



UNITED NATIONS
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

UNIDO-BRICS COOPERATION QUARTERLY REPORT

Partnership for prosperity





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I. FOREWORD

The global influence of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, or BRICS, is growing rapidly as they are becoming an example for developing countries, and a benchmark for industrialized countries. Furthermore, BRICS countries have recently taken a major step towards consolidating their development assistance resources by establishing the BRICS Development Bank.

UNIDO seeks to enhance its collaboration with the BRICS while also developing extensive technical cooperation programmes with each country. As such, UNIDO is engaging with the BRICS as a group by developing a diversified range of strategic cooperation activities, also to support other developing countries through South-South Cooperation.

The UNIDO-BRICS Cooperation Report will be published quarterly, and aims to keep key stakeholders abreast of relevant developments, including on UNIDO activities in BRICS countries. This issue provides an overview of the ongoing UNIDO-BRICS cooperation and highlights numerous activities, including those leading to the 2017 BRICS Summit, which will be held in China.

II. HIGHLIGHTS OF UNIDO-BRICS COOPERATION

Consultation workshop on the UNIDO-BRICS e-commerce project for SMEs



Project office plate unveiled by Mr. WANG Zhan, President of SASS and Mr. Ralf Bredel, UR in Beijing Office

On 29 September 2016, UNIDO and the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS) co-hosted a consultation workshop in Shanghai that brought together over 30 stakeholders from BRICS countries to discuss joint activities to promote SME development through e-commerce. Mr. WANG Zhan, President of SASS and Mr. Ralf Bredel, UNIDO Representative in Beijing unveiled the plate of the Project Office which will be located in SASS. The participants agreed that a related report will be prepared for the 2017 BRICS Summit and that an alliance of e-commerce companies in BRICS will be established.

Consultation meeting with BRICS Permanent Missions



On 7 October 2016, UNIDO held consultations with the Permanent Missions of BRICS countries in Vienna to

discuss the development of a UNIDO-BRICS technology platform, as articulated in the BRICS Economic Partnership Strategy that was adopted during the 2015 Ufa BRICS Summit. The BRICS representatives welcomed the progress of the SMEs E-commerce project and expressed their support for the future project activities.

First e-commerce world conference on food and agro-products



From 17 to 18 November 2016, the Weifang municipal government and the E-business Committee of China Association of Trade in Services (CATIS) co-hosted the first e-commerce world conference on food and agro-products in Weifang, China. Under the theme “Agricultural-Commerce Interconnection, Future Connection”, the conference resulted in several achievements, including the establishment of the first China Food and Agro-Product E-Commercial Park, of the first China Food and Agro-Product Brand Incubation Centre, and of the China Food and Agro-Products Cross-Border E-Commercial Service Centre. Furthermore, the World E-Commerce Industry Alliance was unveiled during the event, which will allow UNIDO to participate in more e-commerce projects in China.

Business interactions in Gurgaon, India

On 19 December 2016, a UNIDO-BRICS delegation was introduced to Snapdeal, one of India’s largest e-commerce (B2B) companies. The company shared its business model with the delegation, also referring to over 300,000 SMEs that are already registered with the online platform. In India, e-commerce is providing tremendous growth opportunities for SMEs and start-ups, which in turn contribute to the job creation.



Consultation meeting on SME cooperation through e-commerce and technology transfer

On 20 December 2016, UNIDO and the Federation of India Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organized, with the support of the UNIDO International Centre for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (IC-ISID), the second UNIDO-BRICS Consultation Meeting in New Delhi. Under the theme “Promotion of development and cooperation of SMEs between China and other BRICS countries through e-commerce development”, 60 high-level representatives from public and private institutions in BRICS countries met and discussed e-commerce solutions, including technology transfer platforms.



The meeting further endorsed the development of UNIDO-BRICS Technology Transfer Platform, which was deemed essential to gather best practices in e-commerce which, in turn, will assist SMEs with their technological needs and requirements. Concurrently, the participants also agreed to develop a mechanism to provide accreditation standards for e-commerce entities. Overall, UNIDO’s initiative to establish the BRICS E-commerce Industry Alliance was very welcomed.

Project Steering Committee on UNIDO-BRICS e-commerce project for SMEs



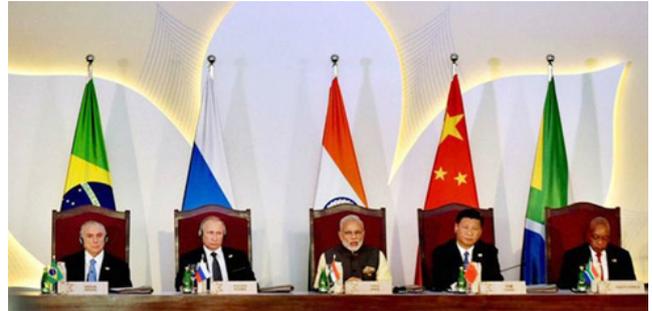
On 20 December 2016, the Project Steering Committee of the UNIDO-BRICS e-commerce project for SMEs met to discuss the 2017 work plan, which was adopted by all stakeholders. The Project Steering Committee suggested to UNIDO to organize, within the framework of the BRICS Business Council, a side event on SMEs during the 2017 BRICS Summit that could be jointly organized with the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT).

