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BRICS Environment Working Group Meeting Opens in New Delhi

17 August 2026

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ENVIRONMENT

GS2

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

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BRICS Environment Working Group Meeting Opens in New Delhi

17 August 2026 · 1 min read ·

✓ Every fact web-verified against primary sources

*India, holding the **BRICS Chairship 2026**, hosted the **Senior Officers' Meeting of the BRICS Environment Working Group** and the **Contact Group on Climate Change and Sustainable Development** at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, on **August 17, 2026**, as a curtain-raiser to the **12th BRICS Environment Ministers' Meeting** on August 18.*

What Happened

India's 2026 BRICS Chairship theme is “**Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability**.” The Environment Ministers' Meeting on August 18 will be presided over by Union Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav**. This year's meeting identified **four priority areas: Sustainable Lifestyles, Afforestation and Forest Fire Management, Circular Economy** (with a focus on Extended Producer Responsibility), and **Adaptation** drawing on traditional knowledge systems.

Why This Matters

BRICS, now expanded beyond its original five members, gives India a platform to advance a Global South-oriented environmental agenda distinct from the climate-finance-centred framing common in Western-led forums. Hosting the working-group process under its own chairship lets India shape the bloc's environmental priorities directly.

UPSC Relevance

This connects India's **multilateral** chairship diplomacy (GS2) with substantive environmental cooperation themes (GS3). A useful Mains angle is comparing BRICS' environmental cooperation approach, emphasising sustainable lifestyles and traditional knowledge, with the climate-finance and emissions-target framing typical of UNFCCC-linked processes, and assessing what India's chairship agenda reveals about its own environmental-diplomacy priorities.

 FACTS CORNER, KNOWLEDGE PEDIA**BRICS ENVIRONMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING, 2026:**

Host: India, BRICS Chairship 2026; theme: “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”

Senior Officers’ Meeting: August 17, 2026, Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

12th Environment Ministers’ Meeting: August 18, 2026; presided by Bhupender Yadav

Four 2026 priority areas: Sustainable Lifestyles, Afforestation & Forest Fire Management, Circular Economy (EPR), Adaptation (traditional knowledge)

OTHER RELEVANT FACTS:

Venue: Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Sources: PIB, ANI, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Source: BRICS Environment Working Group Meeting Opens in New Delhi — Ujjiyari.com | Free UPSC & State PCS Current Affairs

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