



On A Clear Day: Issue 821, 8 September 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: ADDRESSING GENDER (IN)EQUITY IN THE ARTISANAL INDUSTRY | INSIGHTS FROM THE IRM INITIATIVE** Gender inequity presents significant barriers to the socio-economic upliftment of women and gender-diverse persons in the artisanal industry. Research has sought to highlight the cumulative impact of exclusion, which includes the confluence of patriarchal norms, gender roles, the gendered pay gap, workplace exclusion, discrimination, and bias, and its attendant consequences on women. Read more [here](#).

**CLIMATE CHANGE IS NOT A COMPETITION** We know that partnerships are fundamental to transforming the built environment for people and the planet to thrive. But how do we drive the significant shifts we need for a world created and built on shared value principles? [SA Affordable Housing, 31 August 2022](#).

**SOUTH AFRICA MUST BRIDGE THE GAP ON LABOUR FORCE GENDER DISPARITY** The personal and social costs of the employment crisis are not gender neutral. Women experience disproportionately worse outcomes than men at every stage. In

the search for work, barriers for young women are higher and harder to overcome. When they do find work, no matter which job type, women earn less. Read more [here](#).

## INDUSTRY NEWS

**BII REAFFIRMS CLIMATE PARTNERSHIP WITH EGYPT, REVEALS AMBITION TO INVEST \$100M IN EGYPTIAN STARTUPS** UK development finance institution (DFI) British International Investment (BII) has announced plans to invest \$100 million in Egyptian start-ups over its current strategy period. The DFI, which was formerly known as CDC Group, also reaffirmed its commitment to strengthen its partnership with Egypt and increase climate finance to support the country's green growth. [Engineering News, 7 September 2022.](#)

**GAUTENG LAUNCHES RENEWABLE ENERGY, CLIMATE CHANGE SCHOOL IN SEDIBENG** The Gauteng Department of Education (GDE) has launched another school of specialisation with a focus on renewable energy and climate change, in Bophelong, Vanderbijlpark. [Engineering News, 7 September 2022.](#)

**THE WORLD NEEDS AFRICA'S GREEN HYDROGEN TO DECARBONISE, CONFERENCE DELEGATES TOLD** The world cannot decarbonise without Africa's production of green hydrogen, hydrogen fuel cell company Hypowa CEO and trade association African Hydrogen Partnership SG and cofounder Siegfried Huegemann has said. [Mining Weekly, 6 September 2022.](#)

**URBAN 20 MAYORS CALL ON G20 TO FOSTER A SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL RECOVERY FOR ALL** These actions will help to address the climate crisis, foster social cohesion, and address equality, the mayors and government declared in a communiqué signed by representatives from 44 cities. The city leaders outlined their vision to work collaboratively with G20 leaders at the Urban 20 Summit in Jakarta, Indonesia. [C40 Cities, 31 August 2022.](#)

**MEASURING IMPACT TO FOSTER DIVERSE, EQUITABLE, AND INCLUSIVE WORKPLACES** Initiatives to cultivate diversity, equity, and inclusion (DE&I) in the workplace are no longer just nice to have—they're business critical. Leaders who embrace the true value of DE&I are laying the foundations for employees to speak up without fear of judgment, share their ideas and be heard. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 31 August 2022.](#)

## NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

**CLOSE THE CYBERSECURITY GENDER GAP TO IMPROVE CYBER RESILIENCE** Women still only make up a quarter of the workforce in cybersecurity, a striking gap compared to 39% participation in the general workforce. At the same time, the global cybersecurity workforce would need to grow by 80% to meet current demand, according to a joint study by Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and The Global Cybersecurity Forum (GCF). The report, titled *"Empowering Women to Work in Cybersecurity Is a Win-Win,"* was released on 7 September 2022. It is based on a global survey of 2,000 female science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) undergraduate students in 26 countries across six regions, as well as interviews with 20 international experts in the field. [Boston Consulting Group, 7 September 2022.](#)

**SOUTH AFRICA DRAFTING GREEN HYDROGEN POSITION STATEMENT FOR COP27 – IDC** South Africa is drafting a green hydrogen position statement for the upcoming twenty-seventh United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27), which is scheduled to take place in Egypt from November 7 to 18. Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) divisional executive for mining, metals, energy, and infrastructure Reginald Demana revealed this in response to EY Parthenon Africa executive director Paul O'Flaherty during the Hydrogen Economy Discussion. Demana described the IDC as the leading government agency developing South Africa's hydrogen commercialisation strategy and drew attention to the IDC's Mahandra Rooplall, who was in the audience and who is presently developing the national hydrogen commercialisation strategy. [Engineering News, 7 September 2022.](#)

