BRICS 2026: Redrawing the Global Chemicals & Energy Map

The 11-member bloc now accounts for ~50% of the world's population, 40% of GDP and 26% of global trade.

India pushed for stronger intra-BRICS trade, simpler regulations and more resilient supply chains across key industries.

BRICS emphasized greater use of national currencies and interconnected payment systems, rather than creating a common BRICS currency.

China advocated deeper integration in trade, finance, technology, AI and services.

Despite West Asian tensions, BRICS members including Iran and the UAE backed restraint, de-escalation, diplomacy and opposition to terrorism.

Six Summit Takeaways That Matter

From institutional reform to geopolitical consensus, the New Delhi Declaration advanced several substantive agendas simultaneously.

1

Economic Weight

BRICS now represents 40% of global GDP.

2

Trade Resilience

BRICS members united on de-escalation, diplomacy and counter-terrorism despite West Asian tensions.

3

Currency Settlement

Emphasis on linking payment systems and local-currency use in cross-border trade.

4

China's "Greater BRICS"

Xi Jinping pushed for deeper BRICS integration across trade, finance, tech & SEZs.

5

Continuity Mechanism

Modi's proposed BRICS Continuity and Implementation Mechanism.

6

Geopolitical Consensus

Iran and the UAE jointly backed de-escalation, signalling rare diplomatic unity within BRICS.

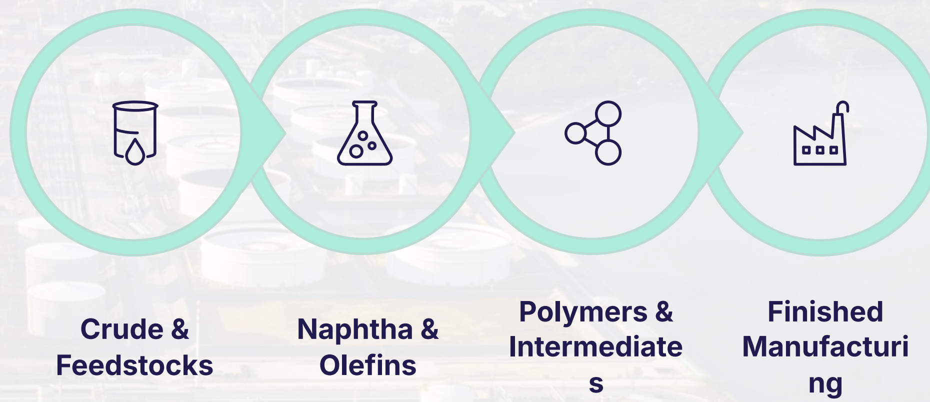
Implications for Global Chemicals & Petrochemicals

BRICS trade and local-currency initiatives could strengthen intra-bloc chemical, fertiliser, polymer, API and agrochemical supply chains.

The BRICS Supply-Chain Corridor

- The bloc uniquely combines the world's largest hydrocarbon exporters Saudi Arabia, Russia, Iran, UAE with the world's largest chemical consuming manufacturing economies: China, India, Brazil, Indonesia, and Africa.
- This creates a structurally integrated feedstock-to-finished-goods corridor with no equivalent in any other multilateral grouping.

Chemical Value Chains Under Focus



BRICS trade integration could strengthen Russia/West Asia-to-Asia chemical value chains, boosting intra-bloc flows of feedstocks, polymers, fertilizers, APIs and agrochemicals.

The Energy Transition Opportunity

India's BRICS chairship advanced smart-grid and energy-storage cooperation, creating long-term demand opportunities for chemicals and specialty materials.

Battery Materials

Lithium, cobalt, electrolyte chemistries

Specialty Chemicals

Grid coatings, thermal management compounds

Renewable Materials

Solar-grade silicon, encapsulants, adhesives

Industrial Value Chains

Intra-BRICS manufacturing and component sourcing

Near-Term Noise, Long-Term Signal

The summit supports deeper long-term integration of energy and chemical flows across Russia, the Middle East, Asia and the Global South.

What Changes Now

- Policy signals on intra-BRICS sourcing preferences
- Local currency settlement frameworks taking shape
- Pharma and Agrochem explicitly elevated in trade agenda
- Smart grid/energy storage cooperation institutionalised

What Unfolds Over 5-10 Years

- Payments, logistics, and investment less Western-centric
- Feedstock corridors institutionally reinforced
- Industrial policy converging across the Global South
- BRICS Continuity Mechanism converting declarations to action

The cumulative strategic shift across payments, investment, logistics, and industrial policy is expected to be potentially more consequential over a decade than any single summit announcement.