



On A Clear Day: Issue 820, 25 August 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.

QUICK BRIEF: SAPPI BECOMES THE 5TH SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANY TO RECEIVE APPROVAL OF SCIENCE BASED TARGETS IN PURSUIT OF ITS DECARBONISATION GOALS The National Business Initiative (NBI) would like to congratulate Sappi on their commitment to a well-below 2°C carbon reduction trajectory, now approved by the SBTi. The global renewable wood fibre-based resource company has committed to a science-based carbon emission reduction target of 41.5% per ton of product. Read more **here**.

NEWSFLASH: ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL, GOVERNANCE (ESG) AFRICA CONFERENCE. The National Business Initiative (NBI) is delighted to announce the first Environmental, Social, Governance (ESG) Africa conference, which is set to take place on 25-26 October 2022, at the Sandton Convention Centre. The main theme of the conference is **'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 organisations. Read more [here](#).

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT PROGRAMME IS CHANGING LIVES There was recently an inspiring and deeply touching post on a Facebook group for participants in government's school assistant programme. At the end of this month, the second cohort of 245,000 young people will finish their ten-month placement in schools. They will join the ranks of approximately 600,000 young South Africans that have participated in the initiative since its launch in 2020. [Eyewitness News, 22 August 2022.](#)

SME SUPPORTED TO GROW ITS BUSINESS AND THE LOCAL ECONOMY Thanks to the Installation, Repairs and Maintenance (IRM) Hub project in the Mandeni Municipality, which is supported by the Vuthela iLembe LED Support Programme and implemented by the National Business Initiative (NBI), Indrani Govender of Ricinz Construction was put back on her feet. Read more [here](#).

2022 ATLANTIC FELLOWS FOR RACIAL EQUITY ANNOUNCED The Atlantic Fellows for Racial Equity (AFRE) program has announced its fifth annual cohort of fellows working to end anti-Black racism in the United States and South Africa and build a more equitable world. National Business Initiative's Khanyisa Nomoyi (Project Manager: Social Transformation), has been selected as part of this year's 20 fellows. Read more [here](#).

HOW REPLACING COAL WITH RENEWABLE ENERGY COULD PAY FOR ITSELF IMF working paper offsets the price of the energy transition against the benefits: the climate damage that is prevented. [Business Day, 16 August 2022.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

TWO BIG SOLAR FARMS AND A 19.9 MW HYDRO SCHEME ON LATEST NERSA LIST OF 35 PROJECT REGISTRATIONS The National Energy Regulator of South Africa (Nersa) has published a list of the most recent 35 renewables projects – including a 100 MW solar photovoltaic (PV) project in the Northern Cape – to be registered following a recent market reform allowing for large-scale distributed generation projects to proceed without a licence. [Engineering News, 24 August 2022.](#)

CARBON NEUTRAL AND NET ZERO – WHAT DO THEY MEAN? Both carbon neutral and net zero refer to different actions that are essential to combat climate change. Carbon neutral can cover a defined part of business operations and typically accounts for CO₂ emissions, but not other greenhouse gases. Net zero on the other hand means that a company reduces all greenhouse gas emissions across its whole supply chain. [World Economic Forum, 23 August 2022.](#)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IMPROVES TO 33.9% IN THE SECOND QUARTER South Africa's unemployment rate decreased by 0.6 of a percentage point quarter-on-quarter to 33.9% in the second quarter. "Our economy is recovering, coming out of Covid-19, and we can see that it is making strides in terms of employment," statistician-general Risenga Maluleke commented on August 23. [Engineering News, 23 August 2022.](#)

HOW FEMALE-LED START-UPS CAN TRANSFORM AFRICA Women make up 58% of Africa's self-employed population and contribute around 13% of the continent's GDP. Until gender parity is improved throughout the African continent, female entrepreneurs will remain under-earning compared with their male counterparts. Governments and policymakers can support women entrepreneurs and female led startups in Africa through targeted policies including gender-responsive budgeting and utilizing the African Continental Free Trade Agreement. [World Economic Forum, 19 August 2022.](#)

WORLD'S 20 BEST CLIMATE PROJECTS COMPETE FOR THE 2022 C40 CITIES BLOOMBERG PHILANTHROPIES AWARDS C40 Cities and Bloomberg Philanthropies announced 20 city finalists for the 2022 C40 Cities Bloomberg Philanthropies Awards. The awards celebrate the most ambitious and impactful projects spearheaded by mayors from around the world to tackle the global climate crisis. [C40 Cities, 19 August 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

