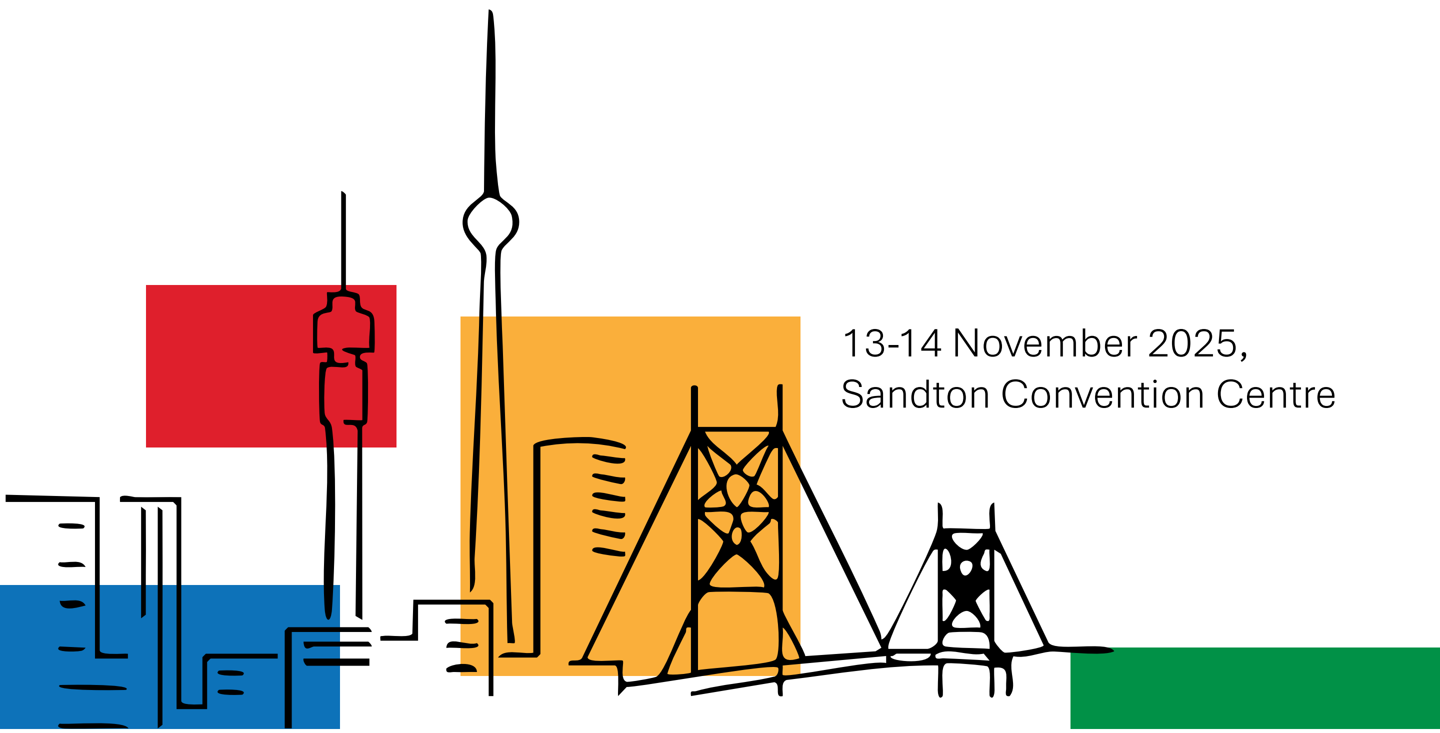
#T20Summit

T20 SOUTH AFRICA SUMMIT 2025

Programme



13-14 November 2025,
Sandton Convention Centre

T20 SOUTH AFRICA 2025

G20 SOUTH AFRICA 2025

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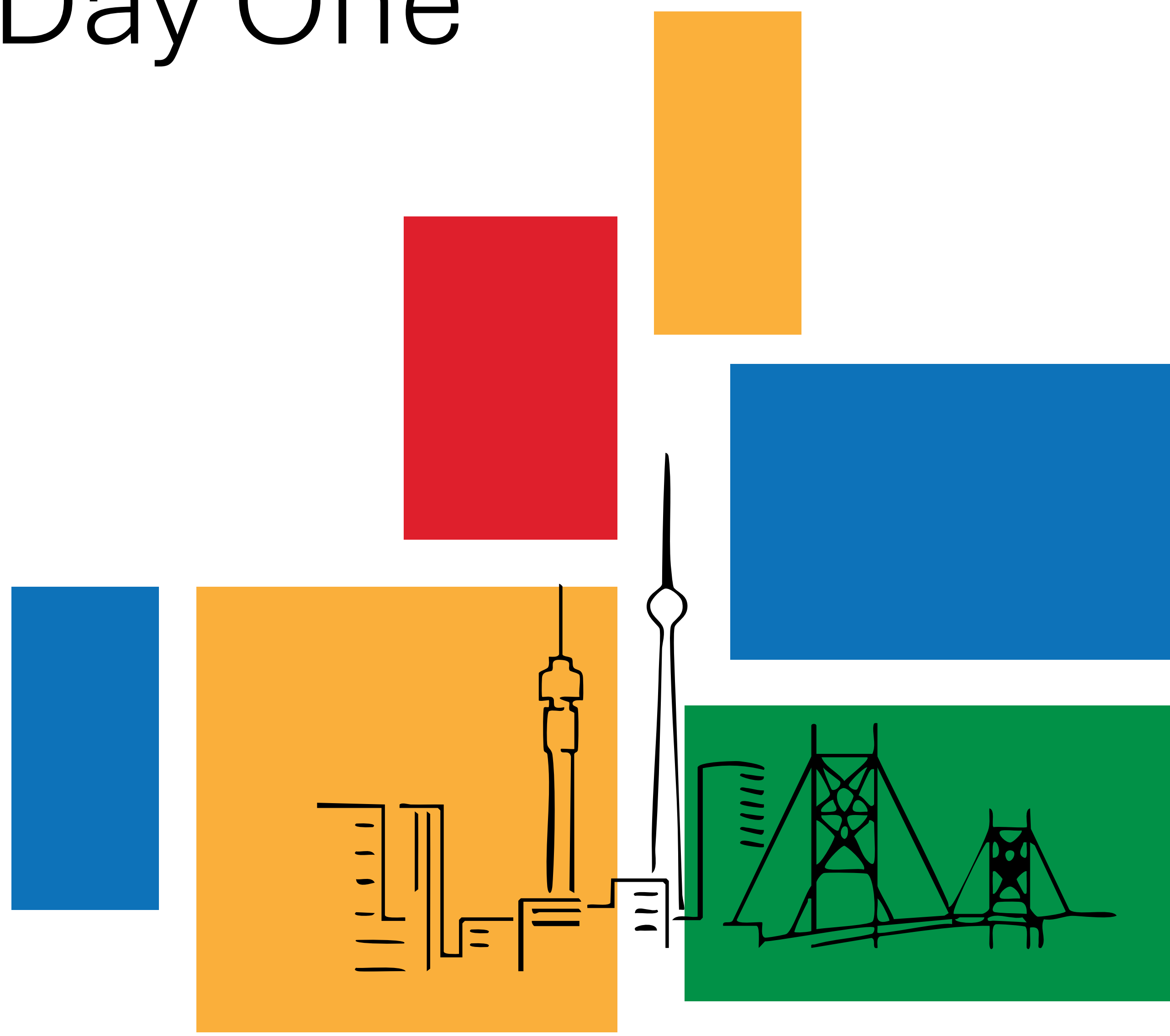
SUMMIT 2025

Day One



DAY ONE

Thursday, 13 November 2025

07h30 – 08h45

Accreditation

08h45 – 09h00

Welcoming Remarks

Philani Mthembu	Institute for Global Dialogue
Elizabeth Sidiropoulos	South African Institute of International Affairs
Siphamandla Zondi	Institute for Pan-African Thought and Conversation

09h00 – 09h40

High- Level Keynote Address

Opening Session

Representative	Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa (TBC)
Representative	Presidency of South Africa (TBC)

09h40 – 09h45

Scene Setting

Representative	Brand South Africa

Thursday, 13 November 2025

09h45 – 10h45 **Plenary**

Quo Vadis Global Governance?

