

ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 771, 10 September 2020

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

CLIMATE WEEK NEW YORK 2020 (CWNYC) – NOT TO BE MISSED ONLINE EVENT OF THE YEAR Each year in September, The Climate Group, in association with the United Nations and the City of New York, hosts Climate Week New York, an exciting series of events covering all aspects of climate research, innovation, action, and solutions which are hosted at venues dotted across the city. [Read NBI's latest Quick Brief, here.](#)

GUGU MCLAREN-USHEWOKUNZE, NBI'S HEAD: SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION was interviewed by John Maytham on CapeTalk this week, discussing the question: "Is diversity training in South Africa still practiced?". Listen to the podcast of this interview and learn more about the NBI's work around social transformation, inclusion and cohesion, by clicking [here.](#)

FUNDING THE FUTURE: LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS FOR SAFE WATER ACCESS Safe access to clean water can save lives. Providing viable handwashing solutions at scale is essential for public health. It is for these reasons that leading pump manufacturing company Grundfos - through its Foundation, the Poul due Jensen Foundation (PDJF) - has teamed up with the National Business Initiative (NBI), to roll-out durable, foot-operated handwash facilities on a national scale. [Read here.](#)

WESTERN CAPE GENDER VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM: BRIDGETTE MDANGAYI, NBI'S PROGRAMME MANAGER - SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION will be sharing insights into the NBI's Social Transformation workstream as well as addressing the role and approach of the private sector in harnessing Social Transformation at this Symposium taking place next Tuesday, 15 September 2020. Click [here](#) should you wish to attend this session.

GROWING GREEN SKILLS AND JOBS IN THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY THROUGH MENTORING TVET COLLEGE GRADUATES The National Business Initiative (NBI), with the Institute of Plumbing South Africa (IOPSA), and other partners, have launched a programme to develop learning and employment pathways for Technical Plumbing Assistants, targeting unemployed TVET College learners and people already employed in precarious positions within the plumbing sector. [View brochure here.](#)

LESSONS FROM A CRISIS AND FRESH OPPORTUNITIES The Covid-19 crisis has provided the clearest demonstration yet of the fact that companies cannot achieve long-term success if the societies in which they operate are not prospering. [Wendy Dobson, Engineering News, 7 September 2020.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA 2030 IN THE MIDST OF COVID-19 The Covid-19 pandemic has come at a time when societies are already facing many challenges related to inequality, poverty, unemployment, and drought and/or lack of access to water, amongst others. [Lungile Manzini, BizCommunity, 9 September 2020.](#)

B4SA WELCOMES TERS EXTENSION Business for South Africa (B4SA) has welcomed Labour Minister Thulas Nxesi's decision to further extend the Temporary Employer/Employee Relief Scheme (TERS), operated by the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF), to September 15. [Donna Slater, Engineering News, 9 September 2020.](#)

INNOVATION DRIVES MINING EFFICIENCY, BUT ALSO ACCESSIBILITY FOR WOMEN Even though the mining industry has come a long way in providing more opportunities for women, women still only make up 12% of the industry's workforce. [Marleny Arnoldi, Mining Weekly, 9 September 2020.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA'S PRIVATE SECTOR CAN HELP STOP GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE Violence against women and children in South Africa needs urgent attention, and the private sector has a key role to play. [Thandi van Heyningen, ISS, 9 September 2020.](#)

WESTERN CAPE DAMS AT ITS 'HIGHEST LEVEL SEEN IN YEARS' Dams across the province have seen a substantial increase thanks to a good winter rainfall season, an official at the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) confirmed. [Mwangi Githathu, IOL Business, 8 September 2020.](#)

SANEDI CONTINUES ROLL-OUT OF COOL ROOFS SOLUTION While South Africa's energy supply continues to fall short, government organisation the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) says it looks forward to continuing its roll-out of an energy efficient cooling solution – known as 'cool roofs'. [Tasneem Bulbulia, Engineering News, 7 September 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.](#)

SAPPI CELEBRATES SEPTEMBER WITH TREE PLANTING INITIATIVE Arbor Week and Heritage Day are both celebrated in September, which also heralds the beginning of spring in South Africa. [Africa Print, 9 September 2020.](#)

PICK N PAY EMBRACES NEW RETAIL-READY PACKAGING Pick n Pay partnered with global supply-chain solutions company Chep to trial and launch innovative retail-ready packaging (RRP) platforms in its stores across the country. [Retail Brief Africa, 7 September 2020.](#)

WOOLWORTHS LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE FACE MASK WITH VIROBLOCK Many South Africans are now appreciating the virtues of good design as we don face masks to go back to work and be out in public. [Retail Brief Africa, 7 September 2020.](#)

SASOL SEEKS CARBON-UTILISATION SOLUTIONS FOR SOUTH AFRICAN OPERATIONS Energy and chemicals group Sasol has initiated a process through which it aims to identify potential partners for the development and demonstration of technologies that can utilise the carbon dioxide (CO₂) produced at its South African operations as part of a broader strategy to lower its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. [Engineering News, 4 September 2020.](#)

SANTAM PAYS OUT R950M IN RELIEF FUNDS Santam, South Africa's largest short-term insurer, said yesterday that it had already paid R950million in relief payments to support small and medium-sized commercial policyholders and businesses distressed as a result of Covid-19. [IOL Business, 4 September 2020.](#)

GROWING FARMING SUCCESS WITH THE NEDBANK LEGACY FUND In 2005, Nedbank Group (then Nedcor) announced its direct, broad-based black empowerment deal aimed at driving transformation by offering ownership of shares directly to employees, clients, and community interest groups, as well as several strategic Black Business Partners (BBP). [Read here.](#)

WWF'S THE LIVING PLANET REPORT 2020 The 13th edition of WWF's biennial flagship publication published today, presents a comprehensive overview of the state of our natural world through the Living Planet Index (LPI), which tracks trends in global wildlife abundance, and contributions from more than 125 experts from around the world. View summary Report [here](#), or download the full Report, [here](#).

