

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

**NBI**  
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 802, 28 October 2021

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

**SOUTH AFRICA MUST MAKE SOLID CASES AT COP26, BLSA SAYS** South Africa will be going into COP26, in Glasgow, Scotland, next week with a substantial agenda and both business and government representatives will be going with a view to getting things done, business organisation Business Leadership South Africa (BLSA) CEO Busi Mavuso says in her weekly newsletter. [Tasneem Bulbulia - Engineering News, 25 October 2021.](#)

**REPORTING ON DECARBONISING KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS IN SOUTH AFRICA** A new report on the decarbonisation pathways for South Africa's mining as well as petrochemicals and chemicals sector show that decarbonising key economic sectors in the country is possible. [Zeenat Gani - ESI Africa, 25 October 2021.](#)

**PRESS RELEASE: DECARBONISING SOUTH AFRICA'S MINING AS WELL AS PETROCHEMICALS AND CHEMICALS SECTOR** Reports on the decarbonisation pathways for South Africa's Mining as well as Petrochemicals and Chemicals sector were released last week, 21 October 2021. This work by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, **Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)** and the **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)** shows that it is possible to decarbonise key economic sectors. [NBI, 21 October 2021.](#)

**NBI INSIGHTS FOR MEMBERS: WHAT IS SOUTH AFRICA'S UPDATED MITIGATION TARGET IN THE NATIONALLY DETERMINED CONTRIBUTION AND WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?** South Africa's revised Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) was released in September 2021. Ahead of COP26, it is more critical than ever that countries acknowledge the urgency in the IPCC's recently released Sixth Assessment Report and the Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5 Degrees. [NBI, 19 October 2021.](#)

**PRESS RELEASE: GLOBAL HANDWASHING DAY BOLSTERED BY COLLABORATIVE WORK IN THE EASTERN CAPE** To exhibit how public-private collaboration addresses sanitation and hygiene, this Global Handwashing Day we're showcasing the

results of transformative partnerships in the Eastern Cape that have proven to make a difference in ensuring access to handwashing. [NBI, 15 October 2021.](#)

**NBI@COP26: The National Business Initiative (NBI)** is again hosting the South African Pavilion with the **South African Government** at the **26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26)**, taking place from this Sunday, 31 October to 12 November 2021, in Glasgow, UK. Please contact: [Reitumetse Molotsoane](#) for more information on the COP26 South African Pavilion. [#COP26.](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**NET ZERO IS NOT ENOUGH – WE NEED TO BUILD A NATURE-POSITIVE FUTURE** To successfully emerge from Covid into a fairer, greener future we need to recognise nature as an essential piece of the puzzle. [Frans Timmermans, Achim Steiner & Sandrine Dixson-Declève, The Guardian, 28 October 2021.](#)

**WHAT BUSINESS NEEDS FROM COP26 TO DELIVER ON GLOBAL CLIMATE GOALS** COP26 in Glasgow is a crucial milestone in putting the Paris Agreement into practice in order to keep the 1.5°C trajectory within reach. Governments have a unique opportunity to step up climate action to ensure that we can halve global emissions by 2030. [Sophie Punte, We Mean Business Coalition, 26 October 2021.](#)

**MISSION POSSIBLE: HOW 3 CARBON-INTENSIVE SECTORS CAN REACH NET-ZERO BY 2050** Companies from the steel, aviation and shipping industries are mobilizing multi-trillion-dollar plans that provide a path for their respective sectors to reach net-zero by 2050 and to make significant emissions reductions within the next decade as part of the Mission Possible Partnership. [Mission Possible Partnership/Industry Europe, 25 October 2021.](#)

**HOW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION CAN BUILD MORE RESILIENT BUSINESSES** An executive survey from Deloitte suggests more “digitally mature companies” – companies where digital strategy and infrastructure is embedded in all parts of their business – are more resilient and agile in a crisis. [Aongus Hegarty, WEF, 22 October 2021.](#)

