

# Exploring BRICS Plus Initiatives on the Path to Net Zero: A Comprehensive Review

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## INTRODUCTION

Climate change and global warming threaten the stability of ecosystems and global economy, primarily because of escalating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from humans' usage of fossil fuels. Emerging Global Powers, particularly the BRICS+ countries, (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa with recently added members Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates), have the task of creating growth, while coping with increases in emissions (Anderson & Yulianti, 2023). Scenarios suggest that CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the developing countries will continue to increase steeply and efforts need to be implemented from the national level as well as sectoral levels (Gupta *et al.*, 2023). Global warming is arguably one of the greatest risks to international security as increased temperature, weather incidents, and negative impacts to environment affect people's and countries' lives on the face of the earth (Jones, 2019).

This implies that urgent action is required, especially from countries with significant carbon footprints. The BRICS+ countries comprise of more than half of the humanity, owns nearly one third of gross world product, and contributes significantly towards greenhouse gases emissions (Vieira & Silva, 2023). As industrializing economies, BRICS+ countries face a dual challenge: while at the same time encouraging economic development and abating their impact on the climate. They all have pledged to achieve certain net-zero targets, although their promises are different due to the differences in their economic and resource endowments. For instance, China and Russia pledged to reach net-zero by 2060, and India set 2070 and ensures that its developmental needs

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