

BRICS CIVIL FORUM 2021

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Outcome Document



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RIS

Research and Information System
for Developing Countries

विकासशील देशों की अनुसंधान एवं सूचना प्रणाली

BRICS Civil Forum 2021



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To advance the objective of building an international order so that no one is left behind, participation of every actor, including civil societies, states and multilateral fora is required.....it would be useful to further consolidate the BRICS Civil Forum process so that the learning and partnership becomes more effective, meaningful and enduring.

”

Dr Rajkumar Ranjan Singh

Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs
Government of India

Key Recommendations

- Institutionalising BRICS Civil Forum
- Expedite reforms in multilateral institutions such as UN system and its principal organs including WHO, World Bank, IMF, WTO and Security Council, etc.
- Strengthen BRICS demand for reformed multilateral system
- Inclusive and participatory approach towards sustainable development
- Collective Action for Global Public Goods (GPGs) and SDGs
- Evolving a 'BRICS Framework on One Health'
- New alliances could be forged through 'Women BRICS'
- Localization of development and partnerships needs to be internalized
- Role of technology in enabling the shift from entitlements to entrepreneurship/ social entrepreneurship
- IR 4.0 - Need for upgradation of technical and entrepreneurial skills
- Sustainable management of natural resources

Preamble

India assumed the BRICS Chairmanship in 2021 at a time when the group is celebrating its 15th anniversary. India's approach during the Chairship of BRICS is reflected in the theme, "BRICS@15: Intra-BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus". The role of civil society in this endeavour is vital. By drawing upon civil society's core strengths in giving voice to people's concerns, India has accorded high priority to enhancing people-to-people (P2P) cooperation as part of its participation in the BRICS process. India's efforts in the promotion of P2P activities in BRICS under the vision, inspiration, and guidance of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi is well recognised.

The weakening of global governance in the contemporary global context marked by strains in multilateralism and institutional framework poses a serious challenge for promoting international cooperation. Furthermore,

the dangers of the COVID-19 pandemic and its attendant disruptions have forced the countries to look inwards and concentrate their efforts within national boundaries. The resolve of the BRICS countries to leverage their natural complementarities and collectively push for inclusive development and necessary reform of global and multilateral institutions needs active participation from wide-ranging stakeholders’.

The role of civil society organisations (CSOs) particularly assumes greater significance. The COVID-19 pandemic, that engulfed the world, has shown that the whole-of-society approaches are critical to fight large-scale disasters and to build required resilience. Civil society groups play an important role in bridging information gaps and pooling local resources and tools for appropriate interventions in specific contexts.

Given the complexity of societal and environmental challenges and risks in our societies, governments or the market alone would not be able to address them. The BRICS member states, therefore, have given high importance to the role of CSOs as partners in development and in tapping into their vast societal connect and dynamism. The BRICS Civil Forum brings together a cross-section of

CSO members from BRICS member states for a meaningful exchange on various important themes to the BRICS Civil Forum include representatives from organisations with varied backgrounds working at the grassroots level with communities as well as think-tanks; academia, etc.

Keeping in view the pandemic induced travel restrictions, BRICS Civil Forum 2021 adopted an innovative approach by hosting series of dialogues on relevant themes over four months (April-July 2021). The 2021 BRICS Civil Forum process focussed on themes that also contribute to the priorities of India's BRICS Presidency in 2021.

The thematic dialogues covered reformed multilateralism; development finance and global public goods; pandemic response, partnership and role of civil society; wellness, health and traditional systems of medicines; BRICS economies and women's participation; quality of economic growth and inclusion; future of education and skills; role of technology in promoting inclusive development and entrepreneurship in BRICS; people's participation in sustainability; etc. The meetings were held in a virtual format with distinguished participants from academia, think tanks, and civil society organisations from all the five BRICS countries respectively.



