

Let's rethink the world





T20 Brasil Communiqué

Let's rethink the world





ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:







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Opening statement by the Organizing Committee

he world is experiencing a polycrisis as it slowly and unevenly recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic. This polycrisis is characterized by interconnected and cascading geopolitical, socioeconomic, and environmental risks and threats. The ever more tangible impacts of climate change and biodiversity loss are compounded by rising international and internal armed conflict, deepening economic inequalities and financial instability, with developing countries, particularly low-income ones, facing persistently high debt levels and shrinking fiscal space. The latter jeopardizes their capacity to increase investments that are necessary to catch up on lagging outcomes related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The Brazilian Presidency of the G20 has laid out three key priorities: (i) fighting hunger, poverty, and inequality; (ii) energy transitions and sustainable development (social, economic, and environmental); and (iii) global governance reform. Among these priorities, tackling inequalities is emphasized as a crosscutting goal as they are either the root cause of current challenges or contribute to making them worse. Within and across countries, inequalities make it harder to fight hunger and poverty, to foster social inclusion, to advance just and inclusive energy transitions, to balance the three core components of sustainable development, and to promote the necessary investments to accelerate progress toward the SDGs and the Paris Agreement targets. Moreover, unequal representation and voice in global governance structures also hinders the reforms that are necessary to build a just world and a sustainable planet.

In this context, the G20 should leverage its position as an agenda-setting platform to advance the reform and strengthening of global governance and international finance mechanisms so that these organizations are better equipped to tackle the above-mentioned systemic challenges, to unlock the necessary resources, and to channel efforts to attain the SDGs and the Paris Agreement targets. International cooperation to leverage the fight against hunger and poverty, to accelerate just energy transitions, to address financial stability and the debt burden, supporting fiscal space for sustainable development-related investment, and to foster inclusive digital transformation will be a key driver of economic and social development in the 21st century, contributing to combat structural inequalities.

The priorities of Brazil's G20 presidency are reflected in the six Task Forces of Think 20 Brasil. The Organizing Committee, composed of the Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI), the Alexandre de Gusmão Foundation (FUNAG), and the Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), has sought to follow the key principles of inclusiveness, representativeness, and effectiveness throughout the collaborative process that resulted in the actionable recommendations presented in this Communiqué. The recommendations are based on more than 300 Policy Briefs that were submitted to, peer-reviewed and approved by the Task Forces, alongside dozens of side events organized during the past months and the Inception Conference held last March. We present these policy proposals that will, jointly with the recommendations from other engagement groups, give think tanks and a variety of representatives from civil society and academia the opportunity to inform the G20 decision-making process and influence the design of new international cooperation pathways to address global challenges and inequalities.

T20 Brasil Task Forces (TF):



TF01

Fighting inequalities, poverty, and hunger



TF02

Sustainable climate action and inclusive just energy transitions



TF03

Reforming the international financial architecture



TF04

Trade and investment for sustainable and inclusive growth



TF05

Inclusive digital transformation



TFO

Strengthening multilateralism and global governance

Recommendations at a glance

Based on the recommendations of the six T20 Brasil Task Forces, and in consultation with the Secretariats of both National and International Advisory Councils and with the Lead Co-Chairs of each Task Force, the Organizing Committee has outlined the following ten crosscutting priority recommendations to the G20, ordered by the number of Task Forces that provided inputs and language for them.





TF02



TFO3



TF04



TFOE

1. Strengthen multilateral cooperation under the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty:

The G20 must secure high-level political support and commitment to the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty that will be launched at the end of Brazil's term at the G20 presidency. For the Alliance to work as a catalyst for international action to accelerate progress toward the SDGs, in particular SDGs 1 and 2, it must effectively mobilize adequate funding (e.g. through a successful 21st replenishment of the International Development Association), facilitate access to existing but fragmented funds, and foster knowledge sharing and technology transfers to support countries in the implementation of evidence-based nationally-owned policies. Successful policy instruments that have been implemented in the Global South to build and scale up both sustainable food systems and comprehensive adaptive social protection systems can be shared and adapted through trilateral. South-South. North-South and even South-North cooperation with the support of the Global Alliance. Policy instruments that accelerate the transition to sustainable agrifood systems can help achieve food security and nutrition target outcomes with positive or neutral impacts on the natural environment. Likewise, social protection systems help people cope with crises and shocks, find jobs, invest in nutrition, health and education of their children, and protect the elderly and people with disabilities, besides working as a macroeconomic automatic stabilizer during crises. By bringing together high-level political commitment, knowledge and finance to support and scale up components of these two reinforcing systems, the Global Alliance can decisively contribute to end poverty and hunger, promote just transitions and adaptation, reduce inequalities, and help achieve both the right to food and the right to social protection.





TFO2



TF03



2. Employ progressive fiscal policy and repurpose fossil fuel subsidies to reduce inequalities and to promote climate justice:

G20 members should support, within the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation (UNFCITC), the creation of a global minimum tax on high-net-worth individuals and high-pollution corporations, as well as the enhancement of international cooperation instruments to combat tax evasion. Global and national resources raised through these mechanisms and by repurposing fossil fuel subsidies must be used to strengthen redistributive policies, universal social protection systems, decent job creation, and climate change adaptation and mitigation initiatives, especially in developing economies and in vulnerable communities. For fiscal policies to uphold human rights principles, the commitment to leave no one behind, and just transition goals, the G20 should also promote tax transparency, improve public countryby-country reporting, and guarantee that the UNFCITC has an inclusive governance architecture.

RECOMMENDATIONS AT A GLANCE

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TF03



TFO4



3. Leverage affordable climate and sustainable development finance, including resources needed to promote just energy transitions:

The G20 should support the roadmap for reforming Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) proposed by the Brazilian presidency and optimize access to Multilateral Climate Funds (MCFs) in furtherance of finance affordability, transparency, and of the standardization of allocation criteria that prioritize vulnerable and lowincome countries and communities. The Group must promote cooperation among MDBs to pool and share risks, explore diversification of sources, and expand and improve opportunities to use local currencies. Robust public concessional funding and grants should be complemented by innovative blended finance mechanisms to address existing finance gaps and market failures and to de-risk investments in developing countries, leveraging the allocation of private resources for climate and sustainable development.



