

# ON A CLEAR DAY 2020



On A Clear Day: Issue 744, 27 February 2020

## NBI NEWS/NBI IN THE NEWS

**NBI'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR ENVIRONMENT AND SOCIETY (ACES)** ACES is the key forum for member interaction in the context of environmental sustainability and is open to all NBI member companies. Our meetings focus on understanding our members strategic needs, updating members on the work that we are doing, sharing information on our international partnerships, past and future NBI events, current industry trends, best practice and general industry and government activity. The first committee meeting for 2020 took place this week in Johannesburg, with the next one to follow on 19 March in Cape Town. Click [here](#) to view the **2020 dates** for meetings taking place in both Johannesburg and Cape Town or contact: [Sibusiso Nxumalo](#) for further information.

**WBCSD VISION 2050 REFRESH** 200 global companies united around a common vision creating a world in which over 9 billion people are all living well and within the boundaries of our planet, by 2050. the WBCSD is working with its Global Network partners, including the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, to realise an engagement programme in form of a global roadshow across key geographies. The **NBI and the WBCSD** are therefore hosting a workshop in Johannesburg on **Thursday, 12 March 2020** to give companies the opportunity to engage and provide input into this process, which is due to be completed by October of 2020. Participants will also be given positive, opportunity-based, action agenda needed for the decade to come, in support of achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Please contact: [Justine Alston](#) should you wish to attend this workshop. View this [video](#) and read this [article](#) to learn more.

**SOUTH AFRICAN HOSPITALITY APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAMME (SSHAP!)** The **Embassy of Switzerland** and the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** are currently finalising the plan for the next phase of the pilot project rolled out in 2019, to demonstrate the value of the Swiss Dual Apprenticeship model for supporting effective pathways into the labour market for South African youth. [Read here.](#)

**UNDERSTANDING THE EXPERIENCES OF LGBTQI+ EMPLOYEES IN THE WORKPLACE** The NBI is conducting research on understanding the experiences of LGBTQI+ employees in the workplace as a crucial aspect of formulating transformative policies and creating inclusive cultures. [Further information.](#)

**ANALYSIS | YOUNG AND UNEMPLOYED IN SA: WHAT'S BEING DONE, WHAT'S WORKING, AND WHAT'S STILL A BARRIER** Zyaan Davids Anter looks at pockets of progress being made in creating jobs for young people. [Head Topics, 19 February 2020.](#)

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**HOW HEAT CAN BE USED TO STORE RENEWABLE ENERGY** The effect that fossil fuels are having on the climate emergency is driving an international push to use low-carbon sources of energy. At the moment, the best options for producing low-carbon energy on a large scale are wind and solar power. [Antoine Koen and Pau Farres Antunez, Biz Community, 27 February 2020.](#)

**CAN TRANSPARENCY LAWS FIX THE GENDER WAGE GAP?** Despite progress in technology, education, and workers' rights, there continues to be a substantial difference in pay between male and female workers, even among those in similar jobs. [Michael Baker, Yosh Halberstam, Kory Kroft, Alexandre Mas and Derek Messacar, HBR, 26 February 2020.](#)

**WE'RE COMING UP WITH A NEW SET OF TARGETS TO PROTECT THE NATURAL WORLD. HERE'S HOW** Key to mitigating our influence on the natural planet are goals and targets. The Sustainable Development Goals are overarching global societal goals established by the United Nations. They knit together other conventions, including those designed to protect biological diversity and mitigate climate change. [David Obura, The Conversation Africa, 26 February 2020.](#)

**SDG15: THE FIGHT FOR LIFE ON LAND** Progress on protecting life on land has been agonisingly slow, as deforestation and habitat loss has accelerated, but hopes remain that a step change in global land management can yet be engineered [BusinessGreen, Mike Scott, 26 February 2020.](#)

**A THIRD OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS RISK MASS EXTINCTION** As planetary temperatures rise, the chances of species survival lessen. Mass extinction is coming. The challenge is to measure the loss. [Tim Radford, Climate News Network, 25 February 2020.](#)

**HOW CLOSE IS THE WEST ANTARCTIC ICE SHEET TO A 'TIPPING POINT'?** How the West Antarctic ice sheet responds to climate change is a major source of uncertainty for long-term sea level projections. [Christina Hulme, WEF, 24 February 2020.](#)

## NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

**SAB FOUNDATION CULTIVATES ENTREPRENEURS WHO MAKE AN IMPACT ON SOCIETY** Entrepreneurs Nthato Moagi and Bathabile Mpofo both wanted to start businesses which would have a positive impact on society, but didn't have the capital to do so. The SAB Foundation provided them with the necessary funds, as well as the business support and mentorship, to make their visions a reality. [IOL Business, 27 February 2020.](#)

**AECI'S MINING SOLUTIONS BUSINESS BOOSTS GROUP PROFITABILITY IN 2019** JSE-listed chemicals manufacturer AECI reported growth in all its operating segments in the year ended December 31, and managed to achieve 10% growth in its headline earnings per share (HEPS). [Engineering News, 25 February 2020.](#)

**IMPERIAL'S GATEWAY TO AFRICA STRATEGY TAKING SHAPE** Logistics group Imperial aims to strengthen its proposition as "the gateway to Africa" with a potential expansion into air/ocean freight management, says CEO Mohammed Akoojee. [Engineering News, 25 February 2020.](#)

**STANDARD BANK BOOSTS COVID-19 FIGHT WITH R750 000 DONATION** Standard Bank South Africa on Monday donated R750 000 towards the fight against the deadly novel coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak that has so far infected more than 79 000 people globally. [IOL Business, 24 February 2020.](#)

**ABSA SEES FUTURE FOR KENYAN BANKING APP ELSEWHERE IN AFRICA** Timiza, Absa Kenya's virtual banking platform, will be rolled out to other African countries after having a successful run since its launch in 2018. [Moneyweb, 24 February 2020.](#)

**DISCOVERY SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT** Annually, Discovery publishes the Sustainable Development Report alongside the [Integrated Annual Report](#). The Sustainable Development Report details the progress and performance towards our contribution to society.

## NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**WBCSD LAUNCHES NEW SDG LEARNING PLATFORM** New "[SDG Essentials for Business](#)" resource supports companies' efforts to raise awareness and understanding of the Sustainable Development Goals and empower their staff to drive meaningful contributions to the SDGs.

**WHAT WILL IT TAKE TO WIN IN THE 2020s?** As leaders in organizations of all kinds grapple with the forces reshaping their world, and with challenging questions about business's role in society, they are finding that the keys to business success have changed. In many industries, growth is harder to sustain, survival is not a given, and a narrow focus on financial performance is not enough. [BCG Website](#).

**RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS CONSULTANCY TRIALOGUE**, in collaboration with corporate partners and sponsors, will present the **13th annual Trialogue Business in Society Conference**, themed 20/20 vision in April. This industry-leading annual event promotes thought leadership, cross-sector collaboration and innovation for more effective development, and brings together more than 400 corporate, non-profit, government, media and academic delegates. Visit the [Trialogue Website](#) for more information and to register. .

**2020 ECO-LOGIC AWARDS CALLING SA'S GREENEST** South Africans can look forward to the 9th annual Eco-Logic Awards which will take place 05 June 2020 (World Environment Day). Hosted by the Enviropaedia, entries are now open for individuals, organisations and communities who are making a difference through environmentally sustainable initiatives. [Further information.](#)

## 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 19 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their latest **Press Release** entitled, "[European companies invest €124 billion in low carbon](#)", [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 2020 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. Watch their latest **News Article**, entitled: "Transitioning to net-zero: what governments can learn from business best practice", [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 latest **News Article** entitled, “**Microsoft’s AI for Accessibility program: empowering people with disabilities for an inclusive future of work**”, [here](#).

## NBI EVENTS/WORSHOPS | 2020

**ADAPTATION FINANCE EVENTS 2020 “Unlocking Private Sector Involvement in the Green Climate Fund Projects in South Africa” | Event 3: Adaptation Finance: Tuesday, 3 March 2020 | FutureSpace, Sandton** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) are hosting a series of events towards building a pipeline of adaptation and biodiversity-based adaptation projects to alleviate the acute shortage of adaption projects locally; and to attract up to US\$50 million from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). View further details on the series of events, [here](#).

**BUSINESS LEADERSHIP FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE: WBCSD VISION 2050 REFRESH | Thursday, 12 March 2020 | Summer Place, Hyde Park** | The NBI and the WBCSD are hosting a workshop in Johannesburg to give business the opportunity to engage and provide input into the above process, which is due to be completed by October of 2020. Participants will also be given positive, opportunity-based, action agenda needed for the decade to come, in support of achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**. Kindly [click here](#) for further information or should you wish to attend this engagement.

## SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS/WORKSHOPS | 2020

**MINISTER BARBARA CREECY CONDUCTS FEEDBACK ON THE INTERNATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE TALKS AND ENGAGES YOUTH | Friday, 28 February 2020 | The Aviator Hotel, Kempton Park** | [Details here](#).

