“If we want to ensure future-oriented and sustainable economic growth, business plays an important role. We are ready to take on this task.”

B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus
Handover of the B20 recommendations from B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus to Angela Merkel, Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany

Panel on “The Future of Trade and Investment”

B20 Summit event location Tempodrom Berlin

Mthunzi Mdwaba, Vice President, International Organisation of Employers (IOE), with Gerhard Braun, Vice President, Confederation of German Employers’ Association (BDA)

Pierre Nanterme, CEO Accenture, with German Federal Minister of Finance, Wolfgang Schäuble

Outside area of the Tempodrom during the networking session
Voices of B20 Summit Attendees

“Especially for young entrepreneurs, the efforts of the G20 and B20 are of utmost importance as they lay the groundwork for the future of our economy and society.”

Sara Lengauer, JCI Germany

“The B20 is an incredible forum, bringing stakeholders together to collaborate on policy solutions that will allow governments to better respond to issues people care about: jobs, education, small business and security.”

Mary Andringa, Vermeer Corporation

“The B20’s ability to facilitate substantive conversations between business and leading governments is crucial to unlocking the benefits of trade, digitalization, infrastructure and more for people worldwide.”

Hans-Paul Bürkner, The Boston Consulting Group

“In the face of a rising tide of protectionism and a chorus of anti-trade rhetoric, G20 and B20 leadership and its mutual commitment to collective economic growth and open cross-border trade and investment is more important than ever. The B20 Germany recommendations will drive progress on some of the most intractable economic challenges confronting the world and opens pathways to global and inclusive growth.”

John W.H. Denton, Corrs Chambers Westgarth

“The B20 shows a clear commitment to free trade and global cooperation at the right time. The right priorities are set with focus on trade, digitalization, energy/climate, and SMEs among other topics.”

Sieglinde Feist, Wacker Chemie

“The B20 is an indispensable forum in which business can help shape the agenda for taking sustained, inclusive growth and development forward.”

Alejandra Kindelan, Banco Santander

“Having attended all B20s, the B20 Germany is outstanding on its collaborative and inclusive approach to all participants. The B20 Germany’s comprehensive and relevant agenda confirms the increasing importance of global businesses’ direct input into the G20 through the B20.”

Mark Burrows, Credit Suisse

“The B20 this year has been executed with efficiency. The small organizing committee has performed remarkably given the huge amount of work it takes to organize such a wide ranging series of taskforce events, across multiple jurisdictions and involving multiple stakeholders.”

Alan John Wilkins, Global Coalition for Efficient Logistics (GCEL)

“Understanding and joint action across borders becomes ever more important. This highlights the significance of B20.”

Sebastian Turner, Der Tagesspiegel

“Certainly a robust and effective delivery of the coordination of the B20 voice - a catalyst of gathering thoughts, ideas, views and disseminating the very important message of all B20 members for G20 2017 - Thank You B20 Germany.”

Aisha Izzet, Takamol

This is only an excerpt, as we have received almost 200 voices – Thanks for your feedback!
Introduction: B20 Germany 2017 & Opening Remarks by B20 Chairman Jürgen Heraeus

In spring 2016, the German government mandated the leading German business associations, the Federation of German Industries (BDI), the Confederation of German Employers’ Associations (BDA) and the Chambers of Commerce and Industry (DIHK), to organize B20 Germany. Since early September 2016, the official handover from B20 China to B20 Germany, over 700 representatives, spanning 39 countries, from leading business associations and companies, came together to contribute to the G20 process with their expertise and practical experience. Over the past ten months, the B20 Germany members, together with our partners and supporters, developed policy recommendations in five taskforces, two cross-thematic groups, and one initiative, which were constituted through a bottom-up process: Trade and Investment; Energy, Climate and Resource Efficiency; Financing Growth and Infrastructure; Digitalization; Employment and Education; Responsible Business Conduct and Anti-Corruption; and Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs); and Health. Taken together, these issue areas both align with past priorities and reflect new initiatives introduced under the German presidency. B20 members worked tirelessly in the respective taskforces, cross-thematic groups, and in the initiative to provide the G20 with concrete and actionable policy recommendations, all under the leading theme of “Resilience, Responsibility, Responsiveness – Towards a Future-oriented, Sustainable World Economy.”

