



**BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology,  
Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership  
(STIEP WG)**

**ACTION PLAN FOR INNOVATION 2025-2030**

**June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

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# **BRICS STI COOPERATION ON RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

## **1. THE OPPORTUNITY**

BRICS is establishing itself as a platform for cooperation among countries that represent in 2025 nearly half of the world's population and 39% of global GDP (PPP), committed to promoting a more equitable, fair, democratic, and balanced multipolar world order.

The concept of innovation goes beyond mere incremental improvements; it is the disruptive and creative transformation of the economic process. Innovation is the introduction of new products, new production methods, new sources of raw materials, new markets, or new organizational forms, which alter existing structures and create disruptions in the market. Innovations are the driving force of the "creative destruction" process, in which new technologies and practices replace the old, creating new economic cycles.

The importance of innovation lies in its essential role in economic development. It is the primary source of progress, not only because it generates new products and markets but also because it reorganizes the economy, creates new business opportunities, and eliminates obsolete practices. This continuous process of destruction and creation is fundamental to the evolution of societies and economies, allowing for the emergence of new industries, jobs, and forms of wealth, while replacing outdated and inefficient models.

In this regard, entrepreneurs are key agents in this process, being responsible for turning innovations into reality and driving competitiveness and economic growth. Innovation, therefore, is the force that moves the world forward, constantly renewing the economic and social foundations.

## **2. BRICS PERSPECTIVE**

The Concept of BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation Entrepreneurship Partnership (STIEP) emerged during the 4<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting hosted by India in Jaipur, in 2016. The initiative was endorsed by the STI Ministers of the BRICS countries along with the BRICS Work Plan (2015-18) during the 5<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial meeting in 2017 in China. Thereafter, a 'BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology, and Innovation Entrepreneurship Partnership' (BRICS STIEP) was established to implement the BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation (2021-2024).

The Innovation BRICS Network (iBRICS Network) was created at the 7<sup>th</sup> BRICS STI Ministerial meeting in 2019, at Campinas. The Enabling Framework of the iBRICS Network was endorsed by Ministers, with the objective to:

- a. Fostering dialogue and mutual knowledge: To build and implement information sharing mechanisms, such as online platforms or focal points, that can be efficient and flexible.
- b. Capacity-building: To make the necessary efforts to organize joint-training courses for managers and specialists of science parks, technology incubators and accelerators of the BRICS countries.
- c. Cross-incubation: To facilitate the access of residents to science parks, incubators and accelerators from one BRICS country to the other.
- d. Soft-landing: To facilitate the transnational establishment of high-tech companies in the member countries.

In 2021, during the 9<sup>th</sup> BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting, held online by India, ministers endorsed a new BRICS Innovation Action Plan 2021-2024, which was discussed within STIEP. The Enabling Framework for the BRICS Network for Technology Transfer Cooperation (BRICS Tech transfer) was agreed by all BRICS countries at that time.

The key highlights of cooperation under BRICS Tech Transfer framework are given below:

- a. Fostering the Intellectual Property protection: To create a cooperation environment for increasing the Intellectual Property (IP) protection, by sharing the management of good practices and exchanges best practices.
- b. Expand opportunities for technology transfer: To promote the exchange of opportunities for transferring technologies and research results developed in BRICS countries academic institutions.
- c. Capacity building: To make the necessary efforts to organize joint-training courses for Knowledge & Technology Transfer Centers managers and experts in technology transfer.
- d. Metrics: To create a common database of intellectual property assets and knowledge/technology transfer opportunities, to be shared with institutions and companies in each of the BRICS countries.

The Enabling frameworks for BRICS Tech Transfer and iBRICS defined, at that time, a governance model structured for such networks composed of a steering committee with 10 members for each, being 2 members per country. Brazil organized the first meetings of both steering committees in 2022 and 2023, respectively, and implementation or work plans were discussed. For BRICS Tech Transfer, an implementation plan was approved.

Several activities have been held by BRICS countries in the last few years in line with the various action plans for innovation and enabling frameworks. The recent enlargement of BRICS and expiration of the BRICS Action Plan for Innovation 2021 – 2024, however, poses the challenge of discussing a new major document for innovation, and reviewing the governance portion of the Enabling frameworks in order to incorporate new member countries.

The BRICS STIEP Working Group has so far met 6 times, the last meeting was held on April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, 2023, hosted online by India. In 2024, a BRICS STIEP WG meeting was planned to take place in Kazan (Russia), together with an Innovation Forum, which had to be postponed.

