

[View this email in your browser](#)

ON A CLEAR DAY

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



18 June 2026

Issue: 896

A commemorative banner for the 50th anniversary of the 1976 Youth Uprisings. The banner features a collage of historical and contemporary images of South African youth. Text on the banner includes '50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1976 YOUTH UPRISINGS Commemoration', '16 JUNE 2026', '10:00 - 17:00', 'FNB Stadium Open Field Nasrec, Johannesburg', and a quote: 'Our National Commitment to the Future, for Freedom Lives in Every Generation.' Logos for the 1976 Foundation, GovernmentZA, nyda, and the NDP are visible at the bottom.

TURNING AMBITION INTO ACTION

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.

NBI IS HIRING: Senior Programme Manager - TAMDEV & Building of State Capacity Unit

The [National Business Initiative \(NBI\)](#) is looking for a **Senior Programme Manager** to help drive high-impact, multi-stakeholder programmes focused on infrastructure development, municipal capacity strengthening and sustainable systems change in South Africa. This is a unique opportunity to work across business, government, and development to support initiatives that strengthen implementation capacity and drive lasting, systemic impact.



[Apply here](#)

NBI DRIVING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION



Press Release

NBI Executive Engagements

NBI's Head of **Environment**, **Alex McNamara**, recently participated in the "Future of Voluntary Carbon Markets in Africa: From Potential to Value," webinar. During the discussion, McNamara emphasised that carbon projects, focused on reducing emissions, should deliver broader development benefits, including local economic opportunities, skills development and support for communities.

The green economy is creating new opportunities for work, entrepreneurship and economic participation. The question is: who will benefit from them? Through digital tools, demand-led skilling and entrepreneurship support, the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** is helping connect youth and township enterprises to opportunities in the green economy.

The Future of Voluntary Carbon Markets in Africa: From Potential to Value



Read more



Nature Action Accelerator Module 4

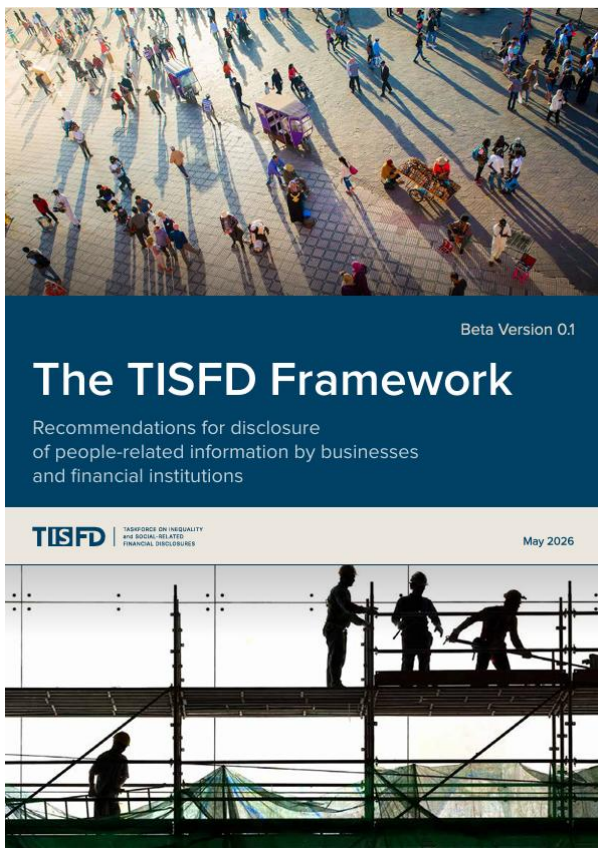
The Nature Action Accelerator concluded its four-part learning journey with a focus on nature-related disclosure and accountability. Participants gained practical insights into evolving reporting frameworks, performance measurement and the integration of nature-related risks and opportunities into business decision-making.

Industry Partnership Driving Demand-Led Technical Skills Through the IRM Initiative

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)**, together with lead industry partner **Defy Appliances**, are scaling the **Installation, Repair and Maintenance (IRM) Initiative** through the rollout of a domestic appliance repair skills programme across three Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) college campuses.

Read more





TISFD Reaches Major Milestone with Release of Beta Framework for Public Feedback

TISFD has released its [Beta Framework \(Version 0.1\)](#) for public consultation, marking a major step in advancing social sustainability and helping organisations measure, manage, and disclose social-related risks, opportunities, and impacts.

The NBI encourages stakeholders to participate in the consultation process **before 31 July 2026** to help shape the future of social-related financial disclosures and address inequality through improved measurement and reporting.

[Read more](#)

Nature Action Accelerator Survey

The **Nature Action Accelerator**, delivered by the [NBI](#) and [Endangered Wild Trust \(EWT\)](#) supported by the [Business for Nature \(BfN\)](#), helped South African businesses integrate nature into strategy, operations, and accountability through the [ACT-D framework](#).



As the programme has now concluded, participants are invited to complete an anonymous feedback survey by **Monday, 29 June 2026** to help shape future nature-related business support and learning opportunities.

[Survey](#)

EXPLORE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FROM NBI MEMBER COMPANIES

[Nedbank](#) supports the development of young entrepreneurs who operate solar-powered water kiosks in underserved communities through its partnership with the [Kusini Foundation](#).

