



CHAIR SUMMARY
G20 MULTISTAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE
“Connectivity and Social Inclusion”
12th of April 2021

G20 members and International Organization members virtually met on April 12th, 2021 with the idea to create a fertile environment where to discuss about the potential of innovation, inclusion and growth unlocked by the connectivity diffusion.

During the last years G20 members acknowledged in different occasions the importance of connectivity for a sustainable development, encouraging the domestic deployment of connectivity to all people by 2025 and reconfirming that the digital revolution represents a fundamental tool to achieve prosperity and better quality of life.

The COVID-19 crisis underscored the essential nature of connectivity in facilitating interactions between people, organizations, and machines, and in enabling the use of connected devices in critical contexts, including health, education, manufacturing, transport and government services.

During the event it has been outlined in particular that improved connectivity and the increased use of information and communication technology have become necessary conditions to ensure a sustainable global growth, contributing to the spreading of stability, the digital inclusion for all the citizens, despite age, gender or race, and the development of an active entrepreneurial layer while respecting the environment. Thus, there is a need to tackle the different divides concerning usage and access and promote a secure, resilient, sustainable, widespread, affordable, fast and trustworthy connectivity for all.

Participants recognized that the impossibility to access internet and to use digital technologies can become key factors of social exclusion of people. Furthermore, the importance to drive the process of technological development by keeping the human being as protagonist has been highlighted. This goes hand in hand with encouraging the participation in education and training for all, in order to close gender gaps and overcome stereotypes. Education systems, thus, need to evolve, in terms of contents and methodologies, and be transformed into lifelong learning systems, against the backdrop of a circular process enabling people to exploit digital benefits and, at the same time, protecting them in a more resilient digital environment.

In addition, it has been broadly emphasized that enhancing connectivity, investing in technological development and the improvement of the digital infrastructure, including access to high-powered computing, increasing the digital offer to and the digital skills of people and workers, in order to minimize workforce disruptions, in urban, rural or displaced scenarios, means that all the citizens will have access to more efficient services, in a way that consumers will enjoy more choices and business will be able to explore more opportunities.



The usage of ICTs and digital technologies as well as the participation to STEM studies, have been recognized as key factors offering multiple opportunities for gender equality, in particular concerning women's empowerment.

In this regard, it appears crucial to foster competition, investments, and innovation in all digital segments thanks to specific measures that eliminate divides and reduce barriers having, at the same time, positive effects on the environment.

The G20 Italian Presidency appreciated the active participation and extends its gratitude to thank all participants, Minister Giorgetti, Minister Colao and the invited speakers from Argentina, B20, the EU Commission, Indonesia, Infratel Italia, ITU-D, Japan, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, L20, OECD, UNHCR, UNIDO, USA, WB and Y20. Enhanced collaboration at international level and the exchange of good practices remains key to tackle global challenges through connectivity and to expand the potential for resilience.