MEDIA ADVISORY

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FROM CLIMATE AMBITION TO ACTION AND IMPLEMENTATION: SOUTH AFRICA BRINGS GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES TOGETHER AT COP31

The South African Pavilion in Antalya is bringing together leading businesses and development partners to strengthen partnerships and commitments that advance climate investment, promote industrial competitiveness, build resilience and support a just transition that delivers tangible economic and social benefits.

ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE | 12 NOVEMBER 2026 – As global leaders gather for the **31st United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP31)**, South Africa is placing a critical challenge at the centre of international climate discussions: translating climate commitments into investments, economic opportunity and meaningful improvements in people's lives.

Hosted by the **National Business Initiative (NBI)** in partnership with the **Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)**, the **South African Pavilion at COP31** provides a platform for government, business, financial institutions, international partners, industry leaders and civil society to engage on the practical measures required to accelerate South Africa's climate transition.

Taking place from **9–20 November 2026 in Antalya, Türkiye**, COP31 comes at a pivotal moment for South Africa as the country works to implement its climate commitments while addressing the urgent priorities of economic growth, industrial competitiveness and job creation.

The scale of this challenge is significant. South Africa's **Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (2023–2027) identifies approximately R1.5 trillion in investment requirements**, underscoring the importance of mobilising finance, strengthening institutional capacity and building partnerships capable of translating climate ambition into implementation.

The South African Pavilion is supported by a diverse group of organisations spanning development finance, energy, mining, industry, technology and climate policy, reflecting the collective effort required to advance South Africa's climate and development priorities.

Sponsor organisations include the **Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), African Climate Foundation (ACF), Industrial Development Corporation (IDC), Eskom, Presidential Climate Commission (PCC), Exxaro, Naspers-Prosus, Energy Council of South Africa, Council for Geoscience, Minerals Council South Africa and CHEP.**

Their involvement highlights the importance of collaboration across sectors, bringing together institutions with different mandates, capabilities and perspectives to strengthen partnerships, mobilise investment and advance practical climate action.

FROM COMMITMENTS TO IMPLEMENTATION

The South African Pavilion's programme will examine some of the most consequential issues shaping the country's economic and climate future, with discussions focused on:

- **Mobilising climate finance and investment:** Unlocking capital, strengthening investment partnerships and developing viable opportunities to finance South Africa's transition.
- **Advancing a just transition:** Addressing the socioeconomic implications of the energy transition for workers, communities and businesses, particularly in coal-dependent regions.
- **Strengthening industrial competitiveness:** Exploring how South Africa's energy, mining, manufacturing and trade sectors can navigate decarbonisation while supporting economic growth.
- **Unlocking green economy opportunities:** Examining the potential of critical minerals, emerging technologies, innovation and new industries to support economic diversification and employment.
- **Accelerating climate implementation:** Strengthening policy alignment, institutional coordination and partnerships to translate national climate priorities into measurable outcomes.

Through these engagements, the Pavilion aims to connect South Africa's climate priorities with the investment, policy, technological and institutional interventions required to support implementation.

For South Africa, the stakes extend well beyond emissions reduction. The decisions made today will influence the country's long-term investment prospects, industrial development, energy security, employment opportunities and resilience to a changing climate.

The South African Pavilion further provides an opportunity to elevate these interconnected priorities within international climate discussions, while highlighting the role of collaboration in building an economically competitive, climate-resilient and inclusive future.

EVENT DETAILS

Event: South African Pavilion at COP31
Dates: 9–20 November 2026
Venue: Blue Zone, Pavilion B205, Antalya, Türkiye

Programme: Annual COP Events 31 - National Business Initiative
Hosted by: The National Business Initiative (NBI), in partnership with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE)

Media representatives attending COP31 are encouraged to visit the South African Pavilion, follow the programme and engage with the discussions shaping South Africa's climate and economic future.

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL BUSINESS INITIATIVE (NBI)

The **National Business Initiative (NBI)** is a voluntary coalition of South African and multinational companies committed to advancing sustainable economic growth and development. Established in 1995 at the request of President Nelson Mandela, the NBI works with business, government and other stakeholders to drive collective action, strengthen institutional capacity and advance thought leadership on South Africa's most pressing development challenges.

Through its work on environmental sustainability, economic inclusion, social transformation and institutional capacity, the NBI supports partnerships and practical solutions that contribute to a more resilient, competitive and inclusive South African economy.