

# G20 Leaders' Conclusions on Education, 2008-2010

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## Summary of Conclusions on Education in G20 Leaders' Documents

Year	# of Words	% of Total Words	# of Paragraphs	% of Total Paragraphs	# of Documents	% of Total Documents	# of Dedicated Documents
2008	70	1.9	1	1.4	1	100	0
2009 London	381	6.1	6	6.5	1	33.3	0
2009 Pittsburgh	1010	10.8	14	12.8	1	100	0
2010 Toronto	725	6.4	13	9.0	1	50	0
2010 Seoul	1700	10.7	26	11.9	4	80	0
Average	777.2	7.18	12.0	8.3	1.6	72.7	0

### Notes:

Data are drawn from all official English-language documents released by the G20 leaders as a group. Charts are excluded.

"# of Words" is the number of education-related subjects for the year specified, excluding document titles and references. Words are calculated by paragraph because the paragraph is the unit of analysis.

"% of Total Words" refers to the total number of words in all documents for the year specified.

"# of Paragraphs" is the number of paragraphs containing references to education for the year specified. Each point is recorded as a separate paragraph.

"% of Total Paragraphs" refers to the total number of paragraphs in all documents for the year specified.

"# of Documents" is the number of documents that contain education subjects and excludes dedicated documents.

"% of Total Documents" refers to the total number of documents for the year specified.

"# of Dedicated Documents" is the number of documents for the year that contain an education-related subject in the title.

## Introduction and Definition

The purpose of this report is to document all references to, or in other terms, all of what leaders concluded on education in official G20 documents released at their summits.

Within the G20, education refers to all efforts to increase and ameliorate human capital for job creation, and economic and societal progress.

## Search Terms

The following keywords were used for this report.

### Inclusions

Education, employment, human capital, learning, jobs, schools, skills, training, vocation.

### Coding Rules

The unit of analysis is the sentence or paragraph.

The unit must contain a direct reference to education or a cognate term.

Cognate or extended terms can be used without a direct reference to education if they have previously been directly associated in summit document history.

## Conclusions on Education in G20 Leaders Summit Documents

**2008: Washington DC, November 14-15**

*Declaration of the Summit on Financial Markets and the World Economy*

2. Over the past months our countries have taken urgent and exceptional measures to support the global economy and stabilize financial markets...Our work will be guided by a shared belief that market principles, open trade and investment regimes, and effectively regulated financial markets foster the dynamism, innovation, and entrepreneurship that are essential for economic growth, **employment**, and poverty reduction.

**2009: London, April 1-2**

*Global Plan for Recovery and Reform*

3. We start from the belief that prosperity is indivisible; that growth, to be sustained, has to be shared; and that our global plan for recovery must have at its heart the needs and **jobs** of hard-working families, not just in developed countries but in emerging markets and the poorest countries of the world too; and must reflect the interests, not just of today's population, but of future generations too...

4. We have today therefore pledged to do whatever is necessary to:

- restore confidence, growth, and **jobs**;

5. The agreements we have reached today, to treble resources available to the IMF to \$750 billion, to support a new SDR allocation of \$250 billion, to support at least \$100 billion of additional lending by the MDBs, to ensure \$250 billion of support for trade finance, and to use the additional resources from agreed IMF gold sales for concessional finance for the poorest countries, constitute an additional \$1.1 trillion programme of support to restore credit, growth and **jobs** in the world economy...

Restoring growth and jobs

6. We are undertaking an unprecedented and concerted fiscal expansion, which will save or create millions of **jobs** which would otherwise have been destroyed, and that will, by the end of next year, amount to \$5 trillion, raise output by 4 per cent, and accelerate the transition to a green economy...

10. ...We are confident that the actions we have agreed today, and our unshakeable commitment to work together to restore growth and **jobs**, while preserving long-term fiscal sustainability, will accelerate the return to trend growth...

Ensuring a fair and sustainable recovery for all

26. We recognise the human dimension to the crisis. We commit to support those affected by the crisis by creating **employment opportunities** and through income support measures. We will build a fair and family-friendly labour market for both women and

men. We therefore welcome the reports of the **London Jobs Conference** and the Rome Social Summit and the key principles they proposed. We will support **employment** by stimulating growth, **investing in education and training**, and through active labour market policies, focusing on the most vulnerable. We call upon the ILO, working with other relevant organisations, to assess the actions taken and those required for the future.

