



On A Clear Day: Issue 809, 24 March 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.

THE NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE (NBI) WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND A WARM WELCOME TO OUR TWO NEW MEMBER COMPANIES: PANGEA & FTI CONSULTING: We value and celebrate your decision to join us in building a South African society and economy that is inclusive, resilient, sustainable and based on trust.

BREAKING THE BIAS TO FORGE GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT – MONDELÉZ The fight for gender equality has been waged for well over a century. And while there may well have been strides made in that time, with greater representation of women at all levels in business and government and signs of progress towards wage equality in certain corporates and sectors, there are still significant barriers that prevent true equality from becoming a reality. [Cebile Xulu, Retail Brief Africa, 22 March 2022.](#)

BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT PARTNER IN HONOUR OF WORLD WATER DAY TO HAND OVER FOOT-OPERATED STANDPIPES AND HANDWASHING UNITS TO PROMOTE HYGIENE IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 The 10th of March 2022 saw the official

handover of 35 foot-operated standpipes and 15 handwashing units in the Walter Sisulu local municipality in the Eastern Cape. **Read NBI's latest Quick Brief, [here](#).**

CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR TEMBISA IRM SMES TO HOST YOUTH FOR PRACTICAL WORK EXPERIENCE The NBI and Ekurhuleni West TVET College Centre for Entrepreneurship Rapid Incubator (EWC CfERI) are looking for IRM SMEs in Tembisa to provide practical workplace experience and mentoring of IRM youth candidates. View details **[here](#).**

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. Access detailed role description, **[here](#).**

INDUSTRY NEWS

WHY BUSINESSES AND GOVERNMENTS NEED TO START BUILDING TRUST Just over two years on from the first official COVID-19 case being declared by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control, you would be forgiven for not having believed we could still be in this position in March 2022. **[Will Collie, WEF, 23 March 2022.](#)**

GENDER BALANCE AND CLIMATE CHANGE INEXTRICABLY LINKED In an address today to the Global Peace and Prosperity Forum, UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Patricia Espinosa underlined the crucial role of women in tackling climate change and the need for gender balance in the international climate change process. **[UN Climate Change News, 23 March 2022.](#)**

CREECY REITERATES SOUTH AFRICA'S COMMITMENT TO REDUCING FOOD WASTE, PLASTIC POLLUTION Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment Minister Barbara Creecy on March 23 said this was a vital year in the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) scheme for packaging products. **[Marleny Arnoldi, Engineering News, 23 March 2022.](#)**

GREENPEACE AFRICA URGES GOVERNMENT TO FAST-TRACK TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ENERGY AND CREATE JOBS Greenpeace Africa has called on the South African government to fast-track the transition to renewable energy and create employment opportunities in the process. **[IOL Business, 22 March 2022.](#)**

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

ABSA LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN TO SUPPORT SMES In a move aimed at supporting, growing and rewarding small and medium enterprises (SMEs), Absa has launched the Absa Small Business Friday campaign. **[BizCommunity, 24 March 2022.](#)**

MENLYN PARK URBAN FARM Andile Matukane, founder of Farmers Choice, has converted what was once a rooftop parking lot into a thriving farm. It makes her the first known person to do rooftop farming in a mall in Tshwane. **[Pareto, 24 March 2022.](#)**

STANDARD BANK AND WOOLWORTHS PARTNER TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE R600-MILLION SUSTAINABILITY FUNDING DEAL Standard Bank has partnered with Woolworths Holdings Limited to successfully conclude the first sustainability-linked working capital facility in South Africa to the value of R600 million. **[Retail Brief Africa, 23 March 2022.](#)**

ASPEN DONATES LIFE-SAVING MEDICINES FOR 62000 SURGERIES IN UKRAINE Aspen Pharmacare, Africa's largest pharmaceutical company, has extended its support to Ukraine with donations of life-saving medicines required for urgent surgical intervention. **[Aspen, 23 March 2022.](#)**

PICK N PAY LAUNCHES IN-STORE 'VERTICAL FARMS' Pick n Pay has become the first retailer in South Africa to launch in-store 'vertical farms'. **[BusinessTech, 22 March 2022.](#)**

VODACOM REDUCES WATER USAGE BY 75% THROUGH INNOVATIVE CONSERVATION STRATEGIES Today, on World Water Day, Vodacom celebrates progress on its ongoing commitment to halve its environmental impact by 2025 through various water conservation initiatives. [Vodacom, 22 March 2022.](#)