Professor Sachin Chaturvedi



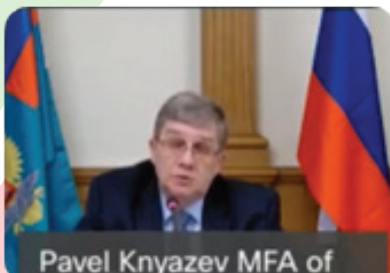
Ambassador Sanjay Bhattacharyya



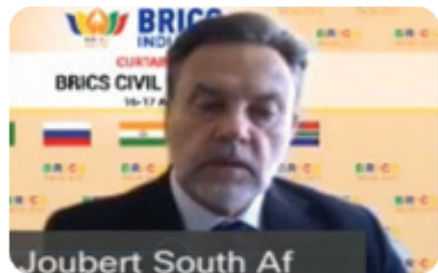
Ambassador Mohan Kumar



Mr P. Harish



Ambassador Pavel Knyazev



Ambassador Ben Joubert

Institutionalising BRICS Civil Forum

In keeping with the priority of BRICS 2021, the BRICS Civil Forum process has strongly brought out the need to consider a roadmap that brings in the consolidation of the whole BRICS Civil Forum process. Such a roadmap is critical to ensure that the outreach, learning, and partnership between BRICS countries become more effective, meaningful, and enduring. The BRICS Civil Forum website launched by the host institution, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), represents one such effort that can evolve into a permanent repository and knowledge platform for all BRICS Civil Forum activities in the future.

As civil societies represent the collective conscience of peoples and play an important role in raising the voices of the people, the BRICS Civil Forum has the responsibility to ensure that the BRICS grouping does not lose its focus on people and development. In these difficult times like the

ongoing COVID19 pandemic, the role of civil societies assumes greater relevance.

The BRICS Civil Forum thus needs to reinvest its efforts and energies to foster greater exchange and sharing of experiences and capacity building of the domestic civil society organisations and similar groups. The Forum has made important progress in connecting civil society across BRICS partners. It should reach out to those who are left behind due to the differential pace of development and take responsibility to identify key issues, challenges, and articulate concerns at appropriate forums.

In principle, an institutionalised platform can serve as an ideas bank for BRICS and offer essential inputs on relevant international economic issues, and suggest concrete policy measures. Towards this end, a Working Group should ideally be set up to institutionalise BRICS Civil process and to enable lasting engagement among leading CSOs from all the BRICS member countries for better and effective cooperation. As a collective platform, it can help to share information, best practices, policies, etc.

Thematic Recommendations

The outcome document of the BRICS Civil Forum 2021 under India's Chairship generated several recommendations. The thematic recommendations of the process on key priority areas can enhance the impact and relevance of the BRICS experience at the global and national levels.

Call for Responsive Global Governance and Strengthened BRICS Cooperation

- BRICS should work towards strengthening and reforming the global governance architecture and make it more inclusive, representative, and democratic. Reformed global governance architecture should provide greater and meaningful participation of developing countries, especially from Africa, Latin America, and Asia in international decision making, and should be better attuned to the realities of the 21st century.
- The reforms are needed in multilateral institutions such as the United Nations system and its principal organs, including the Security Council, as well as other key multilateral institutions including WHO, World Bank, IMF, WTO, etc. A participatory approach should be adopted to strengthen BRICS demand for reformed multilateral system by including civil society and other stakeholders as well.

- It is important to recognise that civil societies are critical to steering multilateralism in the right direction. BRICS Civil Forum plays a critical role in articulating concerns in the global governance architecture and leverages its agency to transform policy insights into action by providing scientific and methodological assistance in solving problems. BRICS need to reinvest efforts and energies for bringing multilateral system out of the huge information deficit and facilitate the exchange of experiences and capacity building of civil societies, which will play an important role.
- It is also required that BRICS should emphasize and re-negotiate Common but Differentiated Responsibilities (CBDR) as well as Special and Differential Treatment (S&DT) with developed countries and urge the developed countries to fulfil their commitment towards official development assistance (ODA). BRICS should call for a special strategy for vulnerable countries, and stress expanding special drawing rights (SDRs) beyond what has been achieved.
- BRICS should also focus on strengthening the financial ecosystem for access of finance to MSMEs to enable them to contribute towards entrepreneurship development and livelihood promotion. BRICS countries should strengthen their cooperation on access to finance and technology for sustainable development and economic recovery in the post-pandemic phase.

- An inclusive and participatory approach towards sustainable development is important in the current context. BRICS countries need to adopt appropriate roadmaps on sustainable development interventions that address considerations of access, equity, and inclusion from a technological, financial, and societal standpoint.
- BRICS should collaborate on Collective Action for Global Public Goods and SDGs. The New Development Bank (NDB) can play a key role in promoting sustainable growth by supporting industrial and developmental projects with inclusive priorities. To be more self-reliant and resilient, BRICS needs unique solutions which are based on a bottom-up approach and environment friendly, with appropriate use of new technologies and digitalization.
- BRICS should urge the international community to take further steps towards ensuring access to vaccines and facilitate inclusive recovery. They also need to promote a balanced international intellectual property system that contextualizes Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) in the larger framework of socio-economic development and regards IPRs as a means of promoting innovation, growth, and development in all countries through calibrated norm-setting, protection, and enforcement, while facilitating the effective transfer of technology and incentivizing innovation.

