

2017



INBAR'S 1997-2017
ANNIVERSARY

Annual Report

International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation

INBAR, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation, is an intergovernmental organisation bringing together some 43 countries for the promotion of the ecosystem benefits and values of bamboo and rattan.

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International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation

The International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) is the multilateral development organisation of 43 Member States for the promotion of bamboo and rattan. 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 connects a global network of partners from government, private and NGO sectors to promote a global agenda for sustainable development using bamboo and rattan.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR AND CO-CHAIR



Andrew John Bennett
Board Chair



Jiang Zehui
Co-Chair

In this important anniversary year, INBAR's Board of Trustees has reflected on this organisation's achievements. Twenty years ago, under the joint efforts of nine founding countries, INBAR was officially established in Beijing with support from the Chinese government. Over the past two decades, INBAR has worked hard, with a singular focus: to promote inclusive and green development using bamboo and rattan.

This goal remains as critical now as it has ever been. Across the world, poverty, climate change, unsustainable resource use and ecosystem degradation pose serious threats to human wellbeing and our environment. INBAR is active in researching, demonstrating and advocating for the use of bamboo and rattan as one solution to these problems.

We were immensely proud to have our successes validated by a message from China's President H.E. Xi Jinping on INBAR's 20th birthday. President Xi provided his "warm congratulations" to INBAR for its work, and added that "China will continue to support INBAR's endeavours to implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and help bring about global ecological progress". We were delighted to see this promise in action, when INBAR was made an Observer to the UN General Assembly in December – a resolution submitted by China, and co-sponsored by 29 INBAR Member States.

As well as President Xi, we were very grateful to receive messages of support from the President of Ethiopia, H.E. Mulatu Teshome; Mr Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs; Dr José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization and other high-level representatives from around the world. There can be no better birthday present, nor greater testament to the impact INBAR's work has had.

In December, INBAR became an Observer to the United Nations General Assembly. This important decision paves the way for INBAR to contribute directly to the UN conversation, and reflects the vital role bamboo and rattan can play in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In this spirit, the Annual Report this year is divided into the seven Sustainable Development Goals which are most relevant to INBAR's work.

On behalf of INBAR's Board of Trustees, we would like to take this opportunity to thank INBAR Member countries who have been actively involved in the development of the bamboo and rattan industry for more than 20 years; our host country, the Chinese government and leaders for their generous backing; and all partners and friends for your consistent support. A very happy anniversary to INBAR.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR GENERAL

2017 was a landmark year for INBAR.

In November, INBAR celebrated its 20th birthday – a remarkable event, at which INBAR was honoured to receive messages of support from a number of world leaders, including China's President H.E. Xi Jinping.

This year we also welcomed Brazil as our newest Member State. Brazil has over 200 species of bamboo and some rattan, and will be a very important addition to our network. INBAR now has 43 Members – we have come a long way since we were founded by nine countries in 1997. I warmly welcome our friends in Brazil.

Aside from our growth as a network, INBAR has kept up its efforts in advocacy, policy, knowledge-sharing and country support. As well as being made an Observer to the United Nations General Assembly, INBAR has organised events at the UN Convention to Combat Desertification's COP13 and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change's COP23. We are also working hard on projects funded by the World Bank, the International Fund for Agricultural Development and the European Union; have represented our Members in international conferences and events across the world; and continue to influence policies and spread technologies which have a real impact on people's lives. This year, we have also kickstarted the Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan with the recruitment of a coordinator.

At the flag raising ceremony for Brazil, Senator Jorge Viana said: "The time is right for bamboo and rattan." At INBAR, we could not agree more. In 2018, we will be hosting the Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress: the first international, policy-focused dialogue and knowledge-sharing conference about nature-based tools for sustainable development. The theme of the conference is 'Enhancing South-South Cooperation for Green Development through Bamboo and Rattan's Contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals'. I welcome you to join – you can find more details on our website.

Finally – I would like to offer my sincere thanks to our many partners, Members and donors for your continued support. We look forward to working with you over the next 20 years, to continue encouraging inclusive and green development with bamboo and rattan.



