

NBI ON A CLEAR DAY 2019



NBI
National Business Initiative

On A Clear Day: Issue 696, 24 January 2019

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NBI IN THE NEWS/NBI NEWS

THE NBI IS GIVING ITS MEMBERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROFILE THEIR COMPANIES ON OUR WEBSITE Please contact: **[Tumi Nkosi](#)** for further information regarding this. Check out **Sappi's** page by clicking **[here](#)**.

CDP 2018 SCORES RELEASED THIS WEEK CDP encourages investors, companies and cities on taking urgent action to build a truly sustainable economy by measuring and understanding their environmental impact. Read NBI's latest Quick Brief **[here](#)**.

GROWING GREEN SKILLS AND JOBS IN THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY The National Business Initiative (NBI) and Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator (Harambee), together with the Institute of Plumbing (IOPSA), the Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and funding partners, have initiated a programme to develop learning and employment pathways for assistant plumbers, targeting unemployed youth from public TVET colleges and offering an eventual pathway to becoming a qualified plumber. **[View here](#)**.

VIEW NBI'S VIDEOS RELEASED IN DECEMBER 2018 AT COP24, [here](#).

THE NBI HAS DEVELOPED A METHODOLOGY TO HELP COMPANIES AND SECTORS PRIORITISE THE SDGS This prioritisation is necessary to drive the strategic changes we need to transform our economies. We have piloted this methodology with the banking sector through BASA and with Sasol. We also conducted a weeklong roadshow, with our partner DI, introducing our methodology and thinking as well as tools to help companies understand how the SDGs can drive company competitiveness. Click [here](#) to view our updated website page.

INDUSTRY NEWS

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM (WEF) 2019 To view the latest news from Davos where WEF is currently taking place, click [here](#).

GROWTH, TRANSFORMATION REQUIRE BLACK INDUSTRIALISTS IN CHARGE OF MEANS OF PRODUCTION Economic growth and transformation will rely on black industrialists who can produce, own and distribute goods and anchored in value-addition, Deputy Trade and Industry Minister, Bulelani Magwanishe said. [IOL, 24 January 2019](#).

COMPANIES HAVE A NEW SKILL TO MASTER – INNOVATION Most businesses are at the cusp of a digital transformation that will lead to a complete remaking of their operations. This process is likely to be even more transformative than the previous rounds of industrialization. [The European Sting, 24 January 2019](#).

THE CARBON TAX IS COMING After almost a decade of consultation, the carbon tax will come into effect on June 1, 2019. The tax will work on the 'polluter pays' principle and will have the most significant impact on major energy users. [Moneyweb, Inqé Lamprecht, 24 January 2019](#).

HOW EMERGING TECH CAN COUNTERACT CLIMATE CHANGE A recent United Nations Environment report suggested that nations must triple mitigation efforts in order to keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius and avoid the catastrophic effects of climate change. While it is still possible to course-correct on climate change, we are quickly running out of time — the U.N. suggests that we have until 2030 to close the emissions gap. [Todd Brady, GreenBiz, 23 January 2019](#).

RAMAPHOSA PRAISES MANDATORY REPORTING OF PAY DISCREPANCIES IN SWISS SPEECH President Cyril Ramaphosa has praised the concept of mandatory reporting of pay discrepancies in the workplace. [FIN 24, 23 January 2019](#).

3 WAYS CITIES CAN HELP ACCELERATE THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY TRANSITION The process of embedding circular economy principles in cities has been gathering support as an optimal pathway for improving sustainability and resilience without compromising economic growth, wealth and well-being. [Sofia Aivalioti, Johanna Reiland and Violeta Fernández, GreenBiz, 22 January 2019](#).

ANALYSIS WARNS OF LACK OF PROGRESS ON 2020 GLOBAL EMISSIONS TARGET Removing coal from the global energy mix is taking too long, too many forests are still being destroyed, and fossil fuel subsidies are ongoing despite their distorting effect on the market, a study has found. [Fiona Harvey, The Guardian, 22 January 2019](#).

