

ON A CLEAR DAY 2023

NBI
National Business Initiative



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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: RELEASE OF THE JUST TRANSITION PROJECT'S FINANCE AND INTEGRATION REPORTS South Africa needs to act now and transition to a net-zero, climate-resilient, and competitive economy to unlock new green opportunities and avoid the massive cost of inaction in the face of climate change and global economic transition, according to a new report by NBI-BUSA-BCG. Two more reports from the NBI-BUSA-BCG *Just Transition and Climate Pathways study* have been launched, focusing on Financing South Africa's Just Transition and developing an integrated, cross-sectoral, view of South Africa's Net-Zero Transition. Read more, [here](#).

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP: REFLECTING ON COP27 The message from COP27 is clear: *Business must forge ahead with implementing ambitious and equitable climate action if we are to achieve a Just Transition and keep 1.5 °C alive*. The Global Carbon Budget Report released at COP27 states that there is a 50% chance that warming of 1.5°C will be exceeded in nine years, if global emissions continue at the current rate. Read more, [here](#).

TWENTY-ONE JOURNALISTS TO ATTEND EJN NET ZERO WORKSHOPS IN JOHANNESBURG AND KOLKATA As countries make ambitious pledges to reach net zero in the next few decades, robust media coverage of government's actions to achieve their climate goals will be key. To help journalists delve deeper into these issues and improve their reporting on this topic, EJN is hosting two journalism training workshops in Kolkata India (from 1st – 3rd February) and Johannesburg, South Africa (from 30th January - 1st February). This in-person media training opportunity is provided through EJN's media project, Pathways to Net Zero in India and South Africa. [Earth Journalism Network, 26 January 2023.](#)

INDUSTRY NEWS

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY: WHAT IS IT AND WHY DO WE NEED IT? 8 March is International Women's Day - devoted to celebrating the achievements of women and seeking gender equality. The campaign theme this year is **#EmbraceEquity** – while the United Nations' theme is **'DigitALL: Innovation and technology for gender equality'**. Campaigners are urging people to challenge gender stereotypes, call out discrimination, draw attention to bias, and seek out inclusion. [World Economic Forum, 8 February 2023.](#)

MINING AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY SUPPORT EACH OTHER Mining is essential if the world was to create a circular economic system, Finnish Geological Survey director-general Kimmo Tiilikainen has pointed out. He was addressing a Sustainable Mining Breakfast, jointly hosted in Cape Town by the Embassies of Denmark, Finland and Sweden, on Tuesday, 7 February 2023. The breakfast was a 'fringe' event of the Investing in African Mining Indaba 2023 [Engineering News, 7 February 2023.](#)

IT'S TIME TO RAPIDLY SCALE UP FINANCE FOR CLIMATE ADAPTATION IN CITIES Last year every region of the world was hit by severe climate events, and scientists have warned that weather patterns in the coming year will likely result in unprecedented heatwaves and a rise in global temperature. Cities - where more than half of the world's population live - are disproportionately at risk. The need to adapt to increasing climate impacts is becoming ever more urgent, especially in cities most affected by the crisis. [C40 Cities, 7 February 2023.](#)

CLIMATE CHANGE: WMO UNVEILS PLANS FOR SUSTAINABLE MONITORING OF GREENHOUSE GASES A UN-led plan to tackle climate change by radically improving the way heat-trapping atmospheric pollutants are measured all over the planet, is being given serious consideration by governments and the international scientific community, the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) said on Wednesday, 1 February 2023. [United Nations, 1 February 2023.](#)

COMPANIES MUST CONTINUE TO PRIORITISE DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION, EVEN DURING TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES Throughout the past several years, many companies have added diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives to their corporate strategies. A 2021 survey of HR and corporate leaders in Europe commissioned by Workday found that 75% have a "dedicated" budget for DE&I, and 90% are "carrying out at least one initiative" for having data "to drive a strategic approach of continuous improvement." While there is still a long way to go, these numbers indicate progress [Forbes, 31 January 2023.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

EXXARO ATTAINS A SEAT IN THE 2023 BLOOMBERG GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX As one of South Africa's largest black-empowered diversified mining and renewable energy solutions companies, Exxaro Resources is proud to announce that it has been recognised in the 2023 Bloomberg Gender Equity Initiative (GEI) for the fourth consecutive year. This is a testament to Exxaro's commitment to gender equality and inclusion. **Bloomberg's Gender Reporting Framework** uses a standardised global reporting method to acquire comprehensive workplace gender data. The GEI framework defines a set of metrics used to determine a company's progress towards equal representation of gender through the various employment levels of the organisation. [Exxaro, 8 February 2023.](#)