- The ‘One Health’ approach to health policy design has become particularly relevant in the present context of control of zoonoses such as COVID-19. Remedying the situation requires us to move towards broader principles of wellness and ensuring the wellbeing of humans along with the environment and conservation of biodiversity. Traditional medicine (TM) systems are well suited for this. BRICS members being the most mega-diverse countries are a vast repository of medicinal plants and traditional medicine systems. National experiences in integrative health research and policy can be shared for evolving a ‘BRICS Framework on One Health’.



- Amidst the threat of growing biodiversity loss, the government and non-governmental institutions in BRICS countries have undertaken *Ex-situ & In-situ* conservation of medicinal plants. Knowledge sharing between BRICS at both levels can offer learnings for domestic as well as regional frameworks on conservation and preservation efforts.



- Inventorisation of traditional knowledge has become particularly important for its preservation and CSOs are playing an important role in mobilising community participation towards documentation of traditional knowledge at the grassroots level. Experience sharing and knowledge collaboration on such documentation

can be designed to assist member countries in such capacity-building exercises.

- There is also need to institutionalise norms, standards, and policies to advance Gender Equality and Women Empowerment (GEWE)/SDG 5 implementation plus Beijing Platform for Action. It is also required to develop high standards gender-sensitive global norms into BRICS fora and at the national level.
- Economic empowerment for women should be undertaken in areas of financial inclusion; access; ownership and control over economic assets; entrepreneurship; ending digital divide; parity in corporate leadership; gender-responsive budgeting and government procurement; skills development and participation in Tech 4.0, equitable share in the labour force, wages, etc. New alliances could be forged for improving women's participation in their respective economies. BRICS Women Group, "BRICS Women" like G-20's "Women 20" needs consideration.

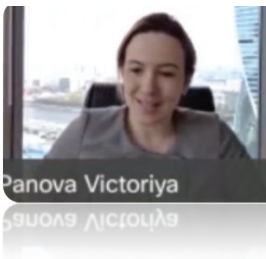
Inclusive Social Policy in BRICS

- The exacerbation of structural and pre-existing inequalities due to the pandemic calls for BRICS countries to align their economic policies towards job creation and address the realities of jobless growth and technological disruptions. Special attention must be paid in terms of economic policies to cushion the impact of the pandemic

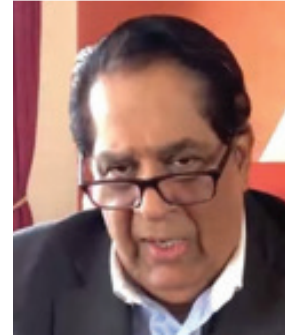
and digital divides on education, and also create sufficient avenues for women empowerment and entrepreneurship.



- The relevance of localisation of development and partnerships needs to be internalised in policymaking through cluster development programmes, sustainable urbanisation, and livelihood generation, building inter-linkages with regional economies and with adequate infrastructure for education, transportation, innovation systems towards inclusive development.
- BRICS countries should focus on creating social infrastructure development and make digital tools accessible. BRICS countries should leverage CSOs as avenues of exchanging learning and new modalities, particularly emerging from societal response to the pandemic.
- It is imperative to ensure the quality of education that is being imparted in the schools at all levels. Digital technologies need to be accessible, affordable, and reliable for students. Investments in teachers' training, digital connectivity and access to technology. Special collaborative mechanisms in BRICS can be promoted to facilitate online education and professional development, expand the BRICS education grant system, promote BRICS language learning, boost the exchange of scholars, and facilitate student academic mobility.



