



On A Clear Day: Issue 827, 5 December 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.

SOUTH AFRICAN PAVILION AT COP27 The National Business Initiative (NBI) would like to thank our member companies; **Anglo American, Exxaro, Ninety One, Sasol, Eskom, Industrial Development Corporation, Nedbank, Old Mutual, PwC, RMB, South32, Standard Bank, Absa, Imperial, JSE, Mainstream Renewable Power South Africa, Norton Rose Fulbright, and Thungela**, as well as **The Presidential Climate Commission, Development Bank of Southern Africa, Energy Council of South Africa, The African Climate Foundation, and Minerals Council of South Africa**, for sponsoring the South Africa Pavilion at COP27. Your support and commitment are indicative of the critical need for government and business to work together to help ensure a successful Just Transition to net-zero by 2050. Click [here](#), to watch President Ramaphosa's visit to the South Africa Pavilion at COP27.

NEWSFLASH: INNOVATIVE NEW PROJECTS JOIN CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR SOUTH AFRICA Fifteen innovative low-carbon projects from across South Africa have been announced as the second cohort of projects for Climate Finance

Accelerator (CFA) South Africa support, following a call for proposals that attracted 166 applications. The chosen projects come from the energy, transportation, AFOLU (agriculture, forestry, and other land uses), circular economy and water sectors. They will receive tailored one-to-one and group support to help increase their chances of securing finance from South African and international investors. This follows a successful first round in 2021 that has so far seen almost of a third of projects find new partners and investors. Read more, [here](#).

INNOVATIVE NEW PROJECTS JOIN CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR SOUTH AFRICA Fifteen innovative low-carbon projects have been selected to join the UK's Climate Finance Accelerator - they will each receive tailored capacity building to help them find investment. These new projects from across South Africa have been announced as the second cohort of projects for Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA) South Africa support, following a call for proposals that attracted 166 applications. CEO of the National Business Initiative (NBI), Joanne Yawitch said: *"The dedication and commitment to driving low-carbon emissions shown through this applications process are indicative of an enhanced level of climate ambition within the South African private sector. We are hopeful the low-carbon projects selected will act as catalysts for further domestic and international financing and investments in SA, and help ensure our transition is just, inclusive, and economically competitive"*. [Africa Newsroom, 30 November 2022](#).

NBI CEO JOANNE YAWITCH BREAKS DOWN SUSTAINABILITY IN SOUTH AFRICA Joanne Yawitch is the CEO of the National Business Initiative (NBI) and a member of the Inaugural Presidential Climate Change Coordinating Commission. She has held the position of CEO at the NBI since March 2011 and previously worked as the Deputy General for Climate Change in the Department of Environmental Affairs. Yawitch also worked as the Special Advisor to the Minister of Land Affairs prior to 1997, after which she worked for the Gauteng Department of Environment until 2004. In today's episode of Business Talk, Yawitch discusses the impact the NBI has had on sustainability in South Africa since it was founded in 1995. [AffluenceR, 30 November 2022](#).

SCHOOL GREENING AND GARDENING PROGRAMME PRODUCES THE GOODS TO WIN TRIALOGUE'S STRATEGIC CSI AWARD EduPlant is the 2022 winner of the coveted Trialogue Strategic CSI Award, which was established in 2014 to recognise projects that find the optimal balance between social impact and corporate benefit. The award encourages corporate social investment (CSI) practitioners to think more strategically when designing and implementing programmes. The Award judges were Gugu McLaren-Ushewokunze, who leads the Economic Inclusion programme at the National Business Initiative (NBI) and Bhinkosi Moyo, adjunct professor at Wits Business School and director of the Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment (CAPSI). Each entry was scored against the project's objectives, social benefits, and corporate benefits. [Triologue, 29 November 2022](#).

FORESTRY, FISHERIES AND THE ENVIRONMENT ON OUTCOME OF 27TH CONFERENCE OF PARTIES South Africa welcomes the final outcomes of the Twenty Seventh Session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change in Egypt, Sharm El-Sheikh (COP27). South Africa congratulates the Egyptian COP27 Presidency for successful hosting of the twenty seventh session of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)'s Sharm el-Sheikh Conference of Parties (COP27). COP27 also marked the fifth South African Pavilion (partnership between the Department of Forestry, Fisheries, and the Environment (DFFE) and National Business Initiative), which showcased the collaboration between government and business in the fight against climate change. [Africa Newswire, 22 November 2022](#).