**EY ANNOUNCES RESULTS OF EXCELLENCE IN INTEGRATED REPORTING AWARDS 2022.** EY announced on 7 September 2022, the top ranked companies in the 2022 *Excellence in Integrated Reporting Awards*, with Nedbank ranked tops. The awards are designed to benchmark standards of excellence in the quality of integrated reporting to investors and other stakeholders of listed South African companies. [EY Cova, 7 September 2022.](#)

**WOMEN AND INVESTING** We invite you to explore our *Women and Investing hub*, which we hope will inspire and empower women to take charge of their financial futures. If you missed our recent Women and Investing virtual seminar, please explore the session replays and article summaries. [Ninety One, 5 September 2022.](#)

**AUREX CONSTRUCTORS DISCUSS THEIR PARTNERSHIP WITH SASOL AND AFROX IN A RADIO INTERVIEW DURING SASOL'S BRIDGE TO WORK EVENT** For Aurex, success is when a member of the local community commits to learning and making a difference in their own lives. Aurex Constructors recognised the scarcity of welding skills in the Sasolburg area and partnered with Sasol and Afrox to open the Boitjhorisong welding training Centre. The Centre provides Structural, and Argon (TIG) welding training to members of the local community. [Aurex Constructors, 2 September 2022.](#)

**MONDI MAPS OUT SUSTAINABLE PACKAGING AT FACHPACK 2022** Mondi, a global leader in packaging and paper, will showcase innovative sustainable packaging at this year's FACHPACK, the trade fair for packaging, packaging machinery and packaging design in Nuremberg. The team will demonstrate how Mondi's customer-centric approach helps customers map their path to sustainability by asking the right questions along the value chain, considering the needs of customers, their products and our planet. [Mondi, 1 September 2022.](#)

**SAPPI HOSTS DEPUTY MINISTER SOTYU TO LAUNCH NATIONAL ARBOR MONTH CAMPAIGN** The Deputy Minister of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, Ms Makhotso Soty, was hosted by Sappi in Mpumalanga at its Ngodwana Nursery, as part of the official launch of the National Arbor Month campaign on Wednesday, 01 September 2022. With the theme this year of 'Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption', Sappi was ideally positioned to kick off the day's proceedings with an overview of the company, setting the scene as to how sustainably managed forests forms the basis for a circular economy, using the power of trees and renewable resources to create sustainable products. [Sappi, 1 September 2022.](#)

**VODACOM CHANGE THE WORLD 2022** Do you know any Social Workers or Counsellors based in the Western Cape or Northern Cape keen to assist with violence in schools? They can apply for a paid volunteering programme with *Vodacom Change the World* and give learners a safe space to express themselves while equipping educators with the tools to manage violence in schools. [Forgood, 30 August 2022.](#)

**EXXARO UNDERSCORES COMMITMENT TO CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY WITH TOP RANKING IN FTSE RUSSELL ESG RATINGS FOR 1H2022** Black empowered, diversified mining and renewable energy solutions company, Exxaro Resources is pleased to announce to its stakeholders that it has once again set the benchmark for its industry in environmental, social and governance (ESG) performance according to the FTSE Russell ESG Index Ratings for the 6-month period to 30 June 2022. The company received a commendable rating - outperforming the basic material industry average and coal industry average. Exxaro ranked in the top 10 in the subsector basic resources. [Exxaro, 29 August 2022.](#)

**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. The deadline for the submission of applications has been extended to **Tuesday, 20 September at midday**. Read more [here](#).

## NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

**LEADERS EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS IN ACHIEVING NDCS** Panelists at the recent Africa Climate Week underlined the power of partnerships to deliver Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) across the continent. Representatives from across Africa gathered to share their experiences of implementing NDCs. They noted that partnerships

and effectiveness in measuring, reporting, and verifying greenhouse gas emissions would be key to African countries hitting their various targets. [ESI Africa, 8 September 2022.](#)

**ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022** This *Annual Report 2021-2022* outlines the concrete progress the World Economic Forum made over the year in a variety of initiatives and demonstrates how the organization continues to be a bridge-builder in a world where international cooperation is increasingly under pressure. [World Economic Forum, 7 September 2022.](#)

**WITHOUT INVESTMENT, GENDER EQUALITY WILL TAKE NEARLY 300 YEARS: UN REPORT** Achieving full gender equality, one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), could take close to 300 years if the current rate of progress continues, according to a report published on Wednesday by UN Women and the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA). The study reveals how gender disparities are worsening in the face of “cascading” global crises – such as the COVID-19 pandemic, violent conflict, and climate change – coupled with the backlash against women’s sexual and reproductive health and rights. [United Nations, 7 September 2022.](#)

