

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 803, 18 November 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

THE STATE OF CSI IN SOUTH AFRICA The announcement of the winners of the **Dialogue Strategic CSI Award 2021** will be presented by **Gugu McLaren-Ushewokunze**, NBI's Head of Social Transformation, who served as one of this year's judges. This by invitation only event is taking place virtually next week on 25 November 2021, with **Cas Coovadia**, Chief Executive Officer of Business Unity South Africa and NBI's Chairman, as the keynote speaker. It will mark the launch of the 24th edition of the industry-leading **Dialogue Business in Society Handbook** with the results from Dialogue's latest research into the state of corporate social investment in South Africa being presented, as well as some of the ways in which the private sector can promote human rights, tackle the scourge of gender-based violence, address the climate crisis at boardroom level, bolster food security, and more. Please contact: [Khumo Ntoane](#) for further details.

BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION PLANS PARTNERSHIP TO DEVELOP YOUTH TECHNICAL SKILLS The British government will invest up to £75-million of official development assistance, globally, for skills development across nine fast-growing economies; with the South African portion being dedicated to addressing the skills gaps, skills mismatch and quality training for unemployed youth and youth in post-school education and training. [Donna Slater, Engineering News, 16 November 2021.](#)

CLIMATE FINANCE FOR A TRANSITION AWAY FROM COAL: A CHANCE TO CHANGE HISTORY IN SOUTH AFRICA In the opening days of the COP26 international climate conference, a financing partnership was announced between South Africa and a consortium consisting of France, Germany, the UK, the US and the European Union (EU). [Emily Tyler, BizCommunity, 16 November 2021.](#)

DECARBONISING AND BUILDING CLIMATE-RESILIENCE FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND OTHER LAND USE (AFOLU) SECTOR Climate modeling clearly shows that while the whole of South Africa will be impacted by the negative effects of climate change; the AFOLU sector will be significantly threatened. [NBI Press Release, 15 November 2021.](#)

RECENTLY RELEASED: JUST TRANSITION AND CLIMATE PATHWAYS STUDY REPORT: DECARBONISING THE AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND LAND USE (AFOLU) SECTOR IN SOUTH AFRICA This report, the fourth in a series of sector level decarbonisation reports to be released under the Just Transition Pathways study, focuses on the decarbonisation pathway for the South African agriculture, forestry and land use sector to net-zero by 2050. The research, conducted by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, **Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)** and the **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)**, is part of a comprehensive and consultative process to show that it is possible to decarbonise key sectors of the South African economy. Download the Report, [here.](#)

MAIL & GUARDIAN: 2021 GREENING THE FUTURE: SA'S PREMIER ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS The Mail & Guardian is proud to celebrate the 17th edition of this flagship Greening The Future event with emphasis on the significance of this year's alignment of the project to the 26th session of the Conference of the Parties — COP 26 Global Summit. [View Supplement here.](#)

EXXARO RESOURCES CONTINUES TO POSITIVELY IMPACT THE LEPHALALE COMMUNITY Black empowered and diversified mining and energy company, Exxaro Resources, continues to play a vital role in Lephalale by continuously developing and empowering the community. [Mogol Post, 5 November 2021.](#)

PRESS RELEASE: UK GOVERNMENT BOOSTS OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH EMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA The British High Commission in South Africa works with local partners to train unemployed youth in technical skills. [NBI Press Release, 3 November 2021.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

EMPLOYERS URGED TO STOP ASKING WOMEN ABOUT SALARY HISTORY AS GENDER PAY GAP INCREASES The Fawcett Society, which campaigns for gender equality, has said asking about previous earnings can lead to "pay discrimination" following women from role to role. [Sky News, 18 November 2021.](#)

NOT A 'FINANCE COP', BUT 'SOLID WORK PROGRAMME' IN PLACE FOR DEFINING NEW CLIMATE-FINANCE GOAL Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Minister Barbara Creecy says that, although COP26 was not the 'finance COP' hoped for ahead of the Glasgow meeting, it nevertheless did yield "a good, solid work programme" for defining the post-2025 finance goal and for ensuring that the prevailing \$100-billion climate finance commitment is in fact implemented. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 17 November 2021.](#)