COP27 PRESIDENCY OF EGYPT NAMES BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP AS EXCLUSIVE CONSULTING PARTNER COP27 will focus on strengthening adaptation and resilience, limiting the impacts of climate change, facilitating a just transition, and increasing funding and collaboration for essential climate solutions. BCG will bring industry insight and analytical capabilities to support Egypt's COP27 Presidency. [Boston Consulting Group, 25 August 2022.](#)

ABB AND HYDROGEN OPTIMIZED EXPAND HYDROGEN PARTNERSHIP, INCLUDING A STRATEGIC INVESTMENT Collaboration positions companies for global leadership in large-scale green hydrogen production systems. Combined technological offerings will include Hydrogen Optimized's RuggedCell™ high-power water electrolyzers and ABB's high-power rectifiers. The two companies consolidated their alliance with a new commercial agreement signed at a hydrogen trade show in Stephenville, Newfoundland, attended by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz. [ABB, 24 August 2022.](#)

ERM CONSULTANT ISABELLA KONG RECOGNIZED IN ENVIRONMENT ANALYST'S SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTING AWARDS ERM Consultant Isabella Kong has won the Rising Star Award as part of Environment Analyst's inaugural Sustainability Consulting Awards. These awards recognize and celebrate industry excellence in the sector, recognizing consultancies who have made significant advances in both their clients' and their own sustainability journeys. [ERM, 24 August 2022.](#)

SASOL PREPARES TO RAMP UP DECARBONISATION CAPEX FROM 2025 Energy and chemicals group Sasol expects to invest the bulk of the R15-billion to R25-billion it is budgeting to facilitate a 30% reduction in its carbon emissions by 2030 between 2025 and 2027, having spent only modest capital on such projects to date. [Engineering News, 23 August 2022.](#)

PEPSICO AND ARIZONA STATE UNIVERSITY LAUNCH GLOBAL WATER ACADEMY PepsiCo, Inc. announced, in partnership with Arizona State University (ASU), the open sourcing of the PepsiCo Water Academy. The course, jointly developed by the partners, will be open to individuals outside of the company for the first time. The program will initially be available to a limited number of participants outside of PepsiCo this year, with a goal of expanding this in 2023 based on demand. The Academy is designed to help professionals gain a basic understanding of water resources and how water stewardship practices can be implemented. [PepsiCo, 23 August 2022.](#)

WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION: THE CORNERSTONE OF CHANGE As South Africa celebrates national women's month in August, leading multi-disciplinary engineering and construction company Grinaker-LTA believes that regularly acknowledging the contribution which women in construction make, is of great importance in ensuring gender diversity and equality in this typically male-dominated, tough and demanding sector. [Grinaker-LTA, 18 August 2022.](#)

CELEBRATING A SISTERHOOD At a recent Ninety One event, leading women in the investment industry gathered to pay homage to torchbearers past, while committing to do more, together, to support the upliftment of marginalised women. [Ninety One, 18 August 2022.](#)

ASPEN PARTNERS WITH HAPPIME TO SUPPORT JIYANA SECONDARY SCHOOL Aspen Pharmacare, a leading global specialty and branded multinational pharmaceutical company, has donated 25 computers and 30 tablets to Jiyana Secondary School which produced one of the top performing students in Ekurhuleni in 2021. This donation forms part of the "Gender Equality Today for a Sustainable Tomorrow" program of the United Nations and involved a collaboration between Aspen, HappiMe and the South African Presidency, where the Ministry of Women and Children is hosted. [Aspen Holdings, 12 August 2022.](#)

WOMEN'S MONTH: WILD COAST MAKING GOOD ON ITS AIM OF SUPPORTING SMMES A small business owner who has been selected to join the recently launched Wild Coast Sun Academy which provides world-class training and skills development for the hospitality and food services sectors, has also landed a supplier contract with the resort. Read more [here.](#)