Global governance stands at a crossroads. The international system is increasingly marked by fragmentation, geopolitical rivalry and a crisis of legitimacy in multilateral institutions such as the UN. As consensus within formal institutions weakens, questions arise around how to maintain collective problem-solving capacity on issues ranging from peace and security to climate, technology and economic stability.

In this context, the G20 has emerged as a crucial, though informal, platform for bridging divides and promoting coordinated global action. It is necessary to explore how the G20 can serve as a catalyst for reforming and revitalising the global governance architecture. Can it foster coherence across different regional and institutional settings, strengthen the UN's ability to drive global development and build the trust and legitimacy needed for a more inclusive multilateral order?

Moderator: **Dr Sithembile Mbete**	Public Affairs Research Institute (TBC)
Ambassador Xolisa Mabhongo	G20 Sous Sherpa (TBC)
Nelson Muffuh	United Nations Resident Coordinator (TBC)
Samir Saran	President, Observer Research Foundation (TBC)
Richard Ponzio	Director and Senior Fellow, Stimson Centre (TBC)
Luciana Mendes Servos	President, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada, Brazil (TBC)
Maria João Rodrigues	President, Foundation for European Progressive Studies (TBC)
Fahad Alajlan	President, King Abdullah Petroleum Studies and Research Center (TBC)

Thursday, 13 November 2025

10h45 – 11h15 **In Conversation**

Green Windows of Opportunity

South Africa's green industrial push centres EVs and green hydrogen – can this translate into decent jobs, export resilience and green economic gains? Against the real threat of the CBAM, subsidy wars and a fraying WTO, how can countries like South Africa seize these "'green windows of opportunity'" without surrendering their policy autonomy?

Representative	Department of Trade, Industry and Competition
Dr Amir Lebdioui	Oxford University (TBC)

11h15 – 11h25 **Address**

Representative	Department of Communications and Digital Technologies

11h25 – 12h15 **Plenary**

Unlocking Development through Digital Public Infrastructure: e-Governance, AI and Digital Sovereignty

South Africa prominently positioned artificial intelligence (AI) and digital public infrastructure (DPI) on the G20 digital agenda this year. This session will focus on the social and economic value of DPI, bringing together voices from the governance, economic and technology sectors to discuss progress, potential and risks.

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With the G20 on African soil, it is significant that the APRM in February 2025 added e-Governance to its list of thematic areas. This emphasises the significance already attached to technology and formalises its study as a crucial part of governance. The session will cover e-Governance in practice with comment from the APRM on why this is regarded as an important and separate element of governance, and will include insights from tech experts on working with governments to implement e-Governance programmes.

Moderator: Alison Gillwald, Founding Director, Research ICT Africa (TBC)	
Representative	Department of Communications and Digital Technologies
Sasha Rubel	Head: Public Policy for Generative AI, Amazon Web Services (TBC)
Amb. Marie-Antoinette Rose Quatre	CEO, African Peer Review Mechanism (TBC)
Anirban Sarma	Director, Digital Societies Initiative, Observer Research Foundation (TBC)
Hector Cardenas	President, Consejo Mexicano de Asuntos Internacionales (TBC)

11h15 – 11h25

Address

Dr Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala	Director-General, World Trade Organization (TBC)

12h15 – 12h25

Address

H.E Wamkele Mene	Secretary General of the AfCFTA Secretariat (TBC)

Thursday, 13 November 2025

10h45 – 11h15 **Plenary**

The WTO Rethink: Repairing Global Prosperity and Advancing Equality Through Free and Fair Trade

WTO reform is necessary but is becoming emptied of meaning amid unilateralism and mercantilism surrounding world trade. While many countries continue to uphold their belief in the multilateral system, growing concerns that the WTO system now exists only on paper have led them to pursue new coalitions, bilateral agreements, initiatives and rules. These initiatives are a result of the growing uncertainties in the global economy that have been largely exacerbated by geopolitical conflicts. However, their implications for the multilateral rules-based trading system warrant further assessment.