TF01



TF₀2



TF06

4. Provide capacity building, technology transfer and adequate funding for national transition plans, including measures to leverage climate adaptation and bioeconomy:

The G20 should offer institutional and financial support for each country to build its own capacity to design and implement transition plans that promote climate change adaptation and mitigation, the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity resources, and universal access to clean, affordable energy. These plans should also include the reskilling of workers for a low-carbon economy and adaptive social protection to support

populations living in regions facing environmental risks. Increasing cooperation to strengthen country platforms, consolidate sustainable project pipelines, and facilitate the transfer of technologies is key to promote green industrialization pathways and direct investments to underfunded areas such as bioeconomy and climate adaptation, especially in developing countries.



TF02



TFO3



1104

5. Reform the G20 Common Framework for Debt Relief and the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) lending policy to expand fiscal space for investments in inclusive and sustainable development:

G20 countries should support the incorporation of development needs and climate considerations in the framework of the IMF Debt Sustainability Analysis (DSA), as well as the reform of the quota system so that a larger share of Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) is available to developing countries in future allocations. The G20 must also advocate a cap on the SDR interest rate and promote a countercyclical design of the surcharge system to protect countries from rising borrowing costs during periods of financial stress. The Common Framework should be reformed to provide stronger incentive for multilateral and private creditors to participate in debt restructuring negotiations, extending support to more debtor countries, improving the comparability of treatment across creditor classes, and linking debt relief to the SDGs through innovative procedures. To this end, G20 countries must establish international guidelines to leverage the use of financial instruments that reduce the cost of capital in exchange for social and environmental commitments made by debtors in sovereign debt negotiations.

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TF05



6. Establish Data20, a multistakeholder platform to enhance cooperation on global data governance:

Data20 should serve as a hub for collaboration across the G20 and its existing formal engagement groups, promoting discussions and formulating policy proposals that leverage benefits, promote accountability and reduce harms associated with the production and use of data. Debates on data governance should be centered on crosscutting issues such as information integrity, climate justice, health, the future of work, non-discriminatory Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems, Digital Public Infrastructures (DPIs), and regulatory parity based on human rights and data justice.



TF02



TF05

7. Improve cooperation to enhance meaningful connectivity, inclusive DPIs, and human-centered AI:

The G20 should develop a common framework and leverage financial resources to promote the participatory governance and co-design of DPI and AI, fostering accountability and an inclusive, unbiased, self-determined approach to digital-data development. The Digital Economy Working Group, the Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group and the Infrastructure Working Group should strengthen collaboration to prioritize the inclusive digitalization of public services and the use of AI to promote greater resource efficiency in energy, transportation, health, and other critical systems, channeling efforts to attain the SDGs and to address the North-South digital divide.





8. Reform and strengthen the World Trade Organization (WTO) as the main forum for global trade, services and investment facilitation negotiations, including in relation to trade standards that address climate and digital transformation:

The G20 must work to increase the WTO's capacity to safeguard an open, fair, equitable and sustainable trade system by strengthening its negotiation, monitoring and enforcement mechanisms. This involves addressing the proliferation of neo-protectionist and burdensome national trade barriers, while promoting the development of common international standards concerning the digital transformation and sustainability of global supply chains. This process should also include renewing the WTO's mandate, reinvigorating its dispute settlement system and supporting plurilateral negotiations.



TF01



IFU

9. Address unequal access to healthcare and promote technology transfers and global cooperation on vaccination, medicines and strategic health supplies in developing countries:

The G20 should prioritize universal health coverage and the organization of health systems by expanding accessible health services to vulnerable populations, communities, and regions, as well as increasing health system funding, technological transfer and digital inclusion. To this end, developing a shared digital infrastructure for global coordination during and outside crisis contexts is key. The G20 should also support the creation of a global vaccination fund to ensure prevention and rapid and equal vaccine distribution during health crises and epidemic events,

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and should also reduce the restrictions that intellectual property rights can pose on access to medicines and to other health treatments and therapies.



10. Translate into actions G20 commitments on gender, racial, and ethnic equality:



The G20 should ask the UN Statistics Division to support countries in the generation of disaggregated data for the design and implementation of unbiased evidencebased policies to address intersecting gender, racial, and ethnic inequalities and discrimination. Global and national efforts must focus on implementing policies that guarantee equitable access to quality education, health, credit, decent work, and business opportunities, as well as on the professionalization and development of the care economy. To this end, it is essential to conduct long-overdue reforms in the governance structure of multilateral organizations and international financial institutions, while simultaneously promoting participatory mechanisms and community engagement in nationally-owned policies, to achieve fair and equitable gender, ethnic, racial and regional representation in decision-making processes.

Policy recommendations to the G20

Task Force 01

Combating poverty, hunger and inequality



TF01 has put together policy recommendations that focus on the first priority of Brazil's G20 presidency, namely, "to fight poverty and hunger and promote social inclusion". The recommendations are meant to offer inputs to the G20 Task Force for a Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty, but also to tackle all forms of inequality, a priority for the G20 Development Working Group, which can be addressed in a crosscutting manner by all G20 working groups both in the Finance and in the Sherpa tracks.

TF01 covers several critical issues, contributing to accelerate progress toward multiple SDGs:

- 1. Promoting effective policies to fight poverty and hunger and the role of trilateral cooperation in their promotion;
- 2. Fostering food security and nutrition through sustainable food systems;
- 3. Expanding access to social protection and basic services;
- 4. Promoting universal health coverage, digital health, and open innovation to fight health inequalities;
- 5. Reforming fiscal policies to reduce inequalities and eradicate poverty;
- 6. Fighting gender discrimination and inequalities and rethinking the care economy;
- 7. Fighting race and ethnic discrimination and inequalities.

Key recommendations

1. Strengthen multilateral cooperation through the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty.

The G20 should strengthen efforts to eradicate hunger and poverty (SDGs 1 and 2) while reducing inequalities (SGD 10) by building the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty. The Global Alliance can provide collective action, enhance synergies with other successful experiences, create a permanent multilateral arena to leverage financial resources and knowledge, promote learning and exchange of innovations on sustainable food systems, food security, and nutrition, education, and health policies, effective social protection systems and investments to build resilience to shocks, with a focus on the poorest and most vulnerable, including women, children, persons with disabilities, the elderly, indigenous peoples, local communities, refugees and migrants. The Global Alliance can help by facilitating funding to developing countries, technology transfer and technical assistance for the implementation of hunger and poverty reduction initiatives. Finally, the Global Alliance should encourage countries to strengthen short supply chains by focusing on local production and distribution to reduce environmental damage and tackle food insecurity.

