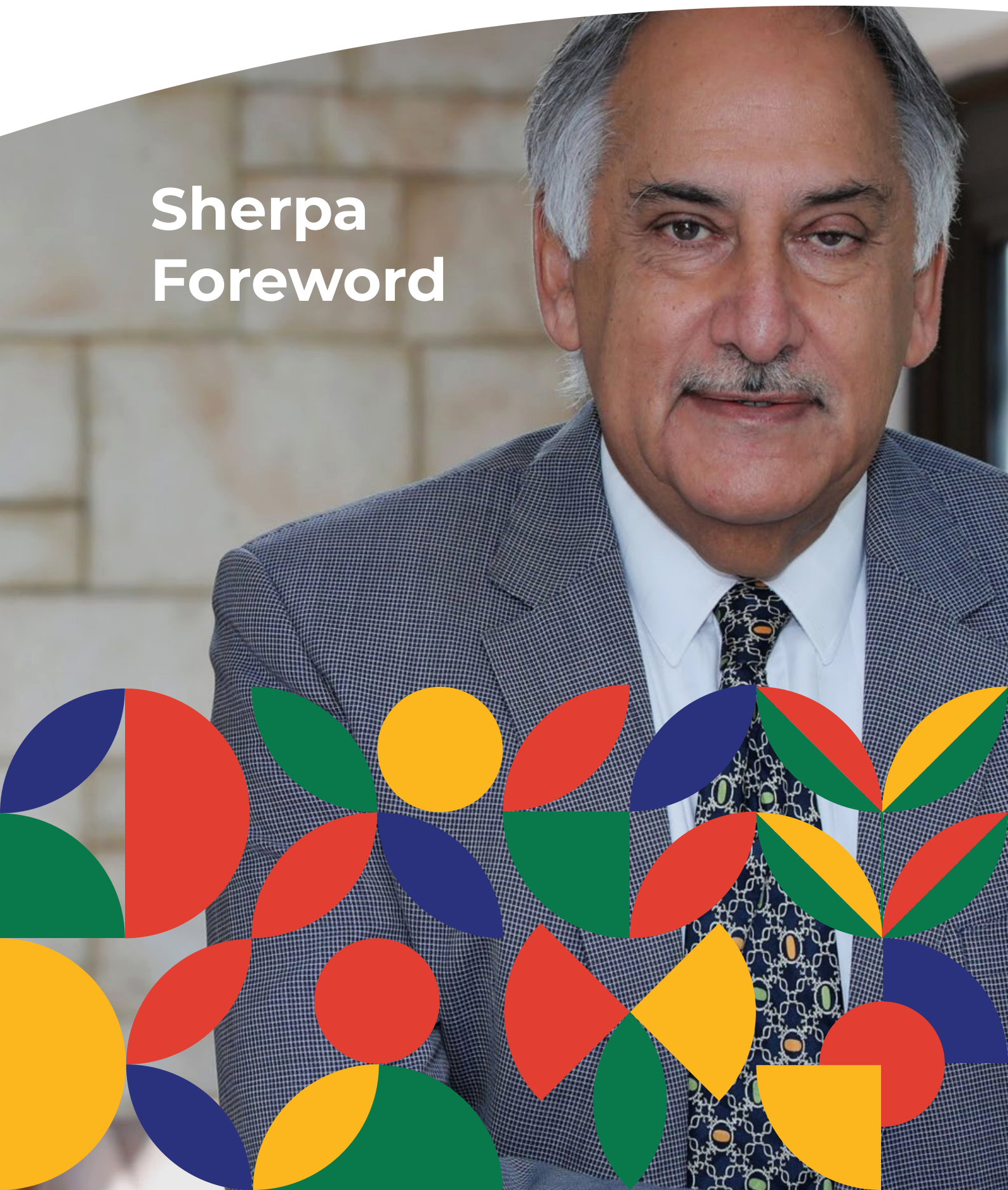


Sherpa Foreword



The first African B20

A legacy of leadership, a future of opportunity

It is with great pride and purpose that we present the recommendations of B20 South Africa to the G20 Presidency and global business community. These recommendations are the culmination of months of rigorous deliberation, collaboration and innovation by eight global task forces, each composed of distinguished business leaders, experts and practitioners from across the world. It reflects not only the intellectual depth and diversity of the global business community, but also the shared ambition to shape a more inclusive, resilient and cooperative global economy.

*This is a historic moment. For the first time, the B20 has been hosted on African soil - an achievement that carries profound symbolic and strategic significance. South Africa's stewardship of the B20 continues the legacy of the Global South, following in the footsteps of Indonesia, India and Brazil who have brought fresh perspectives and urgent priorities to the G20 dialogue. **Our theme - Inclusive Growth and Prosperity through Global Cooperation** - is both a call to action and a reflection of the values that have guided our work.*

We convened this B20 during a time of extraordinary global complexity. The world continues to grapple with the aftershocks of a pandemic, persistent geopolitical tensions, climate disruption and economic uncertainty. Yet, amidst these challenges, there is also opportunity - opportunity to reimagine global cooperation, to invest in people and planet, and to build systems that are more equitable, sustainable and future-ready. In short, an opportunity to reset!



