

ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 773, 1 October 2020

NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

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

THE NBI'S 25TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY: The NBI was formed 25 years ago at the request of former president Nelson Mandela. To celebrate our 25th anniversary we are taking a trip down memory lane with some of our milestones over the years. [#NBI25YEARS](#)

NBI'S HEAD: SOCIAL TRANSFORMATION, GUGU MCLAREN-USHEWOKUNZE participated in a virtual panel today, discussing: *'Our Post-COVID-19 Future: Rethinking Supply Chains & Social Value Creation'*, during the online 2020 Social Value Matters Conference, taking place 28 September to 2 October 2020. Learn more by clicking [here](#).

COUNTDOWN is a Global Initiative, powered by TED and Future Stewards, to champion and accelerate solutions to the climate crisis, turning ideas into results. Read NBI's Quick Brief, [here](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

THE DANISH GOVERNMENT INVESTS R11 MILLION INTO FURTHER ENSURING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF GROUNDWATER ABSTRACTION IN CAPE TOWN Two summers ago, Cape Town's 'Day Zero' drought highlighted the importance of looking after our water resources for the future. [WWF-SA, 1 October 2020.](#)

THE CLIMATE CRISIS NEEDS CLIMATE LEADERSHIP FROM BUSINESSES NOW As the world grapples with the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, racial inequality and more, the impacts of climate change cannot be ignored. [María Mendiluce, GreenBiz, 29 September 2020.](#)

DWS SERVICES E CAPE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY DROUGHT FOR R6M The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) and service delivery partner Amatola Water have distributed 5 694 water tanks and 171 water trucks to service communities around the Eastern Cape as part of government's drought and Covid-19 intervention. [Yvonne Silaule, Engineering News, 29 September 2020.](#)

THE 75TH UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY OFFERS MOMENTUM ON SUSTAINABLE GLOBAL SOLUTIONS This year is the 75th anniversary of the United Nations — an institution created in the wake of World War II, when the world was looking to emerge from a tragic era filled with conflict and political and economic turmoil. [Manish Bapna, WBCSD, 28 September 2020.](#)

WITH CRISIS COMES OPPORTUNITY: ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND THE ARGUMENT FOR GOING GREEN Governments around the world have had no choice but to roll out vast stimulus packages in a bid to keep economies afloat during the coronavirus crisis. [Catherine Early, Global Government Forum, 27 September 2020.](#)

USING THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY TO REACH CARBON NEUTRALITY With commitments to net-zero emissions, many governments are making plans to achieve their targets. [Marion Guenard, WBCSD, 27 September 2020.](#)

THE EVOLVING STATE OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, executives are finding their companies' digital transformation more urgent than ever. [Saibal Chakraborty, Tauseef Charanya, Romain de Laubier, and Akshaya Mahesh, BCG, 25 September 2020.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

WHAT NBI MEMBER COMPANIES ARE DOING 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.](#)

STANDARD BANK TALKS EFFECTIVE FEMALE LEADERSHIP IN BUSINESS Gender shouldn't be a factor in whether or not a person can be a great leader — a person's leadership abilities should depend on their individual strengths and personality traits. [Mail & Guardian, 1 October 2020.](#)

ABB TO DOUBLE ITS SHARE OF WOMEN IN MANAGEMENT POSITIONS ABB has launched its new "Global Diversity & Inclusion Strategy 2030" through which it plans to double the proportion of female managers worldwide over the next ten years. [ABB, 30 September 2020.](#)

DISCOVERY ANNOUNCES PRICE FREEZE FOR MEDICAL AID PLANS UNTIL JULY 2021 Discovery Health says that it will freeze monthly contributions for its medical aid plans for the first half of 2021 — after which it will introduce a price increase capped at CPI+2%. [BusinessTech 30 September 2020.](#)

BMW SA SIGNS NEW CHARGE POINT DEAL WITH GRIDCARS BMW Group South Africa (BMW SA) has appointed GridCars as its official electric vehicle charge point operator, with effect from September 1. [Engineering News, 29 September 2020.](#)

FLEETWOOD GROBLER: SASOL IS LOOKING FORWARD TO A LOW-CARBON FUTURE There can be no doubt that 2020 has been a year of unprecedented disruption and upheaval. [Business Day, 28 September 2020.](#)

ERM JOINS MORE THAN 560 COMPANIES WITH REVENUES OF US\$ 4 TRILLION TO CALL ON GOVERNMENTS TO ACT NOW TO REVERSE NATURE LOSS ERM has joined more than 560 companies urging governments to adopt policies now to reverse nature loss in this decade. [ERM, 23 September 2020.](#)

INVESTING IN DIGITAL PAYS OFF FOR ABSA Artificial intelligence is playing an increasingly prominent role in the Absa technology universe [BusinessLIVE, 22 September 2020.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

TOPCO MEDIA ANNOUNCES FINALISTS FOR THE 17TH ANNUAL STANDARD BANK TOP WOMEN AWARDS Topco Media is delighted to announce the finalists for this year's prestigious Standard Bank Top Women Awards. [BizCommunity, 1 October 2020.](#)

