

ON A CLEAR DAY 2022

NBI
National Business Initiative



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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.

NBI IS HIRING: PROJECT MANAGER – SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS) The National Business Initiative (NBI) is looking for a motivated and passionate individual to further our impact with regards to SDGs implementation and capacity building. View detailed role description, [here](#).

RECENT CLIMATE FINANCE LANDSCAPE REPORT SHOWS MISMATCH BETWEEN FINANCE AND AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENTLY LARGE BANKABLE PROJECTS IN SOUTH AFRICA Climate change exacerbates inequality, poverty, and social exclusion, which are particularly concerning in South Africa; a country with one of the highest levels of inequality in the world. It is therefore in the country's interests to invest in the transition to a low carbon society, which will reduce the risks and impacts of climate change, alleviate poverty, and improve livelihoods and economic competitiveness. **[NBI NewsFlash, 18 February 2022.](#)**

AIMING FOR TOP MARKS Intervention by the private sector can vastly improve SA's schooling system. [Silke Colquhoun, JSE Magazine, February 2022.](#)

PRESS RELEASE: THE ROLE OF GAS AS A TRANSITION FUEL IN SOUTH AFRICA'S PATH TO NET-ZERO The report "The Role of Gas in South Africa's Path to Net-Zero" was released today. This research was conducted by the National Business Initiative (NBI), Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) and the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) as part of a comprehensive and consultative process to show that it is possible to decarbonise key sectors of the South African economy. [NBI, 15 February 2022.](#)

NEW GAS REPORT SAYS LNG PATHWAY 'OPTIMAL' FOR SOUTH AFRICA AS IT LOWERS STRANDED-ASSET RISK A new report on 'The role of gas in South Africa's path to net-zero' argues in favour of a pathway based on the importation of liquefied natural gas (LNG), which it describes as "optimal" because it minimises the risk of stranded assets and gas infrastructure lock-in post-2040. [Terence Creamer, Engineering News, 15 February 2022.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

THIS CLIMATE ACTION CAN HELP CITIES AND BUSINESSES ALIKE ADVANCE GOALS The climate crisis presents a monumental challenge that no single company or city can confront on its own. [Katie Walsh, CDP, 23 February 2022.](#)

BLSA REVIEW OF THE 2022 BUDGET SPEECH Finance Minister Enoch Godongwana produced a good maiden budget that managed to expand expenditure in some areas while ensuring that government remains on track to consolidate its debt outlook. [BLSA, 23 February 2022.](#)

75% OF PEOPLE WANT SINGLE-USE PLASTICS BANNED, GLOBAL SURVEY FINDS Three in four people worldwide want single-use plastics to be banned as soon as possible, according to a poll released on Tuesday, as United Nations members prepare to begin talks on a global treaty to rein in soaring plastic pollution. [John Geddie, Reuters, 22 February 2022.](#)

WE NEED UNIVERSAL ESG ACCOUNTING STANDARDS Nearly every company today understands that sustainability must be made core to its strategy and capital allocation process but are often confused by how best to report on ESG progress in a way that will be credible to shareholders and other stakeholders. [Robert G. Eccles & Bhakti Mirchandani, HBR, 15 February 2022.](#)

SETTING SCIENCE-BASED TARGETS TO COMBAT CLIMATE CHANGE COP26 focused the attention of governments and businesses on a key target: limiting global temperature rise to 1.5C by halving global emissions by 2030. [Maria Mendiluce, We Mean Business Coalition, 15 February 2022.](#)

REINVENTING GENDER DIVERSITY PROGRAMS FOR A POST-PANDEMIC WORLD DEI programs have long been the corporate "home" for strategically driving better outcomes for women. [Gabrielle Novacek, Jean Lee & Matt Krent, BCG, 4 February 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

WOOLWORTHS RAISES R2.5M TO BOOST SOUTH AFRICA'S FOOD SECURITY Local retailer Woolworths and its customers have raised R2.5m to empower various communities across South Africa to grow more food and become food secure. [BizCommunity, 23 February 2022.](#)

