

TO ALL MEDIA/NEWS EDITORS/PRODUCERS

JOHANNESBURG, GAUTENG

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YOUTH20 (Y20) SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCH 2025

Since taking over G20 Presidency in December 2024, South Africa is gearing up for hosting a successful G20 conference in the latter part of the year, all other engagement groups are equally hard at ensuring that they too contribute significantly to the discussions. This ought to be done by multiple engagements with G20 member states, internal stakeholders and fellow African counterparts.

The theme for South Africa's G20 Presidency is: *"Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability"*.

The G20 serves as a vital platform for the world's largest and most advanced economies, playing a crucial role in shaping global economic and development policies. Its significance extends beyond our country and continent, as it aligns with the fast-approaching deadlines of both the National Development Plan (NDP) 2030 and the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda. With just five years remaining, active engagement in the G20 is essential to accelerating progress toward these ambitious national and global development goals.

The Youth20 (Y20) Summit, one of the 13 Engagement Groups within the G20, brings together young leaders from across the globe and provides a platform for youth engagement, participation and representation. The goal of Y20 is to mobilise youth leaders, partners and stakeholders to facilitate discussions on youth-centred global issues. Global youth representatives need to agree on policy recommendations, known as *communiqué*, which they would like to see G20 leaders take forward.

The National Youth Development Agency (NYDA) has been entrusted to provide Secretariat support to the Y20, with the understanding that the Agency, an Entity located in the Presidency under the Department of Women, Youth and Persons with Disabilities, is meant to mainstream youth development across all spheres and structures of society. *"As the NYDA, ours is to play a secretariat and support role to civil society organisations, so that the Y20 Engagement lives up to our mantra of ensuring we 'Leave No Young Person Behind'". We remain fully committed to ensuring the Y20 Engagements incorporate the views of broader youth in South Africa and that they are as inclusive and representative as possible"* – Executive Chairperson of the NYDA, Asanda Luwaca said.

The Chairperson of the Y20 Engagement Group, Dr. Tolika Sibiyi, emphasised the significance of South Africa's role in the G20 and Y20, stating, *"As the first African country to host the G20 and the only African nation in the group, our responsibilities extend far beyond the borders of our country and continent. We have a duty to champion inclusive development, advocate for meaningful change, and contribute to shaping policies that empower young people not only in Africa but across the Global South and the world."*

We are pleased to announce that the Official Y20 Launch will take place no later than end of May, as we draw towards June, the month in which the country observes and commemorates Youth Month.

We invite the media, community members, and young people at large, to follow the official Y20 social media pages, where more information pertaining to the launch will be shared:

Websites: www.y20.org.za / www.nyda.gov.za

Facebook: [Y20 Summit – South Africa](#)

Instagram: [@y20summit.sa](#)

We continue to urge young people to constantly engage with our various platforms for more information on participation in the various opportunities that the Y20 will bring for the youth of this country, as well as various calls for nominations.

Dr. Tolika Sibiya
Y20 Chairperson

Ms. Asanda Luwaca
Y20 Secretariat

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