

ON A CLEAR DAY 2021

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 797, 19 August 2021

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

THROUGH THE [PEPSICO](#) FOUNDATION AND THEIR [#POSITIVEWATERIMPACT](#), 35 foot-operated communal standpipes and 15 hand-washing stations (50 units overall) have been installed in communities, with handwashing as the first line of defence against COVID-19. PepsiCo's contribution could provide safe access to clean water for up to 62 200 beneficiaries in the Eastern Cape Walter Sisulu Local Municipality (Aliwal North). In addition, 9 youth have been employed through the Community Works Programme (CWP). Thanks to PepsiCo's support, these 9 youth (the majority being women) have been provided with minimum employment days at the Maletswai installation site in the Eastern Cape through the Community Work Programme (CWP). [View here](#).

HOW SA CAN LURE INVESTORS WITH CLIMATE CHANGE GOALS FOR COP26 The country can best compete for investment by having clear ambitions and a strong plan for meeting them. [Joanne Yawitch & Adam Bye, BusinessLIVE, 17 August 2021](#).

GREEN ENERGY BOOST LOOMING Mineral resources & energy minister Gwede Mantashe has at last gazetted the legislation needed to open the way for private companies to generate their own electricity up to 100MW without a licence, unleashing a wave of private investment in new generation projects that should help to keep SA's lights on - and speed up SA's transition to greener energy. [Hilary Joffe, Sunday Times - Business, 15 August 2021](#).

PUBLIC RELEASE OF THE POWER SECTOR DECARBONISATION REPORT FROM THE NBI JUST TRANSITION PATHWAYS PROJECT – OUR FUTURE IS RENEWABLE A Power Sector Decarbonisation Report by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, **Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)** and **Boston Consulting Group (BCG)**, released last week on 11 August 2021, shows

that it is possible for South Africa to decarbonise its economy, by around 2050, and looks at ways to ensure a just transition that is economically, socially and environmentally sustainable and which leaves no one behind. Download the Report, [here](#).

SOUTH AFRICA NEEDS TO COMMIT TO TRANSITIONING TO NET-ZERO BY 2050 – REPORT As a country with one of the most emissions-intensive power sectors in the world, and as a nation that is particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, South Africa needs to commit to find ways to transition to a net-zero emission economy by 2050, National Business Initiative (NBI) CEO Joanne Yawitch asserts. [Simone Liedtke, Engineering News, 11 August 2021.](#)

BUSINESS STATEMENT ON SOUTH AFRICA’S CLIMATE CHANGE AND DECARBONISATION RESPONSE AND THE PATHWAYS TO NET-ZERO EMISSIONS BY 2050 South Africa is a signatory to the UNFCCC and to the Paris Agreement. [NBI & BUSA, 11 August 2021.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

DE RUYTER OUTLINES GREEN REINDUSTRIALISATION VISION FOR SOUTH AFRICA Eskom CEO Andre de Ruyter has outlined the case for leveraging South Africa’s transition to green energy to reverse the country’s “vicious cycle of deindustrialisation and unemployment” and to trigger a “virtuous cycle of local demand for local goods to create investment and jobs”. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 18 August 2021.](#)

EMBRACING A NEW WORLD FOR WORKING WOMEN The Past 17 months have been fierce, bringing about tectonic shifts. Amidst the unprecedented impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic, it is perhaps too early to grasp its full effect on the progress that has been made across the globe towards gender-equality in the workplace. [Hymne Landman, Money Marketing, 17 August 2021.](#)

UK GOVERNMENT SETS OUT STRATEGY FOR A HYDROGEN ECONOMY The British government launched a strategy on Tuesday to meet its goal of 5 gigawatts (GW) of low-carbon hydrogen production by 2030 to replace natural gas in powering around three million homes, as well as industry and transport. [Reuters, 17 August 2021.](#)

5 PRACTICES TO MAKE YOUR HYBRID WORKPLACE INCLUSIVE As pandemic restrictions ease, it’s clear that one big change to the way we work is here to stay: hybrid working. However, these environments run the risk of creating new inequities and exacerbating those that already exist. [Grace Lordan, Teresa Almeida, & Lindsay Kohler, HBR, 17 August 2021.](#)

INSIGHTS FOR BUSINESS FROM THE NEW IPCC REPORT Since its publication on Aug. 9, the IPCC’s Working Group I (WGI) [report](#) has received very similar commentary from all quarters — but there’s still much to be said about how companies can best learn from and apply these insights. [Rasmus Valanko, Molly Walton, Luke Pritchard, Pallavi Ahuja, Kristen King & Sasha Chebil, WMB, 13 August 2021.](#)

YOUNG PEOPLE HOLD THE KEY TO CREATING A BETTER FUTURE Young people are the most affected by the crises facing our world. They are also the ones with the most innovative ideas and energy to build a better society for tomorrow. [Klaus Schwab, WEF, 12 August 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](#).

