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## Transparency in Corporate Reporting 2020

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** would like to inform our members of an interesting benchmarking project that we will be embarking on this year, which is an update to the **Transparency in Corporate Reporting 2016 Report**. This work will be undertaken by Corruption Watch (the South African chapter of Transparency International) and the Overseas Development Institute (ODI), in partnership with the NBI, under the NBI's Ethical Leadership and Anti-Corruption Programme.

The desktop study will cover 100 companies operating in South Africa. Of the total companies, 54 are members of the NBI. The companies in the sample include listed ones on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE), unlisted ones, state-owned enterprises and foreign-owned multinationals operating in South Africa. Care was taken to ensure that companies from all major industries and sectors were included.

The study will rank companies' reporting practices in the following key areas:

- **Reporting on anti-corruption programmes**
- **Organisational transparency (reporting on subsidiaries)**
- **Country-by-country reporting**

Data will be collected and collated by independent researchers using publicly available information, such as company websites and annual reports. The final score will be shared with each company prior to publication. Companies will be named and ranked according to their score, with the opportunity to review their performance and query their score. The latter will be reviewed or amended based on evidence presented.

The NBI believes this research will serve as a useful benchmark not just for participants, but for all corporations. The process aims to enhance integrity and transparency in the business sector while strengthening anti-corruption measures. The **Transparency in Corporate Reporting 2016** report is a useful benchmark in this regard. This work is especially important in the context in which we are now operating and will enhance social cohesion.

The final report is due to be published in November 2020.

For more information on this study, or to find out about the NBI's Ethical Leadership and Anti-Corruption Programme, please contact Thuthula Ndunge: [ThuthulaN@nbi.org.za](mailto:ThuthulaN@nbi.org.za)



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The National Business Initiative (NBI) is an independent and voluntary coalition of South African and multinational businesses launched in 1995 by the then President, Nelson Mandela

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