Civil 20 India 2023
POLICY PACK
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G20 भारत 2023 INDIA | CIVIL 20 INDIA 2023

"Let us all proceed, with one mind and one goal, to work selflessly for the world's welfare. May our acts become a noble ideal for those who will come after us. May the tree of our life be firmly rooted in the soil of love. May our good actions be its leaves. May our kind words be its flowers. May peace be its fruits. May this world grow and prosper as one family, united in love. May the ethos of vasudhaiva kutumbakam 'The world is one family' awaken, be put into practise and bear fruit in everyone. May we realise a world where there is endless peace and harmony. May Divine Grace bless us all. "

-**Sri Mata Amritanandamayi Devi**

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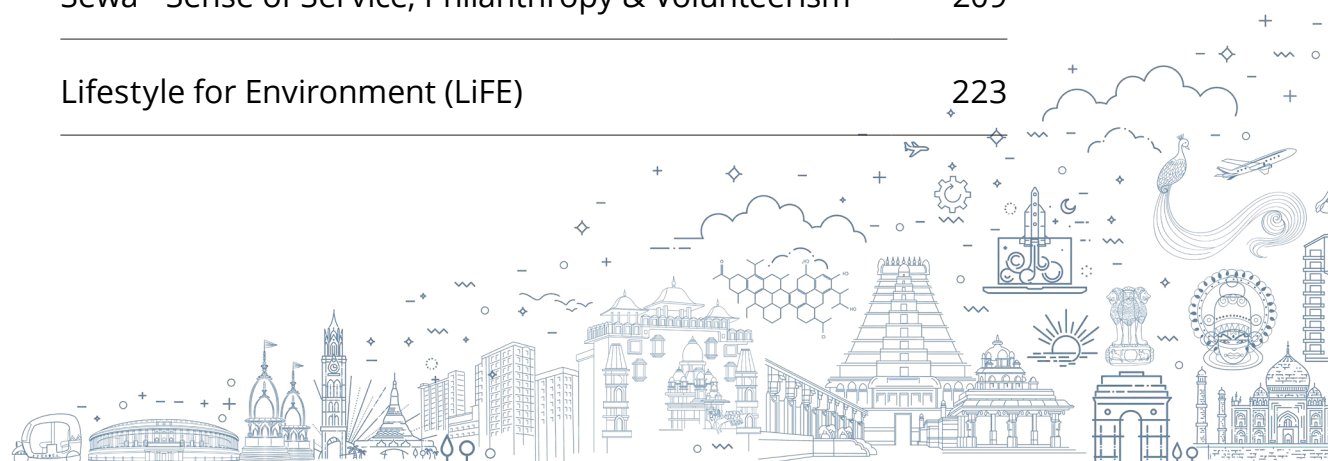Global Coordinator, Sewa
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Working Group's Policy Briefs

Civil-20 2023

An Introduction

The C20 under India's chair has had an unprecedented degree of "Jan Bhagidaari" or people's participation. More than 1000 meetings will have been held by the time of the Jaipur Summit in end-July. With the participation of more than 184,000 persons covering 74 nationalities, including mainly countries of the Global South, its activities have comprised, both in-person and online, conferences, workshops, seminars, "chaupals", "samaj-shalas" and youth ambassador programmes. The number of Working Groups (WGs) set up under C20 auspices this year have also been larger than ever before. They cover both traditional themes of concern as well as new themes

The policy pack prepared for the Summit is likely therefore to be voluminous. If working papers, white papers and other assorted documentations are included, the C20 Working Group material would be quite considerable.

Coming to substantive issues, never in its long history has the world been as connected, interdependent and exposed to mutual vulnerabilities as it is today. The salience of India's G20 motto: "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam", or "One Earth, One Family One Future", therefore remains of utmost relevance and indeed must remain the abiding leitmotif for our preoccupations, even into the future. While calling for the inclusion of the African Union within the G20 organisation, we look forward to increased cooperation between developed and developing nations, as well as among the countries of Global South. Today, there is a major financial and debt crisis across the world. The pandemic has pushed 200 million people below the poverty line, 100 million people have lost their jobs around the world and 75 countries are facing major debt crises. We face not only the fallout of the cost-of-living and

debt crises affecting many developing countries, but also instability in financial markets and a structural slowdown in growth that could persist over at least a decade. While post-pandemic risks linger, climate-related extreme weather events pose a growing threat. Public protests are on the rise and violent conflicts have escalated in intensity and breadth in Europe, Africa, and elsewhere. But these challenges have also evoked imaginative and resilient responses around the globe. The threat of COVID-19 resulted in the creation of a "unified platform for outbreaks and emergencies," and a complex ecosystem of partnerships and alliances emerged to tackle the design and delivery of health responses. Climate change has prompted significant institutional innovations. The net-zero movement has brought together diverse ecosystems of alliances to drive international climate action more purposively.

