

ON A CLEAR DAY 2022

NBI
National Business Initiative



On A Clear Day: Issue 818, 28 July 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.

PRESS RELEASE: IT ALL HINGES ON RENEWABLES – THE MASSIVE AND URGENT ENERGY TRANSFORMATION SOUTH AFRICA NEEDS. The National Business Initiative (NBI), Business Unity South Africa (BUSA), and the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) Climate Pathways and Just Transition study assesses what it would take for South Africa to reach net-zero by 2050 and to ensure a Just Transition. On 21 July 2022, an integrated energy report titled **"It all hinges on Renewables"** detailing South Africa's Just Transition was launched. This important report lays out the core findings regarding the transformation South Africa needs to pursue in terms of our energy sector and draws upon the series of six innovative research reports released in 2021. Read more [here](#).

WATCH: ENABLING YOUTH RESILIENCE IN A TIME OF COVID The National Business Initiatives (NBI), Anthony Gewer: Programme Manager- Economic Inclusion, participated as a panelist in the Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator webinar discussing lessons from the Plumbing Skills and Work Experience Programme. The keynote speaker Sharmi Surianarain- Chief

Impact Officer at Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator was joined by Stacey Rontiris- BluLever Education, Pria Adler- British High Commission, and Brendan Reynolds- IOPSA. Watch the webinar recording [here](#).

TRIALOGUE STRATEGIC CSI AWARDS 2022 Companies with corporate social investment (CSI) projects that exemplify best practice in South Africa have till **31 July 2022** to enter the Trialogue Strategic CSI Awards. The National Business Initiative's (NBI) Gugu McLaren-Ushewokunze: Head- Economic Inclusion, will be participating as a judge at the Awards. Strategic CSI is defined as CSI that has positive developmental impact, as well as a significantly positive impact on the business, beyond reputational impact. Read more about the Awards, [here](#).

ESG AFRICA CONFERENCE The ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) Africa conference will take place from 25-26 October 2022, at the Sandton Convention Centre. The ESG Africa conference aims to create a platform for industry leaders and experts across Africa to discuss, debate and find solutions to some of the common challenges faced in embedding ESG practices within organisations. The main theme of the conference is a *'Sustainable Future Through Leadership'*. National Business Initiative members receive a 10% discount on the ticket price, for all enquiries, contact: admin@esgafricaconference.com. Read more [here](#).

WITH HALF OF SA'S EXPORTS AT CARBON-TARIFF RISK, NEW REPORT CALLS FOR 190 GW RENEWABLES PUSH With almost half of South Africa's exports at risk as the country's key trade partners prioritise imports from low-carbon economies, a new report urges South Africa to roll-out at least 190 GW of renewables by 2050 to sustain its economic competitiveness and lay the basis for employment creation. [Engineering News, 21 July 2022](#).

WATCH: ENERGY EMERGENCY FACES POLITICAL INERTIA. Michael Avery is joined by Dr Miriam Altman, Joanne Yawitch and Clyde Mallinson. While the country is in the grip of this 15-year-long energy crisis, there is another even slower-burning and longer-running crisis that we have committed to tackle: climate change. [Business Live South Africa, 14 July 2022](#).

UP TO 12 LOCAL LOW-CARBON PROJECTS TARGETED IN UK SUPPORT PROGRAMME Up to 12 low-carbon projects could benefit from technical assistance from the UK's Climate Finance Accelerator programme, says UK deputy high commissioner to South Africa, Adam Bye. The Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA) is a technical assistance programme funded by the UK government, which supports developing countries achieve their climate commitments under the Paris Agreement. [Fin24, 14 July 2022](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

RADICAL RENEWABLES, HYDROGEN RAMP-UP NEEDED, COAL ENERGY TRANSITION DAY HEARS A radical ramp-up of renewable energy and green hydrogen capacity will be needed by 2040 to take South Africa towards a net-zero climate change commitment, the Coal & Energy Transition Day heard on Wednesday. [Engineering News, 27 July 2022](#).

EU FIT FOR 55 PACKAGES On 14 July, the European Commission passed a crucial milestone by adopting the EU "Fit for 55" package to transform the European economy. The package of interconnected legislative proposals will align the EU's climate, energy, land use, transport and taxation policies with the target of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030, compared to 1990 levels. [World Business Council, 23 July 2022](#).

