

SDG CHARTER

INTERNATIONALIZING LIFESTYLES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Abstract

Mainstream frameworks on sustainable consumption and production fail to holistically capture downstream segments of resource consumption and production systems, especially regarding lifestyle choices, including its links to upstream and midstream components. This policy brief seeks to develop composite metrics on consumption for G20 countries after which it discusses ways to further internationalize sustainable lifestyles. Norm evolution through internationalization is key to building shared expectations about what constitutes appropriate behaviour among governments and non-state actors in international systems. Even though based on non-binding frameworks, these norms can lead to cascading effects and policy changes within and across countries and stakeholders. India can further seek to internationalize G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development through multilateral processes in the United Nations system including through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and United Nations General Assembly.

Keywords

sustainable lifestyles, sustainable consumption, G20, sustainable development, SDG 12

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1. Introduction

Since the adoption of Agenda 21, an outcome document of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), there has been a focus on unsustainable patterns of production and consumption at the global level. In 2015, responsible consumption and production became the twelfth of the seventeen sustainable development goals (SDGs). SDG 12 seeks to advance responsible and sustainable consumption and production by encouraging the reduction of wasteful consumption and efficiency in production and by raising awareness and promoting responsible practices among governments, businesses, and consumers.

At the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow, the Prime Minister of India introduced a new initiative called Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) in 2021. The concept behind LiFE is to promote an environmentally conscious lifestyle that emphasizes ‘mindful and deliberate utilization’ over ‘mindless and destructive consumption’ and advocating for sustainable choices made by ‘Pro-Planet People’. According to Mission LiFE of Niti Aayog, along with policy and regulatory measures to address environmental issues, harnessing the power of collective action led by individuals is crucial to solving complex problems (NITI, 2022). India’s updated National Determined Contribution aims to put forward and further propagate a healthy and sustainable way of living based on traditions and values of conservation and moderation, including through a mass movement for LiFE as a key to combating climate change (GOI, 2022).

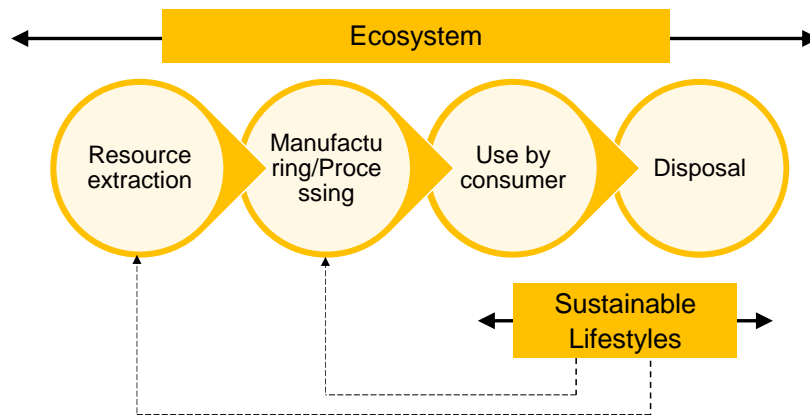
The Government of India has recently notified the ‘Green Credit Programme Implementation Rules 2023’, as a part of Mission LiFE. This programme will generate green credits from a variety of sectors and entities, ranging from small-scale ones such as individuals, farmer producer organizations, cooperatives, forestry enterprises, and sustainable agriculture enterprises to those being developed at the level of urban and rural local bodies, private sectors, industries, and organisations (MOEFCC, 2023a). An outcome of India’s G20 Presidency is the G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development.

It is crucial to approach sustainable consumption and lifestyles by considering the resource value chains that include resource extraction, manufacturing, processing, use by consumers, and disposal (Figure 1). The resource value chain consists of two ends: upstream and downstream. The upstream segment includes resource extraction, while the downstream segment includes end-consumption and disposal. Cross-cutting aspects include design, transport, policy, and regulatory frameworks. Mainstream frameworks on sustainable consumption and production, including SDG 12, fail to holistically capture downstream segments of resource consumption and production systems. This is especially true for lifestyle choices, including its linking to upstream and midstream components (TERI 2022; Kedia et al. 2023).