## **2009: Pittsburgh, September 24-25**

### *G20 Leaders Statement: The Pittsburgh Summit*

#### Preamble

3. Global output was contracting at pace not seen since the 1930s. Trade was plummeting. **Jobs** were disappearing rapidly. Our people worried that the world was on the edge of a depression.

9. The process of recovery and repair remains incomplete. In many countries, **unemployment** remains unacceptably high. The conditions for a recovery of private demand are not yet fully in place. We cannot rest until the global economy is restored to full health, and hard-working families the world over can find decent **jobs**.

10. We pledge today to sustain our strong policy response until a durable recovery is secured. We will act to ensure that when growth returns, **jobs** do too...

13. *To launch a framework that lays out the policies and the way we act together to generate strong, sustainable and balanced global growth. We need a durable recovery that creates the good **jobs** our people need.*

23. Over four billion people remain **undereducated**, ill-equipped with capital and technology, and insufficiently integrated into the global economy. We need to work together to make the policy and institutional changes needed to accelerate the convergence of living standards and productivity in developing and emerging economies to the levels of the advanced economies...

### *A Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth*

3. The IMF estimates that world growth will resume this year and rise by nearly 3% by the end of 2010. Subsequently, our objective is to return the world to high, sustainable, and balanced growth, while maintaining our commitment to fiscal responsibility and sustainability, with reforms to increase our growth potential and capacity to generate **jobs** and policies designed to avoid both the re-creation of asset bubbles and the re-emergence of unsustainable global financial flows. We commit to put in place the necessary policy measures to achieve these outcomes.

### Strengthening Support for the Most Vulnerable

34. Many emerging and developing economies have made great strides in raising living standards as their economies converge toward the productivity levels and living standards of advanced economies... We note with concern the adverse impact of the global crisis on

low income countries' (LICs) capacity to protect critical core spending in areas such as health, **education**, safety nets, and infrastructure...

#### Putting Quality Jobs at the Heart of Recovery

43. The prompt, vigorous and sustained response of our countries has saved or created millions of **jobs**. Based on International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates, our efforts will have created or saved at least 7 – 11 million **jobs** by the end of this year. Without sustained action, **unemployment** is likely to continue rising in many of our countries even after economies stabilize, with a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable segments of our population. As growth returns, every country must act to ensure that **employment** recovers quickly. We commit to implementing recovery plans that support decent work, help preserve **employment**, and prioritize **job growth**. In addition, we will continue to provide income, social protection, and **training support for the unemployed** and those most at risk of **unemployment**. We agree that the current challenges do not provide an excuse to disregard or weaken internationally recognized labor standards. To assure that global growth is broadly beneficial, we should implement policies consistent with ILO fundamental principles and rights at work.

44. Our new Framework for Strong, Sustainable, and Balanced Growth requires structural reforms to create more inclusive labor markets, active labor market policies, and **quality education and training programs**. Each of our countries will need, through its own national policies, to strengthen the ability of our workers to adapt to changing market demands and to benefit from innovation and investments in new technologies, clean energy, environment, health, and infrastructure. It is no longer sufficient to **train** workers to meet their specific current needs; we should ensure access to **training programs** that support **lifelong skills development** and focus on future market needs. Developed countries should support developing countries to build and strengthen their capacities in this area. These steps will help to assure that the gains from new inventions and lifting existing impediments to growth are broadly shared.

45. We pledge to support robust **training efforts** in our growth strategies and investments. We recognize successful **employment and training programs** are often designed together with employers and workers, and we call on the ILO, in partnership with other organizations, to convene its constituents and NGOs to develop a **training strategy** for our consideration.

46. We agree on the importance of building an **employment-oriented framework** for future economic growth. In this context, we reaffirm the importance of the **London Jobs Conference** and Rome Social Summit. We also welcome the recently-adopted ILO Resolution on Recovering from the Crisis: A **Global Jobs Pact**, and we commit our nations to adopt key elements of its general framework to advance the social dimension of globalization. The international institutions should consider ILO standards and the goals of the **Jobs Pact** in their crisis and post-crisis analysis and policy-making activities.

47. To ensure our continued focus on **employment** policies, the Chair of the Pittsburgh Summit has asked his Secretary of Labor to invite our Employment and Labor Ministers

to meet as a group in early 2010 consulting with labor and business and building on the upcoming OECD Labour and **Employment** Ministerial meeting on the **jobs** crisis. We direct our Ministers to assess the evolving **employment** situation, review reports from the ILO and other organizations on the impact of policies we have adopted, report on whether further measures are desirable, and consider medium-term **employment and skills development** policies, social protection programs, and best practices to ensure workers are prepared to take advantage of advances in science and technology.

