

B20 Germany Update

No. 5, May 2017

The month of May has been pivotal for the B20. Together with the publication of the B20 Policy Papers, the handover ceremony of our recommendations to German Chancellor Merkel at the B20 Summit on 2 and 3 May, 2017, marked the height of the B20 Germany process. Moreover, we hosted a panel on the need to boost infrastructure investment in Africa under the “Compact with Africa” framework at the IMF/World Bank annual Spring Meeting in Washington, D.C. We engaged international stakeholders on the need for more capacity and connectivity during the UNCTAD e-commerce week and made the case for inclusive trade at the OECD Trade Communications Conference. The B20 further engaged in advocacy with external partners, as B20 Chair Jürgen Herhaus shared key B20 recommendations with the Global Chambers Platform (GCP), while B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner presented relevant B20 policy actions to the G20 Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPII) and at a roundtable with key stakeholders from the global healthcare sector. Together with both the W20 and L20, we have published joint statements on the need to strengthen women entrepreneurship and establish sustainable and inclusive labor markets, respectively. Finally, the B20 hosted the first ever B20 Health Conference in Berlin, which saw the handover of our Health Initiative Policy Recommendations to the German Federal Minister of Health, Hermann Gröhe. We will continue our advocacy in the lead up to the G20 summit. At this point, we would like to thank all our members, partners and supporters for their continued input, engagement, and feedback. Without you, this process would not be possible.



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B20 at Think20 (T20) Summit, May 29

On May 29, 2017, B20 Germany attended the Think20 (T20) Summit: Global Solutions in Berlin.

B20 Energy, Climate & Resource Efficiency Taskforce Chair Kurt Bock participated in the T20 Session on Climate Policy and Finance. The moderated panel, amongst others with Ludger Schuknecht, G20 Finance Deputy, dealt with the questions of how we can achieve the ambitious targets of the Paris Agreement and the SDGs while at the same time stimulate low-carbon growth in the G20, which role carbon pricing should and could play, which role the finance sector and the Multilateral Development Banks should play in this respect, and whether climate change should become a topic for finance ministers. Bock presented the B20 ECRE recommendations, especially those on a G20 Carbon Pricing Platform and on how to foster green finance.

B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner participated in the panel “Driving the Business Case for Sustainable Infrastructure.” The panelists discussed the question how investment in infrastructure can contribute to the goals of the German G20, Resilience, Sustainability, Responsibility, and how the global infrastructure gap can be bridged. The panelists further debated the role sustainability criteria.

In the panel on “Resisting Protectionism – An Empty Promise?” the B20 Sherpa discussed the recommendations of the T20 and B20 with the other participants. A controversial discussion also developed about the seriousness of U.S. President Donald Trump’s rhetoric and how the international economic community should respond to it.

To learn more about the T20, access their respective recommendations to the G20, or watch the live-stream of the event, click [here](#).



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B20 at OECD side event to PCD, May 23

Christian Schubert of BASF represented B20 Energy, Climate & Resource Efficiency Taskforce Chair Kurt Bock at the OECD side event to the Petersburg Climate Dialogue in Berlin. The panel discussed ways on a well-managed transition that is socially inclusive and good for business. Schubert presented the B20 ECRE recommendations and the three key messages from the joint Statement of B20, C20 and T20 on a sustainable energy transition: implementing the Paris Agreement; driving for effective and globally converging carbon pricing mechanisms and a concrete and ambitious timeline for phasing-out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies; as well as fostering green finance and climate-related financial disclosure.



© Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Germany (BMAS)

G20 Labor and Employment Ministers Meeting, May 19

The G20 Labor and Employment Ministers Meeting took place in Bad-Neuenahr on 18 and 19 May, 2017. The B20 was represented by Dr. Gerhard F. Braun, Vice-President of the Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA) and Chair of the B20 Employment and Education Task Force. He demonstrated the policy recommendations of the B20 Employment and Education Task Force as well as the joint B20-L20 statement.

