



REVIEWER'S REPORT

Manuscript No.: IJAR-58010

Title: BRICS and the Reconfiguration of Development Finance in Africa: Implications for South-South Cooperation and Multilateralism

Recommendation:

- Accept as it is**
- Accept after minor revision.....
- Accept after major revision
- Do not accept (*Reasons below*)

Rating	Excel.	Good	Fair	Poor
Originality	✓			
Techn. Quality		✓		
Clarity	✓			
Significance	✓			

Reviewer's ID: JPR-002

Detailed Reviewer's Report

The manuscript examines the evolving role of BRICS countries in reshaping development finance in Africa, with particular emphasis on financing diversification, South-South cooperation, and the transformation of multilateral development institutions. The topic is timely and relevant, considering the increasing prominence of emerging economies in global development governance and the growing financing needs of African economies. The paper is well-structured, logically organized, and demonstrates a strong engagement with contemporary literature on development finance, international political economy, and global governance. The introduction effectively establishes the context, research problem, research gap, and objectives, while the analytical framework provides a coherent foundation for the study. The proposed concept of the “reconfiguration of development finance in Africa” represents a noteworthy theoretical contribution that seeks to integrate multiple strands of literature into a unified explanatory framework.

The literature review is comprehensive and covers key theoretical perspectives, including liberal, dependency-oriented, and geoeconomic approaches to development finance. The comparative discussion of these frameworks enriches the analysis and demonstrates the author's familiarity with major debates in International Political Economy. The sections on South-South cooperation and multilateralism are particularly informative and provide a balanced assessment of both opportunities and challenges

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associated with BRICS-led initiatives. The inclusion of conceptual models and analytical diagrams enhances the readability of the manuscript and helps readers understand the proposed framework.

The methodology is clearly presented and justified. The use of an analytical literature review is appropriate for addressing the research question, given the study's emphasis on institutional transformation and governance arrangements. The selection criteria for sources are explicitly stated, and the integration of academic literature with reports from international organizations strengthens the credibility of the analysis. However, the methodology would benefit from a more detailed explanation of the literature search process, including databases consulted, keywords used, inclusion and exclusion criteria, and procedures for source evaluation. Such additions would improve transparency and replicability.

The findings section effectively demonstrates how BRICS countries contribute to the diversification of development finance sources in Africa through infrastructure financing, concessional lending, renewable energy investments, and the activities of the New Development Bank. The discussion of China's and India's respective roles is particularly insightful. The analysis also successfully highlights the multidimensional nature of South-South cooperation and its implications for African development. Furthermore, the examination of the New Development Bank and its relationship with traditional multilateral institutions provides a nuanced understanding of contemporary development governance.

Despite these strengths, several areas require improvement. First, the study remains largely conceptual and descriptive. While the analytical literature review approach is justified, the manuscript would be strengthened by incorporating empirical evidence, case studies, comparative country analyses, or project-level examples demonstrating the actual developmental outcomes of BRICS-financed initiatives in Africa. Second, the discussion of risks such as debt sustainability, governance concerns, and geopolitical competition remains relatively brief. A more critical engagement with these challenges would provide greater balance and analytical depth. Third, although the paper references renewable energy financing as a key motivation for the study, the analysis does not sufficiently explore specific renewable energy projects or financing mechanisms associated with BRICS countries. Expanding this aspect would improve alignment between the stated objectives and the findings.

From a presentation perspective, the manuscript is generally well-written and academically sound. Nevertheless, minor language editing is recommended to eliminate occasional repetition, particularly regarding concepts such as financing diversification and institutional coexistence. The abstract could also

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be made more concise by emphasizing key findings and contributions without repeating background information. Additionally, the "Key words" section contains placeholder text ("00000000000000") that should be removed and replaced with relevant keywords.

Overall, this manuscript addresses an important and contemporary issue in development finance and makes a meaningful theoretical contribution through its concept of the reconfiguration of development finance in Africa. The study is intellectually relevant, well-organized, and supported by an extensive body of literature. However, to enhance its scholarly impact and analytical rigor, the author should strengthen the methodological transparency, incorporate more empirical evidence, and engage more critically with potential limitations and risks associated with BRICS-led development finance. Subject to these revisions, the manuscript has good potential for publication.