Moderator: Trudi Hartzenberg, Executive Director, tralac (TBC)	
Sait Akman	Director of G20 Studies Center, The Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TBC)
Trudi Makhaya	Senior Adviser, Boston Consulting Group, Business20 (TBC)
Kuben Naidoo	Senior Manager, Investec (TBC)
Rose Ngugi	Fellow, African Economic Research Consortium (TBC)

13h15 – 14h30 **LUNCH**

Thursday, 13 November 2025

14h30 – 15h30 **Plenary**

The Infrastructure Imperative: Integration, Finance and Resilience in a New Global Order

The global infrastructure investment gap is estimated at about $15 trillion until 2040. In Africa, the annual investment need is

$155 billion, according to Africa's Development Dynamics 2025 report. Infrastructure's importance as a catalyst for regional integration, growth and productive transformation has never been questioned; however, the imperative of climate-resilient infrastructure has now added another challenge. There is also a significant gap between the level of infrastructure investment in EMDEs and that in many developed markets.

Moderator: TBC	
Vukosi Maluleke	Head of Treasury, Development Bank of Southern Africa (TBC)
Herve Louhues	OIC Director, Country Economics Department, African Development Bank (TBC)
Karen Bosman	Head of Advocacy and Advisory, WESGRO (TBC)
Pierre Nguimkeu	Director: Africa Growth Initiative, Brookings (TBC)
Representative	Agence Française de Développement (TBC)

Thursday, 13 November 2025

15h30 – 16h30

Parallel Session

Global Finance Reimagined: MDBs, Think Tanks and the Road to G20

In 2025, global momentum for reforming multilateral development banks (MDBs) has accelerated, driven by the urgent need to scale climate and development finance. Across platforms like the G7, G20, BRICS, UN General Assembly, COP30 and IMF–World Bank meetings, leaders agree on making MDBs 'better, bigger, and more effective'.

Innovations such as hybrid capital, local currency lending and regional credit rating agencies are gaining traction, alongside growing system-wide collaboration. The shift from fragmented efforts to coordinated action positions MDBs as key drivers of inclusive, sustainable development.

What role can think tanks play in bridging sectors and advancing inclusive, climate-resilient finance?

Moderator: Nicolas Buchoud, Asian Development Bank Institute (TBC)	
Bambang Brodjonegoro	Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute (virtual - TBC)
Representative	World Bank (TBC)
Gulbin Sahinbeyoglu	Director, Economic Data Analysis Center, The Economic Policy Research Foundation of Turkey (TBC)
Representative	Alliance of African Multilateral Financial Institutions (TBC)
Ana Saggioro Garcia	Coordinator, BRICS Policy Centre (TBC)

Thursday, 13 November 2025

15h30 – 16h30 **Parallel Session**

Financing the Demographic Swop

As populations in advanced economies age and shrink, the fiscal burden of pensions, healthcare and social support is escalating. Meanwhile, in the developing regions of Africa and Asia, populations are expanding and youth cohorts are entering the workforce faster than economies can absorb them. Pressures to service rising debt costs in developing economies curtail sufficient investment into human capital development while the shrinking workforce in developed economies necessitates a new wave of productivity-enhancing investment, cross-border partnerships and innovative financing to sustain growth.

This 'demographic swop' presents both a risk and an opportunity: a chance to rebalance global capital flows in line with the emerging population map. How can today's demographic trends catalyse a new, fairer economic order? What mix of financial, institutional and governance reforms can align global capital with the South's population surge, turning demographic pressure into demographic dividend?

Moderator: Antonio Villafranca, Institute for International Political Studies, Italy (TBC)	
StatsSA	(TBC)
Levi Singh	Youth20 (TBC)
Artem Levansov	Eurasian Fund for Stability and Development, Russia (TBC)
Abla Abdel Latif	Egyptian Centre for Economic Studies (TBC)
Francois Groepe	Deputy CEO, Discovery Bank (TBC)

Thursday, 13 November 2025

16h30 – 16h40 **Address**

Representative	South African Reserve Bank

16h40 – 17h30 **Plenary**

Digital Money: The G20's Next Financial Frontier

We stand at an inflection point in the evolution of money – one that mirrors the transformational shifts seen at the dawn of the internet age. Digital currencies are no longer a niche experiment confined to crypto communities; they are rapidly emerging as a defining feature of tomorrow's global financial infrastructure.

