

SERIES



**Research Unit**  
Press Information Bureau  
Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
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## G20 Series #56

### India's G20 Presidency

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Development Working Group (Goa – May 8 - 11, 2023)

(Ministry of Information & Broadcasting)

May 24, 2023

*“Today, the results of efforts for women empowerment are visible and we are feeling a revolutionary change in the social life of the country.”*

- [Prime Minister Narendra Modi](#)

The 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of G20 Development Working Group (DWG) convened from May 8 - 11, 2023, in the vibrant state of Goa. Over 80 delegates from G20 Members, 9 invitee countries, and various international and regional organizations attended the meeting. The participants included several high-profile experts and speakers from international organisations, academia, think tanks and civil society who deliberated on matters such as Women and the Economy in Emerging Sectors, Women's leadership in the Uniformed Services, and how women can act as agents of change in Climate Resilience and Food Systems.

### Day 1: May 8, 2023

The first day of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Development Working Group (DWG) meeting began with an engaging and insightful **side event on women-led development**, one of India's key G20 priority areas.

The side event commenced with an opening address by Shri Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation (ORF) who spoke on the need for not just greater inclusion and empowerment of women but also new leadership that will proliferate in the coming decades.

Emphasizing the need to build generational equality, Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Nagaraj Naidu in his welcome address said we must unlock women's full potential through a women-led development



approach. He underlined that women's ability to participate equally in the markets; their access to and control over productive resources, access to decent work, control over their own time, lives and bodies; and greater voice, agency and meaningful participation in economic decision-making not only spurs productivity and economic growth but is essential to achieve peaceful societies, realizing its full human potential and sustainable development.



The **first session on “Women and Economy: Emerging Sectors and the Future of Work”** shed light on several key topics such as reimagining systems to ensure equal access to education in STEM and digital skill development, ways to address the double burden of care work that is placed on women from a policy perspective even as women occupy leadership roles in the formal economy, and investments needed for reskilling, upskilling, and capacity building to ensure that women are trained for jobs of the future.

The spotlight session on **“Women’s Leadership in the Uniformed Services”** focused on women in the Indian Navy, from serving in the medical corps and as pilots to managing logistics and education as well as taking part and even leading the contingents for the Republic Day Parade.



In the final session of the day, **“Agents of Change: Climate Resilience and Food Systems”**, panellists discussed the need to promote women's entrepreneurship in green sectors and strengthen women-focused investments in climate and disaster resilience, policy interventions that can support women's engagement in climate-friendly food systems and expanding food supply chains, and innovative financing instruments that can support gender-responsive climate and food system programmes and interventions.

The closing remarks were delivered by Joint Secretary, Ministry of External Affairs, Ms Eenam Gambhir, who stressed that increasing the potential of women as leaders is a critical long-term investment for organizational success, national prosperity and quality of life and more women in leadership roles bring in innovation and human-centric solutions.

Women-led development is supported by several international frameworks, including the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). To achieve SDG 5 of gender equality, women must have a full and equal share in economic, social, cultural and political decision-making.



The panels closed with all the panellists calling on the G20 Development Working Group to work towards an actionable outcome that will contribute to building generation equality, and unleash women's full potential through a women-led development approach, which calls for women's full, equal, effective and meaningful participation as decision-makers for addressing global challenges effectively, decisively and inclusively.

### **Day 2: May 9, 2023**

The formal segment of the 3<sup>rd</sup> G20 DWG meeting commenced on May 9, 2023. The meeting started with a video address by Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs, Shri Dammu Ravi, who welcomed all the delegates and highlighted that India has put forth an ambitious agenda for the DWG that aims to bring inclusive and sustainable development and accelerating achievement of SDGs at the forefront. Mr. Ravi stated that the outcome documents proposed by India including High-Level Principles (HLPs) for Data for Development, HLPs for LiFE and Action Plan on Accelerating Progress on the SDGs will directly feed into the Leaders' level document, the Green Development Pact that will be adopted at the Leaders' summit in September. He urged the DWG to work towards consensus documents and requested support from all delegations.





The sessions on **Data for Development** and HLPs on LiFE saw exhaustive and engaging discussions and negotiations for finalizing the language of outcome documents that reflects the strong collective will of G20 to work together on the development agenda. Satisfactory progress was achieved during the sessions in coming to a common understanding on a lot of issues.

