Press release by the Foundations Platform F20

International platform of foundations:
G20 countries must put their words into deeds

Milan, October 1st, 2021. The Foundations Platform F20 consisting of more than 70 foundations mainly from the G20 countries calls upon the G20 Heads of State to act on the global climate crisis and to agree on concrete targets and tools on upscaling renewable energy, protecting biodiversity and the decarbonisation of the global finance markets. At the annual F20 meeting this week in Milan, the group also reminded the G20 Heads of State that the G20 countries are still off-track from their commitment to further align with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Climate Agreement. F20 introduced a list of six key recommendations plus 40 detailed suggestions that further address the G7 countries, which F20 considers a subgroup of the G20.

Klaus Milke, F20 Chair: "Our recommendations to the G7 and the G20 list numerous concrete proposals how to put words into deeds when it comes to the G20 recent promises to take the global climate crisis seriously. Clear commitments from the G20 leaders to end the era of coal, quickly upscale alternative renewable energy and make decarbonisation plans mandatory, also for financial firms, are absolutely decisive."

Marisa Parmigiani, Co-Chair of F20 and head of Unipolis Foundation from Bologna adds: "With most recent weather extremes and vast loss and damages worldwide due to climate impacts we really need more than words but concrete action how to change course. That’s also a clear message sent by the latest IPCC-Report"

The F20 recommendations further called for a commitment to a net-zero and science-based emission target aligned with the 1.5°C benchmark and concrete interim steps and targets until 2030. Furthermore, the recommendations stress the need to ensure a Just Transition, including an active participation of different stakeholders such as communities, indigenous workers, the private sector, and academia in designing national Just Transition plans. According to the F20 recommendations clear signs for keeping up to the promises would also include to mainstream carbon pricing and a commitment to measures as suggested by the G20 Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) comprising mandatory disclosure of climate risks by enterprises in both their reporting and balance sheets.

One month until the G20 Summit will take place in Rome under Italian presidency, leading representatives of international organisations and foundations have convened this week
for the “F20 Climate Solutions Forum” in Milan to intensively discuss the solutions at hand to address the current pandemic and the biodiversity and climate crises.

The annual high-level event of the Foundations Platform F20 in Milan advocated the G20 leaders to build global momentum in accordance with the Forum’s headline “putting words into deeds”. As US Special Presidential Envoy for Climate John Kerry stated at this F20 forum: “At its core the struggle to tackle the global climate crisis is about protecting and preserving the world that we share. It’s about understanding that it costs more to not respond to the climate crisis now than it does to respond. It is without exaggeration about survival and about seizing the opportunity that this decisive decade affords to transform our world for the better.”

The former UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, emphasised at the F20 event that “through global, coordinated, and concerted action the G20 must now not only deliver on their promises but lead boldly with new commitments in line with 1.5 degrees. Heads of State have an exceptional opportunity and obligation to do what is needed so the world can avert climate disaster and it is imperative that the G20 pull in the same direction on this critical effort.”

The Foundations Platform F20 is a network of over 70 foundations from more than 20 countries that work with the G20 countries for the implementation of the UN sustainability goals and compliance with the Paris Climate Agreement. The platform was launched in Hamburg in 2017 on the occasion of the G20 summit and has now become an influential player in the G20 process. This year’s “Climate Solutions Forum” was hosted by Foundations Platform F20 and Fondazione Cariplo together with their Italian partners Fondazione Unipolis, Fondazione di Comunità di Messina, and Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo. The F20 Climate Solutions Forum was also supported by Assifero (Associazione italiana delle Fondazioni ed Enti filantropici), ASviS (L’Alleanza Italiana per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile) and ACRI (Associazione di Fondazioni e di Casse di Risparmio Spa).

Contact:
Anna Keremen | anna.keremen@foundations-20.org |+494070975022