

ON A CLEAR DAY 2023



On A Clear Day: Issue 840, 14 July 2023

Dear Abdul

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.

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP: SUPPORTING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY - EMBRACING EQUITY CAMPAIGN 2023: FEMALE BUSINESS LEADER'S STORIES OF HOPE Embracing Equity as a call for action, has never been more relevant, nor more pressing. The National Business Initiative (NBI), together with our partner; the Transparency, Integrity, and Accountability Programme (TIP) of Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), embarked on a collaborative digital campaign to profile Female Business Leader's Stories of Hope. This initiative was launched on International Women's Day 2023 to profile the stories and experiences of prominent female business leaders, focussing

on why greater equity is a matter of urgency, especially as a crucial lever for achieving sustainable social and economic development. Through this important campaign, we profiled four phenomenal female business leaders who are active ambassadors of anti-corruption, ethical leadership, and gender equity within their respective organisations. Read more, [here](#).

WATCH: PRIORITISE YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY EVERY MONTH We celebrated Youth Month in June, but the importance of prioritising youth employability extends far beyond a single month. At the National Business Initiative (NBI), we understand that investing in youth employment is not just about providing job opportunities; it's about nurturing potential, fostering growth, and building a foundation for a thriving future. Our IRM initiative focuses on creating a supportive ecosystem that bridges the gap between education and employment, empowering young individuals to unleash their full potential. NBI's new CEO, Shameela Soobramoney stresses the importance of urgent interventions that are needed to address the youth unemployment crisis in South Africa. Watch the full video, [here](#).

WATCH: THE NBI'S ROAD TO COP28 CAMPAIGN Each year, NBI co-hosts the SA Pavilion at UNFCCC Climate Conferences with Government, through the Department of Environmental Affairs. This project represents, supports & encourages bold, ambitious collaboration between the Public & Private sectors in terms of climate action to address climate change and promote a Just Transition. COP28 is an opportunity for SA to share innovative solutions with the international community to attract further resources & investment through partnership & collaboration as we transition to net zero by 2050 & we invite South African Business to participate. If you would like to join us on the [Road to #COP28](#) then get in touch to find out more!

BE REALISTIC ABOUT THE USE OF GREEN HYDROGEN Green hydrogen and hyperbole seem to go hand in hand. A glance at the headlines around the recent \$1bn fund for this environmentally respectable replacement for natural gas shows high hopes. But is the enthusiasm for using SA's abundant wind and solar resources as well as our industrial capacity to produce green hydrogen realistic? [Energy Central News, 6 July 2023](#).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT IN ENERGY PLANNING IS NOT SPOILING THE BROTH; IT'S MAKING IT RICHER The Presidential Climate Commission (PCC) released its recommendations on electricity planning in early June. These were based on a critical review of studies on energy planning in SA, (for example, by the University of Cape Town-Energy Systems Research Group, the Council for Scientific & Industrial Research and Meridian, and the business community through the National Business Initiative (NBI), Business Unity SA and the Boston Consulting Group). [Business Day, 3 July 2023](#).

SALGA APPOINTS SITHOLE MBANGA AS NEW CEO The SA Local Government Association (Salga) has appointed Sithole Mbanga as CEO with effect from 1 July. He takes over from Xolile George, who was appointed as Secretary to Parliament in June 2022. Salga points out that Mbanga brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise in many areas, including operations and strategic planning, and has extensive executive-level experience in public sector governance. [HR Pulse, 29 June 2023](#).

INDUSTRY NEWS

WATCH: HARAMBEE SHOWCASES EFFORTS TO GET YOUTH ENGAGED WITH ECONOMY Members of the media were recently given a tour of the offices of social impact nonprofit organisation Harambee Youth Employment Accelerator, with the aim of highlighting its work in connecting youth to employment and work experience opportunities. Schalk Burger has the details. [Engineering News, 13 July 2023](#).