POWERING SA BUSINESS THROUGH LOAD-SHEDDING Growthpoint Properties is going to great lengths to ensure its buildings and tenants' businesses remain powered up during South Africa's electricity crisis resulting from Eskom's more frequent and longer load-shedding outages. With 13.5MWp of installed renewable energy generation across two dozen rooftop and carport solar plants and several MWp currently under construction, together with 332MW of generation potential from 330-plus backup generators, Growthpoint is helping to keep the lights on at nearly 3,000 South African businesses, big and small. **Growthpoint, 7 February 2023.**

MANUFACTURING EXCELLENCE KEY TO DOING BUSINESS IN MODERN TIMES - PWC Professional services firm PwC reports that South Africa's manufacturing industry has to keep evolving to remain competitive in the face of global competition through implementing what it calls 'manufacturing excellence programmes'. **Engineering News, 7 February 2023.**

FTI CONSULTING HONORED WITH 13 M&A ADVISOR TURNAROUND AWARDS FTI Consulting announced the firm received multiple recognitions for its restructuring and strategic communications expertise as part of The M&A Advisor's 17th Annual Turnaround Awards. The awards recognise the top companies in the distressed investing and restructuring industry and were judged by an independent panel of industry experts. FTI Consulting was honored in several categories including, Energy Deal of the Year -Sale of ION Geophysical **FTI Consulting, 6 February 2023.**

CORTEVA WOMEN AGRIPRENEURS The GIBS Entrepreneurship Development Academy (EDA) invites female entrepreneurs in agriculture and related sub-sectors to apply for the upcoming *Corteva Agriscience - Women in Agriculture Programme* set to kick off in March 2023. **Applications close on 15 February 2023.** Click **here**, for more information.

MAIDEN FACTOR DOCKS IN CAPE TOWN AS PART OF GLOBAL TOUR TO EMPOWER GIRLS THROUGH EDUCATION Imperial, a DP World Company, was honoured to support the DP World-sponsored Maiden Factor visit to Cape Town during January 2023. The crew were welcomed at the Victoria & Alfred Marina by members of the public and colleagues from Imperial's operations in the Western Cape. The 58ft yacht Maiden has a historic past. Skipped by Tracy Edwards MBE in the 89/90 Whitbread 'Round the World' race with the first ever all-female crew, they broke through the discrimination and gender-based obstacles, proving all their critics wrong and finished 2nd in their class. Today, Maiden is again crewed by an all-female team, continuing the work that Tracy started over 30 years ago. **Imperial, 6 February 2023.**

PMI RECOGNISED IN 2023 BLOOMBERG GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX FOR THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR Philip Morris International Inc. (PMI) announced that it has been included in the 2023 *Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI)* for the third year running. With an overall score of 80.6%, surpassing the index average score of 73%, PMI joins an A-list of global companies committed to transparency in gender reporting and advancing equality in the workplace. **Philip Morris, 31 January 2023.**

HARMONY INCLUDED IN THE 2023 BLOOMBERG GENDER-EQUALITY INDEX FOR THE FIFTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR Harmony Gold Mining Company Limited is pleased to announce that it has been included in the 2023 *Bloomberg Gender-Equality Index (GEI)* for the fifth consecutive year. "Harmony's inclusion in the Bloomberg GEI reflects our culture of gender equality, inclusivity, and diversity. It also highlights our commitment to addressing this important social component of our business through transparent reporting and disclosure of our social data..." said Peter Steenkamp, Harmony CEO. **Harmony, 31 January 2023.**

BACK TO SCHOOL SMILES FOR LEARNERS WITHIN BLACKBURN VILLAGE Over 8000 people live in an informal settlement in the Blackburn Village, a huge number of them living below the poverty line. The children from this community have been placed at various schools through the intervention by Community Participation of the eThekweni Municipality. It is clear that affordability to gain access to basic needs for school is very limited, thus Vivian Reddy, Chairman of Sibaya Community Trust reached out to this community and donated school bags, which included stationery kits, lunch boxes and juice bottles. **Social TV, 31 January 2023.**

ESKOM LAUNCHES TENDER FOR THE SECOND PHASE OF ITS LAND LEASE PARCELS FOR IPP RENEWABLE ENERGY PRODUCERS During December 2022, Eskom issued a Request for a Proposal (RFP), as part of the second phase of the Land Leasing Programme for four land parcels in Mpumalanga. They estimate that the land put to tender can yield up to 500MW of new

generation capacity from independent power producers (IPPs). The tender can be viewed on the Eskom Tender Bulletin on the Eskom website. ***The tender will close on 27 February 2023.*** Read more, [here](#).