So, while the overall prospect remains grim, there are also reasons for hope and confidence. It is this hope that motivates the C20 to speak out on such a wide range of issues affecting the international family of nations. We

call on G20 whose members command formidable economic and political power and influence to act at both national and international levels to address these fundamental questions and to work steadfastly to strengthen and reform the multilateral framework of the United Nations. In particular, sustained recovery from the multi-dimensional crisis facing the world today will require fundamental changes to the roles and functions that financial capital and the global financial architecture perform in the lives of humans and other living beings on this planet. They must involve:

a. Rethinking the global debt architecture to create and support better and new mechanisms that can help in fair and effective sovereign debt restructuring.

b. Expanding fiscal space to allow for social protections and investment in resources to help deal with multiple

challenges such as climate change, public health inadequacies and growing inequality.

c. Democratizing global tax governance under the auspices of the United Nations instead of the OECD. It also requires combating tax avoidance, base erosion, and profit shifting.

d. Reform of Multilateral Development Banks and financial institutions of their mission, incentives, and operational approaches to better address global challenges, reduce poverty and achieve SDGs.

e. G20 governments focusing on all SDGs. The private sector must pay for negative externalities that bring serious harm to people and the planet.

f. Governments reducing the unsustainable debt burden of individuals, households, and small entrepreneurs through legitimate entrepreneurial efforts by creating mechanisms for such dignified exit.

Broadly, therefore, the C20 calls for a shift away from an economic growth model that uses people and the planet as "extractable resources" to a global "reprograming of our economies to work for its people and planet."

Sustainable & Resilient Communities

Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets

The WG acknowledges that the key to meeting the challenges facing the global community is the development of integrated solutions through international agreements, multilateral collaborations and transboundary cooperation for systemic transformations, to enable good governance, sustainable finance and circular economy.

Drawing inspiration from "Lokah Samastah Sukhino Bhavantu" meaning may all the beings in all the worlds become happy, the working group recognizes the fundamental interconnectedness and interdependence of all beings and all resources on earth. Thus, resolves to invoke the innate compassion arising from this universal interconnectedness in every individual.

The detrimental impacts of climate change makes it imperative that we act, unitedly, equitably, inclusively, and justly, to protect the people and planet earth. The C20 Working Group on Sustainable and Resilient Communities (SRC) - Climate, Environment and Net Zero Targets proposes policy recommendations to mitigate these global challenges.

The working group has outlined a set of transformative measures that will lead to sustainable and resilient communities through more nuanced and informed developmental pathways, based on greater equity, justice, and inclusivity. The policy recommendations from the four sub-themes namely, Climate Resilience and Social Justice, Environmental Sustainability, Net Zero Emission Management and Compassion driven Approaches to Sustainable and Resilient Communities have been cumulatively reviewed and curated. The following overarching categories of recommendations have emerged:

◆ C20 urges G20 to ensure implementation pathways for efficiency that are compassion driven and engage all sections of the population, creating targeted investment opportunities, as well as co-developing adaptation metrics, and standards across sectors to guide investment decisions. Localised implementation approaches need to be in place considering the sustainability factors.

◆ G20 needs to incentivize transparent and effective public-private and social sector partnerships for sharing expertise, knowledge, experiences, local context specific best practices and resources, to enhance innovations and sustain actions.

◆ G20 countries should support their education systems to develop and implement curriculum and training modules specific to climate change and resilience, net zero emission targets, biodiversity conservation and ecosystem restoration & degradation, at primary, secondary and tertiary level. Along with providing affordable, equitable and quality education, community specific capacity development programs need to be developed to create community wise champions.

Compassion Driven Approaches to Sustainable and Resilient Communities

The world is witnessing an alarming rise in violence against both humanity and the environment. Interpersonal violence affects millions of people, with a staggering number of annual fatalities globally. While efforts are being made to address it, they alone are inadequate to restore peace and harmony in society and nature. People experience two types of poverty in this world - poverty of food, clothing and shelter and poverty of love and compassion. Compassion is the most important factor that can transform lives. If we take this first step courageously, without fear, then all of our decisions and subsequent actions and their results will have a special beauty, spontaneity and power.

Recommendations

A. Fostering Peace, Harmony, by integrating Cultural Values and Rediscovering Local Traditions

◆ The G20 needs to prioritise promoting a culture of peace, harmony with nature, and education for building sustainable and resilient communities, emphasising human, cultural, and spiritual values for collective flourishing and well-being, and integrate them effectively into all public policies in a trans-sectoral manner.

◆ G20 must develop and implement experiential learning and hands own approaches at schools and universities for promoting a culture of peace and harmony with nature

◆ Member countries need to develop and implement strategies to rediscover local traditions, map them with respect to fostering peace, harmony and ecosystem restoration. Develop scalable models to train the future generation in utilising local traditions.

◆ G20 should establish schemes that will motivate multinational corporations and business enterprises to adopt rural enclaves and provide support and funding for the development of essential infrastructure such as schools, colleges, hospitals, and small-scale industries.

◆ G20 needs to recommend the local universities to adopt the nearby communities to engage, support and work in a participatory manner for identifying existing challenges, developing sustainable and resilient solutions, providing support in availing existing government schemes.

◆ C20 recommends prioritising youth empowerment through compassion-driven approaches by engaging young people in decision-making processes with access to quality education, skills training, and opportunities for leadership and entrepreneurship.

B. Compassion as a foundational element in educational curriculum

1. G20 must consider mandating the development of compassion-based educational frameworks that are tailored to local cultural, social, and economic contexts, while ensuring alignment with international standards and global perspectives. Furthermore, a course that teaches compassion and selflessness needs to be developed from kindergarten to grade 12 and higher education.

2. Member countries need to develop training materials and in terventions tailored for teachers and parents, focusing on integrating self-care, resilience, and the cultivation of inner compassion within the learning environment. A mandatory textbook including all aspects of the greatness of selflessness and compassion should be introduced. Furthermore, countries should also invest in designing reliable and valid assessment methods.