SOUTH AFRICA TAKES DAVOS WEF BY STORM President Cyril Ramaphosa's 'A-team' of Ministers will showcase South Africa on Tuesday at the World Economic Forum in Davos as the meeting of 3 000 top political, business and civil society leaders kicks off. [Shannon Ebrahim, IOL, 22 January 2019.](#)

THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE PRACTICES The Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) is one of five exchanges in the world to be internationally recognised as a pioneer of a global initiative to enhance corporate transparency, performance on environmental, social and corporate governance (ESG) issues and encourage sustainable investment. [Shameela Soobramoney, BizCommunity, 21 January 2019.](#)

KAROO FARMERS HIT BY WATER CRISIS RECEIVE R8.3M IN DROUGHT SUPPORT The department of agriculture in the Western Cape province has disbursed R 8.3 million in drought support to 586 farmers in the central Karoo region this month, it said on Monday. [IOL, 21 January 2019.](#)

NBI EVENTS | 2019

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES: COP24 FEEDBACK - KEY OUTCOMES AGREED AT THE UN CLIMATE TALKS IN KATOWICE, POLAND | Wednesday, 13 February 2019 | The Rosebank Crowne Plaza Hotel, Johannesburg | This session will unpack the meaning and significance of COP24, both globally and for South African business, focusing on the following key questions: What are the key outcomes of COP24? What are the implications of the Paris Rulebook for business, and in particular, for South African companies? What does the science say and are we getting there? What is the economic opportunity of bold climate action through We Mean Business? We will also showcase our Augmented Reality Infographic which demonstrates the impact of climate change in South Africa. If you are an NBI member company and would like to attend this session, please [RSVP here.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

BRAND SA, ABSA HOST INVESTMENT SEMINAR AT WEF Brand South Africa together with Absa Bank on Thursday hosted a South Africa investment seminar at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Switzerland to support and initiate the next phase of the country's investment drive. [Engineering News/Africa News Agency, 24 January 2019.](#)

VODACOM SAYS REVENUE UP 1.5% IN QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER Communications company Vodacom said on Thursday a strong performance in international operations helped to offset the slowdown in South Africa during the quarter ended December, with group revenue rising 1.5 percent to R23.0 billion. [IOL Business, 24 January 2019.](#)

#WEF2019: ABSA ACHIEVES SIGNIFICANT MILESTONE IN DAVOS From an African perspective, our presence in Davos will be a historic moment for Absa Bank, one of South Africa's leading financial services groups, since it marks the first year that Absa will attend the World Economic Forum (WEF) annual gathering in Davos as a standalone African bank, and not as a subsidiary of Barclays PLC. [IOL Business, 23 January 2019.](#)

MTN CEO ROB SHUTER ON SELLING SA IN DAVOS It's the second day of the World Economic Forum's annual "meet fest" in Davos, Switzerland. Key influencers in government, business, civil society and labour have converged there to come up with solutions to global problems. MTN is one of the South African business heavyweights in attendance. [Nompu Siziba, Moneyweb, 23 January 2019.](#)

FNB LAUNCHES CONSUMER AND MERCHANT QR CODE PAYMENTS ON THE FNB APP FNB is expanding its digital payments ecosystem by enabling consumers and sole proprietor businesses to perform and accept QR code payments using the FNB Banking App. [IOL Business, 22 January 2019.](#)

SMART SPEAKERS WILL BE WORTH \$7BN IN 2019, FASTEST-GROWING CONNECTED DEVICE – DELOITTE Smart speakers will be worth US\$7 billion in 2019, becoming the fastest-growing connected device category, audit, consulting, financial advisory, risk management company Deloitte Global said on Monday. [IOL Business, 21 January 2019.](#)

ENERGIZING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS With its pioneering technologies, **ABB** is helping to meet many of the underlying targets of the SDGs. [ABB Website.](#)

NOTICES, REPORTS, OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

RESEARCH: GENDER PAY GAPS SHRINK WHEN COMPANIES ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE THEM Government-mandated reporting of gender pay discrepancies has been a subject of much debate in the last 5-10 years. Those arguing for legislation to require such reporting say that it will help to address the persistent gender wage gap. [HBR, 23 January 2019.](#)