HOW AFRICA COULD BECOME A GLOBAL HYDROGEN POWERHOUSE Africa could supply the whole world with affordable low-carbon energy in the form of hydrogen, a new report suggests. In its Africa Energy Outlook 2022, the International Energy Agency (IEA) says Africa's rich renewable resources – particularly solar energy, but also onshore wind – are the key to unlocking this potential. [World Economic Forum, 21 July 2022](#).

JOB IN RENEWABLE ENERGY ARE GROWING IN THE US – HERE ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS The transition to renewables is boosting employment opportunities in the US, a new report finds. In its United States Energy & Employment Report 2022, the U.S. Department of Energy reveals green job rises in every energy sector. [World Economic Forum, 19 July 2022](#).

AFRICAN CITIES TAKE A BIG STEP TOWARDS TACKLING THE CLIMATE CRISIS C40 Cities will launch a new programme to support seven African cities in developing ambitious climate action implementation plans. The plans will help these cities to become carbon neutral by 2050 and secure a greener future for their nearly 54 million residents. [C40 Cities, 18 July 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

SAPPI BECOMES 5TH SOUTH AFRICAN COMPANY TO RECEIVE APPROVAL OF SCIENCE BASED TARGETS IN PURSUIT OF ITS DECARBONISATION GOALS Sappi is pleased to announce that the science-based carbon emission reduction target of 41.5% per ton of product has been approved by the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi). The SBTi is a collaboration between CDP, the United Nations Global Compact, World Resources Institute (WRI) and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).” [Sappi, 28 July 2022.](#)

EXXARO WELCOMES NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH YES PROGRAMME TO ACHIEVE MAXIMUM IMPACT The diversified mining and renewable energy solutions company, Exxaro Resources continues to power better lives through a partnership it has established with the Youth Employment Service (YES) South Africa. Through this partnership - programmes will be implemented across Exxaro’s coal mine operations in the Limpopo and Mpumalanga provinces to help create employment pathways for young South Africans. [Exxaro, 26 July 2022.](#)

BCG LAUNCHES AFRICAN CENTRE TO ACCELERATE PROGRESS TOWARD NET-ZERO The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) is launching its Centre for Climate & Just Transition in Africa. The centre currently has more than 50 core members across Africa and aims to help companies and governments accelerate their climate and sustainability journeys. [SocialTV, 25 July 2022.](#)

SUSTAINABILITY WITH SUBSTANCE: NINETY ONE PUBLISHES ITS GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT IMPACT REPORT Ninety One has today published its fourth annual Global Environment Impact Report, which provides its ‘sustainability attribution’ for every holding within the Global Environment portfolio – an assessment of each company’s contribution to a greener future and an appraisal of other environmental, social and governance (ESG) issues. [Ninety One, 25 July 2022.](#)

IDC FUNDING TO A BEE GROUP, H1, WILL CREATE ONE OF THE WORLD’S BIGGEST SOLAR PV PLANTS Following on its existing R15.6 billion investment to the South African renewable energy sector, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) is pleased to announce that through its funding support to H1 – a Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) group – it is part of the creation of what is set to become one of the world’s largest hybrid solar PV and battery storage facilities. [Industrial Development Corporation, 25 July 2022.](#)

AGRICARBON™ OPENS 2022 SUBMISSIONS ANNUAL INTAKE AgriCarbon™, Climate Neutral Group’s regenerative agriculture rewards programme, opens 2022 submissions annual intake South African farmers practising regenerative agriculture can earn extra income through the country’s leading carbon offset programme for the agricultural sector. AgriCarbon is the first internationally recognised agriculture carbon offset programme and the first in the world to undertake the third-party audit cycle through an approved Validation Verification Body (VVB) under the Verra Carbon Standard’s VM0042 methodology. [Carbon Neutral Group, 22 July 2022.](#)

IMPERIAL EXCELS AT AFRICA SUPPLY CHAIN EXCELLENCE AWARDS The Africa Supply Chain Excellence Awards (ASCEA), launched this year, recognise the vital role played by supply chain management and honour and celebrate the outstanding achievements of organisations and individuals working in the field in Africa. We are proud that Imperial scooped four awards at the ASCEA ceremony, which was held at the Maslow Hotel in Johannesburg this week. [Imperial, 22 July 2022.](#)

PEPSICO ISSUES NEW \$1.25 BILLION 10-YEAR GREEN BOND AS COMPANY ACCELERATES PEP+ TRANSFORMATION PepsiCo announced the closing of a new \$1.25 billion 10-year Green Bond. The Company will use an amount equivalent to the net proceeds from the offering to fund Eligible Green Projects which will focus on its pep+ (PepsiCo Positive) agenda – the Company’s strategic, end-to-end transformation that places sustainability and human capital at the center of how it will create growth and value. Investments under PepsiCo’s new Green Bond will focus on investments to deliver key environmental

sustainability initiatives under two pillars of its pep+ agenda: Positive Agriculture and Positive Value Chain. [PepsiCo, 20 July 2022.](#)

GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS VARY DRAMATICALLY ACROSS U.S. OIL AND GAS COMPANIES, ACCORDING TO UPDATED ANALYSIS ERM analysis on behalf of Ceres and Clean Air Task Force benchmarking the relative emissions intensity and total reported methane, carbon dioxide, and nitrous oxide emissions of more than 300 U.S. oil and gas producers finds dramatic variations between companies and basins. Read more [here.](#)

EY CALLS FOR ENTREPRENEURS TO ENTER THE WORLD ENTREPRENEUR AWARD™ SOUTHERN AFRICA. EY calls for nominations for the EY World Entrepreneur Award™ Southern Africa programme, now in its 25th year. EY Africa CEO Ajen Sita said: “Entrepreneurs are rapidly reshaping the world and no more so than in Africa. This year we hope to attract more women-led businesses in particular. “Women in Southern Africa have provided inspiration in reframing our future and have tackled some of the world’s most intractable problems through innovation.” Nominations close August 2022. Read more [here.](#)

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

NEW PAPER ANALYSES HOW USING LOCATION-SPECIFIC INFORMATION CAN HELP IMPROVE BUSINESS STRATEGIES The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), together with Systemiq and the UN Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC), released a new whitepaper on ***Spatial intelligence & business: data application for a nature positive and net zero future*** analysing how using location-specific information can help inform decision-making, transform & improve business strategies to achieve global nature and climate goals. [World Business Council, 28 July 2022.](#)

CLIMATE FINANCE CRUCIAL TO AFRICA AND ITS ENERGY GOALS The African Development Bank (AfDB) and the International Monetary Fund’s (IMF) experts have emphasised the urgency of climate financing for Africa. Experts from the two organisations stressed the urgency of mobilising climate financing for Africa during a panel discussion on the African Development Bank’s 2022 ***African Economic Outlook*** hosted by the IMF in Washington, DC on Monday. [ESI Africa, 28 July 2022.](#)

MEA POTENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE ENERGY PRODUCTION BETTER THAN ACTUAL READINESS Increased regulation and targeted investments are crucial if the Middle East and Africa are to live up to their potential to become a hotspot for sustainable energy production. This is indicated by an ***Energy Transition Readiness Index*** for the Middle East and Africa region, launched by Siemens Energy and global management consultancy Roland Berger. [ESI Africa, 28 July 2022.](#)

WWF SOUTH AFRICA REACTS TO THE PRESIDENTIAL ENERGY CRISIS PLAN We are encouraged to see that there is a strong role for renewable energy in this plan, including the acceleration of the Integrated Resource Plan (IRP)’s proposed renewable energy development as was called for by a large grouping of civil society. This is in line with all the scientific and technical guidance that renewable energy is both the fastest and the cheapest means of addressing the energy shortfall, especially when coupled with appropriate forms of energy storage. [WWF-South Africa, 27 July 2022.](#)

BOOK NOW TO ATTEND MZANSI YOUNG FARMERS INDABA In a historic first, South Africa's top young farmers and agripreneurs will descend on Johannesburg for the inaugural Mzansi Young Farmers Indaba. Proudly presented by ***Food For Mzansi***, the event on 15 and 16 September 2022 will connect top talent with investors, funders and other stakeholders seeking partnerships with the new faces of South African agriculture. [Bizcommunity, 25 July 2022.](#)

CHINA’S CLIMATE CHALLENGE: FINANCING THE TRANSITION TO NET ZERO The World Economic Forum in partnership with Oliver Wyman have published a report engaging stakeholders from the mobility, construction, real estate & steel industries as well as the financial services community on the need to create new financing models that support the transition to net zero in China. [World Economic Forum, 21 July 2022.](#)

CALL FOR NPO ENTRIES - R1M UP FOR GRABS IN MTN AWARDS FOR SOCIAL CHANGE Non-profit organisations are invited to enter the MTN Awards for Social Change before the end of July 2022 to stand a chance to win a share of R1m. Launched in 2019

by the MTN Foundation and Trialogue, the awards recognises and rewards non-profits that are able to provide measurable evidence of the positive difference they are making. [Bizcommunity, 18 July 2022.](#)

