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ON A CLEAR DAY
Bringing you stories that inspire, actions that ignite, and initiatives that empower.

15 October 2026
Issue: 904

National Business Initiative

JOIN THE BUSINESSES SHAPING SOUTH AFRICA'S FUTURE



NBI membership connects your organisation to a powerful network of business leaders committed to building a more inclusive, sustainable and competitive economy. **For over 30 years, the National Business Initiative (NBI)** has brought business, government and civil society together to tackle South Africa's most pressing challenges and turn shared ambition into meaningful action.

As an **NBI member,** your organisation can contribute to influential national conversations, access leading insights, build strategic partnerships and participate in initiatives that deliver lasting value for business and society.

Ready to explore what NBI membership could unlock for your organisation?

Contact Gillian Hutchings, Head of Membership, to learn more about the exclusive opportunities, connections and benefits available to NBI members.

SOUTH AFRICA PAVILION AT COP31

SOUTH AFRICA PAVILION | COP31
IMPLEMENTATION | INVESTMENT | PEOPLE | A JUST TRANSITION

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** will once again host the **South Africa Pavilion** this year in partnership with the **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)**, bringing together business, government, labour, civil society, youth and development partners to showcase climate action, strengthen collaboration, and advance South Africa's contribution to the global climate agenda.

Webpage & Programme Coming Soon

NBI DRIVING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMATION

CLIMATE FINANCE ACCELERATOR (CFA) SOUTH AFRICA INVESTOR ENGAGEMENT EVENT 2026

The UK Government-funded **Climate Finance Accelerator (CFA)** South Africa hosted its flagship **2026 Investor Engagement Event on 8 and 9 October in Cape Town**. The two-day, in-person gathering brought together more than 150 institutional investors, climate tech entrepreneurs, financial institutions, and policy experts to accelerate private capital deployment into South Africa's green economy.

Read more









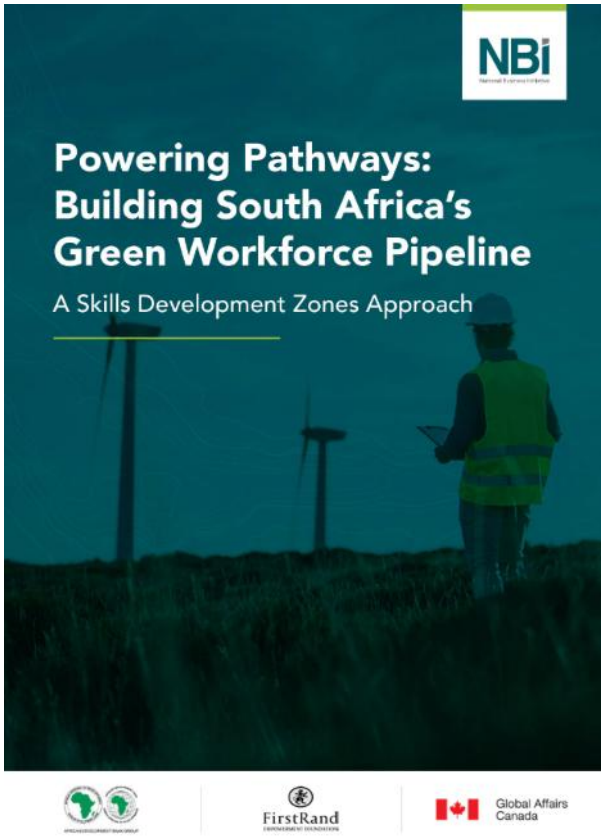


GREEN LIVELIHOODS SUMMIT 2026

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** in partnership with the Presidency through the **Presidential Youth Employment Intervention (PYEI)** and endorsed by the **Just Energy Transition Project Management Unit (JET PMU)** and the **JET Skills Desk**, hosted the **Green Livelihoods Summit** on **13 October 2026,** in Johannesburg.

The focus was on strengthening collaboration to advance green skills development, employment creation and enterprise growth, with particular attention to ensuring that young women can participate in and benefit from these opportunities. Leaders from government, business, training institutions, youth employment intermediaries and development partners came together to explore how South Africa can translate the transition to a decarbonised economy into meaningful employment and enterprise opportunities for young people.

Read more



EMPOWERING PATHWAYS: BUILDING SOUTH AFRICA'S GREEN WORKFORCE PIPELINE REPORT

The recently released Report by the National Business Initiative (NBI), sets out the case for **Skills Development Zones (SDZs)** as a practical, scalable pathway to unlocking the full potential of South Africa's **Just Energy Transition (JET).** Drawing on policy commitments, evidence, stakeholder inputs and provincial perspectives, the Report explores skills development within the JET, the SDZ model and its application in Mpumalanga, the Eastern Cape and the Northern Cape, while highlighting key enablers emerging from implementation discussions.