PICK N PAY AND STANDARD BANK FORM PARTNERSHIP TO BRING BANKING CLOSER TO CUSTOMERS Pick n Pay and Standard Bank have entered into a partnership that will bring banking closer to the two organisations’ customers. [Standard Bank, 19 August 2021.](#)

FNB LAUNCHES ESG-FOCUSED ETNS OPTIONS First National Bank (FNB) has launched three exchange-traded notes (ETNs) with an environmental, social and governance (ESG) focus to augment the range of successful globally focused ETNs it launched late last year. [IOL Business, 19 August 2021.](#)

TOYOTA TO INCENTIVISE SOUTH AFRICAN OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC MEDALISTS To celebrate the medals of South African athletes at the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games and to boost the morale of those yet to participate in the Paralympic Games, Toyota South Africa Motors is rewarding all podium finishers with monetary prizes. [Toyota, 18 August 2021.](#)

NEDBANK REPOSITIONS ITS BUSINESS IGNITE PROGRAMME TO GIVE MORE SOUTH AFRICAN SMALL BUSINESSES A HAND The past 18 months have been immensely challenging for the majority of South Africa's small and medium enterprises (SMEs). [Nedbank, 16 August 2021.](#)

WILD COAST SUN OPENS SECOND HOSPITALITY VACCINE SITE IN THE COUNTRY Wild Coast Sun, Sun International's seaside jewel, is opening up the second hospitality vaccination site in the country to assist government in vaccinating as many South Africans as possible against the deadly coronavirus. [Social TV, 13 August 2021.](#)

EXXARO CONTINUES TO MAKE A POSITIVE IMPACT IN HOST COMMUNITIES, ACCORDING TO THE INTERIM RESULTS Exxaro continues to place its host communities at the heart of its business decisions by investing in economic and social sustainability programmes. [EXXARO, 13 August 2021.](#)

WADEVILLE AND SPRINGS VACCINATION CENTRES GO LIVE Gauteng's COVID-19 vaccination drive received a shot in the arm today when the Springs and Wadeville sites, opened for vaccination on 2 August 2021. [Distell, 13 August 2021.](#)

CLIMATE NEUTRAL GROUP'S AGRICARBON PROGRAMME REWARDS FARMERS FOR REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE South African farmers practising regenerative agriculture can now earn extra income through the country's first internationally recognised carbon offset programme for the agricultural sector. [Climate Neutral Group, 13 August 2021.](#)

GROWTHPOINT RECOGNISED FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING AND COMMUNICATION Growthpoint Properties is the winner in communication and financial reporting in the property sector category of the Investment Analysts Society of South Africa (IAS) Excellence in Financial Reporting and Communications Awards. [Growthpoint Properties, 12 August 2021.](#)

LIGHTER, LOW CARBON, LESS PLASTIC: OUR NEWEST BEER PACKAGING FOR A BETTER WORLD As the world's leading brewer, responsibility for our products goes from the barley farms to beyond the last sip. [AB InBev, 6 August 2021.](#)

AFRICAN RAINBOW AND ABSA LAUNCH A RENEWABLE ENERGY INVESTMENT PLATFORM African Rainbow Energy and Power (AREP) and Absa today launched a new entity called African Rainbow Energy as an African-led, world-class, renewable energy investment platform. [ABSA, 6 August 2021.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

YEAR ONE IS CRITICAL FOR CREATING AN INCLUSIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT FOR LGBTQ+ EMPLOYEES New BCG Survey Finds That Workers Who Do Not Come Out During Their First 12 Months at a Workplace Are Unlikely to Do So at All. [BCG, 17 August 2021.](#)

THE 'MILLENNIAL MANIFESTO' OUTLINES PRINCIPLES FOR AN INCLUSIVE FUTURE The long-term ramifications of the COVID-19 pandemic have unmasked and widened global inequities across health, education, the economy, the environment and more. The cascading crises also amplified the need for courageous leadership that drives collective, global action towards systemic change. [WEF, 17 August 2021.](#)

DRIVING FORCE FOR CHANGE II YOUTH CHALLENGE The 2021 Driving Force for Change II Youth Challenge creates an opportunity for young entrepreneurs and green innovators to further develop their early-stage entrepreneurship skills and competencies so that South Africa can further develop its green economy and create decent jobs for youth. The Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) and the PAGE Programme, in collaboration with a number of partners, have launched the 2021 DFC II Challenge call for proposals. [Details here.](#)

HOW TCFD RECOMMENDATIONS CAN BE BOLDER FOR A 1.5C FUTURE In response to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures' (TCFD) public consultation ahead of an update on its recommendations, CDP has gathered its key feedback and comments, considering the continually evolving landscape of environmental disclosure and the latest climate science. [CDP, 12 August 2021.](#)

KUTLWANONG DEMOCRACY CENTRE APPEAL FOR LAPTOP AND DESKTOP DONATIONS FOR COMMUNITY ADVICE OFFICES In order for the **Kutlwanong Democracy Centre** to operate more effectively and to improve their technical infrastructure, they require around 176 laptops or desktop (preferably new) and are appealing to Corporates to kindly assist with donations, as the Centre is currently experiencing a severe shortage of funding. Please contact **Sheila Matsondota** for further details - Email: Sheila@caosasouthafrica.org.za or Tel: 067 663 1211.