Ever since its elevation to the level of heads of state and government at the height of the global financial crisis in 2008, the G20 has steadily grown in importance. With its members representing 85 percent of the world economy, more than three quarters of the global exchange of goods and services, and more than 60 percent of the world’s population, the G20 is the leading forum for global governance. This is especially important in the contemporary geopolitical landscape, where uncertainty and volatility is on the rise, and compromises seem increasingly hard to find.

This was reiterated by B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus in his introductory remarks to the B20 Summit with the example of trade and climate change. Even though the five-fold increase in global trade, coupled with an increase in global per capita income of a factor of 2.5, has lifted millions out of poverty and increased living standards around the world, the rules-based international trading system is increasingly questioned. While it was wrong to scapegoat trade for increasing inequality in many countries, international trade and the wider process of globalization need to better serve the most vulnerable parts of our societies, Heraeus emphasized.

Nevertheless, workers around the world face an increasingly disruptive environment. G20 leaders need to collaborate to improve their policy frameworks in a way that enables citizens to reap the benefits of both trade and technological change while mitigating its risks. Climate change and enhanced resource efficiency is another area where international cooperation is indispensable. G20 members need to provide for stable and predictable long-term policy environments. These need to be market-oriented and allow for innovation, competition, and the introduction and convergence of proper carbon pricing mechanisms across borders to drive the global energy transition.

The B20 Summit featured panels that expanded on these issues of global importance, from the need for a more resilient international financial architecture, to cooperation on cross-border data flows, the reform of global labor markets and the cross-cutting fight against corruption. The debates reflected the 20 policy recommendations captured in the B20 summary document handed over to Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany Angela Merkel on the second day of the Summit. The B20 does not only ask for government action, but assumes responsibility itself – we stand ready to assist governments in both the design and the implementation of new policy frameworks.

“The business representatives of the G20 countries call on the G20 to have more courage in actively shaping globalization”

Jürgen Heraeus
B20 Chair
With the conclusion of the Summit, our work is not done. We will continue to engage with governments, international organizations, other engagement partners, and civil society in the lead-up to the G20 Summit in Hamburg on July 7, 2017. We would like to use this opportunity to express our profound gratitude to all B20 members, partners, and supporters for their input, drive, patience, and passion – without you, this process would not have been such a success.

Remarks by German Federal Minister Wolfgang Schäuble Followed by a Panel Discussion on Preparedness for Future Crises

In his opening remarks, German Federal Minister of Finance Wolfgang Schäuble underlined that we must not forget the lessons of the past by turning to protectionism and nationalism in the face of economic uncertainty. Mr. Schäuble emphasized that the strength of the G20 framework lies in its dynamic nature that allowed for disagreement, while keeping channels of communication open.

The Federal Minister elaborated on the three main priorities of the German presidency: strengthening resilience, improving investment conditions, especially in Africa, and shaping digitalization. As the repercussions of the global financial crisis continued to be felt, there remained much to be done to ensure resilience, reduce high public and private debt levels, and to return to a post-crisis monetary policy. Additionally, all states needed reliable framework conditions to foster investment, Africa being a clear priority under the German G20 presidency. The Finance Minister called on the private sector to join governments to bridge the immense infrastructure investment gap on the African continent, which stands as a massive bottleneck for growth. While a full embrace of digital innovation in finance involved great opportunities to advance financial inclusion, its effects on financial stability needed to be monitored, the Minister underlined.

“We cannot roll back globalization, despite what some might think.”