2. Bolster social protection systems to tackle poverty, inequality, and climate change.

The social protection systems should be globally restructured to confront vulnerability, poverty, and inequality, integrating social protection, social services, education services, and health services. Universal social protection floors should be guaranteed. Universal health systems should be strengthened to offer immediate responses

to health emergencies and to provide long-term care policies that reinforce basic human rights. Low- and medium-income households must be given better access to education focusing on early child development (ECD). Fiscal policy should target these aims by enforcing progressive approaches such as wealth taxation and other income transfer mechanisms that are attentive to race and gender biases. That includes special focus on care policies. The provision of care should be "socialized" by strengthening public care services and policies. An universal income should be provided to the elderly regardless of their occupational background (paid, unpaid, formal or informal). Social protection must be redesigned to address populations living in regions facing environmental risks. Social protection goes along with just transition goals by enforcing decent job creation and promoting income transfer programs that tackle income concentration.

3. Employ progressive fiscal policy to fight against poverty, inequality, and social exclusion.

Fiscal policies oriented toward progressive taxation need to be reinforced to tackle poverty, inequality, and social exclusion. The G20 should enforce the adaptation and the expansion of fiscal space through progressive taxation and support the role of public investments in sustainable development, and social and economic fundamental rights. Existing instruments should be improved, and innovative financial solutions should be implemented. Fiscal policies must uphold human rights principles and the goals of addressing inequality, promoting gender, racial and ethnic equity, and protecting the environment. Tax systems are central to these goals and should be redirected to reduce income and wealth concentration, especially through a global wealth tax. Taxation should be employed to support climate crisis response by financing adaptation and mitigation, universal social protection, and decent job creation.

4. Address unequal access to healthcare by enforcing universal health coverage in developing regions through technology transfers and global cooperation to prevent future pandemics.

Promoting equitable access to comprehensive healthcare will contribute to ensure the right to health and to tackle socioeconomic gaps. Given the systemic nature of sanitary threats, universal health coverage and health systems organization must be the primary goal in preparing for future pandemics. It is crucial to foster technology transfer, to invest in research and development (R&D) to consolidate robust and integrated data systems in each country (especially in low-income countries), as well as to develop a shared digital infrastructure that can harness the potential of emerging tools such as AI in support of coordination both during and outside of crisis contexts. International coordination should prioritize expanding accessible health services to vulnerable populations, communities, and regions. Strengthening national health systems requires a global effort to improve technological cooperation and to address digital exclusion, which can hinder the widespread adoption of digital health solutions. Vaccines should be viewed as strategic tools to deal with global health threats and must be developed collaboratively and distributed equitably among all countries. The G20 should support multilateral investment mechanisms such as the World Bank and World Health Organization's Pandemic Fund to enhance pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response, aiming especially at helping lower- and middle-income countries scale up their efforts to prepare for future pandemics.

5. Support a global initiative on data generation to allow the qualification and quantification of systemic inequalities.

Designing effective and efficient policies relies increasingly on data availability and accuracy. The G20 should articulate a global effort to compile and publish relevant data that help track global inequality trends. Each country should be encouraged to develop or strengthen

its social data collection system, using the UN Statistics Division framework as a guide and making sure to include disaggregated income and wealth microdata in support of evidence-based policy frameworks and of policy accountability. The effort should consider different perspectives on inequality and take into account gender, race, and ethnicity elements. Cooperative initiatives on data processing and publication should also address insufficient data on racialized and indigenous peoples and traditional communities.



Task Force 02

Sustainable climate action and inclusive just energy transitions



TF02 is dedicated to addressing critical facets of climate action, in particular issues related to energy transitions with focus on inclusivity and justice. This Task Force's recommendations aim at supporting the work and deliberations of the special Task Force for the Global Mobilization Against Climate Change established under Brazil's G20 presidency. In addition, TF02 seeks to inform the work and thematic priorities of the Sustainable Finance Working Group and the Infrastructure Working Group of the G20 Finance Track, as well as the Sherpa Track working groups on Energy Transitions, on Environment and Climate Sustainabilty, on Disaster Risk Reduction, on Agriculture, and on Employment.

Key issues and subtopics include:

- 1. Developing policy proposals to ensure that the necessary shift towards sustainable energy is inclusive and fair for all;
- Accelerating the shift towards sustainable consumption and production patterns, while decoupling economic growth from environmental degradation;
- Fostering a shared understanding of the concepts of sociobioeconomy and nature-based solutions (NbS), placing emphasis on their role in helping address the inter-related climate and biodiversity crises;

- 4. Promoting low-carbon infrastructure investments that foster inclusivity, resilience, and sustainability across society;
- 5. Optimizing access to multilateral and climate funds and leveraging private capital for climate finance;
- Proposing ways to operationalize the concept of climate justice by ensuring equitable access to financing and technology transfer;
- 7. Contributing to greater transparency, accountability, and standardization of companies' Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) metrics and taxonomies.

Key recommendations

1. Foster the just dimension of transition plans through institutional capacity building, technology transfer and adequate funding.

The G20 should exercise leadership in developing holistic transition plans that promote economic decarbonization, climate adaptation, biodiversity preservation, and universal access to clean and affordable energy while mitigating the social impacts of energy projects and reskilling labor forces. To ensure a fair, global economic transformation, the G20 should offer support for each country to develop its own capacity to design and implement long-term systemic plans. The G20 should therefor commit, through appropriate funding and coordination mechanisms such as country platforms, i) to build institutional capacity to design and implement nationally-led transition plans in developing countries; ii) to increase South-South and North-South cooperation to facilitate the transfer of existing technologies and the development of new (and low-cost) technologies that can

foster a green industrialization pathway, focusing on low-income and commodities-dependent developing countries; and iii) to develop grants-based and highly concessional finance mechanisms to fund those plans.

2. Promote affordable and accessible climate and sustainable development finance through fairer and more effective Multilateral Development Banks and Multilateral Climate Funds.