- BRICS should promote the use of technology and digital means to promote inclusive development and to enhance the efficiency of the delivery of social welfare programmes. Experiences of CSOs from BRICS in technology integration and diffusion would be vital.
- The role of technology in promoting entrepreneurship/social entrepreneurship is well-known. BRICS countries need to enhance support for entrepreneurship development and SMEs as a means to livelihood generation and equitable socio-economic development in the spirit of the SDGs. They called for accommodative policies and facilitation through external support in areas of finance, digital infrastructure, and capacity building.
- Promoting digitalisation to achieve SDGs and inclusive growth needs greater collaboration among BRICS countries. Furthermore, promoting entrepreneurship to achieve SDGs needs greater emphasis. Therefore, BRICS should work toward adopting innovation models that incentivise information sharing, connect incubators with entrepreneurs.
- Democratic and participatory enterprise and social innovation requires strengthening of open-science paradigm, and adoption of ethical research and fair use principles of technology governance. BRICS should realign cooperation initiatives towards fostering access, equity, and



Mr K. V. Kamath



Dr Elizabeth Sidiropoulos

inclusion in promoting innovations for development. In this regard, experiences of CSOs from BRICS in technology integration and diffusion would be vital.

- Public-private-society partnership for digital public goods, science policy and science diplomacy with societal priorities and inclusive innovation systems need greater emphasis in BRICS cooperation for ushering structural transformation and promoting equity as the centrepiece of its partnership.
- The discussion of sustainability needs to go beyond decarbonisation to include the sustainable management of natural resources, e.g. forests, rivers, etc. through strong participation of local communities. The sustainable consumption and production of resources is critical to ensure inter-generational equity in resource access. Civil society has a vital role to play in achieving sustainability and associated measurement framework.
- BRICS countries must adopt a holistic approach to development policy making by drawing upon traditional ethos and practices in the spirit of localisation of development. This would be helpful in mitigating emerging challenges of ecological disasters.



Dr Samir Saran



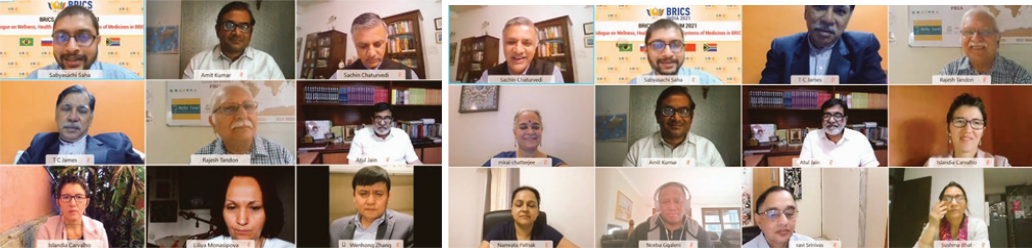
Mr Atul Jain

Calendar of Events

Event	Date
<p>BRICS Civil Forum Curtain Raiser</p> <p>Dialogue on three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reformed Multilateralism • Development Finance and Global Public Goods • Pandemic Response, Partnership and Role of Civil Society 	16-17 April 2021
Dialogue on Wellness, Health and Traditional Systems of Medicines in BRICS	24 May 2021
Dialogue on BRICS Economies and Women's Participation: The Institutional Response	4 June 2021
Dialogue on Quality of Economic Growth and Inclusion: A Regional Development Perspective	10 June 2021
Dialogue on Future of Education and Skills: New Paradigm of Learning in BRICS	21 June 2021
<p>BRICS Civil Forum 2021</p> <p>Dialogue on three themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Development and Promotion of Entrepreneurship in BRICS: Role of Technology • BRICS Perspective on Society and Peace Building • People's Participation on Sustainability: The BRICS Experience 	28-29 July 2021

Dialogue on Wellness, Health and Traditional Systems of Medicines in BRICS

24 May 2021



Dialogue on BRICS Economies and Women's Participation: The Institutional Response

4 June 2021



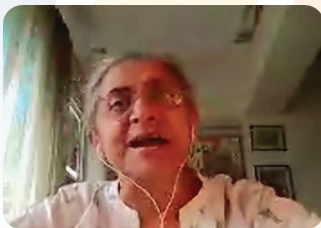
Dialogue on Quality of Economic Growth and Inclusion: A Regional Development Perspective

10 June 2021



Dialogue on Future of Education and Skills: New Paradigm of Learning in BRICS

21 June 2021



BRICS Civil Forum 2021

Curtain Raiser

16-17 April 2021

DAY 1: 16 April 2021

15.00-16.00 IST	Inaugural Session
	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, <i>Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i>• Dr. Mohan Kumar, <i>Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i> <p>Report of BRICS Civil Forum 2020</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Victoria Panova, <i>Managing Director, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research and Vice President for International Relations, Far Eastern Federal University, Russia</i> <p>Special Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amb. Pavel Knyazev, <i>Russia's BRICS Sous-Sherpa</i>• Amb. Ben Joubert, <i>South Africa's BRICS Sous-Sherpa</i> <p>Inaugural Address:</p> <p>Shri Sanjay Bhattacharyya, <i>India's BRICS Sherpa and Secretary (CPV & OIA), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</i></p> <p>Vote of Thanks:</p> <p>Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, <i>Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i></p>
16.15-17.30 IST	Session I: Reformed Multilateralism