3. G20 must prioritise awareness programs that highlight the value of local experience, indigenous knowledge, and social responsibility, aiming to counter the invisibility of these important resources.

Gender Equality & Women's Empowerment

Comprehensive and holistic approach to achieving gender equality

Cross-cutting recommendations include improving gender-disaggregated data collection to inform decision-making, integrating monitoring and evaluation into policy development for transparency and accountability, allocating sufficient resources to implement gender equality policies and programmes, ensuring intersectional policy and programme design, and prioritising safety and security for girls and women in all aspects of life.

Thematic recommendations focus on specific areas:

◆ Prioritising mental health is crucial, and investing in accessible mental health services for women and girls can yield significant benefits. Inclusive, comprehensive national mental health policies should be developed, and mental health education should be integrated into schools and workplaces.

◆ Expanding access to education, particularly for rural and marginalised women and girls, is required. Barriers to education, such as safety concerns, inadequate sanitation facilities, and lack of digital infrastructure and access to it, must be addressed. Establishing gender-responsive learning centres, ensuring access for marginalised groups, improving existing sanitation infrastructure, and expanding internet connectivity and access to it are key goals.

◆ Engaging men and boys is vital for achieving gender equality. Harmful social norms contribute to issues like violence against women, and gender sensitisation and transformative education should be provided to all stakeholders.

◆ Disaster preparedness and management should include women and girls as they are disproportionately negatively affected. Mandating their representation in decision-making bodies, conducting gender and vulnerability assessments, providing gender-responsive training, and collaborating with local organisations are essential.

◆ Promoting women's economic empowerment is critical. Enhancing financial inclusion and promoting economic opportunities for women through stronger collaboration among financial institutions, government, private sector and civil society organisations can have a significant impact on women's economic empowerment and economic growth.

Gender inequality is internationally recognised as a cross-cutting issue that must be addressed to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the realisation of basic human rights. Considering that all G20 countries have adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, gender equality and empowering all women and girls are intrinsic objectives. However, a pernicious and persistent gap remains: Women comprise 49.7% of the world's population[1], yet the World Economic Forum's Gender Gap Report (2023) estimates it will take another 131 years to attain a gender-equal society at the current pace[2]. Women hold only 33% of leadership positions across public and private sectors[3], earn less than men, are over-represented in low-paying jobs, are less likely to own land and control assets than men, and have limited influence over important decisions[4]. Women are also exponentially more vulnerable to discrimination, violence, sex and labour trafficking, the effects of climate change and disasters, food insecurity, and lack of access to education and healthcare, among other disproportionately negative impacts[5]. When women are empowered with education and decision-making power, together with access to and ownership and control over economic resources, they contribute more to sustainable development; children are less likely to suffer from malnutrition and more likely to be educated. Women's empowerment has long-term positive impacts on a family's economic status, significantly reducing poverty, and women are more likely to promote environmentally sustainable practices in agriculture and consumption[6]. Gender equality is vital to achieving a regenerative, harmonious, and prosperous world, and empowering women is a critical component of achieving gender equality.

Achieving gender equality cannot be accomplished through isolated or fragmented approaches. Instead, a comprehensive, holistic, systemic approach must be adopted to achieve sustainable and long-lasting results[7]. The following policy recommendations aim to advance such an approach, highlighting the inter-connected nature of these policies.

Thematic Recommendations

Prioritise Mental Health

In 2022, global costs of mental health disorders were estimated at 4.7 trillion USD and are expected to grow significantly annually[10]. However, countries' mental health spending remains low, with less than 2% of health budgets allocated on average, particularly in low-income countries[11]. Despite one in ten individuals being in need of mental health care, government spending in low-income countries is estimated at less than 1 USD per capita. For example, investing in scaled-up treatment for depression and anxiety can yield a 4 USD return in better health and productivity for every 1 USD invested[12].

Specifically, women face a significantly higher lifetime risk of mood disorders and anxiety compared to men[13]. Investing in accessible mental health services for women and girls offers extensive economic and social benefits, including the potential to reduce the inter-generational transmission of mental illness. However, addressing men's mental health issues is also crucial for achieving gender equality[14], as there is a strong link between men's mental health and gender-based violence[15]. Early intervention and prevention programmes for mental health, particularly in schools and community settings, can significantly

reduce mental health problems in adulthood[16]. Such programmes, incorporating robust social-emotional learning skills, have shown positive outcomes for mental health[17], all of which are vital in the post-Covid-19 era when global health systems are still strained, and mental health conditions are even more prevalent.

Revamp existing or develop comprehensive national mental health policies to:

1. Incorporate social-emotional learning and mandatory mental health education in schools and workplaces by 2025.

2. Increase access to mental health services for underrepresented communities by providing financial incentives to healthcare providers to serve these communities by 2025.

3. Increase funding for public-private partnerships to expand access to mental health services in underserved areas by 50% by 2030.

4. Ensure mental health is integrated into all primary care services by 2030, and that access to these services is subsidised or free of cost.

5. Increase the number of community-based mental health services available in underserved areas by 50% by 2030.

Integrated Holistic Health

Mind, Body & Environment

Our goal is to promote a state of SAMYUKT AROGYA - 'SAMYUKT': Integrated, Holistic Health: Mind, Body and Environment. Aligned with the WHO definition of health, "a state of complete physical, mental, and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity", the C20 Integrated Holistic Health Working Group (IHH-WG) 2023 iterates that health promotion and disease prevention must be addressed at the levels of mind, body, and environment. Building on commitments made by previous G20 leaderships, IHH-WG expands the scope of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (UN-SDG3), Good Health and Well-Being, proposing inclusive, equitable and holistic solutions for building healthy communities.