G20 efforts to reform MDBs and MCFs must pursue justice and inclusiveness and follow a needs-based approach so that funding is allocated to countries and communities where it is most needed, especially for climate adaptation. This means securing i) finance accessibility, by simplifying application procedures and providing grants to strengthen capacity-building for project design; ii) transparent finance flows and public disclosure systems to prevent double counting and to ensure that climate financing does not divert funds from other development priorities; iii) concessional funding in support of affordable climate investments that do not exacerbate or create fiscal crises; iv) standardization, including allocation criteria for concessional funding that prioritizes vulnerable and low-income countries, disadvantaged groups such as women and indigenous peoples, and small businesses, while adequately considering their adaptation needs alongside mitigation.

3. Ensure climate justice through a fairer international tax system and subsidy repurposing.

The G20 should commit to work toward a fairer international taxation system and to repurpose fossil fuel subsidies to provide the means of implementation for just transitions. This can be achieved by establishing a common roadmap and timeline for subsidy repurposing containing an assessment of affected sectors, job retraining

needs, policy-specific implementation deadlines and accountability mechanisms to redirect government support from fossil fuels to clean energy. Additionally, the G20 should support international tax cooperation to facilitate a coordinated implementation of fairer taxation on high-pollution corporations and a minimum tax on the wealth of very-high-net-worth individuals. The revenue generated from these measures should be redirected to sustainable development and climate action taking into account the wide range of country needs, including for climate adaptation in developing countries, given the substantial funding gap they encounter in this domain.

4. Place indigenous peoples' and traditional communities' knowledge, participatory governance and equitable benefit-sharing at the core of the design and implementation of the G20 High-Level Principles on Bioeconomy and other relevant G20 instruments, such as the G20 High-Level Principles for Lifestyles for Sustainable Development.

The G20 High-Level Principles on Bioeconomy should provide a clear and comprehensive definition of bioeconomy followed by a roadmap to attract financial support for bioeconomy strategies and projects, focusing on the following elements: i) protection and restoration of biological diversity and ecosystems; ii) alignment with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement; iii) circular economy; iv) community-centric approach placing indigenous peoples and traditional communities' knowledge and local participatory governance at the heart, including by fully safeguarding the right to free, prior and informed consent, as well as preventing, mitigating and compensating for adverse social impacts; and v) fair and equitable benefits sharing with indigenous peoples, traditional communities and local populations.

5. Standardize and effectively integrate social and biodiversity objectives into green taxonomies, sustainability disclosure standards and frameworks, and ESG metrics.

G20 efforts to foster the harmonization and implementation of sustainability requirements for businesses and financial institutions should consider social and inequality indicators, as well as nature and biodiversity protection targets aligned with the SDGs and with the Global Biodiversity Framework. G20 countries need to make sure these taxonomies, disclosure standards and frameworks do not raise barriers to trade and to access financial markets, while supporting sustainable supply chains, industry decarbonization, and green and quality jobs. As such, they should pursue interoperability of their national standards by promoting the inclusive development and harmonization of international standards to ensure consistency, comparability and reliability of data across different industries and countries and regions. G20 countries should also aim to incorporate best practices from voluntary standards into mandatory sustainability disclosure requirements.

Read more about TF02

Task Force 03

Reforming the international financial architecture



TF03 focuses on crucial aspects related to global finance institutions' capacity to galvanize much needed resources to achieve the SDGs. The recommendations put forward by this Task Force are meant to support the work of the International Finance Architecture Working Group, the Sustainable Finance Working Group, and the Framework Working Group of the Finance Track. It can also contribute to the discussion on inequality among countries in the context of the priorities of the Development Working Group in the Sherpa Track.

The Task Force addresses a range of pressing issues, including:

- 1. Financial system rules and regulations and global finance safety nets to promote stability, sustainability, and equity;
- 2. Multilateral Development Bank (MDB) reform: what better, bigger and more effective entails?;
- 3. Addressing debt burden of developing countries and facilitating their access to concessional resources;
- 4. Ensuring a fairer global tax architecture that facilitates domestic and international resource mobilization;
- 5. Overall SDG financing needs: pathways and the role of the reform of the international finance architecture.

Key recommendations

1. Reform IMF lending policy.

Because it includes major IMF shareholders with significant voting power, the G20 should work to reform IMF lending policies. First, it should advocate a cap on the SDR interest rate. This will protect borrowing countries from rising borrowing costs during periods of financial stress, thereby ensuring that IMF support does not deepen financial distress. In addition, the surcharge system should be reviewed to become countercyclical. That is, the surcharge rate should rise when SDRs fall and vice versa. These adjustments will not only align IMF practices with its mandate to promote financial stability, but will also help the G20 take the lead in promoting a more resilient and equitable international financial architecture.

2. Enhance local currency lending by MDBs.

The G20 should work with MDBs to scale up and create opportunities to hedge currency risks. MDBs can explore diverse sources of local currency hedging to include international banks and onshore banks in local markets where possible. The Currency Exchange Fund (TCX) can be capitalized to enable a much larger MDB local currency portfolio, reducing hedging costs through portfolio risk guarantees and interest rate subsidies. In addition, MDBs should be able to promote local currency capital markets in middle-income countries to strategically help mitigate local currency lending risks. To promote pooling and risk-sharing among MDBs, the G20 should work to diversify MDB portfolios across a broad range of low- and middle-income currencies through an off-balance-sheet fund to pool local currency assets and diversify credit and currency risk. Finally, the G20 should encourage MDBs to reassess and take calibrated currency risk through currency diversification.

3. Improve the G20 Common Framework.

The G20 should call on the IMF to consider critical development investment needs and climate and other shocks in its current DSA reviews. In addition, the G20 should stipulate that all private financial institutions must publish social responsibility and/or human rights policies and publicly explain how they are applied in negotiations with sovereign debtors. The G20 must also create incentive mechanisms that encourage all creditor classes to participate and provide the level of debt relief necessary to mobilize funding for climate and development goals, and ensure fair comparability of treatment across creditor classes. The G20 should also provide credit enhancement to lower the cost of capital and liquidity support for countries that are not in debt distress but lack fiscal space. Finally, the G20 should encourage all sovereign debtors to explain in debt negotiations how they intend to meet all their legal obligations, including environmental, social and human rights obligations. In addition, a set of international principles should be developed to guide both sovereign debtors and creditors in meeting their environmental, social and human rights commitments in an equitable manner during these negotiations.