Key Issues

- Multilateralism at UN and consensus building
- New economic order, equity and participation
- Post-COVID Development Challenges and global action

Chair: **Amb. Amar Sinha**, *Distinguished Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India*

Keynote: **Mr. P. Harish**, *India's BRICS Sous Sherpa and Additional Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India*

Panelists:

- **Dr. André de Mello e Souza**, *Senior Researcher, IPEA, Brazil*
- **Dr. Victoria Panova**, *Managing Director, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research and Vice President for International Relations, Far Eastern Federal University, Russia*
- **Dr. Wang Lei**, *Director, Center for BRICS Cooperation Studies, Beijing Normal University, China*
- **Dr. Philani Mthembu**, *Executive Director, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa*
- **Professor Sachin Chaturvedi**, *Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India*

Open Discussion

DAY 2: 17 April 2021

15.00-16.15 IST	Session II: Development Finance and Global Public Goods
<p><i>Key Issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved access to development finance post-COVID, institutional mechanisms, instruments and norms • Strengthening global safety nets and dealing with rising debts • Technological and Digital Solutions for SDGs: Imperatives for Access, Equity and Inclusion • Collective action for Global Public Goods 	<p>Chair: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, <i>Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i></p> <p>Keynote: Mr. K V Kamath, <i>Former President, New Development Bank</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Paulo Esteves, <i>Director, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil</i> • Professor Irina Z. Yarygina, <i>Head, Economics and Banking Department, MGIMO University, and Professor, Financial University, Russia</i> • Dr. Ashok Khosla, <i>Chairman, Development Alternatives, India</i> • Dr. (Ms.) Zhang Chuanhong (Diana), <i>Associate Professor, College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University</i> • Professor Elizabeth Sidiropoulos, <i>Chief Executive, South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA)</i> <p><i>Open Discussion</i></p>
16.30-17.30 IST	Session III: Pandemic Response, Partnership and Role of Civil Society

<p><i>Key Issues</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vaccine leadership and vaccine equity • Alternative Development Paradigms and Transformative approaches • People-to-People Cooperation for inclusion and resilience 	<p>Chair: Dr. Paulo Esteves, <i>Director, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Stephan Kanakin, <i>Researcher, Russian National Committee on BRICS Research, Russia</i> • Dr. Rajesh Tandon, <i>President, PRIA and Chairman, FIDC, India</i> • Mr. Atul Jain, <i>General Secretary, Deen Dayal Research Institute, India</i> • Ms. Xiangyi Wang, <i>Vice-Chairwoman and Executive Director, China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO), China</i> • Mr. Simon Vilakazi, <i>Food Security and Climate Change Coordinator, Economic Justice Network (EJN), South Africa</i> • Ms Sanusha Naidu, <i>Senior Research Associate, Institute for Global Dialogue, South Africa</i> <p>Open Discussion</p>
<p>17.30-18.00</p>	<p>Valedictory Session</p>
	<p>Chair: Dr. Mohan Kumar, <i>Chairman, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i></p> <p>Way Forward: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, <i>Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i></p> <p>Valedictory Address: Mr. P. Harish, <i>India's BRICS Sous Sherpa and Additional Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India</i></p> <p>Vote of Thanks: Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, <i>Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India</i></p>

