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ON A CLEAR DAY

Bringing you stories that inspire, actions that ignite, and initiatives that empower.

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A ROADMAP FOR THE PAST 3 DECADES

For 30 years, the [National Business Initiative \(NBI\)](#) has been more than a champion of sustainability, we have been catalysts for resilient businesses, inclusive growth and thriving economies. As a valued member, you are part of a forward-thinking network driving real change through collaboration, innovation and leadership. Together, we have embedded sustainability at the heart of business strategy.

To learn more about membership, please contact [Gillian Hutchings](#),
Head of Membership & Communications.

[Join us as we invest in the next generation of leaders, innovators and changemakers.](#)

SHE MEANS BUSINESS - WOMEN'S MONTH CAMPAIGN

Women are vital to climate solutions but face systemic barriers in accessing finance and leadership roles. The [National Business Initiative \(NBI\)](#) calls for tangible investment in women-led enterprises to build inclusive, resilient economies. This Women's Month, let's finance her future and dismantle the barriers to her success.



[Read more](#)

OFFICE OF THE CEO

"A just transition will not happen by itself — it must be deliberate."

NBI CEO, Shameela Soobramoney, highlighted a \$1M AfDB grant on Radio 702, supporting youth-focused green economy skills through the JET SEP programme. The initiative will build a green skills ecosystem across sectors like renewable energy, transport, and agriculture.



[Listen to the interview](#)

NBI MEMBERSHIP COUNCIL MEETING 2025

Last week, the NBI convened its annual Membership Council meeting. This vital platform brought together the NBI's valued member companies, the Board and the Executives who reflected on the collective impact to date, explored strategic priorities and reaffirmed the power of partnerships for systemic change.

Keynote speaker, **Rudi Dicks, Head: PMO, Presidency** said: *"NBI is not ideologically grounded. It takes a pragmatic approach, provides thought leadership, reads the situation and provides the kind of direction we need to take... and you (NBI leadership) have managed this organisation and transition excellently and been able to continue that growth even today."* **Join the NBI community of leading companies and enjoy exclusive member benefits.**

[Read more](#)



NBI DRIVING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION

Job Opportunity- Executive Assistant (Project Manager): Economic Inclusion
Closing date: Friday, 29 August 2025

The NBI is seeking a candidate who is well presented, highly skilled and professional with impeccable attention to detail and the ability to handle all executive support tasks.

[Read more](#)



NBI Unit Head Joins G20 JET Skills Advisory Forum

Gugu McLaren-Ushewokune, NBI's Head of Economic Inclusion, has been appointed to the National JET Skills Advisory Forum at the G20, serving until 2027. The Forum advises government, addresses challenges and coordinates efforts to ensure South Africa's Just Energy Transition is skills driven and inclusive. Her appointment strengthens the NBI's role in shaping a sustainable and just economy.

EXPLORE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FROM NBI MEMBER COMPANIES



In celebration of **International Youth Day**, observed annually on 12 August, **Pick n Pay** is reaffirming its commitment to empowering young South Africans through education, community partnerships and youth-driven initiatives. This aligns with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2025 theme: "Local Youth Actions for the SDGs and Beyond."

[Read more](#)

Applications are open for the Tholoana Enterprise Programme at [SAB Foundation](#). Get two years of business

Nobesuthu Ndlovu, Director of SME at [Old Mutual](#), shares how her entrepreneurial journey inspired the SMEgo platform—a

support, funding, mentorship and market access. Open to committed entrepreneurs, especially women, youth, rural and disabled individuals.



[Read more](#)

Standard Bank highlights a “collective and urgent responsibility” to prioritise climate adaptation as Africa faces “disproportionate” climate impacts. The bank aims to mobilise over R450 billion by 2028 to fund “climate smart agriculture,” “resilient infrastructure,” and energy storage solutions.

holistic digital “all-in-one” tool offering fast funding, streamlined operations, and market access to help South African SMEs thrive.



[Read more](#)

Pele Energy Group CPO Melissa Wilkinson lights up the energy sector through the power of people. she’s building talent pipelines the renewable energy sector desperately needs, opening doors for women to lead in spaces that once shut them out – and dismantling barriers with every watt of power generated.



[Read more](#)



[Read more](#)

STAY UPDATED AND BE INSPIRED WITH THE LATEST INDUSTRY NEWS



Green jobs: The future of South Africa’s workforce and economic growth

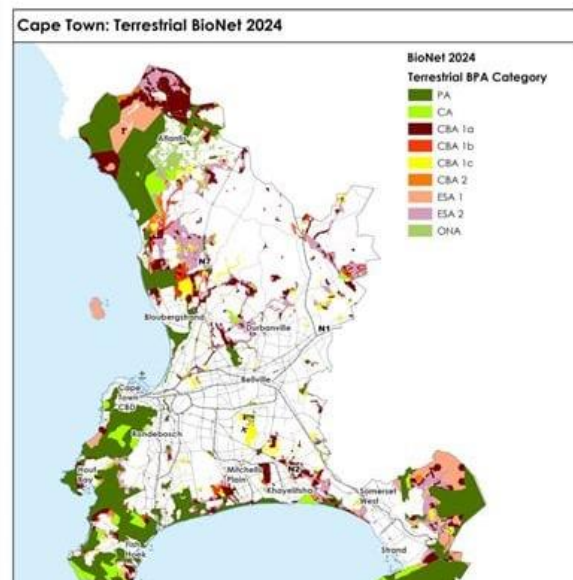
In the face of South Africa’s high unemployment rate and the growing urgency to combat climate change, the country finds itself at a crossroads. The solution may lie in an often overlooked but increasingly vital sector: green jobs.

[Read more](#)

City of Cape Town adopts Biodiversity Spatial Plan, maps priority areas

The purpose of the policy is to inform and guide spatial planning, environmental assessment and natural resource management by a wide range of sectors whose policies and decisions impact biodiversity.

[Read more](#)



NBI IN PERSON EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS



NBI events unite leaders and visionaries to drive bold climate action, inclusive economic growth, innovative capacity building and transformative solutions for South Africa's greatest challenges.



Local Power, Local Industry: Aligning Heavy Manufacturing with the Transmission Development Plan

Date: Tuesday, 19 August 2025

Time: 10:00 - 12:00 (SAST)

[Find out more](#)

GLOBAL EVENTS/MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/WEBINARS 2025

Leading Sustainable Businesses

Date: Thursday, 21 August 2025
Online Event

[Find out more](#)



World Water Week 2025

Date: 24 - 28 August 2025

Venue: Online and in Stockholm,
Sweden

[Find out more](#)

Climate Week NYC

Date: 21 - 28 September 2025

Location: New York City, USA

[Find out more](#)





ESG Africa Conference 2025

Date: 15 - 16 October 2025

Location: Sandton, South Africa

[Register](#)

2nd International Conference on

Net-Zero Built Environment:

Innovations in Materials,
Structures, and Management
Practices

Date: 05 - 07 November 2025

Location: Cape Town, South Africa



[Register](#)

NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