Whether through privately issued cryptocurrencies, asset-backed stablecoins or central bank digital currencies (CBDCs), the contours of monetary sovereignty, payment systems and cross-border capital flows are being rewritten in real time. For developing and emerging economies, this shift presents both opportunity and risk.

Digital money could expand access to finance, reduce transaction costs and streamline trade. Yet it could also amplify vulnerabilities, including exposing smaller economies to currency substitution, capital flight or digital exclusion.

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The challenge before the G20, therefore, is not simply technological. It is fundamentally about governance, equity and resilience in the next chapter of global finance. Specifically, how can the G20 harmonise regulation, ensure financial stability and interoperability and leverage these new instruments for greater financial inclusion without compromising monetary sovereignty or creating new systemic risks?

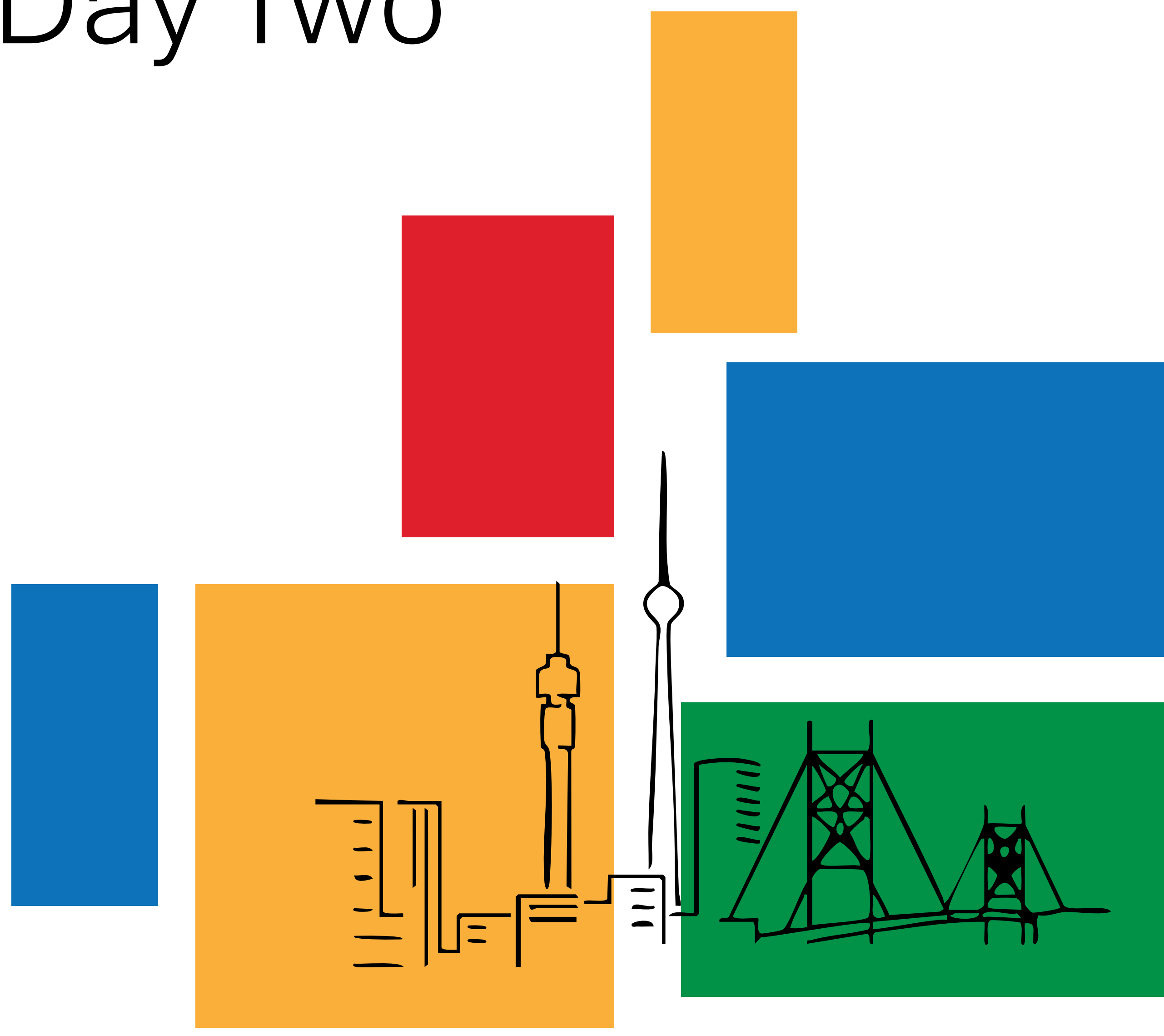
Moderator: Paul Samson, President, Centre for International Governance Innovation (TBC)	
Representative	Swift (TBC)
Alisha Chhangani	Deputy Director: Geoeconomics, Atlantic Council (TBC)
Igor Makarov	Higher School of Economics University, Russia (TBC)
Haihong Gao	Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (TBC)

