

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 794, 8 July 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

CALLING ALL PLUMBING BUSINESSES IN SEDIBENG AND THE WEST RAND The National Business Initiative (NBI) is offering an exciting opportunity for Plumbing SMEs in Sedibeng and the West Rand! Click [here](#) for detailed information. **Please note that the closing date for applications is tomorrow, Friday, 9 July 2021.**

FASTER PATH FOR DECARBONISATION The Presidential Climate Commission presented its first report to President Cyril Ramaphosa on Thursday. [Carol Paton, Business Day, 5 July 2021.](#)

RAMAPHOSA PANEL URGES SA TO SHOW MORE CLIMATE AMBITION A panel appointed by South African President Cyril Ramaphosa urged the world's 12th-biggest producer of greenhouse gases to adopt more ambitious plans to reduce its environmental footprint and commit to generating zero emissions on a net basis by 2050. [Antony Sguazzin, Bloomberg/Moneyweb, 2 July 2021.](#)

NBI'S CEO, JOANNE YAWITCH, IS ONE OF THE COMMISSIONERS ON THE PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION. Read the Commission's recommendations on South Africa's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) handed to President Ramaphosa on 1 July 2021, [here](#).

CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR (CFA) CALL FOR PROPOSALS EXTENDED TO 9 JULY: [Call for Proposals](#) for the innovative Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA) programme have been extended to Friday, 9 July 2021. [NBI NewsFlash, 1 July 2021.](#)

INTERGENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE: SOLIDARITY IN THE WORKPLACE The National Business Initiative (NBI) hosted its first Intergenerational Leadership Dialogue on 18 June 2021 to discuss Solidarity in the Workplace. Achieving solidarity in the workplace is a nuanced and complex journey with intergenerational dialogues as one of the most important vehicles to transport us there. Enhanced solidarity creates more inclusive work cultures and therefore more cohesive workplaces. [NBI NewsFlash, 30 June 2021.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

DWS BRINGS BACK BLUE AND GREEN DROP PROGRAMMES The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is relaunching the Blue and Green Drop Certification Programmes to strengthen South Africa's water quality monitoring system. [Natasha Odendaal, Engineering News, 8 July 2021.](#)

IMPACT INVESTING'S GROWING ATTRACTION The principles of environmental, social and governance (ESG) investing are capturing the growing attention of mainstream investors who are seeking attractive returns but also a new social contract with all stakeholders. [Bernard Drotschie, BizCommunity, 6 July 2021.](#)

TURNING CRISIS INTO OPPORTUNITY: WORLD LEADERS MEET AT UN TO HELP DRIVE PANDEMIC RECOVERY Leading figures from government, business and civil society are preparing to take part in this year's High Level Political Forum on sustainable development (HLPF), where they will discuss ways to recover from the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, and turn the deadly crisis into an opportunity for a major shift towards a more sustainable global economy. [UN, 5 July 2021.](#)

FIVE BUSINESS ACTIONS FOR NATURE THAT ARE ESSENTIAL TO TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS Critics argue that net-zero by 2050 commitments distract attention from the urgent need to reduce emissions today. [María Mendiluce, We Mean Business Coalition, 29 June 2021.](#)

RESKILLING THE WORKFORCE, ONE PERSON AT A LIFETIME It is widely accepted that reskilling the current workforce is a critical imperative. As technology develops and industry shifts towards sustainability, millions of jobs are likely to be displaced; businesses and economies will need skilled labour to fulfil the millions of new roles that will be created by the Fourth Industrial Revolution. [Amit Mehra, Gavin Mann & Stuart Green, WEF, 28 June 2021.](#)

MASTERING SCALE IN RENEWABLES Scale will increasingly become an essential part of value creation in renewable energy. [Anders Porsborg-Smith, Lars Holm & Robert Hjorth, BCG, 23 June 2021.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

WHAT NBI MEMBER COMPANIES HAVE DONE 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.](#)

ERM ANNOUNCES UPDATED AND MORE AMBITIOUS SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS TO REDUCE GHG EMISSIONS, LEADING THE PRIVATE SECTOR RESPONSE TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE Following ERM's commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2025, the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) has validated our updated science-based target. [ERM, 8 July 2021.](#)

FNB TO OPEN 50 NEW BANK BRANCHES BY 2023 FNB will open an additional 50 new community branches by 2023 as part of its plans to grow investment in local communities. [BusinessTech, 8 July 2021.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL APPOINTS SAM SITHOLE AS CHAIRPERSON JSE-Listed hospitality and gaming group Sun International yesterday announced the appointment of Sam Sithole as its new chairperson while the group navigates the choppy Covid19 environment. [IOL Business, 6 July 2021.](#)

SASOL, IDC DEAL TO DEVELOP HYDROGEN ECONOMY IN SA Petrochemicals giant Sasol and the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) have signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate on developing and shaping an enabling environment for South Africa's green hydrogen economy. [IOL Business, 6 July 2021.](#)

VODACOM'S SUSTAINABILITY REPORT for the year ended 31 March 2021. [View here.](#)

LOCKDOWN: SUN INTERNATIONAL DONATE PERISHABLE FOOD FROM CLOSED HOTELS Sun International have donated R160 000 worth of food from their kitchens as their properties remain closed during Level 4 lockdown. [The South African, 5 July 2021.](#)

PWC: POLICYMAKERS MUST OFFER CLARITY AND COORDINATION TO SECURE NET-ZERO Government must play a greater role in the global energy market, either through a direct stake or as a co-investor, to support the new emerging energy system, according to a new study by PwC. [PwC, 2 July 2021.](#)

CLICKS ADDS 60 MORE VACCINATION SITES, 30 FOR GAUTENG Pharmaceutical giants Clicks have added 60 more vaccination sites in the country, with 30 added to Gauteng alone. [IOL Business, 25 June 2021.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

