



BRICS BUSINESS COUNCIL
Business Cooperation for an inclusive
and Sustainable Future

CNI Brazilian National
Confederation
of Industry

Press Accreditations Open: BRICS Business Forum to Discuss Strategies for Sustainable Development and the Role of the Productive Sector

Summit in Rio de Janeiro Takes Place Ahead of the BRICS Heads of Heads of State Official Forum

Rio de Janeiro will host a gathering of business leaders, experts, and government authorities from BRICS countries, as well as invited nations, during the BRICS Business Forum on July 5 at Pier Mauá. The event precedes the BRICS Summit, held in Brazil for the third time.

This year, the Forum will address key topics for sustainable economic development, with a focus on trade strategies and food security, energy transition, decarbonization, skills development and the digital economy, as well as financing and financial inclusion.

The meeting is organized by the Brazilian National Confederation of Industry (CNI), which coordinates the BRICS Business Council (BBC) and the Women's Business Alliance (WBA), the BRICS private sector engagement groups, during Brazil's presidency of the bloc.

Opening remarks will feature Ricardo Alban, President of CNI; Francisco Neto, Chair of the BRICS Business Council and CEO of Embraer; and Mônica Monteiro, Chair of the BRICS Women's Business Alliance and Vice President of New Business at Times Brasil, CNBC Exclusive Licensee.

Four thematic panels featuring industrial sector giants from the BRICS countries will address issues such as strengthening trade and food security within BRICS, energy transition and decarbonization, green and digital transitions, and financing strategies for the BRICS development agenda — with the participation of Dilma Rousseff, President of the New Development Bank. All heads of state from BRICS member countries have been invited to participate in the presidential panel, which will close the Business Forum, led by President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

Awards: BRICS Solutions Awards and BRICS Women's Startup Contest

The Forum will also serve as the stage for the announcement of the winners of the **BRICS Solutions Awards** and the **BRICS Women's Startup Contest**.

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Instituto
Euvaldo Lodi

SBN Quadra 1 Bloco C
Ed. Roberto Simonsen
70040 903 Brasília DF

Tel (61) 3317 9001
www.portaldaindustria.com.br/CNI



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With a total of 500 entries from countries including Russia, Brazil, China, India, and South Africa, the **BRICS Solutions Awards** will honor 18 creative and sustainable solutions in six categories, including bioeconomy, innovative financing, food security, and digital transformation.

The **BRICS Women's Startup Contest**, a joint initiative of SEBRAE and the WBA, received 1,032 applications, with Brazil, South Africa, and India standing out. The 18 finalists will be present at the event, sharing their innovative ideas in six categories related to health and well-being, energy, and infrastructure.

Context

According to data from the Brazilian government, BRICS countries account for 48.5% of the world's population, 36% of the planet's landmass, 39% of global GDP (PPP at current prices) or 29% (at constant prices), and 21.6% of global trade (TradeMap). Brazil's trade with BRICS totaled USD 210 billion in 2024, representing 35% of its total trade. BRICS was the destination for USD 121 billion in Brazilian exports, accounting for 36% of the country's total exports, and the origin of USD 88 billion in Brazilian imports, making up 34% of the country's total imports in the same year (ComexVis).

A major challenge remains ensuring the full participation of women in the economy. According to the study *"Women in Foreign Trade – An Analysis for Brazil"*, published in March 2025 by the Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services (MDIC), female participation in exporting companies rose from 29.2% to 31.8%, and in importing companies from 32.5% to 34.7%. However, only 14.5% of exporting companies have a female-majority ownership structure, and just 2% of Brazil's total exports originate from women-led businesses.

Press Accreditation

Journalists interested in covering the event must register via the [Press Accreditation](#) platform.

About the Forum

The **BRICS Business Forum** is a platform for advancing cooperation in the face of global challenges, bringing together member countries to promote an agenda based on innovation, sustainability, and economic inclusion. For more information: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GINXUDv-H0o>

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BRICS BUSINESS FORUM 2025



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The event is sponsored by XCMG, DP World, Keeta, WEG, Embraer, Vale, Febraban, Mebo International, Marfrig/BRF, and receives institutional support from the National Council of SESI, the Organization of Brazilian Cooperatives (OCB), Natura, SEBRAE, ApexBrasil, and the Federation of Industries of the State of Rio de Janeiro (Firjan).

BRICS Business Forum

July 5th, 2025

Venue: Pier Mauá, Warehouse 05

Av. Rodrigues Alves, Gamboa. Rio de Janeiro, RJ

Contact: fernando.moreira@cni.com.br

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