The consolidated policy recommendations are:

- Adoption, implementation and sustainability of a National Mental Health Programme in all G20 countries, extending into the community, public health institutions and private sector, entailing screening and follow-up at both community and institutional levels, with special emphasis on the vulnerable - women, children, and marginalised communities.

- G20 commitment to enhance community and primary healthcare systems by integration of Digital Health Platforms contextualised to the country, with a guarantee of "ACCESS FOR ALL" for preventative care, therapy, and health system delivery for both communicable and Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

- A uniform One-health policy to be agreed upon by G20 member nations through an Inter-sectoral Global Framework and Treaty for Zoonotic diseases and Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) encompassing surveillance, data sharing, and alerts, research and shared infrastructure and management.

Introduction

Health is key to meeting the Sustainable Development Agenda by 2030. Health has a strong and direct influence on the economy of nations. The global GDP fell by 3.4% in 2020, translating to a 2 trillion USD economic loss due to COVID. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the need for global healthcare cooperation, given the imminent likelihood of similar pandemics in the future. It is imperative to build consensus among United Nations member States on all fronts to be better prepared.

To address this, we aim to accelerate progress towards Universal Health Coverage (UHC) - ensuring everyone has access to quality, affordable healthcare.

UHC requires promoting universal access to preventative and curative approaches. The interdependence of environment, climate, and health is clear, as is the connection between mental and physical well-being. Embracing a holistic approach to health is now an urgent necessity. Under the 2023 C20 Chair, Mata Amritanandamayi Math (MA Math), the Integrated Holistic Health (IHH) WG engaged over 5,000 people from 1,054 organisations in 86 countries. Through inclusive processes, key policy recommendations and best practices were selected via twenty-eight online and in-person events culminating in a summit in Faridabad, Haryana. Representatives from civil society, indigenous communities,

patients, caregivers, experts, and marginalised groups, including those with diverse SOGISEC (Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sex Characteristics) participated in these efforts.

The C20 IHH WG builds on commitments made by previous G20 Leaderships. Bali 2022 urged achieving Universal Health Coverage while addressing food insecurity and malnutrition, particularly in Low- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs). Rome 2021 committed to support countries to improve resilience by addressing critical sustainability challenges. Riyadh 2020 prioritised the tackling of AMR and environmental causes of disease

using the One-Health approach and advancing efforts in communicable and non-communicable diseases. Osaka 2019 envisioned an inclusive society that allows each individual to perform to one's full potential, with promotion of healthy ageing, and people-centric health promotion and prevention that are aligned to the life-course approach. This year's C20 IHH working group widened the scope to include different facets of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3 (UN-SDG3), Good Health and Well-Being, to develop inclusive, equitable and holistic solutions for health.

Policy Recommendations

I. Mind – Advocating a Mental Health Policy

Before the estimated five-fold increase in depression and anxiety globally since COVID-19, at least 1 billion people had mental health conditions, representing 418 million disability-adjusted life years and a burden of 5 trillion USD annually. Mental health conditions lead to loss of productivity, driving under-employment, social isolation, and poverty. Today, 90% of mental illness goes undiagnosed and untreated, a gap largely driven by stigma, discrimination, and human rights violations. The 2023 C20 IHH-WG includes Mental Health and Wellness for the first time.

Our policy recommendations to the G20 are:

- Adopt and sustain a comprehensive National Mental Health Literacy Program.

- Incorporate and integrate a Mental Health Education Program into the National School Curricula by 2025, to include:

- Awareness and knowledge of signs and symptoms of mental distress, reducing bullying, harassment, and stigma against those with or without mental illness.

- Suicide awareness and prevention; integrating skills and activities that promote mental fortitude, positive decision-making, and peer support.

- Provide Community & Institutional Mental Health Training to healthcare workers to promote suicide awareness and prevention.

- Deliver basic assessment tools for common mental health disorders and suicidal behaviours to support lay-counselling training among school counsellors, village social workers and non-specialist health workers.

- Ensure the availability of mental health services in all community hospitals, corporations, universities, government and other institutions.

- Training should be supported by health system networks so that acute mental conditions can be triaged by higher-level professionals.

- Develop robust, evidence-based mental health programs that promote knowledge and mind-strengthening life skills (e.g., meditation, yoga, cognitive skills) for advancing positive mental health and resilience, preventing mental illness and suicidal behaviours, and reducing mental illness symptoms, with special emphasis on the underprivileged - women, children, marginalised communities, and caretakers and those grieving the loss of their near and dear ones.

- It is vital to include community engagement as well as civil society organisations to make this process more effective.

- Ensure free and quality mental health care is integrated into all primary care services by 2030.

- Scaling up interventions and services across community-based, general health and specialist settings - In a country-by-country approach as per the WHO Special Initiative on Mental Health, considering that the status of mental health care differs greatly across nations.

- Mental health care must be integrated into relevant public health programmes (e.g. for HIV and gender-based violence prevention, disabilities) in addition to primary care services.

- Increase number and quality of community based mental healthcare providers via incentivization schemes.