HOW TODAY'S YOUTH ARE TAKING THE LEAD IN GLOBAL CLIMATE ACTION Young people are becoming catalysts for change in the face of enormous climate change issues. The world's youth are at the forefront of building a sustainable future with cutting-edge technology and circular economic models. Here we showcase the youth-led initiatives driving real solutions for a sustainable future. [World Economic Forum, 12 July 2023](#).

RAPID ACTION NEEDED IF AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE TO MEET SDG7 For Africa to achieve the Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG7) target of ensuring everyone can access affordable, dependable, sustainable and modern energy, there needs to be rapid implementation of comprehensive policies and the creation of a supportive environment in which United Nations (UN) member States can make the most of their constrained public resources over the next three years, UN Economic Commission for Africa (Uneca) economic affairs officer Anthony Monganeli Mehlwana has said. [Engineering News, 12 July 2023.](#)

UN CALLS FOR GENDER EQUALITY PUSH, CENTRAL TO SDGS The UN Secretary-General, Mr. Guterres, called for standing with women and girls fighting for their rights and for intensifying efforts *“to make the Sustainable Development Goals a reality for all 8 billion of us.”* *“Halfway to the 2030 deadline the Sustainable Development Goals are dangerously off track,”* he warned. *“Gender equality is almost 300 years away. Progress on maternal health and access to family planning has been glacial.”* World Population Day is commemorated annually on 11 July and this year’s focus is on unleashing the power of gender equality and giving greater voice to women and girls. [United Nations, 11 July 2023.](#)

GLOBAL CITY LEADERS OFFER SOLUTIONS TO G20 AHEAD OF HEADS OF STATE MEETING ON CLIMATE, ECONOMIC AND HUMANITARIAN CRISES More than 430 global and city leaders gathered in Ahmedabad this week at the 6th Urban 20 Summit, ahead of G20 meetings later this year in India.

A record number of 105 cities have endorsed this year’s U20 Communiqué, which calls on national and city leaders to work together as “valuable and equal partners” to halve global emissions by 2030 and address inequalities, while creating safe, resilient and just societies and promoting equitable, affordable and inclusive development. U20 members highlight the urgent need to overhaul development finance to increase support for climate action in cities, especially for adaptation in Global South cities facing the brunt of the climate crisis and stress the key role local public service provision plays in sustainable development as a key instrument for delivering social security and protections. [C40 Cities, 8 July 2023.](#)

NBI MEMBER COMPANY NEWS

ENTREPRENEURIAL WINNING WOMEN™ SOUTH AFRICA EY Entrepreneurial Winning Women executive leadership programme identifies a select group of high-potential women entrepreneurs whose businesses show real potential to scale; and helps them do it. Apply today to join a global cohort of women entrepreneurs who are looking to realise their bold ambitions. For more information and to apply, click [here.](#)

EXXARO’S CENNERGI: EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES THROUGH TRANSFORMATIVE EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES Exxaro Resources, through its wholly owned subsidiary and renewable energy solutions business, Cennergi, is empowering communities through a range of impactful educational initiatives. Through strategic partnerships, funding programmes, and training initiatives, the Company is creating a brighter future for young learners to foster socio-economic development in the regions it operates. Cennergi launched its Early Childhood Development (ECD) Programme, in 2021 in collaboration with Early Inspiration, a specialised organisation in early childhood development. With a baseline assessment conducted in 2020, the programme aims to enhance the quality of education within Cennergi’s Tsitsikamma Community Wind Farm in the Eastern Cape Province. By partnering with Early Inspiration, the programme ensures efficient centre management, curriculum development, and practitioner training. In 2023, the programme has expanded to include a focus on literacy improvement, with the ultimate goal of achieving whole school development. To date, Cennergi has invested R3.3 million in this programme, benefitting 176 children across six ECD centres in five communities. [Exxaro, 13 July 2023.](#)