TRADE & INDUSTRIAL POLICY STRATEGIES (TIPS): WORKING PAPER - TOWARD A CONTRIBUTION TO A JUST TRANSITION FINANCE ROADMAP IN SOUTH AFRICA What would a Just Transition Finance Roadmap look like? A new TIPS paper by Sandy Lowitt makes inroads into answering these crucial questions. [Download here.](#)

THE BLOOMBERG GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX (GEI) The data submission period for consideration of the 2022 Bloomberg Gender-Equality index is open now through September 30th, 2021. [Further information.](#)

SA WOMEN'S MONTH Every year, in August, our country marks Women's Month, where we pay tribute to the more than 20 000 women who marched to the Union Buildings on 9 August 1956 in protest against the extension of Pass Laws to women. This year's commemoration will be held under the theme: **"The year of Charlotte Manny Maxeke: Realising Women's Rights"**. [SA Government, 1 August 2021.](#)

#COP26: The UK will host the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow on 31 October to 12 November 2021. [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 recently published **Article**, entitled: **"4 ways to use CDP to future-proof your company"**, [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 latest **News Update**, [here.](#)

WE MEAN BUSINESS (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 the following **Article**, entitled: **"Over 650 major businesses are going all in to halve emissions and keep global warming below 1.5°C."**, [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 latest **Publication**, entitled: “**WBCSD Recommendations on the CBD Post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework’s Draft 1**”, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2021

INTERGENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE: CULTIVATING BOLD YOUNG LEADERSHIP FOR THE FUTURE | Wednesday, 8 September 2021 | 11:00 to 13:00 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. These discussions are intended to elevate the voices of young people at work, facilitate innovative thinking and reimagine leadership. This dialogue will focus on Cultivating Bold Young Leadership for the Future through an exploration of leadership approaches across industries. [Full details and Zoom registration link.](#)

ONLINE & HYBRID EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKSHOPS | 2021

ALIGNING SOUTH AFRICA'S CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE WITH GLOBAL BEST PRACTICE: CLIMATE REPORTING TRENDS & FRAMEWORKS | This series of complimentary webinars provides participants with an introduction to climate risk and investment by providing an introduction to climate change, an introduction to the TCFD recommendations and why it's important to consider climate-related financial risks and opportunities. The webinars are open to all interested parties wanting to increase their understanding about the importance of addressing climate risk in the context of investments. | **20 August 2021 | 12:00 to 14:00** | [Register here.](#)

ALIGNING SOUTH AFRICA'S CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE WITH GLOBAL BEST PRACTICE: GOVERNING & MANAGING CLIMATE RISK | Webinar option 1: **23 August 2021 10:00 to 12:00** | Webinar option 2: **25 August 2021 12:00 to 14:00** | [Register here.](#)

DIGITAL WORLD WATER WEEK 2021 | 23 to 27 August 2021 | Since 1991, World Water Week has been the leading conference on global water issues. This year we focus on *Building Resilience Faster* and the critical role of water in tackling challenges such as climate change, poverty, and biodiversity loss. Together we can develop solutions to address climate change and other water-related challenges. [SIWI Website.](#)

WWF SOUTH AFRICA VIRTUAL LIVING PLANET CONFERENCE 2021 | 24 to 26 August 2021 | WWF South Africa will be hosting its 8th Living Planet Conference, showcasing a hot topic that everyone should be talking about - biodiversity loss. The 2021 theme: ‘#NatureCounts - Is biodiversity loss the next wave?’ will explore ground breaking trends and opportunities in biodiversity conservation locally and globally. [Further details and registration link.](#)

TRIALOGUE WEBINAR: HOW LITERACY PROGRAMMING CAN HELP TO BRIDGE THE WIDENING GAP IN EDUCATION | 26 August 2021 | 09:30 to 10:30 | The pandemic has put South Africa's already strained education system under tremendous additional pressure. Join Funda Wande, Volkswagen South Africa and Zenex Foundation ahead of International Literacy Day, for a webinar that unpacks how literacy programming during and beyond the pandemic can serve as a building block for education that empowers and inspires our youth. [Register here.](#)

ALIGNING SOUTH AFRICA'S CLIMATE-RELATED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE WITH GLOBAL BEST PRACTICE: DETERMINING THE IMPACT OF CLIMATE RISK | Webinar option 1: **26 August 2021 10:00 to 12:00** | Webinar option 2: **31 August 2021 14:00 to 16:00** | [Register here.](#)

INTRODUCTION TO BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY ONLINE SHORT COURSE | 31 August to 16 September 2021 | In this online short course programme presented by the Sustainability Institute, we will cover shifting global and national social and

environmental megatrends to make sense of sustainability discourses over recent years and to understand why and how businesses are responding. [Further information and registration details.](#)

CLIMATE WEEK NYC 2021: HYBRID | 20 to 26 September 2021 | Hosted annually by international non-profit the Climate Group in conjunction with the United Nations, and in partnership with the COP26 and the City of New York, Climate Week NYC is a global opportunity to come together to accelerate climate action and assess progress ahead of COP26. [Website and details.](#)

National Business Initiative (NBI)

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

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