Visit to the UNIDO International Centre for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development (IC-ISID) in New Delhi



On 21 December 2016, a UNIDO delegation was received by the IC-ISID to also discuss the possible participation of technology centres from China, India and Russia during the upcoming UNIDO event at the 2017 Shanghai Technology Fair, from 21 to 22 April 2017. IC-ISID implements various projects in traditional areas, such as paper, cement and leather, and will develop new projects in the field of electronics, food processing and industry 4.0. Some Indian e-commerce companies will attend the 2017 World E-commerce Conference on 12 April 2017 in Yiwu, China.

III. THE MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OF RECENT BRICS SUMMITS



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with, left to right, Brazilian President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Jacob Zuma addressing the BRICS Business Council meeting during BRICS Summit in Benaulim, Goa

8th BRICS Summit in Goa, India

From 15 to 16 October 2016, India hosted the 8th BRICS Summit in Goa, India. The Indian Chairmanship of the BRICS was placed under the theme “Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions, for which the Indian Government laid out a five point agenda focusing on institution building; implementation; integration; innovation; and continuity. The Summit adopted the Goa Declaration, which includes the following highlights:

- Acknowledged the progress achieved in the implementation of the BRICS Economic Partnership strategy and emphasized the importance of a roadmap for trade as well as for economic cooperation and investment (until 2020)
- Agreed on closer cooperation between different sectoral cooperation mechanisms, including the BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues, the BRICS Business Council, the New Development Bank and the BRICS Interbank cooperation mechanism. In this context, the continued pursuit of major BRICS economic initiatives - such as the enhanced cooperation in e-commerce, the “single window”, the IPR cooperation, etc. - was highly lauded
- Agreed that MSMEs, as major providers of employment and self-employment opportunities, should obtain more support to integrate regional and global value chains
- Congratulated UNIDO for its 50th Anniversary and recalled its unique mandate to promote and accelerate inclusive and sustainable industrial development, including its contribution towards the industrialization of Africa. Furthermore, the

progress already achieved in establishing the UNIDO-BRICS Technology Platform was noted, with appreciation

- Welcomed the adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals
- Reiterated their determination to use all policy tools to achieve the goal of sustainable and inclusive growth.

6th meeting of the BRICS Ministers of Trade

On 13 October 2016, the 6th meeting of the BRICS Trade Ministers took place in New Delhi. It was preceded by the 13th meeting of the BRICS Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI), which was held from 11 to 12 October 2016, also in New Delhi. The Trade Ministers assessed their collaboration in the areas of trade and investment, and urged for this momentum to be sustained. During this BRICS Business Forum, which took place at the same time, the Trade Ministers published a Communiqué to enhance economic cooperation, especially for SMEs in services, intellectual property, trade promotion, non-tariff measures resolution, and the adoption of uniform standards.

First annual meeting of New Development Bank

From 20 to 21 July 2016, the first annual meeting of the Board of Governors and the Board of Directors of the New Development Bank took place in Shanghai. The Board of Governors was briefed on the recent achievements of the Bank, including the first Green Financial Bond issuance in the Chinese onshore bond market (with an issue size of RMB 3 billion at a nominal interest rate of 3.07%). The members of the Board of Directors expressed their support for the continued issuance of bonds in national currencies.

IV. MAIN PARTNERS IN BRICS

China:

- China International Centre for Economic and Technical Exchanges (CICETE)/Ministry of Commerce
- Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences (SASS)
- China Center for Promotion of SMEs/Ministry of Industry and Information Technology

Russia:

- Ministry of Economic Development
- Ministry of Industry and Trade
- Russian Technology Transfer Network

India:

- Federation of India Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)
- Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion
- Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Brazil:

- Ministry of Development, Industry and Trade
Ministry of External Relations

South Africa:

- Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)
- Small Enterprise Development Agency (SEDA)

Focal points for Technology Transfer Platform

- **Mr. Igor Nogueira CALVET**, Secretary of Development and Industrial Competitiveness of the Ministry of Industry, Foreign Trade and Services
- **Ms. Irina SMYGALINA**, Head of multilateral cooperation and European integration, Department of foreign economic relations, Ministry of Industrial Development and Trade, Russian Federation
- **Mr. Arun KUMAR**, Under Secretary, India

- **Mr. Yongli ZHAO**, Director of South-South Cooperation Division, China International Center for Economic and Technical Exchanges, China
- **Mr. Manilal BARLOW**, Chief Executive Officer, Technology Innovation Agency, South Africa

UNIDO ITPOs and technical centers in Russia, South Africa, Brazil and India.

V. UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2017

- SASS Expert Group Meeting on best practice of e-commerce: finalization of study report for the 2017 BRICS Summit;
- Study tour to Brazil on business matchmaking and cooperation between SMEs on e-commerce, co-hosted by MIIT and SASS;
- Consultation workshop in Moscow on e-commerce matchmaking (B2B) to develop collaborative relationships and partnerships among e-commerce companies from Russia and other BRICS countries;
- Training course in Weifang, with support from SASS: site visit to Internet retail companies;
- Workshop to launch study report on E-commerce in BRICS: matchmaking exercise and formal launching of the E-commerce Industry Alliance.

VI. CONTACT

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