DELOITTE REACHES CRITICAL MILESTONE IN ITS TRANSFORMATION JOURNEY Deloitte South Africa has reached a critical milestone in its transformation journey when, in June this year, the firm achieved 51% Black representation at partnership level. As far back as 1970’s, Deloitte’s inclusive ethos saw the firm deliberately recruiting and developing Black accountants who could eventually become partners. In the 1970’s Deloitte set up a school in Soweto to help prepare matriculants to study bookkeeping and accounting at university. [Deloitte, 12 July 2023.](#)

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE, NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS, AND AGROECOLOGY Including the agricultural sector in climate change actions and policy has become increasingly more important over the past decade. Agriculture was first brought into international climate discussions at the 17th Conference of the Parties – COP of the United National Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) which was held in Durban, South Africa in 2011. Since then, several concepts have been used to integrate agriculture into climate change actions for both mitigation and adaptation. These include climate-smart agriculture, nature-based solutions, and agroecology. But what are the main differences between these concepts (are they just buzzwords?), and how do they translate into farm-level practices? [Climate Neutral Group, 7 July 2023.](#)

ERM PUBLISHES ANNUAL SUSTAINABILITY REPORT SHOWCASING PERFORMANCE AND IMPACT ERM, the world's largest pure play sustainability consultancy, has published its annual Sustainability Report, which sets out how the company is delivering on its purpose of shaping a sustainable future with the world's leading organizations. The report reveals how ERM, in collaboration with its clients and partners, is increasing its impact globally across the climate, nature and social challenges facing society. FY23 achievements include contributing to the installation of over 160 gigawatts of renewable energy capacity (equivalent to the annual carbon emissions of 36 million+ US households), remediating 279 hectares of land for beneficial use increasing project sales aligned to helping clients transition to a lower-carbon economy by 34% on the previous year and helping to develop the Business Commission to Tackle Inequality's (BCTI) flagship report. [ERM, 5 July 2023.](#)

UNIPER AND SASOL ECOFT CONTINUE TO DEVELOP SKYFUELH2 Uniper and Sasol ecoFT have jointly applied for funding from the Swedish Energy Agency for the next phase of development and to the EU Innovation Fund for overall project funding. The final decision on the award is likely to be received during the next study phase. In SkyFuelH2, biomass and renewable hydrogen feedstock will be combined using Sasol's proprietary Fischer-Tropsch technology to produce SAF on an industrial scale, which will be a global first. The biomass comes from processed forestry residues. The hydrogen will come from an electrolysis unit that uses locally available renewable electricity. Both ensure a fully sustainable value chain and a product in accordance with the Renewable Energy Directive (RED II/III). The partners will continue further development work, with the support of the Sollefteå municipality. The ambition is to begin construction of the SkyFuelH2 facility in 2025, subject to achieving FID (final investment decision), and potentially supplying the aviation industry with sustainable aviation fuel as early as 2028. [Sasol, 4 July 2023.](#)

HARNESSING SOLAR ENERGY: A SUSTAINABLE SOLUTION FOR POWERING SOUTH AFRICA Aurex Constructors has become a key player in the renewable energy sector with an impressive track record of installing over 560 MW of renewable energy capacity in the past decade. Aurex has firmly established itself as a leader in the industry specialising in utility-scale solar photovoltaic (PV) solutions. Aurex offers a comprehensive range of services that encompass the entire project lifecycle from engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) services to new installations, refurbishments, and maintenance projects. Aurex contributes to the overall growth and sustainability of the renewable energy sector, fostering a more diversified and dynamic energy landscape. [Aurex Constructors, 3 July 2023.](#)

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA AND DE BEERS GROUP ANNOUNCE A NEW PARTNERSHIP FOR A NEW ERA The Government of the Republic of Botswana and De Beers Group are pleased to announce they have reached an agreement in principle on a new 10-year Sales Agreement for Debswana's rough diamond production through to 2033 and a 25-year extension of the Debswana mining licences through to 2054. The transformational new agreement between the Botswana Government and De Beers reflects the aspirations of the people of Botswana, propels both Botswana and De Beers forward, and underpins the future of their Debswana joint venture through long term investment. [De Beers, 1 July 2023.](#)

