

BRICS Committee of Senior Energy Officials

ISSUES NOTE

BRICS 2025



1. Background Information

The BRICS countries are important players in the global energy landscape. Each BRICS member is endowed with specific natural resources and has its own socioeconomic reality; yet they face, like all countries, the complex challenge of building sustainable and low-carbon economies, while ensuring energy security and affordability.

Notwithstanding the fact that energy security should remain a major universal goal, climate change has brought about a new reality, and a sense of urgency that cannot be overstated. Each BRICS country has a domestic experience to share on how to decarbonize their energy systems; sharing these policies is of particular interest. As we ensure that energy transition efforts worldwide are consistent with national and regional realities, we should all learn from one another to do what we all need to do in a just and inclusive manner, tackling energy poverty and closing the gaps in terms of energy access and energy security.

Over recent years, BRICS countries have established a robust framework for energy cooperation through the BRICS Energy Research Cooperation Platform (ERCP). This platform reinforces the importance of advancing energy transitions and the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 7 (SDG 7), while acknowledging national circumstances and advocating technologically neutral approaches. The ERCP has fostered fruitful cooperation among BRICS countries in developing joint reports and establishing work streams for various energy-related topics.

2. Priorities

Building on prior achievements and based on current challenges and opportunities, the Brazilian chairship will propose a forward-looking agenda to strengthen BRICS energy cooperation activities over the next five years, taking into consideration the best available science, with a focus on fostering just and inclusive energy transitions.

Recognizing the value of our ongoing collaboration and in line with the commitments made at previous BRICS Energy Ministers' Meetings, Brazil's 2025 chairship will update the Roadmap for BRICS Energy Cooperation while continuing to benefit from the work of the ERCP. The Brazilian chairship also aims to foster synergies between BRICS and multilateral fora. As the host of COP 30, to be held also in 2025, Brazil believes that intra-BRICS collaboration can play an important role in global energy transition efforts towards low-emission energy systems. Brazil will lead efforts to explore innovative solutions, resulting in key deliverables to be featured at the BRICS Summit. These efforts underscore the group's commitment to a sustainable and inclusive energy future. To achieve these outcomes, the Brazilian chairship will focus on two priorities:

2.1. Updating the Roadmap for BRICS Energy Cooperation

The current Roadmap for BRICS Energy Cooperation, approved in 2020, outlines 11 cooperation areas to be addressed up to 2025, including crosscutting issues such as technological collaboration and energy efficiency, alongside sector-specific areas like renewable energy and biofuels.

The 2024 BRICS Energy Ministers' Communiqué emphasized the need to update the Roadmap to guide ERCP activities up to 2030. The Brazilian chairship will keep the momentum of the discussions initiated in 2024, exploring new topics and incorporating perspectives from BRICS members, inviting them to pay particular attention to energy transition technologies and strategies and their central role in achieving net-zero goals. Proposed updates will be discussed and submitted for approval at the BRICS Energy Ministerial Meeting.

Given the development of new energy technologies, energy markets, and regulatory frameworks, it will also be important to address the interests of BRICS countries in exploring new areas of cooperation within the ERCP. To that end, the Brazilian chairship intends to host virtual technical workshops on the following topics:

- Financing energy transitions, including mineral research;
- Technological advancements in resilient power systems for climate adaptation;
- Best practices for decarbonizing the oil and gas industry, with a focus on upstream operations

2.2. Just and Inclusive Energy Transitions: Reports on New and Sustainable Fuels; and Access to Energy Services

The ERCP has made significant progress in key areas of collaboration, including compiling information and official data from its members across various energy sectors, which led to the publication of 10 joint reports on diverse topics. To promote this technical agenda, the Brazilian chairship will engage BRICS countries in the elaboration of two new reports.

As the global energy market undergoes significant transformation, new perspectives are emerging alongside technological advancements in a diverse range of fuels contributing to reducing GHG emissions, including low-emission hydrogen and hydrogen-based fuels, biofuels, and biogases. The Brazilian chairship will invite member countries to collaborate on a BRICS Report on New and Sustainable Fuels, with a focus on policies being developed within each of the BRICS countries.

There is consensus on the need to urgently increase production and deployment of sustainable fuels (low-emission fuels), particularly in end-use sectors such as industry and transport. Rapid and deep reductions in global greenhouse gas emissions will require major energy systems transitions. The Brazilian chairship invites BRICS countries to identify bottlenecks in the production and use of those fuels and to find solutions and recommendations to speed up and scale their production. This involves recognizing the distinct realities of different parts of the world, and where each new technology may work best.

Considering their diverse social and economic realities, the BRICS countries depend on tailored approaches to help advance their energy policies. In this context, it is crucial to evaluate how they are developing policies to address energy poverty, focusing on expanding access to energy services – including electricity, cooking, thermal comfort, mobility, and connectivity – while prioritizing affordability. In line with SDG 7, this effort seeks to help policymakers identify key barriers and propose effective solutions to tackle energy poverty.

In this regard, the Brazilian BRICS chairship invites members to collaborate on the development of a BRICS Access to Energy Services Report. Building on previous ERCP reports on Just Energy Transition, this new report aims to systematically address the critical challenge of providing energy services to all, which hinders equitable energy access and sustainable development across BRICS countries. By assessing varying levels of energy access and affordability, the report will be a source of strategic recommendations for inclusive energy planning. Additionally, it will promote collaboration among member countries, encouraging knowledge-sharing and innovative solutions to meet the needs of underserved communities and regions.



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COOPERATING FOR AN INCLUSIVE AND SUSTAINABLE WORLD