II. Body- Implement a Life-Course Approach to Chronic Diseases incorporating Digital Health Applications

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, NCDs continue to be the top cause of mortality and morbidity globally, with low-middle-income countries (LMICs) bearing a disproportionate burden of NCDs. NCDs account for 74% of all deaths (41 million) globally annually and 80% of all "premature" deaths between 30 and 69 years of age. The likelihood of premature deaths from NCDs is six times higher in LMICs than in high-income countries. Modifiable risk factors include unhealthy diet, tobacco and alcohol use, sedentary lifestyle, and air pollution. The global burden of NCDs is estimated to be $47 trillion over the next two decades, unless adequate preventative and control measures are implemented.

LMICs are also burdened with treatable conditions complicating maternal and child health such as nutritional deficiencies, which have proven low-cost measures of mitigation. Given the increasingly ageing population globally, geriatric health and wellness, palliative and end-of-life care become priorities requiring critical attention.

An overarching theme that emerged from discussions among the various health sub-groups included usage of digital platforms for universal health coverage. The other common theme that emerged across the health sub-groups included a life-course approach to addressing NCDs, maternal and child health and wellness, nutrition and mental health alongside steps to improve health literacy.

The Life Course perspective looks at health as an integrated continuum where biological, behavioural, psychological, social and environmental factors interact and influence health outcomes throughout a person's life. A woman's health and nutrition as she enters reproductive age directly affects her future child's birth weight and order, nutrition, future risk of obesity and therefore potential contraction of NCDs and mental health conditions. Addressing the health and wellbeing of future generations requires immediate measures to ensure the health of all persons of reproductive age in order to prevent future disease.

A Digital health mission integrating services across the healthcare sector, including diagnostics, therapy, demography, health condition, and health delivery, would facilitate diagnosis, monitoring, adherence, preventative aspects and promote access to health information. Platforms similar to the ones created for COVID-19 could be replicated for other communicable and NCDs. The digital health platforms should integrate health literacy into the health delivery system spanning mental health, maternal and child healthcare, palliative and end-of-life care, and traditional and complementary healthcare systems.

Given the ubiquity of handheld devices and wide penetration of mobile networks, a Digital Health policy for G20 nations needs to be framed, including surveillance, monitoring, preventative and awareness indicators for both communicable and NCDs. Digital health policies should address deployment of myriad cost-effective digital tools, such as artificial intelligence, in a manner that prioritises ethics and person-centeredness, while increasing healthcare access, improving quality, reducing costs and ensuring privacy.

The policy recommendations to the G20 are:

- Integrate the life course approach into public health strategies, which addresses health disparities and improves overall population health for NCDs and maternal and child health. The life course approach incorporates health information from maternal, paternal, and individual perspectives. For example, if a mother has gestational diabetes, that child has a significantly increased likelihood of contracting diabetes in their lifetime. Appropriate preventative measures and follow up must be incorporated into that child's healthcare.

  ▸ Holistic Perspective: Public health services should adopt a holistic perspective that recognizes the inter-connectedness of different gender specific life stages and their impact on health outcomes, considering the interactions between various factors such as genetics, early life experiences, social determinants, and lifestyle choices.

- Prevention and Early Intervention

  ▸ Strengthening public health systems to provide free and quality integrated management of childhood illness as per WHO guidelines by 2025.

  ▸ Prevent and control micronutrient deficiencies in women of reproductive age and other vulnerable groups through dietary interventions, including dietary improvement, food fortification, including salt double-fortified with iodine and iron, supplementation, and public health measures: de-worming and improving Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) - with an emphasis on menstrual and sexual health.

  ▸ Develop an integrated nutrition plan using the life-course approach: Promote dietary diversity by including organic, non-genetically modified and locally sourced nutritious food items into beneficiary food baskets in existing meal initiatives.

  ▸ Ensure free access to family planning services in all public and community healthcare centres and educational institutions, including family planning programs, sex education in schools, and the availability of low-priced over-the-counter contraceptives.

- Employ digital platforms for surveillance, monitoring, preventative care, therapy, awareness, adherence, and follow-up, factoring in post-procedure care. These must be integrated into existing healthcare systems to facilitate access for populations who currently are not able to access consistent quality healthcare.

▶ Digital platforms must be leveraged for effective and holistic life-course approaches to healthcare solutions.

▶ Utilise digital platforms to accelerate immunisation and vaccination drives, to reach a target of 90% childhood immunisation by 2025.

- Create evidence-based guidelines for integrative care specifying the scope of different traditional and complementary medical systems (T&CMs) in managing specific diseases to enable the general public to make informed decisions.

▶ Develop research methodologies in alignment with the epistemological framework of T&CMs to generate evidence of safety and efficacy.

▶ Facilitate evidence-based integration of T&CM into mainstream health care to address unmet healthcare manpower needs, improve holistic treatment outcomes, and promote physical, mental, and spiritual health and wellness.

III. Environment - One-Health

The health of people is inextricably linked to the health of animals and our shared environment. According to WHO, climate change is the single biggest threat to human health which could directly lead to 250,000 deaths per year by 2030. New or endemic zoonotic diseases, Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs), vector-borne diseases, anti-microbial resistance (AMR), food safety and food security all link environment, climate and health. Climate change lowers food productivity, both agrarian and marine, compounds mental health issues, contributes directly to nutrition, maternal & child health, poor outcomes in NCDs and majorly contributes to emerging infectious diseases. Poor practices in multiple industries, including livestock farming, and hospital and immunisation programme management are increasing AMR and decreasing the ability to treat it.

