

## G20 Infrastructure Working Group, South Africa

The Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) explores innovative financing instruments to secure investment for infrastructure projects. Recently, it has prioritized increasing resources for infrastructure and sustainable development, addressing challenges intensified by climate change, energy shifts, and digital transformation. The group is also dedicated to enhancing infrastructure resilience and inclusivity by mobilizing diverse funding sources, particularly to support developing and vulnerable countries.

### CDRI at G20 IWG: Advancing Resilient Infrastructure

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure actively participated in the G20 3rd and 4th Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meetings in Skukuza and Cape Town, South Africa, contributing to discussions across three key priority areas: investible infrastructure, blended finance, and cross-border connectivity.



At the 3rd G20 Infrastructure Working Group meeting in May 2025, CDRI underscored the importance of integrating resilience into cross-border infrastructure. It introduced cost-benefit and risk modelling tools demonstrating high returns on resilience investments, and advocated data-driven planning to reduce climate and disaster risks, strengthening infrastructure sustainability, bankability, and long-term development.



At the 4th G20 Infrastructure Working Group meeting in September 2025, CDRI emphasized integrating disaster resilience into infrastructure planning, positioning resilient infrastructure as bankable infrastructure. It advocated blended finance for vulnerable regions and commended cross-border governance frameworks, highlighting the RCBA tool's role in enabling risk-informed infrastructure decisions.

### **Priority 1: Developing an investible infrastructure pipeline**

CDRI stressed the urgency of integrating disaster resilience into infrastructure planning, citing its Africa report that revealed \$13 billion in annual disaster losses and an \$80–90 billion infrastructure spending gap. It advocated resilience as a pathway to bankability and is collaborating with national development finance institutions (DFIs) and international financial institutions (IFIs) to embed resilience into project-level technical assistance. CDRI's recommendations were reflected in the 'G20 Framework for Effective Planning and Preparation Practices'. Additionally, the 'Note on Improving the accessibility and availability of key market data' referenced CDRI's GIRI tool and findings from CDRI's study on India's National Infrastructure Pipeline, underscoring the importance of robust data for informed infrastructure investment decisions.

<https://g20.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/G20-Note-on-Improving-the-Accessibility-and-Availability-of-Key-Market-Data.pdf>

### **Priority 2: Blended finance**

CDRI called for tailored risk assessments and innovative financing mechanisms for disaster-prone regions, especially Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and countries along the Ring of Fire. It recommended that the G20 Technical Note include references to these needs, building on the 2022 G20 report's recognition of SIDS' unique vulnerabilities.

### **Priority 3: Cross-border infrastructure**

CDRI commended the comprehensive cross-border infrastructure toolkit developed by MDBs, highlighting its robust integration of disaster risk considerations and the Resilience Cost-Benefit Analysis (RCBA) Tool. It emphasized the critical role of governance ("software") in cross-border projects, noting that institutional arrangements often pose greater challenges than physical infrastructure. CDRI reaffirmed its commitment to supporting framework implementation through its platforms. The 'Toolkit for Delivering Cross-Border Infrastructure for Regional Development' also features CDRI's case study on applying the RCBA Tool in cross-border infrastructure projects.

### **Closing Note**

CDRI expressed gratitude to the South African Presidency and G20 co-chairs for the opportunity to contribute, reaffirming its commitment to advancing resilient, inclusive, and sustainable infrastructure globally.