

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 800, 30 September 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

LAUNCH OF ILEMBE INSTALLATION, REPAIR & MAINTENANCE (IRM) HUB The NBI, along with its partners and sponsors, are excited to announce the completion of the **iLembe IRM hub**, located on the **Mandeni campus of the Umfolozi TVET College**. The hub is expected to stimulate local enterprise growth and employment in Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) industries, initially in the Mandeni Local Municipality and then more broadly in the district. Through a combination of market access, enterprise development and skills development, the hub will increase the level of local economic activity and create opportunities for increased job creation for youth from the area. The hub has been constructed through funding provided by the **Swiss and German Governments** and an additional contribution from **Sappi Southern Africa**. Please contact **Shavilla Harpal** regarding details of the Launch taking place next week on **Wednesday, 6 October 2021 at 11:00**, which will be officially opened by the **Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Dr. Nicolas Brühl**.

BUILDING AN ADAPTATION PROJECT PIPELINE - A POLICY PERSPECTIVE NBI's 4th mailer in this series expands on our understanding of resilience, both from a policy perspective but also in practical terms, in the form of Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA). [Read here](#).

TEAM SA NEEDS TO PLAN FOR COP26 Not since COP21 in 2015 (the meeting that produced the Paris Accord) have we seen such hope on global agreements and commitments around climate change as we do for the forthcoming UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties 2026 — or COP26 — set to take place in Glasgow from October 31 to November 12. **James Formby, The Sunday Times - Business, 26 September 2021.**

REITUMETSE MOLOTSOANE, NBI'S PROGRAMME MANAGER: CLIMATE AND ENERGY had the honour of judging the **RE100 Market Trailblazer Award** at the 2021 RE100 Leadership Awards. Congratulations to 3M as this year's winner, announced at a special ceremony during Climate Week NYC, which took place last week. Find out more about the **RE100 Leadership Awards 2021** and this year's winners, [here](#).

NO MORE CASH FOR COAL SAYS FIRSTRAND The bank's chief risk officer says banks can't stand on the sidelines of the climate crisis debate. [Sarah Smit, Mail & Guardian - Business, 23 September 2021](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

HOW 'DIGITAL HIGHWAYS' COULD BOOST INCLUSION AND ADVANCE THE SDGS Digital public infrastructure (DPI) - or "digital highways" - are online platforms or solutions that deliver shared public and private services. [Robert Opp, WEF, 29 September 2021](#).

SA JUST FORMALLY LODGED MUCH MORE AMBITIOUS CLIMATE-CHANGE PLANS – AT A COST OF R4 TRILLION On Monday, South Africa deposited an update on its nationally determined contribution (NDC) under the Paris Agreement, spelling out its climate-change commitments. [Business Insider, 28 September 2021](#).

WATER SECURITY: CIRCULAR ECONOMY THE WAY FORWARD FOR A SUSTAINABLE SOUTH AFRICA, DELEGATES TELL WEBINAR South Africa needs to aim for a circular economy to ensure sustainable water energy, food security and water resources, say government departments. [Tembile Sgqolana, Daily Maverick, 28 September 2021](#).

BUSA COMMITTED TO HELPING RESOLVE CHALLENGES FACING THE COUNTRY There are a number of issues concerning the country that Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) is currently tackling, CEO Cas Coovadia said during the Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA) Infrastructure Indaba 2021, on September 28. [Tasneem Bulbulia, Engineering News, 28 September 2021](#).

COP26 OFFERS A CHANCE FOR PRESIDENT RAMAPHOSA TO SELL SA AS AN INVESTMENT DESTINATION COP26 is a chance for President Cyril Ramaphosa to put SA back on the global map as a green investment destination and is also a chance to kickstart his much-vaunted infrastructure plans. [Busi Mavuso, BLSA, 27 September 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](#).

OLD MUTUAL INSURE ANNOUNCES SME COMPETITION WINNERS TO PROTECT AND PROGRESS SA'S SMES Old Mutual Insure has recently announced the 10 winners of their Small and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME) Competition. [BusinessTech, 30 September 2021](#).

STANDARD BANK ANNOUNCES TOP TEN FINALISTS IN THE 2021 STANDARD BANK BUSINESS AWARDS The Standard Bank Business Awards aim to recognise and reward exceptional and growing South African businesses. [Standard Bank, 29 September 2021](#).

