



## Perspective: G20 BRAZIL 2024

**For Prelims:** [G20 Climate Finance](#), [UNFCCC COP 30](#), [COP29](#), [Climate Change](#), [Global Tax](#), [National Sovereignty](#), [Multilateral Development Banks \(MDBs\)](#), [Renewable Energy](#), [Global Governance](#), [Combating Hunger](#), [Global Governance Reform](#), [Middle East](#), [Developing Nations](#), [Trade Liberalization](#), [Russia-Ukraine War](#), [African Union](#), [Global South](#), [Middle East Tensions](#).

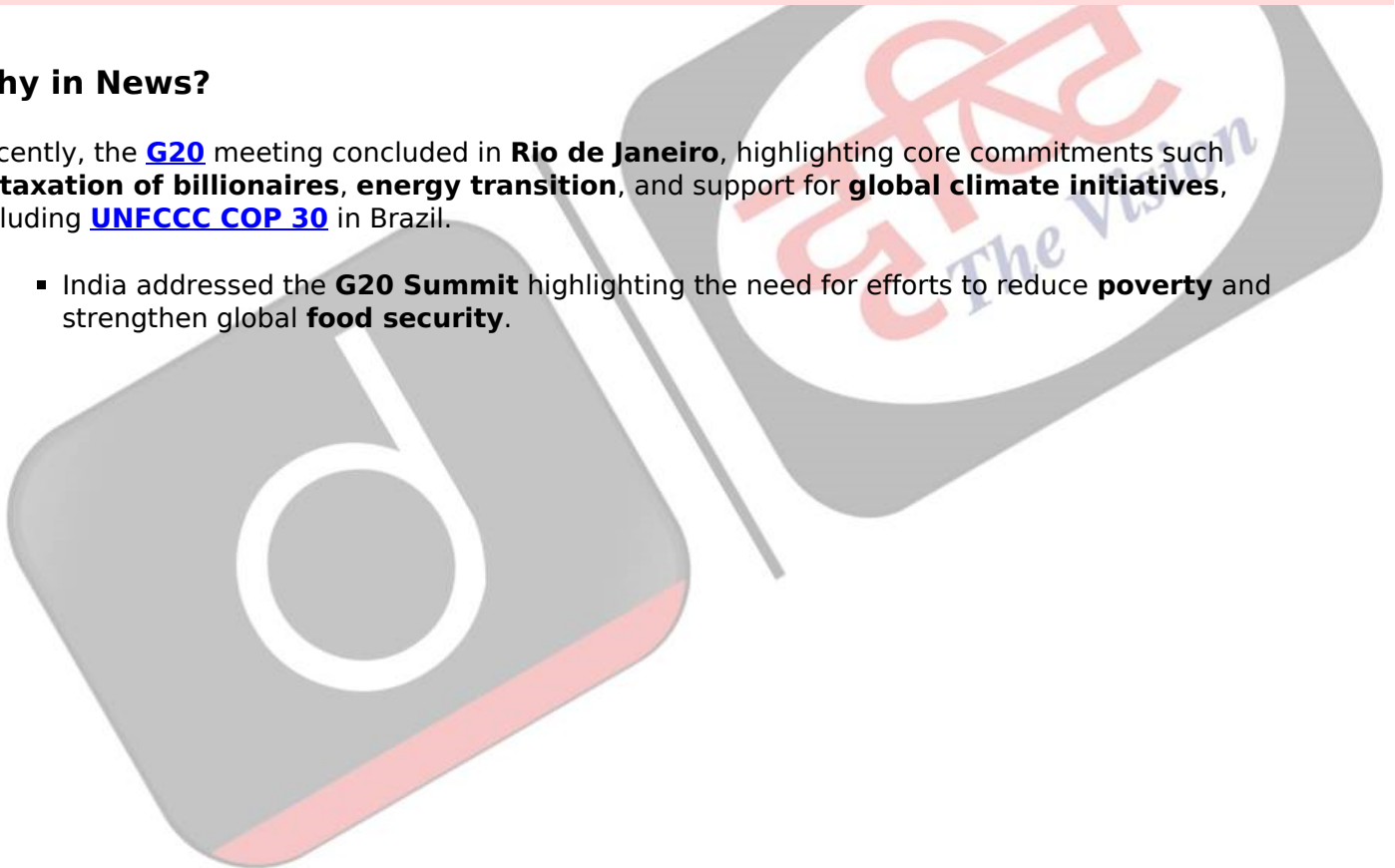
**For Mains:** Significance of G20 in Securing India's Strategic Interest.