17h30 – 18h30

Report Launch

‘Global Bridges: The EU and the Global South for an Inclusive Multilateralism’

Day Two



DAY TWO

Friday, 14 November 2025

07h30 – 08h30

Accreditation

08h30 – 09h15

Programme Director's Welcoming

08h45 – 09h15

Presentation of the T20 Communiqué and Address by G20 Sherpa

Representatives	T20 Co-convenors and G20 Sherpa (TBC)

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09h15 – 10h15 **Plenary**

Green Minerals for the Global Transition:

Driving Economic Growth, Inclusion and Community Safety

The global transition to net zero is accelerating demand for green minerals such as lithium, cobalt, nickel, and rare earth elements, which are key inputs for clean energy technologies and electric mobility. As G20 countries advance their climate and industrial strategies, the sourcing, processing, and governance of these minerals have become central to shaping a fair and sustainable global transition.

In line with G20 South Africa's commitment to sustainability, the discussion will focus on how to avoid a purely extractive model and instead promote value addition, responsible investment, and local beneficiation for minerals. It will explore pathways to ensure equitable participation across the value chain, including the empowerment of women, artisanal and small-scale miners, and local enterprises, while strengthening transparency and community safety.

Moderator: Sarang Shidore, Quincy Institute (TBC)	
Louise Naude	World Wide Fund for Nature (South Africa) (TBC)
Fausto Carbajal Glass	Senior Fellow, Consejo Mexicano de Asuntos Internacionales (TBC)
Claude Kabemba	Executive Director, Southern African Resources Watch (TBC)
Marit Kitaw	Former Interim Director, African Minerals Development Centre (TBC)

Friday, 14 November 2025

10h15 – 11h00 **In Conversation**

Derisking Food Systems in a Volatile World

In a world defined by climate shocks, geopolitical conflict, economic instability, and fractured supply chains, the resilience of our global food systems has become a major challenge. These converging crises expose deep vulnerabilities, risking everything from food price volatility to food insecurity for millions, not least in Africa.

Moderator: Fabio Veras Soares, Head: International Policy Centre for Inclusive Development, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada, Brazil (TBC)	
Ibrahim Mayaki	AU Special Envoy for Food Systems (Virtual - TBC)
Simóhn Engelbrecht	Trade and Relations Officer, AgriSA (TBC)

11h00 – 11h30 **BREAK**

Friday, 14 November 2025

11h30 – 12h30 **Plenary**

Debt, the Cost of Capital and Illicit Financial Flows

The G20 plays a key role in addressing the most pressing issues facing developing countries as they navigate the global financial architecture in pursuit of their development goals. From sovereign debt vulnerabilities and the high cost of capital facing the Global South, to the push for international tax fairness and the elimination of illicit financial flows, the G20 remains a forum where global consensus can be reached, and action be undertaken to address such matters.

How can the G20, through initiatives such as the African Experts Panel, build lasting consensus and implement concrete reforms to break the cycle of debt, reduce illicit financial flows, and create a more equitable global financial architecture that supports sustainable development in the Global South?