**AFRICA ENERGY INDABA: 2020 Theme: “African Energy – Catalysing Investment and Business Opportunities” | 3 to 4 March 2020 | CTICC** | The Africa Energy Indaba is the continent’s definitive energy event, providing an agenda that influences energy policy for Africa. Attended by Ministers and decision-makers, the prestigious event serves as the ideal platform for achieving Africa's energy vision for a sustainable energy future and keeping abreast of global energy competitors in this dynamic landscape. [Website and further details](#).

**LANDFILL MANAGEMENT COURSE | 4 to 5 March 2020 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg** | For more information visit: [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail: [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone: **082 395 7582**.

**MANAGING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE COURSE | 9 to 10 March 2020 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg** | For more information visit: [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail: [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone: **082 395 7582**.

**RESOURCE EFFICIENT AND CLEANER PRODUCTION COURSE (NCPD CERTIFIED) | 11 to 12 March 2020 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg** | For more information visit: [www.ess-sustainability.co.za](http://www.ess-sustainability.co.za), e-mail: [seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za](mailto:seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za) or phone: **082 395 7582**.

**SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 15 to 18 March 2020 | Diemersfontein Wine Estate, Wellington, Cape Town** | The [Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership's](#) Sustainability Practitioner Programme enables managers in the private or public sector to influence and guide their organisation to take an integrated approach to sustainability across all functions. The programme is widely regarded as the most effective of its kind. Designed for those specifically charged with driving sustainability in their organisation, this programme provides access to the latest data on the global challenges facing us, tools and frameworks for action, and bold business responses from around the world. Participants explore the strategic implications for their own business, and effective approaches to engage all levels of the organisation. Applications are made via the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership [online application form](#) - all applicants are subject to selection panel approval.

**SEED SOUTH AFRICA SYMPOSIUM 2020 INVITATION | 17 to 18 March 2020 | CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria** | The theme for this year is: **“Water Wise and Climate Smart Entrepreneurship for Climate Change Adaptation and Resilient Communities”**. The symposium is a flagship event implemented through the “Reaping the potential of Entrepreneurship for a Climate- Smart Inclusive Green Economy in South Africa (ECSIGE) Project which is funded by The Government of Flanders and implemented in partnership with the Climate Innovation Centre SA and Adelphi Research. To register for participation in the symposium (use the promotional code **"SSAS20!@20"**), kindly [click here](#).

**CLIMATE RISK IS HIGH BUSINESS RISK | 24 March 2020** | It is no longer good enough to play on the side-lines, businesses around the world need to take a stand on sustainability and lead by example. Businesses need to question their purpose, connect with the world, the needs of society and our common humanity. They need to act, rather than react. [GIBS Website](#).

## INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS | 2019

**WEBINAR: SECURING A SUSTAINABLE WATER FUTURE IN AN EVER-DRIER WORLD | 9 March 2020 | 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM EDT** | WRI Water experts will discuss what the findings reveal about the state of water security around the world and investigate what role investors can play. [WRI Website](#).

**CDP WEBINAR: A GUIDE TO BEST PRACTICE CDP DISCLOSURES IN 2020 | 19 March 2020 | 16:00 GMT** | Alongside special guest, Camilla Gori from CDP, we will be exploring the important influences shaping the CDP Questionnaires, the significance of climate reporting on our journey to Net Zero, as well as providing practical guidance on how to improve your company's score and reach for that A list! Register [here](#).

**WBCSD LIAISON DELEGATE MEETING | Montreux, Switzerland | 20 to 23 April 2020 | [Register here](#)** (password: montreux2020) to join 400 global sustainability professionals from all sectors at our traditional Liaison Delegate meeting in lovely Montreux, Switzerland. Please note that our Global Network session will take place on Monday 20 April morning.

**AFRICA CLIMATE WEEK 2020 | Kampala, Uganda | 20 to 24 April 2020** | Africa Climate Week 2020 will convene under the theme, ‘Partnering for Transformation towards a Low-carbon Climate-resilient and Prosperous Africa: Managing Risks, Seizing Opportunities’. The event aims to mobilize and enhance partnerships and collaborative approaches, including to respond to the urgent need to understand the risks and impacts of climate change and integrate this knowledge in planning at all levels and in all sectors. [Further details](#).



### **National Business Initiative (NBI)**

5th Floor, 61 Katherine Street, Sandton

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