



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

FOUNDATIONS TAKE A STAND

A Transformation That Leaves No One Behind

Preface as of May 2026: *The Foundations Platform F20 gathers more than 80 foundations and philanthropic organisations that support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement within the G20 process and beyond. Every year leaders of the 19 largest economies, the European Union and the African Union gather at the G20 summit to primarily discuss matters of financial stability, while also addressing present challenges such as climate change and sustainable development. This particularly also applies to global crises and other geopolitical controversies and conflicts requiring coordinated efforts to developing common response mechanisms for more resilient societies. By gathering emerging economies and industrialised countries, the G20 reflects different perspectives to consider the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement as the basis for the design of any future frameworks.*

F20 perceives the G20 process and the formal meetings of the UNFCCC as the two most important pathways heading in the same direction. As the G20 summits address far more than just climate-related issues, the major reference of F20 are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations as well as the Paris Climate Agreement.



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

F20 MISSION STATEMENT

We actively engage in the G20 process and the UNFCCC negotiations

F20 consists of more than 80 foundations and philanthropic organisations from different parts of the world, calling for joint, transnational action towards climate action and sustainable development. This includes the promotion of positive transformation examples and pathways towards solutions of today's most pressing challenges. F20 acts as a bridge builder between foundations, civil society, the business sector and politics – within the G20 countries, between them and beyond. F20 focuses on issues related to climate change, a just energy transition, sustainable development and the finance solutions needed for their implementation. The organisations participating in F20 are convinced that only a high level of international collaboration and transformational partnerships can solve the global challenges the world is facing today. F20, thus, serves as an advocacy voice for philanthropy, and as a global learning platform for improved cooperation, interlinking foundations globally and co-creating a variety of mutual opportunities.

Foundations as a Driving Force for Sustainable Transformation

F20 seeks to establish an open dialogue to highlight solutions as well as potential barriers to progress in sustainable development, whilst attempting to motivate other actors to initiate the right transformation processes. Concerted efforts of influencing decision makers as done by F20 send a strong signal to governments, recalling the crucial role that civil society and other non-state actors have to play in implementing the 2030 Agenda and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. Acting together globally empowers us to overcome barriers and limitations.

The Pathway to Global Sustainable Development

In 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement. These ground-breaking and comprehensive agreements are the basis for sustainability measures, inclusive and climate-resilient societies, targeted sustainable educational initiatives and sustainable lifestyles that respect planetary boundaries. Translating this into concrete action requires a variety of approaches. When F20 was created in 2017, the conclusions of the Hamburg G20 in the same year reaffirmed the importance of the SDGs and of transnational partnerships in this endeavour. Since then, F20 has provided foundations with a space to contribute to the concrete implementation of the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement and the 2030 Agenda, being part of the solution in a national, regional and international context.

Transforming Our World Towards a Sustainable 2030

The G20 process and the UN Climate process under the UNFCCC represent significant opportunities for foundations to take responsibility and to directly support the implementation of the above-mentioned goals. At the same time, foundations can exhibit leadership by translating the SDGs, especially SDG 7 and SDG 13 on energy and climate, into their own actions. The 17 SDGs address, amongst others, sustained and inclusive economic



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

growth, integrated decision-making and participation, inclusive and equitable quality education on all levels and sustainable production and consumption patterns that respect planetary boundaries.

Our Focus

The 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement represent a profound framework for sustainable development. Therefore F20 focuses on

- A holistic approach to climate action, including a just and sustainable transition toward clean energy solutions, scaling up renewable energies and energy efficiency, aiming at decarbonisation, supporting climate change adaptation measures and ensuring climate-resilient communities and ecosystems.
- A reformed international financial architecture, grounded in a strong multilateral system that provides an enabling environment where innovative sustainable finance mechanisms reach those who are implementing impactful solutions for the climate crisis and global inequalities.
- The important role of civil society within the G20 and UNFCCC processes and ensuring a seat at the table for civil society in global governance affairs outside and within the United Nations.

These topics are closely interlinked: climate change can only be adequately and fairly addressed with the close involvement of civil society and the development of more inclusive global governance structures. This combination has the potential to promote successful dialogue processes, connecting civil society and global governance systems equipped for future challenges under the auspices of multilateralism.

Our Message

Transforming our economies and societies in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement is urgent and necessary. Proven low-carbon success stories already demonstrate viable pathways toward sustainable development in climate action and deserve far greater global recognition, not least because they help reduce the every increasing risks associated with a warming world. We call on governments to follow through on their commitments, significantly strengthen and refine their policy frameworks to enable and accelerate this transition.

Civil society organizations are an important part of the transformation and must be able to demonstrably and successfully contribute and participate in this process. They are important catalysts for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in keeping global warming below the 1.5° target. F20 is helping to disseminate positive examples of successful dialogues and is acting as a sounding board for these dialogues.

Our Objectives

F20 inspires proactive alliances towards new transformational partnerships and encourages viable cooperation.



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

F20 initiates and provides opportunities for new dialogue spaces and effective discourses between foundations and multilateral stakeholders worldwide, and especially in the G20 context.

F20 appreciates the important role of foundations to contribute to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs by applying the above-mentioned goals to their own actions and portfolio strategies.

As an international platform and catalyst, F20 encourages foundations

- to strengthen their self-commitment to increase their sustainability efforts within their own organizational context
- to help shape the dialogue of the G20 countries with reference to the UN frameworks and to emphasise the role of the civil society

Our Partners

The Foundations Platform F20 facilitates and stimulates the increased involvement of foundations and philanthropic organisations in the G20 and other multilateral spaces. By actively engaging with the G20 processes, collaborating with the G20 presidency countries as part of the G20 Troika system, F20 builds on one of the most influential global governance continuums. This enables innovative partnerships among foundations, with other stakeholder and engagement groups, and with civil society. While cooperation with these actors continues, F20 so far remains independent and does not seek to become an official G20 engagement group.

Our Activities

F20 showcases successful examples for just and inclusive climate action, sustainable development, along with decarbonisation trends, climate mitigation and adaptation solutions, always highlighting close civil society interaction. Furthermore, it will help to raise awareness of international funding streams and the question of climate finance. Examples for successful approaches will refer to the multilateral system, focusing on the G20 and the climate conferences of the UNFCCC (COP). Such examples can include roadmaps, business cases, alliances and collaborations, policies, projects and acting people, etc.

F20 is working closely with partners in countries and regions to push for the implementation of increasingly ambitious nationally determined contributions (NDCs) in the G20 countries. Successful cooperation will be at the centre of sustainable development, with policy-makers, businesses and civil society, on the one hand, and between the G20 countries and beyond on the other hand.

The messages and publications of F20 are addressed to the general public, to decision makers from G20 countries and especially to the community of foundations within the G20 and beyond.



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

Contact information

F20 Head Office
at the Environmental Foundation Michael Otto
Werner-Otto-Straße 13c
22179 Hamburg

info@foundations-20.org
<https://www.foundations-20.org/>



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

THE F20 NETWORK