Wolfgang Schäuble
German Federal Minister of Finance

The panel “Resilience. Are We Prepared for Future Crises?” with Wolfgang Schäuble, German Federal Minister of Finance, John Cryan, CEO of Deutsche Bank, Emily Mackay, CEO of Crowdsurfer, Axel Lehmann, COO of UBS, Manuel González-Páramo, Executive Board Member of BBVA, and Pierre Nanterme, Chairman and CEO of Accenture discussed the future of the global financial system, its ability to contribute to resilient, future-oriented and inclusive growth, and the role of the G20 and its members. The panelists agreed that a better policy mix was required in order to boost investments, especially in infrastructure, and for a growing world population to grasp the opportunities of digitalization. However, there were still impediments when trying to better link capital with bankable and investment-ready infrastructure projects. Adjustments and additions to the international financial system were needed in order make the system fit for the (digital) future and to strengthen public confidence in financial resilience. Financial regulatory coherence should be strengthened and unintended consequences, especially for SMEs, should be avoided.
Remarks by German Federal Minister Brigitte Zypries

Followed by a Panel Discussion on the Impact of Digital Technology on Economies

After the opening panel and a short networking coffee break, the conference continued with a stimulating panel discussion on the topic of “Future Orientation: How Digital Technology is Changing our Economies”. The topic of digitalization has been one of the key focus areas of the B20 as it is regarded as a crucial cross-sectoral and cross-issue topic that is of fundamental importance to reaching any of the G20’s priorities.

The session was opened by an introductory speech by German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy, Brigitte Zypries. She valued the work of the G20 (and B20) by emphasizing that the format was no longer only a matter of classic economic and financial questions. Much more, it had become an important forum for any global topic that needed to be addressed. With regards to the topic of digitalization, she explained that there were around 250 million fewer female Internet users worldwide than male Internet users. In the next three years, this digital gender divide could increase by a further 100 million if nothing was done to counteract this trend.

“From the B20 shows how much the G20 has changed in recent years. It is no longer just a matter of classic economic and financial questions.”

Brigitte Zypries
German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy

Following the introductory remarks, Monika Jones kicked off the panel with Klaus Helmrich, Member of the Executive Board, Siemens, Klaus Rosenfeld, CEO of Schaeffler, Hans-Jürgen Bill, Member of the Executive Board of Nokia, Chang-Gyu Hwang, CEO of Korea Telecom, Mary Andringa, CEO of Vermeer Corporation, Sucharita Eashwar, CEO of Catalyst for Woman Entrepreneurs and Brigitte Zypries.

Klaus Helmrich explained that it was not always an easy task to align the task-force with 100 business representatives from 27 different countries of diverse economic sectors. However, the diversity added great value to the process, especially with digitalization being a cross-cutting issue that affects several other fields, such as inclusive trade and global health. During the panel discussion, a large variety of topics were addressed, in particular related to the B20 digitalization focus topics of fostering global connectivity, strengthening Industry 4.0, and the industrial internet, as well as embracing artificial intelligence.

Panel Discussion on Responsibility and Responsiveness with Susanne Hoffmann

The panel on responsibility and responsiveness covered subjects of the B20 Employment and Education Taskforce. Panelists included Gerhard Braun, Vice President of BDA, Susanne Hoffmann, Chair of the German G20 Employment Working Group from the German Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Klaus Moosmayer, CCO of Siemens, John Evans, General Secretary of TUAC, Stephanie Bschorr, President of VdU, Shea Gopaul, Executive Director of GAN. Susanne Hoffmann opened the discussion with a brief overview on the G20 priorities of employment. The panel focused on the creation of open, dynamic, and inclusive labor markets, with special attention to women and youth.

“We in the G20 need to think about new challenges arising in the world of work and how we can make labor markets more inclusive.”

Susanne Hoffmann
Chair of the German G20 Employment Working Group
In particular, skills development in the form of dual education should be promoted through public-private partnerships, and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics subjects (STEM) should be made more attractive for females in order to improve women’s access to technical professions. The importance of sharing the care economy between women and men in order to improve women’s access to the labor market was also discussed.