EMBEDDING ESG AND SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS INTO THE THREE LINES MODEL There is no net zero without nature. When we speak with CEOs and CFOs, the question is no longer if they should act, but how and if their businesses should be part of the solution. [World Business Council, 14 July 2022.](#)

EMPOWERED WOMEN EMPOWER OTHERS! THE THRIVING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS SUMMIT IS BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER The ever popular and eagerly anticipated *Thriving Women Entrepreneurs Summit*, hosted by renowned Business Coaching company ActionCoach Southern Africa, is back this Women's Month and claims to be more beneficial than ever before. This year's virtual summit, taking place on Friday, 12 August 2022, from 9am - 12.30pm, has a powerful panel of seven influential female entrepreneurs ready to inspire you to run thriving businesses. [Bizcommunity, 14 July 2022.](#)

GENDER, WORK AND ORGANIZATION CONFERENCE 2023 The next Gender, Work and Organization (GWO) international conference will be hosted from 28-30 June 2023, for the first time on African shores. Join us for an in-person conference in Cape Town, South Africa. The GWO 2023 Program Committee now invites proposals for stream topics that respond to the conference theme: *Marginalized gender identities: How can intellectual activism transform work and organization?* We also invite proposals for collaborative events. The deadline for stream proposals has been extended to 15 August 2022. 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 comment on EU Taxonomy vote**”, [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 **April 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 (22.07.22)**” [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: “ **How businesses have a unique opportunity to promote inclusive practices in their supply chains**”, [here.](#)

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR SOUTH AFRICA Q&A DROP-IN| Thursday, 4 August 2022 via Zoom| 10:00 to 13:00 SAST| Do you have questions related to the Climate Finance Accelerator? Please join the CFA SA team for a virtual Q&A Drop-in meeting on Thursday, 4th of August between 10:00 – 13:00 on Zoom. Feel free to use this time to pose any questions you may have about the programme or application process. A member of the CFA SA team will be on hand to respond to your queries| [Further details & registration link.](#)

DRIVING ECONOMIC INCLUSION AND ADDRESSING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT THROUGH THE IRM HUBS| Wednesday, 17 August 2022 via Zoom | 10:00 to 12:00 SAST| The Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) Initiative seeks to expand employment and career progression opportunities for young people across the industrial economy. The National Business Initiative (NBI) has launched two IRM hubs in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal to uncover entrepreneurial potential amongst township artisans and create conditions for their potential to be realised, through increased market access with the formal sector, as well as enterprise and skills development. Join us on Wednesday, 17 August 2022, as the NBI hosts an industry event showcasing the IRM hubs. The event will serve as a platform to demonstrate the value of the hubs in bringing township enterprises closer to formal sector supply and value chains, and also identify the potential for strategic partnerships, which can benefit corporates in their contribution to more inclusive and sustainable economic growth. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

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

GWS 2022: 9TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES 2022 | 28-29 July 2022 | National University of Singapore Society, Singapore | We welcome individual paper presentations, panel sessions, round table discussions, performances, short films, and posters. Your participation in GWS2022 may be under Oral, Poster & Virtual categories. Your presentation may include (Original research papers, published articles, Dissertations/Ph.D. thesis, Research abstracts, etc.) | [Website & further details.](#)

GIBS RFI/IRAS: 2022 ESG/SUSTAINABILITY DATA TRANSPARENCY IN SA LAUNCH | 03 August 2022| GIBS – Illovo, Johannesburg, South Africa| This is a multi-functional event designed to inform delegates of the results of a 12-month assessment of the ESG/Sustainability performance data reported by all of the 270 independent JSE-listed companies. | [Website & further details.](#)

WOMEN IN BUSINESS BREAKFAST 2022| 04 August 2022, Online| We will pose some hard-hitting questions relating to women in business, industry, and the economy as well as touch on issues such as gender-based violence and the empowerment of women. Be prepared to be inspired, empathise, and engage. | [Website & further details.](#)

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.](#)

ETHICAL BEHAVIOUR AND PRACTICES OF SMMES IN SOUTH AFRICA| 22 August 2022| GIBS – Illovo, Johannesburg, South Africa| A flourishing SMME sector is vital for entrepreneurship, economic inclusion, and South Africa's future. Yet this sector is beset by major issues and challenges, including the relationship between big companies and the small and medium-sized businesses that supply them. Join the GIBS Centre for Business Ethics for a conversation between senior corporate leaders and successful entrepreneurs about these findings, possible responses, and the future of the SMME sector. | [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.](#)

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.**](#)

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