This important partnership is helping improve access to clean drinking water while building

[Deneys](#) Director and Head of Africa, Greg Nott, reflects ahead of the [2026 Africa Energy Forum](#). *"I've been going to the Africa Energy Forum for some twenty years now, and that really illustrates the energy trends in our country and in Africa as a whole."* The 2026 AEF in Cape Town is expected to host

businesses that create jobs, support community health and stimulate local economies.



[Read more](#)

600 youth in practical workshops, over 230 expert speakers and 80 sessions, and more than 1,000 companies represented.



[Read more](#)

Vodacom Foundation partners the **Mpumalanga Department of Education** to launch R4m School of Excellence model at a Special Needs School in the Nkomazi Local Municipality. The launch marks another significant milestone in advancing digital inclusion for learners with physical disabilities, ensuring that these learners are not left behind in the Digital Age.



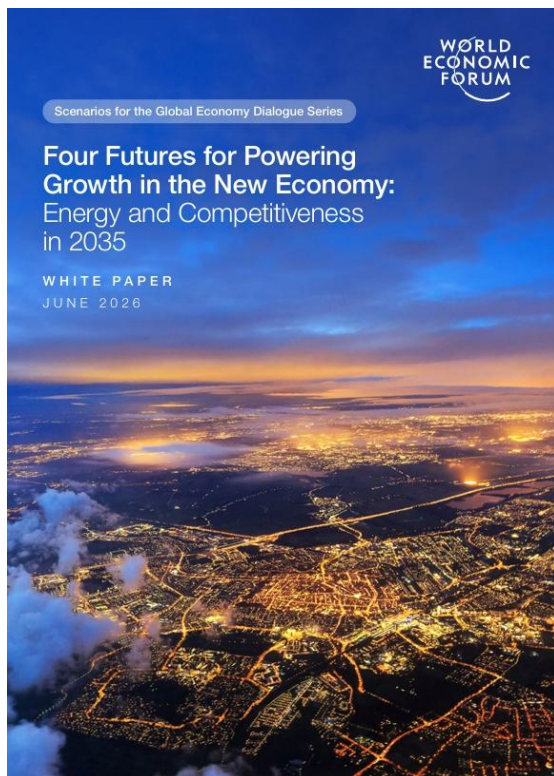
[Read more](#)

Absa is opening pathways to economic activity through entrepreneurship education, addressing South Africa's 32.7% unemployment rate and 60.9% youth unemployment by building entrepreneurial mindsets and creating pathways to economic participation. In 2025, Absa invested over R373 million in corporate citizenship initiatives.



[Read more](#)

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



Four Futures for Powering Growth in the New Economy: Energy and Competitiveness in 2035 Despite record global energy investment reaching \$3.3 trillion, energy transition progress is fragmenting as geopolitical tensions, infrastructure bottlenecks and rising energy demand expose vulnerabilities in the global transition.

Written by the World Economic Forum in collaboration with Accenture, the Energy Transition Index 2026 tracks energy transition progress across 120 countries, measuring both how energy systems perform today and whether the conditions for future progress are in place.

Report

Applications for the BRICS Solutions Awards 2026 are now open The Awards 2026 recognise innovative, scalable, and impactful solutions aligned with sustainability and inclusivity. The awards aim to showcase initiatives that demonstrate measurable impact and can be replicated across BRICS nations. Each category is mapped to LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) actions and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ensuring BRICS-wide resonance in food security, health, education, water, energy, industry, and circular economy.

The last date for applications submission is Friday, 10 July 2026.

Apply

BRICS SOLUTIONS AWARDS 2026
Recognising Innovative Solutions for a Sustainable Future

The BRICS Solutions Awards 2026 aims to identify and celebrate innovative, scalable, and impactful solutions contributing towards sustainability, inclusivity, climate resilience, and responsible growth across BRICS countries.

The Awards align with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the principles of Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment).

Who Can Apply?

- Startups & MSMEs
- Corporates & Industry Leaders
- NGOs & Civil Society Organisations
- Academic & Research Institutions
- Social Enterprises

Key Highlights

- International Jury from BRICS Nations
- Recognition Across BRICS Economies
- Platform for Global Visibility & Collaboration
- Showcase Innovative & Scalable Solutions
- Knowledge Sharing & Cross-Border Partnerships

Award Categories

- Innovations in Food Security & Nutrition
- Digital Health & Wellness Ecosystem
- Gender Inclusive Learning & Empowerment
- Water Security & Resilience
- Clean Energy & Sustainable Transition Pathways
- Smart Infrastructure & Sustainable Industry Solutions
- Resource Recovery & Circular Material Innovation

Applications Open
15 MAY 2026

Last Date for Submission
10 JULY 2026

Application Portal:
<https://bricsbusinesscouncil.co.in/brics-solution-award.html>

For any queries, please contact
Mr. Kiral Singh | kiral.singh@ficci.com

Knowledge Partner
KPMG



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.

[How to enter](#)

NBI IN PERSON EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS 2026



Webinar: Practical Complementary

between SBTN and TNFD

Date: Wednesday, 24 June 2026

Time: 10:00 - 12:30 (SAST)

[Register](#)



Sustainability & ESG Africa Conference &

Expo | NBI is an official Partner

Sandton, Gauteng

Date: 30 September - 01 October 2026

[Register](#)

NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