Gerhard Braun  
Vice President,  
Confederation of German Employers’ Association (BDA)

"One of the benefits of the B20 and G20 is that we can learn from each other. This is a really big advantage of the forum.”

The speakers also discussed Corporate Social Responsibility in global supply chains and the interrelation between national legislation and private initiatives. Klaus Moosmayer, Chair of the B20 Responsible Business Conduct and Anti-Corruption Cross-thematic Group, pointed out that while many companies are already actively investing in due diligence, it remains a complicated matter as supply chains are complex. The panelists agreed that the sharing of best practices is the best way to find solutions to the challenges discussed.

Klaus Moosmayer  
Chief Compliance Officer of Siemens AG

"We need collaboration between the public and the private sector to form an alliance to prevent corruption!"

Giorgia Abeltino and Simon Rein of Google Arts & Cultures demonstrated their mission to democratize access to culture by digitizing the artifacts from 1,400 cultural institutions from over 70 countries. Google Arts & Cultures not only levels the playing field for educational access, but it also provides new means of digitally grouping together pieces of art and objects of historical significance in innovative ways that enable historians and scientists to discover new linkages.

Giorgia Abeltino, Head of Public Policy, and Simon Rein, Program Manager Germany, Austria, Switzerland and India, Google Arts & Culture

"One of the benefits of the B20 and G20 is that we can learn from each other. This is a really big advantage of the forum.” With the overarching theme of the evening designed to capture the cross-cutting nature of the fourth industrial revolution, Jan Mrosik, CEO of the Digital Factory Division of Siemens AG, began by presenting Siemens’ Digital Enterprise Suite. The platform provides for a holistic Industry 4.0 framework that accounts for the entire product-life cycle: from a digital prototype and clone to a live-feedback loop between design, production, services, and the final product that allows for individualized maintenance and optimization.

Jan Mrosik, CEO, Digital Factory Division, Siemens AG

Evening Program: Digital Innovation in an Interconnected World

Day one of the B20 Summit ended with a series of presentations under the theme of "Digital Innovation in an Interconnected World.” With the overarching theme of the evening designed to capture the cross-cutting nature of the fourth industrial revolution, Jan Mrosik, CEO of the Digital Factory Division of Siemens AG, began by presenting Siemens’ Digital Enterprise Suite. The platform provides for a holistic Industry 4.0 framework that accounts for the entire product-life cycle: from a digital prototype and clone to a live-feedback loop between design, production, services, and the final product that allows for individualized maintenance and optimization.

Giorgia Abeltino and Simon Rein of Google Arts & Cultures demonstrated their mission to democratize access to culture by digitizing the artifacts from 1,400 cultural institutions from over 70 countries. Google Arts & Cultures not only levels the playing field for educational access, but it also provides new means of digitally grouping together pieces of art and objects of historical significance in innovative ways that enable historians and scientists to discover new linkages.

Giorgia Abeltino, Head of Public Policy, and Simon Rein, Program Manager Germany, Austria, Switzerland and India, Google Arts & Culture

"One of the benefits of the B20 and G20 is that we can learn from each other. This is a really big advantage of the forum.” With the overarching theme of the evening designed to capture the cross-cutting nature of the fourth industrial revolution, Jan Mrosik, CEO of the Digital Factory Division of Siemens AG, began by presenting Siemens’ Digital Enterprise Suite. The platform provides for a holistic Industry 4.0 framework that accounts for the entire product-life cycle: from a digital prototype and clone to a live-feedback loop between design, production, services, and the final product that allows for individualized maintenance and optimization.

