



On A Clear Day: Issue 824, 20 October 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.

NEWSFLASH: ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, AND GOVERNANCE (ESG) AFRICA CONFERENCE: EMPOWERING LEADERS IN AFRICA TO DRIVE A MORE SUSTAINABLE FUTURE The National Business Initiative (NBI) is honored to share that the first Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Africa conference, will be taking place this month on 25-26 October 2022, at the Sandton Convention Centre. The main theme of the conference is a **'Sustainable Future Through Leadership'**. This important event aims to create a platform for industry leaders and experts from across Africa to discuss, debate and find solutions to some of the common challenges faced in embedding ESG practices within their organisations. **Please note:** NBI members who sign up for the conference are entitled to a **15% discount** on the ticket price. To receive your discounted ticket, simply enter the **discount code: VXQG4JWT**, when completing the form. Read more [here](#).

'ADDICTION' TO GOVT GUARANTEES FOR ENERGY PROJECTS PUZZLES DE RUYTER Government guarantees for renewable energy investments need to fall away as the electricity market opens up, according to Eskom CEO André de Ruyter. De Ruyter was speaking at the Standard Bank summit on Tuesday, where he weighed in on what he found to be "gaps" in financing some of the solutions that would support the energy transition to renewables. [News24, 19 October 2022.](#)

4-DAY WEEK: MORE FOCUS, LESS TIME WASTAGE? South African companies and organisations have until the end of the month to sign up for the first phase of the local four-day work week pilot programme which has successfully been trialed in New Zealand, Australia, the United Kingdom, Ireland, the United States and Japan by 4 Day Week Global. [South Coast Herald, 14 October 2022.](#)

LAUNCH OF THE CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT (CPD4E) Unemployment levels, especially among the youth, have reached an all-time high. According to Stats SA's latest figures, youth unemployment in South Africa is at 66.5%. How do we solve this endemic issue? South African government, business and international partners are working together to find viable solutions. One such solution is the launch of the Career Path Development for Employment (CPD4E). [Mail and Guardian, 12 October 2022.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

CARBON CREDIT FINANCING SOLUTION DEVELOPED TO UNLOCK ENERGY, SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT INVESTMENTS Impact investment company, Impact Investment Group, and small, medium-sized and microenterprise (SMME) manufacturing investment company, Seed10X, have launched a service offering for Africa to unlock carbon finance as an alternative to reduce or replace debt finance arrangements. [Engineering News, 19 October 2022.](#)

SURVEY REVEALS 'HUGE SUPPORT' FOR AFCFTA The results of the third yearly Africa CEO Trade Survey, run by the Pan-African Private Sector Trade and Investment Committee (Paftrac) and African Business magazine have shown "huge support" for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the potential benefits that it could bring, says Paftrac chairperson Professor Patrick Utomi. [Engineering News, 19 October 2022.](#)

NEW C40 RESEARCH REVEALS THE COST OF FOSSIL GAS, SHOWING CLEAN ENERGY IS CHEAPER, CREATES MORE JOBS AND CAUSES LESS POLLUTION Bold action to phase out fossil gas and expand clean energy could save hundreds of thousands of lives, generate jobs, and enable cities to meet their climate targets, ground-breaking new research by C40 suggests. [C40 Cities, 19 October 2022.](#)

ADAPT AND SURVIVE: 5 WAYS TO HELP COUNTRIES COPE WITH THE CLIMATE CRISIS All nations need to make major cuts to fossil fuel emissions and transition to a low-carbon economy, if we are to have any chance of achieving the aim of reducing global temperatures to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels. [United Nations, 15 October 2022.](#)

BUSINESS LEADERS DELIVER BOLD SOLUTIONS TO UNLOCK LONG-TERM INVESTMENT IN SDGS Top business executives joined the UN chief to present transformative solutions for bridging the estimated \$4.3 trillion-dollar financing gap for countries that reach the ambitious 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) - the world's agreed roadmap for a more peaceful and inclusive world. [United Nations, 12 October 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

