



A transformation that leaves no one behind.

F20 Mission Statement

We contribute to the G20 process and the UNFCCC negotiations

FOUNDATIONS TAKE A STAND

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BMW Foundation
Herbert Quandt



Before the G20 summit 2017 in Hamburg, a broad group of foundations and philanthropic organisations, gathered to form the Foundations Platform F20 in order to contribute to the political discourse during the G20 process, the summit and beyond. Every year leaders of the 19 largest economies and the European Union come together at the G20 summit to primarily discuss matters of financial stability, while also addressing present challenges and future developments that are linked to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

The F20 platform consists of foundations and philanthropic organisations from different parts of the world, calling for joint, transnational action towards sustainable development, along positive transformation examples to provide pathways towards solutions of today's most pressing challenges. F20 wants to build bridges between civil society, the business sector and politics – within the G20 countries, between them and beyond. The platform's focus lays on issues related to climate change, renewable energy and shrinking space for many civil society organisations. The organisations participating F20 are convinced that only a new level of international collaboration and transformational partnerships can solve the global challenges the world is facing today. F20 thus serves as a global learning platform for improved cooperation, interlinking foundations globally and suggesting 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, whilst attempting to motivate other actors to initiate sustainable transformation processes. Concerted efforts such as the F20 platform send a strong signal to governments, recalling the crucial role that civil society and other non-state actors have to play in implementing sustainable development within the 2030 Agenda and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement. Acting together globally can facilitate efforts to overcome barriers and limitations.



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The pathway to global sustainable development

In 2015, world leaders adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals (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. The conclusions of the Hamburg G20 summit have reaffirmed the importance of the SDGs and of transnational partnerships in this endeavour. The G20 Hamburg Climate and Energy Action Plan for Growth (CEAP) sets a framework and identifies core issues that remain to be addressed for the implementation of these agreements. F20 endorses the CEAP and considering it as an important reference for future activities. With this platform foundations can 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.

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Transforming Our World towards a Sustainable 2030

The G20 process and the UNFCCC represent a significant opportunity 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 Sustainable Development Goals (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 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

- sustainable and inclusive economic activity aiming at decarbonisation and the scaling up of renewable energies and energy efficiency, while ensuring climate-resilient communities and ecosystems;



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- emphasizing the role of civil society within this process and ensuring its involvement in global governance affairs outside and within the United Nations.

Both topics are closely interlinked: decarbonisation and the transformation of the energy sector can only be achieved with the 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 the United Nations.

Our message

Transforming our economy and societies in the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement is possible. Existing low-carbon success stories serve as good examples for sustainable development in the field of climate action and must receive greater attention worldwide, because they also reduce the risk of greater impacts of a warmer world. Moreover, governments need to considerably strengthen and improve policy frameworks.

Civil society organizations must be able to contribute and participate in this process and are part of the solution. They have a pivotal role to play within this transformation and are important catalysts within the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and in keeping global warming below the 2° or even the 1.5° target. F20 can help to disseminate positive examples of successful dialogues and can be considered as a sounding board for these dialogues.

Our objectives

F20 aims to inspire proactive alliances towards new transformational partnerships and to encourage viable cooperation.

F20 aims to initiate and provide opportunities for new dialogue spaces and effective discourses - also between foundations worldwide, but especially in the G20 context.

F20 considers it an important task for foundations to contribute to the successful implementation of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs by applying the above-mentioned goals to our own actions and portfolio strategies.

As an international platform and catalyst F20 envisages to

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

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Our partners

The F20 platform envisages the involvement of foundations particularly from the G20 member states.

By contemplating the G20 process and collaborating with the host countries of the G20, their predecessors and successors, F20 builds on one of the most influential global governance continuums. This enables innovative partnerships among foundations and with other stakeholder groups, especially with civil society groups. While cooperation with these groups will continue, F20 so far remains independent and does not seek to become an official G20 engagement group.

Our activities

F20 will continue to showcase successful transformation examples, decarbonisation trends and best strategies to unleash the development of renewable energies with 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 context of the G20 and the COPs of the UNFCCC. Such examples might be processes, business cases, organizations, policies, projects and acting people.

National or regional hubs in selected countries or regions shall strengthen the impact of F20 und push forward the 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, e.g. the media and the society, as well as to decision makers from G20 countries and especially to the community of foundations within the G20 and beyond.



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The current Steering Group consists of the following members:

- BMW Foundation
- C Team China
- European Climate Foundation
- Fundación Avina
- Environmental Foundation Michael Otto
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- SEE Foundation China
- Shakti Foundation
- Stiftung 2°
- Stiftung Mercator
- Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit
- World Future Council
- WWF

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