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has emphasized that global emissions could be reduced by 40%–70% by 2050 through demand-side management, supported by infrastructure and technology while meeting people’s basic needs (MOEFCC, 2023b). Energy has contributed to the largest share of net global GHG emissions. According to IPCC, the energy sector accounted for approximately 34% (20 GtCO₂-eq) of net global GHG emissions

in 2019. Industry contributed 24% (14 GtCO₂-eq), transport contributed 15% (8.7 GtCO₂-eq), buildings contributed 6% (3.3 GtCO₂-eq), and AFOLU (agriculture, forest, and other land use) contributed 22% (13 GtCO₂-eq) of emissions (IPCC 2022). According to the IEA's modelling, LiFE compatible actions in the energy sector alone would reduce annual global carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by more than 2 billion tonnes (Gt) in 2030, which is 20% of the emissions reductions needed by 2030 to put the world on a pathway to net zero emissions (International Energy Agency, 2023). Global food production accounts for one-third of all the anthropogenic GHG emissions, while meat production is responsible for 60% of it (Milman, 2021).

Figure 1: Sustainable lifestyles and resource value chains



This policy brief seeks to develop composite metrics on consumption for G20 countries. It also discusses ways to internationalize sustainable lifestyles.

2. Metrics on Lifestyles and Consumption: Implications for Equity





To understand the state of lifestyles and consumption for G20 countries, the European Union and the African Union, a composite index and indices on consumption sectors (such as food, transport, residential, and waste management) have been developed. This builds on the methodology of TERI (2022). Table 1 summarizes the indicators used in calculating the metrics for G20 countries and the European Union.

The choice of index is based on key sectors that have been extensively covered in the literature and contribute significantly to sustainable consumption on the downstream or end-consumer side. The downstream side of production and consumption systems pertains to lifestyles and consumers, while the upstream includes aspects related to resource extraction. The goal is to examine the demand side, which is essential for determining the production and consumption needs and patterns of the selected indicators.

The choice of these indicators is also constrained by data availability. For example, food waste was not included in the analysis due to a lack of data for all types of food waste (households, out-of-home consumption, and retail) in all G20 entities. Turkey, for instance, has no data available for food waste. The EU had no data on the out-of-home consumption category. As a result, we used data for plastic waste generation for 2010 as it was one of the few indicators available for G20 nations, except for the African Union (AU). For the AU, we used data from an average of 31 African countries for which data was available. Regarding total final energy

consumption (TFEC) in the transport and residential sector, we used 2020 data for the EU and 2019 data for Malta. Population data was taken from the UN World Population Prospects (United Nations, 2022).

Table 1: Indicators and data sources used for developing metrics on sustainable consumption

Sector	Indicator	Data source	Data Year
Transport 	Total final energy consumption (TFEC) in the transport sector (PJ/capita)	IEA (2023)	2021
Food 	Meat supply (kilograms/year/capita)	FAO (2022)	2020
Residential buildings 	Total final energy consumption (TFEC) in the residential sector (PJ/capita)	IEA (2023)	2021
Waste disposal 	Plastic waste generation (tonnes/capita)	Jambeck <i>et al.</i> (2015)	2010

To identify and collect basic data, the values of indicators are standardized and normalized in the range of 0-1. This procedure makes the respective values of the chosen indicators (as mentioned in Table 1) unitless, allowing for a fair comparison of indicators in constructing an index. In the index, the highest performer gets a value of 1, while the lowest performer gets a value of 0. Additionally, all values are adjusted to become unidirectional.