Jan Mrosik, CEO, Digital Factory Division, Siemens AG

Evening Program: Digital Innovation in an Interconnected World

Day one of the B20 Summit ended with a series of presentations under the theme of "Digital Innovation in an Interconnected World.” With the overarching theme of the evening designed to capture the cross-cutting nature of the fourth industrial revolution, Jan Mrosik, CEO of the Digital Factory Division of Siemens AG, began by presenting Siemens’ Digital Enterprise Suite. The platform provides for a holistic Industry 4.0 framework that accounts for the entire product-life cycle: from a digital prototype and clone to a live-feedback loop between design, production, services, and the final product that allows for individualized maintenance and optimization.

Giorgia Abeltino and Simon Rein of Google Arts & Cultures demonstrated their mission to democratize access to culture by digitizing the artifacts from 1,400 cultural institutions from over 70 countries. Google Arts & Cultures not only levels the playing field for educational access, but it also provides new means of digitally grouping together pieces of art and objects of historical significance in innovative ways that enable historians and scientists to discover new linkages.

Giorgia Abeltino, Head of Public Policy, and Simon Rein, Program Manager Germany, Austria, Switzerland and India, Google Arts & Culture
Till Reuter of KUKA AG concluded the evening by both introducing the audience to one of KUKA’s industrial robots live on stage, as well as by sharing his wider vision for the future of robotics and the interactions between man and machine. With regards to the latter, Till Reuter emphasized the long development from immobile, static industrial automation to the truly integrated, mobile, cloud-connected robots working together with humans today. As robots will increasingly transcend the boundaries of traditional use in industry towards such sectors as healthcare, Till Reuter also emphasized the need for more public dialogue on the opportunities and challenges of automation.

The Director General proceeded to make three key points: (1) that trade is a vital source of economic growth, (2) that it has been essential to the economic rise of developing countries, and (3) that the WTO provides for a unique institutional framework that fosters international cooperation. Aside from the benefits of lower consumer prices and higher living standards, trade fuels economic growth: between 1990 and 2000, world trade increased by over seven percent annually, a rate double that of the growth of economic output. Thus, in an environment of persistent sluggish growth, trade should be seen as a tool for economic advancement and empowerment.

Mr. Azevêdo used the recent experience of the global financial crisis in 2008 as an example for the important contribution of the institutional framework of the WTO, which is largely responsible for the fact that we did not see a return to protectionism akin to the destructive policies of the 1930s. Although WTO member states are right to demand further change, the Director General pointed to recent successes, such as the WTO’s Trade Facilitation Agreement, as an indicator that the institution now stands ready to leave the gridlock of the past behind. For this, the engagement of the private sector was essential.

In response to questions from the audience, Roberto Azevêdo underlined that we needed a more well-in
formed globalization debate in public and among capitals. He also called for more efforts to better involve small and medium-sized enterprises in international trade. With regard to climate change, Roberto Azevêdo stressed that trade agreements could help to protect the environment, e.g. by reducing subsidies that lead to a deterioration of fish stocks, or by reducing tariffs on environmentally friendly products.

Panel Discussion on the Future of Trade and Investment with WTO Director General Roberto Azevêdo

Against the backdrop of Roberto Azevêdo’s speech, B20 Sherpa Stormy-Annika Mildner moderated a panel debate about the future of trade and investment. Her guests included Emma Marcegaglia, President of BusinessEurope, Sunil Bharti Mittal, Chairman of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), Hans-Paul Bürkner, Chairman of The Boston Consulting Group (BCG), Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20, Phil O’Reilly, Chairman of BIAC and CEO of BusinessNZ, Sabine Bendiek, Chairwoman Management Board of Microsoft Germany, and finally, Roberto Azevêdo.

To generate more acceptance for free trade and to preserve the millions of jobs dependent on open markets, proponents needed to better and more proactively communicate its advantages, foremost among them peace, development, and prosperity. Similarly, proponents needed to be wary of those using terms like “fair trade” to disguise their protectionist ambitions and those like the “trade deficit” to misguide the public as to its true economic consequences. On the policy-side, participants agreed that national governments could do much to alleviate the situation, from lowering trade-barriers that provide access to SMEs to policies that foster targeted skill development. Openness, transparency, and reliability of regulation, from investments to cross-national data flows, was key to unlocking the potential that globalization has for sustainable growth in a future-oriented world economy.