Moderator: Kamal Ramburuth, Project Lead: G20, Institute for Economic Justice (TBC)	
Joel Netshitenzhe	Africa Expert Panel (TBC)
Hannah Ryder	CEO, Development Reimagined (TBC)
Tidiane Kinda	International Monetary Fund Resident Representative (TBC)
David McNair	Executive Director, ONE Campaign (TBC)
Kathy Nicolaou-Manias	Programme Director, International Economic Partnership (TBC)

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12h30 – 13h15 **In Conversation**

Whole-of-Economy, Whole-of-Society Energy Transitions

Achieving a just transition requires more than decarbonisation but a commitment to the comprehensive transformation of economies and societies.

The G20 can champion inclusive, whole-of-economy and whole-of-society approaches to the energy transition. Pathways for aligning climate ambition with social justice, investment and innovation can also bridge perspectives between Africa and the world, to ensure transitions are not only green, but also fair, equitable and development oriented.

Lerato Mataboge	AU Commissioner for Energy and Infrastructure (TBC)
Céline Kauffmann	Chief Programmes Officer, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations (TBC)

13h15 – 14h45 **LUNCH**

14h45 – 14h50 **Address**

Representative	Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation

Friday, 14 November 2025

14h50 – 15h45 **Plenary**

Beyond Agenda 2030

As the 2030 deadline for the SDGs looms, the global community must look beyond the current framework to address a new generation of interconnected challenges. Despite significant progress in some areas, persistent inequalities, the escalating climate crisis, geopolitical shifts and the rapid pace of technological change such as AI threaten to reverse recent development gains.

What are the critical drivers and constraints for a post-2030 development agenda? What does a truly transformative framework look like and how can we foster the necessary political will and global governance structures to achieve it?

Virtual Address: **United Nations** (TBC)	
Moderator: **Prof. Tinuade Ojo,** University of Johannesburg (TBC)	
Anna Katherina Hornidge	Director, German Institute of Development and Sustainability (TBC)
Efraim Gomez	Global Policy Lead, World Wide Fund for Nature (TBC)
Shameela Soobramoney	CEO, National Business Initiative (TBC)
Sachin Chaturvedi	Vice Chancellor, Nalanda University (TBC)

Friday, 14 November 2025

15h45 – 16h45 **Parallel Session**

Where Next? Future Directions for Equitable and Inclusive Digital Transformation

As South Africa leads the G20 presidency, the T20 Taskforce on Digital Transformation has explored how digital and data ecosystems can drive equitable and sustainable development across the Global South.

Building on the legacies of previous Global South presidencies, this discussion examines how digital technologies can reduce inequality, strengthen regional coordination and ensure that Africa's perspectives and realities shape global conversations on AI, data and digital governance.

The session will reflect on key themes emerging from the T20 process, including labour rights in the digital economy, inclusive AI and integrated data governance, and explore practical pathways to sustain and advance a rights-driven, human-centred digital transformation agenda beyond 2025.

Moderator: Stephanie Diepeveen, ODI Global	
Speakers	TBC

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15h45 – 16h45

Parallel Session

Care and Social Protection at the centre of the G20 Agenda for Solidarity, Economic Justice and Climate Resilience

Care is increasingly recognised not only as a strategic investment but also as a core pillar of social protection, alongside health, education and income security, and is essential to building resilient economies, inclusive societies and sustainable development. Despite unpaid care work representing 9% of global GDP, care remains undervalued, underpaid and underfunded. By 2030, 2.3 billion people will require care, and investments in universal childcare and long-term care services could generate nearly 300 million decent jobs by 2035.

The G20 Development Working Group's call to action for universal social protection floors, under South Africa's presidency, provides a critical opportunity to embed care as a foundational component of these systems. This discussion will explore how care can be reframed as a public good and a central pillar of social protection, driving economic justice, climate resilience and gender equality.

Moderator: Amar Nijhawan, Senior Programme Officer, International Development Research Centre	
Narnia Bohler-Muller	Chair, Women20 South Africa (TBC)
Josephilda Nhlapho-Hlope	Deputy Director General, Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation (TBC)
Imraan Valodia	Director, Southern Centre for Inequality Studies
Luciana Mendes Servos	President, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada, Brazil (TBC)

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16h45 – 17h45

Reimagining the G20@20: Exploring Alternative Futures

The G20 has shifted from a crisis management forum for international economic cooperation into a defensive negotiating arena. In today's polycentric, fragmented and risk-saturated world, legitimacy will accrue to actors able to navigate complexity strategically, not merely debate it.

