

[View this email in your browser](#)

ON A CLEAR DAY

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

21 May 2026

Issue: 894



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.

OFFICE OF THE CEO

Opinion: Thirty years later, South Africa still needs collective leadership

As the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** marks 30 years, **CEO Shameela Soobramoney** reflected on how closely the organisation's journey mirrors that of South Africa itself.

[Read more](#)



NBI C-SUITE EVENTS: MEMBER EXCLUSIVE

Some of South Africa's most influential CEOs, board chairs and senior executives will gather in different provinces for a series of exclusive, closed-door **C-Suite Roundtables** hosted by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**. These engagements form part of the NBI's ongoing commitment to creating spaces where South Africa's business leaders can engage openly, challenge thinking, build alignment and help shape the country's future together. **For more information, contact Thabi Mathole: ThabiM@nbi.org.za**



The first of the **NBI's exclusive C-Suite Roundtable** series took place in KwaZulu-Natal yesterday Wednesday, 22 May 2026, in partnership with the **Aspen Pharmacare Group**. This high-level engagement featured contributions from the Presidency, Aspen, the NBI leadership, and executives, focusing on strengthening collaboration between business and government, building institutional capacity, and driving collective action to address South Africa's most pressing challenges.

NBI DRIVING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION



**Integrated
Annual Report
2025**

NBI Integrated Annual Report 2025

The NBI recently published its **Integrated Annual Report 2025**, showcasing 30 years of business impact and partnership, with one shared goal: driving South Africa forward. This report covers the NBI's activities, performance, strategy and prospects for the year to 30 June 2025.

[Read NBI's IAR Report 2025](#)

Watch: **Gugu McLaren Ushewokunze**, Head of Economic Inclusion at the **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, speaks on the realities behind South Africa's unemployment crisis and what is needed to strengthen pathways to employment for young people. The latest figures from Statistics South Africa show the official unemployment rate rose to 32.7% in the first quarter of 2026.



[Watch](#)



[Read more](#)

'Working on Infrastructure' Launch

Against the backdrop of South Africa's urgent need to expand pathways into employment for young people, the launch in Durban highlighted the important role that public infrastructure programmes can play in driving skills development and economic participation. uMfolozi TVET College's participation in this underscored the critical role that TVET institutions fulfil in connecting young people to meaningful economic opportunities.

On 14–15 May 2026, the [Department of Electricity and Energy \(DEE\)](#), together with programme partners [SANEDI](#), [GIZ](#) and the [National Business Initiative \(NBI\)](#), hosted an **Energy Performance Contracting (EnPC) Projects and Bid Specifications Workshop** in Pretoria. This session supported municipalities participating in the [Energy Efficiency in Public Buildings and Infrastructure Programme \(EEPPIP\)](#) to take an important step closer to procuring Energy Services Companies (ESCOs) and implementing EnPC project.



[Read more](#)

EXPLORE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FROM NBI MEMBER COMPANIES

[GIBS](#) ranks as a top African business school in the UK Financial Times 2026 Executive Education Rankings, further strengthening the school's reputation as a globally competitive leader in executive education and leadership development.



[Read more](#)

[Sasol](#) is committing R60 billion to upgrade its plants in Mpumalanga and the Free State. This investment strengthens the industry and supports long-term economic growth.



[Read more](#)

[MediClinic](#): The George project embodies a new era of hospital infrastructure, where sustainability, efficiency, and patient-centred design converge through intelligent building management, energy recovery systems,

[JSE](#) has listed Africa's first nature-linked performance-based bond, marking a structural shift in how environmental outcomes are financed across emerging markets. The R2.5 billion FirstRand Bank Cape Water Performance-Based

and resource-efficient technologies to balance environmental responsibility with operational excellence.



[Read more](#)

Bond introduces a model that directly links investor returns to measurable ecological restoration.