**OCEANS OF CHANGE, WEATHERING STORMS** The WWF-SASSI Retailer/Supplier Participation Scheme participants have been making steady progress toward achieving their commitments to sustainable seafood. But there's a serious need for society, especially the private sector, to ramp up efforts for enabling healthy and productive oceans for our future. [WWF South Africa, 6 September 2022.](#)

**EGYPT PREPARES FOR FLAGSHIP UN CLIMATE CONFERENCE, IN A YEAR OF UNPRECEDENTED GLOBAL WEATHER SHOCKS** Regional authorities in Egypt, the host country of the 2022 UN climate conference (COP27), are ramping up initiatives designed to improve the country’s environmental credentials and speed up its transition to a low carbon economy. The event will begin on 4 November, in the Egyptian resort city of Sharm El-Sheikh. Several COP27-related initiatives are underway in Egypt: they include projects related to sustainable transport, waste recycling, women's health, the transition to clean energy, sustainable cities, adaptation measures in the water and agriculture sector, and the links between peace and climate. [United Nations, 5 September 2022.](#)

**UNPACKING THE FINANCIAL CENSUS OF MUNICIPALITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA** The financial census of municipalities report released in August shows rising prices are hitting consumers hard, and the cost of electricity is no different. [ESI Africa, 2 September 2022.](#)

**ENLIT AFRICA 2023: CALL FOR PAPERS** The organisers and advisory board of Enlit Africa 2023 invite you to submit your proposal in the industry-wide call for papers. In 2023, Enlit Africa will focus on four conference themes, each linked to the management and operation of the power sector: **Track 1:** Strategic management, finance, and investment; **Track 2:** Smart energy, transmission, and distribution and beyond; **Track 3:** Energy storage and alternative solutions; **Track 4:** Generation. [ESI Africa, 1 September 2022.](#)

**UN REPORT SAYS CLIMATE SHOCKS DO NOT HAVE TO BECOME FATAL DISASTERS** Hazards such as earthquakes, floods, heatwaves, and wildfires can be prevented from becoming life-threatening climate disasters, according to the authors of a recently launched UN report. [ESI Africa, 1 September 2022.](#)

**FOREST SOLUTIONS GROUP MEMBERS REPORT 2022 KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS RESULTS** Members of WBCSD’s Forest Solutions Group (FSG) are reporting their *2022 Key Performance Indicators (KPI)* results. The positive trends on all long-term indicators reveal continued progress towards a net-zero, nature-positive and equitable future through action in eight impact areas. [World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 31 August 2022.](#)

**SOUTH AFRICA ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2022** South Africa’s economic growth rate is slowing to a long-term potential of 1.5% p.a. while the global trend is forecast at 2.6% p.a. If these growth rates could be translated into the speed at which a car travels, South Africa would be driving at 60 km/h while the global average is driving above 100 km/h. [PwC, 30 August 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: “ **G7 firms failing Paris agreement on 2.7°C warming path.**”, [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 (26.08.22)**” [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: “ **Diverse, equitable and inclusive workplace: a lever for businesses to tackle inequalities**”, [here](#).

## NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2022

**Green Finance Taxonomy Expansion Webinar Series: Panel Discussion on International Taxonomy Trends and Lessons for South Africa | Friday, 9 September 2022 via Zoom | 09:30 to 10:30 SAST** | In April 2022, the South African National Treasury launched the Green Finance Taxonomy (GFT) version 1 for South Africa, which serves as a catalogue that defines a minimum set of assets, projects, and sectors as eligible to be defined as “green” or environmentally friendly. The Taxonomy also includes the listing of standards that define economic activities as green, based on conformance to specific criteria. The aim of the webinar series is to share insights from a diverse set of speakers and panellists on national sustainability and financial reporting also launch a set of knowledge products and tools on how to deepen GFT implementation and integration at a macro-scale. | [Further details & registration link](#).

**Feedback from Africa Climate Week: What are the key challenges, opportunities and debates surrounding climate action and Just Transitions on the continent and their relevance for business in Africa | Monday, 12 September 2022 via Zoom | 13:00 to 14:30 SAST** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) has partnered with the African Climate Foundation (ACF) to deliver a series of dialogues between African business across the continent, including South Africa, Egypt, Kenya, and Nigeria. The dialogues provide an opportunity to better understand the broader African climate context and challenges, as well as to unpack climate responses and to share learnings on the different approaches to achieving Just Transitions across the continent. We invite you to this three-part series of events to engage and share learning between business and decision makers building on Africa Climate Week, Climate Week New York, and other key global moments as we head towards COP27. | [Further details & registration link](#).

