

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

**NBI**  
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 784, 4 March 2021

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

**NBI'S CEO, JOANNE YAWITCH** yesterday participated in a live panel discussion hosted by Michael Avery, along with the EU Ambassador to SA, Dr Riina Kionka, speaking on the obstacles to unlocking the nation's green economic recovery potential. **Business Day, 3 March 2021.**

**NBI MEMBER COMPANIES: PARTICIPATE IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A GLOBAL STANDARD FOR NET-ZERO SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS** Together with our partner, the **Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi)**, the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** would like to invite our member companies to attend a consultation session taking place tomorrow, Friday, 5<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 13:00 to 14:00 SAST. **For details, please refer to the NBI NewsFlash sent out on Tuesday, to our Members.** Any queries, kindly contact: **Geeta Morar.**

**THE MAKERS ACADEMY AIMS TO EQUIP YOUNG TECHNICALLY TALENTED STUDENTS WITH ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS** During February, the **Allan Gray Makers** team in collaboration with the **National Business Initiative** delivered an express entrepreneurship programme to the students at Ekurhuleni West College in Tembisa. **Read here.**

**WHY IS ACCESSING ADAPTATION FINANCE IMPORTANT?** As an accredited entity of two global climate funds - the Adaptation Fund and the Green Climate Fund - South Africa can access grant-based funding through the **South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)** to implement local adaptation projects: **Watch here.**

**GREEN RECOVERY A POWERFUL OPPORTUNITY FOR AFRICA** Continent is responsible for just 6% of global greenhouse gas emissions but disproportionately exposed to risks of climate change. [Lucas Chaumontet and Younes Zrikem, Business Day, 25 February 2021.](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**WOMEN'S RIGHTS MUST BE CENTRAL TO THE GLOBAL RECOVERY. HERE'S WHY** The economic crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic is having a profound detrimental effect for most people around the world. Yet, it has impacted men and women differently. [Tea Trumbic and Norman Loayza, WEF, 2 March 2021.](#)

**TIME TO TRANSFORM – WATCH THE GREENBIZ21 KEYNOTE ON HOW BUSINESS MUST LEAD THE TRANSFORMATION THE WORLD NEEDS** What will it look like for nine billion people to live, and live well, on the planet by mid-century within planetary limits? How can business galvanize momentum towards action on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), collectively driving an inspirational agenda for business, and ensuring that transformation in support of sustainability is at the core of businesses' response to the COVID-19 crisis? [WBCSD, 1 March 2021.](#)

**COST OF WATER RISKS TO BUSINESS FIVE TIMES HIGHER THAN COST OF TAKING ACTION** The cost of water risks to business could be over five times greater than the cost of taking action now to address those risks, according to a new report by CDP, a non-profit that runs the world's environmental disclosure platform. [CDP, 1 March 2021.](#)

**AFRICA URGED TO UNLOCK PRIVATE FINANCE TO RAISE YEARLY RENEWABLES INVESTMENT TO \$105BN** The International Renewable Energy Agency (Irena) is urging African policymakers to use their limited public resources strategically, and alongside policy and regulatory instruments, to unlock the \$105-billion required yearly to install the 1 026 GW of renewable energy needed by 2050 to meet the continent's growing electricity demand. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 1 March 2021.](#)

**LOCKDOWN LEVEL 1, POSITIVE BUDGET MOVES PRESENT POTENTIAL FOR SOUTH AFRICA** The country's move to lockdown Level 1 will help more South Africans get back to work and will give a boost to the gradual recovery of the economy, writes business organisation Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) CEO Busi Mavuso in her newsletter of March 1. [Tasneem Bulbulia, Engineering News, 1 March 2021.](#)

**PLANNING COMMISSION WANTS NEW CLIMATE-CHANGE COMMISSION TO DRIVE 'JUST TRANSITION' SOCIAL COMPACT** The outgoing National Planning Commission (NPC) is preparing to hand over the extensive work it has done to build consensus on South Africa's 'just transition' to a low-carbon and climate-resilient society to the newly formed Presidential Coordinating Commission on Climate Change (PCCCC). [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 26 February 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.](#)

**HOLLARD LAUNCHES AD-SHARING CAMPAIGN** Building a small business is an extreme sport but a mindset shift by asset managers to start investing in startups can support promising small enterprises, which in turn should use their nimbleness to access markets that are hard to penetrate. [BizCommunity, 4 March 2021.](#)

**HARNESSING THE POWER OF SOCIETAL IMPACT INITIATIVES TO REIMAGINE AFRICA, TOGETHER** Perceptions of the role of business in society have changed dramatically. There's greater focus on how organisations impact the world around them - affecting climate change, responsible investment, sustainable value chains, social mobility and inclusion and equality. [PwC, 3 March 2021.](#)

**VODATRADE ENABLES THE GROWTH OF SMALL SUPPLIERS** Vodacom Financial Services has announced an expansion of its services to include a supplier portal called VodaTrade, where the small supplier will be able to go digital and connect with bigger business partner. [Vodacom, 2 March 2021.](#)

**TOYOTA YARIS NAMED 2021 EUROPEAN CAR OF THE YEAR** The all-new Toyota Yaris has been named the 2021 European Car of Year. [Toyota, 2 March 2021.](#)

**NEW TECHNOLOGY ALLOWS SCIENTISTS FIRST GLIMPSE OF INTRICATE DETAILS OF LITTLE FOOT'S LIFE** High resolution X-ray imaging of Little Foot's skull and dentition shows Little Foot suffered periods of dietary stress and illness when she was a child. [WITS University, 2 March 2021.](#)

