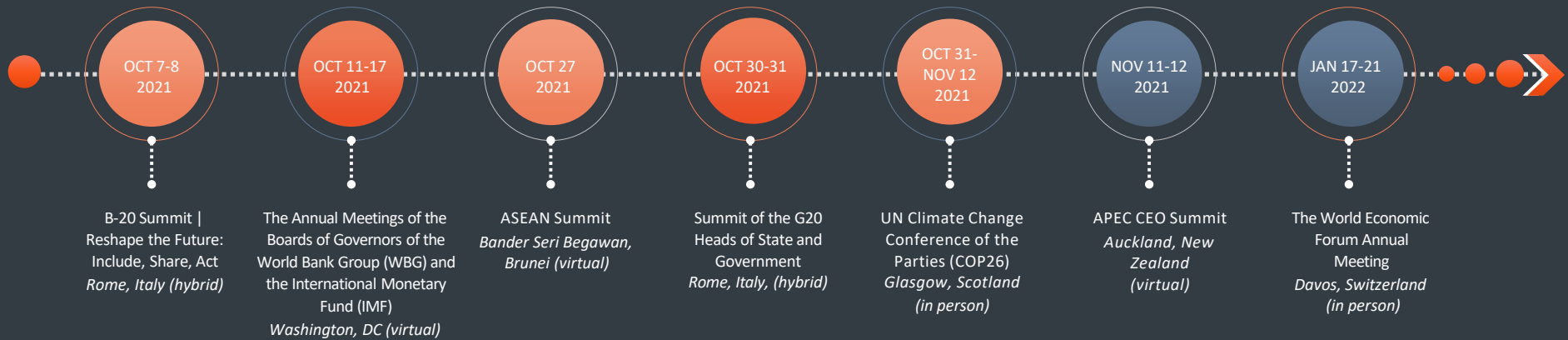


## WHAT'S ON THE GLOBAL AGENDA?

There has been a convergence of critical multilateral events over the past two months, bringing together heads of state, business, civil society, non-profit leaders and activists. From UNGA to the G20, we have seen a number of cross-cutting themes emerge that present opportunities for strategic engagement, cross-sectoral partnerships and collaboration to advance innovative solutions to critical issues.



## EMERGING GLOBAL THEMES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIPS:

- CLIMATE**  
 Climate change is top-of-mind for global leaders, as everyone is witnessing the dire effects of a warming planet. The decade ahead is crucial in addressing the threat and fulfilling the 2015 Paris Agreement ambition. Private sector has an important role to play in accelerating decarbonization and Net Zero commitments; building adaptation and mitigation solutions and driving behavioral change through policy advocacy, consumer and communities' engagement
- INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC RECOVERY**  
 Lower-Income Countries (LICs) and Middle-Income Countries (MIC) will likely be facing a divergent recovery path from developed markets. Many are still in the eye of the COVID-19 storm and companies with operations across developing markets should assess market and operations-specific initiatives to help bridge these gaps, especially focusing on partnerships with local Micro-, Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (MSMEs) to build stronger access to global trade.
- GENDER, YOUTH AND EQUALITY**  
 Gender equality and youth workforce development are central to all recovery plans. New opportunities around upskilling and reskilling, youth preparedness for new job market realities and building inclusive and equitable workforce, supply chains and communities are central pillars for cross sectoral collaborations.
- PROMOTION AND EQUITABLE DISSEMINATION OF VACCINES**  
 Vaccines are central for saving lives, restarting economies and preventing the spread of new COVID variants. The global community needs to halt protectionism on vaccines' production and distribution. Development Finance Institutions are continuously looking for innovative partnerships with the private sector in this area, with COVAX and WHO Foundation currently leading the [Go Give 1 Campaign](#).
- PREVENTION AND PREPAREDNESS FOR FUTURE CRISES**  
 The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the need for building preventative measures and systems to anticipate future risks -- particularly related to climate and health. Businesses can support development of new digitally-enabled infrastructure, increasing access to energy, building more nimble health systems -- which are all essential to reinforcing resilience on national, regional and global levels.
- TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**  
 Transparency and accountability should be promoted across various verticals, focusing on sustainable governance, procurement cycles, climate metrics reporting, and the collection and transparency around data. Businesses can play a meaningful role in fostering a culture of respect, inclusiveness, and non-discrimination to promote transparent governance throughout the ecosystems they touch.