Panel Discussion on the Future of Global Economic Governance: the Role of B20 Germany and the G20

In a panel titled “The Future of Global Economic Governance: The Role of B20 Germany and the G20”, the Presidents of the executive committee of the B20, Dieter Kempf (BDI), Ingo Kramer (BDA), and Eric Schweitzer (DIHK), discussed the G20/B20 process and Germany’s opportunity to shape global governance. First, Eric Schweitzer emphasized how the priorities of medium-sized companies, which stand as the driving force behind Germany’s economic vitality, can inform the B20/G20 agenda. Ingo Kramer followed up by highlighting the importance of vocational training in this context, as well as how Germany might be able to share best practices through a multilateral approach. When pressed on the connection to technological disruption, Dieter Kempf insisted that only existing job profiles will change, but jobs would not disappear. However, proper educational frameworks that combined practical experience with theoretical insights had the potential to empower individuals to not only master specific tasks, but also to make them more flexible in the workforce.

All three members of the B20 executive committee agreed that the fears fanned by populists are unfounded, as the value-creation of technological change and international cooperation far exceeded individual value-destruction. However, the panelists also stressed that facts and statistics cannot be the only benchmark. Instead, emotional appeals, an emphasis...
on values, and the need to connect directly with skeptics should increasingly guide outreach efforts.

In their final remarks, the presidents of the three leading business associations all underscored the importance of sustained international collaboration and the need for business to strive to be a trusted and empathic partner to society.

**Address by Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany Angela Merkel and Handover of the B20 Recommendations**

The B20 was delighted to welcome Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany Angela Merkel to the B20 Summit. Before the official handover of the B20 recommendations, she addressed some key topics of the G20 in her speech and gave an outlook to the G20 Summit, taking place in Hamburg in July.

Merkel started off by addressing the role of the G20 and its special responsibility regarding global economic affairs. G20 makes up two-thirds of the world’s population, three-quarters of its trade and more than four-fifths of its Gross Domestic Product. She concluded that, despite being an informal body, G20 approaches were of utmost relevance for global economic development. There had been a rise in protectionist measures in recent years. “The very existence of the G20 means that isolationism and protectionism are a dead end and not ways to move forward,” Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany Angela Merkel emphasized. “Those who attempt to restrict international competition may possibly gain short-term advantages,” she warned, without naming any specific countries, “but in the medium- to long-term, they will weaken their own ability to innovate.” That is why freedom and openness are so important for the economy, Merkel said.

She continued by explaining the motto of the German G20 presidency “Shaping an Interconnected World.” “An interconnected world should not be shaped haphazardly, but needs to be designed to build resilience, improve sustainability, and assume responsibility,” also acknowledging the motto of the B20 Summit. She emphasized that simply stating intentions was not enough and words had to be followed up with action. Therefore, she thanked the Business20 community for working out recommendations to the G20, which she found to be very valuable because of her trust in businesses to shape globalization. At the same time she called upon the business community to play its part in ensuring inclusive, future-oriented economic growth and development.

In her speech, she continued to highlight various aspects of G20 work relating to interconnectedness, open trade, responsibility, environment, financial regulation, global networking, and Africa. One topic she particularly emphasized, was the work on health. “We very deliberately included the topic of health on the agenda,” she explained. She even went as far to say that “without health, development is inconceivable.” Thereby, she particularly mentioned the issues relating to pandemics for which clear action plans needed to be developed. She mentioned that a country should not be afraid that it would slide down into economic chaos if it admitted to the problem, referring to the interconnectedness of all countries. Finally, she thanked the Business20 community for its strong commitment. “Policymakers have received constructive and useful recommendations from the Business20 Summit,” she said, “[…] we will do
everything we can to incorporate as much as possible of what you say to us [...]” highlighting that there would not be too many disparities in the respective agendas and thus, providing a positive outlook.

