

d·i·e

Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development
Institute

IGES
Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies

MCC
Mercator Research Institute on
Global Commons and Climate Change

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK**
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

d·i·e

Deutsches Institut für
Entwicklungspolitik



German Development
Institute

IGES

Institute for Global
Environmental Strategies



MCC

Mercator Research Institute on
Global Commons and Climate Change



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
SOLUTIONS NETWORK
A GLOBAL INITIATIVE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS

Expert Conference

„Fit for purpose? Revitalizing climate and sustainability issues in the G20 process“

20 March 2019

Background

The G20 is struggling to provide strong support for global climate action and sustainable development. At the 2016 Hangzhou Summit the G20 leaders adopted the “G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and committed to supporting the Paris Climate Agreement. This strong support for multilateral commitments to climate action and sustainable development appears to be fading. Continuing US opposition to strong multilateral climate policy and the imminent risk of a sidelining of sustainability issues in the G20 calls for new alliances within governments and also between science and policy. In 2019, the G20’s support for the United Nations’ Climate and Sustainability Summits in September 2019 will be particularly important.

A knowledge hub that seeks to strengthen the science-policy interface is the Think 20 (T20). The T20 has established itself as a network of think tanks and research institutes from G20 countries working on a broad range of topics since 2012. The T20 helps to increase continuity in the G20 process and to strengthen links between its expertise and the G20 work streams. The T20 has established, among others, Task Forces on Climate Change and Environment and on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Within the G20, pertinent climate and sustainable development issues are discussed by the Sherpas and Financial Deputies and in the Climate Sustainability Working Group and the Development Working Group. The latter, in particular, was tasked in Hangzhou to “act as a coordinating body and policy resource for sustainable development across the G20”. To live up to this mandate, the G20 will need pay attention to new knowledge about the urgency of the climate and sustainable development challenge and reflect on recent political developments to ensure continuity across G20 work streams and presidencies.

Objectives

The expert conference has the following objectives:

1. To strengthen the role of the G20 and the T20 as a supporter of sustainable development and climate action and pertinent interlinkages to help bridging policy silos and to support multilateral cooperation to that end.
2. To foster exchange between members of different T20 Task Forces and officials of relevant G20 work streams.
3. To provide a platform to present and discuss key policy recommendations for sustainable development and climate action across T20 Task Forces and G20 work streams.

Please note that this conference is held under Chatham House Rule.¹

¹ Conference participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speakers may be revealed.

Programme

09:00 - 09:15 **Welcome address and introduction**

Kazuo Matsushita, Senior Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Co-Chair T20 Task Force Climate Change and Environment

09:15 - 10:30 **Panel Discussion: Strengthening the interlinkages between climate action and sustainable development during the Japanese G20 presidency**

Guiding questions:

- *In what ways has the G20 supported climate action and sustainable development so far?*
- *What role can the G20 play to strengthen interlinkages and how can the Japanese G20 presidency advance this agenda?*
- *What are current political and technical challenges to strengthen linkages between climate action and sustainable development within G20?*

Panelists:

Martin Frick, Senior Director, Policy and Programme Coordination, Executive Direction and Management, United Nations Climate Change Secretariat

Kaoru Magosaki, Director, Climate Change Division, International Cooperation Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Japan

Beatriz Nofal, Co-Chair T20 Task Force Economic effects of Infrastructure Investment and its financing, former Argentina G20 Sherpa

Miranda Schreurs, Professor for Environment and Climate Policy Bavarian School of Public Policy, Technical University of Munich, Co-Chair T20 Task Force Climate Change and Environment

Chair:

Imme Scholz, Acting Director, German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

10:30 - 11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 - 12:30 **Session I: How can the G20 harness non-state action for climate and sustainable development?**

Guiding questions:

- *How can coordination among state and non-state actors be improved for an effective climate and sustainable development governance?*
- *How can the G20 stimulate partnerships between non-state actors in member states such as platforms for dialogue and cooperation?*
- *What would be concrete G20 statements that could send the correct signals to stimulate further climate action?*

Panelists:

Sander Chan, Senior Researcher, DIE

Gesa Mieke-Nordmeyer, Director General, Social, Health, Labour Market, Infrastructure and Societal Policy, Federal Chancellery

Daniel Mittler, Political Director, Greenpeace International

Takejiro Sueyoshi, Leading Advocate of Japan Climate Initiative (JCI)

Chair:

Mark Elder, Director of Research and Publications, Strategic Management Office, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

12:30 - 13:30 Lunch

13:30 - 15:00 Session II: Aligning decarbonization and just transitions: New impulses by the G20?

Guiding questions:

- *How can G20 economies stop the use of coal and achieve a just transition?*
- *How could G20 countries implement (national and trade-related) environmental taxes and standards without further increasing poverty, food insecurity and inequality?*
- *What are the advantages and the disadvantages and how feasible is a G20-level or a global-level carbon tax?*

Panelists:

Amar Bhattacharya, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institution

Norbert Gorißen, Deputy Director General, International Policy, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU)

Gabriel Lanfranchi, Director Cities Programme, Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento (CCIPEC), Co-Chair T20 Task Force Climate Change and Environment

Chair:

Brigitte Knopf, Secretary General, Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC)

15:00 - 15:15 Coffee Break

15:15 - 16:45 Session III: Taking the 2030 Agenda seriously: Bridging the G20's policy silos

Guiding questions:

- *How can the G20 discussions be stirred in a way that better addresses the interconnections between the social, economic and environmental dimensions? Can the SDGs be mainstreamed throughout the discussions?*
- *How can the G20 help to bridge policy and institutional silos in member states and in transnational interactions?*
- *How can spillover effects of national policies (or lack of) within member states can be addressed through G20-level agreements?*

Panelists:

Ingolf Dietrich, Commissioner for the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Andrea Ordonez, Director, Southern Voice

Sébastien Treyer, Director, Institut du Développement Durable et des Relations Internationales (IDDRI)

Chair:

Clara Brandi, Senior Researcher, DIE

16:45 - 17:30 Session IV: Moving forward against the odds

Guiding questions:

- How can the policy ideas discussed during the conference be advanced in the G20 and other forums such as the G7?
- What further knowledge is needed for a better integration of climate and sustainable development issues within the G20 – how can T20 support the process?
- What are the prospects and strategies to advance the integrating of climate and sustainable development on the G20's agenda during the Saudi Arabian (2020) and Italian (2021) presidencies?

Panelists:

Hossa Al Mutairi, Research Fellow, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (KAPSARC)

Creon Butler, Sous Sherpa G7/G20, Director Economic Group, Cabinet Office, United Kingdom

Robert Falkner, Associate Professor of International Relations, LSE

Chair:

Adolf Kloke-Lesch, Executive Director, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Germany

17:30 - 17:45 Closing remarks

Imme Scholz, Acting Director, (DIE)

Venue: Mercator Centre Berlin, Neue Promenade 6, 10178 Berlin, Germany

Co-Organisers:

German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Mercator Research Institute on Global Commons and Climate Change (MCC)

Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)



Tulpenfeld 6
53113 Bonn

Contact:

Dr. Axel Berger axel.berger@die-gdi.de

Phone: + 49 (0)228-94 927-247

Fax: + 49 (0)228-94 927-130