

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 779, 28 January 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

JOANNE YAWITCH, NBI CEO, HAS RECENTLY BEEN APPOINTED AS A MEMBER OF THE INAUGURAL PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE CHANGE COORDINATING COMMISSION (P4C). The Commission will advise on South Africa's just transition to a low-carbon, inclusive, climate change resilient economy and society, as well as provide guidance on matters of adaptation & mitigation. [Read details here](#).

SOUTH AFRICAN CAMPAIGNERS PUSH FOR FASTER COAL EXIT IN PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION As President Cyril Ramaphosa launches an initiative to deliver net zero emissions, campaigners prepare to confront trade unions over coal. [Joe Lo, Climate Home News, 26 January 2021.](#)

THE CLIMATE AND DEVELOPMENT KNOWLEDGE NETWORK (CDKN) hosted the [Climate Adaptation Summit](#) on the 25-26 January 2021 to explore ways of accelerating adaptation efforts on the African continent. As part of this Summit, CDKN commissioned a series of interviews and articles with leading climate change adaptation practitioners. **NBI's Programme Manager: Climate & Water, Alex McNamara** contributed to an article on how nature can assist with recovery and resilience. Read the article, [here](#).

NBI'S CEO JOANNE YAWITCH was interviewed last week on CapeTalk by John Maytham to discuss the 'Just Transition Finance Roadmaps in South Africa and India' project. This new multi-partner initiative aims to define the role that finance plays in supporting South Africa and India's transition to more climate-resilient economies. The coalition of partners, working towards sustainable growth and development in their respective countries, highlight how funding can play a key role in supporting just energy transitions, through the development of finance roadmaps. Listen to the podcast [here](#).

PROJECT LAUNCHED TO DEFINE ROLE OF FINANCE IN SOUTH AFRICA AND INDIA'S 'JUST TRANSITIONS' A new multi-partner initiative has been launched with the aim of defining the role that finance can and should play in supporting both

South Africa and India's aspirations to implement "just transitions" to more climate-resilient economies. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 19 January 2021.](#)

RUTH TROSKIE, NBI'S HEAD: TAMDEV, was recently interviewed on SAFM's Life Happens with Phemelo Motene, discussing **NBI's Technical Assistance, Mentorship and Development (TAMDEV) Programme** both during the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond. [Listen here.](#)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS: PROCUREMENT OF SERVICES: WEB DEVELOPER 2021 The National Business Initiative (NBI), with support from WWF-SA and Just Share NPC, a non-profit shareholder activism organisation, are looking for a service provider to design, develop the layout and maintain a website that will act as a platform to enable capacity building of the South African Finance Sector. [Full details here.](#)

MARKERS OF CHANGE INSPIRE BLACK WOMEN TO RISE TO LEADERSHIP POSTS I was privileged to participate in a CEO thought leadership dialogue arranged by the National Business Initiative on how inclusive organisations drive a high-performance culture. [Basani Maluleke, Business Day, 17 December 2020.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

SIX WAYS TO UNLEASH THE POTENTIAL OF NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS There is growing private sector interest in managing our twin environmental crises: the accelerating destruction of nature and climate change. [Justin Adams & Claire O'Neill, WEF, 27 January 2021.](#)

4IR: HOW KEY INDUSTRIES ARE SUCCESSFULLY EMBRACING DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION Across industries, we are starting to notice businesses of all sizes embrace the digital economy to create value, increase efficiency, and adapt to stay ahead of competitors. [Prenesh Padayachee, BizCommunity, 27 January 2021.](#)

IN DAVOS SPEECH, UN CHIEF HIGHLIGHTS PRIVATE SECTOR ROLE IN PANDEMIC RECOVERY The private sector has a key role to play in lifting countries out of both the COVID-19 and climate crises, UN Secretary-General António Guterres told international business leaders on Monday. [UN News, 25 January 2021.](#)

EU CALLS FOR GLOBAL COAL POWER PHASE OUT Europe's foreign ministers today placed the European Green Deal at the heart of the bloc's diplomacy by calling for an end to coal power and fossil fuel subsidies everywhere. [Karl Mathiesen, POLITICO, 25 January 2021.](#)