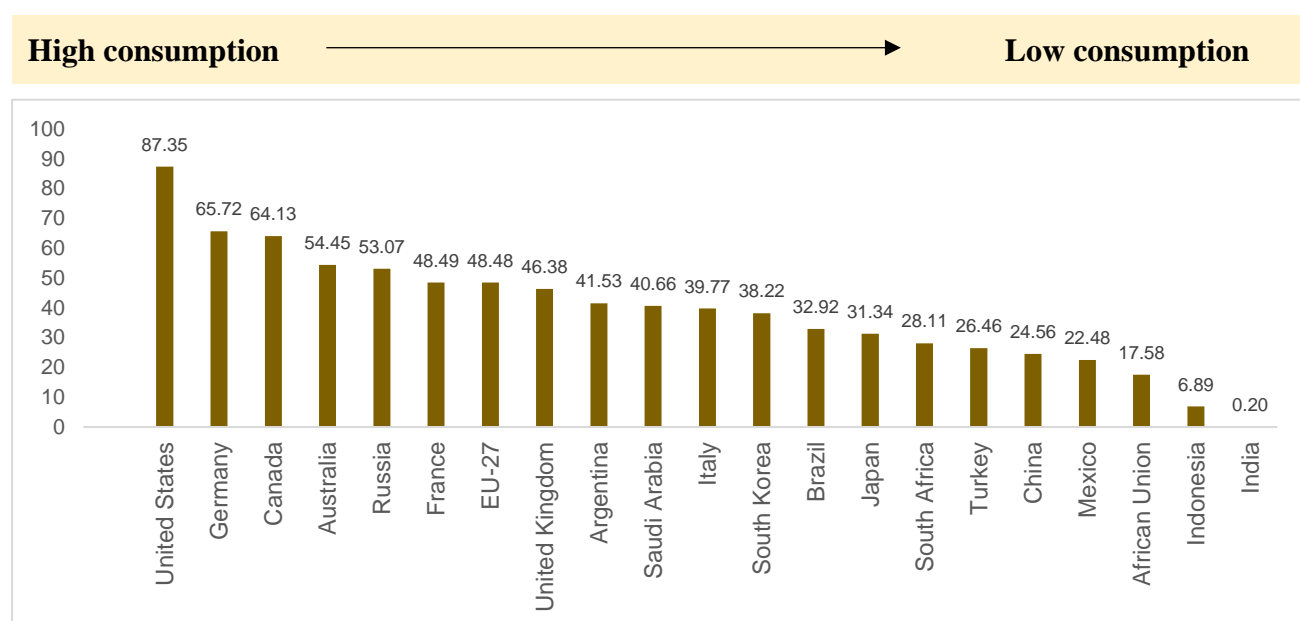
The normalization procedure using x as a variable is as follows:

$$x - \text{index} = [x - \min(x)] / [\max(x) - \min(x)]$$

Here, $\min(x)$ and $\max(x)$ are the lowest and highest values for the variable x . The scores received by each state concerning each indicator are then averaged using equal weights.

After standardizing the values, the scores were then converted to arrive at scores proportionate to 100 and depicted graphically in Figure 2. Higher scores indicate higher consumption in per capita terms for the individual.

Figure 2: Lifestyles and consumption index for G20



Country	TFC in transport sector (PJ/capita)		TFC in residential sector (PJ/capita)		Meat supply (kg/year/capita)		Plastic waste generation (tonne/capita)		Composite index	Score
	Value	Index	Value	Index	Value	Index	Value	Index		
United States	0.08	0.00	0.03	0.18	126.74	0.00	0.12	0.32	0.13	87.35
Germany	0.03	0.68	0.03	0.31	79.18	0.39	0.18	0.00	0.34	65.72
Canada	0.06	0.18	0.04	0.13	90.20	0.30	0.03	0.83	0.36	64.13
Australia	0.05	0.37	0.02	0.61	120.72	0.05	0.04	0.79	0.46	54.45
Russia	0.03	0.68	0.04	0.00	77.07	0.41	0.04	0.79	0.47	53.07
France	0.03	0.66	0.03	0.41	79.20	0.39	0.07	0.61	0.52	48.49
EU-27	0.02	0.71	0.02	0.48	78.26	0.40	0.10	0.47	0.52	48.48
United Kingdom	0.02	0.73	0.02	0.46	80.09	0.38	0.08	0.58	0.54	46.38
Argentina	0.02	0.82	0.01	0.75	110.55	0.13	0.07	0.64	0.58	41.53
Saudi Arabia	0.05	0.39	0.02	0.69	53.23	0.60	0.06	0.70	0.59	40.66
Italy	0.02	0.70	0.02	0.51	71.32	0.45	0.05	0.74	0.60	39.77
South Korea	0.03	0.64	0.02	0.64	77.67	0.40	0.04	0.79	0.62	38.22
Brazil	0.02	0.81	0.01	0.97	98.85	0.23	0.06	0.68	0.67	32.92
Japan	0.02	0.75	0.01	0.74	53.95	0.60	0.06	0.67	0.69	31.34
South Africa	0.01	0.88	0.01	0.93	60.28	0.54	0.09	0.52	0.72	28.11
Turkey	0.01	0.84	0.01	0.79	37.35	0.73	0.08	0.58	0.74	26.46
China	0.01	0.90	0.01	0.81	61.89	0.53	0.04	0.77	0.75	24.56
Mexico	0.01	0.88	0.01	0.95	72.69	0.44	0.03	0.83	0.78	22.48
AU	0.00	0.99	0.01	0.84	16.46	0.90	0.08	0.57	0.82	17.58
Indonesia	0.01	0.93	0.00	1.00	18.00	0.89	0.02	0.90	0.93	6.89
India	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.99	4.54	1.00	0.00	1.00	1.00	0.20

Source: Based on IEA (2023), United Nations (2022), FAO (2022), and Jambeck et al. (2015) in Our World in Data

In the Lifestyles and Consumption Index, the United States has the highest consumption among G20 entities, while India has the lowest consumption. The developing countries in the G20 have scored much lower than most of their developed counterparts.