4. Push to expedite work on the UNFCITC.

The G20 must ensure that the UNFCITC has a democratic and inclusive governance architecture. The UNFCITC must be able to effectively address current and future international tax challenges, in particular the taxation of cross-border transactions and high-networth individuals, seeking to make international tax rules fairer and simpler for all stakeholders. G20 members need to expand the scope of existing information exchange efforts and significantly improve tax transparency, in particular public country-by-country reporting. It is necessary to advance measures to exchange information on different classes of assets and to advance the creation of a public Global Asset Register within the UNFCITC. G20 members must support, within the UNFCITC, the creation of a global minimum tax on wealthy individuals

and families, with political guarantees that the resources raised through this mechanism will be used for the realization of human rights, particularly in impoverished Global South countries.

5. Improve the allocation of IMF resources to achieve the SDGs.

The G20 must push to reform the IMF to make the IMF's trusts, the Poverty Reduction and Growth Trust (PRGT) and the Resilience and Sustainability Trust (RST), more accessible by relaxing strict economic conditions and eligibility criteria to provide affordable long-term financing to low- and middle-income countries. In addition, the G20 should work to reform the IMF quota system so that a larger share of SDRs is made available to developing countries in future allocations. New SDRs issues are necessary for countries in need to invest immediately in development and climate policies and to help them weather shocks and crises, thereby providing steady support where it is needed most.

Read more about TF03



Task Force 04

Trade and investment for sustainable and inclusive growth



TF04 is dedicated to leveraging trade and investment mechanisms to achieve the SDGs outlined in the 2030 Agenda. It has put forward innovative ideas not only for the Trade and Investment Working Group, but also for the Working Groups on Agriculture, on Climate and Environmental Sustainability, on Women's Empowerment, on Digital Economy, and on Employment all in the Sherpa Track, but also the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty.

Issues addressed within this task force encompass:

- 1. Trade and investment to fight inequality, poverty, and hunger, and social inclusion:
- 2. Trade and investment, food security, and climate action;
- 3. Women in trade;
- 4. Trade and digital transformation;
- 5. Promoting greater participation of Micro, Small and Mediumsized Enterprises (MSMEs) in trade and investment;
- 6. Dealing with neo-protectionism and the changing features of global value chains.

Key recommendations

1. Reform the WTO and strengthen its role as the main forum for global trade, services and investment facilitation discussions and negotiations, including environmental rules and the transition toward a more sustainable economy, as well as trade agreements for the digital transformation.

A global trade, services, and investment facilitation system based on clear and enforced rules and standards is essential to tackle many of the global challenges. The existence of the WTO as a multilateral forum for negotiations, rules enforcing and monitoring, with a dispute settlement mechanism, is imperative to face the present dysfunctional moment. Cooperation on trade, environment, and climate policy should not be limited to the export of regulatory standards or the imposition of sanctions, but should also advance the broader sustainable development objectives, especially of developing and least developed countries. Similarly, the investment regime can support climate-compatible foreign investments to foster mitigation and adaptation. The G20 should create guidelines for trade and investment agreements to include sustainability rules and standards, so that these agreements do not serve neo-protectionist purposes. The G20 should also support the WTO as the main forum to discuss and negotiate agreements to provide an inclusive, basic, global, rulesbased framework for the conduct of digital trade and directly-related aspects of investment. In addition, the WTO should play a key role in monitoring national trade policies affecting these matters, providing technical assistance and offering a forum for handling disputes.

2. Strengthen global collaboration around food security to eliminate hunger, while striking a balance between measures to tackle climate change and expand agricultural production.

The G20 should promote open international markets through standards and regulations that foster collaboration to expand sustainable agricultural models and to enhance food security, while taking specific action to shield the food trade and food supplies from geopolitical events, focusing on poor net food importing countries in particular. Policy should support the most vulnerable consumers and foster accessible markets through non-distorting measures oriented toward rural producers, especially the ones related to tackling climate change. Climate and environmental concerns around food production need be addressed through international cooperation and adequate funding. Actions to dampen price volatility, reduce risk and find a balance between global agricultural issues and domestic needs should be pursued via multilateral discussions that bolster inclusive and sustainable production chains. G20 members should encourage international collaboration within the scope of the Global Alliance against Hunger and Poverty to magnify the impact of the latter's goal: reducing global hunger. G20 members also should seek to achieve food security through global trade by facilitating and promoting trade agreements that include environmental protection provisions.

3. Create a consultation platform at the G20 to foster interactive dialog among women in trade and women policymakers.

This platform must be dedicated to the exchange of best practices and experiences on trade and gender issues, to capacity building among G20 negotiators on trade and gender as well as to the collection, standardization, analysis and dissemination of genderand trade-related data. This effort should consider varying levels of data collection capacity across a wide variety of countries, including developing and developed countries, and must engage with regional

and international organizations that have expertise in data gathering and impact analysis. This action should standardize definitions and methodologies while taking into account intersecting factors such as race and class and the new issues in the sustainability agenda.

4. Create balanced sustainability standards for MSMEs, leveraging their access to green finance.

The G20 should design globally-recognized sustainability guidelines and standards specifically for MSMEs to prevent redundancy in reporting requirements. A simple standard will allow MSMEs to comply with industry-specific requirements and to participate in global trade, advancing sustainable development. G20 members should provide enhanced financial support for low-carbon trade, such as export credit guarantees, longer-term green loans and grants linked with sustainability performance, to mitigate risks associated with international trade for MSMEs, including extreme climate and other ecological impacts. They should also consider increasing access to supply chain facilities and digital technologies for MSMEs.

5. Reinforce multilateral cooperation in the WTO to discuss neoprotectionism, avoiding the escalation of restrictive or distorting trade and investment measures.

Subsidies should be a priority for G20 cooperation initiatives to face the challenges posed by current industrial policy trends. The prominence of non-economic objectives as drivers for industrial policy poses a major challenge to multilateral trade cooperation. The G20 should focus on international cooperation on green industrial policies, recognizing that climate change is an important non-economic motivation for industrial policies with a global impact. To address the issue of trade-distorting subsidies, it is important to reform the WTO Agreement on Subsidies, improving international comparable

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE G20

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data on subsidies under a multilateral cooperation mechanism with WTO technical support. Subsidies should be classified according to their degree of potential harm to other countries based on how trade-distortive they are. In addition, the G20 should stimulate climate change mitigation negotiations within the WTO, which will contribute to foster green technologies, especially in the developing world. The G20 should advocate greater flexibility within trade rules to enable developing countries to deal with climate change challenges and to facilitate their deeper integration into global value chains.