The Ministers elaborated a Ministerial Declaration focusing on shaping the future of work and reducing gender gaps in labor force participation and pay by improving women's job quality. Further key topics are the promotion of fair and effective labor market integration of regular migrants and recognized refugees and the fostering of decent work for sustainable global supply chains. Finally, the Ministers emphasize in their declaration the importance of boosting youth employment. You can access the Ministerial Declaration [here](#).



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B20 Health Conference, May 18

On May 18, B20 held its first ever Health Conference in Berlin. Under the theme "Stepping Up Global Health – Shaping Towards Resilient, Responsible, and Responsive Health Systems", the event brought together the global healthcare industry, governments, international organizations, and civil society to jointly drive change towards innovative health systems. In panel debates and interactive workshops, industry leaders concentrated on six areas: Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR), Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), Pandemic Preparedness, Digital Health, Global Health, and Innovation in Healthcare. The main event saw B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus handover the B20 Health Initiative Policy Paper, containing policy recommendations on the six issue areas, to the German Federal Minister of Health Hermann Gröhe. In his keynote, Hermann Gröhe reiterated the commitment of the German G20 presidency to elevate health to a focal point on the agenda and the indispensability of transnational cooperation on such issues as NTDs and AMR.



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If you missed the conference, you can access the gallery on our website for impressions following this [link](#). For more information on the B20 Health Initiative and the Health Policy Recommendations, click [here](#).



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Joint B20-L20 Statement: Sustainable Growth, Decent Work and Social Cohesion in the Digital Economy – A Common Message, May 17

On May 17, just a day before the meeting of G20 Labor and Employment Ministers Meeting in Bad Neuenahr, representatives from the B20 and Labor20 (L20) handed over a joint B20-L20 statement to German Federal Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Andrea Nahles. The “Statement for Sustainable Growth, Decent Work, and Social Cohesion in the Digital Economy” calls for concrete steps to strengthen the social dimension of globalization in global governance, as well as the introduction of policies that protect and empower individuals faced with disruptive digital innovation – especially with regard to education and vocational training.

The PDF version of the statement is available for download [here](#).



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IOE Global Employers Summit, May 17

The IOE together with BDA and Deloitte organized IOE's 2nd Global Employers' Summit on 17 May 2017 in Bad Neuenahr, Germany. The summit was organized back-to-back with the G20 Labor Ministerial and brought together high-level representatives from employers' organizations, global companies and international organizations, to explore key areas of interest for business in the G20 process. The conference focused on the B20 Employment and Education Task Force's topics of creating open, dynamic and inclusive labor markets, namely the future of work, migration, sustainable supply chains and female employment. Furthermore, the IOE jointly with BIAC launched their Monitoring Report on the implementation of G20 commitments. According to their findings, the vast majority of G20 countries are implementing the commitments at some level. However, the policies do not meet their targets as, amongst other reasons, they are not ambitious enough and do not address the primary challenge of structural change in G20 labor markets.

The full report can be accessed [here](#).



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Joint B20-W20 Statement: Shaping an Inclusive Business Environment in a Globalized World: Strengthening Women-owned SMEs, May 11

In a joint statement, B20 and Women20 (W20) call on the G20 to strengthen its support for women entrepreneurs. Due to financial and non-financial barriers, women run only approximately a third of all formal SMEs. Regarding access to credits, women are often regarded as riskier, and often lack collateral or the necessary financial knowledge to effectively raise capital for their business. While digitization provides an opportunity to address these issues, it also entails the possibility of aggravating the situation. Governments need to further invest in the digital literacy of girls and women, as well as promote innovative technologies and broader access in a gender-equal fashion. Only through these measures can women be truly empowered and contribute directly to sustainable and inclusive economic growth.

A PDF version of the joint statement can be found [here](#).



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B20 and W20 at the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion (GPFI) Plenary, May 4

On May 4, B20 and W20 were invited to an exchange with the GPFI on its plenary in Berlin. Both G20 engagement partners presented their recommendations with regards to financial inclusion, including implementation of the G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan, endorsed at the G20 Summit in Seoul 2010. Stormy Mildner, as B20 Sherpa, presented the most relevant B20 recommendations, pointing special attention to the importance of Africa within that topic. B20 and W20 agreed that the financial inclusion of women is of strategic significance to a robust and sustainable economic growth and development and that a gender-equal digital transformation is key to achieve that.