# WHAT'S ON THE GLOBAL AGENDA?



The **Business 20 (B20)** is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community. Established in 2010, reserved to companies and business organizations, it is among the most prominent G20 Engagement Groups. The B20 composes of an average of over 1,000 delegates from the G20 countries, including top executives from leading multinational corporations. It accounts around 2,000 participants representing an overall business community of over 6.5 million businesses. The B20 delivers concrete actionable policy recommendations on G20 priorities. In addition to the cross-cutting themes highlighted above, the B-20 Summit also covered:

- **Unlocking digital transformation** by speeding up the roll-out of high-capacity future-proof digital infrastructures, enhancing technology accessibility, and creating on-ramps to the digital economy for the excluded to foster innovation, competition, and inclusion.
- **Enhancing trade responsiveness against future disruptions** in order to free cross-border transactions and enable more resilient Global Value Chains.
- **Reinforcing critical information infrastructure** and data security against major cyber incidents.
- **Fostering transition to Value-Based Health (VBH)** by assessing and measuring health as a critical investment



## ANNUAL MEETINGS 2021 | WASHINGTON DC

WORLD BANK GROUP  
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

The World Bank Group (WBG)/ International Monetary Fund (IMF) Annual Meetings bring together central bankers, ministers of finance and development, parliamentarians

private sector executives, representatives from civil society organizations and academics to discuss issues of global concern, including the world economic outlook, poverty eradication, economic development, and aid effectiveness. In addition to the cross-cutting themes highlighted above, the WBG/IMF Annual Meetings also covered:

- **How the WBG will commit additional investments aimed to protect the poor and vulnerable, expand social protection, support businesses, and preserve and create jobs.** In 2021, they committed \$157 billion, and they will continue to increase investments.
- **The WBG and IMF's intent to support job creation and economic transformation as part of a broad agenda for green, resilient, and inclusive development.** They will further support mechanisms to increase their climate finance, including from private sources.



The G20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies. Its members account for more than 80% of world GDP. Originating as an economic ministerial summit, the G20 has met every year since 1999, and since 2008, includes Heads of State. The summit culminates in a Leaders' communique that reflects the priorities and commitments of G20 leaders in addressing global challenges from trade policy to gender equality.

The Leaders communique included **an agreement on a global corporate tax rate**, championed by President Biden, taking aim at some of the world's largest, wealthiest multinational companies. Implementation of a new tax rate still requires complex policy negotiations at the domestic level and is a long way from execution.

**Agreements on carbon emissions and coal production were non-binding** and disappointing to many climate champions heading in to the COP26 meeting.

Indonesia takes over the G20 presidency for 2022 and we can expect to see **increased attention on inclusive and equitable COVID recovery.**



## UN CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE UK 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ITALY

**COP26**  
The UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) is held in Glasgow from Oct 31-Nov 12, 2021 under the Presidency of the United Kingdom, in partnership with Italy.

Two hundred heads of state, as well as climate experts and negotiators will come together to agree on coordinated action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Countries will be required to update their nationally determined contributions (NDCs) for reducing greenhouse gas emissions for the first time since the Paris conference. COP26 will mark the beginning of a "decade of action" with the widespread introduction of the net zero emission targets and new policies and regulations intended to speed up the transition.

COP-26 already heralded important and groundbreaking national and private sector commitments to action on forests and land use, methane reduction, acceleration of clean technology and innovation and more. There will be growing and accelerated importance of multi-stakeholder initiatives and campaigns to continue the momentum after the Summit into COP-27 in Egypt and an ever-increasing role and voices of youth and indigenous communities.

## LOOKING TOWARDS 2022 AND BEYOND

- Given the magnitude of global issues on the agenda going into 2022, it is now more important than ever for leaders across sectors to collaborate, share resources, and speak with a unified voice to address economic recovery, public health concerns, climate action, supply chain issues, digital transformation, and equity across communities
- Low-income countries (LICs) and medium-income countries (MICs) need to be at the forefront of economic and social recovery investments. This will be particularly relevant for the 5th United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) conference, scheduled for January 23-27, 2022 in Doha, where the plan for the next decade will be designed
- The World Economic Forum's Annual Meeting in Davos is scheduled for January 17-21. The theme will be Working Together, Restoring Trust, and will focus on: Global Cooperation; Economic Rebalancing; Society and Equity; Climate and Energy Transition; Innovation and Governance; Industrial Transformation; and Risk and Resilience



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