Confronted with a fracturing multilateral landscape and mounting crises, the G20 must evolve into a nimble mechanism for anticipatory leadership. This session reflects on the G20's first 20 years with the aim to explore its future role.

Moderator: Njeri Mwagiru, South African Institute of International Affairs	
Representative	Department of International Relations and Cooperation (TBC)

17h45 – 18h15

Handover from T20 South Africa to T20 USA and Closing Session

T20 Secretariat	T20 South Africa

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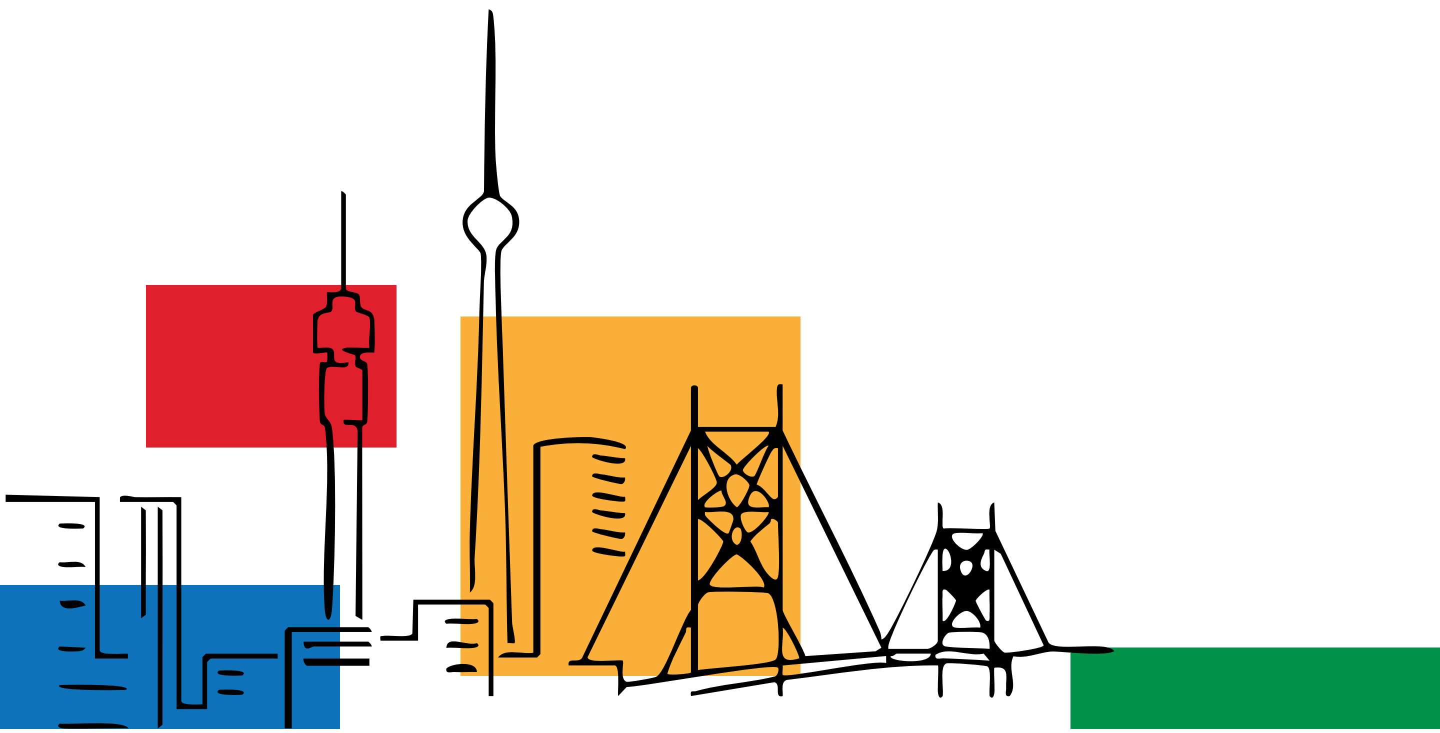

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