MOMENTUM HEALTH TO DELAY MEDICAL SCHEME CONTRIBUTION INCREASES UNTIL SEPTEMBER 2022 Momentum Health Solutions has announced that it would defer its medical scheme contribution increase until September 2022 with its main focus on finding ways to help embattled consumers regain their financial and wellness momentum. [IOL Business, 29 September 2021](#).

ABB LAUNCHES NEW ZERO-CARBON TECHNOLOGIES Global technology company ABB has launched a portfolio of solutions that will help accelerate the move towards a zero-carbon mine, called ABB Ability eMine. [Mining Weekly, 29 September 2021.](#)

SASOL TRIPLES 2030 DECARBONISATION TARGET, MAKES NET-ZERO BY 2050 PLEDGE Chemicals and energy group Sasol has announced a material acceleration of its decarbonisation plans, confirming that it will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 30% by 2030 rather than by the much-criticised 10% level to which it initially committed. [Engineering News, 22 September 2021.](#)

1 DISCOVERY PLACE AWARDED FIVE-STAR GREEN STAR INTERIORS V1 CERTIFICATION The Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA) has awarded 1 Discovery Place in Sandton a five-star Green Star Interiors v1 certification. [BizCommunity, 22 September 2021.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL BRINGS GIFT OF READING TO UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN To honour international literacy month Sun International and five of its properties, teamed up with Read to Rise to donate over R200 000 worth of books and mini-libraries to underprivileged schools across South Africa. [Social TV, 21 September 2021.](#)

PWC'S CLIMATE TARGETS VALIDATED BY SBTi SBTi Validation Affirms PwC's approach and timeline to achieve net zero 2030 commitment. [PWC, 21 September 2021.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

GLOBAL BUSINESSES AND FINANCIAL FIRMS JOIN TNFD TO TACKLE NATURE-RELATED RISKS Senior executives from across financial institutions, corporates and market service providers representing major global markets have been selected to serve for two years as Members of the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD). [TNFD, 30 September 2021.](#)

SKILLS PROJECT TO CREATE JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN, YOUTH IN CAPE CLOTHING SECTOR The Cape Skills and Employment Accelerator has launched in Cape Town, designed to create employment opportunities for youth and women in the city's clothing and textile sector over the next three years. [BizCommunity, 29 September 2021.](#)

THE PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE COMMISSION WELCOMES SOUTH AFRICA'S UPDATED NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION The Presidential Climate Commission welcomes South Africa's updated [Nationally Determined Contribution \(NDC\)](#) to the UNFCCC, reflecting a substantial increase in ambition in line with the requirements of the Paris Agreement. [Press Release, 28 September 2021.](#)

WOMEN MORE LIKELY THAN MEN TO BECOME HEADS OF SUSTAINABILITY Women are more likely to be appointed to head of sustainability roles than men, a report by Credit Suisse has found. [ESG Clarity, 28 September 2021.](#)

WBCSD: POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO ACCELERATE HYDROGEN DEPLOYMENT FOR A 1.5°C SCENARIO Last week the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and 20 member companies unveiled a set of essential policy recommendations to accelerate the deployment of hydrogen with the lowest possible carbon intensity and create a global hydrogen market. [WBCSD, 24 September 2021.](#)

THE SOUTH AFRICAN SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS TO RECOGNISE ENTREPRENEURIAL EXCELLENCE This year, the National Small Business Chamber (NSBC) will mark the 13th anniversary of the South African Small Business Awards. Entries are now open until 15 October 2021. [BizCommunity, 8 September 2021.](#)

SAB FOUNDATION: APPLICATIONS FOR THE THOLOANA ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME EXTENDED UNTIL 5 OCTOBER 2021

The SAB Foundation is calling for entrepreneurs who are committed to boosting their growth and achieving new levels of success to apply for its Tholoana Enterprise Programme. [Details here.](#)

LAST DAY: THE BLOOMBERG GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX (GEI) The data submission period for consideration of the 2022 Bloomberg Gender-Equality index is open now through September 30th, 2021. [Further information.](#)

#COP26: The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow from 31 October to 12 November 2021 and will act as a critical milestone for Governments to communicate enhanced levels of ambition to tackle the climate challenge. This year's conference will aim to address critical issues such as making coal an energy source of the past, the role of nature in addressing the climate crisis and the need to mobilise climate finance to accelerate the transition towards a net zero economy. [View the Road to COP26, 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 [Press Release](#), entitled: **"Financiers with \$29 trillion ask 1600 companies for science-based targets ahead of COP26"**, [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 [September 2021 Newsletter](#), [here.](#)