THE TRANSITION FINANCE OPPORTUNITY IN EMERGING MARKETS The world needs to invest over US\$4 trillion a year by 2030 if we are to reach net zero emissions by 2050¹. Of that, US\$1 trillion is needed for the energy transition in emerging markets and developing countries². For the transition to net-zero carbon, global investors need to finance swathes of new infrastructure and industrial change among companies that produce the highest emissions today but have credible transition plans. Emerging market companies are at the heart of this transition finance opportunity. [Ninety One, 29 June](#)

2023. ²IEA, World Energy Outlook 2022, <https://www.iea.org/reports/world-energy-outlook-2022>

OLD MUTUAL HAS LAUNCHED ITS FIRST TECH HUB IN DURBAN Remaining an employer of choice amongst technology talent and delivering on its corporate 2030 service strategy has spurred Old Mutual Limited's (OML) drive to create a global tech hub. These tech headquarters will provide local IT talent with opportunities to work and build careers in a facility that is inspiring and harnesses talent. Home of the OML Tech Hub is Durban, which offers several advantages, says the company. **Old Mutual, 29 June 2023.**

NOTICES/REPORTS/OPINIONS AND SURVEYS

JUST TRANSITION RESOURCE PLATFORM The We Mean Business Coalition, together with BSR and The B Team, have launched the JUST TRANSITION RESOURCE PLATFORM to provide companies with the best available tools to navigate their just transition journey. Business has a key role to play in planning, implementing and advocating for a just transition to a net zero economy. This includes taking active steps to engage workers and affected stakeholders in decision-making processes through social dialogue and consultations; preparing their workforce by reskilling, upskilling and supporting redeployment; ensuring accessible and affordable products and services for a net zero future; respecting human and labor rights; advocating for just and inclusive climate policies; and co-developing solutions with workers and affected stakeholders. Access the platform, [here](#).

AWARDS: ENTER SA'S MOST PRESTIGIOUS AND INFLUENTIAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS The Eco-Logic Awards in partnership with Peoples Weather Channel as featured on DSTV and Openview, and WildAid, showcases and supports those who provide products, services and interventions that are 'Good for People and Planet'. The awards are opportunity for every one of us to support and participate in building a safer, kinder, and more sustainable society and environment to live in. By entering or nominating an Eco-Champion into South Africa's most prestigious and influential annual environmental award show, you can be a part of the Eco-Logical movement driving positive change and restoring our connection to nature and the planet. Come see how Going Green Fun, Fashionable and Financially Beneficial for all is! For more information and to enter, click [here](#).

REPORT LAUNCH EVENT SETS STAGE FOR HLPF'S REVIEW OF SDG 7 A high-level special event launched the 2023 editions of the Energy Progress Report and the SDG 7 Policy Briefs, to support governments' in-depth review of SDG 7 (affordable and clean energy) at this year's UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). Many speakers stressed that scaled up action, including financing, will be essential if SDG 7 is to be achieved by 2030. **SDG Knowledge Hub, 12 July 2023.**

ENERGY: THESE 8 COUNTRIES HAVE SCALED UP RENEWABLE ENERGY THE FASTEST Renewable energy has grown exponentially over the past two decades thanks to government policy and falling prices, far faster than many experts expected. Today, building new solar and onshore wind power on average costs around 40% less than coal or gas power. These cost declines have helped renewables reach a tipping point, meaning that the transition away from fossil fuels appears difficult to reverse. **World Resources Institute, 12 July 2023.**

REPORT: WHO/UNICEF PROGRESS REPORT ANALYZES GENDER INEQUALITIES IN WASH The World Health Organization (WHO) and the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) have published a progress report on household drinking water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) for the 2000-2022 period, with a special focus on gender. The report will support in-depth review of SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation) at the July session of the UN High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) and high-level review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the SDG Summit in September. **SDG Knowledge Hub, 12 July 2023.**