[Read more](#)

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



Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) Ecosystem Support Survey

The Western Cape Department of Economic Development and Tourism is undertaking research on businesses that may be affected by CBAM regulations. **The survey will take approximately 10 minutes to complete.**

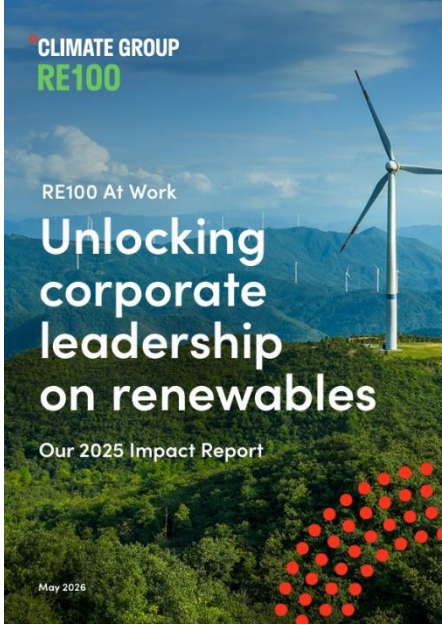
[Complete the Survey](#)

EWSETA positions skills development at centre of Africa's energy transition

At **Enlit Africa 2026**, the **Energy & Water Sector Education Training Authority (EWSETA)** reinforced the message that skills development is not a supporting function, but a strategic driver of transformation across South Africa's energy sector.



Read more



RE100 Impact Report

The world's leading businesses are demanding renewables – but can't get there fast enough because too many barriers remain. RE100 is here to break them down. That's why we're working with RE100 to unlock leadership, shape policies, and help companies move even faster to 100% renewable electricity. Today's **RE100 Impact Report** shows how this collective force with operations in 140 markets drives global impact:

RE100 Impact Report

NBI IN PERSON EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS 2026





Nkangala District Municipality Just Transition Project Launch

Date: Friday, 22 May 2026

Time: 08:30 - 13:00 (SAST)

Project Close Out Event: Collective Climate Action with the Private Sector

Date: Tuesday, 26 May 2026

Time: 09:30 - 12:00 (SAST)

RSVP



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

Date: Thursday, 28 May 2026

Time: 08:30 - 10:40 (SAST)

RSVP



Webinar: Nature Action Accelerator: Module 3 - A South African Perspective on a Global Shift Toward Nature

Date: Thursday, 28 May 2026

Time: 08:30 - 11:00 (SAST)



RSVP



Accelerating Corporate Action on GBV – Women’s Equality: Digital Access and Rights to Expression

We-Dare Repository Event

Date: Tuesday, 02 June 2026

Time: 12:00 - 16:00 (SAST)

RSVP

NATIONAL/GLOBAL EVENTS/MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/WEBINARS 2026

Triologue Webinar: Building a more Resilient Civil Society

Date: 28 May 2026

Register



trialogue WEBINAR

Ford Foundation

REGISTER NOW

SANBI South African National Biodiversity Institute | **NBA** National Biodiversity Assessment



NBA 2025 Webinar Series

Join the NBA 2025 Webinar Series to explore the latest findings on the state of South Africa's biodiversity trends.

Webinar name	Date	Time	Speaker	Link
1. Introduction to the NBA 2025 findings about the state of South Africa's biodiversity	22 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Lize van Niekerk, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
2. SDG 15: How do we know our ecosystems are doing well or not so well?	19 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
3. Freshwater ecosystems: How do we know our South Africa's water security is threatened?	24 Apr 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
4. Ecosystems on the edge: 98% of South Africa's coastal ecosystems are threatened	8 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Lize van Niekerk, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
5. Coastal ecosystems: pressure to the limit and the impact on South Africa's biodiversity	10 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Lize van Niekerk, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
6. New indicators for genetic diversity: how do we know our biodiversity is doing well or not so well?	29 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Lize van Niekerk, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
7. South Africa has no national marine biodiversity: what do we do about it?	20 May 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
8. New species assessed in NBA 2025	5 Jun 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
9. Using NBA 2025 for planning policy and development in South Africa	12 Jun 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902
10. Closing the NBA 2025 webinar series: what do we do about the state of South Africa's biodiversity?	19 Jun 2025	13:00 - 13:45	Dr. Lize van Niekerk and Dr. Njabulo Mkhomo, SANBI	https://teams.microsoft.com/join/304542490217e1c0e0a6f6493882902

NBA Webinar Series

Date: 22 May - 19 June 2026

For more information

London Climate Action Week

Date: 20 - 28 June 2026



NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