SOUTH AFRICA, DENMARK RENEW WATER SECTOR COLLABORATION FOR A FURTHER FIVE YEARS The Department of Water and Sanitation and the Danish Environmental Protection Agency, under the Ministry of Environment, have extended their working water-sector agreement for a further five years. [Engineering News, 17 November 2021.](#)

COP26 TOOK US ONE STEP CLOSER TO COMBATING THE CLIMATE CRISIS Compromise was inevitable, but still the conference increased the speed of action with three important developments. [Christiana Figueres, The Guardian, 15 November 2021.](#)

BUSINESS WELCOMES THE GLASGOW CLIMATE PACT: WE MEAN BUSINESS COALITION STATEMENT *This statement is the We Mean Business Coalition response to the Glasgow Climate Pact, agreed at COP26.* The Glasgow Climate Pact represents a vital step in our shared efforts to keep global warming to 1.5°C and implement the Paris Agreement and will be welcomed by the business community. [We Mean Business Coalition, 13 November 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.](#)

PEPSICO EXPANDS PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE FOOD SECURITY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA Food and beverage giant PepsiCo has announced a new goal to help 50 million people gain ready access to nutritious foods by 2030 through its Food for Good food security programme and the expansion of the company's affordable nutrition food options as part of its PepsiCo Positive Journey. [BizCommunity, 17 November 2021.](#)

ASTRON ENERGY REBRANDS ITS IDENTITY, CALTEX STATIONS Astron Energy has revealed its new brand identity and provided insight into what its network of Caltex service stations will look like when over 850 retail sites are rebranded to Astron Energy. [Engineering News, 17 November 2021.](#)

ABSA COMMITS TO GETTING THINGS DONE FOR THOSE WHO ARE READY Younger populations are usually considered an economic gift for countries. [BizCommunity, 17 November 2021.](#)

ENGEN'S COMMUNITY COMPUTER TRAINING OPENS DOORS FOR RECENT GRADUATES The Engen Computer School continues to positively impact the lives of South Durban residents, with 28% of the graduates who completed the course in May 2021 having found full-time employment. [Engen, 15 November 2021.](#)

SPAR APPLIES CIRCULAR APPROACH TO PACKAGING Instead of removing packaging entirely, retailer Spar says it has initiated a shift from a linear to a circular economy in which plastic and other forms of packaging never become unnecessary waste. [Social TV, 15 November 2021.](#)

OLD MUTUAL WINS AT 2021 BCX DIGITAL INNOVATION AWARDS Old Mutual scooped second and third spots at the 2021 BCX Digital Innovation Awards for Comma on-demand insurance on the go and SMEgo, the easy-to-use online funding platform that connects Small to Medium Enterprises (SME) with funders. [Old Mutual, 11 November 2021.](#)

ERM JOINS PLEDGE TO ACCELERATE USE OF DECARBONIZED HYDROGEN Announced by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) at COP26, ERM is one of 28 companies who have pledged to drive growth in the demand for, and supply of, hydrogen. [ERM, 9 November 2021.](#)

WILD COAST SUN AWARDED MOST EFFECTIVE PRIVATE VACCINATION SITE IN ALFRED NZO DISTRICT MUNICIPALITY The Wild Coast Sun has been recognised by the Alfred Nzo District Municipality in the Eastern Cape for its role in aiding the vaccination efforts in the province. [Sun International/Pondoland Times, 3 November 2021.](#)

THE BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP (BCG) FEATURED INSIGHTS November 2021 [Read here.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

LEADING INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS LAUNCH PLATFORM TO ADDRESS CALLS FOR CLARITY ON HOW TO IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY IMPACTS Leading international providers of sustainability standards and guidance have come together to create the Impact Management Platform, a collaboration to mainstream the practice of impact management. [CDP, 17 November 2021.](#)

WBCSD AND PWC UNVEIL NEW FRAMEWORK TO DECARBONIZE SUPPLY CHAINS The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and PwC UK have today unveiled a new report for business outlining incentives for supply chain decarbonization. The new report – entitled “[Reaching net zero: incentives for supply chain decarbonization](#)” – introduces a new framework to support businesses to motivate action amongst their suppliers and was developed in consultation with 11 multinational corporations. [WBCSD, 16 November 2021.](#)

THESE ARE THE TOP 10 EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES OF 2021 The 10th anniversary edition of the [World Economic Forum’s Top 10 Emerging Technologies Report](#) lists new technologies poised to impact the world in the next three to five years. [WEF, 16 November 2021.](#)