ENERGY TRANSITIONS COMMISSION: BIORESOURCES WITHIN A NET-ZERO EMISSIONS ECONOMY: MAKING A SUSTAINABLE APPROACH POSSIBLE In its new report *Bioresources within a Net-Zero Emissions Economy*, the Energy Transitions Commission (ETC) makes plain that, while bioresources are in principle renewable, not all forms of biomass use are beneficial from an environmental perspective: not all biomass is 'good' biomass. [Download the July 2021 Report, here.](#)

A BLUEPRINT FOR THE URBAN MOBILITY REVOLUTION Urban mobility is at a crossroads. The transport options offered in our cities create opportunities, underpin prosperity and connect people with each other. [WBCSD, 6 July 2021.](#)

UPGRADE YOUR ESG REPORTING BY ALIGNING WITH CDP Increasing demands from investors and stakeholders for transparency of carbon emissions are driving the need for better reporting. [CDP, 2 July 2021.](#)

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR 2021 ACADEMY FOR WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS The US Embassy in South Africa and the Africa Women Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum (AWIEF) are once again partnering to implement the 2021 Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) South Africa programme. **SA women entrepreneurs are invited to apply until 11 July 2021.** [BizCommunity, 24 June 2021.](#)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) REGARDING NEW GENERATION CAPACITY PLANNED OR SOUGHT FOR THE WESTERN CAPE FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE DESIGN OF ONE OR MORE MUNICIPAL ENERGY RESILIENCE PROCUREMENT PROGRAMMES The Western Cape Government's Department of Economic Development and Tourism (DEDAT) is responding to South Africa's energy and electricity crisis with a Municipal Energy Resilience (MER) project. [View details here.](#) Please note that the last date for submission of the completed RFI Response Forms is 18h00 on 12 July 2021.

CALL FOR INPUTS ON DRAFT NATIONAL GREEN FINANCE TAXONOMY In June 2020, National Treasury launched a multi-stakeholder process to develop a national Green Finance Taxonomy, which responds to recommendations in the draft Technical Paper on [Financing a Sustainable Economy](#), published in May 2020. **Feedback should be submitted by 14 July 2021.** [Further information.](#)

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.](#)

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 **Blog Article** entitled: **"How CDP aligned with the Accountability Framework to help make ethical supply chains a reality"**, [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 latest **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 **News Article** written by CEO, María Mendiluce, entitled: "**A New Chapter For The We Mean Business Coalition**", [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 **News Article** recently published, entitled: "**Retailers join forces to tackle climate change in the Race to Zero**", [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

LAUNCH OF WBCSD'S VISION 2050: TIME TO TRANSFORM | Thursday, 15 July 2021 via Zoom | 10:00 to 11:30 | Join us next week on Thursday online for the South African launch of *WBCSD's Vision 2050* update to find out more about this comprehensive framework for business action. **Keryn James, Group Chief Executive Officer of ERM and Vice-Chair of WBCSD's Executive Committee**, will provide a keynote speech exploring how *Vision 2050* guides companies on their transformation journeys to 2050. [Full details and Zoom registration link](#).

VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS | 2021

ONLINE CDE GLOBAL FORUM: SIR JEFFREY JOWELL ON 'CAN COUNTRIES SUCCEED WITHOUT THE RULE OF LAW?' | 14 July 2021 | 17:00 to 18:00 SAST | Sir Jeffrey will be in conversation with Ann Bernstein, CDE's Executive Director, focussing on the question: Can countries succeed without the rule of law? [Zoom registration link](#).

WBCSD: CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICERS FOR SDGS 2021 – TIME TO TRANSFORM: HOW BUSINESS CAN LEAD THE TRANSFORMATIONS NEEDED TO REALIZE THE SDGS | 15 July 2021 | 15:00 to 16:30 CEST | Jointly convened by WBCSD and DESA, this event will bring together business leaders and sustainable development champions for an engaging virtual dialogue to explore the key transformations that are needed across the global business community to put us on course for a world where everyone can live well, within planetary boundaries. [Register here](#).

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE & KING IV WEBINAR | 20 July 2021 | 09:00 | This Corporate Governance Seminar presented by Professor Mervyn King 2021, will provide delegates with the knowledge and understanding of their company's shortfalls and how to fix them efficiently. [Register here](#).

ONLINE VERGE NET ZERO: ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION TO A CLIMATE-POSITIVE FUTURE | 27 to 28 July 2021 | Join more than 5,000 professionals working on sustainability, supply chains, facilities, fleets, manufacturing and other key areas to learn from leaders behind the private sector's most ambitious carbon targets. [GreenBiz Website](#).

TRIALOGUE WEBINAR: VIRTUAL VOLUNTEERING | 29 July 2021 | 09:30 to 10:30 | Join Triologue this Mandela Month for a discussion on what companies can do to inspire, support and create real impact through their employee volunteerism programmes (EVPs), and find out how non-profit organisations can best position themselves to benefit from corporate EVPs during these challenging times. [Register here](#).

GIBS ONLINE: WOMEN IN BUSINESS BREAKFAST 2021 | 13 August 2021 | 08:30 to 10:30 | We pose some hard-hitting questions relating to women in business, industry and the economy as well as touch on issues such as gender-based violence and the empowerment of women. Be prepared to be inspired, empathise and engage. [GIBS Website](#).

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY ONLINE SHORT COURSE | 31 August to 16 September 2021 | In this online short course programme presented by the Sustainability Institute, we will cover shifting global and national social and environmental megatrends to make sense of sustainability discourses over recent years and to understand why and how businesses are responding. [Further information and registration details](#).

National Business Initiative (NBI)

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Dennehof, Sandton, 2196

+27 11 544 6000

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