

## G20 SUMMIT 2020

### *Top 20 Synthesis Recommendations:*

#### **Expert brief highlights major policy proposals generated by G20 Engagement Groups**

*Press Release, 19.11.2020*

- Among the top 20 recommendations: coordinated access to **Covid-19 vaccines**, generating **green jobs**, and new measures of wellbeing, with the aim of putting **fundamental human needs at the heart of policy making**
- Each highlighted recommendation addresses current **global challenges**, calls for **multilateral responses across government, business and civil society**, and serves **global public interest** by recoupling **economic progress with social progress**
- Brief summarizes results of a **high-level evaluation of all 376 G20 Engagement Group recommendations** that were submitted to this year's G20 Presidency

#### **Brief highlights most innovative recommendations that serve public interest**

In advance of the G20 Leaders' Summit on November 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> 2020, a recent brief published by the G20 Research Group in cooperation with the Global Solutions Initiative highlights the 20 major policy proposals by the [formal G20 Engagement Groups](#). The G20 Engagement Groups are government-independent groups that ensure a multi-stakeholder involvement within the G20. They provide policy recommendations that are formally submitted to G20 Leaders for consideration. An Expert Evaluation Panel analysed the 376 policy proposals of these Engagement Groups and identified the *Top 20 Synthesis Recommendations*. The *Top 20 Synthesis Recommendations* were handed over to the G20 Sherpas as a call to action to support the Saudi Arabian G20 Presidency 2020.

#### **Top 20 Engagement Group Recommendations 2020: Evaluation Panel Results**

The Expert Evaluation Panel is comprised of globally recognized G20 experts (see below) and highlights the following top 20 policy proposals across all formal G20 Engagement Groups. The Expert Evaluation Panel identified these policy recommendations as they address essential global challenges, are innovative and best serve the global public interest. Every recommendation covers multiple areas of policy making and calls for consistent, multilateral responses across government, business and civil society. All recommendations had one important goal in common: to harmonize economic progress with human wellbeing, in order to make societies more sustainable and resilient. In short, they aim to recouple economic progress with social progress.

#### ***Overcoming Covid-19***

- Commit to **cooperate towards guaranteeing access to vaccines** for the COVID-19 virus to all as a global public good, accessible without discrimination of any kind.

### *Combating climate change and preserving the environment*

- Invest in ‘shovel-ready’ carbon-neutral projects to rapidly generate **green jobs** and increase equitable participation and standards in the labor force through training and upskilling to support healthier and carbon-neutral livelihoods.
- Accelerate the alignment of public development banks with the Paris Agreement, notably by **ending fossil fuel subsidies** by 2023.
- Establish an **oceans fund** to accelerate cooperation among the G20 countries to preserve marine biodiversity and ocean and associated human health.
- Do their full, fair share to meet the global goal of planting one **trillion trees** by 2030.

### *A new understanding of wellbeing beyond GDP*

- Put fundamental human needs at the heart of its policies. This includes reporting **new measures of human wellbeing** in national statistics, and adopting them as a basis for policymaking.
- Facilitate **sustainable financing** by developing a roadmap for international coordination on sustainable finance taxonomies and alignment on a sustainable disclosure framework, across all ESG considerations.

### *Revisiting digital policy*

- Promote public and private investments in **digital connectivity** and infrastructure in order to ensure equitable access to digital technology across geographical, socioeconomic, gender and ethnic divides.
- Enable and support **resilient digital infrastructure** (IoT, 5G) by fostering the **cybersecurity** readiness of individuals, MSMEs, large businesses, and public institutions; and by promoting investment in human capital in the field of cybersecurity.
- Address market power concentration and unfair practices towards suppliers in the supply chains of e-commerce giants and overhauling **competition policy**.
- Foster the **growth of e-commerce** by striving to conclude a comprehensive, balanced, and high-standard WTO agreement that is also attentive to the needs of MSMEs, start-ups, and developing economies.
- Provide **affordable** and quality child, dependents, and elders **care**.

