

ON A CLEAR DAY 2022



On A Clear Day: Issue 806, 10 February 2022

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

WHY JOIN THE NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE (NBI) South Africa continues to face major challenges underpinned by the fact that we are one of the most unequal societies in the world, with more than half of our population living in poverty, accompanied by escalating unemployment levels. Additionally, climate change threatens to further exacerbate these pressing economic and social issues. The NBI's purpose is to effect change in South Africa in the areas of **Economic Inclusion, Social Transformation, Environmental Sustainability** and **Institutional Capacity**. We believe a thriving society, economy and environment are possible, through the collective action of business, government and civil society. Please contact: [Gillian Hutchings](#) - Head: Membership & Communications for further information about our work and how to become an NBI Member Company.

RENEWABLES-DOMINATED POWER SYSTEM THE MOST COST-COMPETITIVE FOR SA As the world moves towards reducing global carbon dioxide (CO²) emissions to net-zero by 2050, recent research has revealed that a local power system that is dominated by renewables – most notably solar – will be the most cost-competitive energy solution for South Africa. [SAIEE, 1 February 2022.](#)

PROFESSIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT FOCUSED ON COMMUNITIES CAN OVERCOME SERVICE CRISIS – SAHRC The lack of well-established infrastructure development, operations and maintenance within local municipalities remains a key impediment to the delivery of services and the full enjoyment of Constitutional and human rights by citizens. [Schalk Burger, Engineering News, 31 January 2022.](#)

TIME TO ACT Will South Africa finally ignite minerals and energy growth engines in 2022? [Terence Creamer, Engineering News & Mining Weekly, 28 January 2022.](#)

WATER- CAN WE DO MORE WITH LESS? If there is one new year's resolution that every government body, business and South African needs to make, it's to use water efficiently. [Dan Naidoo, Chairman, WISA - Water & Sanitation Africa, January 2022 Edition.](#)

NBI: A GUIDE TO CLIMATE CHANGE FOR SOUTH AFRICAN CEOS Released by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** in December 2021, this CEO guide is designed to provide pivotal insight into climate change that will help CEOs, executives, and key decision makers understand the urgent need to transition towards a net-zero economy and increase ambition within companies. Access the Guide, [here.](#)

NBI'S TRANSFORMATION BLUEPRINT REPORT FOR SA COMPANIES SA is ranked among the most unequal societies in the world. This NBI Blueprint reflects on the slow pace of private sector transformation, suggesting key opportunities for change. If you have not yet read this Report, download it [here.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

HOW TO GROW (AND MEASURE) INCLUSION IN THE WORKPLACE More and more business leaders are beginning to recognize the importance of fostering inclusion in the workplace. [Michael Wiseman, Big Think+, 9 February 2022.](#)

HOW TO ACCELERATE AND STRENGTHEN THE GLOBAL ECONOMY At a moment when the global economy faces strong headwinds, there is an opportunity for leaders to not only accelerate growth in the near term, but to lay the foundations of a more resilient and sustainable economy for the years ahead. [Børge Brende, President, WEF, 9 February 2022.](#)

BUSA CALLS FOR STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC REFORMS ANNOUNCEMENT AT SONA Business organisation Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) has called on President Cyril Ramaphosa to issue a proclamation during his State of the Nation Address (SoNA), on February 10, that there is an urgent need for structural economic reforms. [Schalk Burger, Engineering News, 9 February 2022.](#)

LEARNING AS WE CREATE: THE ART AND THE SCIENCE OF CORPORATE CLIMATE TARGET SETTING Every business that has made a net-zero commitment is part of an unprecedented global experiment. [María Mendiluce, CEO We Mean Business Coalition, 7 February 2022.](#)

THE FINANCIAL SECTOR NEEDS TO REPORT ON NATURE RISKS, AND HERE'S WHY Climate change and nature loss are intrinsically linked. We cannot solve one crisis without solving the other. [CDP, 25 January 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

SAPPI'S EARNINGS LEAP AS DEMAND SURGES FOR PAPER AND OTHER WOOD FIBRE PRODUCTS SAPPI, the global wood fibre products group, had proven resilient, had recovered fully from the pandemic and was bullish about its prospects in the second quarter of its 2022 financial year, chief executive Stephen Binnie said yesterday. [IOL Business, 10 February 2022.](#)

GROWTHPOINT NEW TENANT DEALS AT ITS CAPE TOWN CBD OFFICES SIGNAL INCREASE IN LEASING ACTIVITY

Growthpoint Properties, the JSE's biggest primary listed REIT, said yesterday that it had signed 17 new deals for office space in Cape Town, signalling an increase in leasing activity, a willingness from new clients to commit to office space and possibly the beginning of a shift in office market sentiment. [IOL Business, 9 February 2022.](#)

WOOLWORTHS ACHIEVES 100% RESPONSIBLY SOURCED COCOA TARGET

Woolworths has announced after many years and four different sustainability programmes, it has finally achieved its 100% responsibly sourced cocoa goal. [Retail Brief Africa, 8 February 2022.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL'S ADOPT THE SCHOOL PROJECT SEES CONSUMER STUDIES CLASSROOM RENOVATED AT THE HIGH SCHOOL