### Why in News?

Recently, the [G20](#) meeting concluded in **Rio de Janeiro**, highlighting core commitments such as **taxation of billionaires**, **energy transition**, and support for **global climate initiatives**, including [UNFCCC COP 30](#) in Brazil.

- India addressed the **G20 Summit** highlighting the need for efforts to reduce **poverty** and strengthen global **food security**.

//



# G20

**Founded in 1999** after Asian financial crisis to discuss global economic and financial issues

No permanent secretariat

**Members:** 19 countries, The European Union (EU) and The African Union

**Permanent Guest:** Spain

**G20 Summit:** Takes place annually

**2023 Presidency:** India (**Theme:** One Earth, One Family, One Future)

**Sherpas:** The agenda and work are coordinated by them as the representatives of the G20 countries

**Troika:** The Presidency is supported by the Troika (previous, current and incoming Presidency)



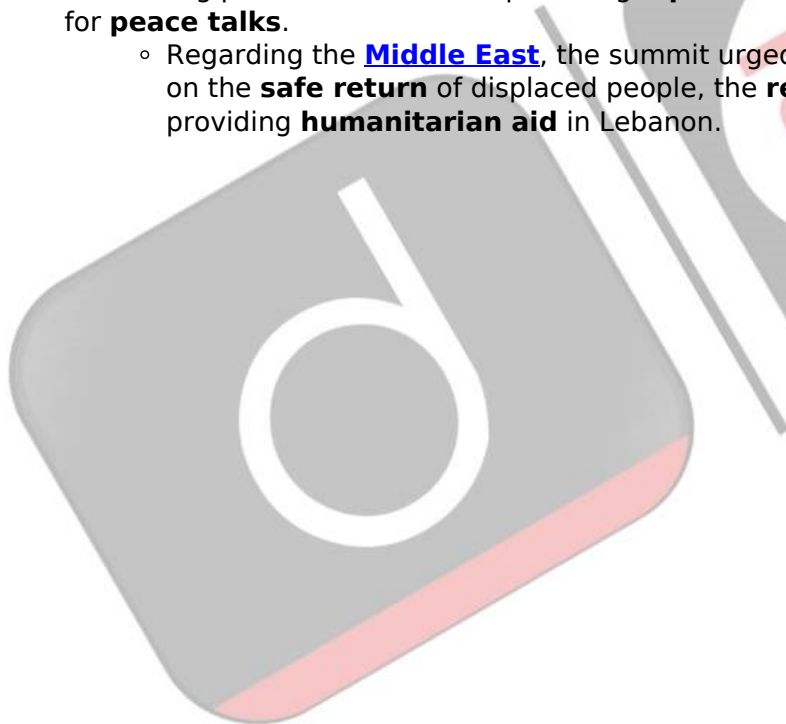
## What are Major Outcomes of G20 Summit 2024?

- **Climate Finance Commitment:** The G20 recognized the urgent need to scale up **climate finance** “from billions to trillions”, but no concrete plan was established for the sources of this funding.
  - Leaders supported **COP29** in **Azerbaijan** and called for enhanced financing to help **developing nations** adapt to **climate change**, though consensus on the financial mechanisms remained elusive.
- **Taxation of the Billionaires:** A major achievement was the endorsement of measures to tax **ultra-high-net-worth individuals**.
  - **Brazil** led the charge, with discussions about a **global tax** on the **super-rich**, though concerns about **national sovereignty** and tax principles were not fully resolved.
- **Global Hunger and Poverty Alliance:** The **Task Force for a Global Alliance Against Hunger and Poverty**, proposed by **Brazil's G20 presidency**, aims to create a **Global Alliance** to mobilize resources and knowledge for effective policies and social technologies to

