

# FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON BAMBOO AS A SUBSTITUTE FOR PLASTIC ORGANIZED BY INBAR IN CHINA

[The 7 and 8 November 2023 the First International Symposium on Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic will be held in China.](#)

The symposium is hosted by INBAR and the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of China (NFGA), and organized by the INBAR Secretariat and the International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan of NFGA.

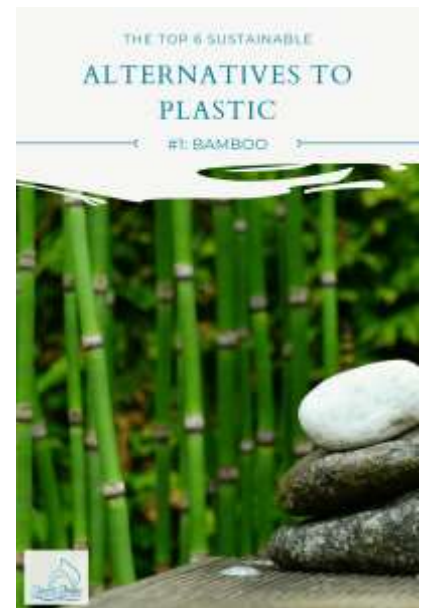
This symposium marks the first anniversary since launching the [Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative](#). The objectives of the symposium are:

- To provide a platform for sharing research progress and engaging in a dialogue for mobilizing INBAR Member States and the international community to accelerate the progress of the Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative;
- To raise awareness on the potential of Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic, especially in terms of mitigating plastic pollution and climate change; and To showcase research and innovation as well as share success stories and good practices aimed at promoting collaboration among INBAR Member States.

The main theme of the symposium is “Innovative technologies for harnessing bamboo to mitigate plastic pollution and climate change.” This symposium will be a good platform for global stakeholders to exchange knowledge and best practices, explore innovation opportunities, improve market mechanisms and encourage policy formulation.

Plastic pollution is one of the most pressing environmental issues facing humankind today. An estimated 450 million tonnes of plastics are produced annually, and the majority (~85 percent) ends up in landfills or in natural environments, causing havoc across terrestrial and marine ecosystems. Most plastics are produced from fossil fuels, and greenhouse gases are emitted throughout the life cycle of plastics. To mitigate plastic pollution and climate change, more than 100 countries have imposed restrictions or bans on certain single-use plastics. An [Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee \(INC\)](#) was established by the UN General Assembly to develop a legally binding instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment, and [INBAR is part of the committee](#).

On 7 November 2022, during the [Opening Ceremony of the Celebration of INBAR's 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the Second Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress](#), China and INBAR formally launched the Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative. Since the launch, a number of actions have been undertaken to advance the goals of the Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative, including: (a) formulating a Global Action Plan for Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic; (b) planning and launching the project “Research and Demonstration of Key Technologies in INBAR Member States”; (c) facilitating the inclusion of bamboo into global policy frameworks by participating in INC-1 and INC-2 as well as the World Trade Organization (WTO) Dialogue on Plastics Pollution and



Environmentally Sustainable Plastics Trade; (d) promoting the Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative at international and national levels, including at the [UNFCCC COP 27](#), [5<sup>th</sup> UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries](#), [UNFF-18](#), [World Environment Day](#), [China International Consumer Products Expo](#) and more contexts.

This symposium encompasses an opening session, keynote presentations, four parallel sessions and a closing ceremony. The four parallel sessions will focus on the following thematic areas:

Theme 1: Enabling policy to support the Bamboo as a Substitute for Plastic Initiative

Theme 2: Innovative technologies for value addition at industrial scale

Theme 3: Industry and enterprise development for green economic development

Theme 4: Innovative technologies in bamboo cultivation.

INBAR invites all actors interested in participate in this event to *fill out and send the [registration form](#), a copy of their passport identification page, and a brief CV to [basp2023@icbr.ac.cn](mailto:basp2023@icbr.ac.cn).*

## To know more

[Symposium in website INBAR](#)

[Bamboo and plastic Pollution](#)

[registration form](#)

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