

## IAIAsa Operations

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**From:** Shelley Lizzio <shelleyl@ewt.org.za>  
**Sent:** Monday, 26 March 2018 8:03 AM  
**To:** Shelley Lizzio  
**Subject:** National Biodiversity and Business Network Newsletter - March 2018



**Welcome to the March 2018 issue of the National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN) newsletter**

To distribute any biodiversity and business relevant information to the network in the next newsletter, please forward the information to Shelley Lizzio ([shelleyl@ewt.org.za](mailto:shelleyl@ewt.org.za)) by 13 April 2018.



## ONGOING HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2017 NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY & BUSINESS INDABA

**DAY 1: Battle cry for sustainable leadership: “Can we do it? Yes we can!” Dr. Ven Pillay (Sustainability Advisor)**

1. Six qualities were identified for both personal and sustainable development;
  - I. Integrity (knowing the difference between right and wrong – especially in terms of morality)
  - II. Intelligence (pursue knowledge and drive innovation)
  - III. Humility (listen and learn – express gratitude)
  - IV. Wisdom (learn from mistakes – both yours and others)
  - V. Courage (always do what is right)
  - VI. Emotional maturity (understand and manage your emotions)
2. These qualities work in synchrony and are an important checklist to use when navigating the sustainable space.

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## National events, publications & news



**City of Cape Town welcomes 'major court victory for preservation of water sources'**. A ruling by the Western Cape High Court has been described as “a watershed ruling” for the preservation of Cape Town’s rivers, floodplains and wetlands. To read more [click here](#).



**Plastic tide.** A video showing the amount of plastic found in South African oceans. Perold is on board the flagship research vessel – the SA Agulhas II – taking water samples along the continent’s east coast as part of the second International Indian Ocean Expedition. She is hoping to find out how much plastic waste is floating around in southeast African waters. To watch, [click here](#).



**Milestone achieved for sustainability in agri.** SIZA, the South African sustainability standard for social and environmental assurance is the first to reach 100% equivalence when benchmarked against the Sustainable Agriculture Initiative Platform’s (SAI) Farm Sustainability Assessment (FSA). To read more [click here](#).



**Carbon tax finally coming to South Africa.** South Africa is expected to pass its long-awaited Carbon Tax Bill this year and implement the tax in January 2019. The bill, which was released in draft form in December 2017, will be the subject of parliamentary hearings this year. To read more [click here](#)



**Enter your organisation or nominate another worthy eco-champion for an Eco-Logic Award.** The Eco-Logic Awards, hosted by The Enviropaedia, recognise and promote those individuals, organisations, products and services that are helping to create a sustainable environment and society. To read more [click here](#)

## International events, publications & news



**The way we think about charity is wrong.** Dan Pallotta calls out the double standard that drives our broken relationship to charities. Instead of equating frugality with morality, he asks us to start rewarding charities for their big goals and big accomplishments. To watch this video [click here](#)



**Can fossil fuel companies be sued for climate disruption?** “At the end of the day, this is going to be billions of dollars in damage to public infrastructure. And the question is, are the oil companies going to stick the public with the bill after they’ve reaped untold profits and lied to us?”. To read more [click here](#).



**New tool to help companies fight plastic pollution.** An online tool which helps companies measure their plastic footprint, developed by the social enterprise Searious Business and IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature, was launched today at the Ocean Plastics Crisis Summit in London, UK. To read more, [click here](#), or to access the free online version, [click here](#).



**World’s Biggest Companies Could Miss Business Opportunities from SDGs, KPMG Study Finds.** A study assessing corporate reporting on the SDGs concludes that most of the world’s biggest companies are not reporting the business case for taking action on the Goals. The KPMG study reviews corporate SDG reporting from the world’s 250 companies, based on nine SDG reporting quality criteria. To read more [click here](#).





WORLD  
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**A Guide to Selecting Ecosystem Service Models for Decision-Making: Lessons from Sub-Saharan Africa.**

This guide targets technical advisors to government officials, business people, investors, and others who need to draw on ecosystem assessments to inform decision-making. It assesses several types of ecosystem service modeling tool, discusses issues involved in modeling ecosystem services, and provides guidance on how to choose the right model to address a specific policy question. The guide can be downloaded by [clicking here](#).



Business @  
Biodiversity

**Ten recommendations to improve biodiversity protection in policy and criteria of food standards and sourcing requirements of food companies and retailers.**

These recommendations aim to help these organisations in their efforts to improve biodiversity performance when defining standards and sourcing rules of food products. They aim to address degradation and destruction of ecosystems, overexploitation of natural resources and invasive, alien species. To access the report, [click here](#).



**Mining's big environmental footprint in the Amazon.**

The impact mining has on deforestation of the Amazon rainforest is much greater than previously thought, according to a new study by the University of Vermont. What are the major components of mining's huge environmental footprint in the Amazon, and what can be done to improve the situation? To read more, [click here](#).



**ICLEI World Congress 2018**  
19 - 23 June • Montréal, Canada

**ICLEI World Congress 2018 – Early bird registration up until 1 April 2018.** In 2018, more than 1200 local, regional and national governments, international agencies, researchers and private sector actors from around the world will come to the ICLEI World Congress in Montréal. Together they will build partnerships and design bold and innovative ideas to steer the global urban agenda and strengthen collective action on sustainability worldwide. For more information or to participate, [click here](#).



**The world will fail to achieve the SDGs—here’s how business can fix that.** The bad news: The world won’t meet the SDGs on climate action, reducing inequalities, protecting marine life, and promoting responsible production and consumption by 2030. The good news: Companies that work to change this can reap huge commercial benefits. To read more [click here](#).

For further information on the NBBN or related activities please contact:

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