

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2020

On A Clear Day: Issue 772, 17 September 2020

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

Please note that due to next week Thursday being Heritage Day, the next edition of On A Clear Day will be published on Thursday, 1 October 2020.

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

**DR ANTHONY GEWER, NBI'S PROGRAMME MANAGER: SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY** will be participating in a panel discussion on the 29 September 2020 at 11:00 at the **Skills Development Summit 2020**, addressing: "*Scarcity of Skilled Artisans in South Africa*". Kindly register [here](#) should you wish to attend this online Summit, taking place 28 to 30 September 2020.

**WESTERN CAPE VIRTUAL GENDER SYMPOSIUM** Today, the Western Cape Government (WCG) in partnership with the Cape Higher Education Consortium (CHEC) hosted a virtual Gender Symposium. [AllAfrica.com, 15 September 2020.](#)

**CLIMATE WEEK NEW YORK 2020 (CWNYC) – NOT TO BE MISSED ONLINE EVENT OF THE YEAR** Each year in September, The Climate Group, in association with the United Nations and the City of New York, hosts Climate Week New York, an exciting series of events covering all aspects of climate research, innovation, action, and solutions which are hosted at venues dotted across the city. [Further information on CWNYC.](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**SOUTH AFRICA FOCUSES ON ECONOMIC RECOVERY AFTER EASING COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS** South Africa should move quickly to implement a recovery plan for an economy pummelled by the country's Covid-19 lockdown, after President Cyril Ramaphosa announced a further easing of the restrictions, a key business leader said on Thursday. [IOL Business, 17 September 2020.](#)

**RAMAPHOSA IDENTIFIES 30 GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE HOT SPOTS DURING LOCKDOWN** Through data collected while the country was on a hard Covid-19 lockdown since March 26, the government has been able to identify 30 hot spots where gender-based violence is rife. [Sihle Mavuso, IOL Business, 16 September 2020.](#)

**BUSINESS LEADERS EMBRACE EUROPE'S NEW GREEN REALITY FOR INVESTMENT AND GROWTH** The urgency of a green transition has never been so obvious. [Mirek Dušek, WEF, 16 September 2020.](#)

**DWS KICKS OFF PHASE 2 OF KWAZULU-NATAL WATER SUPPLY PROJECT** The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) in KwaZulu-Natal has started the second phase of the Greytown Bulk Water Supply project to implement long-term measures dealing with water scarcity issues in different parts of the province. [Engineering News, 16 September 2020.](#)

**SCIENCE BASED TARGETS INITIATIVE LAUNCHES PROCESS TO DEVELOP FIRST SCIENCE-BASED GLOBAL STANDARD FOR CORPORATE NET-ZERO TARGETS** The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) has today launched a process to develop the first science-based global standard for corporate net-zero target setting, to ensure that companies' net-zero targets translate into action that is consistent with achieving a net-zero world by no later than 2050. [SBT, 15 September 2020.](#)

**A GREENER COVID-19 RECOVERY FOR LONG-TERM FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY** Economies worldwide have been significantly affected by COVID-19 and governments are now in recovery mode. [David Popp, Francesco Vona & Joëlle Noailly, WBCSD, 14 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.](#)

**SAPPI JOINS 560 COMPANIES WITH COMBINED REVENUE OF US\$4 TRILLION IN URGING GOVERNMENTS TO ADOPT POLICIES NOW TO REVERSE NATURE LOSS IN THIS DECADE** Sappi has joined businesses around the world in calling for ambitious, collective action for nature. [Sappi, 17 September 2020.](#)

**MONDI PARTNERS WITH SALZBURGMILCH AND SPAR TO REDUCE PLASTIC WASTE FROM FOOD PACKAGING** Leading packaging and paper manufacturer, Mondi, is launching a fully recyclable 80% paper-based packaging solution for cold meats and cheese. [Mondi, 16 September 2020.](#)

**PWC COMMITS TO NET ZERO BY 2030, GLOBALLY** Today, PwC is making a worldwide science-based commitment to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030. [PwC, 15 September 2020.](#)

**SASOL TO BECOME FIRST RAW MATERIAL SUPPLIER SIGNATORY OF OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP** Energy and chemicals group Sasol has become the first South African raw material supplier to the plastics industry to become a signatory of Operation Clean Sweep (OCS) – an international stewardship programme designed to prevent resin pellet, flake and powder loss and help keep this material out of the marine environment. [Engineering News, 15 September 2020.](#)

