



PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU
(Research Unit)
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
Government of India



G20 Series #4

India's G20 Presidency

*First Development Working Group meeting
(Mumbai, Maharashtra – December 13-16, 2022)*

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

December 21, 2022

“Our G20 priorities will be shaped in consultation with not just our G20 partners, but also our fellow-travellers in the global South, whose voice often goes unheard.”

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

The first meeting of the **Development Working Group (DWG)** under India's G20 Presidency took place in Mumbai from **December 13-16, 2022**.

Day 1: December 13

The first day of the meeting witnessed two side events:

1. Data for Development (D4D): Role of G20 in advancing the 2030 Agenda

This event was designed as a **curtain-raiser for further deliberations on D4D** that would take place in the Development Working Group under the Sherpa Track during India's G20 Presidency.

In his welcome address, Shri Amitabh Kant, India's G20 Sherpa, underlined the importance of **good quality, real-time and accessible data to bring change in the lives of citizens of developing countries, and even developed countries.**

The session also witnessed a keynote address by Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar. He said that **“We must view the digital economy through a combined prism of trust and protection. We must work together to build a new international framework for technology, internet, and indeed data that mainstreams the public good and sustainable development.”**

Further, keynote addresses were delivered by **Her Majesty Queen Máxima** of the Netherlands and United Nations Secretary-General's Special Advocate for Inclusive Finance for

Development; and **Shri Nandan Nilekani**, Non-Executive Chairman, Infosys & former Chairman, Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

The D4D side event also hosted two breakout sessions on ‘**Rejuvenating Legacy Systems: From Data to Public Value Intelligence**’, and ‘**Models for the Future: Leveraging IoT, Big Data and AI for the SDGs**’.



2. Infusing New LiFE into Green Development

The second side event emphasised on how **India’s LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) initiative** can catalyse multilateral action for achieving the SDGs, including climate and development goals.

In his opening address at the LiFE session, India’s Sherpa **Shri Amitabh Kant** said “**LiFE is critical because a country like India will see rapid urbanisation and individual and collective behaviour will make all the difference.**”

The keynote address was delivered by Her Majesty Queen of Bhutan, **Jetsun Pema**.

Further, this side event also included a video message from **Ms Amina J Mohammed**, Deputy Secretary General, United Nations; a presentation on LiFE by **Shri Parameswaran Iyer**, CEO, NITI Aayog; and an address by **Dr. Arunabha Ghosh**, CEO, CEEW.

The side event hosted two fireside discussions on **boosting SDGs with LiFE and how LiFE could enable sustainable economic transformation**.

To know more, [Click Here](#).

Day 2: December 14

Substantive discussions on India’s key priorities were proposed for the Development Working Group (DWG) agenda with **Sessions 1 & 2** focusing on ‘**Accelerating Progress on the Sustainable Development Goals**’.

The meeting began with a video message by Foreign Secretary of India, **Shri Vinay Mohan Kwatra**, who highlighted **India’s responsibility as the voice of the Global South to accurately represent the multifaceted interests of the developing nations of the world**.

India's DWG co-chairs, Joint Secretaries Mr. Nagaraj Naidu and Ms. Eenam Gambhir, opened the discussions with an overview of the day's agenda, outlining India's priority areas and setting the context for the discussions within significant global setbacks to the SDGs. The discussions covered India's proposals, as well as the immediate developmental impacts of current disruptions in food, energy and financial markets.

Further, discussions were held on **structural frameworks required for**

nations to fulfil commitments made in the 2030 Agenda — including **the need to enhance the ability and capacity of developing countries to meet targets, creating momentum for ongoing work, and creating new action plans wherever needed.** India stressed the **need for a greater voice for developing countries in multilateral institutions and processes**, with a strong emphasis laid on **facilitating effective consultations across countries, groups, and tracks.**

Countries also discussed existing frameworks, and bottlenecks, for accessing sustainable finance, the need to strengthen efforts to achieve gender equality through employment, education, and steps needed to bridge digital divides globally.

To know more, [Click Here](#).

Day 3: December 15

Focused deliberations on **key global issues of harnessing data for development and collective climate action** constituted the third day of the First DWG meeting. Day three marked the conclusion of all five substantive sessions of the four-day-long meeting.

India's DWG co-chairs Joint Secretaries, during **Session 3 on 'Data for Development'**, contextualised the **need to galvanise global efforts to effectively accelerate efforts to attain the goals of the 2030 Agenda.**

Session 3 also included presentations by MeitY and a representative of the G20 Digital Economy Working Group (DEWG), UN Secretary General's Special Envoy on Technology, and a representative from UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

Delegates discussed the **need for quality data, the need for data with trust, the role of the private sector and civil society**, steps needed to **bridge the digital divide, capacity building in developing nations, and aligning the work of the DWG with that of the Digital Economy Working Group.**



Session 4 of the DWG meeting discussed **LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment)**, a central priority for India's G20 Presidency.

