

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 780, 4 February 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

CEO DIALOGUES – ACTIVATING BOLD AND TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP THAT RECOGNISES DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION AS ITS STRENGTH It is now widely acknowledged in transformational leadership literature that strong organisations embrace diversity, but only unified organisations are able to translate that strength into success. Read NBI's Thought Leadership Article, [here](#).

JOINING FORCES: BUSINESS MUST BAND TOGETHER TO SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND BETTER SERVICE DELIVERY Municipalities are the most basic units of government. [Accountancy SA, December 2020/January 2021](#).

JOANNE YAWITCH, NBI CEO, HAS 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. [Click 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](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

5 OPPORTUNITIES OF A CIRCULAR ECONOMY More than 100 billion tons of resources enter the economy every year – everything from metals, minerals and fossil fuels to organic materials from plants and animals. Just 8.6% gets recycled and used again. [David McGinty, WRI, 3 February 2021.](#)

REGIONAL CLIMATE WEEKS TO DRIVE FORWARD CLIMATE ACTION IN 2021 AND 2022 The UN Climate Change Secretariat today announced Regional Climate Weeks in 2021 and 2022, key meetings that will help build regional momentum for the annual UN Climate Change Conferences and drive forward regional implementation of the Paris Climate Change Agreement. [UN Climate Change News, 1 February 2021.](#)

AFTER THE DAVOS AGENDA: WHAT TO EXPECT FOR 2021 [Peter Bakker, WBCSD, CEO, 31 January 2021.](#)

HOW TO MEASURE PROGRESS IN BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE The pandemic has magnified and accelerated many faults across society that need to be addressed. Climate change. Racial injustice. Economic inequality. Rising unemployment. [Bill Thomas, ERB, 29 January 2021.](#)

3 WAYS GLOBAL LEADERS CAN PRIORITIZE ESG IMPACT The global community is facing many crises, including an on-going pandemic, the tragic consequences of centuries of racial inequality, and a climate emergency. [Suzanne DiBianca, WEF, 29 January 2021.](#)

TURNING CLIMATE AMBITION INTO ACTION: HOW GOVERNMENTS SHOULD KICK-START 2021 2020 was a challenging and extraordinary year as the pandemic devastated lives and livelihoods across the globe. [Anika Heckwolf & Jennie Gleed, CDP, 29 January 2021.](#)

HEAVY RAINS REPLENISH VAAL RIVER SYSTEM Water levels in the Integrated Vaal River System (IVRS) have continued to surge, rising to steady levels as the system gets replenished by persistent rain. [BizCommunity, 28 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.](#)

IDC STANDS AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE & VIOLENCE OF ANY KIND Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) is a widespread problem in South Africa, impacting all aspects of life. [IDC, 3 February 2021.](#)

MONDI EXPANDS ITS SUSTAINABLE E-COMMERCE PORTFOLIO WITH BCOOLBOX TO TRANSPORT FRESH FOOD Mondi, a leading global packaging and paper manufacturer, introduces its latest e-commerce innovation. [Mondi, 1 February 2021.](#)

UN WOMEN, STANDARD BANK PROGRAMME PROVIDES LEG UP FOR WOMEN FARMERS Despite the many challenges brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, financial services provider Standard Bank and United Nations (UN) Women have made progress in equipping women farmers with the skills and resources needed to grow their businesses and succeed over the long term. [Engineering News, 29 January 2021.](#)

RMB IS RECOGNISED FOR LIBERATING ITS DIVERSE TALENT Our diverse talent is essential to the success of our business and continues to be our differentiator as we strive to do good business for a better world. RMBers are deeply invested and have a passion for possibilities. [RMB, 29 January 2021.](#)

ILLOVO'S SMALL SCALE GROWER PROJECT – EMPOWERING RURAL COMMUNITIES Through its Small-Scale Grower Cane Development Project, the Illovo Group's South African subsidiary, Illovo Sugar South Africa, partnered with the National Treasury's Jobs Fund in 2017 on a R126 million grant to plant 3 000 hectares of sugarcane on communal land over three seasons in the KwaZulu-Natal area. [Illovo Sugar Africa, 28 January 2021.](#)

TOP EMPLOYER SANLAM FOCUSES ON 2021 PEOPLE TRENDS Sanlam has been awarded the Top Employers Certification for the sixth consecutive year by the Top Employers Institute. [Sanlam, 28 January 2021.](#)

ERM JOINS THE OPEN GROUP OPEN FOOTPRINT™ FORUM ERM is pleased to announce that it has joined The Open Group Open Footprint™ Forum, the vendor-neutral technology consortium aiming to create open standards for footprint-related data, including emissions and consumptions (e.g. water, land, and energy). [ERM, 26 January 2021.](#)

EXXARO RESOURCES AWARDED TOP EMPLOYER CERTIFICATION FOR 2021 FOR ITS INDUSTRY-LEADING PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES The 2021 Top Employers have been announced and diversified resources company Exxaro has been recognised as a Top Employer in South Africa. [Business Tech Africa, 25 January 2021.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

TEN INSIGHTS INTO 4IR - THE STATE OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN MINING INDUSTRY: PWC AND MINERALS COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA REPORT [PwC, 3 February 2021.](#)

CIRCULAR TRANSITION FRAMEWORK ENHANCED WITH NEW METRICS FOR WATER, FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AND BIOECONOMY GUIDANCE The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) released the Circular Transition Indicators (CTI) framework version 2.0 and the accompanying online tool that was jointly developed with more than 30 companies. [WBCSD, 2 February 2021.](#)

DEVELOPMENT GOALS CAN WORK, EVEN AMID CRISIS, BUT WE NEED TO MEASURE BETTER An IISD policy brief looks at the evolution of global goals as a measurement framework for development, and the state of play for successor to the Millennium Development Goals' (MDGs) – the Sustainable Development Goals. [IISD, 1 February 2021.](#)

ESKOM'S BUSINESS INVESTMENT COMPETITION CALLS FOR MANUFACTURING SMES A great leap forward is possible for SMEs in the manufacturing sector who enter the Eskom Business Investment Competition (BIC). Entries are now open and SMEs are encouraged to enter before 12 February 2021 at midnight. [BizCommunity, 1 February 2021.](#)

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS: SEED AWARDS 2021 OFFERS SUPPORT, VISIBILITY AND FUNDING UP TO €15,000 FOR SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SMES SEED Awards 2021 is on the search for innovative small and growing businesses delivering environmental, social and economic impacts. Applications are now open. [SEED, 1 February 2021.](#)

LAUNCH OF THE UN RACE TO ZERO EMISSIONS BREAKTHROUGHS High Level Climate Champions launched the Race to Zero Breakthroughs at Davos, galvanizing business leadership around specific near-term challenges across the sectors of the global economy. [Read here.](#)

RECENTLY 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.

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.](#)

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 20 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 **February 2021 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 **January 2021 Newsletter**, [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, **"Six ways to unleash the potential of natural climate solutions"**, [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 on SA's Transition to Renewable Energy.

VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS | 2021

PODCAST: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS: FROM RAINBOW WASHING TO TRANSFORMING THE WORLD [Listen 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](#).

SCIENCE-BASED TARGET SETTING ON BIODIVERSITY | 10 February 2021 | 15:00 to 16:00 | Many companies are already setting climate science-based targets (SBTs) to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Companies are now also considering nature science-based targets in order to operate within planetary boundaries. [More information and registration link](#).

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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