

BRICS URBANISATION FORUM

MINISTERS DECLARATION

1. We, the Ministers responsible for urban development, housing, sustainable cities and urbanisation from BRICS nations, met in New Delhi, India on 11 and 12 June 2026, under the theme of India BRICS Chairship guided by 'Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability.'
2. We welcome the convening of the Urbanisation Forum under India's Chairship as an important platform for enhanced dialogue, cooperation and exchange of best practices among participating nations.
3. We recognise that urbanisation is reshaping the economies, societies, and environment of BRICS nations. As cities grow, they face similar challenges in infrastructure, services, institutions, and finance. We, therefore, agree to strengthen cooperation on urban development through a framework based on mutual learning, aligned with national contexts, and a shared commitment to building cities that are resilient and responsive to people's needs.
4. We reaffirm our commitment to advancing people-centred urban development and emphasise that cities should be planned and governed for the well-being, dignity and aspirations of all its people. We emphasise the importance of creating inclusive, sustainable, resilient and liveable cities that ensure equitable access to housing, mobility, clean water and sanitation, healthcare, education, green public spaces, sport facilities, and livelihood opportunities for all sections of society, particularly vulnerable and marginalised communities.
5. We commit to cooperating across the sectors of housing, water and sanitation, harmonised and efficient mobility, waste management, and other essential urban services to address these shared challenges through the BRICS Urbanisation Forum. Through the exchange of policies, practices, and institutional approaches, we will work together to help cities in our countries expand access to services, improve quality of life, foster innovation, and respond better to the needs of all communities. This cooperation reflects our collective recognition of BRICS nations that inclusive technology-driven urban development is a foundation for equitable growth and sustainable progress.

6. We recognise that cities are on the front line of climate and disaster risk. Heat, floods, droughts, earthquakes, land subsidence, and other forms of extreme weather events are placing enormous pressure on urban systems and widening existing inequalities. We, therefore, commit to deeper cooperation on climate and disaster-resilient urban infrastructure, improved delivery of basic services, and the sharing of good practices that help cities become more sustainable.
7. We emphasise the importance of promoting environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient urban development. We call for enhanced cooperation in areas such as sustainable infrastructure, energy-efficient buildings, efficient waste management, circular economy, urban biodiversity conservation, disaster risk reduction and climate adaptation measures.
8. We recognise that stronger local authorities and organisations are essential for effective urban governance and service delivery. Many cities continue to face constraints in administrative capacity, technical expertise, and financial resources. We, therefore, reaffirm our cooperation on strengthening local governments through improved municipal finance, expanded peer learning and technical exchange, and shared approaches on revenue systems, budgeting, and financial management. We also acknowledge the important role of ensuring full public ownership and participation in the local governance and the key urban projects.
9. We recognise the growing role of digital innovation in improving governance, planning, and citizen-centred services. We encourage cooperation on smart urban systems, data-driven one-stop digitalised public service delivery, and digital tools that can help cities function more efficiently and transparently. We stress that digital transformation must remain inclusive and responsive to local needs. We encourage bridging the digital divide, ensuring equitable access to digital public services and responsiveness to local contexts, institutional capacities, and community needs.
10. To institutionalise cooperation, we agree to the establishment of the '*BRICS Urban Research and Knowledge Network*', as a collaborative platform across BRICS nations. The Network will be a Chair-led, institutionally-connected knowledge mechanism for applied urban research, knowledge-sharing, and peer-to-peer learning. We also endorse the Operational Framework of this network.
11. We, the members of the BRICS Urbanisation Forum, reaffirm our commitment to identifying shared urban characteristics and common challenges across our countries, recognising our cultural and economic affinities, and strengthening cooperation through collective action to advance sustainable, inclusive, and resilient urban development.

12. We welcome 'Urban Stories from BRICS members' compiled by the Indian Chairship.
13. We express our appreciation to India for successfully hosting the BRICS Urbanisation Forum 2026. We further express our support for the continued strengthening of cooperation under the Forum and look forward to the convening of the next Urbanisation Forum under the presidency of People's Republic of China in 2027.

Adopted in New Delhi on 12.06.2026