

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 791, 27 May 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

NBI LAUNCH OF THE TRANSFORMATION BLUEPRINT FOR SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANIES In response to the need for accelerated transformation across the South African private sector, the National Business Initiative (NBI) has just launched our [Transformation Blueprint](#) on 26 May 2021, as a Guide for Organisations as they map their transformation journeys. **Read NBI's latest Quick Brief, [here](#).**

RE100 LEADERSHIP AWARDS: JUDGES 2021 The NBI is delighted to announce that **Reitumetse Molotsoane: NBI's Programme Manager: Energy & Climate** has been selected as a judge for the **#RE100 Market Trailblazer Award!** This Award will celebrate RE100 members who are operating in challenging markets and are committed to driving change. Meet the RE100 Leadership Awards Judges 2021, [here](#).

PARTNERSHIPS ARE KEY TO GROWTH There is no denying that the world is very different now than it was two years ago. The impacts of the Covid pandemic will be felt for many years. [Netwerk24, 25 May 2021.](#)

NEW RESEARCH SHOWS SOUTH AFRICA WELL-PLACED TO EXPORT 'GREEN IRON' TO EU Initial research conducted for the Deep Decarbonisation Pathways (DDP) project in collaboration with the National Business Initiative (NBI) indicates that there is an emerging opportunity for South Africa to produce so-called "green iron" for export to international steelmakers seeking to transition away from the use of carbon-intensive coking coal in the production of the basic material. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 20 May 2021.](#)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS The National Business Initiative (NBI) is seeking a service provider to develop and deliver a work readiness programme for young people in TVET Colleges as part of our Installation, Repair & Maintenance (IRM) Initiative, in partnership with Government and the private sector. View full details of the RFP, [here](#).

BRICS SOLUTIONS FOR SDGS AWARDS 2021 The South Africa Chapter of the BRICS Business Council, in partnership with the National Business Initiative, is delighted to invite South African companies and organisations to participate

in the global BRICS Solutions for SDGs Awards 2021, recently launched by the India Chapter, who are in the Chair of the BRICS platforms for 2021. [NBI NewsFlash, 14 May 2021.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARD THE SDGS THROUGH CITY-LED INITIATIVES As the number of people living in urban areas continues on an upward trajectory — with more than two-thirds of the world’s population expected to live in such areas by 2050 — the role of city-led initiatives in achieving the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals is becoming increasingly important. [Devex Partnerships, 24 May 2021.](#)

CRITICAL STRUCTURAL REFORMS TAKING TOO LONG – BLSA The structural reform required to transform South Africa’s economy has “frustratingly” progressed very little, notwithstanding the establishment of Operation Vulindlela, Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) CEO Busi Mavuso asserts. [Donna Slater, Engineering News, 24 May 2021.](#)

HOW BUSINESS CAN BE PART OF THE SOLUTION TO SOLVING OUR NATURE AND CLIMATE CRISES Falling amid multiple, connected global challenges across health, inequality, climate and nature, this year’s International Biodiversity Day, with its resounding slogan “We’re part of the solution”, is a wake-up call for business to recognize and realize its critical role in protecting and restoring natural systems for a fairer, resilient future. [Nadine McCormick & James Smith, WBCSD, 22 May 2021.](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE: WHAT IS 'NET ZERO' AND WHY DOES IT MATTER? A growing number of countries, cities and companies are aiming for 'net zero' emissions to meet climate goals, and the International Energy Agency has unveiled a plan to get there. [Megan Rowling, Thomson Reuters Foundation/WEF, 21 May 2021.](#)

GENDER EQUITY IN THE JUST TRANSITION AND THE SHIFT TO GREEN JOBS The social transformation required to solve the climate crisis is at a scale we have never seen before and will require substantial shifts in every part of our society and economy. [Kate Coles, Annelise Thim & Samantha Harris, BSR, 20 May 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.](#)

