

High-Level Side Event

on the margins of the UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015

G20's CONTRIBUTION TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SDGs

**Friday, 25 September 2015
16:30-18:00**

**Conference Room 11,
UN Headquarters, New York**

CONCEPT PAPER

2015 is a crucial year for development. The UN Summit to adopt the post-2015 development agenda, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD) held in Addis Ababa in July are important milestones.

Turkey has placed development at the center of its G20 Presidency through an agenda focused on inclusiveness, investment and implementation. Inclusiveness aims to ensure the benefits of growth and prosperity are shared by people within and beyond G20 countries. Lifting investment levels, in-particular in infrastructure, aims to drive global growth. The focus on implementation ensures the G20 delivers and monitors its commitments. Development and low income developing countries are cross-cutting themes across all these priority areas under the Turkish Presidency.

Turkey will organize a high-level side event on the margins of the UN Sustainable Development Summit 2015 in September in New York to discuss the G20s contribution to implementing the SDGs. The event would help prepare the ground for discussion at the G20 Leaders' Summit in Antalya in November.

The G20 is well placed to contribute, given that it represents two thirds of the world's population, 75% of global trade and 85% of the global GDP and is also home to around half the world's poor. G20 can build on its existing development agenda to bring together the private sector, civil society and development partners to help deliver on the ambition of the SDGs.

The G20 contribution needs to be based on its added value and strengths. Discussion at the side event could usefully focus on these areas where the G20 can have maximum impact. This includes this year's focus on low income developing countries (LIDCs), where the G20 can strengthen policy coordination in areas that impact on LIDC growth and development, and help enhance LIDC integration into the global economy.

The G20 is well placed to support the means of implementation of the SDGs, including development finance. Ongoing G20 work on tax and remittances is helping countries maximize their own resources for development. This year, a G20 Call to Action for Strengthening Tax capacity focuses on support for domestic tax collection systems. New G20 national remittances plans will help realise the G20 commitment to reduce the global average cost of remittances to 5%. Other actions include work on tax incentives for investment and support for developing countries inclusion in the G20 international tax reform agenda.

G20 work targets key sectors for growth and development, which will be critical to the achievement of the SDGs. On infrastructure, G20 work contributes practical ways to help countries remove constraints and see real progress on financing. A new G20 Action Plan on Food Security and Sustainable Food Systems will support the implementation of SDGs 2 and 12 by focusing on investment, market transparency, productivity and the enormous global problem of food loss and waste. A new G20 Energy Access Action Plan will help support SDG 7 by focusing on sub-Saharan Africa this year. Actions will strengthen G20 coordination in the region and establish a long-term voluntary cooperation framework.

The G20 can also contribute to the SDGs by helping to ensure developing countries are able to take advantage of opportunities in the global economy. The private sector's role in development is very important in this regard. Work in 2015 has focused on how firms in LIDCs, in-particular SMEs, can participate in Global Value Chains (GVCs). A G20 Leaders' Call on Inclusive Business also aims to promote opportunities for poor people and communities to connect to markets. The G20 will help develop the evidence base through a new policy platform, bringing together the private sector, IOs and G20 members.

The G20's dialogue with LIDCs and development partners is critical to its approach to supporting the SDGs. The Turkish Presidency has organized a number of high-level events throughout the year, including in the margins of the FfD conference in Addis Ababa, at the UN General Assembly and with LIDC partners directly. The UN Summit side event would represent a continuation of this outreach activity, enabling the Turkish Presidency and G20 Leaders to take on board feedback and suggestions.

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