CLIMATE: 5 COUNTRIES TAKING ACTION TO REACH NET-ZERO TARGETS To date, over 90 countries have set net-zero emissions targets, committing to help prevent the most harmful impacts from climate change. But questions remain around the credibility of many of these pledges and whether these goals will be met. Together, countries with net-zero

targets — which include China, the United States and India — are responsible for nearly 80% of global greenhouse emissions. Thousands more regions, cities and companies have also set net-zero targets of their own. Never before has there been more ambition and palpable momentum for such deep emissions reductions. [World Resources Institute, 6 July 2023.](#)

REPORT: STATISTICAL REVIEW OF WORLD ENERGY The Energy Institute Statistical Review of World Energy™ analyses data on world energy markets from the prior year. Previously produced by BP, the Review has been providing timely, comprehensive and objective data to the energy community since 1952. [Energy Institute, 5 July 2023.](#)

GENDER: ENABLING WOMEN AS KEY ACTORS IN NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS This paper aims to better understand the role of rural women in Nature-based Solutions (NbS) and to provide insights on how to support them. The gender dimension remains underexplored in the literature on NbS. Most studies focus on the biophysical and technical aspects of NbS and their global and transboundary scales of impact. The studies that do investigate the social aspects, such as opportunity costs and poverty impacts, tend to treat households as a congruent unit, bypassing intrahousehold and gender dynamics. Research shows that the success of NbS hinges on the inclusion of critical stakeholders, including women. [World Resources Institute, 5 July 2023.](#)

WHITE PAPER: THE CHAIRPERSON'S GUIDE TO CLIMATE INTEGRITY: EARNING AND ENHANCING TRUST THROUGH THE SUSTAINABILITY TRANSITION Trust and integrity are at the core of human interactions and relationships – and business is no different. Environmental challenges are increasingly the focal point of gaining stakeholder trust. With expectations evolving in scope and intensity, businesses must respond more quickly, diligently and authentically to climate change and nature loss. As company stewards, board members have the responsibility to stay informed of the growing stakeholder expectations of their organization's climate and sustainability practices. This paper explores the common risks and pressures businesses are facing in light of the sustainability transition. Learn how company board members can create resilience by ensuring the integrity of – and trust in – the climate actions of their organizations. [World Economic Forum, 3 July 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: **“Companies acknowledge it's cheaper to mitigate risk caused by deforestation but just 1 in every 10 report taking sufficient action to do so,”** [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 **June 2023 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: July 7, 2023”** [here.](#) WMB believe business has a key role to play in planning, implementing and advocating for a just transition to a net zero economy. As mentioned above, The We Mean Business Coalition, together with BSR and The B Team, have launched the JUST TRANSITION RESOURCE PLATFORM to provide companies with the best available tools to navigate their just transition journey. [Access the platform, 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: “**CFO Network: Exploring sustainable business transformations and transitions**” [here](#).

NBI VIRTUAL EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS | 2023

[No event to share]

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

HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM 2023 | 10-19 July 2023 | New York, USA | The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) will be held from Monday, 10 July, to Wednesday, 19 July 2023, under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council. This includes the three-day ministerial segment of the forum from Monday, 17 July, to Wednesday, 19 July 2023 as part of the High-level Segment of the Council. The last day of the High-level Segment of ECOSOC will be on Thursday, 20 July 2023. The theme will be “*Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels*” In the forum, participants will be able to further discuss the effective and inclusive recovery measures to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and explore actionable policy guidance for the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs at all levels. The HLPF in 2023, without prejudice to the integrated, indivisible, and interlinked nature of the SDGs, will also review in-depth Goals 6 on clean water and sanitation, 7 on affordable and clean energy, 9 on industry, innovation, and infrastructure, 11 on sustainable cities and communities, and 17 on partnerships for the Goals. | [Website & further details](#).

FIRST REGIONAL CONSULTATIONS ON NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS: EASTERN EUROPE | 18-19 July 2023 | The First Regional Consultation on Nature-based Solutions will focus on three areas: compiling examples of best practice in nature-based solutions (NbS), with particular emphasis on examples from the Eastern European region; proposals, criteria, standards, and guidelines for NbS; and options for supporting sustainable investment in NbS. The discussion on sustainable investment will identify options for NbS financing and consider whether the consultations should provide specific guidance on how to apply for donor funding or if a general assessment of funding options is more useful for countries. Participants will also discuss regional perspectives on the implementation of NbS. | [Website & further details](#).