The IHH-WG deliberations focused on one-health and AMR, strengthening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, and improving healthcare service delivery. Placing an emphasis on access to and availability of safe, effective, quality, and affordable medical countermeasures such as vaccines, therapeutics, diagnostics, and digital health innovations and solutions to support UHC. The current global leadership must work together for the formulation of a "Global Public Health Convention," with its core obligation being to protect Global Public Health, preventing profit-driven industry exploitative practices, and prioritise the needs of Global South.

The policy recommendations to the G20 are:

- Establish robust, inclusive, intersectoral, cross-Ministerial national One-health task forces by 2030 that comprehensively integrate critical sectors such as agriculture, forestry, animal husbandry, environment, finance, forestry, and foreign affairs with health, addressing urgent health priorities such as emerging pathogens and zoonotic diseases.

▶ Task forces must be endowed with adequate resources and specific timelines, accompanied by measurable outcomes to help foster inter-disciplinary research and collaboration.

▶ Strengthen surveillance through capacity-building programs inclusive of improved management of zoonotic diseases such as rabies and emerging pathogens, communicable disease programs including HIV, TB, Malaria, NTDs, and snakebite.

▶ Ensure accessibility to low cost WHO-approved diagnostics and treatment, prioritising at-risk populations.

▶ Ensure that existing minimum standards for animal health services are met and set obligations to improve biosecurity in the production, transportation, slaughter, and retailing of animals to reduce the transfer of pathogens. This needs to include care and welfare practices on farms to both reduce the use of antimicrobials and support natural ecosystem health.

- Create a Global Framework for Addressing AMR – including surveillance, monitoring and strategic planning, similar to the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control by 2025.

▶ Involve human, animal, and environmental health sectors, and engage with civil society organisations, community leaders, and international cross-sectoral stakeholders.

▶ Implement stringent legislative control of antimicrobial dispensing for use in both humans and animals, including effective antibiotics stewardship programs and community engagement initiatives.

▶ Ensure Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Right (TRIPS) and Intellectual Property waivers for the protection of Global Public Health implementing Universal access to Health services, including lifesaving drugs/medicines, diagnostics and related health services as "Global Public Health Goods" and allowing worldwide right to use, re-produce and ensure supply globally.

Conclusion

G20 leaders must recognise that it is time for a radical paradigm shift in addressing public health. We are in the midst of a global mental health crisis, particularly among youth which cannot be left unaddressed by G20 leaders. The accelerating pace of climate change has made it abundantly clear that a One-health model of public health is the only path forward towards protecting human and animal health and safeguarding the environment. Siloed public health approaches that ignore the interactions between people and nature will leave us unable to address current and emerging pathogens and incapable of confronting the next pandemic. However, advances in digital technology, machine learning, and artificial intelligence can dramatically reduce inequities in access, provided G20 leaders ensure that these technologies are deployed with health equity as a core principle.

Education & Digital Transformation

Towards Inclusive and Human-centred Education and Digital Transformation Policies

The Education and Digital Transformation Working Group (EDTWG) under C20 India 2023 has suggested several key areas of focus to foster inclusive, accessible, compassionate, and human-centred education and digital transformation.

1. **Education for Life and Global Citizenship:** Encourage experiential learning and community involvement in rural villages, promote indigenous cultures and knowledge systems, and address mental, emotional, and spiritual dimensions of people. Strategies include substance abuse prevention, education in indigenous knowledge systems, support for disadvantaged communities, and fostering cultural inclusion and social justice.

2. **Education for Persons with Disabilities:** Emphasizes the need for early identification and intervention for persons with disabilities. Raise awareness about inclusion and designing and implement policies for early detection of disabilities. Financially support research in disability studies, build tools for early identification, and provide low-cost assistive technology for inclusion.

3. **Learning Equity & the Future of Education:** Enhance equitable access to education and ensure the fair allocation of resources through learning equity audits. Promote the inclusion of people from vulnerable populations in decision-making processes at all levels of education, research, decision-making and in governance. Other recommendations include fostering mutual recognition of online and on-site degrees and certificate courses, developing inclusive curricula, and providing pedagogical, skills, inclusion, and technology training for teachers.

4. Skill Development: Establish inclusive financing mechanisms for skill development, create financial aid programs for marginalized individuals, encouraging corporate social responsibility contributions for skill development initiatives, include skill development opportunities in public employment programs, and establish public online platforms to collect and analyse skill development data.

5. Education in Emergencies: Provide comprehensive training for emergency situations and develop localized emergency curriculum models. Enhance teacher capacity for inclusive education and invest in continuous professional development.

6. Digital Transformation & Accessibility: Develop human-centred design principles, promote digital public goods and commons, bridge the digital divide, and provide comprehensive training on responsible technology use. The recommendations emphasize inclusive digital access for all, including marginalized and vulnerable populations.

The WG recommends a multi-dimensional approach to implement these sub-themes, including context-specific evidence-based programmes, stakeholder coordination, community engagement, affordable technological

solutions, and quality assurance measures. In funding and partnerships, the WG suggests sustained political commitment, public-private-people partnerships (PPPP), and transparency in fund allocation.

Introduction

Education empowers and catalyses societal transformation. The Civil20 India 2023 Chair's vision for global education is based on the emphasis on both tangible skills and spiritual wisdom, along with their respect for diverse viewpoints. The holistic, inclusive nature of ancient Indian education, exemplified by prominent institutions like Nalanda and Takshashila, is still relevant in today's globalized educational landscape. The "Gurukula" system's focus on nurturing a deep student-teacher bond and promoting harmony with nature and society continues to provide important lessons for the development of today's education systems globally.