Hans Friederich
Director General



Networks and global partnerships



With 43 Member States, a Secretariat in China and regional offices in Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana and India, INBAR represents a large part of the Global South and is a major mechanism for enabling South-South Cooperation. INBAR's commitment to international cooperation makes an important contribution to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17: revitalising the global partnership for sustainable development.

▶ Celebrating 20 years of INBAR ◀

On 6 November 2017, INBAR celebrated its 20th anniversary. Established as an intergovernmental organisation in 1997 with nine Member States, in 2017, INBAR now boasts 43 Members and a global range of partners and donors.

To celebrate our growth and achievements, for our anniversary on 6 November, INBAR hosted a day of celebrations in Beijing. Ambassadors and ministers from INBAR's Member States, along with representatives from the host country government and high-profile international organisations, attended the event at Kuntai Hotel. Attendees took part in a celebratory afternoon of speeches and discussions about the global role of INBAR and bamboo and rattan.

At the start of the afternoon, INBAR was delighted to share with attendees a congratulatory letter from H.E. Xi Jinping, the President of China, and a video message from the President of Ethiopia, H.E. Mulatu Teshome. Both President Xi and President Teshome realised the important work INBAR has been doing to help deliver the Sustainable Development Agenda.



A print of INBAR's birthday message from H.E. Xi Jinping hanging in INBAR's Bamboo and Rattan Showroom (left); an excerpt from China Daily's front page coverage (right).

chinadaily.com.cn RMB ¥2

Xi hails Beijing-based group's contribution to UN sustainability goals

By YANG WANLI
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China will continue to work with the international community to implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and contribute its experiences and efforts to global ecological progress, President Xi Jinping said in a congratulatory letter to an intergovernmental organization's annual meeting on Monday.

The nation's actions will help lead to a better community for all and a beautiful world, Xi wrote to the International Bamboo and Rattan Organization, which is celebrating its 20th anniversary in Beijing. The first intergovernmental organization established in China, now has 43 member states.

"In the past 20 years, INBAR has played a positive role in accelerating the development of global bamboo and rattan resources, promoting poverty alleviation, boosting trade in bamboo and rattan products, and facilitating sustainable development," Xi wrote in the letter.

"China will stick to its commitment to achieving harmony between humans and nature, advancing ecological conservation, pursuing green development and building a beautiful China," he wrote.

Jiang Zehui, co-chairman of the INBAR board, said bamboo and rattan benefits climate change mitigation. She said well-managed bamboo forests can sequester significantly

more carbon than similar tree forests. Also, emerging technologies in biogas — which can be produced from bamboo — can supply clean power.

The Statement on Bamboo and Rattan for Green Sustainable Development and South-South Cooperation also was released at the conference. It noted that bamboo and rattan are climate-smart approaches that add value to forestry and agriculture strategies via mitigation and landscape restoration.

INBAR has played an important role in the United Nations' efforts in poverty reduction, environmental protection and the green economy, said UN Under-Secretary-General Liu Zhenmin. In order to promote South-South and South-North cooperation, INBAR has provided answers for sustainable livelihoods and ecosystem management for millions, he said.

China has long promoted ecological restoration and the green economy. The State Forestry Administration said the country's forest coverage has risen from 8.6 percent in the 1950s to 21.66 percent last year.

"We will keep supporting the development of the bamboo and rattan industry and further strengthen cooperation with other countries for future opportunities, contributing our innovative ideas and experiences to the development of the global green economy," said Zhang Jianlong, head of the forestry administration.



INBAR Co-Chair Madame Jiang delivered a speech from the President of the People's Republic of China, H.E. Xi Jinping

INBAR also received messages from Mr Liu Zhenmin, UN Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs; Dr José Graziano da Silva, Director General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO); and other high-level representatives from the host country government, INBAR's Council Chair and INBAR's Board of Trustees. All speakers congratulated INBAR on the organisation's growth and positive contribution to sustainable development over the years.

INBAR's anniversary was not just a chance to talk about the past but an opportunity to look forward. At the event, INBAR Board Chair Andrew Bennett and co-Chair Madame Jiang Zehui introduced several new publications, including *The World Checklist of Bamboos and Rattans*, which provides important information

about the spread and number of bamboo and rattan species, and *100 Heroes of China's Bamboo Industry*, which follows the stories of some of China's 8 million people employed in the bamboo sector.