*ANNEX: Core Values for Sustainable Economic Activity*

5. We also agree that certain key principles are fundamental, and in this spirit we commit to respect the following core values:

- We have a responsibility to invest in people by providing **education, job training**, decent work conditions, health care and social safety net support, and to fight poverty, discrimination, and all forms of social exclusion.

**2010: Toronto, September 26-27**

*The G20 Toronto Summit Declaration*

Preamble

2. Building on our achievements in addressing the global economic crisis, we have agreed on the next steps we should take to ensure a full return to growth with **quality jobs**, to reform and strengthen financial systems, and to create strong, sustainable and balanced global growth.

4. But serious challenges remain. While growth is returning, the recovery is uneven and fragile, **unemployment** in many countries remains at unacceptable levels, and the social impact of the crisis is still widely felt. Strengthening the recovery is key...

5. Recognizing the importance of achieving strong **job growth** and providing social protection to our citizens, particularly our most vulnerable, we welcome the recommendations of our Labour and **Employment Ministers**, who met in April 2010, and the **training strategy** prepared by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in collaboration with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

9. ...The IMF and World Bank estimate that if we choose a more ambitious path of reforms, over the medium term:

- tens of millions more **jobs** would be created;

10. We are committed to taking concerted actions to sustain the recovery, create **jobs** and to achieve stronger, more sustainable and more balanced growth. These will be differentiated and tailored to national circumstances...

## Fighting Protectionism and Promoting Trade and Investment

37. Open markets play a pivotal role in supporting growth and **job creation**, and in achieving our goals under the G20 Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth. We ask the OECD, the ILO, World Bank, and the WTO to report on the benefits of trade liberalization for **employment** and growth at the Seoul Summit.

### Annex I: The Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth

2. Yet risks remain. **Unemployment** remains unacceptably high in many G20 economies. The recovery is uneven across G20 members both across advanced economies and between advanced and emerging economies. This poses risks to the continued economic expansion...

6. The assessment is that in the absence of a coordinated policy response: global output is likely to remain below its pre-crisis trend; **unemployment** remains above pre-crisis levels in most countries; fiscal deficits and debt in some advanced economies reach unacceptably high levels; and, global current account imbalances, which narrowed during the crisis, widen again...

7. ... The IMF and World Bank estimate that if we choose a more ambitious path of reforms, over the medium term, we could:

- create an estimated 52 million **jobs**;

8. We are committed to taking concerted actions to sustain the recovery, **create jobs** and to achieve stronger, more sustainable and more balanced growth. These will be differentiated and tailored to national circumstances. We agreed today on:

13. Across all G20 members, we recognise that structural reforms can have a substantial impact on economic growth and global welfare... Together these measures will also help unlock demand. These include:

- Product, service and labour market reforms in advanced economies, particularly those economies that may have lost some productive capacity during the crisis. Labour market reforms might include: better targeted **unemployment** benefits and more effective active labour market policies (such as **job retraining**, **job search** and **skills development programs**, and raising labour mobility). It might also include putting in place the right conditions for wage bargaining systems to **support employment**. Product and service market reforms might include strengthening competition in the service sector; reducing barriers to competition in network industries, professional services and retail sectors, encouraging innovation and further reducing the barriers to foreign competition.

14. We welcome the recommendations of our Labour and **Employment Ministers**, who met in April 2010, on the **employment** impacts of the global economic crisis. We reaffirm our commitment to achieving strong **job growth** and providing social protection to our most vulnerable citizens. An effective **employment** policy should place **quality**

**jobs** at the heart of the recovery. We appreciate the work done by the International Labour Organization in collaboration with the OECD on a **training strategy** that will help equip the workforce with the **skills** required for the **jobs** of today and those of tomorrow.

Further Supporting the Needs of the Most Vulnerable

21. Adequately financed small and medium-sized businesses are vital to **job creation** and a growing economy, particularly in emerging economies. We have launched the SME Finance Challenge aimed at finding the most promising models for public-private partnerships that catalyze finance for SMEs...

## **2010: Seoul, November 11-12**

### *The G20 Seoul Summit Leaders' Declaration*

5. We recognize the importance of addressing the concerns of the most vulnerable. To this end, we are determined to put **jobs** at the heart of the recovery, to provide social protection, decent work and also to ensure accelerated growth in low income countries (LICs).