That same year, at the 12th BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting Moscow STI Declaration 2024, held on 27 September in Russia, the statement of ministers issued at the time declared: “We emphasize the importance of further development of the iBRICS Network and the BRICS Tech transfer within the BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership. We call on the development and further implementation of the Action Plan for BRICS Innovation Cooperation for 2025-2030, which should include a specific call for proposals on innovation for funding joint projects developed by innovative organizations”.

### **3. PROPOSED ACTION PLAN 2025-2030**

The Action Plan for Innovation (2025-2030) will continue to implement and support the initiatives created under the previous Action Plan, specifically as mentioned in the previous session (iBRICS Network and BRICS Techtransfer). Particular efforts will be made to keep the Steering Committees of these initiatives active and result oriented. The key elements of the Action Plan are:

1. Sharing best practices and enabling policies under Innovation being implemented in BRICS countries;
2. Networking among BRICS Innovation ecosystem (Incubator-to-incubator, startup-to-startup, innovator-to-innovator);
3. Creation of ICT-based knowledge and technology exchange platform through STIEP working group or focal points;
4. Mapping best practices in the Corporate-MSME-Startup alliances and in creating an enabling policy framework at national levels;
5. Creation of BRICS Innovation and Technology Databanks;
6. Organization of BRICS Tech events, such as summits, exhibitions and forums;
7. Organization of joint consultation among MSME and Industry chambers and associations from BRICS nations to jointly work towards development of an enabling policy framework for mapping the best practices in the corporate-MSME-Start up alliances.

### **4. INNOVATION COLLABORATION & SUSTAINABILITY**

BRICS countries have a robust startup ecosystem. The startups in BRICS countries have attracted investments from across the globe. The Action Plan has the following objectives:

- i. Providing access to global markets for startups in BRICS countries;
- ii. Mobilizing global capital for investments in startups in BRICS countries;
- iii. Provide value to startups through mentoring and enabling access to investor and corporate engagement activities;
- iv. Empower the local startup ecosystems in the BRICS countries.

These objectives shall be met by way of:

- a. A specific call for proposals on innovation for funding joint projects developed by innovative organizations, as mandated by the STI Ministers in 2024, under the BRICS STI Framework Program, being discussed on the BRICS STI Funding WG.
- b. BRICS Young Innovators Prize Competition (Part of BRICS Young Scientists Forum);
- c. BRICS Startup Forum to bring together BRICS startups, incubators, investors and public schemes to explore collaboration and market access;
- d. Impact Innovation Exchange Platforms: Open web-based platforms enabling cross country/market collaborations/partnership and capital flow to achieve sustainable development goals (SDGs) in BRICS nations;
- e. Seeking high quality technology demand raised by the demand-side of technology commercialization led by the BRICS Technology Transfer Centers;
- f. BRICS Technology Transfer Training Program to raise international technology transfer, innovation and technology commercialization professionals;
- g. Best Practices for BRICS Technology Transfer Cooperation and BRICS Excellent Industrial Innovations & Technologies for Technology Commercialization;
- h. Promote discussions on deep integration of scientific and technological innovation and industrial innovation, also called as new productive forces, to achieve the transformation and upgrading of traditional industries, developing emerging industries, and exploring future industries.

## **5. PROPOSED 2025-2030 ACTIVITIES FOR BRICS**

The BRICS STIEP working group proposes several activities, which are detailed in the working plans of iBRICS Network and BRICS Tech transfer.

Additional new actions may be added on a year-to-year basis in due consultation and confirmation of the group. The members of the STIEP working group may be part of the coordination and/or organization of each BRICS event and support in preparing the agenda and deliverables of such events. The STIEP working group may accordingly advise the implementation agency in their respective countries to provide all necessary assistance and resources.

This Innovation Action Plan and its associated documents do not create any legally binding obligations for any Member, or between or among the Members, and

participation in any of the proposed actions shall be done on a voluntary basis and in accordance with national laws.

## **6. ANNEXURE A - Enabling Framework for the BRICS Centers for Technology Transfer Cooperation (“BRICS Tech transfer”)**

The STIEP WG recommends that the BRICS STI Senior Officials Meeting submits this document to the Meeting of the Ministers of the BRICS countries responsible for science, technology and innovation.

Acknowledging that, at the 5th BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting (Hangzhou, 07/18/2017), the BRICS countries adopted the “BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation 2017- 2020” (Innovation Action Plan, hereinafter) as a tool to facilitate innovation-driven development for sustainable development of the world economy, which has as one of the deliverables to “encourage technology transfer among the BRICS countries, strengthening training of technology transfer professionals, developing platforms for collaboration among businesses and academia, enabling extensive and orderly transfer and translation of innovation achievements in the BRICS countries. Utilizing existing technological network platforms as instruments of search for foreign partners for technological collaboration and initiation of joint STI projects”.

