



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NBI
National Business Initiative

COP26 South African Pavilion: A Testament to Government and Business Collaboration

Glasgow, 08 November 2021 – The 26th Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP26) officially opened on 31 October, in Glasgow Scotland, to much expectation. The theme for COP26, *Time For Action*, is an apt call for climate action, especially at a time when many Global Leaders are increasingly being criticised for showing inadequate ambition. Delivering on ambitious commitments is required to curb global emissions, prevent the worst effects of climate change and transition our economies to net-zero, while leaving no one behind.

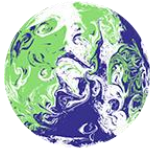
This week sees the official launch of the South African Pavilion at COP26. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), with support from the National Business Initiative (NBI), working together with private sector companies and civil society organisations have designed and delivered a Pavilion that showcases South Africa's commitment to climate mitigation and adaptation.

The Pavilion, as well as the events hosted there over the next two weeks, are a collaborative effort between Government and Business, illustrating the ambition and action required for South Africa to transition to net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

The message behind the South African Pavilion is two-fold: Government and Business acknowledge that we need to transition our economy to net-zero and are working together to make this happen, and South Africa is a top destination for green recovery and climate finance.

Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Barbara Creecy explains: "The Pavilion provides an innovative and creative space for South African stakeholders to showcase their plans and programmes to support just transition pathways. We look forward to hosting your stimulating sessions on the issues driving our new climate economy and demonstrating our contributions to global climate leadership in the government, private sectors and civil society."

Visitors to the Pavilion will be able to attend events and view a range of materials that communicate South Africa's potential pathways to net-zero by 2050. South Africa's



UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NBI
National Business Initiative

Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), the country's submission to the UNFCCC, sets out our emissions reduction targets and has adopted an annual emission target range of 350 to 420 megatons of carbon dioxide equivalent (MtCO₂-e) by 2030. This adjustment is in line with the recommendations set out by the Presidential Climate Commissions (PCC). Once again, a strong example of the type of collaboration required to drive real change. Leadership from all stakeholders participating in the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) run consultative approach, and in particular the PCC, were critical in driving this enhanced ambition.

The Pavilion's message around climate ambition is clear: The South African Government and business communities are working together to align their ambition with global science and policy, signalling specific support needs. The COP26 South Africa Pavilion affirms the value of collaboration to realise a low carbon, climate resilient, and inclusive economy and society. Why is this important?

The COVID-19 pandemic has slowed the growth of the South African economy intensifying the need for a Just Transition. South Africa's complex socio-economic circumstances born of historic injustice and apartheid make transitioning to a low carbon and inclusive economy extremely challenging. However, a Just Transition to a low carbon and climate resilient economy for South Africa will also reduce inequality, maintain and strengthen social cohesion, address poverty and create decent employment, while enabling participation in a new economy for all.

The National Business Initiative's CEO, Joanne Yawitch, says: "As a country with numerous emissions intensive industries, transitioning in a way that leaves no one behind while ensuring the country's key sectors remain competitive requires the country to show it's potential as a high value low carbon investment destination."

~ENDS~

Notes to editors:

About the National Business Initiative



**UN CLIMATE
CHANGE
CONFERENCE
UK 2021**

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY



REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NBI
National Business Initiative

At the National Business Initiative (NBI), we believe in collective action and collaboration to effect change; building a South African society and economy that is inclusive, resilient, sustainable and based on trust. We are an independent, business movement of around 80 of South Africa's largest companies and institutions committed to the vision of a thriving country and society. The NBI works with our members to enhance their capacity for change, leverage the power of our collective, build trust in the role of business in society, enable action by business to transform society and create investment opportunities.