

B20 Brazil Increases Women's Participation and Launches Monitoring Platforms for AI and Sustainability Best Practices



B20 Brasil leaves a legacy of 7 projects for society, aiming to transform the private sector's proposals into actions for national development

The B20's Brazilian presidency has been marked by the increased participation of women and the launch of monitoring platforms for sustainability actions, creating a legacy within the B20, the private sector's representative group of G20 nations. These initiatives, complementing policy recommendations, were announced on the last day of the B20 Brasil Summit in São Paulo.

Women's presence as chairs and co-chairs of task forces jumped from 24% during the Indian leadership to 39% under Brazil's. Out of a total of 1,200 private sector representatives involved in B20 Brazil discussions, 43% were women—a 14 percentage point increase.

The establishment of the Women, Diversity, and Inclusion in Business Action Council was an innovation proposed by Brazil, integrating women's topics with other underrepresented groups' agendas. The goal is now to gradually increase this percentage until women represent 50% of B20 participants by 2030.

Beyond gender agenda progress, the Brazilian presidency leaves a legacy of unprecedented tools connected to the 24 recommendations made by the private sector to the G20 heads of state, ensuring visibility and sharing of actions, information, and best practices in climate, artificial intelligence, transparency, and compliance.

The platforms aim to ensure that B20 continually contributes to current major challenges such as economy decarbonization, diversity and inclusion, and business sustainability.

Brazil's Leadership Leaves a Legacy for Society, for the B20, and for the country

developing a strategy for the continuity of actions guided the format of B20 Brazil's legacies based on three pillars:

From B20 Brazil to future B20 editions: focus on transferring experience and knowledge to maintain the impact and governance in future editions, including a monitoring platform to follow the impact of recommendations and initiatives.

From B20 to society: focus on action-oriented initiatives, via launching projects like "She Leads B20", "Women in Trade", "B20 Carbon Center of Excellence", "B20 Collective Action Hub", "B20 AI Platform", "Reducing Food and Loss Waste" emphasizing the private sector's commitment to social change.

From B20 to Brazil: focus on recommendations for the Brazilian private sector based on guiding principles and experience from Brazil's B20 presidency, integrating recommendations within the national context and aligning B20 principles with Brazilian industrial priorities for consistent influence and extended impact.

Below are the initiatives proposed by B20 Brazil for society, announced on the last day of the B20 Brazil Summit, in São Paulo. The event took place at the Monte Líbano Club, sponsored by Sabic, Aramco, Equinor, Mastercard, JBS, Vrio-Sky, BRF-Marfrig, ABDI, Finep, and had institutional support from Sebrae and the National Council of SESI.

Actions for the Gender Equity Legacy

Compared to the average of the previous two B20 editions (in Indonesia and India, respectively), there was a 14 percentage point increase in female participation in leadership roles (chairs and co-chairs) and a 10 percentage point increase considering other positions across all 7 task forces and the Action Council.

The pioneering in expanding equity, inclusion, and belonging resulted in actions designed by the group to extend women's roles in business and is one of the focus areas of action that B20 leaves as a legacy.

She leads B20

B20 presidencies committed to increasing women's representation in both leadership and other roles, reducing gender disparity. The goal is to increase the participation of women in task forces by at least 2 percentage points in leadership roles and 1 percentage point in other roles each year, achieving 50% female representation by 2030. For the next edition, in South Africa, this means a minimum of 41% female leadership participation and 45% among other task force roles. B20 Brazil has made substantial improvements in women's representation in the B20 and is committed to working with future B20 cycles to continue increasing women's participation.

Women in Trade:

B20 Brazil has partnered with the G20 Trade and Investment Working Group to contribute to developing trade policies addressing gender disparity. This joint cooperation will promote knowledge production and the advocacy of inclusive trade policies designed to increase women's participation in international trade.

The creation of this initiative is motivated by a challenging reality. According to the International Trade Centre (ITC), women-led enterprises have fewer connections with buyers and suppliers, facing more significant difficulties integrating into global value chains. Additionally, World Bank studies indicate that women-owned

enterprises experience 50% more rejections in commercial financing applications than those led by men. The inequality in access to credit and international markets limits these businesses' expansion potential, highlighting the urgency of policies promoting inclusion and equity in trade opportunities.