Taking into consideration the work carried out during the 4th Meeting of the STIEP Working Group, which took place in Moscow, Russia, from 20th to 21st April 2020.

Set forth the following Enabling Framework for the “BRICS Tech transfer”:

### **I. MISSION STATEMENT.**

The “BRICS Tech transfer” intends to be a mechanism for dialogue and cooperation of the BRICS countries, which will promote the exchange of actions and good practices, by stimulating the transfer of technology aiming at increasing the competitiveness and innovation outputs of the BRICS countries.

### **II. GENERAL OBJECTIVES**

#### **A. Fostering Intellectual Property protection.**

The “BRICS Tech transfer” will seek to create a cooperation environment for increasing the Intellectual Property (IP) protection, by sharing the management of good practices and exchanges best practices to:

1. Stimulate the protection of research results and reduce the respective costs of intellectual property (IP) protection in each country, with a view to expanding the scope of protection and dissemination of new technologies developed in the BRICS countries.
2. Suggest the creation of specific mechanisms to facilitate the protection via patents in each BRICS country.



## **B. Expand opportunities for technology transfer.**

The “BRICS Tech transfer” will seek to promote the exchange of opportunities for transferring technologies and research results developed in BRICS countries academic institutions, by means of:

1. Expanding the scope of knowledge/technology transfer, with the active offer of Science and Technology Institutions protected technologies to companies in the BRICS countries and stimulating the creation of resources for multilingual dissemination material, training of professionals for active offers and contact with partners in each location.
2. Providing information on knowledge/technologies available for licensing, sharing mechanisms such as online platforms.
3. Fostering cooperation among Technology Transfer Centers on collaborative opportunities, projects and best practices.
4. Suggesting specific mechanisms to facilitate joint actions aiming to reduce time to market and costs of the scaling up of knowledge and technologies emerged in BRICS collaborative projects.
5. Convening in-person events for innovation and technology match making for BRICS countries.

## **C. Capacity building.**

The “BRICS Tech transfer” will seek to make the necessary efforts to organize joint-training courses for Knowledge & Technology Transfer Centers managers and experts in technology transfer, by means of:

1. The training of human resources at the postgraduate level through programs offered by each country.
2. Professional qualifications in courses and webinars on specific topics, such as technology valuation, negotiation, searches on patent bases, patent analytics, among others.
3. Training and capacity workshops for policy makers of BRICS countries to share best practices of technology transfer and university spin-offs.
4. Explore the possibility of developing BRICS certification system for technology transfer professionals.

## **D. Metrics.**

The “BRICS Tech transfer” will seek to create a common database of intellectual property assets and knowledge/technology transfer opportunities, to be shared with institutions and companies in each of the BRICS countries, in order to:

1. Share data collection instruments used in each country.
2. Share measurement methods to establish common statistics regarding innovation and its impacts.

## **III – STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

A. The day-to-day activities of the “BRICS Tech Transfer” will be governed by a Steering Committee comprised of representatives, which will act as national focal points to the network:

1. The Steering Committee consists of up to two members from each BRICS country, one principal and one alternate, according to the current number of member countries.
2. The members will serve a five-year, renewable terms, mandate.
3. The nomination of the members of the Steering Committee is made by the official representatives of each BRICS country in the STIEP Working Group.
4. The members of the Steering Committee will not receive any financial rewards.
5. The Steering Committee will report on and receive guidance from the STIEP Working Group on implementing this enabling framework.

#### **IV. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

- a. This Framework does not create any legally binding obligations for any Member, or between or among the Members.
- b. Activities under this Enabling Framework may continue for an indefinite period, unless the Enabling Framework is discontinued by the determination of the members of the STIEP Working Group.
- c. This Enabling Framework may be modified upon the determination of the members of the STIEP Working Group.

Updated on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025, in Rio de Janeiro, during the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the BRICS Working Group on Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership.

## 7. ANNEXURE B

### ENABLING FRAMEWORK FOR THE INNOVATION BRICS NETWORK (“iBRICS NETWORK”)

The STIEP WG recommends that the BRICS STI Senior Officials Meeting submits this document to the Meeting of the Ministers of BRICS countries responsible for science, technology and innovation.

Acknowledging that, at the 5th BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting (Hangzhou, 07/18/2017), the BRICS countries adopted the “BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation 2017-2020” (Innovation Action Plan, hereinafter) as a tool to facilitate innovation-driven development for sustainable development of the world economy, which has as one of the deliverables the “creation of networks of science parks, technology business incubators and SMEs, where the innovation actually happens”;

Underscoring that this goal was later supported by the BRICS leaders at the Xiamen Summit (09/04/2017, §12) and at the Johannesburg Summit (07/26/2018, §56).