Miss South Africa 2021, Lalela Mswane visited the Inanda Newtown Comprehensive School on Monday for the handing over of a renovated consumer studies classroom. [Sun International, 8 February 2022.](#)

ERM LAUNCHES FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND ESG RATINGS PLATFORM FOR PRIVATE MARKETS

ERM, the world's largest pure play sustainability advisory firm, has launched ESG Fusion – an AI-enabled, on-demand, custom rating platform designed to provide reliable, consistent and comprehensive Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) data and insights to investors focused on privately-owned companies. [ERM, 7 February 2022.](#)

IMPERIAL SECURES ESG-LINKED AND MULTI-JURISDICTIONAL FACILITIES TO SUPPORT 'GATEWAY TO AFRICA' STRATEGY

Imperial is pleased to advise that it has recently secured ZAR RCF (revolving credit facility) and USD multi-jurisdictional multicurrency facilities totalling approximately R1.3bn from Rand Merchant Bank (RMB). [Imperial, 3 February 2022.](#)

EXXARO SCOOPS BEST SUSTAINABLE MINING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Exxaro Resources, the mining and energy solutions company, leading in decarbonisation and renewable energy in South Africa, has been named Winner: Best Sustainable Mining Leadership Award South Africa 2021 at the Capital Finance International (CFI.co) awards programmes. [Exxaro, 2 February 2022.](#)

ASTRON ENERGY IS EXPANDING ITS COMMITMENT TO EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA, PARTICULARLY IN THE SPHERE OF STEM

Astron Energy is expanding its commitment to educational development in South Africa, particularly in the sphere of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) through programmes which reach thousands of learners each year. [Astron Energy, 28 January 2022.](#)

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

PWC SOUTH AFRICA'S PODCAST SERIES, 'Engaging ESG', provide insight on financial- and non-financial reporting issues

as it relates to [ESG](#). In this series, PwC specialists will cover insights and perspectives on business-related and reporting issues in the evolving ESG space. [PWC Website.](#)

PRESIDENT CYRIL RAMAPHOSA APPOINTS MR DANIEL MMINELE AS HEAD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL CLIMATE FINANCE TASK TEAM

President Cyril Ramaphosa has appointed Mr Daniel Mminele as head of the newly established Presidential Climate Finance Task Team. In this role, Mr Mminele will lead South Africa's efforts to mobilise finance for a just transition. [SA Government, 9 February 2022.](#)

YOUR COUNTRY SET A NET-ZERO TARGET: WHAT'S NEXT? If 2021 was the [year of net-zero commitments](#), 2022 should be the year of action towards achieving such goals. Here are six key steps countries can take to demonstrate their net-zero targets mean action now. [WRI, 7 February 2022.](#)

WWF: WORLD WETLANDS DAY: CONSERVATION CHAMPION WINE FARM SHOWS THE WAY Wetlands are the Cinderellas of the conservation world. More often than not, they are overlooked, neglected and abused – and yet they provide essential eco-services for water and food security. [WWF-SA, 2 February 2022.](#)

CDP NON-DISCLOSURE CAMPAIGN REPORT The CDP Non-Disclosure Campaign (NDC) report measures the impact of capital market engagement on corporate environmental disclosure. It also provides the global financial sector with the most comprehensive source of self-reported corporate environmental data that is aligned with the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD). [Read here.](#)

WHAT 11,500 EMPLOYEES SAY ABOUT AGILE TRANSFORMATION At most companies, agile is still a work in progress. Teams at some organizations have achieved breakthrough results. Others are agile in name only, adopting the lingo but not changing the underlying organizational dynamics. [BCG, 31 January 2022.](#)

ENTER THE ECO-LOGIC AWARDS 2022 ONLINE You are invited to nominate or enter an eco-champion that you believe is making a positive contribution towards creating an eco-logical society and environment – or enter yourself, your own organisation, product or project under one (or more) of 11 Categories. For further information and to view the 11 categories, please click [here](#). **Deadline for entries: 31 March 2022.** The awards ceremony hosted by the Enviropaedia, will take place on **World Ocean's Day: 8 June 2022.**

17TH EDITION - GLOBAL RISKS REPORT 2022 The Global Risks Report series published by the **World Economic Forum (WEF)**, tracks global risks perceptions among risk experts and world leaders in business, government, and civil society. Based on the latest Global Risks Perception Survey (GRPS), it examines risks across five categories: economic, environmental, geopolitical, societal, and technological. Download the full 2022 Report, published on 11 January 2022, [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. Since their inception in 2000, CDP has played a transformational role in driving climate disclosure and action from businesses, investors, cities and governments around the world. Read their **Blog Article**, entitled: **“How our accredited solutions providers can help you adopt best practices and reduce your impact on the environment”**, [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 **January 2022 Newsletter** recently published, [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** written by Steve Howard, Founding Chair, entitled: “**Reflections on Seven Years As We Mean Business Chair**”, [here](#).