Following the speech of Federal Chancellor of the Republic of Germany Angela Merkel, the official handover of the B20 recommendations took place. Jürgen Heraeus, B20 Chair, passed a hard copy to Angela Merkel and thus, marked an important milestone of the work of the B20 community in its role of providing constructive and actionable recommendations to the G20.

Barbara Hendricks, German Federal Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety

The panel “Towards a Future-oriented Sustainable Economy: Energy, Climate Change and Resource Efficiency” with Kurt Bock, CEO of BASF, Kamel Ben Naceur, Director Sustainability, Technology and Outlooks at IEA, Elmar Degenhart, CEO of Continental, Ottmar Edenhofer, Director of MCC/PIK, Dany Qian, Vice President of JinkoSolar, and Simone Mori, Member of the Board of Directors of Enel discussed the future of the global energy and climate system, its ability to contribute to resilient, future-oriented and inclusive growth, and the role of the G20 and its members.

It was agreed that continued economic growth and a growing world population were increasing the stress on ecosystems and on natural resources that are already scarce today. Managing the transformation towards a sustainable world economy will require increased and timely deployment of resource-efficient and climate-friendly technologies and infrastructure. The question

Remarks by German Federal Minister Barbara Hendricks and Panel Discussion on Energy, Climate Change and Resource Efficiency

In her keynote, German Minister for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety Barbara Hendricks underlined the importance of international cooperation to combat climate change. Barbara Hendricks singled out the business community as a pivotal actor in this regard, as it was both driver of and subject to the fundamental economic changes that were necessary to implement the Paris Agreement and the 2030 agenda. As the G20 encompassed the majority of the world's leading economies, it fell on them to assume responsibility for a future-oriented and resource-efficient economy. Echoing the B20 recommendations, Minister Hendricks called on the G20 to devise long-term policy frameworks that were conducive to investments in green technology, and highlighted how the transition to green energy could foster inclusive growth and development.
of how the global energy transition can be successful while ensuring secure and affordable energy supply, competitiveness, economic growth and jobs, was a central one. The panelists discussed the right instruments to enable businesses to use their innovative power to protect the climate and foster the transition towards a sustainable world economy.

Carbon pricing and the phase out of inefficient fossil fuel subsidies was eluded to as a means to generate revenues for an energy transition that benefits all. The issue of access to energy, especially in Africa, was highlighted as well as the question of how scarce resources could be used more efficiently and thereby contribute to sustainable development.

Closing Panel Discussion on Future Business, Future Leaders

The closing panel of the B20 Summit 2017 “Future Business, Future Leaders” aimed for both picking up the most pressing issues raised during the Summit and adding a future-oriented angle to them by asking how they must be addressed and how approaches should be designed to create resilient businesses and economies that are prepared for future challenges. Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20, Marie Christine Oghly, President of the World Association of Women Entrepreneurs (FCEM), Sven Schmidt-Rohr, CEO of ArtiMinds Robotics, Anny Tubbs, Chief Business Integrity Officer of Unilever, Lynette Magasa, CEO of Bonsiwa Corporate Solutions and Sara Lengauer, G20 YEA Sherpa for Germany of JCI Germany discussed various issues on trade, female entrepreneurship, digitalization, responsible business conduct, Africa, and young entrepreneurs.

They agreed that globalization is beneficial. At the same time, common rules, institutions, and international cooperation were necessary to shape its outcomes and ensure that everyone can benefit from its opportunities. In times of rising protectionism, disruptive technology developments, and global migration, it was essential to set the incentives and the framework right to shape future-oriented economies. Economies should not only focus on growth rates but also on breaking down the silos between the most pressing issues of our days like digitalization, education, and inclusion. For this to be achieved, the aim of the G20 should be to gain confidence by providing concrete implementable actions to today’s challenges.