Appreciating the Brazilian proposal to lead the process for establishing a network that would encompass some of the main science parks, technology incubators and accelerators of the BRICS countries as approved at the 2nd Meeting of the BRICS Science, Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship Partnership (STIEP) Working Group, which took place in Kunming, China, from 9 to 14 September 2018.

Taking into consideration the work carried out during the 3rd Meeting of the STIEP Working Group, which took place in Foz do Iguaçu, Brazil, from 12 to 15 May 2019.

Set forth the following Enabling Framework for the Innovation BRICS Network (“iBRICS Network”):

- I. **MISSION STATEMENT.** The iBRICS Network is to be a mechanism for direct dialogue among actors of innovation of the BRICS countries, which will promote mutual support, joint projects and the exchange of best practices with a view to advancing BRICS systems of innovation.

#### II. GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- A. **Fostering dialogue and mutual knowledge for innovation.** The network will seek to build and implement information sharing mechanisms, such as online platforms, that can efficiently and flexibly:

1. Provide information on each Member’s facilities, soft-landing programs, cross incubation programs, business models and products/services features to facilitate the identification of potential partners for research and development of new technology-based solutions.

2. Provide information on member's plans and initiatives towards expanding activities to new markets inside or outside BRICS to foster the establishment of international partnerships.
3. Foster cooperation among Members on priority-setting, collaborative opportunities, projects, and best practices.
4. Offer, where appropriate, opportunities for engagement with investors, businesses and industries inside and outside the iBRICS Network.
5. Promote discussions on deep integration of scientific and technological innovation and industrial innovation, also called as new productive forces, to achieve the transformation and upgrading of traditional industries, developing emerging industries, and exploring future industries.

**B. Capacity-building.** The network will seek to make the necessary efforts to organize joint-training courses, including practices, for managers and specialists of science parks, technology incubators and accelerators of the BRICS countries, by means of:

1. Discussions on learnings and improvements on management issues to share the best business models and strategies among BRICS markets.
2. Modules of training and immersion in each BRICS country's market.
3. The dissemination of insights on the most critical innovation needs.
4. The exchange of expertise on identification, promotion and the use of available platforms for collaboration.

**C. Cross-incubation.** The network will seek to facilitate the access of innovative companies (residents of science parks, incubators and accelerators, etc.) from one BRICS country to the others, in order to:

1. Foster international technology partnerships for the development of new products, services and solutions, which match the needs of the BRICS countries industry and society.
2. Foster the incubation of startups among the BRICS countries of different business niches to diversify strategies for accelerating technology-based businesses.

3. Boost the exchange of experiences among innovative companies on IP-related issues in BRICS countries.

4. Encourage members to showcase their technology-based products, services and solutions to investors and investment funds of the BRICS countries.

**D. Soft-landing.** The network will seek to facilitate the transnational establishment of high-tech companies in the member countries by:

1. Working in partnership with local governments to build fast-track bureaucratic processes to local establishment of BRICS startups.

2. Fostering partnerships with local companies to allow access to national markets.

3. Encouraging partnerships with local investors to provide access to national credit funds.

4. Making efforts to open intra-BRICS lines of credit for the internationalization of BRICS startups.

### **III. STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE**

A. The day-to-day activities of the iBRICS Network will be governed by a Steering Committee comprised of representatives of science parks, technology incubators, accelerators, their associations, other innovation actors and enabling bodies of the BRICS countries, which will act as national focal points to the network:

1. The Steering Committee consists of up to two members from each BRICS country, one principal and one alternate, according to the current number of member countries.

2. The members will serve a five-year, renewable terms, mandate.

3. The nomination of the members of the Steering Committee is made by the official representatives of each BRICS country in the STIEP Working Group.

4. The members of the Steering Committee will not receive any financial rewards.

5. The Steering Committee will report on and receive guidance from the STIEP Working Group on implementing this enabling framework.

### **IV. MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATION IN THE iBRICS NETWORK**

All science parks, technology incubators, accelerators, their associations, other innovation actors and enabling bodies of the BRICS countries may participate in the iBRICS Network.

1. Participants will get access to all tools and mechanisms of the network;
2. Interested organizations must apply to the Steering Committee to participate in the network.

## **V. FINAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A. This Framework does not create any legally binding obligations for any Member, or between or among the Members.

B. Activities under this Enabling Framework may continue for an indefinite period of time unless the Enabling Framework is discontinued by the determination of the members of the STIEP Working Group.

C. This Enabling Framework may be modified upon determination of the Members of the STIEP Working Group.

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