SA WELCOMES DECISION TO ESTABLISH FUND TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE The Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Barbara Creecy, has welcomed the decision to establish a fund on loss and damage to address the impacts of climate change. *"The key milestone agreed to at COP27 was on financial arrangements to address loss and damage due to climate change. COP27 agreed to set up a fund on loss and damage. It established a Transitional Committee to work on the modalities of this fund, with a view of taking a decision at COP28 in 2023,"* Creecy said on Tuesday, 22 November. [AllAfrica, 22 November 2022](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

SOUTH AFRICA'S GREEN HYDROGEN COMMERCIALISATION STRATEGY TO BE RELEASED FOR COMMENT Cabinet has approved the publication of the Green Hydrogen Commercialisation Strategy (GHCS) for public comment. Minister in the

Presidency Mondli Gungubele said the strategy would seek to ensure that South Africa became a major producer and exporter of green hydrogen and derivatives, and that the sector contributed towards growth and supported the country's just energy transition. [Engineering News, 1 December 2022.](#)

CLIMATE TRANSITION IN AGRICULTURE WILL NEED THE SUPPORT OF BANKS It has been just a few weeks since thousands gathered in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt for the annual United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27). The discussions at COP27 were a stark reminder of the urgent need for leaders to take accountability, and the role that financial institutions can play in helping the world meet its climate goals. Reducing the carbon footprint in agriculture, which accounts for roughly 20 percent of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, is essential if we are to limit global warming to below 1.5 degrees Celsius by 2050. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 1 December 2022.](#)

CONSTRUCTION TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION HUB, PORTAL LAUNCHED Public benefit organisation the National Construction Incubator (NCI), in collaboration with non-profit organisation and technology hub the Empire Partner Foundation (EPF), has launched the first construction technology innovation hub in South Africa. The partnership is focused primarily on supporting entrepreneurship development and innovation within the construction sector through the support, development and mentoring of emerging construction companies in the country. The new construction technology innovation hub is aimed at providing all stakeholders, industry leaders, and small, medium-sized and microenterprises (SMMEs) in the construction sector with a platform to engage in a joint effort to transform the South African construction landscape. [Engineering News, 30 November 2022.](#)

SÃO PAULO BANS NEW DIESEL BUSES IN CITY FLEET Last month, SPTrans, São Paulo's Transit Agency, banned the procurement of new diesel buses in the city. The decision signals a growing movement toward zero-emission buses across Latin America to drastically reduce emissions, improve air quality, avoid premature deaths, and improve public transport. [C40 Cities, 29 November 2022.](#)

ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN, MOST WIDESPREAD, PERVERSIVE HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION Violence against women and girls (VAWG) is not only one of the worst forms of discrimination but also remains the most widespread and pervasive human rights violations in the world, 11 UN entities said on Friday, the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. In a statement kicking off the "UNiTE! Activism to End Violence against Women and Girls campaign", they reminded that an estimated one in three women experience gender-based violence during her lifetime. [United Nations, 25 November 2022.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

GREENOVATE AWARDS 2022 WINNERS Using mushroom roots to create sustainable insulation material, adding artificial photosynthesis to the facades of buildings to power them, how bringing nature into building designs positively impacts the study performance of university students, and investing in property for social impact. These are some of the sustainability ideas explored by local university students in the annual Growthpoint Properties (JSE: GRT) and Green Building Council of South Africa (GBCSA) Greenovate Awards. [Growthpoint, 28 November 2022.](#)

KFW DEVELOPMENT BANK SIGNS MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION The Industrial Development Corporation of South Africa Limited (IDC) and KfW Development Bank, in respect to mandates of their respective Governments have achieved yet another milestone in their long-standing partnership. The duo has signed an MOU that will lead to strengthening of cooperation between the two funding entities – more so as the IDC seeks to ramp up its financial support to the development of South Africa's green hydrogen economy. As part of this agreement, the parties will conclude an agreement which will enable the IDC to manage €23 million in grant funds from the German Government. [Industrial Development Corporation, 28 November 2022.](#)