TOP FINALISTS ANNOUNCED FOR 2021 AWIEF AWARDS The Africa Women Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum (AWIEF), has announced the top finalists in its annual awards to celebrate women business leaders and entrepreneurs in Africa. [AWIEF, 2 November 2021.](#)

JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT THE NATURES VALLEY TRUST: ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION (EE) MANAGER AND DIRECTOR The Nature’s Valley Trust is a small community-driven NPO working at the cutting edge of integrated conservation in South Africa, operating in four main arenas, namely Conservation, Environmental Education, Community Engagement and Research. View details of both positions, [here.](#)

STIMULATING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE BY INDUSTRY Sustainable resource use, low-carbon economic development and environmental protection are gaining traction in Southern Africa, which is evident in the direction of environmental policy development. The **Southern African-German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (AHK Southern Africa)** invites industry members from **South Africa, Namibia and Botswana** to partake in an expert-lead resource efficiency workshop, followed by individual coaching sessions for the development of efficiency interventions suitable for your facility. [Website and further details.](#) Submission deadline: **30 November 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 **Press Release**, entitled: “[CDP unveils new generation of 95 cities leading on global climate action](#)”, [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 the following **Devex Article**, entitled: “**Was COP 26 a win for the WASH sector?**”, [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 **News Article**, entitled: “**Financing the Transition to Net-Zero Through Better Reporting**”, [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** entitled, “**WBCSD on the Glasgow Climate Pacts**”, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

VIRTUAL 7TH ANNUAL WATER STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE: WATER STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION: A JOURNEY TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY | Tuesday 23 (09:00 to 13:00 SAST), to Wednesday 24 November 2021 (09:00 to 13:30 SAST) via Zoom | This year’s topic “**Water Stewardship in Action: A Journey to Economic Recovery**”, will unpack the robust governance required to ensure a sustainable economic recovery and will explore what water investments are needed to support a post COVID-19 green recovery. [Further details and Zoom registration link](#).

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

INTRODUCTION TO SBTI TARGET SETTING TOOL | 24 November 2021 | 09:00 to 10:00 SAST via Zoom | The latest climate science sends a clear warning that we must dramatically curb temperature rise to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change. Science-based targets show companies how much and how quickly they need to reduce their greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to prevent the worst effects of climate change. To provide a refresher for companies and stakeholders on SBTi, The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) are hosting a session that provides an overview of science-based targets, as well as the SBT target setting tool. To attend, please [register here](#).

SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE: CARBON FOOTPRINTING ONLINE SHORT COURSE | 24 to 26 November 2021 | This course will focus on the carbon footprints of organisations in particular, including 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. [Details here](#).

HILL+KNOWLTON STRATEGIES: VIRTUAL BRIEFING - BEYOND COP26, PLANNING PAST THE SUMMIT | 30 November 2021 | 16:00 to 17:00 SAST | A moderated discussion on what's next for the climate agenda and how businesses could be impacted in 2022. [Further information and registration link](#).

HOW CITIES CAN TRANSITION TO A CLEANER ENERGY FUTURE | 2 December 2021 | 13:00 to 14:00 ET | This session will explore how cities, communities and organizations can work with an integrated energy provider to meet their sustainability goals, manage energy costs, build resilience and increase efficiencies. [GreenBiz Website and registration link](#).

HYBRID EVENT: THE 7TH AFRICA WOMEN INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP FORUM CONFERENCE & AWARDS | 2 to 3 December 2021 | With the 2021 theme: “**Advancing inclusive, resilient and sustainable growth in the post-COVID-19 African economy**”, this platform is an international gathering of 1,300+ entrepreneurs, start-ups, thought leaders, policymakers, international development partners, investors, CSOs, academia, and media for dialogue and discussions on issues of women empowerment, entrepreneurship, technology, and innovation in Africa. [AWIEF Website](#).

VIRTUAL SUSTAINABLE FINANCE CONFERENCE 2021 | 8 to 9 December 2021 | Over the course of two transformational days, people from all corners of the world will come together as a first-of-its-kind community to identify, catalyze and solve for convergence and impact, and establish practical actions we can all take, right now to create everlasting change and transformation. [Website and further information.](#)

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