





## Housing – A Critical Perspective.

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## **Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:**

1. Paper / Proposal Title: Alternative housing paradigms in BRICS countries

2. Format: Written paper

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4. University or Company Affiliation: University of Melbourne

## 5. Abstract (300 words):

This paper is an attempt to investigate alternative development paradigms for urban housing that BRICS economies have adopted using institutional economics perspective. Cities of the developing world, and most famously those of the 'BRICS': Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, are increasingly gaining importance in the global economy as 'new engines of growth'. These are also the countries that are highly populated, have witnessed high levels of urbanization in short periods and face substantial housing problems. Despite starting with similar "initial" conditions prior to 1950s, these countries have adopted different housing development paradigms, as has been discussed in this paper, but the problem with access to decent housing has continued to persist. This paper is an attempt towards understanding of alternative perspectives for urban housing delivery, provisioning of affordable housing and slum upgrading using BRICS economies as lens and their housing institutional development over the period 1950-2015 as frame. A conceptual framework proposed by Tiwari and Hingorani (2014) has been used for this purpose. The paper offers an analysis of affordable housing and slum upgrading processes, options and institutional linkages in

BRICS countries. The roles of communities, NGOs and policy makers in the preparation and implementation of affordable housing and slum upgrading have also been examined.

The paper does not argue the case for specific causes and policy approaches but rather seeks to clarify the debates and explain the implications of each approach as it applies to specific aspects of processes of addressing inadequate housing. The problem of access to decent housing for all does not have any straight solution. Rather the search for answers leads to a complex web of processes involving market systems, institutional systems, financial systems, legal systems, economic systems, demographic systems, planning systems, and also the social systems. The paper is an attempt to investigate these processes in case of BRICS economies.

## 7. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

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Dr Piyush Tiwari is Professor of Property at University of Melbourne, Australia. He has worked extensively on housing development issues and has published his work as journal articles and books. His books include of India Infrastructure Report 2011 on Water (Oxford University Press, 2012). 'India's Reluctant Urbanisation: Thinking Beyond (Palgrave, 2015)' and 'The Towers of New Capital: Mega Townships in India (Palgrave, 2016)'.