The WG initiatives build upon commitments enshrined in instruments like the United Nations Charter[1], Universal Declaration of Human Rights[2], and other treaties emphasizing sustainable development. They uphold global citizenship education and values like diversity, human rights, and social justice. The 2022 G20 Bali[3] commitments further emphasized international collaboration for digital skills development, particularly benefiting people in vulnerable situations. The Transforming Education Summit (UNESCO 2023)[4] identified four key areas of transformation: creating supportive environments for all learners, empowering teachers, harnessing the digital revolution in public education, and advocating for increased, efficient, and equitable investment in education.

The EDT WG seeks to make an original contribution by distilling a set of recommendations that amplify the voices of the global South, particularly those of the most vulnerable, driven by a human-centred and values-driven perspective.

By prioritizing education for life, inclusion, accessibility, and equity for diverse learners, and emphasizing compassion, G20 countries can build empowered societies that are prepared

to navigate the complexities of the modern world and drive positive change. ==Specifically, the WG seeks to promote core principles of inclusiveness and human-centred approaches through compassion-based perspectives,== universal access to education, including at the international level, skills, and digital resources, and the reduction of the digital divide.

This aligns with the principle of "Data for Development," which is a crucial aspect of India's Presidency of G20. India recognizes digital transformation as the key to achieving sustainable development goals related to poverty reduction, education, health, and direct benefit transfer. It also aligns with the aspirations of the Global Digital Compact (GDC)[5], which aims to establish shared principles for an open, free, and secure digital future for all, to be agreed upon at the Summit of the Future[6] in 2024 at the United Nations.

The rapid and widespread change brought about by Digital Transformation is unprecedented, transforming society and offering unprecedented advancements in the human condition. However, it is also crucial to recognize that education or digital technologies, when used improperly or maliciously, can fuel divisions within and between countries, increase insecurity, undermine human rights, and exacerbate inequality.

While Education and Digital Transformation are distinct themes, the C20 EDT WG has considered specific recommendations for each theme and has also considered inter-connected recommendations that create synergies between these two areas.

LiFE

(Lifestyle for Environment)

There exist numerous international multilateral framework conventions directed at reducing human impacts on the environment. These framework conventions provide scientific, economic, and political measures for environmental governance. However, the effectiveness of these treaties is limited despite the enormous resources spent and efforts put in by the global community in creating and implementing these conventions[1].

Increase in the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) missions, rising global temperature and sea level, pollution of air, water and soil, the unprecedented rate of biodiversity extinction and desertification and many more are the symptoms of the global environmental problem. Most of the international framework conventions for the environment are aimed at reducing these symptoms. Unless there are concrete global actions towards the root causes, addressing symptoms will have limited results.

Voluntary contribution by individual citizens and collectives of individuals in the form of change in lifestyle-extractive to sustainable consumption- is important in addressing the environmental problems.

Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE)

LiFE is rooted in culture, traditions, customary practices, and (environmentally) conscious contemporary practices.

India has always had a legacy of environment consciousness. The Indian sub-continent has historically 'lived with nature' and promoted this environmental consciousness through its oral traditions. Coined by the Indian Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, Lifestyle for Environment or LiFE is India's contribution to find the solutions towards climate change and environmental degradation.

The larger discussions on climate change and environmental degradation seem to have reached a stalemate with development policies of States. However, addressing this challenge requires a comprehensive approach which covers education to values, and from lifestyle to developmental philosophy. LiFE, as envisioned by the Indian PM, focuses on behavioural change. Respect for nature, the judicious use of resources, reducing our needs and living within ones means have all been important aspects of both India's traditions and its present-day efforts. As Prime Minister Modi has

said, respect for nature is an integral part of our culture and protection of environment comes naturally to us. The present generation, has the responsibility to act as a trustee of the rich natural wealth for future generations.

LiFE complements scientific, political, and economic measures currently undertaken towards global environmental governance. It has close linkages with several SDGs, particularly SDG 12 pertaining to sustainable production and consumption. The global discussion on sustainable production and consumption has started comparatively recently with Italian G20 Presidency and the European Union (EU) hosting an online workshop on circular fashion on 7 June 2021. But

India has traditionally been practising this approach for centuries.

Civil society organizations are important facilitators in such situations to bring the community experiences from different countries in the global environmental frameworks.

The Foundations of LiFE

Panch Tatva (the five fundamental elements) – They are Akash (Space), Vayu (Air), Agni (Energy/Fire), Jal (Water) and, Bhumi (Earth). These five elements form the foundation of the universe. The Atharva Veda emphasizes this fact and states that the creation of the universe is a result of the combination of these five essential elements. It is said that our existence is intricately connected to these five basic elements.

Components of LiFE in Previous G20 Summits

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced the Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) movement at COP 26 of the Climate Convention in Glasgow, UK in 2021. He called upon the global community of individuals and institutions to drive LiFE as an international mass movement towards

'mindful and deliberate utilisation, instead of mindless and destructive consumption'.

Environment and climate have been part of the G20 discussion process for a significant time. The last 5 Presidencies from 2017 to 2021 have reiterated

commitments towards the protection and conservation of the environment and securing the future of our planet. These commitments are in the form of improving climate finance, technology transfer, switching over to renewable energy etc.

G20 Indonesia 2022 declaration integrated nutrition, poverty, development and conservation commitments. The G20 Indonesia Environment Ministers recognized cultural diversity as a source of sustainable living. The chair summary of ministerial meeting has specific reflection towards some aspects of lifestyle and environment linkage. Continuing support towards the G20 platform for the localization of SDG is another commitment which is linked to lifestyle-related aspects. Agriculture ministers reiterated support for the technical platform on measurement and reduction of food loss and waste.