Task Force 05

Inclusive digital transformation



TF05 centers its efforts on elaborating recommendations to leverage digital innovation in furtherance of the 2030 Agenda and its SDGs, while making sure that inclusivity and ethical considerations are taken into account. TF05 seeks to influence the work of the Digital Economy Working Group of the G20 Sherpa Track.

Key focus areas within this task force include:

- 1. Digital inclusion and meaningful universal connectivity;
- 2. Digital transformation and platformization of public services;
- 3. Digital Integrity, Data Protection, and cybersecurity;
- 4. New digital technologies for SDGs and decent work;
- 5. Challenges, opportunities, and governance of Artificial Intelligence;
- 6. Global digital governance and regulation of digital platforms.

Key recommendations

1. Promote investment in telecommunications infrastructure, energy supply, and research, as well as subsidize access to affordable broadband and provide compatible devices to low-income and remote populations, alongside supporting digital literacy initiatives.

A meaningful and universal connectivity must be guaranteed for every citizen, while respecting human rights, preserving individuals' and communities' autonomy and self-determination. To leverage digital inclusion, the G20 countries should foster international cooperation to overcome the digital divide across complementing layers: investments in science and technology focused on the telecommunications infrastructure, on energy supply and on research and data on indexes about meaningful connectivity, especially in Global South countries; supporting public policies geared toward overcoming markets concentration; fostering economic development and the strengthening of national production capacities. This should be accompanied by subsidy policies to guarantee access to broadband internet and to Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) compatible devices for the low-income population and residents of remote areas. The G20 countries should also support digital literacy strategies and community-based approaches for digital inclusion in order to provide a secure and inclusive environment for hyper-vulnerable and marginalized populations.

2. Develop a non-binding common set of principles for DPIs, especially concerning data justice, interoperability, and openness, backed by a permanent research fund to encourage the implementation of G20's policy recommendations for effective participatory governance, accountability, sustainability, and inclusive digital development.

DPIs have the potential to accelerate SDGs and increase social

welfare by prioritizing financial inclusion, environmental protection, citizenship, and the inclusion of marginalized populations. To achieve a truly inclusive digital transformation, G20 should provide a common framework, based on distributive and communal ownership of information and technology, and financial resources for the participatory governance and co-design of such infrastructures, which must be transparent, accountable, interoperable, and openaccess. Therefore, TF05 requests a G20 Fund to be established by the Finance and Sherpa tracks, to develop collaboration with technical and academic communities for research, that will enable better DPIs effectively and fairly to populations. Also, there must be a common understanding and transborder cooperation between Global North and South for effective data governance maturity. Strong multistakeholder collaboration throughout the entire information lifecycle, through open data policies and a citizen-centered approach, is essential so that the public interest will drive data (data justice) instead of the opposite.

3. Create a new two-fold group, the Data20 (D20), composed of members of engagement groups at G20 Social and representatives of all working groups in the Sherpa Track, to establish a common, multistakeholder approach of data governance among G20 countries, boosted by a permanent multi-stakeholder high-level panel.

D20 can serve as a node for collaboration across the G20 and its existing formal engagement and working groups in G20 Social and in the Sherpa Track. Also, a permanent multi-stakeholder high-level panel on data governance should be established in order to strike coherence and continuity in policy-making conversations. Both spaces may foster a convergent position toward a set of interoperable policy instruments to promote transnational data solidarity, including methods for evaluating and leveraging the public value of data as a common good, aimed at reducing information and power asymmetry. Debating cross-cutting issues on data governance can influence

more transparent and fair AI systems and also be diverse in terms of language. Besides, it could enhance collaboration regarding DPIs and reduce harms emanating from the use of data. Additionally, the D20 could enable the development of regulatory parity based on human rights and data justice.

4. Establish a global AI accountability framework that integrates technical, public policy, and regulatory efforts at an international level, especially on human-centered AI applications that address climate change, health issues and poverty, and foster public scrutiny of high-risk AI.

This framework should encourage risk monitoring and public scrutiny, enhance international cooperation on human-centered AI, support the access to resource and capacity building in Global South countries, and promote decent data work, sustainable labor supply chains, and continuous reskilling programs. Alongside the development of national AI strategies that can balance the protection of the rights of vulnerable communities with incentives for innovation in support of national industries, the G20 should prioritize AI models that help achieving the SDGs and whose benefits can be distributed fairly. This requires addressing the imbalance in technological capabilities by investing in open-access computational resources to advance public interests globally, funding research on data work dignity, and reskilling programs for women and minorities. Lastly, impact assessments for high-risk AI applications and providing data access to qualified researchers, along with external audits, are best practices that should be mandatory.

5. Promote information integrity in protection of all human rights, developing regulatory initiatives that protect citizens from the harms of disinformation, misinformation and the targeting of hyper-vulnerable and marginalized individuals.

Transparency in the origination and transmission of information is key to tackle dis- and misinformation and to reinforce user trust across a diverse and secure digital environment in furtherance of information integrity. Platform regulation should foster comprehensive regulatory oversight focusing not only on content moderation, but also on the design practices of those technologies and on the algorithmic amplification of harmful content. These initiatives should provide transparency mechanisms to empower stakeholders to hold platforms accountable for enabling or facilitating harm such as online race and gender-based violence, hate speech, child abuse and exploitation. G20 countries must act to prevent any systematic harm by promoting information integrity, especially in relation to health, climate and election information; to improve the quality of content moderation; and to form local teams with deep contextual knowledge in support of cultural and language diversity in AI.

Read more about TF05

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Task Force 06

Strengthening multilateralism and global governance



TF06 focuses on fostering robust international cooperation in alignment with the SDGs outlined in the 2030 Agenda. Its recommendations aim to influence the discussion of priorities in the Development, Health, and Trade and Investment Working Groups, as well as to identify issues of particular interest for the Sherpas such as the assessment of the G20 pledges and actions.

