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ON A CLEAR DAY

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



National Business Initiative

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By being an **NBI Member**, you are part of a **progressive collective** that delivers **real impact** through **innovation and leadership**. Collaboratively, for the **past 31 years**, we have integrated resilience at the core of our business strategy.

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

**BEYOND 30:
THE NEXT CHAPTER OF COLLECTIVE BUSINESS IMPACT**



The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** recently brought together leaders from business, government and civil society to **celebrate 30 years of business impact**, reflecting on three decades of partnership, collaboration and collective action in support of South Africa's development journey.

Addressing the gathering, **President Cyril Ramaphosa** recognised the NBI as “a respected voice of responsible business action and a powerful agent for change,” while the NBI's CEO **Shameela Soobramoney** reflected on the Organisation's continued role in advancing implementation-driven partnerships that strengthen inclusive growth and national resilience.

Not only did the evening celebrate a significant milestone; it also focused firmly on the future and the role of business as an active partner in delivery, innovation and systemic change.

The NBI extends its sincere appreciation and thanks to all sponsors and partners who contributed to the success of the evening, including **Nedbank** as the venue sponsor, **Exxaro** as the photography and videography sponsor; and **Engie, Anglo American, Sasol, Sappi, Telkom, Aurex Constructors, Standard Bank, Astron Energy, PepsiCo and Heineken**.

Highlights Video

Images

OFFICE OF THE CEO



NBI's CEO, **Shameela Soobramoney**, participated in the signing of the **Partnership Pledge** for the **Working on Infrastructure** programme under the **EPWP**, led by **Minister Dean Macpherson**. This seeks to reform and strengthen the EPWP to be more inclusive, more accessible, and more intentional in creating meaningful opportunities for young people.

Read more

Radio 702's **Stephen Grootes** speaks to the NBI's CEO, **Shameela Soobramoney**, around the organisation's efforts to position young people at the centre of **South Africa's green economy**. The conversation comes at a critical time, as growing demand in sectors linked to renewable energy, infrastructure and sustainable services sharpens the focus on how young people, particularly in township communities, can access real opportunities emerging within these sectors.



LISTEN



“Too often, we design solutions for communities instead of with them. And then we ask why impact does not sustain. Inclusion is not a moral add-on. It is a design principle”

At the **Triologue Business in Society Conference 2026**, NBI's CEO **Shameela Soobramoney**, delivered an opening keynote that didn't just resonate, it challenged leaders to rethink.

Read more

NBI DRIVING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION



The **NBI's Environment Team** hosted an interactive and solutions-based workshop focused on addressing critical data and logistic challenges in the **Alien Invasive Plants (AIP)** biomass economy to enhance commercial efficiency & viability. Participants identified the need for fine-scale data and effective logistic models and recommended a Community of Practice to be established with potential national scaling, to drive implementation of the solutions put forward.

EXPLORE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FROM NBI MEMBER COMPANIES

Toyota has committed to investing R10.4 billion in KwaZulu-Natal to support the South African automotive sector's energy transition. South Africa's automotive manufacturing sector will benefit from nearly R20 billion in investment from six international projects.



[Read more](#)

Sappi: Launch of the **Africa Corporate Citizenship Report 2026**. This year's report situates Sappi's journey within a continuum, and as they enter their 90th year, it highlights how they are backed by decades of progress, the milestones they have achieved along the way.



[Read more](#)

ERM: This short primer from WBCSD and ERM aims to translate the concept of integrated transition planning into practical steps for building a methodology and approach that delivers results. This helps companies address climate, nature, and social-related issues while identifying value-protecting and value-creating opportunities.



[Read more](#)

Exxaro and **Eskom** signed a new long-term Coal Supply Agreement between Exxaro's Matla Mine and Eskom, securing the continued supply of coal to the Matla Power Station and reinforcing a strategic partnership that has supported South Africa's electricity generation for more than four decades.



[Read more](#)

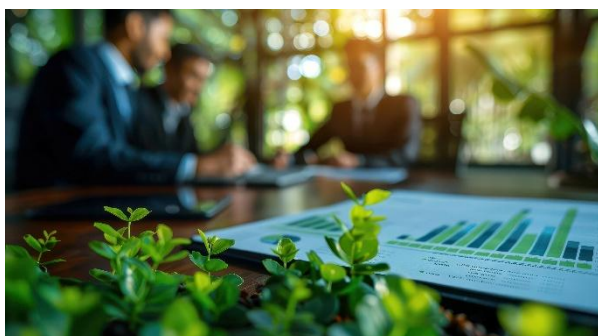
STAY UPDATED AND BE INSPIRED WITH THE LATEST INDUSTRY REPORTS/NEWS/OPPORTUNITIES

Positive Water Impact Training Sessions for Practitioners

The [CEO Water Mandate](#) is pleased to announce two **Positive Water Impact (PWI) training workshops** scheduled for this year. These sessions are designed for consultants and practitioners who implement PWI initiatives or advise corporates on PWI implementation.



[Register](#)



Bottom-up Climate Finance Requirements Tracker: Data and Methodology

This technical note outlines the data sources and methodology underpinning the [Climate Finance Requirements Tracker](#), a tool designed to monitor countries' climate finance needs as articulated in their nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

[Read more](#)

The search for SA's next Eco-Champions begins

The **Eco-Logic Awards 2026** officially opens for entries this month, inviting the country's eco-champions to step forward to be recognised and rewarded. Entry is free and open to individuals, organisations, businesses, and communities making a positive environmental impact. **Entries close at the end of June 2026**, and this year's awards will culminate in a celebratory event on 5 October 2026 (World Habitat Day) at the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape Town.



[Read more](#)

NBI IN PERSON EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS 2026



High-Level Roundtable – Social Justice for Business: Framing Inclusion and Economic Participation

Date: Thursday, 28 May 2026

Time: 09:00 - 10:40 (SAST)

RSVP

NATIONAL/GLOBAL EVENTS/MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/WEBINARS 2026

Enlit Africa 2026

Date: 19 - 21 May 2026

Register

19-21 May 2026 CTICC, Cape Town, South Africa

Opening Keynote

Delivering value from digital capability in power systems

Keynote speakers

Old operators across Africa are making real decisions about digital transformation. It's time to pay out and what stands in the way.

CHALLENGE

BRUCE WHITFIELD, ESOW ISI

GRAHAM EVANS, ESOW ISI

- Data quality and ownership** – who, local governance holds the IP?
- Cyber and operational security** – protecting systems as they become more digital
- Workforce capability** – getting people and digital technology on board

Trust, capability and resilience: the enabling outcomes that can no longer be debated

Also on 19 May: Business Breakfast with Bruce Whitfield and Graham Evans, Chief economist at Royal Bank of Scotland, former Bank of England

Register Now Programme