BIOFUEL PRODUCTION IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA SHOULD BE PRIORITISED FOR AVIATION A new report has found that while there is a small but not insignificant potential for the production of sustainable biofuels in sub-Saharan Africa, this should be prioritised for the aviation industry which has limited other options when it comes to reducing carbon emissions. [WWF-SA, 23 January 2019.](#)

ELECTRIC CAR GROWTH RATE TO COOL IN 2019, SAYS REPORT Bloomberg New Energy Finance (BNEF) expects the electric passenger car sales growth rate to cool in 2019. [Irma Venter, Engineering News, 23 January 2019.](#)

ILO REPORT ON THE FUTURE OF WORK CALLS FOR PEOPLE-CENTERED APPROACH The International Labour Organisation calls for adequate living wages for workers, limits on hours of work and guaranteed social protection. [BusinessLIVE, 22 February 2019.](#)

TRACKING PROGRESS OF THE 2020 CLIMATE TURNING POINT In 2017 several leading climate analysis organizations came together as part of the Mission 2020 campaign to define six milestones—in energy, transport, land use, industry, infrastructure, and finance—that would need to be met by 2020 to bend the curve in global greenhouse gas emissions and put the world on a pathway consistent with the Paris Agreement. To achieve each milestone, the organizations identified two or more outcomes, and this working paper takes stock of progress made toward those outcomes. [WRI, January 2019.](#)

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION – THE OPPORTUNITY TO SCALE UP FUNDING AND FINANCING (2018) This report calls for an integrated approach that brings together governments, water users, and the society at large including the private sector, NGOs, and academia to design smart, adaptable and sustainable solutions for water infrastructure impacted by climate change. [Download here.](#)

#BIZTRENDS2019: CLIMATE PARADOX OR PROGRESS? 2018 was a year of paradox. The scientific signals of global warming are significantly stronger. The frequency, intensity and cost of weather impacts escalates. But the backtracking and general malaise from global politicians on climate change increases. [Simon Clarke, BizCommunity, 7 January 2019.](#)

NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

Bringing you news and the latest research from our international partners

CDP 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 17 years CDP has created a system that has resulted in unparalleled engagement on environmental issues. Read their latest Blog article written by their CEO Paul Simpson entitled: **“2018: A new chapter for climate action”**, [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 2019 blog article entitled, **“The Private Sector as Part of the Solution to Address Water Security and Sanitation Issues in Brazil”**, [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 latest blog article entitled: **“At the World Economic Forum 2019, business demonstrates bold climate action”**, [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 written by their CEO, Peter Bakker, entitled: **“Tackle plastic pollution and join the Alliance to End Plastic Waste”**, [here.](#)

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS/WORKSHOPS | 2019

CLIMATE CHANGE LAW WORKSHOP | 29 January 2019 | IMBEWU’s Offices, Rosebank, Johannesburg | IMBEWU’s Climate Change Law Workshop will provide you with a comprehensive and up-to-date understanding of South Africa’s climate change legal regime. Book today by emailing the [booking form](#) to lulu@imbewu.co.za or call us on **011 214 0660** for more information.

INVESTING IN AFRICAN MINING INDABA | 4 to 7 February 2019 | Cape Town International Conference Centre |The 25th Anniversary Mining Indaba will be big, bold and better than ever. The highly anticipated event will see the largest amount of investors, mining executives and junior miners from across the globe come together for this leading deal making forum. The unrivalled networking is matched by an agenda that features Heads of States,

Mining Ministers and the most influential people in African mining. No other mining event provides this level of expertise and access to the entire value chain. [Website and details.](#)

AFRICA GLOBALISATION & CHANGE: MZANSI TALKS BACK TO DAVOS 2019 | 12 February 2019 | GIBS, Illovo | Join us for a morning of voicing your views with South African thought leaders as we unpack globalisation in a changing world and talk back to Davos. [GIBS Website.](#)

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FOR EFFECTIVE MANAGEMENT AND REPORTING COURSE | 18 February 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582.**