7. Risks remain. Some of us are experiencing strong growth, while others face high levels of **unemployment** and sluggish recovery. Uneven growth and widening imbalances are fueling the temptation to diverge from global solutions into uncoordinated actions. However, uncoordinated policy actions will only lead to worse outcomes for all.

9. Today, the Seoul Summit delivers:

- the Seoul Action Plan composed of comprehensive, cooperative and country-specific policy actions to move closer to our shared objective. The Plan includes our commitment to:
  - implement a range of structural reforms that boost and sustain global demand, foster **job creation**, and increase the potential for growth; and

12. To promote resilience, **job creation** and mitigate risks for development, we will prioritize action under the Seoul Consensus on addressing critical bottlenecks, including infrastructure deficits, food market volatility, and exclusion from financial services.

16. Recognizing the importance of private sector-led growth and **job creation**, we welcome the Seoul G20 Business Summit and look forward to continuing the G20 Business Summit in upcoming Summits.

17. The actions agreed today will help to further strengthen the global economy, accelerate **job creation**, ensure more stable financial markets, narrow the development gap and promote broadly shared growth beyond crisis.

### *The Seoul Summit Document*

Framework for Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth

2. Since then, we have made important progress through our country-led, consultative Mutual Assessment Process (MAP) of the Framework:

- Supportive economic policies have been put in place to promote ongoing recovery and **job creation**;

#### *The Seoul Action Plan*

7. ... We will focus efforts to resolve the most significant bottlenecks to inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth in developing countries, low-income countries (LICs) in particular: infrastructure, human resources development, trade, private investment and **job creation**, food security, growth with resilience, financial inclusion, domestic resource mobilization and knowledge sharing....

10. Structural Reforms: We will implement a range of structural reforms to boost and sustain global demand, foster **job creation**, contribute to global rebalancing, and increase our growth potential, and where needed undertake:

- Labor market and human resource development reforms, including better targeted benefits schemes to increase participation; **education and training to increase employment in quality jobs**, boost productivity and thereby enhance potential growth.

Future work: Issues that warrant more attention

41. While we have made significant progress in a number of areas, there still remain some issues that warrant more attention:

- Enhancing consumer protection: We asked the FSB to work in collaboration with the OECD and other international organizations to explore, and report back by the next summit, on options to advance consumer finance protection through informed choice that includes disclosure, transparency and **education**; protection from fraud, abuse and errors; and recourse and advocacy.

Fighting Protectionism and Promoting Trade and Investment

42. Recognizing the importance of free trade and investment for global recovery, we are committed to keeping markets open and liberalizing trade and investment as a means to promote economic progress for all and narrow the development gap. The importance of free trade and open markets is illustrated by the joint report of the OECD, ILO, World Bank and WTO on the benefits of trade liberalization for **employment** and growth....

#### *Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth*

50. The Seoul Consensus and the Multi-Year Action Plan are based on six core principles:

- Fourth, we recognize the critical role of the private sector to **create jobs** and wealth, and the need for a policy environment that supports sustainable private sector-led investment and growth.

51. The Seoul Consensus also identifies nine key pillars where we believe actions are necessary to resolve the most significant bottlenecks to inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth in developing countries, LICs in particular: infrastructure, human resource development, trade, private investment and **job creation**, food security, growth with resilience, financial inclusion, domestic resource mobilization and knowledge sharing. The Multi-Year Action Plan then outlines the specific, detailed actions to which we commit in order to address these bottlenecks, including to:

b) Improve the development of **employable skills** matched to employer and labor market needs in order to enhance the ability to attract investment, **create decent jobs** and increase productivity. We will support the development of internationally comparable skills indicators and the enhancement of national strategies for **skills development**, building on the **G20 Training Strategy**;

d) Identify, enhance and promote responsible private investment in value chains and develop key indicators for measuring and maximizing the economic and **employment** impact of private sector investment;

#### Financial Inclusion

57. Recognizing the vital role of SMEs in **employment** and income generation, we welcome the strong response to the G20 SME Finance Challenge and the innovative models for scaling up private SME finance that have emerged from the competition and congratulate the winners...

#### Climate Change and Green Growth

68. ...We also commit to stimulate investment in clean energy technology, energy and resource efficiency, green transportation, and green cities by mobilizing finance, establishing clear and consistent standards, developing long-term energy policies, supporting **education**, enterprise and R&D, and continuing to promote cross-border collaboration and coordination of national legislative approaches.

