

Post-G20 Reflections: Highlights from South Africa's Presidency

Date: 2 December 2025

Time: 15:00 – 16:15 (SAST)

Format: Webinar

Brief Introduction

Since taking on the G20 presidency, South Africa has faced doubts about its ability to deliver meaningful outcomes in a forum strained by geopolitical tensions. Leading the G20 during a period of war, strategic rivalry and growing geoeconomic fragmentation placed South Africa in a difficult position, requiring it not only to chair the process but to navigate a deeply divided global environment. Under the presidency theme “Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability,” President Ramaphosa set an ambitious agenda despite shrinking space for international consensus. South Africa prioritised four key issues: strengthening disaster resilience, advancing debt sustainability for low-income countries, mobilising finance for a just energy transition, and leveraging critical minerals for inclusive and sustainable development.

This webinar will unpack key outcomes of South Africa's G20 Presidency following the Leaders' Summit held in Johannesburg from 22 to 23 November 2025. It will explore the implications of these outcomes for the Global South, with a particular focus on the African continent. The session will bring together experts and policymakers who worked closely with the G20 process to share their insights and provide informed reflections on the Presidency's achievements and areas for further action.

Programme:

Time	Item	Speaker
15:00 – 15:05	Welcoming/Opening Remarks	Ms Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, SAIIA
15:05 – 15:15	Presentation on the AEP Report reflecting on the broad recommendations on debt, investment, global finance and DRM	Ms Hannah Ryder, Development Reimagined

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15:15 – 15:25	G20 Africa Engagement Framework – Towards sustained engagement in the G20 and general assessment of South Africa's G20 Process in terms of the wins for the African continent.	Dr Patrick Olomo, AUC
15:25 – 15:35	G20@20 Review Report	Ms Litsa Vavakis, OECD
15:35 – 15:45	Reflections on the just energy transition and sustainable finance agenda	Mr Alex Benkenstein, SAIIA
15:45 – 16:05	Q&A	All
16:05 – 16:15	Concluding Remarks	Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, SAIIA