Remarks by B20 Sherpa Stormy-Annika Mildner and Outlook to the Hamburg G20 Summit in July

In her concluding remarks, B20 Sherpa Stormy-Annika Mildner underlined the importance of the vibrant B20 community: our Chairs and Co-Chairs, Network and Knowledge Partners, members, sponsors, as well as the three mandated associations BDI, BDA, and DIHK, without which this process would not have been possible. She specifically thanked Jürgen Heraeus for his stewardship of the B20 process. She then underlined that for the B20, after the Summit is before Summit, drawing attention to the B20 Africa conference. Finally, she announced that the B20 would intensify its outreach and engagement efforts in the lead up to the G20 Summit on 7-8 July to strongly convey the theme “Resilience, Responsibility, Responsiveness – Towards a Future-oriented, Sustainable World Economy”.

Press and Social Media Coverage

Overall, the B20 Summit was broadly covered through domestic as well as international media. This included the most prestigious papers, such as Handelsblatt, Wall Street Online, Global Times, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Die Welt, WirtschaftsWoche, Bild and many others.

In terms of social media, the event reached 365,000 people via the official B20 Facebook and Twitter sites, not including the reach from third party pages. Our engagement had led to approximately 5000 active engagements via Facebook and Twitter. Finally, the B20 channels achieved growth in overall interest in the B20 format by gaining approximately 800 new supporters for the official channels.
Further Voices of B20 Summit Attendees

“In an era of rising protectionism, G20 and B20 have become more important than ever before.”
Matthias Blum, VCI

“A new approach to analyze and try to find solutions. Resilience is a keyword for the future of our economy.”
Antonio Capaldo, Antonio Capaldo Spa

“The B20 is a dynamic and robust forum that adds real comparative value to the voice of the private sector and its pivotal role in society.”
Matthew Doherty, Sovereign Strategy

“The B20 provides valuable input and perspectives to the G20 process. Stakeholder views are important to successful policy development.”
Josie Brocca, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy

“The B20 stands for companies and employees. B20 has to advocate strongly for the values we stand for. We need to support responsible global political leadership. Today it’s not only about the bottom line. It’s about the big picture in our societies.”
Marco Hardt, Novartis

“I’m honored to have the opportunity to participate B20 Berlin. The world business needs this summit to collect wisdom from various industries and strengthen international collaboration.”
Fanglei Jin, Dahua Technology

“The German B20 is a major initiative to address some critical questions and challenges to which business is presently confronted in a particularly complex and uncertain international environment. The quality and professionalism of the B20 preparation as well as the exhaustiveness of its consultation processes are very positive signs for tangible outcomes.”
Dominique Lamoureux, Thales

“The B20 presents a crucial arena for business to talk to policy-makers to help solve our greatest global challenges.”
Emily Mackay, Crowdsurfer

“The B20 Germany recommendations are well articulated and understood. Implementation will require commitment, dedication and collaboration by business, government, labor and civil society at the individual B20 country and B20 global level.”
Ntombifuthi Mtoba, WDB Trust & Africa Union Foundation

“B20 Germany has provided an opportunity for the private sector to engage and contribute to the process of good global governance. Private sector leadership is perfectly demonstrated in this platform and I believe this effort will lead to greater achievement.”
Xia Bing, NovoNation Youth Community

“The B20 ECRE Taskforce demonstrates business is showing leadership to tackle climate change. With B20’s approach a first step is taken to work towards a level playing field for all.”
Tara Nitz, Verband der Chemischen Industrie e.V.

This is only an excerpt, as we have received almost 200 voices – Thanks for your feedback!
Imprint

Business20 Germany
Breite Straße 29, 10178 Berlin
www.b20germany.org
T: +49 30 2028-0

Editing

Stormy-Annika Mildner
T: +49 30 2028-1562
s.mildner@bdi.eu

Christopher Huppertz
T: +49 30 2028-1431
c.huppertz@bdi.eu

Simon Hansen
T: +49 30 2028-1499
hansen@b20germany.org