BAMBOO & RATTAN FOR INCLUSIVE AND GREEN DEVELOPMENT

The International Network for Bamboo & Rattan INBAR published in its website the new report The environmental impact of Industrial Bamboo products. The study is a effort collaborative between INBAR, MOSO International а Netherlands based producer of industrial bamboo products and Delft University, and reveals that many bamboo products and their processes are carbon-neutral. The report shows how items made from this versatile plant can be carbon neutral, or even carbon negative, over their lifecycle. It provides a tool that producers can use to certify their green credentials for the increasing number of bamboo products on the market.

INBAR is an intergovernmental organization established in 1997 by Treaty deposited with the United Nations and hosted in Bejing, China. INBAR currently has 41 Member States, comprising most of the bamboo and rattan resource countries. INBAR Regional Offices are operating in Ecuador, Ethiopia, India and Ghana.

INBAR supports its members to include bamboo and rattan in their sustainable development action plans and green economy strategies. It promotes innovative ways of using bamboo and rattan to improve rural livelihoods, protect the environment, address climate change and issues of international bamboo and rattan trade and standards. INBAR's priorities, defined under the Strategic Plan 2015-2030, are to promote the promise of bamboo and rattan as practical and sustainable solutions, to the producers and users of these plants.

INBAR connects a global network of partners from government, private and NGO sectors to promote a global agenda for sustainable development using bamboo and rattan. Since its creation two decades ago, INBAR has run projects in over 20 countries, and provided capacity building on the productive use of bamboo and rattan in over 80 countries. INBAR works with an international team of professionals in bamboo and rattan, forestry and natural resource management, ecosystem services, socio-economics, capacity building and knowledge sharing.

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For example in China, INBAR worked with partners in Sichuan province to rebuild and enhance the bamboo sector there, developing environment-friendly bamboo industry chains that meets and respond to market needs. The project improved the productive capacities of over 500 Small and medium sized enterprises. Hundreds were trained in improved production techniques, done with cooperatives that include 10,000 bamboo farmers who now pool resources and knowledge and support each other's development, as well as producing a range of resources for SMEs to tap, such as a producers directory and training manuals. Subsequently, technologies and experiences have been transferred to 7000 farmers in the more developed eastern bamboo growing areas. Overall, 50, 000 people have benefitted so far.

Every year INBAR holds series of training courses in China that enable attendees to see how China has made bamboo successful, providing ideas and methods to take back to their own countries where they can adopt and adapt them. Each year between 50 and 80 people from all over the world join the courses, to learn in general about bamboo based development globally, and specifically how China achieves it. The courses began in 1999 and continue today.

In the INBAR website a <u>valuable set of manuals</u>, <u>scientific and technical documents</u> is available to support all interested actors from all over the world in enhancing and developing the important resources of bamboo for sustainable development.

To know more

INBAR website

Expertise and tools for countries

Global assessment of Bamboo and Rattan GABAR