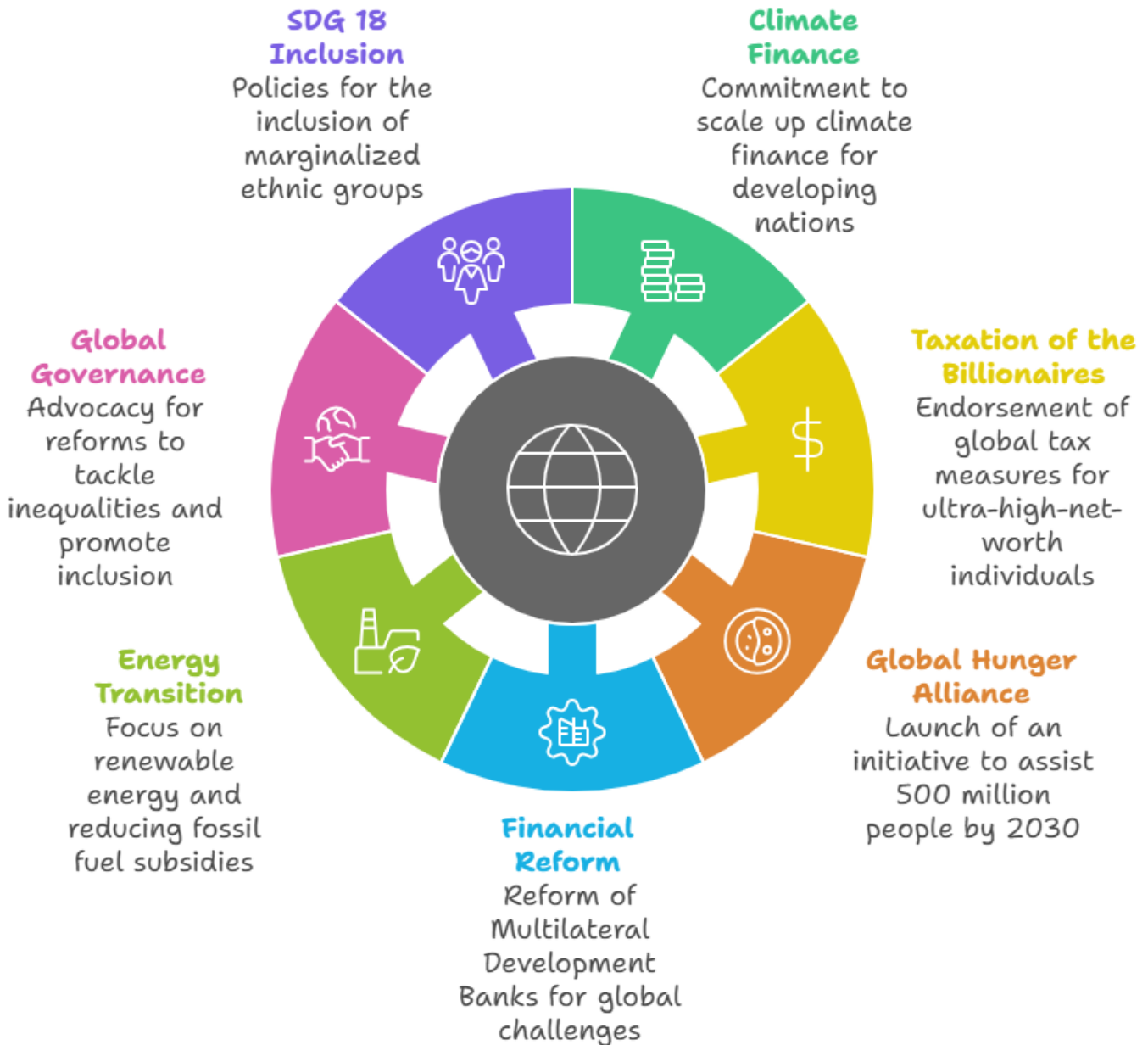
reduce **hunger** and **poverty**.

- The initiative was launched and gained support from **82 countries** and aims to help **500 million people by 2030**, marking a significant success for the **G20** agenda, as it focuses on concrete social actions.