APPLICATIONS ARE NOW OPEN FOR THE SAB FOUNDATION THOLOANA ENTERPRISE PROGRAMME The SAB Foundation has put out a call for growth-orientated entrepreneurs committed to achieving new levels of success to apply to its popular **Tholoana Enterprise Programme**. The SAB Foundation's entrepreneurship development mission is to unlock business development support and investment that helps entrepreneurs to build viable, growing, and sustainable businesses that can create jobs. Applications opened on 1 August and close on 31 August 2022 at midday. Read more [here.](#)

UNIVERSITIES, TVET COLLEGES TO COMPETE IN MTN'S CAMPUS CUP CHALLENGE The 2022 edition of the MTN Business App of the Year competition aims to “reignite passion” for application development among the youth of South Africa through its standalone category that will enable universities and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) college campuses to compete to win a share of R200 000. [Engineering News, 24 August 2022.](#)

BOTSWANA: FIRST GRID-CONNECTED SOLAR PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION Impact investor responsAbility Investment has provided long-term debt financing to the first grid-connected solar PV projects in Botswana through one of its climate funds. [ESI Africa, 22 August 2022.](#)

MAKING MANUFACTURING MORE SUSTAINABLE THROUGH A VALUE CHAIN APPROACH: AN EXAMPLE IN PRACTICE BY ITC PAPERBOARDS AND SPECIALTY PAPERS DIVISION This report describes business actions implemented by ITC in India to achieve sustainability goals in their paper and paperboard manufacturing operations. It outlines key learnings that can support decision-making in other companies, especially in emerging markets. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 22 August 2022.](#)

WATER 2022: A SYSTEM UNDER PRESSURE Creamer Media's *'Water 2022: A system under pressure'* report provides a global overview of the challenges and opportunities facing water and sanitation systems around the world. In particular, the report focuses on South Africa's impending water crisis and the status quo around water regulations and policies, planning by government and its aim of eliminating any further portents of a “Day Zero”. The report also highlights some of the major water and sanitation projects under construction, as well as the funding thereof. [Engineering News, 18 August 2022.](#)

MEET THE FINALISTS OF THE SANTAM WOMEN OF THE FUTURE AWARDS The finalists of the Santam Women of the Future Awards, in association with Fairlady and Truelove, have been announced. “These finalists make me excited about the future, which is what these awards are all about: showcasing the talented, determined women who are helping to transform the South African landscape for all of us, in terms of both our economy and our society,” says Suzy Brokensha, Fairlady editor-in-chief. [Bizcommunity, 17 August 2022.](#)

CLIMATE SCENARIO ANALYSIS REFERENCE APPROACH WBCSD convened 12 leading companies that are supporters of the Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) to develop business-relevant approaches to climate scenario analysis. Companies participating in the project come from industries across energy supply and primary demand and have formed the Climate Scenarios Energy Forum (the Energy Forum). 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. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 16 August 2022.](#)

INCENTIVIZING SUPPLY CHAIN DECARBONIZATION BY MANDATING CARBON REPORTING To reach net-zero, businesses across the globe must address Scope 3 supply chain emissions. Decarbonization within the supply chain plays a critical role in realizing net-zero ambitions, and businesses are in a unique position to influence supplier behaviors, operations, and investments through incentives. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 16 August 2022.](#)

SANTAM JOINS SANLAM AS CO-SPONSOR OF FINANCIAL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR AWARDS Sanlam, the largest non-banking financial services company in Africa, has announced that the Sanlam Financial Journalist of the Year awards will be significantly strengthened with short-term insurer, Santam, taking up co-sponsorship of the long-running event. [Bizcommunity, 15 August 2022.](#)

WINDAC AFRICA 2022 INVITES RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCHERS TO SHOWCASE THEIR WORK Hosted by the South African Wind Energy Association (Sawea), WindAc Africa 2022 is inviting renewable energy researchers to showcase their work once again. The conference works to clearly establish a road towards facilitating an integrated approach to research in achieving a

successful power transition towards a greater share of renewables, as outlined in the country's energy roadmap, and prioritised by the president and the ministers who serve on the Energy Crisis Committee. Read more [here](#).