An exhibition showcasing India's women-led initiatives was inaugurated before the start of the formal meeting in the morning. The exhibition was based on the theme of **"ECHO" – Economy with Safe Climate and Health** which was organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of External Affairs. The exhibition was curated by the National Institute of Fashion Technology and showcased products conceived, designed, and made by women entrepreneurs, such as handloom and textile items; handicrafts; tea, spices, ayurvedic products, and millet-based food products. All the DWG delegates took a tour of the exhibition and appreciated the live demonstrations, sustainable products, and immersive digital experience with 3D holograms. Goa Chief Minister, Shri Sawant also took time to visit the exhibition and interacted with the women entrepreneurs.

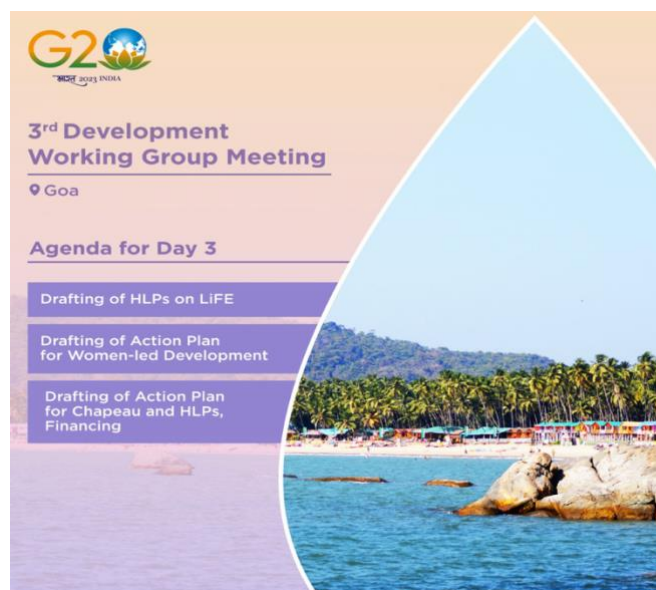


An exquisite art and craft exhibition has also been curated by Serendipity Arts at the meeting venue. The exhibition was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Goa, Shri Pramod Sawant in the presence of senior government officials and DWG delegates. It showcased the rich and varied craft traditions from different parts of India that have shaped many cultural identities and are being rediscovered, reinvented and reinterpreted through innovative applications of modern design elements.



### Day 3: May 10, 2023

The first session on Day 3 witnessed exhaustive & engaging discussions for finalising the High-Level Principles of LiFE. Deliberations continued to reflect the strong enthusiasm of nations to come together & achieve the development agenda.



In the second session, G20 India called for a paradigm shift in the role of women through accelerated action on gender equality & women's empowerment, including through a women-led development approach. Without global commitment, gender equality will remain unrealized.

In the third session, India's G20 Presidency advocated for women-led development as crucial for achieving the SDGs by supporting women's economic and social empowerment, digital inclusion & nutrition security, and adopting gender-responsive approaches in environment & climate action.





## Day 4: May 11, 2023



The first session on Day 4 of the 3<sup>rd</sup> DWG Meeting deliberated on inclusive solutions & collective actions to mitigate financial challenges. The discussions were instrumental in paving the way towards reinvigorated and reformed multilateralism.

The second session of Day 4 highlighted how collaborative efforts can push towards achieving sustainable development, holistically. Delegates emphasised the need for strengthening cooperation to address major international economic concerns.



## Soaking in the Rich Heritage of Goa

1. Delegates were given a tour of the Raj Bhavan. Formerly called the Cabo Palace, this Governor's Residence has a history that dates back over four centuries.



2. A cultural evening and gala dinner was organised wherein G20 DWG delegates along with senior functionaries from the Government of Goa and the Government of India, witnessed scintillating performances that provided a glimpse into the rich and diverse cultural heritage of Goa.

3. Delegates witnessed the virtuosity of Goans for performing arts. They treasured the vibrant culture and thoroughly enjoyed the melodious music.



### **References:**

[Third G20 Development Working Group Meeting under the Indian Presidency in the vibrant state of Goa, India](#)

[India's G20 Presidency: Third Development Working Group Meeting](#)

[Third G20 Development Working Group Meeting under Indian Presidency](#)

[Exhibition on Women-Led Development Held on Sidelines of Third DWG Meeting in Goa \(9-11 May 2023\)](#)

### **Twitter Links:**

['Echo'- an exhibition on Women-led Development showcasing women's role in assuring sustainable development.](#)

[Summary of the 4-day DWG meeting under India's G20 Presidency](#)

### **Video link:**

[MEDIA BRIEFING ON 3RD DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING, GOA](#)

[SIDE EVENT ON WOMEN-LED DEVELOPMENT, 3RD DEVELOPMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING, GOA](#)

**NR/HP/RK/KG**