ANGLO AMERICAN AND THYSSENKRUPP STEEL TO COLLABORATE ON GREENER STEELMAKING TECHNOLOGIES Anglo American has signed a memorandum of understanding with longstanding customer Thyssenkrupp Steel Europe AG ("Thyssenkrupp Steel") to collaborate on developing new pathways for the decarbonisation of steelmaking. The collaboration will focus on joint research to accelerate the development of high-quality feedstock for lower carbon steel production, using

both conventional blast furnace and direct reduction iron (DRI) steelmaking – the latter being a less carbon intensive method which requires iron ore of a particularly high quality. [Anglo American, 20 October 2022.](#)

STANDARD BANK TO EXCEED 2022 GREEN FINANCING TARGET Standard Bank will exceed its green financing target of R50-billion this year, as South Africa's scrapping of regulations on self-generated renewable energy projects has spurred a rush for financing, a top executive said. [Engineering News, 19 October 2022.](#)

FTI CONSULTING NAMES MIRIAM WROBEL GLOBAL LEADER OF ESG & SUSTAINABILITY OFFERING FTI Consulting, Inc. (NYSE: FCN) announced the appointment of Miriam Wrobel as Global Leader of the firm's growing ESG & Sustainability offering on 18 October 2022. Ms. Wrobel, a Senior Managing Director based in San Francisco, joined FTI Consulting in 2021 and advises clients on ESG and energy transition strategy, transaction structuring and due diligence. She will lead a diversified team of professionals across FTI Consulting's global network who work on ESG and sustainability-related matters. [FTI Consulting, 18 October 2022.](#)

PRACTICAL JOURNEY TO NET ZERO Companies in South Africa face so many challenges of power outages, industrial action, high inflation and interest rates, and a volatile currency. The pressure is building from a global point of view in relation to expanded ESG reporting, carbon tax issues, investor ESG requirements and financiers moving to green financing. So how should companies practically think through this challenge? Join Paul O'Flaherty, EY-Parthenon Africa Leader in discussion with host Michael Avery on SA's leading business talk show to answer these questions and more. Read more [here.](#)

DELOITTE REPORTS ON HOW IT IS BUILDING BETTER FUTURES IN AFRICA The *2022 Deloitte Africa Impact Report* was released under the theme 'building better futures'. The report describes the conscious and deliberate choices the firm has made across healthcare, education and other areas covering environmental, social and governance (ESG) – with focus on building a better future for Africa, and her people. The *2022 Deloitte Africa Impact Report* is an extension of the *2022 Deloitte Africa Transparency Report*- also released on 17 October 2022 - aims to provide a detailed update on how the firm operates providing a view of the milestones achieved and the journey the firm is still traveling. [Deloitte, 17 October 2022.](#)

ESKOM SIGNS LAND LEASE AGREEMENTS WITH INDEPENDENT CLEAN POWER GENERATORS In response to the President's call for "an ambitious, bold and urgent response to the energy crisis", Eskom today signed lease agreements with four independent power producer investors for the commercial lease and use of land parcels at two of its power stations in Mpumalanga province for the construction of new clean energy generation capacity. This is the first batch of lease agreements to be signed with private companies. It is comprised of land parcels around the Majuba and Tutuka power stations. [Eskom, 14 October 2022.](#)

MAINSTREAM AND ABOITIZPOWER ENTER JV FOR INITIAL 90 MW WIND PROJECT Mainstream Renewable Power announced the signing of a joint venture agreement with Aboitiz Power Corporation (AboitizPower), via its subsidiary Aboitiz Renewables Inc. (ARI), one of the Philippines' leading providers of renewable energy, to initially deliver the 90 MW Libmanan onshore wind project located in the Camarines Sur Province. [Mainstream Renewable Power, 12 October 2022.](#)

ERM ACQUIRES SUSTAINABILITY MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS AGENCY SHELTON GROUP ERM, the world's largest pure play sustainability consultancy, has acquired Shelton Group, a sustainability-focused marketing and communications agency that provides specialist services to leading organizations across a range of sectors. [ERM, 10 October 2022.](#)