Dialogue on Wellness, Health and Traditional Systems of Medicines in BRICS

24 May 2021

<p>17.00-17.05 IST</p>	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, <i>Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i>
<p>17.05-17.15 IST</p>	<p>Inaugural Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Manoj Nesari, <i>Adviser, Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India</i>
<p>17.15-18.30 IST</p>	<p>Panel on Wellness, Health and Traditional Systems of Medicines in BRICS</p>
<p><i>Key issues:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Concept of 'One Health' and role of traditional medicine</i> • <i>Ex-situ, In-situ conservation of medicinal plants</i> • <i>Role of community participation in biodiversity conservation</i> • <i>Inventorisation of traditional knowledge and the role of databases</i> 	<p>Chair: Dr. Rajesh Tandon, <i>Chairman, FIDC and President, PRIA, India</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Islândia Maria Carvalho Sousa, <i>Senior Researcher, Oswaldo Cruz Foundation, Department of Collective Health, Brazil</i> • Dr. Liliya Monasypova, <i>Head of Medical Branch, Ayurveda Russian-Indian Association and Assistant of the Department of Sports Medicine and Medical Rehabilitation, First Moscow State I.M. Sechenov Medical University, Russia</i> • Mr. Atul Jain, <i>General Secretary, Deen Dayal Research Institute, India</i> • Mr. Wenhong Zhang, <i>Director, Dept. of Infectious Diseases, Huashan Hospital, Fudan University and Vice-president, Chinese Society of Infectious Disease, Chinese Medical Association, China</i> • Professor Nceba Gqaleni, <i>Professor and Researcher, Africa Health Research Institute Research, Professor at University of KwaZulu-Natal and Adjunct Professor at Durban University of Technology</i> <p>Interaction/Q&A</p>

18.30- 18.50 IST	Concluding Session
	Special Remarks: Dr. Mirai Chatterjee , <i>Director of the Social Security Unit, Self-Employed Women's Association, (SEWA), India</i> Concluding Remarks: Prof. T C James , <i>Member Secretary, Forum on Indian Traditional Medicine, & Visiting Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i>
18.50-18.55 IST	Vote of Thanks: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, <i>Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i>

Dialogue on BRICS Economies and Women's Participation: The Institutional Response

4 June 2021

17.00-17.05 IST	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, (RIS), India
17.05-17.25 IST	<p>Keynote Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amb. Lakshmi Puri, former Assistant Secretary-General, United Nations and former Deputy Executive Director of UN Women
17.25-18.45 IST	<p>Panel Discussion on Institutional Response for Women's Participation in BRICS Economies and Fulfilling SDG 5</p>
<p>Key Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting economic empowerment among women • Impact of pandemic on achievement of SDG 5 • Women participation in unorganized sector • Promoting skill development and entrepreneurship amongst women • Improvement in status of women's health and safety 	<p>Chair: Professor Pam Rajput, Emeritus Professor, Panjab University, India</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Elen de Paula Bueno, Researcher and Founding Member, Study Group on the BRICS (GEBRICS), Faculty of Law of the University of São Paulo (USP), Brazil • Dr. Nataliya G. Zaiser, Chair/Founder, "Africa Business Initiative» UNION, Russia • Dr. Kaustuv K Bandyopadhyay, Director, Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA), India • Ms. Jiangwen Long, Advisor of Gender-related Projects and Former Board Member, China Association for NGO Cooperation (CANGO) and Former Vice-Chairperson, China Association of Women Entrepreneurs, China • Mrs. Sibulele Poswayo, Chair of Civil BRICS Gender Equality Working Group and Member, Inequality Movement, South Africa <p><i>Interaction and Q&A</i></p>
18.45-18.50 IST	<p>Vote of Thanks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor Research and Information System for Developing Countries, (RIS), India

Dialogue on Quality of Economic Growth and Inclusion: A Regional Development Perspective

10 June 2021

17.00-17.05 IST	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India
17.05-17.20 IST	<p>Keynote Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nagesh Kumar, Director, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi, India and Former Head, UNESCAP (S&SWA)
17.20-18.30 IST	<p>Panel on Quality of Economic Growth and Inclusion: A Regional Development Perspective</p>
<p>Key Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of economic growth in the BRICS • Ensuring Access, Equity and Inclusion (AEI) through economic policies • Best Practices from the BRICS • Role of CSOs in Promoting Regional Development 	<p>Chair: Amb. Amar Sinha, Distinguished Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sergio Veloso, Research Coordinator, BRICS Policy Centre, Brazil • Dr. Marina Larionova, Head of the Center for International Institutions Research (CIIR), Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), Russia • Mr. Shyam Parande, Secretary, Sewa International & Secretary General, Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, India • Mr. Harsh Jaitli, Chief Executive Officer, Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), India • Ms. Yingjie Sun, Executive Vice President and Secretary General, Foreign Exchange Committee of China Asian Economic Development Association, China <p>Interaction/Q&A</p>
18.30-18.45 IST	<p>Closing Session</p> <p>Chair: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</p> <p>Presentation of the Summary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sabyasachi Saha, Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India <p>Valedictory Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Samir Saran, President, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India