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED GRI SUSTAINABILITY REPORTING STANDARDS COURSE (earning 2 SACNASP CPD credits), followed by the course on **GRI Disclosures (Performance Indicators) | 19 to 21 February 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg |** For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582.**

INTERNATIONALLY CERTIFIED IIRC COURSES ON INTEGRATED REPORTING | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | <IR> for Managers: 22 February 2019; <IR> for Practitioners: 13 to 14 March 2019. Offered jointly by ESS and ENACT. For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582.**

CARBON-RELATED COURSES | 4 to 8 March 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | GHG Emissions Reporting: 4 March; Carbon Tax 101: 5 March; GHG Emissions Inventory (ISO 14064-1 and IPPC methodologies): 6 to 8 March. Offered jointly by ESS and Water Energy Carbon Consulting. For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582.**

2019 AFRICA ENERGY INDABA | AN AFRICAN ENERGY EVENT FOR AFRICANS AND BY AFRICANS | 19 to 20 February 2019 | Sandton Convention Centre | Africa's power and energy sector is a critical driver of growth and development across the continent. With vast natural energy resources ranging from coal, oil, gas, hydro, solar, wind and geothermal, there is ample choice for the discerning energy investor. Lack of access to electricity means that there is an opportunity for regional governments, energy businesses, organisations and financiers to unlock electricity access to millions of people who don't have power. The Africa Energy Indaba is the continent's premier energy conference and exhibition: bringing together leading African and global energy players to unlock energy and business opportunities across the African continent. The event is the World Energy Council (WEC) regional event for Africa and has strategic partnerships with the South African National Energy Association (SANEA) and the NEPAD Planning & Coordinating Agency (NPCA). [2019 Africa Energy Indaba Website.](#)

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2019 | 21 February 2018 | GIBS, Illovo | Economic stagnation requires action, but will it be delivered in an election year or will the system continue to crack? Beyond the obvious headlines and current rhetoric, this conference examines the fundamentals, opportunities, inherent weaknesses and prospects for the South African economy in 2019. [GIBS Website.](#)

THE 2019 BIG TRENDS BREAKFAST | 25 February 2018 | GIBS, Illovo, Johannesburg | Making sense of the noise: The #s that will shift our 2019 and the 'so what' and 'now what?' This breakfast event provides a powerful look at

the political, socio-economic, technological, digital and business trends that will impact our 2019 and beyond. [GIBS Website](#).

CARBON-RELATED COURSES OVER THE PERIOD 4 to 8 March 2019 | Glenhove Events Hub in Johannesburg | GHG Emissions Reporting: 4 March; Carbon Tax 101: 5 March; GHG Emissions Inventory (ISO 14064-1 and IPPC methodologies): 6 to 8 March | Offered jointly by ESS and Water Energy Carbon Consulting. For more information visit: www.ess-sustainability.co.za, e-mail: seakle@ess-sustainability.co.za or phone: **082 395 7582**.

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE INSTITUTE FOR SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP (CISL) SA: SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 10 to 13 March 2019 | Diemersfontein Wine Estate | Inviting 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 organization. Applications are made via the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership: [online application form](#) - all applicants are subject to panel approval. For more information: [click here](#).

INTRODUCTION TO SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT | 18 to 23 February 2019 |The Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | This course focuses on the rise to global prominence of the challenge of sustainability in general and sustainable development in particular. Public policy debates at the global levels of governance are increasingly focussing on the challenges posed by natural resource limits to the ways production and consumption are currently structured and managed within a world that is sharply divided between the rich (located mainly in the global North) and poor (located mainly in the global South). For more information or to apply please click [here](#).

COMPLEXITY THEORY & SYSTEMS THINKING | 4 to 9 March 2019 |The Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | The main aim of this course is to make it possible for participants to develop a general, albeit basic, understanding of complexity and complex systems. This understanding should not only be technical, but should help in the analysis of our complex world. Complexity theory has implications for our conceptions of knowledge, ethics and of course, sustainability. For more information or to apply please click [here](#).

