



SME WORKING GROUP

Draft Proposal of **ACTION PLAN 2025-2030**

This present ACTION PLAN will serve as a roadmap for strengthening MSME cooperation among BRICS countries, promoting inclusive economic growth, and fostering a resilient business environment for small enterprises.

By implementing these strategic initiatives, the BRICS SME Working Group aims to create a more integrated, dynamic, and supportive ecosystem for MSMEs, strengthening their role in economic growth and innovation across BRICS nations.

In this sense, the SME Working Group of BRICS countries approves the following ACTION PLAN for the period 2025-2030:

A) INFORMATION EXCHANGE

An essential step toward an effective cooperation framework is fostering mutual understanding among BRICS countries. In a diverse group like BRICS, where each country has special structures and policies supporting MSME development, exchanging ideas and best practices can significantly enhance the participation of MSMEs in the BRICS economies.

Each BRICS nation has implemented specific approaches to MSME support, including criteria legislation to classify small businesses, targeted credit programs, simplified tax system, and digitalization initiatives. Furthermore, all BRICS members, including new members, have dedicated institutional structures and policies to foster MSME growth. An exchange mechanism will be established in 2025 to facilitate this collaboration.

Proposed Actions:

1. **STRENGTHEN THE SME WORKING GROUP:** Each member country will maintain an updated list of focal points and key national stakeholders, including relevant ministries, MSMEs development agencies, trade promotion bodies, incubators, and accelerators.
2. **REGULAR WORKING GROUP MEETINGS:** The rotating Chair will regularly convene Working Group meetings to review matters such as the *Terms of Reference*, key tasks, priorities, and other related issues. The Action Plan may be updated to support future activities.
3. **ESTABLISH AND UPDATE A PERMANENT BRICS MSME WG WEBSITE:** A centralized platform under a common domain will be maintained and regularly updated by successive BRICS presidencies.

4. **COMPREHENSIVE MAPPING OF THE MSME AND STARTUP ECOSYSTEM:** An updated repository about each BRICS country will be maintained to provide insights and relevant information on MSMEs and startups within BRICS nations.
5. **TRADE AND MARKET INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION SHARING:** Information will be exchanged to enhance the strategic participation of MSMEs in BRICS trade flows.
6. **FACILITATE THEMATIC EXCHANGE AND SHARING.** Hold thematic seminars, symposiums, and other events to conduct in-depth discussions on topics of common interest, exchange policy measures, best practices, technological roadmaps, or research findings, and submit reports in a timely manner to BRICS Industry Ministers.
7. **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INFORMATION SHARING:** Facilitate systematic exchanges of information regarding business development opportunities and potential partnerships between MSMEs and large enterprises across BRICS countries.

B) PROMOTING INTERACTION AND SYNERGY AMONG BRICS COUNTRIES MSMES

MSMEs are usually responsible for more than 50% of jobs, providing inclusion and integration and playing a crucial role in both domestic and global value chains, serving as specialized suppliers, distributors, and service providers. Their agility and deep local market roots enhance the competitive edge of larger corporations. Governments must recognize and foster opportunities for MSMEs to interact, collaborate, and generate meaningful synergies.

Proposed Actions:

1. **ESTABLISH A BRICS MSME FORUM:** A permanent mechanism for MSME dialogue, under the SME Working Group/PartNIR, involving public and private sectors, agencies, academia, international organizations and other relevant stakeholders.
2. **ESTABLISH A MSME FORUM GOVERNANCE PROCESS:** aimed at coordinating the implementation of proposed actions.
3. **ANNUAL BRICS MSME FORUM MEETINGS:** Ensuring broad participation from BRICS stakeholders to discuss challenges, share best practices, and develop joint initiatives.
4. **ESTABLISH COOPERATION PLATFORMS:** BRICS countries are encouraged to invite MSMEs to participate in exhibitions, contests, and conferences held by member countries, thereby fostering technological exchanges and promoting economic and trade cooperation among MSMEs across all member countries.
5. **REGULARLY UPDATE THE BRICS MSME EVENTS ON THE SME WG WEBSITE:** Regularly provide information on fairs, exhibitions, and other relevant events. *Encourage the rotating BRICS presidencies to promote MSMEs participation in at least one major business event annually, preferably alongside the MSME Forum.*
6. **CAPACITY BUILDING:** Support member countries in conducting online or in-person personnel training for MSMEs to enhance their ability to address the challenges of the new industrial revolution.

7. **ENHANCE BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS (B2B) COOPERATION:** Foster business alliances between MSMEs across BRICS nations. Promote sector-specific meetings and facilitate business missions among BRICS MSMEs.
8. **PROMOTE RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT (R&D) COLLABORATION:** Encourage technology transfers, joint ventures, and technology partnerships among MSMEs and institutions supporting MSME development in BRICS countries.
9. **JOINT STUDIES AND RESEARCH:** Develop cooperative strategies for MSMEs growth such as joint studies and research.
10. **SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PRACTICES:** Share experiences and promote initiatives related to corporate social investment instruments, supplier development programs, and ESG frameworks to support MSMEs and promote joint new initiatives in this area.

C) INCREASING MSME PARTICIPATION IN BRICS TRADE FLOWS AND GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS

Export-oriented MSMEs tend to offer higher wages, employ more workers, and hire a larger proportion of highly skilled professionals compared to non-exporting firms. Internationalization provides MSMEs with access to new markets and enables better resource utilization. Despite these advantages, MSMEs face challenges in expanding globally due to limited skills, resources, and partnerships. By leveraging digital tools and enhancing collaboration, MSMEs can strengthen their presence in global value chains and international trade.

Proposed Actions:

1. **MAP EXISTING PUBLIC AND PRIVATE ONLINE PLATFORMS:** Identify public and private digital platforms that provide strategic market intelligence, facilitate MSME partnerships, and serve as marketplaces for MSME products and services within BRICS countries.
2. **IDENTIFY KEY SECTORS FOR INTERNATIONALIZATION:** Identify and prioritize key sectors in each BRICS country with high potential for MSME internationalization expansion.
3. **COMPREHENSIVE TRADE MAPPING:** Conduct a comprehensive mapping of MSME participation in intra-BRICS trade and global value chains.
4. **DEVELOP POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS:** Formulate strategies to support MSME internationalization and facilitate their integration into global markets.
5. **INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS ENGAGEMENT:** Engage relevant international organizations to support the implementation of the Work Plan.