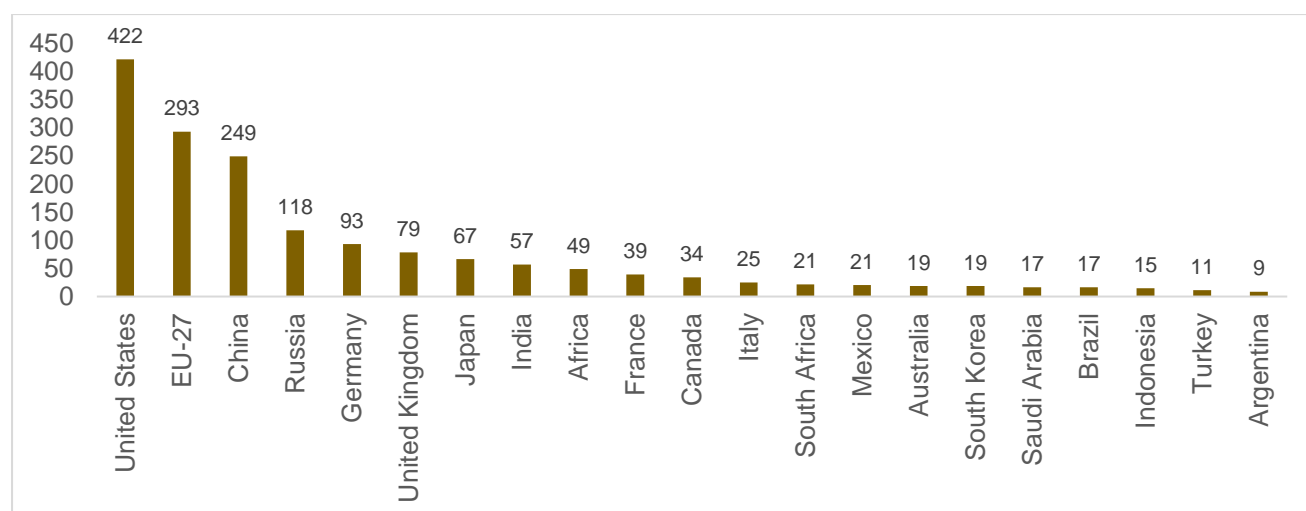
It is important to mention that the scores presented here only indicate the present level of consumption; they do not indicate the normative direction of lifestyles and consumption. As mentioned earlier, these metrics are constrained by data availability, especially concerning indicators that relate to downstream segments of resource value chains. The index has been developed without accounting for differences in per capita incomes. As the point of the index is not to indicate a normative direction, this index can be standardized in future using per capita incomes to determine how efficient or sustainable 1 passenger-km or 1 kilocalorie is across countries.

With respect to equity, the question that needs to be addressed is whether G20 countries give a quality of life to their citizens without increasing environmental degradation and compromising the resource needs of future generations? Can countries do more and better with less? Can countries deliver more goods and services to ensure a better quality of life with less impact on resource use, environmental degradation, waste and pollution?

Moreover, to what extent can individual consumer choices be internationalized? Will lifestyles be a matter of consumer sovereignty, or can policy, economic and social instruments nudge individual choices? Furthermore, can individual choices nudge policy and markets through social movements and instruments?