Dialogue on Future of Education and Skills: New Paradigm of Learning in BRICS

21 June 2021

17.00-17.05 IST	<p>Welcome Remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, <i>Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i>
17.05-17.20 IST	<p>Keynote Address:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nagesh Kumar, <i>Director, Institute for Studies in Industrial Development (ISID), New Delhi, India and Former Head, UNESCAP (S&SWA)</i>
17.20-18.30 IST	<p>Panel on Quality of Economic Growth and Inclusion: A Regional Development Perspective</p>
<p>Key Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality of economic growth in the BRICS • Ensuring Access, Equity and Inclusion (AEI) through economic policies • Best Practices from the BRICS • Role of CSOs in Promoting Regional Development 	<p>Chair: Amb. Amar Sinha, <i>Distinguished Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sergio Veloso, <i>Research Coordinator, BRICS Policy Centre, Brazil</i> • Dr. Marina Larionova, <i>Head of the Center for International Institutions Research (CIIR), Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration (RANEPA), Russia</i> • Mr. Shyam Parande, <i>Secretary, Sewa International & Secretary General, Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, India</i> • Mr. Harsh Jaitli, <i>Chief Executive Officer, Voluntary Action Network India (VANI), India</i> • Ms. Yingjie Sun, <i>Executive Vice President and Secretary General, Foreign Exchange Committee of China Asian Economic Development Association, China</i> <p>Interaction/Q&A</p>
18.30-18.45 IST	<p>Closing Session</p>

Chair: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, *Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India*

Presentation of the Summary

- **Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**, *Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India*

Valedictory Address:

- **Dr. Samir Saran**, *President, Observer Research Foundation (ORF), India*

BRICS Civil Forum

28-29 July 2021

DAY 1: 28 July 2021

Inaugural Session

16.00-16.10 IST

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, *Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India*

16.10-16.15 IST

Presentation on BRICS Civil Forum 2021 by RIS

16.15-16.25 IST

Comments by BRICS CSOs

- **Dr. Paulo Esteves**, *Former Director, BRICS Policy Center, Brazil*
- **Ms. Zhu Jingfang**, *Research Fellow, China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), China*
- **Mr. Reon van der Merwe**, *Deputy Director for International Relations, Stakeholder Relations, South African BRICS Youth Association (SABYA), South Africa*
- **Ms. Valeriia Gorbacheva**, *GR-Director, National Committee on BRICS Research, Russia*

16.25-16.40 IST

Inaugural Address: Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh, *Hon'ble Minister of State for External Affairs, Government of India, India*

16.40-16.45 IST

Vote of Thanks

17.00- 18.00 IST

Plenary Session I: Inclusive Development and Promotion of Entrepreneurship in BRICS: Role of Technology

Key Issues

- *Role of technology in ensuring inclusive development*
- *Role of technology in promoting entrepreneurship/ social entrepreneurship*
- *Experiences of CSOs from BRICS in technology integration and diffusion*

Chair: Dr. Bhaskar Balakrishnan, *Science Diplomacy Fellow, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India*

Keynote: Dr. S. K. Varshney, *Adviser & Head, International Division, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India*

Panelists:

- **Dr. Mauro Oddo Nogueira**, *Researcher, Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil*
- **Mr. Igor Lavrovski**, *Director of the Institute of Futurology, Stolypin Club; Chairman of the Committee on Financial and Monetary Policy, All-Russia Public Organization "Business Russia", Russia*
- **Dr. Sabyasachi Saha**, *Associate Professor, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India*
- **Mr. Alex Wang**, *Secretary-General, Youthink Center, China*

Interaction/Q&A

DAY 2: 29 July 2021

<p>16.00-17.00 IST</p>	<p>Plenary Session II: People’s Participation on Sustainability: The BRICS Experience</p>
<p>Key Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Inclusive and participatory approach towards sustainable development</i>• <i>Exploring avenues for people’s participation in achieving SDGs</i>• <i>Best practices emanating from BRICS</i>	<p>Chair: <i>Mr. Shyam Parande, Secretary, Sewa International & Secretary General, Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad, India</i></p> <p>Keynote: <i>Mr. R. R. Rashmi, Distinguished Fellow and Programme Director, Earth Science and Climate Change, The Energy and Resources Institute, India</i></p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Dr. Ana Toni, Executive Director, Instituto Clima e Sociedade (iCS) and Founding Partner of Public Interest Management (GIP), Brazil</i>• <i>Mr. Vladimir Chuprov, Head of the Greenpeace Russia’s Energy Program, Russia</i>• <i>Professor Pam Rajput, Emeritus Professor, Panjab University, India</i>• <i>Mr. Daqian Zhang, International Coordinator of China Biodiversity Conservation and Green Development Foundation, China</i>• <i>Mr. Yared Tsegay, Programmes Head, African Monitor, South Africa</i> <p><i>Interaction/Q&A</i></p>
<p>17.15-17.45 IST</p>	<p>Roundtable Discussion on Consolidating BRICS Civil Process</p>