ERM RECEIVES FIVE BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS FOR INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP ERM, the world's largest pure play sustainability advisory firm, has been recognized with five Business Achievement Awards, reflecting its commitment to helping clients address their most pressing sustainability challenges. [ERM, 21 March 2022.](#)

CORONA ANNOUNCES NEW PLASTIC RECYCLING PARTNERSHIP WITH RAMTSILO In honour of Global Recycling Day, the South African Breweries (SAB) and Corona have launched a new plastic recycling partnership with Ramtsilo to strengthen the local plastic recycling chain and assure a Net Zero Plastic Footprint in South Africa. [Social TV, 21 March 2022.](#)

ANGLO PARTNERSHIP SECURES 100% RENEWABLE ENERGY SUPPLY FOR SOUTH AFRICA OPERATIONS Diversified mining and marketing company Anglo American has signed a memorandum of understanding with global renewable energy company EDF Renewables to work together towards developing a regional renewable energy ecosystem in South Africa. [Mining Weekly, 18 March 2022.](#)

PEPSICO KGODISO DEVELOPMENT FUND TO BUILD SOUTH AFRICAN SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEM Food and beverage company PepsiCo has launched the Kgodiso Development Fund – a five-year, R600-million investment to help transform the food system in South Africa. [Engineering News, 16 March 2022.](#)

HOW TO ADVANCE GENDER DIVERSITY IN THE WORKPLACE Gender diversity can be a profound business challenge —or a source of competitive advantage. But it's not women who need to change. It's the workplace. [BCG, March 2022.](#)

DOLPHIN BAY BRIEF MARCH 2022 View [here.](#)

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

WWF MEDIA RELEASE: DON'T SWITCH OFF THIS EARTH HOUR – RATHER SIGN UP FOR CHANGE South Africa is in the depths of an energy crisis which is why the need to take climate action is more urgent than ever. This year we are NOT asking you to switch off. Instead, we are inviting you to sign up to the Earth Hour movement calling for environmental action. [WWF South Africa, 23 March 2022.](#)

ASSESSING STRATEGIC RESILIENCE THROUGH THE ENERGY TRANSITION New report and online platform supporting climate scenario analysis helps business assess strategic resilience through the energy transition. Produced by the **Energy Forum** in collaboration with the **World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)** and with support from the **Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)**, this report describes the Forum's proposals for a business-relevant Climate Scenarios Reference Approach to be used for the purpose of assessing strategic resilience to climate risk and to inform disclosures in response to the TCFD's recommendations. [WBCSD, 23 March 2022.](#)

NATIONAL WATER WEEK: AN OPPORTUNITY TO TAP INTO NEW STANDARDS South Africa can significantly improve water and energy efficiency by aligning its tap labelling programme with international standards, according to a new study by the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) and Clasp. [BizCommunity, 23 March 2022.](#)

A FRANK DIALOGUE: SPOTLIGHT ON THE 'SOCIAL' DIMENSION OF 'ESG' REPORTING June 2021 marked the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human: a set of guidelines for states and companies to prevent, address and remedy human rights abuses committed in business operations. [CDP, 23 March 2022.](#)

22 MARCH: WORLD WATER DAY World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness of the 2.2 billion people living without access to safe water. This 2022, the focus is groundwater, an invisible resource with an impact visible everywhere. **United Nations, 22 March 2022.**

A SHARED AMBITION: THE NET POSITIVE WATER IMPACT JOURNEY As climate change continues to exacerbate water risks, many companies have acknowledged the risks and opportunities that arise from the water-climate nexus. **CEO Water Mandate, 22 March 2022.**

RAYMOND ACKERMAN ACADEMY OF ENTREPRENEURIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (RAA-ED) Applications for the Raymond Ackerman Academy Entrepreneurial Development Programme are now open for youth residing at Gauteng and Western Cape provinces. The purpose of this SLP is to provide students with knowledge and skills to develop business plans and life skills to secure employment, implement and create viable business ventures that would enable students to become active participants in the economy. **Further information.**

TNFD RELEASES FIRST BETA VERSION OF NATURE-RELATED RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK FOR MARKET CONSULTATION The Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD) has today released the **first beta version of its nature-related risk-management and disclosure framework**, marking an important step by the market to tackle the risk of nature-loss to the global economy and reduce the impact on nature. **TNFD, 15 March 2022.**