Actions for the Climate Legacy

B20 Climate Hub:

The B20 climate hub is a publicly accessible online portal with the B20's climate recommendations. It connects the recommendations with best practices to facilitate their implementation. The goal is to assist policymakers in designing and implementing climate strategies, showcasing the most effective policy solutions that can be replicated in countries to advance towards emission reduction by prioritizing the transition to low-carbon economies. According to the World Economic Forum, climate changes could cause global economic losses of 12.5 trillion dollars to the healthcare system by 2050.

The establishment of the B20 Climate Hub aligns with the global urgency to limit the planet's warming to 1.5°C by 2030, as highlighted by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which estimates that reaching this goal will require reducing global emissions by about 43% by the end of this decade.

B20 Carbon Center of Excellence

The Carbon Center of Excellence is an initiative to make the B20 Indonesia platform on carbon markets even more comprehensive, providing a frequently updated internet portal. The portal aims to support businesses and governments by providing necessary knowledge to scale their carbon market activities. The B20 hopes to increase global collaboration for establishing a worldwide accepted carbon mechanism, aligned with the Paris Agreement guidelines to reduce harmful environmental emissions. Seventeen of B20 Brazil's 42 policy recommendations to the G20 leadership converge to some extent on the guiding principle aiming to achieve net-zero emissions through a fair and inclusive transition process.

Implementing carbon markets offers a powerful path to address the climate crisis and boost global economic growth. With the potential to reduce up to 50% of global

emissions, equivalent to about 5 gigatonnes of CO₂e, these markets not only help mitigate environmental impacts but also open new economic opportunities. The United Nations estimates that they could generate up to \$1 trillion annually by 2050, promoting a virtuous cycle of sustainable development. Additionally, the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) indicates that adopting these mechanisms brings significant financial benefits, with projections of saving \$250 billion per year by 2030, optimizing resources, and accelerating innovation in green production processes.

Actions for the Collective Commitment to Sustainability Legacy

B20 Collective Action Hub

The B20 Collective Action Hub serves as a global resource center dedicated to anticorruption collective actions uniting governments, businesses, and civil society. The B20 Collective Action Hub aims to combat corruption, increase transparency, and promote ethical business practices through multi-sectoral collaborative initiatives. The engagement of public, private sectors, and civil society is crucial to strengthening the integrity and resilience of value chains. B20 Brazil has a specific public policy recommendation on the subject.

The motivation for this initiative aligns with the United Nations' view, identifying corruption as "one of the largest obstacles" to achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Corruption undermines efforts to eliminate poverty and hunger and harms education, well-being, and sustainable infrastructure.

Actions Targeting the Legacy of Amplifying and Ethically Using Artificial Intelligence

B20 AI Platform:

The launch of a platform with B20's position on AI for responsible application aiming at productivity growth through companies' commitment to best practices in responsible uses of AI, ensuring continuity in AI monitoring in future B20 cycles.

The unprecedented adoption and implementation of artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming sectors such as healthcare, education, communications, financial services, manufacturing, and environmental management, driving productivity and innovation. However, this transformative potential also presents challenges related to responsibility, ethics, safety, and sustainability. In an increasingly digitalized world, with 5.4 billion active internet users (ITU) and 3.5 quintillion bytes of data generated daily (Earth Web), AI integration is essential to optimize processes and meet the demands of a constantly evolving global market.

Actions Focused on Food Security

Reducing Food Loss and Waste

The initiative will function as a Global Challenge, identifying projects addressing the most critical global challenges related to food loss and waste and promoting private sector solutions and fostering public-private collaboration. Best practices will be concentrated on a publicly accessible online platform.

B20 Brasil's Sustainable Food Systems and Agriculture task force focused on creating recommendations and methods for monitoring the implementation of public policies that promote more sustainable agriculture. According to the UN, 14% of the world's food (valued at 400 billion dollars) is lost annually, and 70% is wasted.

Around 2.4 billion people face food insecurity, with between 30% and 35% suffering from severe hunger. The situation could be resolved with better production distribution. The worldwide agricultural system produces enough food for up to 10 billion people, according to the World Economic Forum.

For more information, visit: <https://b20brazil.org/b20-brasil-legacy>