

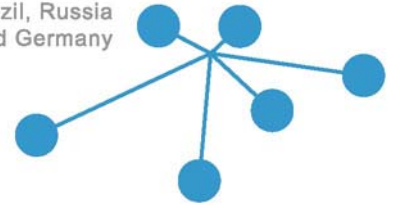
BRICS+G

Sustainability and Growth in Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa and Germany

A Cooperation Project of the
Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH
and the German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE)

How economic growth can be shaped in a sustainable way is being discussed intensely in Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa (the BRICS) and Germany. More and more countries elaborate national strategies for sustainable development to base economic growth on a long-term base, balancing the interests of economy, society and environment. In this process, the visions and practical experiences of the BRICS-Countries towards sustainable development are of crucial global importance. However, there is rarely an opportunity for international exchange on these experiences. The German Council for Sustainable Development (RNE) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH have therefore joined to initiate a dialogue-process with the above mentioned countries.

The purpose of the project is to offer a platform for exchange among experts from government, the economy and civil society of the BRICS-Countries and Germany. While a focus is placed on experiences with National Strategies for Sustainable Development, discussions are also expected to refer to examples from the areas of energy, resource management and the social dimension. Participants are invited to compare their respective policies for sustainable development, exchange experiences and evaluations and draw conclusions regarding their National Strategies for Sustainable Development. The idea is to offer an impulse for further exchange on how to shape economic growth in a sustainable way.



The dialogue process takes place on national and international level:

- National workshops will be held in the second quarter of 2005. Experts from the government, the economy and civil society will focus on practical experiences with National Processes for Sustainable Development.
- The results of the six national workshops will be brought together in a two-day international conference, September 4th and 5th, in the GTZ-House Berlin. Three experts from each country will participate.
- On the annual congress of the German Council for Sustainable Development, September 6th, 2005 the results of the dialogue will be presented and discussed.

The intended dialogue is not a political one, neither on national nor on international level. There will be no joint declaration as to the result nor any political implication of the dialogue. A **documentation of the dialogue** will be provided to experts and decision makers in the countries participating to stimulate further discussion on National Strategies for Sustainable Development. The organizers hope to make a contribution to the global debate on sustainable development and to possibly help identify issues for further exchange between the countries involved.