WOOLWORTHS HOLDINGS LIMITED 2020 Good Business Journey Report [Download here.](#)

WATER SECTOR TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FORUM LAUNCHED The Water Research Commission (WRC), the South African Local Government Association (Salga) and the departments of Water and Sanitation and Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs have launched the Water Technology and Innovation Forum (WTIF). [Engineering News, 29 September 2020.](#)

VACANCY FOR A STRATEGIC WATER SECTOR COOPERATION OFFICER AT THE DANISH EMBASSY The Royal Danish Embassy in Pretoria is looking for a talented and dynamic new staff member to fulfil the functions of Strategic Water Sector Cooperation Officer at the Embassy. [View details here.](#)

CLIMATE LEADERSHIP NOW Harnessing the growing corporate climate leadership, the We Mean Business coalition proudly launched Climate Leadership Now - our new guide that lays out our coalition's shared vision for what corporate climate leadership must look like in the coming decade. [Download here.](#)

THE FUTURE WE WANT – WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS AT ITS CORE Each year in September, the UN Member States meet in New York for the annual United Nations General Assembly ([UNGA](#)) to consider the most pressing global challenges. [WBCSD, 22 September 2020.](#)

HAVE YOUR SAY ON GBV BILLS Parliament has urged all South Africans to participate in the public consultation process to strengthen the current draft legislation dealing with gender-based violence (GBV). [BizCommunity, 18 September 2020.](#)

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 15 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their latest **Blog Article**, entitled: "*Biodiversity at a crossroads*", [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 recently published **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 their **Blog Article** entitled: "*Zero-Carbon Transition – Latest signals of change*", [here.](#)

WORLD BUSINESS COUNCIL FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT (WBCSD) WBCSD is a global, 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 recently published **News Article** entitled: "*WBCSD supports the development of landmark SDG report focused on US Agriculture*", [here.](#)

NBI WEBINARS | 2020

ONLINE NBI THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES: NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR WATER SECURITY | Thursday, 8 October 2020 | 14:00 to 16:00 | In late 2019 the National Business Initiative (NBI) conducted research on the ways in which South African businesses think about and support nature-based solutions, based on interviews with a range of companies and financial institutions. The results were fascinating and we look forward to sharing and debating them with you during this session which is for NBI Member Companies only. [Further details and registration link.](#)

SAVE THE DATE: NBI MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING | Tuesday, 27 October 2020 | 10:00 to 12:30 | Details to follow soon.

SAVE THE DATE: VIRTUAL ANNUAL WATER STEWARDSHIP EVENT 2020 | Tuesday, 17 November 2020 | Good Governance for Green Recovery – Stewardship in a Post COVID Water Sector. Details to follow. For enquiries, please contact: [Mmaphefo Thwala.](#)

WEBINARS | 2020

CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP SA | ONLINE SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 5 to 8 October 2020 | This programme is designed for middle to senior managers in organisations from the private or public sector to equip them with a high-level understanding of role of sustainability in future proofing their organisations. Sustainability rests on a simple premise - the inter-connectedness of all things. It requires re-generative thinking. It is something that must become deeply embedded in the day-to-day operations of an organisation to guide it to a different future, particularly in a developing world context. Apply [here](#) or email: [Alice Cropper](#) for more information.

CDE WEBINAR SERIES: ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND THE INFORMAL SECTOR | 8 October 2020 | 10:00 to 12:30 | Please join us for a discussion on the impact of regulatory regimes. Which policies have worked best to strengthen the position of informal firms and allow them to expand economic opportunities for the poor? What would it take to build a regulatory environment in which small businesses could flourish in South Africa? Register here on the following [Zoom Link](#) or contact: events@cde.org.za for further information.

ONLINE TCFD SUMMIT | 9 October 2020 | 06:00 to 11:30 CEST | In the context of post-Corona and coexisting with-Corona, revitalizing the economy and society is becoming more important. The implementation of the TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure) recommendations is steadily progressing worldwide. The TCFD Summit 2020 will be held online to discuss practical issues and future actions. [WBCSD Website.](#)

TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY CONFERENCE 2020 | 13 to 14 October 2020 | Responsible business consultancy Trialogue, in collaboration with corporate partners and sponsors, will present the 13th annual [Trialogue Business in Society Conference 2020](#) on an exciting virtual platform. This industry-leading annual event promotes thought leadership, cross-sector collaboration, and innovation for more effective development, and brings together corporate, non-profit, government, media and academic delegates. Visit the Trialogue [conference page](#) to view the sessions and speakers, purchase tickets, obtain a group discount and download the [draft programme.](#)

VIRTUAL BSR CONFERENCE 2020 | 20 to 23 October 2020 | This year with our theme, “Meet the Moment. Build the Future,” we will build on the growing momentum our members and partners have achieved together over the last decade, while delving deep into the considerable work ahead of us. Our agenda will highlight how companies have shifted into high gear, and what we must do to ensure these efforts are strengthened and taken to scale. [BSR Website.](#)



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