

Exploring Sustainable Futures: G20 Interfaith Forum 2024

By Charlie Chilufya, S.J

This year, the G20 Interfaith Forum will convene under the theme "A Fair World and a Sustainable Future: Engaging Religion," bringing together religious leaders, scholars, and policymakers in Brasília, Brazil, from August 19-23, 2024. The event underscores the critical role of faith communities in addressing global challenges that intersect with ethical, social, and environmental dimensions.

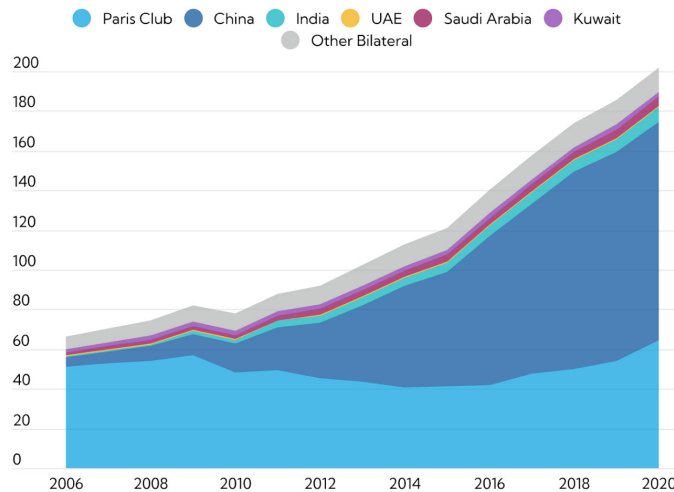


President of the G20 Interfaith Forum, W. Cole Durham met with Brazilian Vice President, Geraldo Alckmin, to kick off the organization of IF20 activities during the G20 Brazil presidency in 2024.

Key Focus Areas.

Highly indebted

Public external debt of low-income countries to non-Paris Club creditors grew significantly in the last decade.
(US\$ billions)



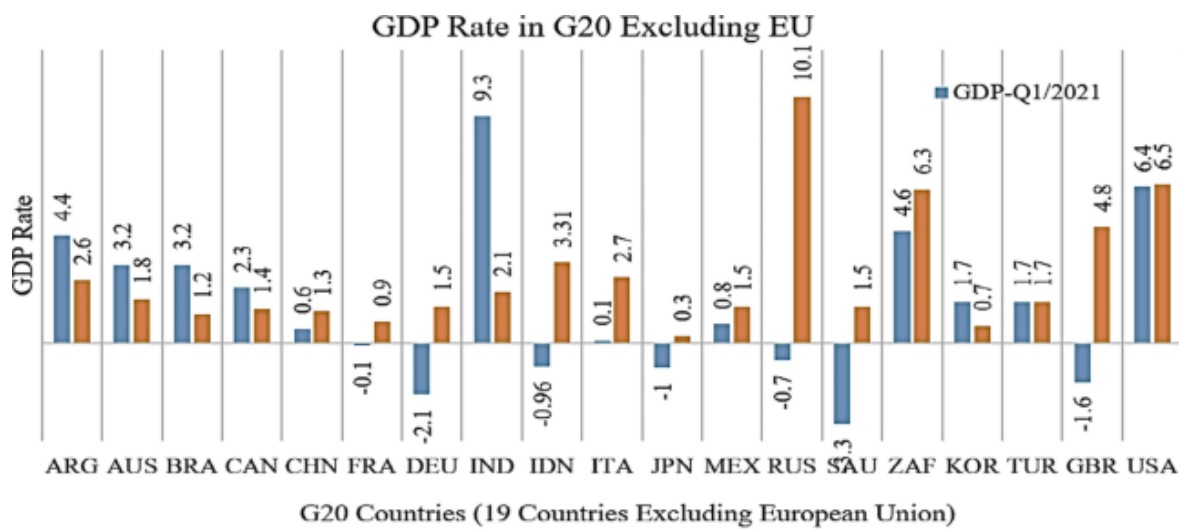
Source: World Bank's International Debt Statistics database (last updated 10/10/2021).

Note: The chart shows public and publicly guaranteed debt of Debt Service Suspension Initiative eligible countries. UAE = United Arab Emirates.

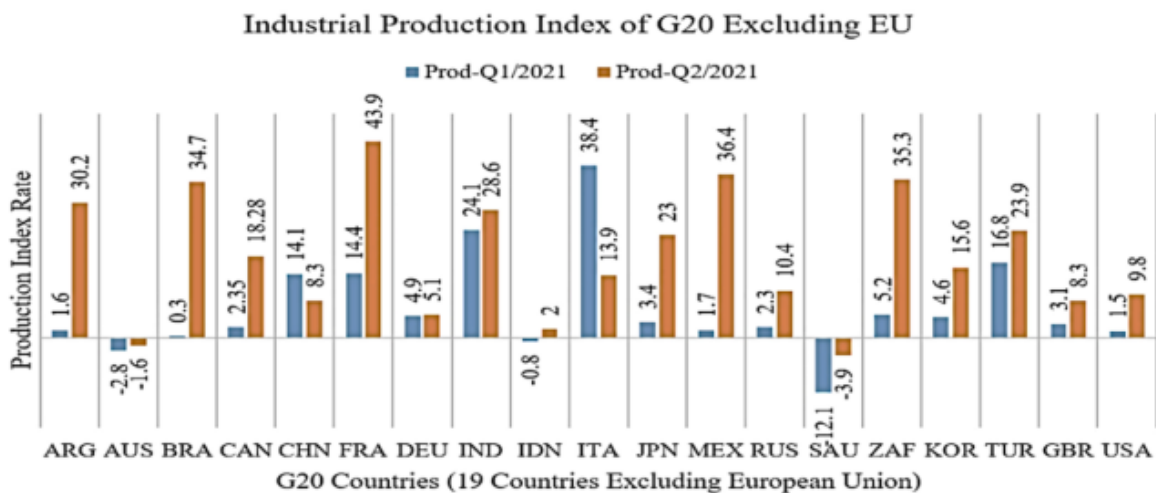
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The forum will explore a range of pressing issues, pivotal to shaping a sustainable and equitable global future:

- **Economic Architecture and Debt Solutions:** Discussions will delve into global economic systems, emphasizing sustainable debt management and financial reforms to enhance economic resilience.
- **Climate Action and Environmental Stewardship:** Participants will address faith-driven initiatives for environmental conservation, focusing on actionable strategies to combat climate change and promote sustainability.
- **Social Justice and Inclusion:** The forum will highlight the role of interfaith dialogue in fostering social cohesion, addressing inequality, and enhancing community resilience in the face of global socio-economic crises.
- **Health and Pandemic Recovery:** Building on lessons from the COVID-19 pandemic, the sessions will focus on strengthening health systems and enhancing global health security through collaborative, faith-based approaches.



(a) GDP rate of G20 countries (excluding EU) for first and second quarter of 2021



(b) Industrial production rate of G20 countries (excluding EU) for first and second quarter of 2021

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JENA's Participation



The Jesuit Justice and Ecology Network - Africa (JENA) is poised to actively participate in this forum, aiming to contribute insights from its extensive work in social justice, ecological conservation, and community health initiatives across Africa. JENA's involvement will focus on sharing best practices, learning from global counterparts, and exploring new partnerships that align with its mission to advocate for justice and ecological integrity.

For those interested in following JENA's contributions and insights during the G20 Interfaith Forum, please stay tuned to our updates and reflections post-event.

[Learn more about the G20 Interfaith Forum](#) and explore how religious communities worldwide are engaging with global issues to foster a fair and sustainable future.