Presentations by **Mr. Guiseppe De Simone** of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and **Ms. Divya Dutt** from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) on the **economic and policy frameworks that can enable the adoption of LiFE** provided delegates with data-driven perspectives of the scale, and impact, of this alternative demand-supply paradigm. Ms. Dutt also framed the importance of **“making sustainable lifestyle aspirational”** within the context of circular economies and cross-cutting policy shifts.

Delegates from G20 countries welcomed India's focus on **SDG 12: ‘Responsible Consumption and Production,’** and deliberated avenues to integrate localised realities and knowledge, delineate scope and scale, and identify policy measures that enable and incentivise shifts in this area.

Session 5 discussed the preparation of the **2023 G20 New Delhi Update** and the terms of reference for the outcome document.

The meeting concluded with remarks by the Co-Chair on December 15, 2022.

To know more, [Click Here](#).

Delegates getting a glimpse of India's rich cultural heritage

The meeting concluded with a [visit to Kanheri Caves in Mumbai](#) for an excursion. The Mumbai Regional Office of the Ministry of Tourism enthralled the G20 delegates with Indian Classical Music as well. During the lunch organised by the Ministry of External Affairs at the Tulsi Log Huts, Sanjay Gandhi National Park, the delegates were treated to live classical instrumental music organised by India Tourism Mumbai.

The other highlights are as follows:

1. A Cultural program showcasing the rich folk dance and musical traditions of Maharashtra was organised. The **Abhang, Koli, Sufi, Lavni, Gondhal and Jogva** were some of the folk-dance forms that were presented to the delegates.
2. A high-energy percussion performance - **Puneri dhol** by a 50-member troupe, the majority of whom were women, was also organized.



3. Delegates also went for a **guided tour of the Gateway of India**, which was lit up with G20 logo projection.
4. An **exhibition of local Maharashtrian handicrafts** was also held, which included start-up businesses, and a pottery-making stall.
5. A dinner and cultural program on the lawn of Taj Land's End Hotel was also organised. Here, the Delegates experienced a taste of **Mumbai's world-famous Bollywood film industry**.
6. Between various sessions of the DWG meeting, delegates were able to enjoy the unique taste of **Indian Tandoori Chai (tea)**; which imbibes its smoky flavour from the process of using iron tongs to place a kulhad (small earthen cup) in a hot tandoor.



Prime Minister's meeting with Governors, CMs and LGs to discuss aspects of India's G20 Presidency

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi chaired a video meeting of the **Governors, Chief Ministers of States and Lt Governors of Union Territories** on [December 09, 2022](#), to discuss aspects relating to India's G20 Presidency. He stated that India's G20 Presidency belongs to the entire nation, and is a unique opportunity to showcase the country's strengths.

He emphasized the **importance of teamwork and sought the cooperation of the States / UTs in the organization** of various G20 events.

Prime Minister underlined the importance of **States and UTs utilizing this opportunity to rebrand themselves as attractive business, investments and tourism destinations**. He also talked about the need to document the experiences of the states, which would be a valuable repository for the times to come.

A number of Governors, Chief Ministers, and Lt. Governors shared their thoughts during the meeting, emphasising the preparations being done by the states to suitably host G20 meetings. The meeting was also addressed by Union Minister for External Affairs, and a presentation was made by India's G20 Sherpa.

References:

- <https://www.g20.org/en/media-resources/press-releases/>
- [First Meeting of the G20 Development Working Group to Be Held in Mumbai](#)
- [G20 Sherpa briefed the media on the G20 Development Working Group Meeting](#)
- [MoS Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar addresses the G-20 Development Working Group side event, highlights the importance of data for development](#)

Twitter links:

- [G20 Twitter handle](#)
- [Flashback to the G20 India cultural program that left everyone spellbound](#)
- [Setting a constructive agenda going forward](#)
- [India's approach to the global developmental agenda and its commitment to ensure that no one is left behind](#)
- [Recap of 1st G20 development Working Group Meeting](#)
- [Visit to Kanheri Caves](#)

Video Links:

- [During meeting breaks, #G20 Delegates explore India's rich and colourful art and crafts](#)
- [India: a must-see and a must-visit destination](#)

For more videos, click [here](#)

For photo gallery, click [here](#)

AG/HP/RC/KG