



## Press Release of the Foundations Platform F20

# G20 should act on the Climate Crisis and enable local action for resilience

## Open letter by representatives of international Community Foundations

**Hamburg, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2021.** Representatives of a number of leading Community Foundations across the globe called today upon the G20 to act on the climate crisis, referring to the recent period of global vulnerability resulting from the pandemic that has impacted many cities and communities. In a joint open letter to the Italian Prime Minister Mario Draghi, signatories stress that the COVID-19 pandemic has proved that intact local infrastructure networks are essential for any effective response. The letter further states that the pandemic will only be one of many constraints that cities and communities face, unless climate action is placed at the top of the international decision making agenda. Increasing the resilience of cities and communities has to be a priority goal for multilateral decision making.

James Magowan, signatory and Coordinating Director, European Community Foundation Initiative stated that: "Severe impacts of climate change such as floods, heatwaves or water and energy shortages will increase if we do not embark immediately on trajectories leading to increased resilience. By offering specific insights on the operating environment, Community Foundations can be vital 'change agents' in translating multilaterally agreed policy frameworks into effective measures at the local level."

- Alignment of all measures with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals and their implementation by cities and communities.
- Consistency and functionality of essential public services within the cities and communities as well as equal access to common goods and basic needs such as housing, water, and energy etc.
- Support of local and regional governments and their associations on all levels to adapt to unavoidable climate impacts including access to finance, technical and medical support, as well as climate resilient spatial planning.
- Clear mandate for cities and communities to harvest the potential of renewable energy and energy efficient technologies across all sectors, in order to mitigate their contribution to the global climate crisis.

Dr. Catherine Brown, signatory and Chief Executive Officer, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation: "National governments and multilateral forums such as the G20 have to also provide support to adapt to the already unavoidable impacts of climate change".

**The open letter was signed by the following signatories:**

- **Dr. James Magowan, Coordinating Director, European Community Foundation Initiative**
- **Gaetano Giunta, Secretary General, Fondazione di Comunità di Messina**
- **Stefan Schurig, Secretary General, Foundations Platform F20**
- **Dr. Catherine Brown, Chief Executive Officer, Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation**
- **Jon Everett, Director of Business Growth and External Affairs, UK Community Foundations**
- **Andrew Chunilall, Chief Executive Officer and Andrea Dicks, President, Community Foundations of Canada**



For a transformation that leaves no one behind.

The Foundations Platform F20 is an alliance of more than 70 foundations and philanthropic organizations from 21 countries. The platform aims to further gather momentum to implement the 2030 Agenda via the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and support the Paris Agreement; in order to build bridges between different stakeholders, including the private and financial sector, politics and civil society. In total, the foundations represent a capital in the double-digit billion range (US dollars).

Click [here](#) for the Open Letter in English.

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