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) WBCSD is an international, CEO-led organization of almost 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 recently published **Member Spotlight Article**, entitled: “**ArcelorMittal accelerates its decarbonization with a €1.7 billion investment program in France, supported by the French government**”, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

Please consult the [NBI Website](#) for upcoming events.

ONLINE & HYBRID EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS/CONFERENCES | 2022

GREENBIZ 22 | 15 to 17 February 2022 | Scottsdale, Arizona, USA | The Premier Annual Event for Sustainable Business Leaders - join the dynamic GreenBiz 22 community of more than 1,000 professionals to explore the latest trends, learn from your peers and form valuable connections | [GreenBiz Website](#).

SOLAR POWER AFRICA 2022 | 16 to 18 February 2022 | Cape Town International Conference Centre (CTICC) | Solar Power Africa focuses solely on creating an environment that fosters the exchange of ideas, knowledge and expertise for furthering solar energy development in Africa. | [Website and registration link](#).

ONLINE GIBS: THE BIG TRENDS BREAKFAST 2022 - NAVIGATING DISRUPTION | 23 February 2022 via Microsoft Teams | 08:00 to 10:00 SAST | A lot has been said about disruption but how do you manage, lead and thrive in periods of disruption? Join Global Strategist and Senior Faculty at GIBS, Abdullah Verachia on how you build adaptive leadership in uncertain contexts. | [GIBS Website](#).

WEBINAR: THE SOUTH AFRICAN ENERGY TRANSITION JOURNEY | 23 February 2022 via Zoom | 13:00 to 14:00 SAST | Post the Paris Agreement, every country has embarked on an energy transition journey to reconfigure its energy supply system and demand to reduce its environmental and climate impact, whilst ensuring energy security and access, affordable energy prices, and workable tax burdens for citizens. Hosted by EE Business Intelligence and co-hosted by Standard Bank and Sasol with FutureEnergy, register to discover South Africa’s - an important BRICS country with a large economy in Africa – own energy transition journey. | [Further information and Zoom registration link](#).

TRIALOGUE WEBINAR: GLOBAL TRENDS IN ESG AND SOCIAL INVESTMENT | 24 February 2022 via Zoom | 15:00 to 16:00 SAST | Join Trialogue and speakers from two of our Global Exchange partners – Priya Naik from Samhita Social Ventures (India) and Beth Gallagher from Chief Executives for Corporate Purpose (USA) – to learn how local companies’ engagement with environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues compares and contrasts with our global counterparts, and how this may impact the future of corporate social investment (CSI) in South Africa. | [Register to join](#).

WEBINAR: PROJECT AND MARKET INFORMATION SESSION: STIMULATING SUSTAINABLE RESOURCE USE IN INDUSTRY IN SOUTH AFRICA, NAMIBIA AND BOTSWANA | 24 February 2022 | 12:00 to 14:00 SAST | [Preliminary Programme](#) | 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. During this online session, we

will demonstrate that industry has already begun its transition as well as highlight opportunities for industries to continue with this positive trajectory. | [Further information and Zoom registration link.](#)

ONLINE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ADVANCING WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT THROUGH SYSTEMS MODEL EXPANSION | 3 to 5 March 2022 | The International AWESOME Conference aims to hold a premier interdisciplinary platform to address gender equality. The conference invites thinkers, researchers, practitioners, educators, and innovators from complex systems thinking, women and gender studies, technology innovation, and related fields to present, discuss and exchange ideas and perspectives of the potential of complexity science, system thinking, and innovation for women's empowerment and gendered interventions. [Further details and registration link.](#)

CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP SA | VIRTUAL SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME (SPP) | 7 to 11 March 2022 | [Workshop Overview](#) | The seminar will expose participants to critical social and environmental pressures and help them to assess the impact of these pressures on organisations; develop systems for responding creatively to them; and consider how to integrate these into their organisation's strategy and operations within their spheres of influence. Participants will deepen their thinking with peers and leave feeling empowered to convey to their executives or line managers the business logic of placing sustainability at the core of strategy. | To apply, please complete the online application form, [here](#).

UNGC EVENT: TARGET GENDER EQUALITY LIVE | 15 March 2022 | Gender Equality Through Disruption. The world continues to face a range of interconnected emergencies—from the COVID-19 pandemic, to the climate crisis, to rising inequalities, humanitarian disasters and financial instability. This immersive multisession online experience will convene thousands of leaders and change-makers from diverse backgrounds for one day of thought-provoking conversations, collaborative learning, and networking. | [Further information and registration.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY HYBRID CONFERENCE 2022 | 10 and 11 May 2022 | The Wanderers Club, Johannesburg & Online | As we begin to recalibrate after two years of virtual contact, under tremendously challenging conditions for many, this year's Trialogue Business in Society Conference aims to emphasise the need for reconnection – with our personal purpose, collective potential and natural environment. | Registration opens in March 2022.

National Business Initiative (NBI)

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

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