



8th BRICS Young Scientist Forum Announcement and Call for Abstracts

Hosted by the
Department of Science and Innovation (DSI), South Africa

Date: 31 July-2 August 2023

Theme: **Building BRICS and Africa Partnership for Mutually
Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and
Inclusive Multilateralism**

Venue: North-West Province, South Africa

Application Deadline: 25 May 2023

1. Background

The decision to establish the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Young Scientist Forum (YSF) was taken at the 2nd BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting in Brazil in March 2015. The 1st BRICS YSF was held in Bangalore, India in September 2016. At the 4th BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting in Jaipur, India in October 2016, the BRICS countries agreed to hold the BRICS YSF on a rotational basis. The 2nd BRICS YSF was held in Hangzhou, China in July 2017. The 3rd forum was held in Durban, South Africa in June 2018. Moreover, the 4th BRICS YSF was held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil in 2019. The 5th forum was held virtually during the COVID 19 pandemic in Chelyabinsk, Russia in September 2020. The 6th BRICS YSF was hosted virtually by India in September 2021. The 2022 7th BRICS YSF (in a hybrid format) was hosted in August in Xiamen, China.

South Africa assumed the BRICS rotational Presidency on 1 January 2023 and will host the 15th BRICS Summit in August 2023. In line with the established tradition of previous BRICS Summits, South Africa will host a wide range of BRICS activities leading up to and following the Summit, including the BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting and the BRICS Academies of Sciences meetings.

As part of its BRICS STI activities, South Africa will host the 8th BRICS YSF in line with the decision taken at the BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting held in October 2016, in Jaipur. The main goals of the 8th BRICS YSF are:

- To provide a platform for talented BRICS young scientists and researchers to exchange perspectives on transformative change and forge sustainable research partnerships, links and networks;
- To promote youth driven creative solutions to the most pressing socio-economic problems in their societies;
- To promote scientific cooperation/science diplomacy dialogues amongst the BRICS emerging researchers and countries beyond the summit; and
- To promote the interconnectedness of society through research and innovation for inclusive and sustainable development.

2. Conference Sub-Themes

The 8th BRICS YSF under the theme “**BRICS and Africa Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism**” will highlight the strategic importance of science, technology and innovation (STI) as key drivers to attain environmental sustainability, solutions to societal challenges and youths’ transition to leadership. The thematic discussions will focus on the below sub-themes and specifically address the related issues as follows:

- **Climate change and environmental sustainability:**
The specific sub-themes are: (i) Monitoring and modelling earth systems, (ii) Preparedness for extreme environmental events, (iii) Developing technologies for reducing carbon footprint in energy and transport systems, (iv) organic or inorganic waste management to product new products as demonstration of circular economy.
- **The future of education, mindset and skillset:**
The specific sub-themes are: (i) Applications for emerging and converging technologies, (ii) Emerging educational tools to overcome localized socio-economic barriers (iii) entrepreneurial mindset to navigate the everchanging future



- **The future of society:**

The specific sub-themes are: (i) smart society through Artificial Intelligence, (ii) science, technology and innovation to address security issues; (iii) interconnectedness of society

3. Eligibility

This call is open to early career researchers who are under the age of forty (40)

- Be in possession of at least a Master's degree
- Have research interests in the thematic areas listed
- Commit to be present for the duration of the conference
- Submit an abstract that will be the basis for a presentation at the conference

Note: In addition to the abstract, do submit a short motivation (1 page at most). The chosen presenters are asked to not simply focus on their research or thesis but should engage with the topic and answer its requirements. Presentations that provide possible recommendations are preferable and address the BRICS countries. The meeting format is a Forum which is a discussion group, where ideas related to a subject 'under discussion' can be raised and evaluated on a (more-or-less) equal and informal basis.

4. Call for Abstracts

Abstract Format and Submission (amended for national requirements)

The abstracts should follow the following format:

- Abstract must not be more than 300 words (excluding Title, Author and Institution) in the attached form
- Abstract must be written in English
- Abstract title must be in boldface, capital letters (lowercase) and centered
- Abstract font must be Century Gothic 11 with A4 set up margins
- Abstract must include the following information:
 - Title, Author(s), Institution(s)
 - Name of first-author should be underlined (Please do not underline co-authors)
 - Institutional affiliations, city, province for all authors
 - The superscript numbering must be in front of each initial and surname of each author
- Where appropriate, the text may be structured using the following headings:
 - Introduction or Objectives
 - Discussion
 - Recommendations
 - Conclusion

To **APPLY**, prospective applicants need to fill in the attached application form, and upload it with a short motivation, together with their CV on the online application form at: [8th BRICS 2023 SA Applicants](#).

General Conference Information

For any further information on the forum please contact:

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