MOTUS EARNINGS SURGE ON THE BACK OF BETTER OPERATING MARGINS AND SALES OF ENTRY-LEVEL CARS MOTUS Holdings drove a "fantastic" 51 percent increase in headline earnings per share to 795 cents in the six months to December 31, despite the continuing impact of Covid-19 and rising unemployment and interest rates, Chief Executive Osman Arbee said yesterday. [IOL Business, 23 February 2022.](#)

VODACOM ENABLES EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT CENTRES TO GO GREEN Vodacom's commitment to halving its environmental impact by 2025 remains a key priority. [Vodacom, 22 February 2022.](#)

FNB'S SHORT-TERM INSURANCE SETS NEW STANDARDS IN EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY FNB has expanded its insurance business with the launch of its short-term insurance, which covers car, home and free cover for purchases made with FNB virtual cards. [TimesLIVE, 22 February 2022.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL GIVES LEARNERS A GREAT START TO SCHOOL YEAR As schools around the country opened their doors for the 2022 school year, Sun International came to the party with donations of essential items for previously disadvantaged learners. [Social TV, 21 February 2022.](#)

SPAR GROUP LTD SOUTH AFRICA RETAIN TOP EMPLOYER STATUS SPAR Group Ltd South Africa earned the Top Employers South Africa 2022 certification for the ninth consecutive year. [SPAR, 17 February 2022.](#)

THE 27TH ANNUAL SASOL MARATHON MAKES A RETURN IN MARCH 2022 The 27th Annual Sasol Marathon, presented by the Sasolburg Athletics Club and proudly sponsored by Sasol, makes its return following a one-year break in 2021 due to COVID-19 restrictions. [SASOL, 17 February 2022.](#)

STANDARD BANK RANKED AS AFRICA'S MOST VALUABLE BANKING BRAND Standard Bank has emerged as the most valuable banking brand on the African continent for 2022 in Brand Finance's annual ranking of the world's Top 500 Banking Brands, after increasing its brand value by 26% to USD1.583 billion. [Standard Bank, 10 February 2022.](#)

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

DBSA GIVES GREEN LIGHT TO FINANCE ENERGY-EFFICIENT INITIATIVES If you need investment in projects or programmes that reduce the impact of climate change, apply to the Green Fund for funding. [BusinessLIVE, 24 February 2022.](#)

CARBON TAX PHASE 1 EXTENDED TO END-2025 Government has extended the first phase of South Africa's Carbon Tax by three years to December 31, 2025, in an effort to support businesses in their clean transition endeavours. [Engineering News, 23 February 2022.](#)

WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE 2022 Since 2009, every 20 February has been the UN observance known as "World Day of Social Justice". The purpose of the day is to focus on the plight of social injustice throughout the world and to press for improvements and solutions. [SA Government, 20 February 2022.](#)

NEW WWF REPORT: PLASTIC POLLUTION IN AFRICA - POLICY GAPS AND OPPORTUNITIES Plastic pollution impacts on human health, contributes towards greenhouse gas emissions, biodiversity loss and compromises ecosystem functioning in all land- and seascapes in Africa. Download the full report, [here.](#)

C40 CITIES: DECLARATION REPORTS Since 2017, mayors of world-leading cities have committed to taking urgent climate action by signing C40 declarations. To assess how cities have delivered on their pledges, C40 Cities conducted a thorough reporting process in 2021. [View the latest Reports, published in February 2022.](#)

APPLICATIONS FOR THE SAB FOUNDATION SOCIAL INNOVATION AND DISABILITY EMPOWERMENT AWARDS 2022 ARE NOW OPEN! Applications for the 12th annual SAB Foundation Social Innovation Awards and 7th annual Disability Empowerment Awards are open for entry. Entrepreneurs and innovators who have developed products and services that assist the country's most vulnerable communities including youth, women, people living with disabilities and those living in rural areas are strongly encouraged to apply. **Closing date: 25 March 2022.** [SAB Foundation website and further information.](#)