TRAINING: FIND THE LATEST TRENDS IN GLOBAL GHG EMISSIONS USING CLIMATE WATCH | 20 July 2023 | Join an interactive training to learn how to use Climate Watch to gain insights on countries’ climate commitments, generate custom visuals and access raw data for further analysis. This training will focus on recent trends in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions using data that was recently updated through 2020. We will explain the various GHG datasets available on Climate Watch, show where to download data and visuals, and demonstrate ways to analyze GHG emissions by country and sector, as well as over time. During and following the training, attendees are encouraged to ask questions and request demonstrations of how to access useful data. | [Website & further details](#).

P4G CALL FOR PARTNERSHIPS - PUBLIC WEBINAR | 25 July 2023 | On July 17, P4G will open applications for partnerships working on climate mitigation or adaptation solutions in the areas of food, energy and water. Partnerships must comprise at least one early-stage private sector business and one non-governmental organization implementing in one of P4G’s ODA-eligible partner countries: Colombia, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Indonesia and Vietnam. Applicants must provide services or products in one of the following sub-sectors: climate-smart agriculture, food loss and waste, water resilience, zero emission mobility and renewable energy. | [Website & further details](#).

59TH SESSION OF THE IPCC (IPCC 59) | 25-28 July 2023 | The 59th session of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC 59) will convene from 25-28 July 2023. The meeting will be the first meeting of the seventh assessment cycle. The IPCC was established in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the UN Environment Programme (UNEP) to “assess, in a comprehensive, objective, open, and transparent manner, the scientific, technical, and socio-economic information relevant to understanding human-induced climate change, its potential impacts, and

adaptation and mitigation options.” The IPCC does not undertake new research or monitor climate-related data. Instead, it conducts assessments of the state of climate change knowledge based on published, peer reviewed scientific and technical literature. The Panel’s reports are intended to be policy relevant but not policy prescriptive. They provide key inputs into international climate change negotiations. | [Website & further details.](#)

38TH UN-WATER MEETING | 18-19 August 2023 | The 38th UN-Water Meeting will convene in August 2023 under the theme, ‘Seeds of Change: Innovative Solutions for a Water-wise World’. It will bring together UN-Water Members and Partners to advance progress on SDG 6 (clean water and sanitation). UN-Water meetings gather UN-Water Members and Partners to coordinate the UN’s approach to water and sanitation issues. | [Website & further details.](#)

WORLD WATER WEEK 2023 | 20-24 August 2023 | World Water Week 2023 will plant seeds of change. Join online and in Stockholm, at the Waterfront Congress Center with 14,000m2 on-site space, for a programme full of sessions on topics like innovation, behavioural change, technology, and governance. Drawing on the latest scientific knowledge and experiences from around the world, we will explore how water can be a powerful tool to address the water crisis, global heating, biodiversity loss, poverty, and many other water-related challenges. | [Website & further details.](#)

NET ZERO FESTIVAL 2023 | 31 October- 1 November 2023 | London, UK | Hosted by BusinessGreen, the UK’s leading green business media brand and a source of news and analysis for the green business community that reaches over a million readers a year, the Net Zero Festival will bring together over 1,000 senior business executives, investors, entrepreneurs, policymakers, and campaigners over two days to explore how to navigate the defining economic, political, and technological trend of the age and work together to accelerate the net zero transition. This year’s Festival will build on the success of last year’s event, which brought together a host of leading experts in the net zero transition, including Chris Skidmore (who used the event to formally launch the Net Zero Review), head of the UN’s High Level Expert Group on Net Zero Catherine McKenna, the CBI’s Rain Newton-Smith, and the CCC’s Chris Stark, among many others. | [Website & further details.](#)

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