidders to participate in a Request for Proposals (RFPs) process for the development of two embedded 10MW solar photo-voltaic (PV) facilities at its South African operations as part of its response to climate change. [IOL Business, 4 August 2020.](#)

PWC SAYS PANDEMIC FORCES A RELOOK AT REMUNERATION POLICIES It has been a year that has exposed the vulnerabilities of lower-level workers and, coupled with the context of job insecurity and food insecurity in South Africa, there have been increasing calls for executive pay cuts. [Engineering News, 4 August 2020.](#)

EXCHANGE CONTROL LIFTING SENDS STRONG GROWTH MESSAGE – ANGLO The lifting of exchange control by South Africa sends a really strong message about the country's desire to promote investment and growth, says Anglo American FD Stephen Pearce. [Engineering News, 4 August 2020.](#)

PICK 'N PAY CLOTHING LAUNCHES ONLINE SHOPPING Pick n Pay Clothing patrons will now be able to shop from the comfort of home. [Moneyweb, 3 August 2020.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

A GUIDE TO ESG INVESTING The International Investment and RL360 Guide to ESG Investing was published yesterday. This specially created guide - sponsored by RL360 - features articles and videos relating to the growing trend towards Environmental Social Governance (ESG) investing and sustainable investment across the globe. [View here.](#)

SAIIA: IMPLICATIONS OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC FOR GLOBAL CLIMATE CHANGE RESPONSES In many senses the COVID-19 pandemic is a climate change parable, with similarities and consequent lessons to be drawn from our responses to each. Read publication [here.](#)

GENDER EQUALITY IS AN ACHIEVABLE REALITY, NOT IMPROBABLE IDEOLOGY Women are still the lowest paid in the workplace. This is according to the 2020 edition of the Executive Directors: Practices and Remuneration Trends report released by PwC on Tuesday. [City Press, 4 August 2020.](#)

NEDBANK SMART LIVING GUIDE Our A-Z handbook for sustainable living empowers you to implement sustainable practices in all areas of your home life. By implementing simple changes, you will be contributing to a sustainable future and saving money! [Download here.](#)

CAPE TOWN FUTURE ENERGY FESTIVAL - NEWSFLASH 2. Be a part of Cape Town's Future Energy Story. [View here.](#)

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.](#)

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.](#)

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 Insights** recently published, [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**, [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**, [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** just published, entitled: *"Microsoft commits to achieve 'zero waste' goals by 2030"*, [here.](#)

NBI WEBINARS | 2020

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

GIBS ONLINE: WOMEN IN BUSINESS BREAKFAST | 11 August 2020 | 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.](#)

USB: THE DIMINISHING ROLE OF THE STATE ENTERPRISE – TRENDS AND REALITIES | USB Alumni Webinar with Dr Mbako Mbo | 13 August 2020 | 18:00 CAT | Join Standard Chartered Bank Botswana CFO, Dr Mbako Mbo, as he explores solutions in our special Alumni Webinar. [Further information and registration.](#)

GIBS: ONLINE MASTERCLASS: USING DESIGN THINKING TO RE-IMAGINE YOUR BUSINESS BEYOND COVID 19 | 18 August 2020 | Mastering Design Thinking will give you the insights and the tools you need to work with your team to reimagine and pivot your business model and future proof your organisation into the future. Four hours completed at your own pace. [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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