

Inequality – Civil20

Civil Society Recommendations to the G20

Inequality

It is time for transformative steps to live up to the ambition of "a just, equitable, tolerant, open and socially inclusive world".¹ We support that G20 governments overcome massive inequality, eradicate poverty, achieve gender equality and leave no one behind as priorities in the G20 Action Plan on the 2030 Agenda.

C20 Recommendations:

On this basis, we call upon G20 governments to

- Respect, promote and protect universal human rights, be inclusive and accountable and recognise the necessity of **civil society and civic participation** in policy making.
- Create an inequality index and fulfil the 2030 Agenda **leave no one behind**-imperative. Ensure that the most excluded and marginalised benefit primarily from all G20 actions. To overcome growing inequality, the G20 must provide universal, equitable and inclusive access to services such as health, education, effective use of the internet and protection.
- Strengthen multilateral initiatives supporting countries to provide quality, inclusive and free for all basic **education** focusing on the most marginalised. The G20 should scale up finances for the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) to \$2 billion annually by 2020 and increase GPE support at its upcoming replenishment. The G20 should fully finance the Education Cannot Wait fund, and support increased education financing through other multilateral finance mechanisms.
- Ensure that no one is left behind by collecting, processing and utilising **disaggregated data**² to inform needs- and evidence-based policies, by strengthening national statistical capacities and systems, guaranteeing data privacy and protection.
- Close the gap between rich and poor within and between countries. Halve relative **poverty** while respecting planetary boundaries by 2030 within G20 countries and contribute to poverty eradication in developing countries and those emerging from conflict and crisis with concrete benchmarks and measures.³
- Ensure **children and youth empowerment** and participation, especially in the light of tackling the combination of a demographic dividend and resource scarcity home and abroad.

Gender

Discriminatory social norms and violence undermine the fundamental rights of women and girls globally. Regarding the gender equality and women's economic empowerment priorities of the 2017 G20, we reiterate the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Cairo Programme of Action, the Beijing Platforms of Action and the Agenda 2030.

¹ 2030 Agenda, p. 4.

² According to 2030 Agenda, para. 74 g.

³ Establish global tax body and rule of law, fair distribution of resources, public financing, achieving the ODA commitments of 0.7%.

C20 Recommendations:

On this basis, we call upon G20 governments to

- Achieve gender equality via laws and policies tackling violence and discriminatory norms, including **gender mainstreaming, budgeting and empowerment programmes**.
- Fulfil G20's commitment to **reduce the gender gap in employment** by 25% by 2025 by:
 - 1) Invest in equitable, quality education for all women and girls at all levels: through secondary education, technical and vocational training, e-skills, university and skills development;
 - 2) Adopt policies and social protection mechanisms that enable women to enter and thrive in the formal labour market including: parental leave; affordable, accessible care services (child, elder, disability); flexible hours; social security; and basic infrastructure;
 - 3) Ensure decent work: discrimination protections, equal pay, safe working conditions, pensions particularly in the informal economy.
- Set and achieve targets on **political empowerment of women and girls** including support to foster federations, grass root organisations and movements led by women, girls and youth.
- Ensure universal access to **sexual and reproductive health and rights for all** (including adolescents) without third party consent including comprehensive sexuality education

Social Protection

We fully support the G20 commitment to implement social protection systems and measures for all poor, including social protection floors⁴ in line with the Addis Ababa Action Plan. This calls to "explore coherent funding modalities to mobilize additional resources, building on country-led experiences."⁵

C20 Recommendations:

On this basis, we call upon G20 governments to:

- Commit to design social protection floors to ensure "over the life cycle, all in need have access to essential health care and to basic income security," as defined by the ILO. Deliver the promised cash transfer to all low income people. Ensure an appropriate functioning of **public health and education systems** based on solid financial and fiscal planning to ensure stability in times of crisis.
- Assure the public resources fully cover the cost of adequate **social protection floors**, including through appropriate international financial cooperation.
- **Decent jobs** are the core of the agenda. The G20 should elaborate an Action Plan to create jobs with minimum living wages, equal pay and social protection on an equal footing with others.

Civil20 is the G20 engagement group of the international civil society. It represents organisations and individuals from all continents, giving civil society a loud voice in the G20. Find out more at www.civil-20.org.

⁴ 2016 G20 Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting Declaration, Annex 5, p. 17.

⁵ Addis Ababa Action Agenda, para. 12, 2015.