Key issues and subtopics within this task force encompass:

- 1. The G20's role in strengthening multilateralism and UN reform;
- 2. Reform of the WTO;
- 3. Global health issues and the One Health approach;
- 4. New norms and metrics for international development cooperation and confronting global challenges;
- 5. The role of non-state actors, NGOs, and subnational units in multilateral governance;
- 6. Assessing G20 pledges and actions;
- 7. The voices of the Global South in global governance and in strengthening multilateralism.

Key recommendations

1. Strengthen the effectiveness and efficiency of multilateral institutions by building trust, accountability, and inclusion.

The G20 should advocate the urgent reform of multilateral institutions to reflect the evolving international order. In particular, TF06 recommends establishing a permanent Task Force on UN Reform within the G20 Sherpa Track. In addition to facilitating dialog and sharing ideas, that platform may provide a mechanism for consensus building on necessary and high-priority UN system reforms over the long term. One prominent example is the expansion of the UN Security Council to include underrepresented regions and developing countries, guided by the principles of equity, legitimacy, and modernization. The G20 should support the alignment of policy priorities across UN agencies, organizations and processes in order to reduce frictions generated by trade rules and regulations for sustainable development. To this end, endorsing the UN Secretary-General's proposal for a Biennial Summit to consider opportunities and address discrepancies in regulations governing finance, aid, climate action, and wider sustainable development concerns, is key. Furthermore, the G20 should also advocate conflict prevention and peacebuilding. In this sense, member countries must call for the strengthening of the Peacebuilding Commission by enhancing its advisory role to the Security Council and to the Economic and Social Council and by buttressing its conflict prevention capabilities. The G20 should also discuss more ambitious nuclear non-proliferation commitments, invest in new technologies and research and development to address humanitarian challenges, and leverage its agenda-setting capacity to elevate action on social protection and human rights, ensuring state compliance with commitments.

2. Strengthen global governance through increased participation of non-state and subnational actors.

The G20 should prioritize enhancing the participation of nonstate actors in the Sherpa and Finance tracks, considering civil society organizations as well as cities and other local and regional governments. In addition to the existing engagement groups, structured exchanges also can play an advisory role in support of G20 official tracks, bearing in mind that providing technical and financial assistance to strengthen the institutional capacity of non-state actors is essential to ensure their active participation. Accordingly, TF06 recommends leveraging digital tools and platforms to involve additional stakeholders in G20 and UN processes. The G20 should enhance both transparency and inclusivity by actively strengthening civil society participation, especially of under-represented and underserviced groups, through interactive and digitally-enabled dialog in formal G20 and UN sessions, consultations and other forums. Involving subnational actors is pivotal to address a host of systemic risks including climate change, digital exclusion, inequalities, and challenges to achieving sustainable development and to promoting global health. Local and regional governments should also be encouraged to have a more direct involvement in multilateral treatv processes, similarly to private sector engagement initiatives.

3. Improve global cooperation and investments in climate-resilient development, including through the reform of the financial architecture.

The G20 should advance a comprehensive reform agenda for International Financial Institutions and strengthen MDBs in furtherance of sustainable finance. T20 members urge the G20 to promote a just ecological transition and to accelerate the global energy transition away from fossil fuels. This requires commitments in terms of financial resources, knowledge transfer, and sharing of

technologies in support of sustainable development in the developing world. To this end, the G20 should champion equitable, sustainable carbon and biodiversity markets, payment for ecosystem services, and should advocate innovative financing mechanisms to protect tropical forests in particular. G20 members should establish a subworking group under the Trade and Investment Working Group to collaborate with the WTO's Trade and Environmental Sustainability Structured Discussions (TESSD) process on environmental trade measures, committing to actions such as phasing out fuel subsidies and reducing tariffs on sustainable alternatives. Moreover, making the governance of international financial institutions more representative and inclusive is crucial, as is including sustainable, future-proof policies that encompass the rights of children and future generations in G20 declarations.

4. Strengthen governance to promote timely and efficient responses to frontier threats related to global health, digital harms and transnational organized crime.

The G20 should adopt a more proactive posture to build collective understanding and responses to systemic risks related to pandemics, digital harms, and transnational organized crime. To address the transnational threat of pandemics, the G20 can foster a One Health approach, emphasizing the harmonious integration of humans, animals, and the environment. TF06 members recommend that the G20 promote international standards on sanitation, animal health, and environmental biodiversity protection across supply chains, and propose a governance mechanism to coordinate One Health efforts. Given the rapid expansion of organized crime in all parts of the world, the G20 should play a pivotal role in bridging trust and cooperation deficits to address cyber, counterfeit, financial, and trafficking-related crimes that cross jurisdictions, including by sharing intelligence, supporting joint investigations, expanding

monitoring and enforcement against illicit flows, strengthening critical infrastructure, and reinforcing international conventions related to organized crime and cybercrime, with due consideration of human rights. In light of major risks posed by advanced AI, the G20 should also advocate standards and verification systems to ensure safe, aligned and ethical design, development and deployment. T20 members draw attention to the need to close the AI gap - both in capabilities and in regulation - between the Global North and South. The G20 Digital Economy Working Group should define principles for strengthening safe, ethical and aligned AI, as well as necessary investments in infrastructure, closing skills gaps, and minimizing digital harms. The G20 can identify shared priorities with other international and regional forums, including strengthening common action and partnerships.

5. Advance new norms and metrics to develop cooperation and enhance G20 accountability.

G20 leaders should commit to advancing new metrics of wellbeing that move beyond Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Specifically, TF06 members urge the G20 to align measures of progress with parallel UN initiatives and to endorse their adoption at the Summit of the Future. These metrics can practically guide policy, financial and service allocation decisions, and concessional finance, grounded in ethical, holistic, sustainable, and inclusive parameters. The G20 can simultaneously support efforts to enhance data capabilities and develop tools at the country level to address global challenges such as climate change, biodiversity loss, digital governance and food insecurity. Given the urgency of the climate change crisis, the G20 should take a more proactive stance on phasing out fossil fuels. T20 Brasil recommends that G20 countries set ambitious renewable energy targets, phase out fossil fuel subsidies, foster clean energy innovation, invest in worker reskilling, establish social safety nets as part of their adaptation strategies, and support developing nations in attaining these objectives. To improve accountability, the G20 can also publish meeting agendas and minutes, create an independent review mechanism to track pledges, develop clear progress metrics, and expand collaboration with international organizations.