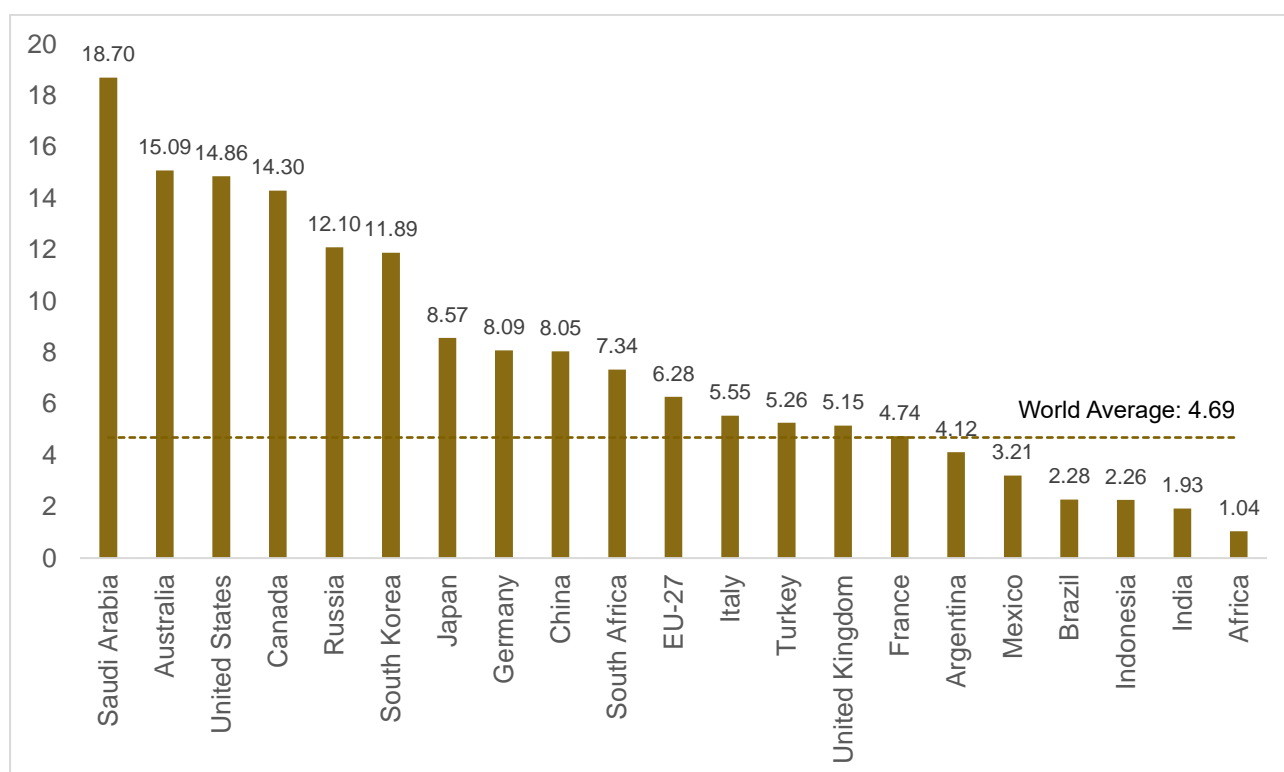
When considering sustainable lifestyles, it is important to consider equitable consumption and underconsumption. Disparities exist among countries in terms of cumulative and per capita emissions. In terms of cumulative emissions, the United States, EU-27, and China, among G20 countries, are responsible for over 55% of cumulative GHG emissions from 1850–21 (Figure 3). On the other hand, African Union (1 tonne per person), India (1.9 tonne per person), and Indonesia (2.3 tonne per person) have per capita CO₂ emissions much lower than the world average (4.7 tonne per person) (Figure 4).

Figure 3: Cumulative CO₂ emissions for G20 entities (billion tonnes), 1850–2021



Source: *Our World in Data* (2023a)

Figure 4: Per capita CO₂ emissions, 2021 (tonnes per person)



Source: *Our World in Data (2023b)*

3. Sustainable Lifestyles, G20 Outcomes, and Initiatives in India

Under India’s Presidency in 2023, LiFE has emerged as an important topic of G20 discussions. Section C of the Declaration focuses on the Green Development Pact for a Sustainable Future and emphasises Mainstreaming Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (LiFE) (G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration, 2023). The discussion also recognized the need for ‘Designing a Circular Economy World’ to reduce waste generation and promote a circular economy, an important component of the Mission LiFE.

India’s G20 legacy has left a significant impact, one of which is the African Union finding its place as a permanent member of G20 (G20 New Delhi Leaders’ Declaration, 2023). In addition, the Green Development Pact recognizes the varying needs of countries, particularly the developing nations, while pursuing development, environmental and climate goals. It also promotes the Lifestyles for Sustainable Development approach (G20 High Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, 2023).

During the G20 deliberations in India, one of the key outcomes was the formulation of the nine G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development, which is summarized in Box 1. Sustainable lifestyles are also seen as a way to connect climate action and sustainable development. The Lifestyles for Sustainable Development approach takes forward the idea of Green Development for ‘One Earth, One Family, One Future’.

