



A transformation that leaves no one behind.

## F20-Mission Statement We are close to the G20 process and the UNFCCC negotiations

### FOUNDATIONS TAKE A STAND A transformation that leaves no one behind

[10.10.2017]

On July 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> 2017, the most influential industrialized countries and emerging economies came together in Hamburg for the G20 Summit. Leaders of the 19 largest economies and the European Union again discussed present challenges and future developments. They decided on common activities and plans to implement the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Agreement. Inspired by this event, an unprecedented group of foundations (F20) gathered in order to contribute to the political discourse, both during the Summit and beyond.

#### The path 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 respecting the planetary boundaries. Translating this into concrete action requires a variety of approaches.

#### Foundations as a driving force for sustainable transformation

The F20 platform, consisting of more than 45 foundations from different parts of the world, call for common and transnational action towards sustainable development, based on positive transformation examples. With its first publication, "Renewable Energy, Climate Action and Resilient Societies: Accelerating the Global and Local Paradigm Shift", the F20 platform has provided evidence that the global transformation is already underway in many parts of the world.

F20 seeks to establish an open dialogue that serves to highlight solutions but also potential barriers to progress, whilst attempting to motivate other actors to initiate sustainable transformation processes. Concerted efforts such as the F20 platform of foundations strive to send a strong signal to governments that civil society and other non-state actors have a crucial role to play in implementing sustainable development. Acting together globally can facilitate efforts to overcome barriers and limitations.

The conclusions of the Hamburg G20 summit have reaffirmed the importance of the SDGs and of partnerships in this endeavor. This was well illustrated by the agreement of 19 out of 20 parties on a substantial Hamburg-Climate and Energy Action Plan (CEAP). F20 endorses CEAP and will take it as an important reference for future activities. Further emphasis will also be put on the conclusions on Green Finance and Climate Finance. The Foundations offer to contribute to concrete implementation and to be part of the solution in a national, regional and international context





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## Background “Transforming Our World Towards a Sustainable 2030”

The G20 process and the UNFCCC represent a significant opportunity for foundations to take responsibility for helping to turn the above-mentioned goals into reality. And to exhibit leadership among their own constituencies by translating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 7 and SDG 13 on energy and climate protection, 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 which respect the planetary boundaries.

The name F20 was chosen to express the enormous responsibility of the G20 member states to address the future challenges such as sustainable development and climate change. The name F20 also highlights the importance of the year 2020 by which the Paris Agreement will require member states to have a clear mitigation strategy for their country and to start implementation not later than this year. This also suggests a stronger engagement by F20 at the UNFCCC process and events.

At the 2017 G20 Summit in Hamburg, F20 called for greater collaboration among and with G20 governments by launching its first joint report „*Renewable Energy, Climate Action and Resilient Societies: Accelerating the Global and Local Paradigm Shift*“. This report suggests presents? a series of positive cases for a successful transformation of the energy sector and the uptake of renewable energy also emphasizing the key role of civil society in this effort. But it also highlights factors of success, as well as the barriers discovered during the implementation of sustainability processes. Furthermore, the report showcases best practices that can serve as an important learning curve for future “Global Governance” in the context of the United Nations.

### Our goal

We are an unprecedented group of foundations and philanthropic organizations, aiming to provide pathways towards solutions and actions for sustainable development. We want to build bridges between civil society, business and politics – within the G20 countries, between them and beyond.

### Our profile

As an international platform and catalyst we are envisaging to

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





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**The role and the three major functions of the F20 platform**

- F20 as an enabler and bridge-builder between non-state actors, such as businesses and civil society organizations, governments and philanthropic institutions
- F20 as a sounding board for foundations within and beyond the G20 process on particular issues related to climate change, renewable energy and the shrinking space for many civil society organisations
- F20 as a global learning platform for improved cooperation, interlinking foundations globally and suggesting a variety of mutually complementary opportunities

We are convinced that only a new level of international collaboration and transformational partnerships will be able to solve the global challenges the world is facing today.

**Our focus**

The Agenda 2030 and the Paris Climate Agreement represent a profound framework for sustainable development. Therefore we will focus on

1. 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;
2. 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 maturing our societies in the spirit of the Agenda 2030 and the Paris Climate Agreement is possible. Existing decarbonisation success stories serve as good examples for sustainable development in the field of climate protection 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 as 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 the world below the 2° or even the 1.5° target. We help to disseminate positive examples of successful dialogues and consider F20 as a sounding board for these dialogues.





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### **Our objectives**

We aim to inspire proactive alliances towards new transformational partnerships and to encourage viable cooperation.

We aim to initiate and provide opportunities for new dialogue spaces and effective discourses - also between foundations worldwide, but especially within the context of the G20.

We consider it an important task for foundations to also 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.

### **Our partners**

The 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 prefers to remain independent and 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 (NDC) in the G20 countries.

Successful cooperation will be centre of sustainable development, with policy-makers, business and civil society, on the one hand, and between the G20 states on the other.

The messages and publications of F20 are addressed to the general public, e.g. via media, in a specific way to the decision makers in the G20 states and especially to the community of foundations in the G20 states.





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**The current Steering Group consists of the following members:**

- C Team China (tbc)
- Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt (Dr. Michael Dittrich)
- European Climate Foundation (Dr. Martin Rocholl)
- Fundacion Avina (Ramiro Fernandez)
- Michael Otto Stiftung für Umweltschutz (Dr. Johannes Merck)
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund (Michael Northrop)
- See Foundation China (tbc)
- Shakti Foundation (Krishan Dhawan)
- Stiftung 2° (Sabine Nallinger)
- Stiftung Mercator (Dr. Lars Grotewold)
- Stiftung Zukunftsfähigkeit (Klaus Milke)
- Stiftung World Future Council (Stefan Schurig / Anna Leidreiter)
- WWF (Alois Vedder / Manuel Pulgar Vidal)

New Members will be invited upon proposal by the Steering Group or F20 partners.

Hamburg 10.10.2017