HOW THE SDGS CAN CHANGE YOUR ORGANISATION, FROM THE INSIDE OUT As an organisational mission, sustainability is hard to wrap your head around. Given its enormity and complexity, individuals have trouble measuring their own contributions, let alone those of their teams and departments. [Atalay Atasu and Manuel E. Sosa, European Business Review, 20 January 2021.](#)

BIDEN RETURNS US TO PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD HOURS AFTER BECOMING PRESIDENT Joe Biden has moved to reinstate the US to the Paris climate agreement just hours after being sworn in as president, as his administration rolls out a cavalcade of executive orders aimed at tackling the climate crisis. [Oliver Milman, The Guardian, 20 January 2021.](#)

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.](#)

FNB OFFERS VIRTUAL CARD TO CUSTOMERS FNB individual and business customers who use the FNB and/or RMB Private Bank apps will now have access to the FNB Virtual Card. [IOL Business, 23 January 2021.](#)

SAB FOUNDATION SET TO INVEST R12,6 MILLION TO HELP DEVELOP ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN SOUTH AFRICA The SAB Foundation is an independent trust that annually invests millions of rands towards developing entrepreneurship in South Africa for the benefit of the wider South African community. [Brent Lindeque, GoodThingsGuy, 22 January 2021.](#)

GETTING AHEAD OF THE UN'S SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS Graeme Wild, Group Head of Investor Relations and Sustainability at sustainable wood fibre producer Sappi, outlines how the company is meeting the challenges of the SDGs head-on. [Forbes, 19 January 2021.](#)

BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP (BCG) JANUARY 2021 FEATURED INSIGHTS [Read here.](#)

PICK N PAY HIRES NEW CEO AS BRASHER RETIRES Brasher will be replaced by Pieter Boone, who was identified in a global search that included internal candidates. [inceConnect, 15 January 2021.](#)

SANLAM'S EFFORTS TO HELP COMMUNITIES AND REJUVENATE THE ECONOMY IN THE WAKE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC The Covid-19 pandemic has posed serious challenges in the lives of many and has had a severe impact on our economy and livelihoods. Sanlam has always been passionate about supporting their staff, clients and communities at large. [View here.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

JUST RELEASED: CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2020 This year's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) paints a grim picture of the state of corruption worldwide. Most countries have made little to no progress in tackling corruption in almost a decade, and more than two-thirds of countries score below 50. Click [here](#) to review.

SEED BDS+ TRAINING OF TRAINERS ON CLIMATE-SMART ENTERPRISE INCUBATION Through this Training of Trainers programme, we offer business development support advisors and climate change adaptation multipliers access to our comprehensive SEED starter toolkit, case studies and further valuable insights into climate-smart enterprise success. Full details [here](#). Please note that the **Call for Applications** is open until tomorrow, **Friday, 29 January 2021.**

STATE OF GREEN BUSINESS 2021 The 14th annual State of Green Business Report shares the top 10 sustainable business trends for the year ahead — as well as the State of Green Business Index, produced by S&P Global Trucost, which reveals the progress (and lack of progress) being made by nearly 2,000 companies around the world. [Download Report.](#)

ENABLING COMPANIES TO REPORT ON THE SDGS Updated guidance on linking the Sustainable Development Goals with the GRI Standards. It is now even easier for organizations to communicate their efforts to support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), by using the most widely adopted standards for sustainability reporting – the GRI Standards. [GRI, 21 January 2021.](#)

THE WE VALUE NATURE 10-DAY CHALLENGE - 11 to 24 March 2021 There has never been a better time for businesses to assess their impacts and dependencies on nature. Through understanding and considering the risks and opportunities created by nature, businesses can make better decisions that benefit themselves, society and the planet as a whole. [We Value Nature Website.](#)

KEYS TO STRENGTHEN HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE IN GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS Human rights due diligence is a crucial means to manage risks in corporate supply chains. Making robust human rights due diligence part of standard business practice is key to advancing corporate respect for human rights and to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). [WBCSD, 18 January 2021.](#)

WHAT DOES A GREEN REBOOT FOR EMERGING MARKETS MEAN? A new report by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) highlights how investment in ten sectors through post-COVID recovery efforts can support economic recovery and job creation while helping to achieve the goal of limiting global temperature rise to below 2 degrees Celsius. [Download here.](#)

WBCSD WATER NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2021 [Read here.](#)

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 18 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their recently published **News Article**, entitled: **“Undeterred by pandemic: Four trends in global climate action to watch in the coming decade”**, [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. The CEO Water Mandate, with partners Bluerisk and Valuing Nature, is releasing a **new guide on Volumetric Water Benefit Accounting (VWBA)**, intended as a practical resource to facilitate the application of VWBA methods. Read more about it [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 **Blog Article** entitled, **“Zero-Carbon Transition – Latest signals of change (22.01.21)”**, [here](#).