Box 1: The Nine G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development

- Interlinkages between development, environment, and climate agendas
- International and national efforts towards meeting the basic needs of all
- Behavioural sciences approaches
- Promote sustainable production
- Mainstream sustainability of the economy
- Responsibly leverage the potential of data and digital technology
- Role of local communities and governments and traditional knowledge
- Role of financing
- International cooperation and collective action

Source: Based on G20 High Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development (2023)

According to Mission LiFE of Niti Aayog, harnessing the power of collective action led by individuals is crucial to solving complex problems along with policy and regulatory measures to address environmental issues (NITI, 2022). The rationale behind the LiFE movement in India includes three aspects: emphasis on mass movements (*Jan Andolans*), focus on growth fuelled by demand and consumer-driven innovations, and internationalizing lifestyles as an issue of global concern. Mission LiFE, in its pursuit of sustainability, collectively advocates a comprehensive strategy marked by three pivotal fundamental shifts. These transformative changes encompass altering demand patterns, reshaping supply chains, and implementing progressive policy measures.

Two major initiatives were launched in India to accelerate the LiFE movement. The Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change launched the Green Credit Programme (GCP), and the Department of Consumer Affairs put forth a comprehensive framework for the Right to Repair. The latter aims to highlight the LiFE movement through sustainable consumption. Creating a framework for the right to repair in India will empower consumers and buyers in the regional/local market.

Green Credit Rules, 2023—notified on 12 October 2023—aim to establish a market-driven mechanism that will incentivize voluntary environmental measures across diverse sectors by different stakeholders, including individuals, communities, businesses, private sector industries, farmer producer organizations (FPOs), and cooperatives. The initiative will create tradeable green credits that can be traded on domestic market platforms. It would enable businesses and manufacturers to earn additional revenue. The measures covered under Green Credit Rules include tree plantation, water management, sustainable agriculture, waste management, air pollution reduction, mangrove conservation and restoration, Ecomark label development, and sustainable buildings and infrastructure (MOEFCC, 2023a).

The GCP incentivizes individuals to make eco-friendly choices through economic incentives, while the Ecomark scheme employs ecolabelling to nudge individuals through information provision. It serves as an information and social instrument that allows consumers to filter out products and choose those with environmentally friendly designs and manufacturing processes.

The Central Pollution Control Board administers the Ecomark Scheme in conjunction with the Bureau of Indian Standards.

The Ministry of Consumer Affairs has introduced a framework for the Right to Repair aimed at empowering consumers. As per the framework, manufacturers must provide customers with product details so that they can choose to opt to get them repaired by third parties if needed. The aim is to empower consumers by giving them access to information about the product they own to get it modified or repaired at reasonable costs and prevent them from being exploited by the manufacturers. The provisions of the Right to Repair will significantly reduce the generation of e-waste and amplify the concept of reuse and recycling, an important component of the LiFE movement. It will also boost the opportunities for small repair shops, which is crucial for our local economies (MOCAFPD, 2023). Although a portal for the Right of Repair is also in place, integrating manufacturers into the scheme will take time.

These schemes and provisions act as market, social, and informative instruments that incentivize or nudge individuals, both consumers and manufacturers, to pursue environment-friendly work ethics and lifestyles. While the provisions of the policies are to ensure sustainable development, these require backing by transparent monitoring and evaluation mechanisms and creating a strong will among the individuals to undertake these principles of sustainable lifestyles.

4. Internationalizing Lifestyles for Sustainable Development

Internationalization is crucial to building shared expectations about what constitutes appropriate behaviour among governments and non-state actors in international systems. Even though based on non-binding frameworks, these norms can lead to cascading effects and policy changes within and across countries and stakeholders. From a Global South perspective, the COP26 Charter of Actions advocated that India should be a normative leader in sustainable lifestyles and climate justice (TERI 2021).

Internationalizing through climate processes

India has sent a strong signal about its commitment to be tackling climate change, with the Prime Minister announcing the LiFE movement at COP26 and by including LiFE in its updated NDCs. In recent times, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has been addressing various important issue-based topics. In addition to the usual suspects of adaptation, loss and damage, mitigation, technology transfer, global stocktake, and other mechanisms as mandated by the Paris Agreement, SBSTA has deliberated on issues such as ‘just transitions’ along with ‘agriculture and food security’. As other issues have been discussed under the ambit of the UNFCCC, India can take the lead in garnering support for sustainable lifestyles in the UNFCCC processes.