DISCOVERY FEATURES FOURTH ON THE 2022 FORTUNE CHANGE THE WORLD LIST Financial services group Discovery joins the ranks of 54 companies recognised in Fortune Magazine's 2022 Change the World list, released today. The seminal list features organisations from around the globe that are positively impacting society through activities that form part of their core business strategy. [Discovery, 10 October 2022.](#)

THE ARTS & CULTURE TRUST (ACT) NYOLOHA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME FINALISTS ANNOUNCED The opportunity to win a fully paid scholarship valued at R350 000 to study for an arts degree at a South African arts institution of choice created a flurry of excitement nationally amongst matriculants, school leavers, educators and parents when the Arts and Culture Trust (ACT) announced the Nyoloha Scholarship Programme (NSP) open call earlier this year. A total of 89 applicants were received.

The work of the qualifying participants has been rated and the Arts and Culture Trust together with partners Nedbank Arts Affinity and sponsors Sun International and Business and Arts South Africa (BASA) are pleased to announce the 15 finalists. Read more [here](#).

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

TEN YEARS OF REPORTING MATTERS: REFLECTING ON A DECADE AND GEARING UP FOR THE FUTURE To celebrate the ten years of Reporting matters, this year's report highlights what corporate sustainability reporting has achieved over the past decade and the developments in reporting that can support systems transformation. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 20 October 2022.](#)

ADAPTATION FINANCE INCREASING, REPORT FINDS Climate finance committed by major multilateral development banks (MDBs) rose in 2021, with over \$19 billion committed to climate change adaptation finance, according to the joint '[Multilateral Development Banks' Climate Finance'](#) report published last week. [Engineering News, 19 October 2022.](#)

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND POLITICAL EMPOWERMENT ARE CRITICAL FOR ACHIEVING GENDER EQUALITY IN SA More than half (51,1%) of the South African population are female and, according to the General Household Survey (GHS) 2021, more than two-fifths (42,0%) of households are headed by females. While women empowerment is central to the global development agenda and is a steppingstone to gender equality, a new report released by Statistics South Africa (Stats SA) titled '[Gender Series Volume IX: Women Empowerment, 2017–2022](#)' shows that women in SA are more likely to be unemployed than men and are less likely to participate in the labour market than their male counterparts. [Statistics South Africa, 19 October 2022.](#)

SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL CERTIFICATE (SAFC) EMISSIONS ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING GUIDELINES The publication of the '[Sustainable Aviation Fuel Certificate \(SAFc\) Emissions Accounting and Reporting Guidelines](#)' by the Clean Skies for Tomorrow initiative, in collaboration with RMI and PwC Netherlands, marks a critical step in developing a standardized approach, proposing a consistent and transparent book and claim methodology to account for the carbon benefits of SAF across the value chain. [World Economic Forum, 17 October 2022.](#)

LOCAL SUSTAINABLE AVIATION FUEL PRODUCTION IS THE ANSWER TO REDUCED EMISSIONS WWF South Africa recently published a report titled, '[Fuel for the future,](#)' that looks at producing sustainable aviation fuels (SAF) locally using various sustainable feedstocks, including woody invasive alien plants (IAPs), which are the largest sustainable biomass resource in the country (217 million dry tonnes). WWF's blueprint report shows that SA has the immediate technical potential to produce 3.2 billion litres of cost-competitive SAF annually, following the strictest sustainability requirements, at a once-off capital investment of approximately \$12 billion. [ESI Africa, 14 October 2022.](#)

ESG SPAIN 2022: 10TH EDITION OF BUSINESS SUSTAINABILITY EVENT BY FORÉTICA HIGHLIGHTS OPPORTUNITY TO ACCELERATE TRANSFORMATION IN FACE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL CHALLENGES Forética, WBCSD's Global Network partner in Spain, organized the 10th edition of the "[ESG Spain 2022: Corporate Sustainability Forum](#)", the leading business meeting on sustainability in Spain which attracted more than 1,500 attendees. At ESG Spain 2022, more than 20 speakers highlighted the importance of accelerating business action in the field of sustainability, of raising ambition to face the current geopolitical and economic challenges and of addressing national trends from an ESG angle. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 13 October 2022.](#)