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

TIRE SUSTAINABILITY BODY LOOKS TO ESG OPPORTUNITIES IN ORGANISATIONAL REVAMP The Tire Industry Project (TIP) was formed in 2005 with the commitment to a science-driven and collaborative approach to tire-sector sustainability. Now, to elevate its commitment to sustainability and broaden its contributions, TIP is excited to announce the implementation of a renewed mission and enhanced organisational structure. In its enhanced mission, TIP will anticipate, understand, and address global environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues relevant to the tire industry and its value chain. **World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 9 February 2023.**

HOW TO ALIGN HYDROGEN INVESTMENTS WITH A 1.5°C PATHWAY Today, the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) releases a new guide that demands companies making hydrogen investments and their business partners to add “alignment with 1.5°C criteria” to their investment decision processes. This guide is the result of a collaborative effort involving 18 of WBCSD member companies. The publication is intended to help design the infrastructure, including the necessary technologies, policies, incentives, and business plans that will lead the hydrogen economy to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and support the energy systems’ transition to an increasingly lower dependency on fossil fuels. **World Business Council for Sustainable Development, 9 February 2023.**

ARE COMPANIES DEVELOPING CREDIBLE CLIMATE TRANSITION PLANS? Disclosure to key climate transition-focused indicators in CDP’s 2022 Climate Change Questionnaire. Access the report [here](#).

APPLY NOW FOR THE WOMEN IN WIND GLOBAL LEADERSHIP PROGRAM 2023! Diversity in background and geography are driving principles of the program. In 2023, its fifth year of operation, the program will welcome more participants than ever across all disciplines of the sector. Making the case for diversity in developing countries and emerging markets is a core principle of the program. **Applicants must be citizens or residents of the following emerging markets for wind power:** Algeria, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Philippines, Russia, Senegal, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey, and Vietnam. Applications will be accepted until **10 February 2023, 23:59 CET**. For more information and to apply, click [here](#).

LAST CHANCE FOR GAUTENG RESIDENTS TO ENTER THE LG AMBASSADOR CHALLENGE AND WIN UP TO R150 000 WORTH OF FUNDING FOR COMMUNITY PROJECTS LG Electronics’ Global Ambassador Challenge is underway and still open to Gauteng-based residents with innovative and sustainable ideas aimed at empowering their communities. **Entries are open until Sunday, 12 February 2023**, so time is running out for NGOs and individuals to enter. The company’s annual corporate social responsibility initiative - promotes sustainable solutions to help solve social issues in South African communities. Find out more [here](#).

DBSA & SADC WATER FUND LAUNCH KAZUNGULA BORDER TOWN WATER SUPPLY PROJECT The DBSA - as the implementing partner of the SADC Water Fund, a regional fund for water and basic sanitation, is launching an €8.8-million basic water and sanitation project in Kazungula. The Zambian Government with the support and cooperation of the German Government and Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) is co-financing the project. “This is a significant investment towards sustainable development of the water sector in SADC,” said Chuene Ramphele, Group Executive of Infrastructure Delivery Division at the DBSA. **DBSA, 2 February 2023.**

GLOBAL INVESTMENT INTO CLEAN ENERGY AND FOSSIL FUELS NOW EQUAL Global investment into the low-carbon transition set new record at \$1.1 trillion in 2022 as the energy crisis and policy action drive faster deployment of clean energy technologies. **ESI Africa, 1 February 2023.**

DECARBONISING INDIA'S ROAD FREIGHT: TOWARD A CLEANER, GREENER, AND ELECTRIC FUTURE FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES On June 30, 2022, WRI India hosted an in-person event on Decarbonising India's Road Freight: Towards a Cleaner, Greener, and Electric Future for Commercial Vehicles. The event underscored the tremendous growth in urbanisation and e-commerce activity in India and the corresponding rise in emissions, which accounts for the majority of India's total transport emissions. One of the important insights of the session was that with its rapidly evolving domestic ecosystem and significant freight movement corridors, India is well positioned to lead the electrification of commercial vehicles and policy support is necessary to ensure an accelerated transition. [World Resource Institute, 31 January 2023.](#)

TO SHIFT AWAY FROM OIL AND GAS, DEVELOPING COUNTRIES NEED A 'JUST TRANSITION' TO PROTECT WORKERS AND COMMUNITIES The transition away from oil and gas to meet global climate goals can offer important environmental, social, and economic benefits but also presents significant challenges for many countries. Such challenges include how to diversify economies and reduce reliance on oil and gas revenue which could support public services, programs, and public sector employment. [World Resource Institute, 26 January 2023.](#)

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 CDP data shows companies are recognising the need for climate transition plans but are not moving fast enough amidst incoming mandatory disclosure"**, [here](#).