To wrap up the afternoon, Dr Hans Friederich presided over a ministerial forum, where panellists from ministries in Ghana, Brazil, Uganda and the Philippines discussed bamboo and rattan's uses in their respective countries, as well as the challenges and opportunities that need to be addressed.

To end the day, attendees were invited to a hospitality dinner and concert featuring a bamboo band – a very fitting way to toast INBAR's successes so far, and the years to come.

I am honoured as the President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to wish INBAR a happy 20th anniversary today. With INBAR's assistance, my country has benefited and my fellow countrymen have learned how to better utilise their existing bamboo supply for achieving many of the social, economic and environmental objectives of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals. With INBAR's advocacy, we have developed a climate-smart approach that adds value to forestry and agriculture strategies via mitigation and adaptation. With INBAR's technical expertise, we have developed a bamboo charcoal industry and advanced sustainable bamboo value chains for rural income and livelihoods.



We commend INBAR on 20 years of successful South-South cooperation in the Global South and look forward to working with INBAR in continuing to develop Ethiopia's bamboo industry and promote sustainable development.

- Excerpts from video speech to INBAR by H.E. Mulatu Teshome, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



High-level attendees at INBAR's 20th anniversary, including INBAR's Board of Trustees, senior ministers and present and several past Directors



A bamboo orchestra played for guests at INBAR's celebratory dinner

INBAR becomes a member of the UN General Assembly

On 7 December, INBAR was granted Observer status to the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), by unanimous agreement of all 193 Members. This important decision paves the way for INBAR to contribute directly to the work of the UNGA, and reflects the vital role bamboo and rattan can play in implementing the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The UNGA's decision was made during the 67th plenary meeting of its 72nd session in New York. The resolution for Observer status was submitted by China, INBAR's host country, and was co-sponsored by 29 INBAR Member States, as well as bamboo and rattan consumer countries.



The Co-Chair of INBAR's Board of Trustees and Vice Chair of China's Committee of Population, Resources and Environment, Madame Jiang Zehui, praised the move, saying: "This is another excellent gift for INBAR's 20th anniversary after receiving Chinese President Xi Jinping's congratulatory letter. Thanks to the Chinese government and all INBAR Member countries' support for helping to achieve this."

Bilateral training



Capacity building and technology transfer has always been a key part of INBAR's work. This year, INBAR conducted bilateral training sessions with two of its Member countries – an important step, which allows for more targeted, country-specific training.

In June, 41 participants from Ethiopia took part in a month-long course on bamboo handicrafts production technology in Addis Ababa. As well as this, in August, 29 Ecuadorians were awarded scholarships for a month-long course in Beijing, on 'Innovative Uses of Bamboo in Post-Earthquake Reconstruction for Ecuador'. INBAR hopes to offer similar training courses to more of its Members in future, in collaboration with the International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (ICBR), and with the generous sponsorship of China's Ministry of Commerce.

INBAR in the global South-South community

INBAR continues to work closely with South-South partners around the world. In 2017, INBAR co-published a report with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC): 'Inspiring Sustainable Development with Bamboo'. The report recaps 20 years of INBAR's work facilitating the transfer of knowledge, technologies and best practices across its network of Members, and includes case studies and recommendations.

As the report shows, INBAR's unique structure has helped make it a powerful facilitator for South-South cooperation since its establishment. In addition to its many projects, INBAR has trained up to 25,000 people in skills across the bamboo and rattan value chain, and has provided a powerful voice in policy: seven countries now incorporate International Standardization Organization (ISO) standards designed by INBAR into their national building standards, and over 20 national or regional governments have used INBAR's assistance or inputs to draft bamboo policies. All of this work has been done through sharing knowledge and lessons learned among INBAR's network of Member States.