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) WBCSD is an international, 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 **Insight Article** entitled, **“One click away – Reaching 300 million smallholders with Digital Climate Advisory Services”**, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS | 2021

NBI WORKSHOP: UNLOCKING CORPORATE PROCUREMENT TO DRIVE SOUTH AFRICA’S RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY TRANSITION | Tuesday, 16 February 2021 | 13:00 to 16:30 SAST | To unlock opportunities for corporate renewable procurement, the NBI, the WBCSD, The Climate Group, CDP and the We Mean Business coalition will be hosting a multi-stakeholder online workshop to discuss how business can best realise the opportunities for corporate renewable energy procurement in South Africa. **Please note that this initial session is a closed workshop with a selected number of participants.** Please contact: [Bhavna Deonarain](#) for further information.

VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS | 2021

UBUNTU LEADERSHIP VIRTUAL SUMMIT | 30 January 2021 | Their team of speakers will "infect" you with positivity, inspiration, insights and practical tools on how to apply the UBUNTU principles in your life and work. [Register here](#).

WBCSD FOOD SYSTEMS SUMMIT DIALOGUES WITH DR DAVID NABARRO | 2 February 2021 | 14:00 to 15:00 CET | This webinar will provide an update on how you can get involved with the [Food Systems Summit Dialogues](#) organized in the run up to the Food Systems Summit. [Register here](#).

VIRTUAL MINING INDABA 2021 | 2 to 3 February 2021 | Demand from the Mining Indaba community to regroup has been overwhelming and they can’t wait for you to join them and major industry names virtually to celebrate the resilience, innovations and spirit of their sector. Together with industry pioneers and government leaders, they will tackle everything from using mining to reboot national economies to embracing ESG in the boardroom and the rise of gold in the pandemic. [Register here](#).

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT 2021 MINING INDABA VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION - DEMURRAGE: THE NEW NORMAL IN MINING? | 3 February 2021 | Please join them for a virtual panel discussion where they will look at the challenges that mining houses, in particular, have faced in transporting product to market, and how that might continue throughout 2021. [Full details and registration link here](#).

GREENBIZ 21 | 9 to 11 February 2021 | This premier annual event for sustainable business leaders will convene more than 1,200 professionals online. By joining this invitation-only event, you'll form valuable connections with the GreenBiz community and gain access to more than 80 sessions — leaving you feeling inspired and prepared for a successful year ahead. Request an invitation, [here](#).

CDP BITESIZE WEBINARS: HEAR FROM THE EXPERTS | March 2021 | Join a series of 30-minute webinars with CDP's gold accredited solutions providers on a range of sustainability topics throughout March. [Sign-up here](#).

RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT FORUM: NEW YORK – VIRTUAL EXPERIENCE 2021 | 3 to 4 March 2021 | The Responsible Investment Forum returns for its fifth year as a virtual event to bring together the most sophisticated institutional investors, fund managers, consultants and highly recognized associations to discuss why, when, and how your firm should be implementing an effective ESG strategy. [Website and further details](#).

CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP SA - ONLINE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 22 to 26 March 2021 | 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 the 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: elspeth.donovan@cisl.cam.ac.uk for more information.

WBCSD VISION 2050 VIRTUAL LAUNCH EVENT | 25 March 2021 | 09:00 to 10:00 or 17:00 to 18:00 CET | This public virtual event will see the global launch of WBCSD's refreshed Vision 2050, providing business with a holistic narrative and ambitious agenda with the intent to drive change in company strategies and sustainability planning in line with the urgency and roadmap for action illustrated in the final product. [Click here](#).

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