Chair: *Professor Sachin Chaturvedi, Director-General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), New Delhi, India*

- **Dr André de Mello e Souza**, *Senior Research Fellow at Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA), Brazil*
- **Professor Vladimir Davydov**, *Scientific Director of the Russian Academy of Sciences (RAS) Institute of Latin America, RAS Corresponding Member, Chair of the Scientific Council of the Russian National Committee on BRICS Research, Russia*
- **Dr. Rajesh Tandon**, *President, Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA) and Chairman, Forum for Indian Development Cooperation (FIDC), India*
- **Ms. Zhu Jingfang**, *Research Fellow, China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), China*
- **Dr. Victoria Panova**, *Vice-president for International Relations of the Far Eastern Federal University, Chair of the Primorsky regional branch of the Women's Union of Russia, Adviser to the Russian Institute of Strategic Studies*

18.00-18.20 IST

Closing Session

Special Remarks: *Amb. P. Harish, India's BRICS Sous Sherpa and Additional Secretary (ER), Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India*

Vote of Thanks

Institutional Partners for BRICS Civil Forum 2021

- Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), India
- Institute for Applied Economic Research (IPEA), Brazil
- Russian National Committee on BRICS Research (NCR), Russia
- Economic Justice Network (EJN), South Africa
- China NGO Network for International Exchanges (CNIE), China

Indian CSOs Delegation

- **Professor Pam Rajput**, Emeritus Professor, Panjab University
- **Mr Shyam Parande**, Secretary, SEWA International & Secretary General, Antar-Rashtriya Sahayog Parishad
- **Dr Rajesh Tandon**, President, Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
- **Mr Atul Jain**, General Secretary, Deen Dayal Research Institute
- **Dr Ashok Khosla**, Chairman, Development Alternatives
- **Dr Gajanan Dange**, President, YOJAK Center for Research and Strategic Planning for Sustainable Development
- **Mr Nitin Dhakad**, Social Entrepreneur, Shivganga Samagra Gramvikas Parishad
- **Mr Kiran DM**, CEO, ONGC Foundation
- **Dr Samir Saran**, President, Observer Research Foundation, (ORF)
- **Dr Rukmini Banerji**, CEO, Pratham Education Foundation
- **Dr Kaustuv Kanti Bandyopadhyay**, Director, Society for Participatory Research in Asia (PRIA)
- **Mr Harsh Jaitli**, CEO, Voluntary Action Network India, (VANI)
- **Dr Mirai Chatterjee**, Director, Social Security Unit, Self Employed Women's Association, (SEWA)

RIS Team on BRICS Civil Forum 2021

- **Professor Sachin Chaturvedi**, Director-General
- **Professor S. K. Mohanty**, Professor
- **Ambassador Amar Sinha**, Distinguished Fellow
- **Dr Sabyasachi Saha**, Associate Professor
- **Dr Amit Kumar**, Assistant Professor
- **Dr Beena Pandey**, Research Associate
- **Dr Kapil Patil**, Research Associate
- **Ms Prativa Shaw**, Research Assistant
- **Mr Siddharth Naidu**, Research Assistant
- **Mr Amit Arora**, Project Manager, GDC

RIS A Think-Tank of Developing Countries

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) is a New Delhi-based autonomous policy research institute that specialises in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment and technology. RIS is envisioned as a forum for fostering effective policy dialogue and capacity-building among developing countries on global and regional economic issues.

The focus of the work programme of RIS is to promote South-South Cooperation and collaborate with developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums. RIS is engaged across inter-governmental processes of several regional economic cooperation initiatives. Through its intensive network of think tanks, RIS seeks to strengthen policy coherence on international economic issues and the development partnership canvas.

For more information about RIS and its work programme, please visit its website: www.ris.org.in



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