**ANGLO CEO TALKS HYDROGEN, RECYCLING, SCOPE 3, MATERIAL SOLUTIONS PROVISION** The surge of the hydrogen economy, the need to recycle, halving Scope 3 emissions through iron-ore-linked green steelmaking, assisting South Africa to create new industries, and becoming a one-stop material solutions provider, were among the issues discussed by Anglo American CEO Mark Cutifani in a wide-ranging interview. [Mining Weekly, 1 March 2021.](#)

**LET'S GET REAL ABOUT GENDER EQUALITY** Since our democracy started in 1994, equality, diversity and inclusion have become important goals that we must all continue to work towards to ensure the growth and prosperity of our country. [Exxaro, 26 February 2021.](#)

**THE DOLPHIN BAY BRIEF** [February 2021 Newsletter.](#)

**BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP (BCG)** Leadership by Design Newsletter, February 2021 [View here.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**WBCSD LAUNCHES NEW PATHFINDER TO ENABLE SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS TRANSPARENCY AND ACCELERATE DECARBONIZATION** Today, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) launched the Carbon Transparency Pathfinder—a new initiative dedicated to enabling widescale exchange of primary, carbon emissions data. [WBCSD, 4 March 2021.](#)

**A WAVE OF CHANGE: THE ROLE OF COMPANIES IN BUILDING A WATER-SECURE WORLD – CDP GLOBAL WATER REPORT 2020** When it comes to water security, businesses cannot afford to wait. Our 2020 Global Water Report shows the cost of inaction on water risks is up to five times the cost of action. With huge business opportunities to seize, companies need to rethink their strategies and transform their business models to build a water-secure world. [Download report here.](#)

**THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION CELEBRATES NATIONAL WATER WEEK (NWW) ANNUALLY IN MARCH WHICH IS ACTUALLY COMMEMORATED THROUGHOUT THE MONTH.** This year the NWW takes place from 15 to 22 March 2021, against the backdrop of the World Water Day on 22 March; and the theme is: “Valuing water”. Read more [here.](#)

**WETSKILLS WATER CHALLENGE GETS UNDER WAY** Students and young professionals around the world have converged to take part in the Wetskills Water Challenge. The programme aims to enhance innovative thinking in the water sector. [BizCommunity, 26 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.](#)

**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 **Newsletter**, entitled: **“Building a sustainable economy through supply chain engagement”**, [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 **Blog Article** entitled: **“Innovative Funding and Financing for Watershed Health: Opportunities for Corporate Engagement”**, [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 February 2021 **News Update**, [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 **Sustain Newsletter** just published, [here](#).

## NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

**GENDER PAY GAP REPORT LAUNCH | Friday, 12 March 2021 | 11:00 to 13:00 | What would it mean to pay women fairly for the value of their work?** This is a question the National Business Initiative (NBI) has set out to answer together with the Southern Centre for Inequality Studies (SCIS) at the University of Witwatersrand and with the support of the South African Rewards Association (SARA). [Full details and registration link.](#)

## VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS | 2021

**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.](#)

**13<sup>TH</sup> AFRICA ENERGY INDABA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE | 1 to 5 March 2021 |** This year’s Africa Energy Indaba Conference will discuss, debate and seek solutions to enable adequate energy generation across Africa. A diverse group of luminaries and high-profile speakers will share their real-world insights about the changing energy landscape in Africa. [Africa Energy Indaba Website.](#)

**WEBINAR INVITATION: VACCINE ROLLOUT TO PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HEALTHCARE WORKERS | 5 March 2021 | 12:00 to 13:00 |** Business for South Africa (B4SA), the National Department of Health (NDoH), and the SA Medical Research Council

(SAMRC) invite you to a joint briefing on the status of the national vaccine rollout to public and private healthcare workers. To attend, click this [Zoom link](#).

**PROUDLY SA BUY LOCAL SUMMIT AND EXPO VIRTUAL EDITION | 8 to 10 March 2021** | Whether you are an entrepreneur, small business owner, big business supply chain or procurement official or simply want to know more about the importance of buying local, check details [here](#).

**GIBS SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURSHIP PROGRAMME | 15 March to 25 November 2021** | Social entrepreneurship offers the potential to shift our civil society into a different way of doing things. Within the context of COVID-19, this is becoming increasingly important. [GIBS Website](#).

**INTEGRATING THE SDGS IN YOUR BUSINESS STRATEGY COURSE | 17 March 2021** | For more information visit: [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail: [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone: 082 395 7582.

**STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING COURSE | 18 March 2021** | For more information visit: [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail: [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone: 082 395 7582.

**ESG IN 2021: THE STATE OF PLAY | 18 March 2021 | 13:00 to 14:00 ET** | The world of environmental, social and governance metrics and ratings has entered a new and dynamic phase. Suddenly, nearly every publicly held company — and many privately held firms — are examining their policies and programs through the lens of investors' rising interest in ESG metrics. [GreenBiz Website](#).

**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](mailto: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](#).

**GREENFIN 21: THE PREMIER ESG ONLINE EVENT ALIGNING THE SUSTAINABILITY, FINANCE AND INVESTMENT COMMUNITIES | 13 to 14 April 2021** | Investors are increasingly utilizing ESG data to inform investment decisions, but a lack of standardization and communication with corporations is leading to confusion and limiting the acceleration of corporate sustainability initiatives. [Request an invitation](#).

#### **National Business Initiative (NBI)**

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Dennehof, Sandton, 2196  
+27 11 544 6000

The National Business Initiative (NBI) respects your right to privacy - if you do not wish to receive any further On A Clear Day's from the NBI, please click [UNSUBSCRIBE](#) and your name will be removed from the mailing list.