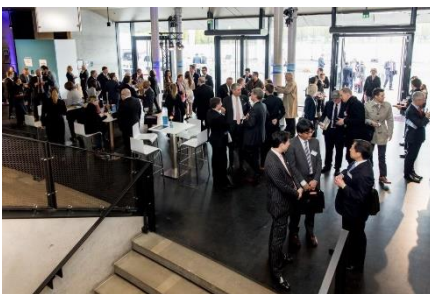
To learn more about the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion, click [here](#).



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Heraeus at annual ICC Global Debate, May 3

B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus held a keynote at the ICC's annual Global Debate in Berlin, hosted by Dr. Werner Brandt, Chairman of the ICC Germany. Speaking on the topic of "Business and the German G20 Presidency" just after the successful two-day B20 Summit, Heraeus highlighted the fact that in a world that becomes more polarized the G20 is more important than ever. As a forum for global governance, the most influential decision-makers discuss the rules of globalization, technological change and other global trends and challenges. While the global business community was strongly convinced that globalization is beneficial, according to Heraeus, common rules, strong institutions, and international cooperation were necessary to shape its outcomes and ensure that everyone has the chance to benefit of its opportunities.



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B20 Summit, May 2-3

The B20 Germany 2017 summit was held on 2 and 3 May 2017 in Berlin. The first day of the summit featured panels on the three main themes of B20 Germany: resilience, future-orientation, responsibility and responsiveness. In his opening remarks on the panel focusing on resilience, German Federal Minister of Finance Wolfgang Schäuble underlined that rolling back globalization cannot be the answer to the global economic problems of our time and advocated for sturdier international frameworks for investment. The panel on future-orientation featured a keynote speech on the digital economy by Brigitte Zypries, German Federal Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy. Finally, panelists debating responsibility and responsiveness, including Susanne Hoffmann, Head of European and International Policy in the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, discussed the future of work. The day concluded with a show and presentations focused on digitalization, from the industrial internet to robotics.



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Day two of the B20 Summit opened with Roberto Azevêdo, Director General of the World Trade Organization (WTO), who made a passionate plea to use trade as an engine for inclusive growth. Thereafter, the executive committee of the B20, Prof. Dieter Kempf (BDI), Dr. Eric Schweitzer (DIHK) and Ingo Kramer (BDA), discussed the unique opportunity for Germany to shape global governance in an inclusive way during its G20 presidency. The second day also featured the highlight of the summit: the handover ceremony of the B20



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policy recommendations to German Chancellor Angela Merkel. In her keynote speech, Chancellor Merkel underlined the importance of the business community as an engagement partner to the G20 process and the need to ensure sustained multilateral cooperation, from climate change to health and trade. Following a joint press conference, the second day of the summit concluded with two panels, focused on both climate change and resource efficiency, as well as finding frameworks for expanding inclusiveness in the labor market.

Missed the summit? You can access our gallery [here](#), or watch the livestream following this [link](#). You can access the B20 Recommendations Summary Document (DE/ENG) [here](#). A transcript of Roberto Azevêdo's speech at the summit can be accessed [here](#).



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B20 Chairman Jürgen Heraeus at the Global Chamber Platform meeting, May 2

B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus was invited to the annual Global Chamber Platform (GCP) meeting in Berlin, bringing together major national and trans-national chamber organizations worldwide. Christoph Leitl, Chairman of the GCP and Honorary President of EURO-CHAMBRES handed over the GCP Joint Statement on inclusive growth through strengthened global cooperation. Heraeus gave an overview of the B20 recommendations and thanked the chambers for their active engagement within the different working groups, as members, network partners and organizers of the B20 process. You can find more information on the Global Chamber Platform [here](#).



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B20 Chair and Sherpa at BCG CEO Dinner, May 1

B20 Chair Jürgen Heraeus and B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner participated in BCG's Executive Roundtable on "G20 in Uncertain Times: Implications for the Executive Agenda" in Berlin. Heraeus held short introductory remarks on the B20. With inputs of BCG President and CEO Rich Lesser and Chair of the Munich Security Conference, Ambassador Wolfgang Ischinger, on the current climate in the US and Europe, participants discussed how to make businesses more resilient and future-oriented in a world of political and economic uncertainty.



