Civil BRICS Forum Working Group : "Sustainable cities and rural development" Prof. Irina Yarygina"Smart Details in Complex Systems: best practices in urban and rural development in the post-COVID era", August 18, 2020

## ABSTRACT

## The quality of territorial development and international collaboration

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The principles, policies, practices on sustainable development, in the triple economic, environmental and social dimension, are the common platform that all United Nations member states have approved and built since 2015, with the 2030 Agenda, to promote the transition to a new world economic order, more just, balanced and valid also in the medium and long-term perspective.

The problems of balanced urban and rural development, which have a position of great importance within this common platform, pose a challenge both for the member states of the BRIC coordination and for the states external to this coordination. The central point of orientation in solving these problems concerns the quality of territorial development, a key element also for building strengthened international collaborations. The following proposals are selected as a contribution to a coherent action in this direction: a) organizing a system of widespread and shared knowledge of the policies that the states implement to achieve in particular Goal no. 11 and the 7 Targets of "2030 Agenda" ("Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable") as well as the Goals of the UN "New Urban Agenda- NUA"; b) verify how the new "right to the city" approved in 2016 by the United Nations is applied in practice, with particular reference to the governance system in the development of the territories; c) to spread knowledge of the main policies and projects decided by the BRICS in the context of the "Urbanization Forums"; d) define in the territorial development plans the conditions for a balanced and integrated progress in the three dimensions of sustainable progress: economic, social, environmental, with particular reference to the objectives concerning the life quality of people and the cohesion of the local communities; f) promote and intensify the collaboration relationship in the urban and rural development plans between states and local communities and the main Multilateral Development Banks MDB, first of all the BRICS bank NDB, to which the international community recognizes the role of "development engines" (UN-GSRD, 2019).

In relation to these proposals, the shared selection of programs, projects, performance and result indicators is an action that can contribute greatly to strengthening cooperation between states in a period of great difficulties and global tensions.

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