Download Report

NBI4BIOMASS MARKET PLACE WORKSHOP: ACCESS TO MARKETS AND FINANCE

Recently held in Johannesburg, the workshop brought together entrepreneurs, market off-takers, financiers and ecosystem partners to explore what it will take to move **South Africa's Alien Invasive Plant (AIP) biomass economy** towards greater scale.

Over the past year, the project has connected more than 130 actors across the AIP biomass ecosystem through workshops, site visits, focus groups and other engagements.





NBI C-SUITE ROUNDTABLE JOHANNESBURG
BY INVITATION ONLY

Degrees of Disruption: Climate Change and South Africa's Future
Friday, 23 October 2023
Sandton | Gauteng



As a strategic partner to business for over 30 years, the National Business Initiative (NBI) is hosting its second exclusive **C-suite Roundtable** in Johannesburg, exploring what South Africa's changing climate could mean for the economy, the business environment and the strategic decisions leaders must make today. Please contact Thabi Mathole for further information.

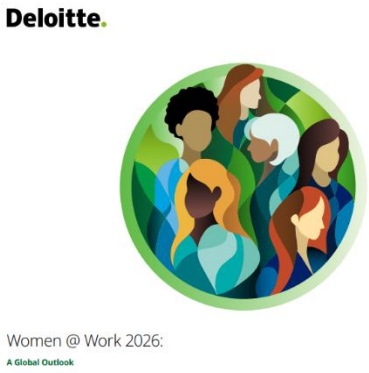
EXPLORE GROUNDBREAKING INNOVATIONS FROM NBI MEMBER COMPANIES

SASOL: A partnership between licensed energy trader Discovery Green, its joint venture partner Sasol, and South African National Parks (SANParks) will enable the Kruger National Park to source approximately 25% of its electricity needs from renewable energy, representing a major milestone in the park's decarbonisation journey as it celebrates its centenary year.



Read more

Deloitte: Now in its sixth year, the Women @ Work survey captures the perspectives of 7,500 non-Deloitte respondents working across 15 countries, providing one of the most comprehensive global assessments of women's experiences in the workplace. The findings provide a deeper understanding of the actions needed to create more inclusive, equitable and supportive work environments.



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Read more

The low-carbon transition is a strategic economic opportunity,' say climate CEOs ahead of COP31

Ahead of COP31, the World Economic Forum's Alliance of CEO Climate Leaders emphasises that accelerating the low-carbon transition requires stable, science-based policies that unlock innovation, investment and market growth.

Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Gender Snapshot 2026 is the latest edition of the annual flagship Report produced by **UN Women** and the **United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)**. Covering all 17 **Sustainable Development Goals**, the Report provides a comprehensive assessment of the state of gender equality worldwide, drawing on the latest available data and evidence. It tracks emerging trends, highlights areas of progress, and identifies persistent gaps and challenges, offering valuable insights into where accelerated action is needed to advance gender equality and achieve the Goals by 2030.

Download Report



Carbon Markets Africa Summit (CMAS) 2026

Africa must shift from discussing carbon market potential to delivering high-integrity, investment-ready markets that attract long-term finance while safeguarding national climate priorities and ensuring benefits reach local countries and communities. This was the key message at the **CMAS 2026** held this week in **Kigali, Rwanda** where policymakers, investors, project developers and climate organisations convened to accelerate Africa's role in global carbon markets.



Press Release

NBI IN PERSON EVENTS/WEBINARS/MEETINGS 2026



JUST SA Business Symposium:
Enhancing Private Sector Contributions toward the Just Transition in Mpumalanga

Wednesday, 02 December 2026
Johannesburg | Venue to confirmed

RSVP



NATIONAL/GLOBAL EVENTS/MEETINGS/CONFERENCES/WEBINARS 2026



FT Africa Summit
Mobilising Growth in a New Global Order
21 to 22 October 2026
London | UK

Register

CILT Conference Driving Innovation:

Bridging Borders for an African Future

28 to 29 October 2026

Gallagher Convention Centre | Midrand

NBI Members get a discounted rate when registering!

Register



NBI INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

WBCSD Global Network

CDP

WE MEAN BUSINESS COALITION

UN GLOBAL COMPACT CEO WATER MANDATE