**BUSINESS LEADERS JOIN UN CHIEF TO STEP UP ACTION FOR SUSTAINABILITY** Business leaders joined UN Secretary-General António Guterres last Tuesday, to step up delivery of critical investment, for a ‘sustainable, net zero, resilient and equitable world’. [UN News, 19 October 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.](#)

**THE DOLPHIN BAY BRIEF** [Dolphin Bay, 28 October 2021.](#)

**EXXARO SENDS EXPERT DELEGATION TO GLOBAL LEADERS COP26 CLIMATE CHANGE SUMMIT** Exxaro announced that it is sending several of its executives and sustainability experts to form part of the South African delegation to participate at the 2021 COP26 Climate Change Summit which takes place from 31 October to 12 November in Glasgow, Scotland. [EngineerIT, 27 October 2021.](#)

**PICK N PAY TROLLEY AWARDED AS WINNER OF SAPRO COMPETITION FOR BEST RECYCLED PRODUCT OF 2021** Pick n Pay's supermarket trolley has been crowned the Best Recycled Product of the Year at the South African Plastics Recycling Organisation (Sapro) annual competition. [BizCommunity, 27 October 2021.](#)

**FAMOUS BRANDS REPORTS STRONG REVENUE RECOVERY, RETURN TO PROFITABILITY** JSE-listed African food services franchisor Famous Brands' revenue recovered to R3-billion and its operating profit to R222-million for the six months ended August 31. [Engineering News, 27 October 2021.](#)

**FNB RECEIVES GLOBAL RECOGNITION FOR CHAMPIONING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS** FNB has been recognised by the Global SME Finance Awards 2021 in the Best Bank for Women Entrepreneurs category through an Honourable Mention for its Women in Business portfolio. [FNB, 26 October 2021.](#)

**IDC RELIEF FUNDING PROVIDES VITAL LIFELINE TO SA CANEGROWERS** SA Canegrowers welcomes the announcement by Trade, Industry and Competition Minister Ebrahim Patel that R85m in relief funding will be provided to 192 canegrowers affected by the looting and violence that broke out across KwaZulu-Natal and parts of Gauteng in July. [BizCommunity, 26 October 2021.](#)

**VODACOM LAUNCHES ECO-SIM CARDS MADE FROM RECYCLED PLASTIC, TO REDUCE THE IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT** Vodacom is launching Eco-SIM cards made from recycled plastic as part of the company's ongoing commitment to reduce its impact on the environment by halving its greenhouse gas emissions by 2025. [Vodacom, 20 October 2021.](#)

**SAPPI COLLABORATES WITH WWF-SA FOR WATER SECURITY** Sappi has entered into a Water Stewardship agreement with WWF-SA (World Wide Fund for Nature South Africa), aimed at improving the water security in the uMkhomazi catchment area. [SAPPI, 18 October 2021.](#)

**ESG STRATEGIES UNLOCK VALUE AND BUILD TRUST IN AFRICA** Increasingly, stakeholders of all kinds hold organisations accountable for delivering sustainable value. [PwC Africa, 12 October 2021.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**WBCSD: THE BUSINESS CASE FOR CIRCULAR BUILDINGS IS POSITIVE IF TRUE COST AND VALUE ARE ACCOUNTED FOR ON A LIFE-CYCLE BASIS – NEW REPORT SAYS** A new report by the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) lays out the business case for circular buildings by showing the interconnection between social, environmental and economic value. [WBCSD, 27 October 2021.](#)

**CLOSING THE BANKING SECTOR GENDER GAP** Equitable access to leadership roles in the financial services sector remains a passionately debated issue. [Pearl Amma Nkrumah, B&F Times Online, 27 October 2021.](#)

**AN INCLUSIVE APPROACH TO ENCOURAGING WOMEN IN ENERGY - THE TIME IS NOW** The recent national focus on gender mainstreaming and women empowerment has been inspiring to see. [Lethabo Manamela, BizCommunity, 27 October 2021.](#)