ANGLO AMERICAN EXPLORES 3D PRINTING TECHNOLOGIES TO BOOST SUPPLY CHAIN EFFICIENCIES AND SUPPORT LOCAL BUSINESSES Anglo American has partnered with the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and US-based technology company, Ivaldi Group, to explore opportunities to digitally distribute spare parts for mining and processing equipment to be manufactured locally using 3D printing. [Anglo American, 27 May 2021.](#)

ABSA AND THE DIGITAL ACADEMY ADDRESS THE NEED FOR CRITICAL TECH SKILLS Absa Group continues to show its commitment to addressing critical skills development as was demonstrated during the annual Digital Academy Showcase event today. [ABSA, 26 May 2021.](#)

BEES: THE FAST-GROWING E-COMMERCE PLATFORM THAT HAS MORE THAN A MILLION RETAILERS BUZZING There is a hive of activity at AB InBev that has retailers, investors and the industry buzzing. [AB InBev, 26 May 2021.](#)

STANDARD BANK TO IMPLEMENT STRATEGY AND TARGETS TO REDUCE FOSSIL FUEL FUNDING Standard Bank, Africa’s biggest lender by assets, has bowed to pressure from sections of its investors to commit to publishing both the strategy and the targets of its fossil fuel funding reduction programme, as part of its 2021 reporting to shareholders. [IOL Business, 25 May 2021.](#)

TONGAAT HULETT CELEBRATES WORLD RED CROSS DAY Through a partnership with the Red Cross Society, Tongaat Hulett has invested R375 000 towards the establishment of two food security initiatives in KwaZulu-Natal. [Tongaathulett, 20 May 2021.](#)

CONCOR TO CONSTRUCT IKUSASA OFFICE BLOCK AT OXFORD PARKS Concor has been awarded the contract to construct the new Ikusasa office block at Oxford Parks in Rosebank. [Concor, 20 May 2021.](#)

BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP (BCG) Featured Insights May 2021 [View here.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

THE ART OF INNOVATION | ENTRIES NOW OPEN FOR SASOL NEW SIGNATURES 2021 Entries are now officially open for the annual Sasol New Signatures Art Competition 2021. Being the longest-running competition of its kind in South Africa, Sasol New Signatures has become a platform for unknown artists to break into the mainstream art stage. [SASOL, 26 May 2021.](#)

TRIALOGUE STRATEGIC CSI AWARD 2021 Enter your strategic CSI projects for consideration for the Trialogue Strategic CSI Award 2021. The winner can look forward to a complimentary double-page feature in the next edition of the Trialogue Business in Society Handbook, worth R89 000, as well as extensive media coverage. Strategic CSI aims to drive positive developmental impact well beyond business reputational management. A strategic project is one that is implemented to meet social benefits through core business practice. Entries close 31 July, 2021. To learn more about strategic CSI and previous winners, click [here.](#)

SETTING ENTERPRISE WATER TARGETS: A GUIDE FOR COMPANIES Setting water targets at the enterprise level that respond to local contexts has proved challenging because water is not an equally material issue across corporate value chains. Environmental, social, governance and economic conditions can also vary widely across catchments, and water risks result from shared water challenges. [WRI, 24 May 2021.](#)

LAUNCH OF THE 2021 SOUTH AFRICAN WORKPLACE EQUALITY INDEX (SAWEI) Your company is invited to participate in this year's South African Workplace Equality Index (SAWEI). [View details here.](#)

5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE IEA'S ROADMAP TO NET ZERO BY 2050 To avoid the worst impacts of climate change and realize the goals of the Paris Agreement, greenhouse gas emissions should fall to net zero by mid-century and then reach net negative emissions thereafter. [WRI, 21 May 2021.](#)

AN ECO-WAKENING: MEASURING GLOBAL AWARENESS, ENGAGEMENT AND ACTION FOR NATURE A new Report, compiled by The Economist magazine's Intelligence Unit and commissioned by WWF, shows a rise in concern about the state of the natural world as reflected in digital activity. Download [here.](#)