The B20 South Africa task forces have responded to this moment with clarity and conviction. Their recommendations are not abstract ideals, but actionable proposals grounded in evidence, experience and a commitment to inclusive progress.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the Task Force Chairs, Deputy Chairs, and Co-Chairs, whose leadership and dedication have been instrumental in shaping this agenda.

I also wish to thank our Network Partners, the Local Business Advisory Council (LBAC), and the International Business Advocacy Caucus (IBAC) for their invaluable oversight, insights and strategic guidance.

My sincere appreciation also goes to our Knowledge Partners, the B20 Secretariat and its leadership for their sterling contributions. Lastly, none of our work would have been possible without our Sponsor Partners, who committed to this journey with us and shared in the vision of an African B20.



Cas Coovadia,
B20 Sherpa

B20 Task Forces



Employment &
Education



Energy Mix &
Just Transition



Trade &
Investment



Sustainable Food
Systems & Agriculture



Integrity &
Compliance



Digital
Transformation



Finance &
Infrastructure



Industrial Transformation
& Innovation

Our work has been guided by four core strategic pillars



Unlocking inclusive growth and enabling widespread economic participation



Investing in human capital and re-energising a thriving skills market



Driving industry reforms to build resiliency into global and regional supply chains



Strengthening the role and involvement of women and SMEs in business

These pillars have anchored our efforts to serve as a platform for deeper global cooperation, to showcase Africa's capabilities and opportunities and to foster partnerships that address shared challenges.

Across our eight task forces, 30 recommendations have been put forward spanning **finance, trade, food security, energy, digital transformation, integrity, skills development and industrialisation.** Each reflects rigorous analysis and collective insight from global business leaders.

In drawing these together, we have identified five strategic themes and three enabling mechanisms that capture the most urgent and actionable levers for inclusive global growth. Together, they provide a roadmap that is both ambitious in scope and grounded in the realities of implementation.

These strategic themes and enabling mechanisms are essential to unlocking the next chapter of global growth



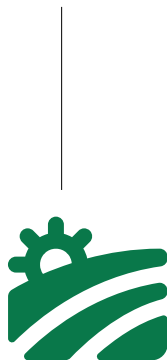
Powering infrastructure and industry through capital access

We advocate for innovative finance models, data-driven approaches to reduce capital costs and the scaling of bankable, high-impact projects.



Driving food security through stronger agricultural value chains

We call for enhanced private-sector roles, sustainable farming practices and the removal of trade barriers to build resilient food systems.



Building sustainable and climate-responsive economic systems

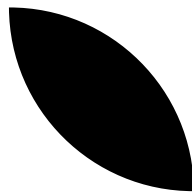
We encourage expanded adaptation financing for emerging markets and developing economies, growth in renewable energy industries and the adoption of sustainable technologies through incentives and collaboration.





Empowering Africa's digital and skills transformation

We propose inclusive digital infrastructure, alignment of skills with industry needs and responsible use of technology to combat corruption and drive productivity.



Unlocking Africa's industrialisation in the critical minerals value chain

We see the energy transition as a generational opportunity to drive value-added production, improve governance and address power and logistics challenges.



Achieving progress across these five themes is only possible if the conditions for success are in place. The three enablers that follow underpin this effort, providing the stability, partnerships, and inclusivity needed to turn our collective ambitions into action.



Enabling Mechanisms

1

Fostering business resilience and market stability

Through integrity, anti-corruption measures and rules-based trade, supported by a reset of key multilateral institutions.

2

Unlocking investment and growth through well-designed public-private partnerships

To mobilise capital, share risk, and deliver infrastructure and services at scale.

3

Building competitive markets by empowering women, upgrading SMEs and championing safe, healthy workforces

To ensure that growth is not only robust but also inclusive and just.



We are proud that B20 South Africa has achieved 50% women representation in key leadership and policy positions, a milestone that reflects our commitment to gender equity and the belief that diverse leadership drives better outcomes.

As we hand over the publication of our recommendations to the G20 Presidency, we enter a new phase of focused advocacy.

Between now and the G20 Summit in November, we will work tirelessly to ensure that these recommendations are not only heard but acted upon. We will engage with governments, multilateral institutions and business leaders to build consensus and momentum around the proposals contained herein.

To ensure continuity and collaboration, we look forward to continuing our engagement with our American counterparts as they assume the G20 presidency next year. Our aim is to ensure that the priorities of B20 South Africa - particularly those reflecting the needs and aspirations of the Global South - remain central to the global agenda.

In November, South Africa will host up to 2,000 global business leaders, organisation heads and experts from approximately 25 countries. This gathering will be more than a summit - it will be a celebration of shared purpose, a showcase of African innovation and a reaffirmation of our collective commitment to inclusive growth and prosperity through global cooperation.

Let this Foreword serve not only as an introduction to our recommendations, but also as an invitation - to engage, to collaborate and to lead. The challenges before us are formidable, but so too is our resolve. Together, we can build a future that is more just, more resilient and more united.

**Thank you. Siyabonga. Rea le boga.
Asante. Merci. Jazakallah.**





INCLUSIVE
Growth



SHARED
Prosperity



GLOBAL
Cooperation