Life Working Group of C20 under India's Presidency

LiFE has been introduced for the first time as a working group theme of C20 under India's G20 presidency. It is being presented at a time when global environmental governance needs cultural and value-based transformation.

The working group deliberated on sub themes: grassroots innovations, Panchatatva, food, Indic wisdom, fashion, water, habitat, waste, industry, education, and nature-based solutions and conducted two outreach programs specially meant for community engagement (Higher

education student engagement program and LiFE, the Nandurbar way). The deliberations of the group in the form of conferences, workshops, plenaries, presentations, and web meetings were attended by various stakeholders. These deliberations covered various facets of human life and brought about recommendations pertaining to both life vision and lifestyle.

The deliberations were focused on formulating certain principles, and recommendations, building an ecosystem of CSOs and learning alliance that will continue working on LiFE in the future G20 presidencies and in other multilateral forums. It is now building the required momentum to individual and community efforts towards sustainable lifestyles and ultimately towards Sumangalam, the global well-being.

Following are the recommendations of LiFE working group based on its sub-thematic deliberations

Recommendations and Implications

1. To prepare a value-based sustainability framework to guide and assess the progress of countries.

   • Global wellbeing i.e., Sumangalam will be the universal principle of this framework. This framework will include a set of values, concepts, instruments and actionable for individuals and communities. This will bring a much-required holistic perspective to the subject of sustainability. The set of values would comprise of compassion, gratitude, respecting diversity, a sense of responsibility, decentralisation, harmony, using local resources (and not drawing from far-off places) etc. Behavioural indicators, goals and levels of progress can be defined from these sets of values.

   • LiFE along with the value-based sustainability framework aims to bring in a paradigm shift from a rights-based approach to a responsibility-based approach in global environmental governance.

2. To create a knowledge repository on LiFE: G20 member countries should set up a knowledge repository of good practices - of individuals, communities and business entities. Such knowledge repositories will be helpful in developing guidelines to bring out changes in individual lifestyles, and community lifestyles so that ecological and carbon footprint can be reduced.

3. To recognize grassroots innovations as an important asset to humanity and as a separate category in all kinds of international policy formulations. Grassroots innovators have been an important asset of humanity. They are assisting in improving resource efficiency and the effectiveness of the circular economy. Their role in the three 'R's - reuse, recycle and repair - out of the six 'R's of the circular economy is important. Recognizing their contribution and linking them in addressing environmental problems is urgently required.

4. To promote and encourage local and seasonal foods for local consumers: G20 member countries should promote and encourage consumption of locally grown,

processed, stored and value-added foods. It is desirable for human health and for the environment also. Local production – local consumption saves transportation and energy also. Local food consumed locally may support the conservation of local varieties of crop varieties. Seasonal food has less preservatives and is healthier for the populace.

5. To encourage sustainable green-fashion over fast-fashion: The global fashion industry is estimated to be responsible for 10% of global carbon emissions – more than international flights and maritime shipping combined. G20 member countries should encourage and promote sustainable-green fashion which is all-inclusive. There should be a thrust on products, processes, activities, and stakeholders (policymakers, brands, consumers) aiming to achieve a carbon-neutral fashion sector based on equality, social justice, animal welfare, and ecological integrity.

6. To encourage and incentivize mindful consumption and responsible disposal: In most of the developing and emerging countries,

waste collection and segregation value chains remain largely informal. The linkage between formal and informal waste collection and segregation should be strengthened. Lack of awareness and education hinder effective waste management. Promoting pride and responsibility and incentivizing responsible disposal in keeping cities clean can help overcome this problem.

7. To recognize that switching over to LiFE is a socio-emotional-ethical-spiritual exercise: Connection and reconnection with Nature must begin from the foundational stage (i.e., ages 3 to 8 years) itself through practical, real-life experiences. Practical and experiential, activity-based learning with hands-on engagement is required at all levels.

i). To promote and adopt Nature-based Solutions (NbS)

8. NbS are well-known techniques (for example, sacred landscapes, traditional agroforestry etc.) with an emphasis on local-level adaptation and in many cases, building upon the traditional wisdom and techniques of communities.

• When implemented in a proper way, they have multiplier effects such as integrated watershed management resulting in soil and water conservation, improving agriculture productivity, enhancing tree cover, and strengthening livelihoods in a cost-effective manner.

9. To mandate the implementation of circular economy principles in all economic sectors.

• G20 member countries should make it mandatory in all sectors of their economy to implement the circular economy principles. They should formulate and/or bring out necessary changes in their existing policies.

• This linear economic model generates about 50 per cent of all greenhouse gas emissions. Materials are transformed through production processes, used or consumed, and discarded into the environment.

• Circular economy offers a response to these challenges by reducing waste and closing material and process loops, thereby preserving natural capital.

- Industries and businesses that implement projects on efficient resource management and sustainable waste management should be given green credits which can be redeemed for tax benefits, grants, or other financial rewards.

- Adoption of less water-intensive practices – in food, crops, etc. is important.

- Effective demand side and supply side management in all sectors where water is an integral component is needed.

10. To ensure judicious use and equitable distribution of water in all walks of LiFE.

- Water is an important tatva (basic principle) in panchatatva.

- Reuse and recycle water in daily use is like creating fresh water.

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