- **Financial Reform and MDB Cooperation:** The G20 reaffirmed the need to reform **Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)** to better address global challenges, including **climate change** and **poverty**.
  - Leaders agreed on strengthening **cooperation** within MDBs to ensure resources are effectively mobilized for high-impact projects.
- **Energy Transition and Fossil Fuel Subsidies:** The summit highlighted the need for continued **investment in renewable energy** and **clean technologies** but did not reaffirm the previous **COP28** commitment to phase out **fossil fuel subsidies**.
  - Emphasis was placed on reducing **food loss** and **waste** as part of broader climate action.
- **Global Governance and Social Inclusion:** The G20 called for reforms in **global governance** to address **global inequalities**.
  - The **G20 Social Summit** culminated with declaration, emphasizing **combating hunger, poverty, and inequality**, advocating for **sustainability, climate change action, just transition**, and **global governance reform**, while highlighting **tax justice** and **inclusive decision-making**.
- **Inclusion of Sustainable Development Goal 18 (SDG 18):** A new SDG, focusing on **ethnic-racial equality**, was officially included as a key element among the G20 priorities.
  - The goal addresses **systemic discrimination** and promotes policies for the social, economic, and political inclusion of marginalized ethnic groups. It aligns with the broader agenda of **sustainable and equitable global development**.
- **Ukraine and Middle East Conflicts:** The G20 supported initiatives for a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in Ukraine, emphasizing **diplomatic efforts**, with members advocating for **peace talks**.
  - Regarding the **Middle East**, the summit urged **ceasefires** in **Gaza** and **Lebanon**, focusing on the **safe return** of displaced people, the **release of captives** in Gaza, and providing **humanitarian aid** in Lebanon.



## G20 Summit 2024 Outcomes



### How does India's Leadership Within the G20 Impact Global Issues?

- **Championing Food Security:** India has prioritized **global food security**, leveraging its expertise in **agriculture and technology** to mitigate food crises.
  - Through the **Millet Initiative** during the **2023 G20 Summit** in New Delhi, India promoted millets as **climate-resilient crops**, highlighting their potential to address **global hunger and malnutrition**.
  - India has supported programs enhancing **food supply** chains and advocated for **resilient agricultural** practices.
- **Reforming Multilateral Platforms:** India has actively championed the reform of global multilateral platforms, including the **United Nations** and financial institutions like the **IMF** and **World Bank**.
  - During its presidency, **India** called for greater inclusivity, pushing for the representation of developing nations in decision-making processes.
  - The adoption of the **G20 Roadmap for Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs)** in 2023 was a key outcome influenced by India's leadership.
- **Supporting the Global South:** India has emerged as a strong advocate for the **Global South**,

amplifying its voice on critical issues such as [sustainable development](#), **climate finance**, and **equitable vaccine distribution**.

- Through initiatives like the [Voice of Global South Summit](#), India has ensured that the needs and priorities of developing nations remain central to the G20 agenda.
- India's expertise in **innovation and technology** has been shared with developing nations to advance collaborative solutions in healthcare, education, and energy.
- **Bilateral Talks and Strategic Partnerships:** On the sidelines of the **2024 G20 Summit in Brazil**, India held significant bilateral discussions with countries like **Australia, Norway, Indonesia, Portugal, Italy, the UK, and France**.
  - These talks underscored India's role in fostering **strategic partnerships** to address shared challenges and explore trade and investment opportunities.
  - For instance, [India-UK Free Trade Agreement \(FTA\)](#) and **extradition issues** were discussed between **India and UK**, strengthening economic and judicial cooperation.

