

INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF BAMBOO & RATTAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

On 18 September 2019 the [International Network for Bamboo & Rattan INBAR](#) celebrated the *Bamboo Day*.

[Relevant data illustrating the huge potential of Bamboo & Rattan](#) are presented in the INBAR website: 1.642 known species of bamboo and 631 species of rattan, 60 billion USD is the annual value of the bamboo and rattan trade, and 8 million people are employed in the bamboo sector in China, the country hosting INBAR's international headquarters.

Fast-growing, flexible and strong, bamboo can be used to create a wide range of products, from socks to single-use plastic. In infrastructure, durable bamboo materials are replacing steel and cement as a low-carbon alternative for flooring, housing, drainage pipes and more. But bamboo is more than just useful products. With over 30 million hectares spread across the tropics and subtropics, this grass plant can provide a *nature-based solution* for poverty alleviation, environmental protection and climate change mitigation.

At the [2019 United Nations General Assembly \(UNGA\)](#), celebrated on 30 September 2019, a delegation INBAR attended high-level events and meetings to discuss how bamboo and rattan will be an active part of the solution of the global climate emergency. With the support of INBAR, governments around the world are using bamboo to fight desertification, [conserve biodiversity](#), and provide a source of income to millions of people in rural areas.

In addition to carrying out countless initiatives to support countries and international initiatives that are described in the [2018 Report](#), INBAR carries out an intense activity of producing publications and technical reports that constitute a stimulus and a guide for stakeholders all over the world interested in enhancing the cultivation and use of bamboo and rattan.

In particular, two INBAR reports, published in 2018, have made important contributions to the literature regarding bamboo's role in land restoration and carbon storage.

The Report [Bamboo for Land Restoration](#) released as part of INBAR's GABAR initiative, for example, shows the positive benefits of bamboo as a tool to restore degraded land. The report, written by FAO, INBAR and the New Partnership for Africa's Development, looked at cases where bamboo has been used to restore degraded land across Colombia, Ghana, India, Nepal, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, as well as Anji and Chishui counties in China. As the case studies show, bamboo can



revegetate even the most degraded soils within a short period. Aside from its environmental benefits, the report highlighted that bamboo can also be of great economic importance, generating jobs for local communities.

The Report [Carbon sequestration and carbon emissions reduction through Bamboo Forests and Products](#) shows how bamboo products can save carbon by replacing cement, plastics and other more emissions-intensive materials. Bamboo's fast growth rate means it can be harvested regularly, creating many durable products which store carbon over several years, in addition to the carbon stored in the plant itself. When the carbon stored in bamboo forests and in durable products is combined with its ability to 'displace' the carbon which would have been used in more emissions-intensive materials - such as PVC, cement and steel - the Report shows that bamboo can sequester more carbon than other species of trees.

INBAR is an intergovernmental organization established in 1997 in Beijing, China. It includes 45 Member States most of which are producers of bamboo and rattan. In addition to its Secretariat headquarters in China, INBAR has Regional Offices in Cameroon, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana and India. [Guided by its 2015-2030 Strategy](#), INBAR's priority is to work with countries to focus the use of bamboo and rattan as strategic resources that support sustainable development and their green economy action plans.

INBAR connects a global network of partners from governments, private and NGO sectors to promote a global agenda for sustainable development using bamboo and rattan and provides capacity building and awareness raising 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 and socio-economics. In the INBAR website a [relevant set of manuals, guides and articles](#) 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](#)

[Why Bamboo & Rattan](#)

[2018 INBAR Annual Report](#)

[Bamboo for land reforestation in INBAR website](#)

[Bamboo for Land Restoration 2018 Report](#)

[Bamboo for land restoration slideshare.net](#)

[INBAR Restoring Ecosystems](#)

[Carbon sequestration and carbon emissions reduction through Bamboo Forests and Products 2018 Report](#)

[2015-2030 INBAR Strategy](#)



[INBAR in Facebook](#)

[INBAR Stories](#)

[Bamboo, Rattan and Biodiversity: fact sheet](#)

[INBAR Construction & Design](#)

[Guía Didáctica para Diseño y Construcción de Estructuras de Guadúa \(GaK\) y otros Bambúes-Ecuador](#)

[Manual Técnico - Región Piura Perú](#)

[INBAR Publications](#)

[Global assessment of Bamboo and Rattan GABAR](#)