MATHABO MAKHAYA (32) WINS TOP PRIZE IN THE SAICA TOP-35-UNDER-35 CA(SA) COMPETITION Mathabo Makhaya, Group Financial Manager at Harmony Gold Mining and Chairperson of the Investment Committee Mineworkers Provident

Fund, has been announced as the overall winner of the highly coveted 2022 Top 35-under-35 chartered accountants [CA(SA)] competition. Recognising young CAs (SA) achievers who are not only excelling in their professional capacity, but who are also making a meaningful contribution to society and steering the profession in the right direction, this annual competition was launched in 2014 and has proven to be a huge success in acknowledging and promoting young CAs (SA) under the age of 35 who are making a remarkable difference. [SAICA, 25 November 2022.](#)

BUSINESS AND SOCIAL PARTNERS COLLABORATE TO PROGRESS MPUMALANGA'S JUST TRANSITION AND DRIVE LARGE-SCALE, SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT As the country transitions towards a lower-carbon economy, collaboration between business and social partners is required. Impact Catalyst, an initiative founded by Anglo American, the CSIR, Exxaro, and World Vision South Africa, initially in Limpopo, is now expanding to include Sasol, Industrial Development Corporation, Mpumalanga Office of the Premier, Mpumalanga Green Cluster Agency and Eskom Development Foundation. It aims to drive large-scale, socio-economic development initiatives that will enable a Just Transition in Mpumalanga and contribute to a thriving regional we have an economy. [Exxaro, 25 November 2022.](#)

DE BEERS CANADA EMPLOYEE AMONG 100 GLOBAL INSPIRATIONAL WOMEN IN MINING De Beers Canada long serving employee, Pamela Cook Ellemers has been named one of 100 Global Inspirational Women in Mining (WIM100) by Women in Mining UK (WIM UK). Cook Ellemers, who is the Principal Mineral Resource Manager – Canada for De Beers Group Technical & Sustainability, is the only De Beers Group employee and one of nine Canadian women featured on this year's list. WIM UK publishes the list every two years to celebrate women's contribution to the mining industry and identifies inspirational role models to encourage future generations of women to consider mining as a career choice. [De Beers Group, 24 November 2022.](#)

ANGLO AMERICAN COLLABORATES WITH AURUBIS ON SUSTAINABLE COPPER VALUE CHAIN Anglo American has signed a memorandum of understanding with Aurubis AG ("Aurubis") – a global provider of non-ferrous metals and one of the world's largest copper recyclers – to develop a copper product offering that responds to increasing expectations for future-enabling metals that are sustainably sourced and supplied. [Anglo American, 24 November 2022.](#)

ABB INVESTS IN CLIMATE TECH START-UP TALLARNA Collaboration further expands ABB's innovation ecosystem strategy and strengthens digital portfolio of its Smart Power division. Tallarna's software helps customers identify successful decarbonization investments and mitigate financial risks. Tallarna helps identify optimal solutions for energy efficiency projects and energy cost reductions. [ABB, 22 November 2022.](#)

BARLOWORLD DELIVERS STRONG RESULTS BOOSTED BY A FOCUS ON STRATEGY EXECUTION AND CAPITAL ALLOCATION Barloworld Limited announced its annual results for the year ended 30 September 2022. The group delivered impressive and improved results, benefitting from resilient performances across its underlying businesses. The group will continue to focus on delivering against its strategy and growing our core businesses in our chosen verticals. Despite anticipated headwinds in the short-term resulting from inflationary pressures, the group is confident that Equipment southern Africa is well-positioned to sustain growth in the long term due to a growing demand for infrastructure development and increased mining activity in support of the energy transition to zero carbon emissions. [Barloworld, 22 November 2022.](#)

SUN INTERNATIONAL HELPS TACKLE GBV DURING 16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM With gender-based violence (GBV) high on the agenda from the end of this month during the 16 Days of Activism, Sun International is taking educational workshops to needy schools in under-privileged areas. The courses will tackle issues such as the six Virtues of True Masculinity and No Excuse for Abuse. In early December, two Soweto schools will benefit from the workshops, with more being held in the first term of 2023. In addition to the education workshops in schools, Sun International has collaborated with forgedood, South Africa's largest volunteering platform, who are hosting two free, virtual self-defence workshops – one on 22 November and the second on 05 December 2022. The purpose of the workshops is to equip women with techniques to defend themselves. [Sibizi News, 20 November 2022.](#)

ABSA FUNDS THE FIRST RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECTS Absa acted as the joint mandated lead arranger and lender for two of EDF Renewables' renewable energy projects which reached financial close on 10 November 2022. The projects comprise two

140MW wind farms which will be located in the Northern Cape and developed at a total estimated capital cost of R7.7billion. Read more, [here](#).