ENSURING RELIABLE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY TO LARGE C&I CUSTOMERS IN NIGERIA As fast as industrialisation grows in sub-Saharan Africa countries, large commercial and industrial (C&I) customers just as quickly realise they are held back by an unreliable electricity supply. This sees many large C&I customers resort to fossil fuel-powered self-generation, which increase costs and reduces profitability, stifling much-needed industrialisation. RMI, together with the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company (AEDC), released a report that identifies a collaborative business model which would enable distribution companies

(Discos) and distributed energy resource (DER) developers to provide clean energy to large C&I customers. [ESI Africa, 12 October 2022.](#)

SIX NEW COMPANIES JOINED THE H2ZERO PLEDGES TO ACCELERATE THE USE OF DECARBONIZED HYDROGEN The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) and the Sustainable Markets Initiative (SMI) today announced additional pledges from six companies that are committed to scaling up decarbonized hydrogen in their operations, raising the total number of companies who have already joined the H2Zero initiative up to 34. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 12 October 2022.](#)

ALMOST 1 BILLION AFRICANS LACK ACCESS TO CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY PwC's *Africa Energy Review 2022* suggest the continent is not on track to achieve its energy ambitions. The newly released report outlines the objectives and pressures facing Africa's energy sector. Despite energy playing a pivotal role to the growth of the modern economy, the *Africa Energy Review 2022*, suggests that nearly one billion of Africans lack access to clean, sustainable, and affordable energy. The review found that the shortage of electricity in African countries is equivalent to 1% of the global average. [ESI Africa, 12 October 2022.](#)

TRANSITIONING INDUSTRIAL CLUSTERS TOWARDS NET ZERO: NATIONAL POLICY ENABLEMENT FOR INDUSTRIAL DECARBONIZATION Our new white paper reviews the legislated policies driving industrial decarbonization in a selection of ten nations across the Americas, Europe and Asia-Pacific, as well as the enabling mechanisms to promote a collaborative, market-oriented industrial clusters approach. [World Economic Forum, 11 October 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 latest **Press Release**, entitled: **"Nearly 20,000 organizations disclose environmental data in record year as world prepares for mandatory disclosure,"** [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 **September 2022 Newsletter**, [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 (14.10.22)"** [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 **Insight Article**, entitled: **"Leveling up on living wages to address inequality"**, [here.](#)

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

Implementing Demand-Led Skilling through Technical and Vocational Education and Training Colleges| Thursday, 27 October 2022, via Zoom| 11:00 to 13:00 SAST| The National Business Initiative (NBI) and Absa are collaborating to demonstrate a model of vocational skills development aligned to skills demand in Small and Medium Enterprises (SME). The

model aims to respond to the urgent need to address youth unemployment and enable economic inclusion by working on both the demand and supply side, unlocking demand for skills in SMEs and supporting Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Colleges to respond to and serve such demand. Through this intervention, the NBI seeks to expand the number of SMEs, particularly those in township communities, that are able to train and employ young people by addressing the barriers to growth and sustainability. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

Intergenerational Leadership Dialogue: Business Without Borders | Tuesday, 1 November 2022, via Zoom | 11:00 to 12:30 SAST | The National Business Initiative (NBI) invites you to an upcoming *Intergenerational Leadership Dialogue: Business Without Borders*, on Tuesday, 1 November 2022. The COVID-19 Pandemic necessitated critical discussions around reimagining regional integration and specifically the role of the Private Sector in ensuring regional outcomes under the strategic banner of 'Business Without Borders.' This includes how the Private Sector is well-positioned to deal with systemic and institutional barriers for women, youth and the LGBTIQIA+ community within their networks. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

