



B20 India Secretariat



Confederation of Indian Industry



®

PARTNERSHIP SUMMIT 2023

**Building the World with Partnerships:
Internationalisation, Growth,
Competitiveness, Sustainability**

13-15 March 2023: Hotel Taj Palace, New Delhi

Concept Note

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Over the past one year, the global economy battled several adverse circumstances that added to a series of supply shocks. Pandemic related disruptions continued in several parts of the world, combined with increased uncertainty due to other geopolitical developments, most notably the Russia-Ukraine war. The world economy, which was on a path of recovery, is now faced with significant risks with respect to overall economic prospects, with volatile commodity and energy prices leading to inflationary pressures and further supply chain disruptions slowing down economic activity.

Importantly, the move towards global cooperation and international solidarity has been a critical feature of the last few years, as global policymakers have prioritized the need for decisive, timely and coordinated global action to address the plethora of challenges arising due to the changing global environment.

Despite the ongoing global economic developments and disturbances, India with a growth rate of 8.7 per cent for 2021-22 has today become an island of macroeconomic stability and a new horizon of opportunities, with a predictable and progressive policy environment. Total trade crossed US\$ 1 trillion while inward investments touched new peaks, as countries seek to diversify supply chains and seek favourable investment climates.

The Indian economy has made rapid strides owing to the many significant initiatives of the Government of India and solid structural reforms. Ease of doing business, infrastructure policies and initiatives, reduction in corporate tax rates, FDI policy reforms, and Production Linked Incentive schemes for 14 sectors, among others are some of the initiatives that have contributed to making India a leading investment and manufacturing destination in the world, with one of the most open and investment friendly economies.

India has also greatly stepped up its external engagement over the last few years and has signed trade agreements with Australia and UAE, with several others in the negotiation phases. These, in turn, are expected to fuel economic growth by



boosting trade and investments and creating jobs for participating economies. The country is likely to continue on its trajectory of investment driven export-led growth and further strengthen economic interaction with the rest of the world.

Given this backdrop, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is organizing the CII Partnership Summit 2023 that will provide an excellent platform for thought leaders, global policymakers and businesses to exchange ideas and perspectives and consolidate partnerships for leveraging emerging opportunities.

This edition of the CII Partnership Summit gains a new salience as India assumes the G20 Presidency. The Business 20 (B20) is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community. Established in 2010, B20 is among the most prominent Engagement Groups in G20, with companies and business organizations as participants. The B20 leads the process of galvanizing global business leaders for their views on issues of global economic and trade governance and speaks in a single voice for the entire G20 business community.

The B20 aims to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations on priorities by each rotating presidency to spur economic growth and development. B20 bases its work on Task Forces (TFs) and Action Councils (ACs) entrusted to develop consensus-based policy recommendations to the G20 and to international organizations and institutions. The B20 officially conveys its final recommendation to the G20 Presidency on the occasion of the B20 Summit, which takes place back-to-back with the G20 Summit.

CII is tasked to be B20 India Secretariat and will be convening task forces and action councils on identified issues. The discussions at the task forces and action councils will shape the policy papers to be submitted during the G20 India Summit in 2023.

The CII Partnership Summit, held annually since 1995, has been regularly partnered by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. The Partnership Summit 2021 convened 250+ speakers from more than 40 countries for a global audience of over 7,000 delegates on the virtual platform. The CII Partnership Summit 2023 will focus on how India's growth story, its reform process and external engagement will help to rebalance the world and impart stability to growth processes. It will also capture global business ideas under the aegis of B20 India.

This year's Partnership Summit will hold high level discussions broadly along the tracks of the global and Indian economy, G20/B20, competitiveness, resilient supply

chains, investments, sustainability, start-ups and entrepreneurship, technology and the social dimension. It will focus on the opportunities and imperatives for countries and businesses to drive future strategies for growth, competitiveness, and sustainable and inclusive development.

Suggested Tracks

1. Geopolitical and Geostrategic

The global geopolitical landscape has undergone remarkable changes over the last few years. Notable developments such as the Russia-Ukraine war and the emergence of the Indo-Pacific as a strategic area of importance, among others, coupled with the Covid-19 pandemic are imparting new nuances to the global alliance architecture. As the world moves towards a new multi-polar order, which will have significant impact on people, economies and businesses, there is an urgent need for global leaders and policymakers to come together and collaborate across the world.

2. Growth

Recent geopolitical developments have deteriorated global economic prospects. A surge in inflation due to higher food and fuel prices and resultant tightening of monetary policies across many countries is adversely impacting economic growth. The December 2022 report of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook has projected a global growth of 3.2% in 2022 and 2.7% in 2023, with negative rates in some large economies. Within this, India with 6.1% projected growth rate for 2023 is expected to remain a global growth driver. The sessions under this track will explore the policies that can further propel growth, while addressing some of the current global challenges in advanced and emerging economies.

3. G20 / B20

India has assumed the Presidency of the G20, a strategic multilateral forum of twenty of the world's major developed and emerging economies. It shall play a critical role in coordinating global policy and action in areas including trade, health, climate change, etc. and in securing future global inclusive growth and development. India will bring together the G20 nations in the summit meeting in 2023 for which CII is the designated secretariat for the B20, the business group



of the G20 nations. The track will discuss the possible policy suggestions of the B20 in initiating and implementing global policy action at the G20 platform.

4. Competitiveness

Enhancing competitiveness of nations as well as businesses has become critical for boosting growth and economic prospects of nations. This requires upgrading a country's productive abilities through efficient allocation of resources, at both the firm and the macroeconomic level. Of particular importance is improving the competitiveness of smaller and medium enterprises, which are significant contributors to a nation's economic development. Technology and innovations also play key roles in promoting business competitiveness. Policies that matter for competitiveness thus must be appropriately designed. The session will deliberate on the different aspects of boosting national as well as enterprise competitiveness, especially for developing nations.