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: “**CDP finds that only 22% of companies sourcing or producing palm oil in Indonesia have implemented public and comprehensive no deforestation policies.**”, [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 **July 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 (05.08.22)**” [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: “ **A new role for business in the battle against inequality and climate change**”, [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP SERIES: THE IMPACT OF THE GENDER PAY GAP | Wednesday, 31 August 2022 via Zoom | 10:00 to 11:30 SAST | The National Business Initiative (NBI) invites you to a *Thought Leadership Series: The Impact of the Gender Pay Gap* on Wednesday, 31 August 2022. The discussion will focus on a contextual analysis exploring the workplace, societal and economic impacts of the Gender Pay Gap. Building off the [NBI's Gender Pay Gap Pilot study](#), we intend to contribute to the growing work on pay disparity. Focusing on closing the pay gap in the workplace is essential for the transformation agenda of workplaces across the private sector and the public at large. | [Further details & registration link](#).

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

SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 22nd to 26th August 2022, Virtual | The Sustainability Practitioner Programme (SPP) is designed for middle to senior managers in organisations from the private or public sector. The SPP equips delegates with a high-level understanding of sustainability, which rests on a simple premise – the interconnectedness of all things. It requires us to reframe our thinking by asking different questions. The seminar will expose participants to critical social and environmental pressures and help them to assess the impact of these pressures on organisations; develop systems for responding creatively to them; and consider how to integrate these into their organisation's strategy and operations within their spheres of influence. | [Website & further details](#).

WORLD WATER WEEK | 23-31 August 2022, Hybrid | Join the CEO Water Mandate at Stockholm World Water Week 2022, 23-31 August, to convene with the water leaders from around the globe to address the world's most pressing water challenges.

Engage online and in-person, on and off-site, to learn how the CEO Water Mandate is advancing corporate water stewardship and bring your voice to this valuable forum. | [Website & further details.](#)

AFRICA CLIMATE WEEK 2022 | 29 August- 2 September 2022, Hybrid | Africa Climate Week (ACW) 2022 will provide a platform for governments, cities, private sector leaders, financial institutions, and civil society to address the climate change crisis in the context of regional priorities and the need for a green recovery from the pandemic. The event will bring together key stakeholders to take the pulse of climate action in the region, explore climate challenges and opportunities and showcase ambitious solutions. | [Website & further details.](#)

IFRC: MOVING BEYOND GREEN | 30 August 2022 | 08:00-11:30AM SAST | Venue: Johannesburg Stock Exchange, Gauteng, South Africa | A dialogue on accelerated climate action, RSVP by **25 August 2022**: portia.mncube@ifrc.org | [Further details.](#)

ELECTRA MINING AFRICA 2022 | 5-9 September 2022 | Johannesburg Expo Center, Cnr Nasrec Rd and Rand Show, Johannesburg, Gauteng | Visit Southern Africa's largest trade show across the mining, electrical, automation, manufacturing, power, and transport industries. An exciting showcase of new technologies, ground-breaking machinery and equipment, cutting-edge products, systems, and services, and more | [Website & further details.](#)

STATE CAPTURE COMMISSION CONFERENCE | 14- 15 September 2022, via Zoom | The Public Affairs Research Institute (PARI) and the Council for the Advancement of the Constitution (CASAC) are pleased to invite you to their joint hybrid conference to analyse the State Capture Commission's report. | [Website & further details.](#)

WBCSD MEETING IN NORTH AMERICA | 19 September 2022 | New York City, United State – Cornell Club | This meeting will offer opportunities for our members to connect, network and align on our collective global and regional priorities. The discussions will provide innovative perspectives from key thought and business leaders on the interconnected issues of climate, nature, and inequality. | [Website & further details.](#)

UNGA 2022 | 19 September 2022 | New York, United States | The UN General Assembly (UNGA) provides the world's leaders with a platform to highlight today's global development and economic challenges and to find solutions. The side-lines of this Assembly present an opportunity for WBCSD to amplify the voice of sustainable business through collaborative engagement to accelerate systems transformation. To avert the climate crisis, restore nature and tackle inequality, WBCSD is providing opportunities for its members and partners to engage, move forward in action, and in turn, transform value chains. | [Website & further details.](#)

CORPORATE CLIMATE ACCOUNTABILITY DIALOGUE | 20 September 2022 | At Stockholm +50, WBCSD, in close collaboration with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), called for enhanced collaboration between the public and private sector to explore the potential for a new global corporate accountability and transparency mechanism, as outlined in the Stockholm Action Agenda: Transforming Global Value Chains, and building on WBCSD's Business Manifesto for Climate Recovery, launched at COP26. **This is a by-invitation-only event.** For more information contact Lewis Hill at hill@wbcsd.org. | [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**

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