### *Trade and macroeconomic policy that leaves no one behind*

- Urgently create new financial means and support for developing countries, among them least developed countries, in the form of issuing IMF Special Drawing Rights, currency swap lines, and **debt relief**, including cancellation with participation of private creditors.
- Rationalise **global taxation** by implementing unitary formulas that treat multinational companies as a single entity and by eliminating tax havens and tax avoidance as well as illicit flows
- Address inequalities of wealth between people and nations by implementing a bold **global tax reform** through an inclusive decision-making process.
- Mobilize **\$2.5 trillion USD for developing countries** using tools for liquidity injection, debt relief, health systems strengthening, and committing to the agenda of Financing for Development.
- Provide liquidity by offering a longer debt moratorium than previously offered and comprehensive **debt relief** to highly indebted low-income countries.
- Enhance the global standards of **anti-corruption** by: i. pursuing a culture of high integrity in the public and private sectors; ii. leveraging emerging technologies to manage risks relating to corruption and fraud; iii. enhancing integrity and transparency in public procurement.
- Adopt **gender-responsive budgeting**, informed by gender impact assessment, to ensure that pandemic recovery measures foster a gender inclusive workforce.

### *Fostering food security*

- Guarantee **food security** for all by strengthening urban-rural linkages and investing in physical and social infrastructure that fosters resilient and sustainable food consumption and production systems, along with revising the G20 Principles on Habitat and Regional Planning to balance agriculture development with natural habitat protection, by reinforcing capacity building in rural environments and protecting the rights of food workers, and by generating city-level data in order to monitor world supply and price developments reliably during food and health crises.

### Experts of the Evaluation Panel

The following experts constitute the Expert Evaluation Panel of the *Top 20 Synthesis Recommendations*:

#### *Co-Chairs*

- John Kirton, Director, G20 Research Group and G7 Research Group, and Professor of Economics at the University of Toronto
- Dennis Snower, President, Global Solutions Initiative and Professor of Macroeconomics and Sustainability, Hertie School

#### *Members*

- Colin Bradford, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings Institution, and [Global Solutions Fellow](#)
- Caitlin Byrne, Director, Asian Institute, Griffith University
- Mafalda Duarte, CEO, Climate Investment Funds
- Homi Kharas, Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Center for Sustainable Development, Brookings Institution; member of the [Council for Global Problem-Solving](#)
- Marina Larionova, Head, Centre for International Institutions Research, Russian Academy of National Economy and Public Administration
- Arun Maira, Independent adviser and [Global Solutions Fellow](#)
- Sandra Polaski, Former G20 Sherpa, International Labour Organization
- Margo Thomas, Founder and CEO, Women's Economic Imperative, and [Global Solutions Fellow](#)

The members of the Expert Evaluation Panel were selected on account of their longstanding involvement in the G20 intergovernmental or engagement group process and their expertise in the key subjects that the G20 addressed under the G20 Presidency 2020. The members collectively covered most major geographic regions and levels of development of G20 members.

### Methodology

The [eight formal Engagement Groups](#) of the G20 (Business 20, Civil 20, Labour 20, Science 20, Think 20, Urban 20, Women 20, Youth 20) produced 376 recommendations under the G20 Presidency Saudi Arabia.

The recommendations were assessed by the following criteria: desirability, human wellbeing, synergies not silos, timely/well-tailored/ambitious, practicality, leader like, commitments with compliance, G20 value added, presidency priorities match, broad engagement group support.

The Expert Evaluation Panel strove to synthesize, shape, sharpen and strengthen several similar recommendations generated by various Engagement Groups in the same or complementary policy areas. The resulting *Top 20 Synthesis Recommendations* are a set of “synthetic” recommendations, explicitly promising co-benefits for several policy areas, rather than in the silo of a single area.

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**About the G20 Research Group**

The G20 Research Group is a global network of scholars, students and professionals in the academic, research, business, non-governmental and other communities who follow the work of the G20 leaders, finance ministers and central bank governors, and other G20 institutions. It is directed from Trinity College and the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at the University of Toronto, also the home of the G7 Research Group.

[www.g20.utoronto.ca](http://www.g20.utoronto.ca)

**About the Global Solutions Initiative**

The Global Solutions Initiative is a global collaborative enterprise that proposes policy responses to major global problems, addressed by the G20, the G7 and other global governance fora. The policy recommendations and strategic visions are generated through a disciplined research program by leading research organizations, elaborated in policy dialogues between researchers, policymakers, business leaders and civil society representatives.

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