Aligning with the objectives as stated under Article 2 of the UNFCCC, sustainable lifestyles and responsible consumption are crucial in achieving the stabilization of greenhouse gas concentrations and preventing dangerous anthropogenic interference with the climate system. These issues directly relate to the Convention’s objective of allowing ecosystems to adapt naturally, safeguarding food production, and promoting sustainable economic development

(United Nations, 1992). The Paris Agreement explicitly mentions the importance of sustainable lifestyles and patterns of consumption and production, with developed countries taking the lead (UNFCCC, 2015). The issue of sustainable lifestyles is key to achieving the objective as stated under Article 2 of the Paris Agreement, which aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change in the context of sustainable development (UNFCCC, 2015). Sustainable lifestyles can contribute to both mitigation and adaptation.

G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development can be further internationalized by bringing forth deliberations on sustainable lifestyles and responsible consumption in UNFCCC processes, including the CMA (Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Paris Agreement), SBSTA can further internationalize sustainable lifestyles and responsible consumption and elevate the same as a global issue to promote both adaptation and mitigation behaviours, which can then percolate to countries and sub-national initiatives. Furthermore, countries can also call for a special report by the IPCC on lifestyles and climate change.

Internationalizing LiFE through the UN General Assembly and SDG processes

An analysis of United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolutions post the adoption of Agenda 2030 reveals that there are only three resolutions that relate to sustainable consumption, and they do not articulate the need for measures for sustainable lifestyles involving individuals and institutions. India can put forward a draft resolution on lifestyles for sustainable development. India, as the principal sponsor, can interact with the member states to understand the respective policies in those countries and then articulate areas of convergence and further institutionalization.

Before submitting the ‘best version possible’, India, as the principal sponsor, could interact with Member States for informal negotiations on a text to enable action as soon as the L-document is presented in the UNGA Plenary. Following the presentation of the L-document, unofficial negotiations are conducted under the direction of the principal sponsor or a facilitator chosen by the chair of the second committee. The negotiated text will replace the original draft if consensus is obtained. This resolution could further internationalize G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development and could be integral to combating climate change and achieving the SDGs. In addition, India can mobilize support for mandating a UNSG report on sustainable lifestyles, which could focus on incentivising individual and institutional behaviours.

In the United Nations’ global indicator framework on sustainable development goals (SDGs), for targets 4.7, 12.8, and 13.3, the indicator to track progress is, the “Extent to which (i) global citizenship education and (ii) education for sustainable development are mainstreamed in (a) national education policies; (b) curricula; (c) teacher education; and (d) student assessment” (United Nations, 2023). Thus, the indicators for these targets under Goal 4, Goal 12 and Goal 13 are linked to the formal education systems. While these are essential components, they do not encompass the entirety of measures needed to promote sustainable lifestyles and responsible consumption. India can take a leadership role, and these recommendations can be proposed by India’s focal points under the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators (IAEG-SDGs), which has been conducting a Comprehensive

Review of the global indicator framework throughout 2024 (United Nations General Assembly, 2017) to submit its proposed refinements, revisions, replacements, additions and deletions to the 56th session of the United Nations Statistical Commission in March 2025 for its consideration (United Nations Statistical Commission, 2023).

5. The Road Ahead

Internationalizing Lifestyles and promoting Normative Shifts: International norms and institutions need to change through global efforts that can be supported by all relevant actors within countries and internationally. India can further seek to internationalize G20 High-Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development through multilateral processes around UNFCCC, UNGA and SDG processes.

Strengthening global indicator frameworks: SDG 12 indicators can include/have more downstream indicators – especially for consumers and individuals – along with instruments such as eco-labels. This will be an important step forward when it comes to internationalizing lifestyles.

Promoting adaptation and mitigation behaviours: From a Global South perspective, when discussing lifestyles, climate change adaptation and mitigation need to be considered. Under UNFCCC, the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA) can be mandated to produce technical reports on adaptation and mitigation lifestyles.

Deploy a variety of instruments: There is a need to examine the scope of deployment of all types of instruments, ranging from command and control to voluntary instruments. The role of responsible advertising is essential, and this is a segment which remains to be tapped. In this paper, we saw India introducing market instruments and rights-based approaches.