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

SAVING WHISTLEBLOWERS, SAVING SOUTH AFRICA WITH EMERITUS JUSTICE SISI KHAMPEPE | 21 October 2022 | GIBS – Illovo, Johannesburg | The Zondo Commission has exposed the devastating scale of state capture and corruption in South Africa. More than ever, we are aware that people must speak out about misuse and abuse of power. Yet many whistleblowers pay a heavy price for doing so – physically, financially, socially, and emotionally. Join the GIBS Centre for Business Ethics for a forum about supporting whistleblowers and encouraging speak-out cultures in organisations and society. | [Website & further details.](#)

WBCSD COUNCIL MEETING | 25 - 28 October 2022 | Tokyo, Japan | The Council Meeting is the annual rendezvous for WBCSD CEOs to connect in a safe space to assess key outcomes and align on critical next steps. As environmental, social, economic, and political tensions accelerate, capital markets and society demand companies to rise to the challenge by delivering solutions for a net-zero, nature-positive and equitable world. Navigating a world in constant turmoil requires speed, adaptability, and resilience to shocks. In this volatile environment, sustainability is a competitive advantage that propels business success. | [Website & further details.](#)

REENERGY AFRICA SUMMIT | 26 – 27 October 2022 | Virtual | The ReEnergy Africa summit is a platform for engaging communities and developing projects that will help increase energy access for those who need it the most. When we increase energy access rates, then Africa can compete economically, businesses on the continent can thrive, and our schools and hospitals can be electrified while benefitting our children in the long term. | [Website & further details.](#)

INCITE PRACTITIONER DIALOGUE AND RETREAT | 27-29 October 2022, In-person | Senior Practitioners will explore sustainability / ESG integration, innovation, and disclosure, with opportunity to reflect or work on current challenges. Please note this is not an introductory course. | [Enquiries and reservations: Nicola Robins at \[nicola@incite.co.za\]\(mailto:nicola@incite.co.za\)](#)

ESG Investment North America 2022 | 1 – 2 November 2022 | New York, NY, United States of America | It's clear, ESG is here to stay. With materiality now proven and shareholder pressure growing daily, the conversation has moved from 'WHY' to 'HOW'. NOW is the time for the institutional investment community to make ESG their number one priority. Reuters Events ESG Investment North America 2021 is the most respected meeting place for institutional asset owners, asset managers, regulators, standard setters, and data providers to discuss how to put ESG at the core of investment strategy. | [Website & further details.](#)

10TH ZAMBIA INTERNATIONAL MINING & ENERGY CONFERENCE (ZIMEC) | 1 – 3 November 2022 | Kitwe, Zambia | ZIMEC 2022 will celebrate its 10th edition by moving to Kitwe, the centre of Zambia's mining industry. Zambia aims to increase its copper production to 3 million tons per annum within 10 years and energy production will need to keep the pace with new mines being opened. The main theme of the event is, *"The synergy between mining and energy: Developing sufficient sustainable energy to satisfy Zambia's mineral production goals"*. | [Website & further details.](#)

COP27 | 6 – 18 November 2022 | Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt | Science has established beyond doubt that the window for action is closing rapidly. In November 2022, Egypt will host the 27th Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC (COP27) in Sharm El-Sheikh, with a view to building on previous successes and paving the way for future ambition. A golden opportunity for all stakeholders to rise to the occasion and tackle effectively the global challenge of climate change facilitated by Egypt on the African continent. | [Website & further details.](#)

THE 2022 SANEA CONFERENCE AND ENERGY AWARDS | 9 – 10 November 2022 | Gallagher Convention Centre, Midrand, Gauteng | The 2022 SANEA Conference and Energy Awards have been moved to 9 & 10 November 2022, due to feedback from key stakeholders and larger corporate members, and a very busy time with energy sector events. The new dates will also ensure that stakeholders have the ability to join critical conversations and enrich the experience for delegates. It will combine the conference, risk report launch, and energy risk awards. | [Website & further details.](#)

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