**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.**

**PRE-COP26 CHAIRS' SUMMARY** On 30 September to 2 October 2021, more than 50 Ministers and high-level representatives met in Milan for the Pre-COP to discuss their expectations for the COP26 outcome, and to provide guidance on outstanding negotiations issues. [Read here.](#)

**WOOLWORTHS HOLDINGS LTD** has published its latest annual Good Business Journey Report. In this latest version Woolworths provides an update on its new sustainability strategy and goals to 2025 and beyond, as well as an overview of its sustainability performance over the last year. To read more, please download the report [here.](#)

**#COP26:** The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow from this Sunday, 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 aims 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 **Blog Article**, entitled: “**CDP Partnerships Diversity and Equity Initiative - One Year On**”, [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. **Join them at COP26 this November!** With water and climate inseparably linked, the CEO Water Mandate is proud to lead several water stewardship programmes as part of the COP26 Water Pavilion. [View COP26 Programme line-up 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 “**Net-Zero Transition – Latest Signals of Change (22.10.21)**”, [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, “**New edition of Reporting Matters highlights key role corporate transparency plays in addressing pressing global challenges**”, [here](#).

## NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

**ONLINE JUST TRANSITION PATHWAYS REPORT LAUNCH: AFOLU SECTOR DECARBONISATION AND THE ROLE OF GAS FOR A JUST TRANSITION REPORTS** | Tuesday, 2 November 2021 via Zoom | 10:00 to 12:00 SAST | The Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use (AFOLU) chapter explores measures and impacts of the transition to a low-carbon, climate resilient AFOLU sector, while the Gas report focuses on understanding the role of gas in South Africa’s decarbonisation journey. [Further details and Zoom registration link](#).

**COP26 SOUTH AFRICA PAVILION EVENTS | 2 to 11 November 2021 | South Africa Pavilion, SECC HALL4 – Entrance Nr. PV65 – Glasgow, Scotland** | You are invited to participate in our COP26 South Africa Pavilion events taking place **online and in Glasgow, Scotland**. In line with this year’s focus for COP26, these events are designed to give insight into the bold steps being taken by Government in collaboration with business and key South African stakeholders towards enhanced ambition. Please contact: [Nombulelo Ndaba](#) for a detailed schedule of all the events taking place at the South Africa Pavilion and online, from 2 to 11 November 2021. Please note that a selection of events will also be live streamed on the **NBI YouTube Channel**, [here](#).

**NBI INTERGENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE - THE TECHNOLOGY TAKEOVER** | Thursday, 4 November 2021 via Zoom | 11:00 to 12:30 SAST | The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** developed the **Intergenerational Leadership Dialogues** as a platform to critically explore how different workplaces engage different generations as an important component of transformation and equity. This particular discussion will focus on The Technology Takeover through leadership across industries. [Further details and Zoom registration link](#).

**ONLINE: 7TH ANNUAL WATER STEWARDSHIP CONFERENCE: WATER STEWARDSHIP IN ACTION: A JOURNEY TO ECONOMIC RECOVERY** | Tuesday 23 to Wednesday, 24 November 2021 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. [Register here](#).

**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.](#)

**GIBS: ONLINE - THE CRITICAL SKILLS WORKSHOP SERIES | 16 to 18 November 2021** | Learn how to craft a message so that you can communicate on any platform in any situation and develop more effective approaches to decision-making, strategic thinking, and business strategy. [GIBS website.](#)

**CLIMATE 360 | 18 to 19 November 2021** | Climate 360 is a high-profile, two-day virtual conference hosted by the EU delegation to South Africa taking a Team Europe approach, to drive awareness of the climate change emergency; celebrate sustainable, climate-smart organisations and initiatives; and inspire urgent action. [Climate 360 website and registration link.](#)

**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.](#)

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