BUILDING LONG TERM BUSINESS RESILIENCE: LEARNING LESSONS FROM COVID-19 The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) has released an issue brief exploring early business responses to COVID-19, making recommendations on how companies can build greater long-term resilience through improved approaches to corporate risk management, human & social capital, and environmental, social and governance (ESG) information. [WBCSD, 7 September 2020](#).

WBCSD'S LATEST SDG BRIEFING aims to source and package latest insights, key developments, and emerging trends regarding the fast-evolving SDG landscape. [WBCSD, September 2020](#).

NBI SURVEY: A SCOPING STUDY OF PRIVATE SECTOR INVESTMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA Building the momentum to enhance private sector participation in climate change and green investment in Africa: A scoping study of private sector investment in South Africa. [Survey link and further information](#).

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR SAB FOUNDATION THOLOANA ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME An entrepreneur's journey has enormous potential to create jobs, build the economy and uplift communities [BizCommunity, 2 September 2020](#).

DEPARTMENT INVITES COMMENT ON GUIDELINES FOR GHG VERIFICATION The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) has invited public comment on the Technical Guidelines for Validation and Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions by September 24. [Engineering News, 31 August 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 **Newsletter**, entitled: "*Why water is key to building resiliency*", [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 **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 recently published **News Article** entitled: "*Building forward better: Accelerating business momentum toward a net-zero future*", [here](#).

NBI WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING THE EXPERIENCES OF LGBTQI+ EMPLOYEES IN THE WORKPLACE | Wednesday, 30 September 2020 | 11:00 to 13:00 | The National Business Initiative (NBI) recently concluded research on Understanding the Experiences of LGBTQI+ Employees in the Workplace. During this webinar we will unpack key findings from the NBI's research report, understanding the importance of social behaviours and attitudes, and exploring the transformation interventions needed to prioritise LGBTQI+ employees' belonging in the workplace. Please contact [Khanyisa Nomoyi](#) should you wish to attend this session.

WEBINARS | 2020

WESTERN CAPE GENDER VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM | 15 September 2020 | The Western Cape Gender Virtual Symposium aims to include contributions that will build local knowledge, data sources and understanding of good practice in mainstreaming gender into policy and practice in the South African context and specifically in the Western Cape environment. [Click here to RSVP](#) by 10 September 2020 and secure your place. Further queries can be directed [here](#).

SUSTAINABLE RECOVERY: ESG VALUES AND OUR RESILIENT FUTURE | 15 September 2020 | 13:00 ET | This one-hour webcast will focus on the principles of sustainable recovery and how ESG-led strategies help organizations successfully navigate the trials of COVID-19 and today's other complex challenges. [GreenBiz Website](#).

WBCSD: BUILDING RESILIENCE IN A TIME OF CRISIS – THE ROLE OF SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP, ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING | 16 September 2020 | 17:30 CEST | Businesses' and organizations' ability to be resilient and adaptable is being put to a test across the world with the current COVID-19 pandemic. Now more than ever, it is crucial to draw from current and past lessons, share knowledge and new ideas to ensure sustainable continuity for businesses and research. [WBCSD 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](#).

SDG BUSINESS FORUM | 23 September 2020 | The 2020 SDG Business Forum aims to generate a Compendium of SDG Acceleration Actions for the decade of action and delivery from its participants as one of the outcome documents. [Website and further information](#).

ONLINE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT | 28 to 30 September 2020 | The Skills Development Summit 2020 will provide a much-needed discussion on the state of our rapidly changing world. The Fourth Industrial Revolution promises to change the way that we conduct business and industry, especially in manufacturing and agriculture, but also threatens many jobs. The Skills Development Summit will be presenting a vision of how skills development and jobs can be retained in this shifting world, especially in the context of rural and urban development. [Registration and website](#).

CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP SA | ONLINE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 5 to 8 October 2020 | This programme is designed for middle to senior managers in organisations from the private or public sector to equip them with a high-level understanding of role of sustainability in future proofing their organisations. Sustainability rests on a simple premise - the inter-connectedness of all things. It requires re-generative thinking. It is something that must become deeply embedded in the day-to-day operations of an organisation to guide it to a different future, particularly in a developing world context. Apply [here](#) or email: [Alice Cropper](#) for more information.

TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2020 | 13 to 14 October 2020 | Responsible business consultancy Trialogue, in collaboration with corporate partners and sponsors, will present the 13th annual [Trialogue Business in Society Conference 2020](#) on an exciting virtual platform. This industry-leading annual event promotes thought leadership, cross-sector collaboration, and innovation for more effective development, and brings together corporate, non-profit, government, media and academic delegates. Visit the Trialogue [conference page](#) to view the sessions and speakers, purchase tickets, obtain a group discount and download the [draft programme](#).



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