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

AN INTRODUCTORY GUIDE FOR NET ZERO TARGET SETTING FOR FARM-BASED AGRICULTURAL EMISSIONS In this report, the Banking for Impact on Climate in Agriculture (B4ICA) initiative aims to supplement existing guidance by providing banks with clear, pragmatic, and practical recommendations for setting targets to support companies within their agriculture sector portfolios to reduce GHG emissions, with special focus on farms. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 1 December 2022.](#)

NEW STUDY SHOWS THE WORLD COULD BE ON TRACK TO MITIGATE GLOBAL WARMING Plausible pathways still exist to get on track for well below two degrees Celsius of global warming, if governments and companies take determined action to transition to low-carbon energy technologies, according to the [2022 New Energy Outlook. ESI Africa, 1 December 2022.](#)

HOW ONE INDIAN STATE IS LEADING A SOLAR POWER BOOM India needs a lot more solar power as part of its net-zero emissions plans. But solar accounts for less than 4% of India's electricity generation. One state, Gujarat, currently has nearly two-thirds of all residential rooftop solar power in India, despite covering just 6% of its land mass. A new report shows how Gujarat state led the country in the solar power boom. [World Economic Forum, 30 November 2022.](#)

WWF CALLS FOR BUSINESS, NATURE PLATFORM IN AFRICA TO LINK DEPENDENCY, CUSTODIANSHIP Global conservation organisation the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Africa regional director Alice Ruhweza has called for WWF Africa and its partners to set up a business and nature platform through which businesses can help shape robust climate policies and advocate for nature. [Engineering News, 29 November 2022.](#)

SA'S UNEMPLOYMENT RATE IMPROVES The official unemployment rate declined further to 32.9% in the third quarter of 2022, from 33.9% in the second, Statistics SA reported on Tuesday, 29 November 2022. The Quarterly Labour Force Survey (QLFS) shows that 204 000 jobs were gained between the second and third quarter of 2022. The largest job gains were in manufacturing (+123 000), trade (+82 000), construction (+46 000) and transport (+33 000). [Engineering News, 29 November 2022.](#)

GREEN HYDROGEN EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES IN AFRICA SHOW ENDLESS PROMISE Africa could capture as much as 10% of the global green hydrogen market, helping to create up to 3.7 million jobs and adding as much as \$120 billion to the continent's gross domestic product (GDP). This is according to a landmark report issued jointly by Masdar and its Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week platform on the side lines of the 2022 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27). Africa's plentiful solar and wind resources could be leveraged to produce 30 to 60 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) of green hydrogen by 2050, about 5-10% of global demand, according to the report, [Africa's Green Energy Revolution: Hydrogen's role in unlocking Africa's untapped renewables](#), produced with analytical support provided by McKinsey & Company. [ESI Africa, 22 November 2022.](#)

UNEP HONOURS FIVE PROTECTORS OF MOTHER EARTH The UN Environment Programme (UNEP) announced on Tuesday, the 2022 Champions of the Earth for their transformative action to prevent, halt or reverse ecosystem degradation. A conservationist, a sustainable waste management enterprise, an economist, a women's rights activist, and a wildlife biologist were selected from nearly 2,200 nominations – a new submission record. UNEP's annual Champions of the Earth award is the UN's highest environmental honour, which recognizes individuals and organizations from a number of fields, including civil society, academia and the private sector, that are blazing a trail in protecting our natural world. [United Nations, 22 November 2022.](#)

WBCSD BUSINESS BRIEF ON THE CORPORATE ACCOUNTABILITY AGENDA AT COP27 Ensuring accountability for climate action commitments was a key theme at COP27, especially for the business community. Out of the hundreds of reports that dropped at the Climate COP27 in Sharm El Sheikh, there are two that business should be most aware of: ["Integrity Matters": The High-](#)