CARBON FOOTPRINTING - FROM STRATEGY TO PRACTICAL TOOL | 13 to 16 March 2019 |The Sustainability Institute, Stellenbosch, Western Cape | Imagine being able to look at the environmental disclosure of a company and gaining insight about the company's strategy and pitfalls in the same sense that you would have gained when looking at the company's financial statements. This is indeed possible. While many of the top 100 companies listed on JSE Limited already calculate their carbon footprints, this is just the tip of the iceberg. Before long, every company will need to calculate its carbon footprint and also strive to reduce it. Soon carbon (and water) footprinting will be implemented and actioned by all listed companies. For more information please click [here](#).

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, WORKSHOPS & WEBINARS | 2019

MASSIVE OPEN ONLINE COURSE (MOOC) ON WATER – ADDRESSING THE GLOBAL CRISIS (2018) This course gives an introduction to many different aspects of water, including finance, diplomacy, and water services. The SDG Academy and the Stockholm International Water Institute have come together to offer this MOOC on some of the most important water issues. The course focuses on the key role water plays in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, not least SDG 6, about sustainable water and sanitation for all. The course intends to explain

the global water crisis through linkages between water, environment, and societal development, focusing on how to tackle issues such as growing water uncertainty and deteriorating water quality. [Details here.](#)

WORLD ECONOMIC FORUM ANNUAL MEETING | 22 to 25 January 2019 | Davos-Klosters, Switzerland | The World Economic Forum Annual Meeting is the only yearly gathering that brings together leaders of global society. The heads and members of more than 100 governments, top executives of the 1,000 foremost global companies, leaders of international organizations and relevant non-governmental organizations, the most prominent cultural, societal and thought leaders, and the disruptive voices of the Forum's Young Global Leaders, Global Shapers and Technology Pioneers come together at the beginning of each year to define priorities and shape global, industry and regional agendas. [WEF Website.](#)

SMART ENERGY SUMMIT | 18 to 20 February 2019 | Austin, USA | The Smart Energy Summit focuses on the topics such as Smart Home and Energy Efficiency: Adoption and Innovative Business Models, Smart Home and Demand Response: Impacting Consumer Behaviour, Home Energy Management: Ecosystem Players and Partnerships, and much more. [Read here.](#)

GREENBIZ 19 | 26 to 28 February 2019 | Phoenix, USA | Join more than 1,200 of the world's brightest thinkers and most influential sustainability leaders for an unparalleled look into the pressing challenges, emerging trends and biggest opportunities in sustainable business today. [GreenBiz Website.](#)

SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT FORUM EUROPE | 12 March 2019 | Paris, France | The highly successful Sustainable Investment Forum Europe, hosted by Climate Action in partnership with UNEP Finance Initiative will bring together 300+ investment professionals looking to drive the move towards a sustainable and low carbon economy. [Website.](#)

WBCSD TRAINING OPPORTUNITY: REPORTING MATTERS | 5 April 2019 | Geneva, Switzerland | WBCSD developed [Reporting matters](#) in partnership with Radley Yeldar in 2013 to help improve the effectiveness of sustainability reporting. Every year, we analyse sustainability reports from our member companies against a predefined framework and use this data to provide confidential, personalized feedback for members and produce an annual publication with reporting trends and good practice examples. For the past several years, we have supported several Global Network partners who have participated in training and used *Reporting matters* resources to run their own review processes. We are pleased to be able to offer this training again in 2019 at a significantly reduced price. Registration details are [available here.](#)

TELL US WHAT YOUR INTEREST AREAS ARE

The NBI's strategic objective:

Engaging our member companies in economic and social transformation

In order to refine our communications with you, please subscribe to the following interest areas. We will then notify you of NBI publications and events relating to the relevant topic.

[GREEN ECONOMY](#)

[BIODIVERSITY](#)

WATER

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

CLIMATE FINANCE

CLIMATE MITIGATION

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

TRANSFORMATION

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

GENDER EQUALITY, SUPPLY CHAINS

ANTI-CORRUPTION & HUMAN RIGHTS

SOCIAL & ETHICS ISSUES

NBI: Business Action for Sustainable Growth

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