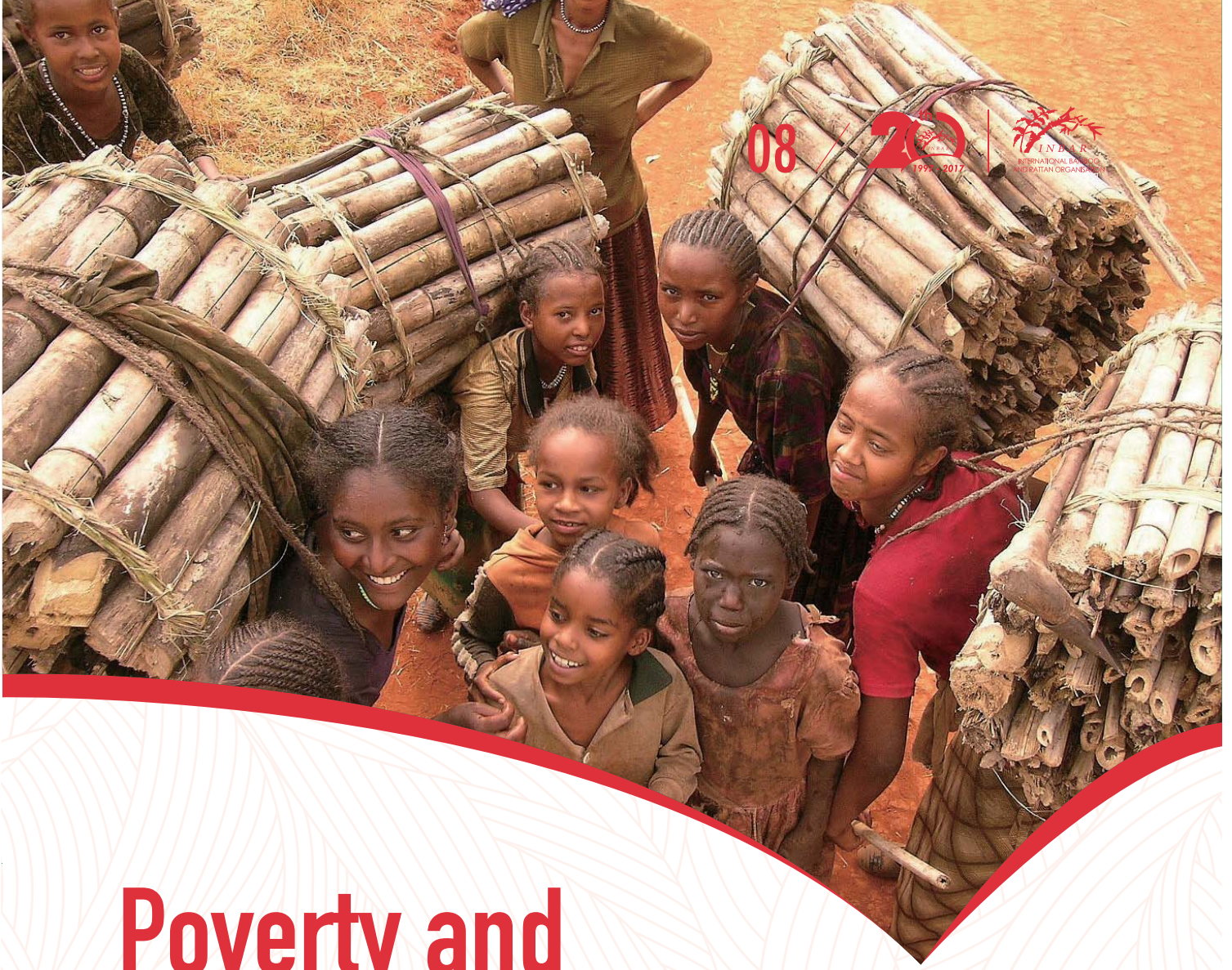
INBAR Director Dr Hans Friederich and UNOSSC Director Jorge Chediek launched the report at the UN Framework Convention for Climate Change's 23rd Conference of Parties (COP23) in Bonn, Germany, and at the Global South-South Development Expo, in Antalya, Turkey in November.



"As the cases elaborated in this edition of [the report] make clear, bamboo has an important role to play in inspiring action and enabling development."