Level Expert Group Report (HLEG) on the Net Zero Emissions Commitments of Non-State Entities and The Business for Climate Recovery: Accelerating Accountability, Ambition and Action, released by WBCSD. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 21 November 2022.](#)

NEW AIR POLLUTION AND CLIMATE ASSESSMENT PROVIDES A BASIS FOR ACTION TOWARD A GREEN FUTURE A recently released integrated assessment recommends actions to cut air pollution and prevent climate change in Africa where 1.1 million people died prematurely from air pollution-related deaths in 2019. ***The Integrated Assessment of Air Pollution and Climate Change for Sustainable Development in Africa*** released by the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the African Union Commission shows how African leaders can act quickly across 5 key areas—transport, residential, energy, agriculture, and waste—to fight climate change, prevent air pollution and protect human health. [ESI Africa, 18 November 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: “**New data shows companies recognising biodiversity risks but majority not turning commitments into 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 **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 (04.11.22)**” [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: “**Sustainable finance: taking stock and maintaining momentum**”, [here.](#)

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

There are no events to share.

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

LAUNCH OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GREEN HYDROGEN TVET ECOSYSTEM JUST TRANSITION STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK | 6 December 2022 via livestream | The purpose of the event is to formally launch the South African Green Hydrogen TVET Ecosystem Just Transition Strategic Framework study. It applies advanced and economy-wide modelling of national energy systems, including hydrogen use, and their economic and GHG emission impact. The study has been co-developed by the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA) alongside the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI). Project partners include the National Business Initiative (NBI), University of Cape Town’s Energy Research Centre, Trade and Industrial Policy Strategies, and Bambili Advisory. [| Livestream.](#)

LEVERAGING URBAN NATURE TO CREATE INCLUSIVE AND EQUITABLE CITIES | 7 December 2022 via Zoom | As cities continue to expand their built environment, maintaining equity and inclusion becomes even more critical. Join us to learn about the challenges and opportunities of using nature as a tool to build more inclusive cities. | [Website & further details.](#)

UN BIODIVERSITY CONFERENCE (COP 15) | 7 - 19 December 2022 | Livestream | Despite on-going efforts, biodiversity is deteriorating worldwide, and this decline is projected to worsen with business-as-usual scenarios. The UN Biodiversity Conference will convene governments from around the world to agree to a new set of goals for nature over the next decade through the Convention on Biological Diversity post-2020 framework process. | [Website & further details.](#)

GREENER CITIES, COOLER PLANET, HEALTHIER PEOPLE: UNLEASHING THE POWER OF URBAN NATURE | 13 December 2022 | Livestream | This session will focus on the role of nature as an adaptation tool, and how national and local governments can provide access to cooling while mitigating climate risks and supporting biodiversity. The discussion will enable exchanges between global experts, countries, and cities on the opportunities to catalyse restoration in the framework of urban planning. | [Website & further details.](#)

Africa's Green Economy Summit 2023 | 22 – 24 February 2023 | Century City, Cape Town, South Africa | Africa's Green Economy Summit is a deal-making platform that marries global capital with green economy projects from across the continent, focusing on e-mobility. The theme in 2023 is Driving the E-mobility & Infrastructure Investment Strategy. Connecting people and organisations to information and each other, the Summit brings together senior officials from African governments, cities, and policymakers together with the global investor community, project developers and business executives, to pave the way for an inclusive green economy and sustainable mobility. The Summit's overarching theme is e-mobility complemented by two interdependent green economy pillars: renewable energy and clean technologies. | [Website & further details.](#)

SUSTAINABILITY PRACTITIONER PROGRAMME | 6 - 10 March 2023 | 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. | [Further details.](#)

THE AFRICA ENERGY INDABA 2023 | 7-9 March 2023 | Cape Town International Convention Centre, South Africa. | The Africa Energy Indaba Conference will discuss, debate, and seek solutions to enable adequate energy generation across the continent. Delegates, drawn from all continents, represent an unrivalled combination of industry experts, project developers, financiers, energy users, government officials and manufacturers. | [Website & further details.](#)

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