#### Business Summit

72. Recognizing the importance of private sector-led growth and **job creation**, we welcome the Seoul G20 Business Summit held on November 10 and 11...

#### *Annex I: Seoul Development Consensus for Shared Growth*

##### Why Growth Must Be Shared

Our overarching objective of helping LICs improve and maintain the levels and quality of growth, thereby reducing poverty, improving human rights and creating decent **jobs**, requires strengthening the relationships among high, middle and low income countries...

#### G20 Development Principles

4. Private sector participation. Promote private sector involvement and innovation, recognizing the unique role of the private sector as a rich source of development knowledge, technology and **job creation**...

...These areas are: infrastructure, private investment and **job creation**, human resource development, trade, financial inclusion, growth with resilience, food security, domestic resource mobilization and knowledge sharing...

#### *Annex II: Multi-Year Action Plan on Development*

##### Human Resource Development

*Developing **human capital** is a critical component of any country's growth and poverty reduction strategy. Adding to **education initiatives** related to the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), it is important for developing countries, in particular LICs, to continue to **develop employment-related skills** that are better matched to **employer and market needs** in order to attract investment and decent **jobs**.*

##### Action 1: Create Internationally Comparable **Skill** Indicators

We call upon the World Bank, ILO, OECD, and UNESCO to work together to develop internationally comparable and practical indicators of **skills for employment** and productivity in developing countries, particularly LICs, to assist them to:

- Better **match training** to **employers'** needs and future labor market opportunities in developing countries;
- Identify gaps in the **education system** for basic level **employable skills**;
- Identify the links between **education**, health problems, gender gaps and **life-long skills** development; and
- Produce a comparable database across countries to serve as a monitoring tool for assessing **employable skills** development in LICs. The relevant institutions will submit an interim report at the Summit in France, a final report on the **skills indicators** by 2012, and a final report on the comparable database by late 2014. *(2012; late 2014)*

##### Action 2: Enhance National **Employable Skills** Strategies

The MDBs, ILO, OECD and UNESCO have agreed today to form a unified and coordinated team with the aim of supporting a pilot group of self-selected LICs to enhance their national strategies to **develop skills**, improve productivity in existing **jobs**, and promote investment in **new jobs**. This action should:

- Focus on strengthening national and regional vocational education and training institutions and programs;
- Build on the G20 Training Strategy submitted at the Toronto Summit and begin by identifying existing gaps that act as barriers to increasing investment in skills development and productivity, including through considering the impact of gender gaps and health problems such as non-communicable diseases; and

- Review the work done and, based on the results achieved, consider a wider roll-out of the program to LICs and middle income countries.

#### Private Investment and Job Creation

*Domestic and foreign private investment are key sources of **employment**, wealth creation and innovation, which in turn contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction in developing countries. The decisions and actions in this area are primarily those of investors themselves and those of developing countries in improving the policy environment for investment. Recognizing the centrality of private investment to development and **job creation**, we will support and assist investors, developing countries and key development partners, such as the International Finance Corporation and International Development Association, in their work to better leverage and maximize the economic value-added of private investment and to create globally competitive industries.*

#### Action: Support Responsible Value-Adding Private Investment and **Job Creation**

- We request UNCTAD, UNDP, ILO, OECD and the World Bank to review and, consistent with best practice of responsible investment, develop key quantifiable economic and financial indicators for measuring and maximizing economic value-added and **job creation** arising from private sector investment in value chains...
- We request the World Bank and relevant agencies, in association with the G20, to establish a G20 Challenge on Innovation to provide a platform for innovative solutions to be brought to scale and to showcase entrepreneurship aimed at solving social challenges (e.g. innovative services on business strategies focusing on youth **unemployment**). (November 2011)...

#### Financial Inclusion

*Given that more than two billion adults are excluded from financial services and millions of micro-, small-and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) face serious constraints in accessing finance, financial inclusion is fundamental for improving the livelihoods of the poor and in supporting MSMEs, and work as the engines of economic growth and **job creation**.*

#### Action 3: Implement the Action Plan for Financial Inclusion

We will adopt the G20 Financial Inclusion Action Plan to promote the application of the Principles for Innovative Financial Inclusion (the Principles) and the lessons learned from the SME stocktaking exercise. (November 2010) . The actions to be implemented include ... (v) supporting **peer-learning capacity building and training**...