**IDC APPROVES R746M IN COVID-19 RELIEF MEASURES** The Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) on Monday announced the approval of R746 million in relief measures for a number of businesses as part of the government's Covid-19 economic interventions. [IOL Business, 15 September 2020.](#)

**ABSA RECEIVES AWARD AND COMMENDATION AT THE 2020 CYBER SECURITY AWARDS** Absa Group Limited's cybersecurity team was named the 'Not for Profit Team of the Year' at the 2020 Cyber Security Awards on Thursday, 10 September 2020. [ABSA, 11 September 2020.](#)

**BCG FEATURED INSIGHTS SEPTEMBER 2020** [View here.](#)

**NEDBANK: HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL IN MATATIELE** Nedbank is a long-term funder of the WWF. Together we are doing important work in some of South Africa's most important water source areas. [Read here.](#)

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**ESG - FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY: DOING GOOD BUSINESS IS GOOD FOR BUSINESS** From best practice and sustainability within the workplace to multinational manufacturers going green, the increasing importance of it is all around us. [Topco Media, 16 September 2020.](#)

**LET'S PUT ENERGY INTO FIGHTING GBV THE WAY WE DID COVID-19** The world is currently grappling with the Covid-19 pandemic and its effects on lives and economies. [Nolitha Fakude, IOL Business, 15 September 2020.](#)

**CAPE TOWN TO HOST 2024 WORLD WASTE CONGRESS** South Africa has been selected to host the 2024 International Solid Waste Association (ISWA) Annual Congress and General Assembly. [BizCommunity, 14 September 2020.](#)

**CDP:** Five global organisations, whose frameworks, standards and platforms guide the majority of sustainability and integrated reporting, announce a shared vision of what is needed for progress towards comprehensive corporate reporting – and the intent to work together to achieve it. [CDP, 11 September 2020.](#)

**APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR SAB FOUNDATION THOLOANA ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME** An entrepreneur's journey has enormous potential to create jobs, build the economy and uplift communities [BizCommunity, 2 September 2020.](#)

**DEPARTMENT INVITES COMMENT ON GUIDELINES FOR GHG VERIFICATION** The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF) has invited public comment on the Technical Guidelines for Validation and Verification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions by September 24. [Engineering News, 31 August 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 **Press Release**, entitled: *"Just 1 in 10 fashion companies show awareness of water pollution across whole value chain"*, [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 **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 **Media Article** entitled: *"TED and Future Stewards Host Global Countdown Event Mobilizing Millions To Halve Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 2030 in the Race to a Zero-Carbon World"*, [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 **Member Spotlight Article** entitled: *"GSK, Google, Microsoft & McKinsey create partnership for better protection against health emergencies"*, [here.](#)

## NBI WEBINARS | 2020

**NBI WEBINAR: UNDERSTANDING THE EXPERIENCES OF LGBTQI+ EMPLOYEES IN THE WORKPLACE | Wednesday, 30 September 2020 | 11:00 to 13:00** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) recently concluded research on Understanding the Experiences of LGBTQI+ Employees in the Workplace. During this webinar we will unpack key findings from the NBI's research report, understanding the importance of social behaviours and attitudes, and exploring the transformation interventions needed to prioritise LGBTQI+ employees' belonging in the workplace. Please [RSVP here](#) should you wish to attend this session via Microsoft Teams.

**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.](#)

## WEBINARS | 2020

**CLIMATE WEEK NYC | 21 to 27 September 2020** | Run in coordination with the United Nations and the City of New York, Climate Week NYC continues to grow as the time and place for the world to showcase amazing climate action and discuss how to do more. The number of events is increasing, and Climate Week NYC 2020 is on track to surpass last year's record of 150 events. Find out more about [Climate Week 2020](#).

**SDG BUSINESS FORUM | 23 September 2020** | The 2020 SDG Business Forum aims to generate a Compendium of SDG Acceleration Actions for the decade of action and delivery from its participants as one of the outcome documents. [Website and further information.](#)

**ONLINE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT | 28 to 30 September 2020** | The Skills Development Summit 2020 will provide a much-needed discussion on the state of our rapidly changing world. The Fourth Industrial Revolution promises to change the way that we conduct business and industry, especially in manufacturing and agriculture, but also threatens many jobs. The Skills Development Summit will be presenting a vision of how skills development and jobs can be retained in this shifting world, especially in the context of rural and urban development. [Registration and website.](#)

**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](mailto:Alice.Cropper@nbi.org.za) for more 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.](#)



### National Business Initiative (NBI)

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Sandton

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