Data for promoting science-based actions: Consumption data and its availability in the public domain is critical. Metrics need to consider a complete system analysis when assessing the lifecycle implications of products and services. When examining GHG emissions or water use in food items, there is a need to consider energy and water consumption in irrigation, fertilizer production and other inputs as well.

Deriving inspiration from Indigenous communities: Indigenous communities are known to live in sync with nature in a way that does not harm the environment. Traditional knowledge is important to preserve, as these may inspire behavioural interventions and insights.

Service-driven LiFE economy: Consumers need services rather than products, which implies that policies should aim to provide well-functioning and accessible public services and enable market conditions. For example, for mobility, policy instruments may be accompanied by certain business models, such as ride-sharing. This forms a fundamental basis for the Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE) economy. Green public procurement can be vital to driving a LiFE economy.

Increasing the life of existing products: Retrofitting and supporting technologies should be explored to consider affordability and minimizing waste generation. In the mobility section, we are talking about the scrappage of older vehicles, but unfortunately, we talk very little about retrofitting technologies and increasing the life of vehicles.

Re-visit and improvise policies to address wasteful consumption: There is a need to revisit aspects of policies that promote unsustainable consumption; for example, the promotion of policies such as electricity subsidies that promote indiscriminate exploitation of groundwater. There is a need to understand better what wasteful consumption is and how it is further promoted by existing policies.

Encourage participation of people and democratic processes: The philosophy behind LiFE is that climate change must now become a movement of the masses. Stakeholders must actively think of ways in which we nudge citizens towards climate-friendly practices. Citizen science can be promoted, and citizens can be involved in data collection. Data should also be made available in the public domain through robust digital public infrastructure. This will also strengthen citizen and civil society-based democratic processes.

Driving demand-responsive innovations: India is a global influencer, not just in terms of the size of the country's population but also in innovations through policy actions, individual actions and industrial actions. For growth and development, it is essential to encourage agility in entrepreneurs who can shift more quickly to market demand. Thus, demand (downstream) driving innovations (upstream) is also crucial.

Through the G20 presidency, India took a huge leap forward in internationalizing sustainable lifestyles. India is well poised to take a leadership role in internationalizing lifestyle for the environment. A critical mass of support from various stakeholders is required for norms and institutions to change. Internationalization can play a key role here. Participatory and inclusive processes, along with evidence and data-driven approaches, including in multilateral processes, can lead to shifts in international norms and policies and practices worldwide.

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NOTES

World Sustainable Development Summit

The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship Track II initiative organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). Instituted in 2001, the Summit series has a legacy of over two decades for making 'sustainable development' a globally shared goal. The only independently convened international Summit on sustainable development and environment, based in the Global South, WSDS strives to provide long-term solutions to benefit global communities by assembling the world's most enlightened leaders and thinkers on a single platform. Over the years, the Summit series has witnessed the participation of 54 Heads of State and Government, 103 Ministers, 13 Nobel Laureates, 1888 Business Leaders, 2745 Speakers, and 38,280 Delegates.

Act4Earth

Act4Earth initiative was launched at the valedictory session of WSDS 2022. Building on the discussions of WSDS, this initiative seeks to continuously engage with stakeholders through research and dialogue. Act4Earth initiative has two components: **COP Compass** and **SDG Charter**. The COP Compass seeks to inspire and mobilize leadership at all levels for inclusive transitions through ambitious and informed policies and measures, enabling paradigm shifts towards meeting the UNFCCC and Paris goals through mitigation, adaptation, and means of implementation. The SDG Charter seeks to identify gaps and suggest ways for strengthening and mainstreaming sustainable development in policy agendas for enhanced environmental, social, and economic outcomes.

Internationalizing Lifestyles for Sustainable Development

Mainstream frameworks on sustainable consumption and production fail to holistically capture downstream segments of resource consumption and production systems especially when it comes to lifestyle choices including its linking to upstream and midstream components. This policy brief seeks to develop a composite metrics on consumption for G20 countries after which it discusses on ways to further internationalize sustainable lifestyles. Norm evolution through internationalization is key to build shared expectations about what constitutes appropriate behaviour among governments and non-state actors in international systems. These norms, even though based in non-binding frameworks, can lead to cascading effects and policy changes within and across countries and stakeholders. India can further seek to internationalize G20 High Level Principles on Lifestyles for Sustainable Development through multilateral processes in the United Nations system including through the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and United Nations General Assembly.

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