UNGC CEO WATER MANDATE NBI partners with the CEO Water Mandate to encourage water stewardship in South Africa. Established by the UN Global Compact in 2007 and rooted in the belief that cross-sectoral collaboration on shared water goals is the most effective path to more sustainable water management, the CEO Water Mandate is a unique public-private initiative that mobilizes business leaders for water stewardship. Read their **January 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 – The Latest Signals Of Change (03.02.23)"**, [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: **"The EU Digital Product Passport: how can companies prepare for it today?"** [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2023

CEO THOUGHT LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE: "YESTERDAY'S LESSONS, TODAY'S LEADERSHIP, AND TOMORROW'S IMPACT" | 15 February 2023 via Zoom | The National Business Initiative (NBI) invites you to an upcoming **CEO Thought Leadership Dialogue on: "Yesterday's Lessons, Today's Leadership and Tomorrow's Impact,"** on 15 February 2023. This important Dialogue will host Standard Bank South Africa (SBSA) CEO, Lungisa Fuzile, focussing on Mr Fuzile's tenure and expansive leadership in both the Private and Public Sector. Standard Bank is a purpose-led organisation with the central belief that *"Africa is our home; we drive her growth"* | [Further details](#).

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP DIALOGUE: PARTNERING AGAINST MONEY LAUNDERING AND CORRUPTION IN SOUTH AFRICA AND THE SUBREGION | 21 February 2023 via Zoom | The National Business Initiative (NBI) together with the Basel Institute on Governance, the Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), and Covington invites you to an upcoming **Thought**

Leadership Dialogue: Partnering Against Money Laundering and Corruption in South Africa and the Subregion. This important event will unpack the evolving role of business in reducing illicit financial flows in the South Africa Sub-region to boost market growth, development, and strengthening of governance systems. As part of the solution to combating corruption in the private sector, the NBI is launching the **‘NBI Ethics and Anti-Corruption Course,’** the first in a series of training courses under the Building Trust and Accountability Pathway. | [Further details.](#)

ONLINE & HYBRID EVENTS/WEBINARS/COURSES/WORKHOPS/CONFERENCES | 2023

SOLAR POWER AFRICA. | 8-10 February 2023 | CTICC, Cape Town | South Africa’s leading position in driving the continent’s transition to renewable energy has been confirmed with the launch of the first-ever Solar Power Africa Trade Show. Organised by Messe Frankfurt, and in partnership with the South African Photovoltaic Industry Association (SAPVIA), Solar Power Africa 2023 is the first event of its kind dedicated solely to Solar Power and Energy storage and is expected to attract over 100 exhibitors operating in this dynamic market. | [Further details.](#)

THE FUTURE OF LAND RESTORATION FINANCE IN AFRICA: FROM BILLIONS OF DOLLARS TO BILLIONS OF TREES | 22 February 2023 | It’s time to shed light on these innovations and hear directly from entrepreneurs and investors – and the challenges that they have faced in making land restoration a viable economic sector. Join World Resources Institute, Realize Impact, and Barka Fund for this exciting webinar about building a sustainable financial future for the continent’s most inspiring innovators. | [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.](#)

SYSTEMS CHANGE FOR PEOPLE AND PLANET: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW | 2 March 2023 | Virtual | To limit global temperature rise, conserve nature, and build a fairer economy that benefits everyone, we will need deep change across every aspect of our economies at a pace and scale we have not yet seen. Because our world is complex and interconnected - small changes in one system can have unforeseen consequences in others - spurring transformative action requires a systemic approach. | [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.](#)

CONNECTING GREEN HYDROGEN MENA 2023 | 14-16 March 2023 | Palazzo Versace Dubai, UAE | Connecting Green Hydrogen MENA 2023 (CGHM2023) is at the forefront of expediting the development of green hydrogen in the Middle East and North Africa, gathering policymakers, power producers, investors, suppliers, and technical service providers internationally to build business partnerships. | [Website & further details.](#)

BOTSWANA MINING & ENERGY CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION (BME)| 22-23 March 2023| Gaborone Fairgrounds Botswana | BME is the region's latest international mining, renewables, power & construction expo and gathering of top mining, power & energy executives, representatives of regional executive authorities, investors, banks, industry associations, service companies and equipment producers for two days of networking, knowledge sharing and business matching. The event has separate 2 days conference, with free-to-attend exhibition, hosting the region's leading mining, energy & technology providers. | [Website & further details.](#)

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