

Recommended structure for preliminary description of a project proposal for the BRICS pilot call

1. **Title of Cooperative Research Project. Acronym** for easy reference.
2. **Problem (need) to be solved by the project.** The problem must be topical for all project partners; at least an assessment background on the problem state in the participating BRICS countries should be presented.
Formulation of a topical problem is a key issue of the project proposal's development; it is a basement for the positive estimate of the project by the national funding bodies. In particular, it is the topicality of the problem for several BRICS partners that underlays the need to form a project consortium.
A typical situation at the start of the work: there is a leader with a project idea, probably with a BRICS partner, and more partners are to be found. The status of the research in other participating countries, formulation of arguments substantiating the topicality of the project in the framework of cooperation between the BRICS countries, the role of the expected partner(s) can be essentially updated during the further negotiation; yet, in order to start the search, the leader ought to make some preliminary work for getting a starting notion on these issues.
The problem formulation should result in understanding and explaining the need to form the consortium and the requirements to the sought partners and their competences. These aspects should be considered in the process of the proposal's development, and particularly in the project substantiation.

***Example:** «There is a problem of making autonomous medium-power electric generators that apply 2-3 energy generation and storage methods simultaneously. For the BRICS countries such power installations would be very topical, since their territories include zones where a single generation method would not be efficient (say, only solar arrays), but a combination of several methods is demanded, like «wind + solar», «wind + hydro», etc. The market does not offer yet affordable and easily adaptable solutions that can take into account climatic features and great distances. A particular research task is to develop the methodology and computer-aided control system for these installations. Basing on such a control system, integrated complexes could be further developed from separate power generation installations – that is, a new product will be created».*
3. **Proposed solution**, including the definition of its **innovative aspects**. What research and technological development is to be carried out, in order to create /find the required technological solution for the above-mentioned problem.
One should avoid general statements like: “the offered solution is unique”, “much more effective/ competitive than the analogs». You should indicate clearly, where lays the effectiveness, which parameters are critically improved, etc. Without disclosing you know-how, you should show what your original contribution into the claimed achievements is.
4. **The project's compliance with the thematic areas of the BRICS call.** Explanation on how the indicated problem/need complies with the thematic areas of the BRICS call (see http://brics.rfbr.ru/rffi/download/Call_Announcement.pdf?objectId=1955083 details at http://brics.rfbr.ru/rffi/download/Call_Announcement.pdf?objectId=1955083).

5. **Expected outputs** and their economic advantages. It would be useful to indicate, what are the differential economic advantages of the proposed technology, in what parameters it exceeds the analogs, etc.

6. **Keywords**

7. **Expected partners and their roles**

Preliminary available partners

Partners	Role in the project
Partner 1 (country)	Tasks to be fulfilled, RTD works to be implemented, etc.
Partner 2 (country)	

Need for more partners

Tasks to be covered	Potential partner's specification
Task 1	Partner 3 – a research lab with competences in ...
Task 2	Partner 4 - ...

*In case you need to find BRICS partner(s) for your project, **we strongly recommend to publish a partner search request** (RDR profile) at the BRICS-TTN Platform (see an example: <http://brics-ttn.org/index.php/en/requests-and-offers/tekhnologicheskie-profili>).*

This will allow organizing a more systemic partner search work.

8. Additional materials (if required)