WE MEAN BUSINESS COALITION (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 Insights Article, written by CEO, María Mendiluce, entitled **"Business Eyes are on Governments for Signals on Climate Action"**, [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 [Publication](#) entitled, **"Reimagining performance management"**, [here.](#)

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

JUST TRANSITION PATHWAYS PROJECT: PUBLIC RELEASE OF THE MINING SECTOR AND THE PETROCHEMICALS AND CHEMICALS SECTOR DECARBONISATION REPORTS | Thursday, 14 October 2021 | 14:00 to 15:30 SAST | The decarbonisation report chapters for both the **mining** as well as the **petrochemicals and chemicals sectors** are now ready to be shared! We are excited for you to join us as we release these findings as part of the broader **NBI-BUSA-BCG Just Transition Pathways project** for public consultation. [Details and Zoom registration link.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: ONLINE 2021 ANNUAL WATER STEWARDSHIP EVENT | Tuesday 23 to Wednesday, 24 November 2021 | The details of the **7th Annual Water Stewardship Event: Water Stewardship in Action – A Journey to Recovery** will be published shortly.

ONLINE & HYBRID EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS/CONFERENCES | 2021

WBS ONLINE MASTERCLASS IN FINANCE FOR SOCIAL ENTERPRISES AND NGOS | 4 to 5 October 2021 | This masterclass is aimed at individuals who wish to develop expertise and strengthen their knowledge in the field of philanthropy and social investment on the African continent. [Wits website and further details.](#)

WEBINAR: GCI CAPACITY BUILDING FOR BIG COMPANIES | 6 & 7 October 2021 via Zoom | United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is organizing a 2-day webinar for the key experts and stakeholders as well as the private sector entities in the area of sustainability/SDG and reporting in South Africa with a view to present the GCI, inform on the findings of the conducted case studies in South Africa and other countries as well as share an update on the international trends and developments in this area. [Further information and registration link.](#)

GIBS: IN CONVERSATION WITH PRISCILLAH MABELANE, EVP FOR SASOL: ENERGY BUSINESS | 8 October 2021 via LinkedIn Live | 09:30 to 10:30 SAST | Join Dr Morris Mthombeni, dean of GIBS, for an in-depth conversation with Priscillah Mabelane, on Sasol “Leading the Energy Transition in Southern Africa”. Priscillah will provide insight into Sasol repositioning itself as a major player in green hydrogen and what this means for Southern Africa and the globe. [Register here.](#)

WBCSD COP26 OCTOBER MEMBER BRIEFING SESSIONS | 8, 13, 20 & 26 October 2021 | WBCSD and We Mean Business Coalition will be hosting a series of regular briefings in the run up to Glasgow for members. The briefings will provide an update on our plans in the Business Pavilion in the Blue Zone, the latest intelligence about the COP, and useful information about logistics on the ground. [WBCSD website.](#)

VIRTUAL AFRICA STRATEGY EXECUTION CONFERENCE | 21 to 22 October 2021 | African Executives and Leaders will learn, network and achieve strategic results for their organisation with the latest frameworks and methodologies in Strategy Execution at Africa’s 2nd Strategy Execution Conference. [Website and further details.](#)

VERGE 21 ONLINE: THE CLIMATE TECH EVENT | 25 to 28 October 2021 | Join more than 10,000 leaders online — from the private and public sectors, utilities, solution providers, investors and start-ups — advancing systemic solutions to address the climate crisis through five key markets: clean energy, sustainable mobility, carbon removal, regenerative food systems and — new this year — resilient infrastructure. [Register here.](#)

USB CONSCIOUS LEADERSHIP WEBINAR SERIES 2021: THE STRAIGHT AND NARROW OF ETHICAL LEADERSHIP | 28 October 2021 | 09:30 to 11:00 CAT | How conscious leaders create the most value for society, while still maintaining moral values. [Registration link.](#)

COP26 | UNITING THE WORLD TO TACKLE CLIMATE CHANGE | 31 October to 12 November 2021 | Glasgow, UK | The 26th Conference of Parties (COP26) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), is seen as a critical moment on the way to achieving the necessary level of climate action. COP26 will bring parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. [UNFCCC official website for COP26.](#)

National Business Initiative (NBI)

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

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