## What are the Major Challenges Faced by the G20 Grouping?

- **Global Hunger, Fuel, and Fertilizer Crisis:** The G20 faces the challenge of addressing the intertwined global crises of global hunger, food insecurity, and rising fuel and fertilizer prices.
  - Ongoing geopolitical conflicts, particularly the [Russia-Ukraine war](#), have exacerbated **food and fertilizer shortages**, impacting developing nations.
  - There is a significant gap in fulfilling commitments to **food security** and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations in the **Global South**.
- **Geopolitical Rivalries Among Key Members:** Political tensions, such as those between the **United States** and **China** or various geopolitical conflicts involving **Russia** and **Israel**, create significant barriers to consensus-building.
  - The [Russia-Ukraine war](#) has sparked divisions within the G20, with conflicting views on sanctions and neutrality, highlighted by the recent U.S. decision to allow Ukraine to use **long-range weapons** inside Russia.
  - These disputes frequently overshadow **core global issues**, shifting focus away from collaborative problem-solving.
- **Divergent Economic and Political Priorities:** The G20 encompasses a wide range of economies, from highly developed nations like the **United States** and **Germany** to developing ones like **India and Brazil**.
  - Developed countries prioritize **advanced technology, climate transitions, and geopolitical stability**, while [developing nations](#) emphasize **poverty alleviation, access to resources, and economic growth**.
  - These conflicting priorities often lead to disagreements on global issues such as **climate financing, trade liberalization, and equitable resource allocation**.
- **Weak Enforcement Mechanisms:** The **G20**, as an **informal forum**, produces **ambitious plans and agreements**, but its lack of a **legally binding structure** often results in a disconnect between **commitments** and **execution**, relying on **voluntary pledges** from **member states**.
  - Agreements, such as those on **climate finance or debt restructuring**, often remain unimplemented due to the lack of accountability frameworks.
- **Inadequate Representation of Global South:** While the G20 includes emerging economies like **India, South Africa, and Brazil**, **smaller and less-developed nations** are not directly represented.
  - Although initiatives like including the [African Union](#) as a member aim to address this gap, decision-making is still dominated by larger economies, limiting the influence of the [Global South](#).
  - This imbalance leads to criticisms that the G20 does not adequately prioritize the concerns of poorer nations, such as **debt relief** and **equitable development**.

## Way Forward

- **Addressing Global Hunger, Fuel, and Fertilizer Crisis:** G20 nations must enhance collaboration with **international organizations** to ensure a united response to food, fuel, and fertilizer shortages, particularly in developing regions.
  - For instance, the **Global Hunger and Poverty Alliance** and the **Millet Initiative** serve as key examples of G20 efforts aimed at addressing food insecurity and promoting

sustainable agriculture to combat global hunger and poverty.

- The G20 should invest in **long-term solutions**, such as **sustainable farming** and **alternative fertilizers**, to reduce global dependence on unstable supply chains.
- **Inclusive Dialogues:** The G20 should prioritize **inclusive dialogues** focusing on **shared global goals**, balancing **climate action** and **economic growth**.
  - Clear frameworks for **climate finance** and **trade** should be developed to address diverse economic needs.
- **Diplomatic Engagement:** The G20 should encourage **diplomatic engagement** and **multilateral dialogue**, focusing on **conflict resolution**.
  - Creating **specialized working groups** could help build consensus on issues like the **Russia-Ukraine** conflict and **Middle East tensions**.
- **Strengthening Enforcement Mechanisms:** The G20 must strengthen **accountability frameworks**, using **monitoring bodies** and **independent assessments** to ensure **climate finance** and **debt relief** pledges are implemented.
  - **Partnerships with multilateral institutions** can aid in improving enforcement.
- **Enhancing Representation of Global South:** The G20 should **broaden membership** to include more **Global South** nations, ensuring **greater representation** in decision-making.
  - **Special advisory roles** for underrepresented nations could improve input on **debt relief** and **climate justice**.

## UPSC Civil Services Examination, Previous Year Question (PYQ)

### **Prelims:**

**Q. In which one of the following groups are all the four countries members of G20? (2020)**

- (a) Argentina, Mexico, South Africa and Turkey
- (b) Australia, Canada, Malaysia and New Zealand
- (c) Brazil, Iran, Saudi Arabia and Vietnam
- (d) Indonesia, Japan, Singapore and South Korea

**Ans: (a)**

**Q. With reference to the “G20 Common Framework”, consider the following statements (2022)**

1. It is an initiative endorsed by the G20 together with the Paris Club.
2. It is an initiative to support Low Income Countries with unsustainable debt.

**Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**Ans: (c)**