5. Trade Policy

The Covid-19 pandemic and more recently, the Russia-Ukraine war have escalated disruptions to global trade and international supply chains, with new bottlenecks arising and intensifying production and efficiency losses. Thus, action to offset such losses and build greater supply chain resilience through efficient trade policies is a critical element for a sustained global economic revival. A rules-based multilateral trading system for improving market access and promoting free and fair trade would be a major engine of growth. This would require upgrading trade policies with a new and ambitious policy agenda, which in turn would enhance global trade flows and promote economic growth.

India in recent times has signed several trade agreements with key partner nations to accelerate its external engagement further. This track would bring together the trade potential of the world as it rebalances its value chains.

6. Investments

For recovery to become entrenched, concerted efforts would be required from the world's policymakers. New reforms and strategic investment policies will need to be in place for driving global recovery. India's new policies and reforms cut across the economy, extend to all states and regions, and include all sectors, including manufacturing, services, agriculture and infrastructure. The sub-theme of investments under the Partnership Summit would focus on important aspects such as sustainable finance, international taxation reforms, and financial incentives

as well as the role of international trade agreements in facilitating investments. There will be various country and state sessions that would focus on facilitating investments and connecting investors from across the world.

7. Sustainability

Addressing climate change is one of the foremost priorities during present times and is critical for a cleaner, healthier and a sustainable future as countries race to meet commitments under COP26. India is well on the path to meeting its climate change commitments and has undertaken mission mode programs in renewable energy, green hydrogen and electric vehicles. Importance of technology is underscored in this context as efforts to reduce emissions would require new and modern equipment and renewable energies. Facilitating better management practices and affecting changes in consumer behaviour will also be extremely relevant and these topics would be explored under this track.

8. Technology

Technology today impacts almost every aspect of people's lives starting from communications to financial inclusion to food safety to transport efficiency, among many others. New and advanced technologies play a key role in long-run economic prospects by facilitating innovation, gainful employment and growth. During the pandemic, technology played a key role in delivering healthcare and emergency services. The role of technology was also vital in reviving small enterprises, which were negatively impacted by the pandemic.

The pandemic accelerated many technology trends including digital payments, remote work, telehealth, etc. Today, technology has a key role to play in making societies and businesses more resilient in the face of sudden shocks and future pandemics. This session would explore the role of technology in the post-pandemic area along with discussing its key trends.

9. The Social Dimension

Social competence is a critical aspect of a company's aspiration to grow continuously as well as its ability to expand further in the future. A company's business strategy that adds a social dimension also opens up new opportunities for growth and profitability, while attracting and motivating new employees and business partners, and new ways of thinking for doing business. This in turn makes way for developing a competitive advantage that is sustainable and creates shared value. This session would include topics such as corporate social



responsibility, social impact investing and the role of volunteering as well as the role of partnerships in creating the right environment for improving social aspects of a company's development journey.

10. African Economic Integration

With a population of 1.3 billion and a GDP of close to US\$3 trillion, the African economies are set on a path to development transition. Agenda 2063 established by the African Union is a powerful framework for driving its growth, with the African Continental Free Trade Agreement bearing the potential to transform its participation in global trade and moving beyond commodity trade to generate value-added products. This session will include topics such as how global businesses can work on facilitating the contours of regional production networks in Africa and will look at the various ways that the world, and B20 in particular, can participate in Africa's inclusive development.

Conclusion

With a wide-ranging spectrum of discussions under the above tracks, The CII Partnership Summit 2023 sets the pace for intensifying India's external orientation at a critical time when it is leading the G20 group of nations. Strengthening partnerships at a global level has never before been so urgent for the global economy and India, which promises to be the 5th largest economy in a few years, assumes a central role in this endeavour. With industry as a key player in the growth mission, its partnerships will define the trends for the world's future trajectory.



Confederation of Indian Industry

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) works to create and sustain an environment conducive to the development of India, partnering Industry, Government and civil society, through advisory and consultative processes.

CII is a non-government, not-for-profit, industry-led and industry-managed organization, with around 9000 members from the private as well as public sectors, including SMEs and MNCs, and an indirect membership of over 300,000 enterprises from 286 national and regional sectoral industry bodies.

For more than 125 years, CII has been engaged in shaping India's development journey and works proactively on transforming Indian Industry's engagement in national development. CII charts change by working closely with Government on policy issues, interfacing with thought leaders, and enhancing efficiency, competitiveness and business opportunities for industry through a range of specialized services and strategic global linkages. It also provides a platform for consensus-building and networking on key issues.

Extending its agenda beyond business, CII assists industry to identify and execute corporate citizenship programmes. Partnerships with civil society organizations carry forward corporate initiatives for integrated and inclusive development across diverse domains including affirmative action, livelihoods, diversity management, skill development, empowerment of women, and sustainable development, to name a few.

As India completes 75 years of Independence in 2022, it must position itself for global leadership with a long-term vision for India@100 in 2047. The role played by Indian industry will be central to the country's progress and success as a nation. CII, with the Theme for 2022-23 as Beyond India@75: Competitiveness, Growth, Sustainability, Internationalisation has prioritized 7 action points under these 4 sub-themes that will catalyze the journey of the country towards the vision of India@100.

With 62 offices, including 10 Centres of Excellence, in India, and 8 overseas offices in Australia, Egypt, Germany, Indonesia, Singapore, UAE, UK, and USA, as well as institutional partnerships with 350 counterpart organizations in 133 countries, CII serves as a reference point for Indian industry and the international business community.

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