Resolution of the 3rd International Conference
Regional-level Cooperation within BRICS: Modern Environmental and Nature Management Issues

September 15–17, 2026, Petrozavodsk

The 3nd International Conference "Regional-level Cooperation within BRICS: Modern Environmental and Nature Management Issues" organized by the Karelian Research Centre of the Russian Academy of Sciences (KarRC RAS) took place in Petrozavodsk (Republic of Karelia, Russia) on September 15-17, 2026. Russian National Committee on BRICS Research acted as the conference partner. The conference was one of the events within the KarRC RAS 80th Anniversary International Academic Forum "Science Beyond Borders: Interdisciplinary Scientific Cooperation" supported by the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of the Russian Federation.

The conference was conceived as a platform for discussing interregional cooperation under BRICS and other regional organizations in the sphere of environment, nature management, and sustainable development of territories.

The conference gathered more than 200 participants, including representatives from ten regions of Russia and nine other countries: India, China, Ethiopia, Brazil, Abkhazia, Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, and Pakistan The participants were researchers and practitioners whose professional expertise and interests lie in the fields of climate adaptation, environmental and food security of the Global South, biodiversity conservation, and addressing contemporary climate challenges.

The range of participants of the plenary and thematic sessions included representatives of the Russian Academy of Sciences, State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, Permanent Commission of the Interparliamentary Assembly of CIS Member Nations on Agrarian Policy, Natural Resources and Ecology, Government of the Republic of Karelia, research centers, higher educational institutions, the business community, federal and regional NGOs. During the conference, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the KarRC RAS and the Angadi Institute of Technology and Management (India).

Over 90 presentations were delivered during the plenary and thematic sessions, covering interdisciplinary research on global and regional environmental issues, climate change and methods of adapting to and mitigating detrimental human impacts, sustainable nature management in the agricultural and mining contexts and in relation to water resources. A separate topic within the conference was research on the micro- and macroeconomic parameters of the climate agenda and information updating among social scientists.

The opinions and proposals expressed during the conference underscore the need for concerted efforts of BRICS+ researchers in investigating current environmental issues, aligning approaches to sustainable nature management, as well as in joint innovation in assessing natural-anthropogenic systems and identifying environmental, social, and cultural factors and likely effects (both positive and negative) of implementing proposed strategies, plans or programs for the development of such systems, and ensuring that the findings are taken into account in decision-making related directly or indirectly to these strategies, plans or programs.

Conference participants deem it necessary to:

1. Assert commitment of academia to the BRICS spirit of mutual respect and understanding reaffirmed by member states at the 18th BRICS summit in New Delhi, India, 12-13 September 2026;
2. Support commitment to sustainable development and comprehensive promotion of new technologies, innovations and interdisciplinary cooperation in science and education;
3. Highlight the importance of an equitable exchange among members of the association of academic knowledge and practices relating to enhancement of climate resilience and development of environmentally sustainable industry, especially in agroecology and regenerative agriculture, such as agroforestry, fisheries, and aquaculture;
4. Continue efforts to champion support instruments for research and practical environmental and sustainable nature management projects of relevance for BRICS+ member states, including a dedicated mechanism to support international exchanges of researchers, in particular internships and academic exchange programs;
5. Utilize the available financial and organizational opportunities to advance cooperation with colleagues from BRICS+ countries, especially new member states;
6. Promote networking among experts from BRICS+ countries for exchanging expertise and forging common approaches to reducing the environmental burden on ecosystems, as well as for the joint development and implementation of innovative environmental technologies and climate adaptation solutions;
7. Place special emphasis on cooperation in environmental education and awareness-building through the development of joint programs and courses on environmental security, climate change, and sustainable development of traditional economic sectors;
8. Strengthen cooperation between scientific institutions of BRICS+ countries and initiate joint educational projects and events designed to enhance environmental literacy among the younger generation on the one hand and to upgrade the competencies of ecology specialists communicating the science to the public on the other;
9. Involve colleagues from BRICS+ countries as well as the post-Soviet domain in the existing state and regional initiatives designed to address environmental challenges;
10. Strengthen cooperation among researchers from BRICS+ countries and from post-Soviet states through NGOs whose activities are consistent with the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the BRICS Green Agenda;
11. Specify that during the time between conferences, interactions will continue in the form of joint seminars, round tables, and online events focusing on relevant areas of cooperation, as well as through the development of joint projects targeting specific tasks;
12. Continue the fund-raising efforts and creation of a web resource that will contain information on BRICS interregional scientific cooperation in the environmental field and will serve as a connector in the search of partners for implementing joint research and initiating projects.