EXPLORING THE ROLE OF VOLUNTARY INITIATIVES IN THE CONTEXT OF GROWING BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS LEGISLATION On 29 April 2021, the Geneva Centre for Business and Human Rights (GCBHR), the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) hosted a joint online discussion, exploring how voluntary, collaborative initiatives can complement mandatory human rights due diligence legislation. [WBCSD, 11 May 2021.](#)

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 **Blog Article** entitled: "Join global action towards Net-Zero: CDP's accredited solutions providers can provide support on your journey", [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 [here](#) about their new Guide being released, with partners WRI, Pacific Institute, CDP, The Nature Conservancy and WWF, on setting water targets at the enterprise level, intended to help companies do their part to address shared water challenges—and to focus their efforts in the right high-priority places.

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: "Net-Zero Transition – May signals of change", [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 recently published **News Article** entitled: "Scaling the e-mobility transition: climate-related financial disclosure and the automotive sector", [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR (CFA) SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCH | Thursday, 3 June 2021 | 10:00 to 11:30 SAST via Zoom | The year 2021 is pivotal in the race to tackle climate change, and countries have a limited amount of time for action. Responding effectively to this global challenge involves a massive transformation in financial markets. The scale of financial and other resources needed to achieve this transformation is in the order of hundreds of billions of US dollars. The National Business Initiative (NBI), GreenCape, the British High Commission Pretoria, the Department for Business Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the CFA Team are hosting the Launch of CFA South Africa to provide targeted support for expanding South Africa's pipeline of climate projects able to attract finance. [Full details and Zoom registration link](#).

VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS | 2021

GRI REPORTING SERVICES AND THE GRI ACADEMY As the world's leading sustainability standards setter, the [GRI Academy](#) provides online learning for sustainability professionals. Stay ahead of the curve and become a [GRI Certified Sustainability Professional](#). If you are new to reporting, or a first-time user of the GRI Standards, their [specialized reviews and support](#) will make your sustainability reporting process more robust. Contact: matika@globalreporting.org for more information.

LSE: ONLINE FOOD SECURITY AND AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA POST COVID-19 | 1 June 2021 | 15:00 to 16:30 | This event builds on a conversation hosted last year which brought together high-level speakers to discuss the impact of COVID-19 on Africa. More than a year later, what challenges and opportunities exist for the African continent? [LSE Website](#).

ONLINE GREENBIZ EVENT: ACCELERATING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY | 15 to 17 June 2021 | The circular economy is a bold vision for tomorrow — and today — empowering leaders across industries and communities to increase resilience, mitigate climate risk and unlock new business opportunities. [GreenBiz Website](#).

VIRTUAL 4TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENDER RESEARCH | 21 to 22 June 2021 via Zoom | ICGR is an event which brings likeminded researchers together from across the world. This year the global covid-19 pandemic has caused the event to move online where participants will meet in a virtual space to share their research and discuss the issues closest to gender research. [Further details](#).

TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2021 | 22 to 24 June 2021 | Responsible business consultancy Trialogue, in collaboration with corporate partners and sponsors, will present the 14th annual interactive virtual platform. The conference, aligned with global focus, will explore corporate and non-profit responsibility in helping to build a more equitable, inclusive, and greener society. We will also consider how a more lasting social compact between government, business and civil society can be forged. Visit the Trialogue [conference page](#) to view the sessions and speakers, purchase tickets and obtain a group discount.

SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE: CARBON FOOTPRINTING ONLINE SHORT COURSE | 23 to 25 June 2021 | This course will focus on the carbon footprints of organisations in particular, but also the tools and methods which can be applied to any entity. You will learn to look at the environmental disclosure of a company and gain insight about the company's strategy and pitfalls in the same sense that you would have gained when looking at the company's financial statements. [Further information and registration.](#)

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.