AN ENHANCED ASSESSMENT OF RISKS IMPACTING THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE SECTOR The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and KPMG recently released [An enhanced assessment of risks impacting the food and agriculture sector](#), which provides updated analysis on new risk dimensions impacting the food and agriculture sector and how companies can best manage these complex, inter-connected risks. [WBCSD, 15 February 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.**

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: **“Cascading action down the supply chain: how our accredited solutions providers can help you calculate and reduce your footprint”**, [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 **February 2022 Newsletter** just 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 CEO Maria Mendiluce, entitled: **“Five ways business can help stop current record levels of deforestation”**, [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 **Member Spotlight Article**, entitled: **“Johnson Controls teams up with TED to outline the role of buildings in driving sustainability”**, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

CEO THOUGHT LEADERSHIP DIALOGUES: COURAGEOUS LEADERSHIP | WOOLWORTHS INCLUSIVE JUSTICE INITIATIVE | Monday, 28 February 2022 via Zoom | 09:00 to 10:30 | The National Business Initiative (NBI) in partnership with Woolworths, under the NBI’s [Social Transformation Bold and Transformative Leadership Pathway](#), is hosting our fifth CEO Thought Leadership Dialogue, as we explore Courageous Leadership in Driving Transformation. In this dialogue with **Zyda Rylands (Woolworths Food’s CEO)**, **Chantal Butler (People Director for Woolworths SA)** and **Zinzi Mgolodela (Woolworths Director of Corporate Affairs)**, we will explore Woolworths Inclusive Justice Initiative (IJI) journey. [Further details & Zoom registration link.](#)

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

AFRICA ENERGY INDABA 2022 HYBRID EVENT | 1 to 3 March 2022 | Cape Town International Convention Centre & Virtual | The Africa Energy Indaba is the definitive energy conference for Africa providing an annual programme that shapes energy policy

for the African continent. The 14th Africa Energy Indaba Conference will discuss, debate and seek solutions to enable adequate energy generation across the continent. | [Website and registration details.](#)

CDE CONVERSATIONS | SIR MICHAEL BARBER ON DELIVERY: FROM TALK TO ACTION | 2 March 2022 via Zoom | 17:00 to 18:00 SAST | Sir Michael who is a global expert on implementation of reform and large-scale system change and is best known for his work on supporting governments, cities and national departments around the world to deliver services that citizens need, will be in conversation with Ann Bernstein, CDE's Executive Director. | Register [here.](#)

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.](#)

IFAC WEBINAR: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP: DRIVING CHANGE FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE | 8 March 2022 via LinkedIn | 08:00 EST/15:00 SAST | To mark this year's **International Women's Day (IWD)**, IFAC is hosting two empowering leaders and diversity champions: **Kimberly Ellison-Taylor**, CEO of KET Solutions, a consulting firm focused on business growth, innovation, strategy, transformation, and inclusive leadership and **Meggie Palmer**, the founder of PepTalkHer, an organization with the mission of closing the gender pay gap. [Click here to join the live event.](#)

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.](#)

9th WORLD WATER FORUM | 21 to 26 March 2022 | Dakar, Senegal | Organised by the World Water Forum, the 9th World Water Forum is the first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa. The event will focus on the theme, '**Water Security for Peace and Development,**' and will consider four priorities: water security and sanitation; cooperation; rural development; and means tools. | [Website and further details.](#)

GIBS: ECONOMIC INSIGHTS 2.0: POWER, PRODUCTION, PEOPLE HYBRID EVENT | 23 March 2022 | GIBS, Illovo & Online | To industrialise South Africa, to revive the once robust manufacturing sector, tourism, agriculture, and other large contributors to GDP, will require all stakeholders to collaborate and find solutions. | [GIBS website.](#)

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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