Final remarks

The principles of representativeness, inclusiveness, and effectiveness have steered the work of the T20 Brasil community over the past months and will continue to do so during the second half of 2024.

These principles guide the criteria used to accept policy briefs, the formulation of policy recommendations, and the discussions that take place during side-events. T20 Brasil has specifically sought to increase the participation of think tanks from the Global South, especially from Africa and Latin America.

1) Representativeness

In light of the African Union's entry into the G20, the six T20 Brasil Task Forces count on the participation of 16 think tanks from 9 African countries, Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) are also well represented: 38 Brazilian institutions show our civil society participating actively in the debate, alongside 14 institutions from 6 other countries in the region. Notably, T20 Brasil's policy brief process has embodied this principle by requiring submissions from researchers affiliated with different think tanks and countries, while insisting on gender diversity by refusing proposals and papers co-authored only by two cisgender men. Besides the organizations involved in the Task Forces, the T20 Brasil community is also composed of institutions that are part of the National and International Councils. The executive secretariats of these Councils have taken a leading role in the

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organization of side events and have offered comments on the Task Force Statements and on the Communiqué. Lastly, it should be highlighted that the International Secretariat is made up of institutions from the expanded troika countries: Indonesia, India, and South Africa, as we seek to provide continuity and coordination in the T20's agenda and activities across the presidencies.

2) Inclusiveness

Beyond T20 Brasil Task Forces and Advisory Councils, actors from think tanks, research centers associated with universities, multilateral organizations, the private sector, civil society organizations (including social movements, NGOs and other collective actors) have contributed actively to the T20 Brasil policy brief submission process. The contribution and involvement of different segments of society has enhanced the diversity of perspectives and solutions proposed, leading to well-rounded policy recommendations.

3) Effectiveness

The decision to anticipate the delivery of this Communiqué to the Midterm Conference allows T20 Brasil to increase the effectiveness of its recommendations by focusing on the development of implementation strategies over the following months leading up to the T20 Summit. During the second half of 2024, T20 Brasil will focus on engaging the National and International Councils in the debate on how to increase the effectiveness of the recommendations by collectively developing these implementation strategies.

T20 Brasil intends to continue the dialog with G20 officials and other engagement groups, focusing on the feasibility and implementation challenges of the T20 policy recommendations until the summit of the G20 leaders in November. Activities such as side events constitute a valuable opportunity to exchange ideas on how to implement recommendations in order to achieve higher levels of efficiency and effectiveness. Likewise, we will also seek to work in close collaboration with our colleagues from South Africa who will lead the T20 work during the South African G20 presidency.

Acknowledgements

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Rethink Tank

Brazilian Center for International Relations (CEBRI)

CEBRI is an independent and non-profit think tank that has since 1998 been dedicated to promoting constructive debate on agendas that serve the national interest and on Brazil's competitive and strategic participation in the global arena. Based in Rio de Janeiro, CEBRI is recognized in Brazil and abroad as a platform for the analysis, development, and coordination of pragmatic and innovative solutions. The CEBRI Board of Trustees includes recognized national leaders and is a key part of CEBRI's non-partisan, diverse, and plural network of experts in various fields and perspectives. Our more than 100 members believe in and promote our mission: to influence a constructive and high-level dialog on Brazil's international relations. The CEBRI community encompasses not only individual members and several foreign diplomatic offices, but also major Brazilian companies active in various industries.

cebri.org



Alexandre de Gusmão Foundation (FUNAG)

The Alexandre de Gusmão Foundation was created in 1971 to promote research, organize educational activities, and increase public awareness in the areas of foreign affairs and diplomatic history. It operates as a public foundation affiliated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and includes two research institutes: the International Relations Research Institute (IPRI) and the Center for Diplomatic History and Documentation (CHDD). FUNAG is the largest publishing house in Portuguese for foreign affairs and diplomatic history. Many of FUNAG's publications are distributed free of charge to public libraries and other institutions in various countries. FUNAG also organizes seminars, conferences and courses in collaboration with universities, research centers, non-governmental organizations, and other partners. FUNAG promotes its publications through various channels, including a digital library with over 1000 free publications.

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Institute of Applied Economic Research (IPEA)

Created in 1964, the Institute for Applied Economic Research is a government think tank affiliated with the Brazilian Ministry of Budget and Planning. Staffed with more than 200 experts on applied research and public policy planning, IPEA covers various fields of knowledge such as macroeconomics, urban and regional development, environmental, social, institutional and international studies. IPEA's work is known in Brazil and abroad for its high quality and diverse methodological approaches. IPEA's mission is to provide the Brazilian Government with the best evidence possible to design, evaluate, and implement public policies and to communicate its findings and recommendations to Brazilian society at large.

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6.4. New norms and metrics for international development cooperation and confronting global challenges

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6.5. The role of non-State actors, NGOs, and subnational units in multilateral governance

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6.7. The voices of the Global South in global governance and in strengthening multilateralism

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Cooperation, China Agricultural University

CIDRN - China International Development Research Network

CASS - Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

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IDOS - German Institute of Development and Sustainability

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Türkive

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Geledés - Instituto da Mulher Negra

GeFAM - Family and Gender Economics Study Group

Imazon

IDESAM - Instituto de Conservação e Desenvolvimento Sustentável da Amazônia

IDESF - Instituto de Desenvolvimento Econômico e Social de Fronteiras

IESP-UERJ - Institute of Social and Political Studies, State University of Rio de Janeiro

iCS - Institute for Climate and Society

Imagine Brasil

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Instituto Fome Zero

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Instituto Millenium

Instituto Talanoa

IPPUR-UFRJ - Instituto de Pesquisa e Planejamento Urbano e Regional, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

ITS - Institute for Technology & Society

LABMUNDO - World Political Analysis Laboratory

LabJaca

LAPIN - Laboratory of Public Policy and Internet

Made-USP - Research Center on Macroeconomics of Inequalities, University of São Paulo

Nature Finance

NERI - Núcleo de Estudos Raciais. INSPER

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Transparência Brasil

T20 Brasil Slogan created by

Nizan Guanaes

T20 Brasil brand identity

Estúdio Marijaguar

Layout DesignPresto Design

Text Revision

Andrei Winograd

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 65