APPLICATIONS FOR THE SAB FOUNDATION SOCIAL INNOVATION AND DISABILITY EMPOWERMENT AWARDS 2022 ARE 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 is tomorrow - 25 March 2022.** **SAB Foundation website & further information.**

LAST WEEK TO 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 **Press Release**, entitled: **“More than 680 financial institutions with US\$130+ trillion in assets call on nearly 10,400 companies to disclose environmental data through CDP”**, **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 **Blog Article**, entitled: **“All Eyes on Groundwater: How Private Sector Action on Water Sanitation & Hygiene is Bringing Needed Solutions”**, **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 **“Net Zero Transition – Latest signals of change (18.03.22)”**, **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 **News Article**, entitled: “**India Water Tool enhanced with agriculture water-use data to help build resilient agriculture value chains in India**”, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

NBI: PRIDE IN BELONGING EDU-SERIES LAUNCH TOMORROW | Friday, 25 March 2022 via Zoom | 11:00 to 12:00 SAST | The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** has produced six short videos as part of our **Pride in Belonging Edu-Series**, which focuses on the belonging of **LGBTQIAP+ employees in the workplace**. It is imperative for companies to continuously engage with the nuances of belonging in the workplace, as this has a correlation with an organisation’s ability to attract and retain talent, extend support and solidarity to the LGBTQIAP+ community at work, ensure the company fosters an environment which prioritises diverse participation, and create social values in line with the principles of a purpose driven entity. Kindly click [here](#) should you wish to attend the launch event and the official public screening of this important video series.

NBI: INTERGENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE: WOMEN IN SPORTS | Thursday, 7 April 2022 via Zoom | 11:00 to 13:00 SAST | The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** has developed the **Intergenerational Leadership Dialogues** as a platform to critically explore how workplaces engage generational differences as an important aspect of transformation and equity. These discussions are intended to elevate the voices of young people at work, facilitating innovative thinking and reimagining leadership. Our fourth Intergenerational Leadership Dialogue will unpack and explore the private sector’s role and support of women’s sports in South Africa, particularly on how this impacts young female talent, as well as interrogating gaps and opportunities for greater equity across local sports. [Further information & Zoom registration link.](#)

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

NORTON ROSE FULBRIGHT WEBINAR: STRATEGIES FOR EFFECTIVELY MANAGING STRESS | 30 March 2022 | 13:00 to 14:00 SAST | Becoming aware of the lens through which you perceive and frame situations is key to managing challenges in your life. During this session with **Busisiwe Dichaba**, we will explore the nature of stress, its triggers and provide you with strategies to help you ground your perceptions in reality and reframe negative thought patterns so you are then free to move forward positively, solve problems and work through challenging situations. | [Norton Rose Fulbright website.](#)

HYBRID: WBCSD LIAISON DELEGATE MEETING | 5 to 7 April 2022 | Montreux, Switzerland & Online | Under the theme of sustainability is now mainstream, the 2022 Liaison Delegate Meeting will facilitate co-creation of solutions to address these imperatives and drive equitable value distribution across value chains. | [WBCSD website.](#)

UN GLOBAL COMPACT ACADEMY: HOW TO ASSESS AND BOOST YOUR CORPORATE WATER RESILIENCE | 7 April 2022 | 09:00 ET | Water security is being influenced and affected by a number of factors, ranging from climate change to global pandemics. These factors fundamentally change the way we look at water systems, and how we govern and manage these systems effectively. This Academy deep dive session will help you make effective decisions in this evolving water system. | [Website & Zoom registration link.](#)

GIBS: THE FUTURE OF JOHANNESBURG: IN CONVERSATION WITH JOBURG EXECUTIVE MAYOR, DR MPHOSHALATSE | 26 April 2022 | 17:00 to 18:30 SAST | **GIBS Campus, Illovo, Johannesburg |** Join us for a conversation with Dr Phalatse as she shares her strategy for a new improved Joburg and plans to bring investment and exclusive growth back to the city. | [GIBS website.](#)

HYBRID: 8TH ECOM AFRICA 2022 | 4 & 5 May 2022 | Cape Town International Conference Centre | ECOM Africa brings together top minds in the eCommerce space in South Africa. | [Website & further information.](#)

TRIALOGUE BUSINESS IN SOCIETY HYBRID CONFERENCE 2022 | 10 & 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. | [Trialogue website.](#)

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