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B20 Sherpa at G20 Global Health Innovation Roundtable, April 28

The B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner participated in a G20 Global Health Innovation Roundtable titled "Research for Impact & the G20: How can global health innovation drive sustainable development" on April 28, 2017, organized by Sovereign Strategy. Stormy Mildner presented the work of the B20 Health Initiative in anticipation of the Health Conference on May 18 to participants of the roundtable, stressing the need for Health to become a permanent item on the G20 agenda. Moreover, she underlined the crosscutting nature of health issues, especially with regard to economic and social development within the planned Compact with Africa (CWA) investment program.

eCommerce Week

24–28 April 2017

Palais des Nations, Geneva



Towards inclusive e-commerce

© UNCTAD

B20 Sherpa Presents Recommendations on Digital Trade at UNCTAD eCommerce Week in Geneva, April 24-28

B20 Sherpa Stormy-Annika Mildner participated in the eCommerce Week of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) at the end of April 2017 in Geneva. In a dedicated session on “G20 Digital Economy - Shaping Digitalization for an Inter-connected World and G20 Priorities on Digital Trade”, the B20 Sherpa presented the main recommendations of B20 Germany on digital trade. The presentation can be found [here](#). The German Government, represented among others by H.E. Dr. Walter Werner, Ambassador of Germany to the WTO, used the opportunity to present the work of the G20 on digital topics. More details on the eCommerce Week can be found [here](#).



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Speech of B20 Sherpa at OECD Conference on Trade and Communications, April 25-26

Stormy Mildner, B20 Germany Sherpa, was invited to speak at a two days conference of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) on trade communications at the end of April in Geneva. As part of the session on “Creating environments where benefits can materialise”, Ms. Mildner presented the key findings of B20 Germany that enhance communication on trade and its inclusiveness. Among others, she elaborated the steps that the G20 should take: (1) establish a common understanding of the effects and benefits of trade, (2) communicate trade issues better, (3) improve assistance for those displaced by trade, and (4) put a focus on making trade more inclusive. More on the OECD conference can be found [here](#).



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B20 at Women20 (W20) Summit, April 25

B20 participated in the Women20 (W20) Summit in Berlin. With active participation of, amongst others, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde and German Minister Manuela Schwesig, female leaders from politics, business, media and NGOs gathered in Berlin to exchange on female empowerment with regard to financial inclusion and literacy, digitalization and labor markets.



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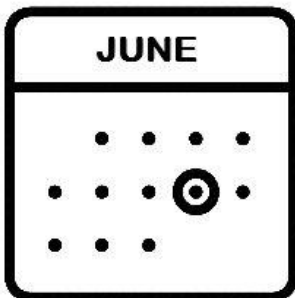
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IMF Spring Meeting Panel on the Compact with Africa, April 22

The annual spring meeting of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) brings together international institutions, ministers of finance and development, the private sector, civil society and academics to address issues of global economic development. On April 22, B20 hosted a panel titled “B20 and the Compact with Africa: Boosting Private Investment in Africa”. Panelists included Ludger Schuknecht from the Federal Ministry of Finance and German Finance Deputy for the G20 Presidency, Leonard Rugwabiza Minega from the Rwandan Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, Peter Sullivan, B20 FG&I member and Managing Director and Head of Public Sector Africa from Citi, Claudio Dicembrino, B20 ECRE member and Chief Economist of Enel Energia, Francis Hintermann, B20 FG&I Knowledge Partner and Global Managing Director of Accenture Research and Hans Peter Lankes, VP for Economics and Private Sector Development of the International Finance Corporation (IFC). Moderated by B20 Sherpa Stormy Mildner, panelists debated how best to improve the framework conditions for sustainable infrastructure investments in the Compact countries as a driver for sustained and inclusive growth.

Upcoming B20 Events

- B20 Panel ‘Trade and Investment’ at SPIEF, June 1-3, 2017, St. Petersburg
- Partnership with Africa Conference, June 12-13, 2017, Berlin



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