**Global Forces of Change and their Effects on Sustainability | Tuesday, 13 September 2022 via Zoom | 10:00 to 11:30 SAST** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) is hosting an important dialogue exploring key sustainability issues and trends, within South Africa and globally, providing highly practical insights into how businesses can embed sustainability. This Sustainability Dialogue will share the latest international and South African insights on the journey to integrating sustainability into businesses practices, including global regulatory and investor pressures, which also have a direct impact on South African business operations. The Dialogue will also discuss companies’ maturity in implementing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG)

and the expectations placed on businesses to comply with and integrate the ESG framework into their operations. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

**Green Finance Taxonomy Expansion Webinar Series: The GFT and ESG Disclosure | Friday, 16 September 2022 via Zoom | 10:00 to 10:45 SAST** | In April 2022, the South African National Treasury launched the Green Finance Taxonomy (GFT) version 1 for South Africa, which serves as a catalogue that defines a minimum set of assets, projects, and sectors as eligible to be defined as “green” or environmentally friendly. The Taxonomy also includes the listing of standards that define economic activities as green, based on conformance to specific criteria. The aim of the webinar series is to share insights from a diverse set of speakers and panellists on national sustainability and financial reporting also launch a set of knowledge products and tools on how to deepen GFT implementation and integration at a macro-scale. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

**Re-imagining Africa’s Just Transition to a sustainable and inclusive net-zero and climate resilient future: How are participating countries framing their Just Transitions, setting climate ambition, and what is the role of business? | Thursday, 22 September 2022 via Zoom | 14:00 to 15:30 SAST** | The National Business Initiative (NBI) has partnered with the African Climate Foundation (ACF) to deliver a series of dialogues between African business across the continent, including South Africa, Egypt, Kenya, and Nigeria. The dialogues provide an opportunity to better understand the broader African climate context and challenges, as well as to unpack climate responses and to share learnings on the different approaches to achieving Just Transitions across the continent. We invite you to this three-part series of events to engage and share learning between business and decision makers building on Africa Climate Week, Climate Week New York, and other key global moments as we head towards COP27. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

**Green Finance Taxonomy Expansion Webinar Series: Developing and Applying the GFT | Friday, 30 September 2022 via Zoom | 10:00 to 11:00 SAST** | In April 2022, the South African National Treasury launched the Green Finance Taxonomy (GFT) version 1 for South Africa, which serves as a catalogue that defines a minimum set of assets, projects, and sectors as eligible to be defined as “green” or environmentally friendly. The Taxonomy also includes the listing of standards that define economic activities as green, based on conformance to specific criteria. The aim of the webinar series is to share insights from a diverse set of speakers and panellists on national sustainability and financial reporting also launch a set of knowledge products and tools on how to deepen GFT implementation and integration at a macro-scale. | [Further details & registration link.](#)

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

**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](mailto:hill@wbcsd.org). | [Website & further details.](#)

**GLOBAL CLEAN ENERGY ACTION FORUM | 21 - 23 September 2022 | Pittsburgh, PA, United States** | The Global Clean Energy Action Forum comes at a pivotal time. We are on the cusp of the most important transition human society has ever seen, and we need to look back at 2022 as the year the world took giant steps to build a new energy economy that benefits all, improves energy security, tackles climate change, and reaps the rewards of a clean energy market that will exceed \$23 trillion by the end of this decade. | [Website & further details.](#)

**ACCELERATING E-INFRASTRUCTURE: DEMAND-DRIVEN DECARBONIZATION | 22 September 2022 | 13:00 - 14:00 CEST** | Organizations across the globe are facing multiple crises simultaneously. The climate emergency requires aggressive decarbonization to limit global warming, and at the same time, the energy crisis poses urgent challenges around affordability, security and resilience. | [Website & further details.](#)

**NATURAL CLIMATE SOLUTIONS: THE ROLE OF NATURE AND PEOPLE IN DELIVERING POSITIVE CLIMATE MITIGATION IMPACTS | 23 September 2022 | New York, United States** | In the current set up, the carbon credits generated from NCS projects/programs are traded and sold only based on their climate mitigation impacts; however, Natural Climate Solutions can be much more than climate mitigation projects. The NCS Alliance aims to promote the need for positive nature and people goals be part of any NCS project and program as they are effectively the pillars of successful NCS. | [Website & further details.](#)

**DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION SUMMIT 2022 | 29 - 30 September 2022 | Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa** | The summit will cover African Perspectives, featuring local, regional, and global thought leaders and will bring together key stakeholders in the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion sector. | To attend the summit, email: [dei@africa-insights.com](mailto:dei@africa-insights.com)

**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)**

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