– Jorge Chediek, Envoy of the Secretary-General on South-South Cooperation and Director for UNOSSC





Poverty and livelihoods



The aim of the UN's first SDG – to eliminate poverty – has been at the heart of INBAR's work for 20 years. From promoting bamboo's role in regional initiatives, to providing important on-the-ground training for livelihoods improvement, in 2017, INBAR furthered the agenda for environmentally sustainable rural development.

» A Vision for bamboo and rattan in ASEAN ◀

To mark the 50th anniversary of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations' (ASEAN) founding, in 2017, INBAR published a 'Vision for Bamboo and Rattan for ASEAN Development'. The Vision is an important strategy document, which calls for all ASEAN members to come together in support of bamboo and rattan.

ASEAN Member States together account for approximately 20 per cent of the global trade in bamboo and rattan - almost USD 400 million - and can be a real driver for regional green growth and sustainable development. The Vision calls for "investment and the establishment of value chains with access to local, regional and international markets", and urges ASEAN to collaborate on mobilising resources and developing appropriate policy frameworks.

The Philippine Ambassador, Jose Santiago Sta. Romana, commended INBAR's ASEAN Vision as "a welcome development for us in the region", and said that the Philippine Embassy in Beijing has already conveyed the Vision to Manila and to the Philippines' Permanent Mission to ASEAN in Jakarta, Indonesia.



Yang Xiu-Ping, Secretary-General of the China-ASEAN Centre, visited INBAR's Bamboo and Rattan Showroom in May



Ambassador H.E. Jose Santiago L. Sta Romana speaking at the event (top), and planting bamboo in the Philippines Embassy alongside Dr Hans Friederich (below right)

» Dutch-Sino-East Africa project ◀

At present, East Africa's bamboo sector remains largely untapped, despite its huge potential: the region has sub-Saharan Africa's largest natural bamboo forests, and accounts for some 4 per cent of the world's total known bamboo coverage. The INBAR-led 'Dutch-Sino-East Africa' project, which is co-funded by the Netherlands' Ministry of Foreign Affairs and China's State Forestry Administration, aims to use Chinese and Dutch bamboo industry expertise to help Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda kickstart their bamboo industries. According to the latest INBAR research, bamboo could cover almost 17,000 hectares in these three countries.

In 2017, the project made a start on its goal to build capacity for East Africa bamboo producers, with courses on everything from bamboo planting and harvesting to the production of handicrafts and furniture. At the international level, INBAR co-hosted a conference with Wageningen University in the Netherlands, to raise awareness about bamboo's use as a source to make products such as food, fibre and housing.

The project is also working to raise national public awareness about bamboo among East African consumers, in a number of ways – from workshops, events and product exhibitions, to a radio talk broadcast across five Ugandan radio stations. In September, INBAR, together with Uganda's National Forestry Authority and Uganda Bamboo Association, supported a bamboo bicycle tour which ran for almost 500 kilometres across Uganda.



INBAR project manager Jayaraman Durai training participants in Kenya (left) and Uganda (right) about sustainable harvesting and treatment of bamboo



Yong'an - Top Strategic Partner

Located in the hinterland of Fujian Province, Yong'an is one of the most famous bamboo areas in China. On 18 October 2017, INBAR signed a strategic partnership agreement with Yong'an, marking a new step in their cooperation.



On 27-31 October, to mark INBAR's 20th anniversary and the opening of the 2017 International Bamboo Exposition, INBAR and Yong'an organised a five-day media bamboo tour, which was attended by journalists from 12 Chinese media outlets including Xinhua News, CCTV, Global Times and China Daily. The activity resulted in a lot of positive press for the region and a renewed national interest in China's bamboo sector. The resulting news stories showed the great role bamboo has played in improving people's livelihoods, creating jobs, increasing income, protecting the environment, combating climate change, and helping to realise a green economy and inclusive sustainable development.

On 29 October, Yong'an also provided bamboo handicrafts to INBAR's booth at a Beijing charity sale, organised by China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Proceeds from the sale went to Yunnan County in China.



Spotlight on: Yong'an and Meishan

In this 20th anniversary Annual Report, INBAR is highlighting some of its key strategic partners, who are providing support for the Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress 2018 (BARC 2018).

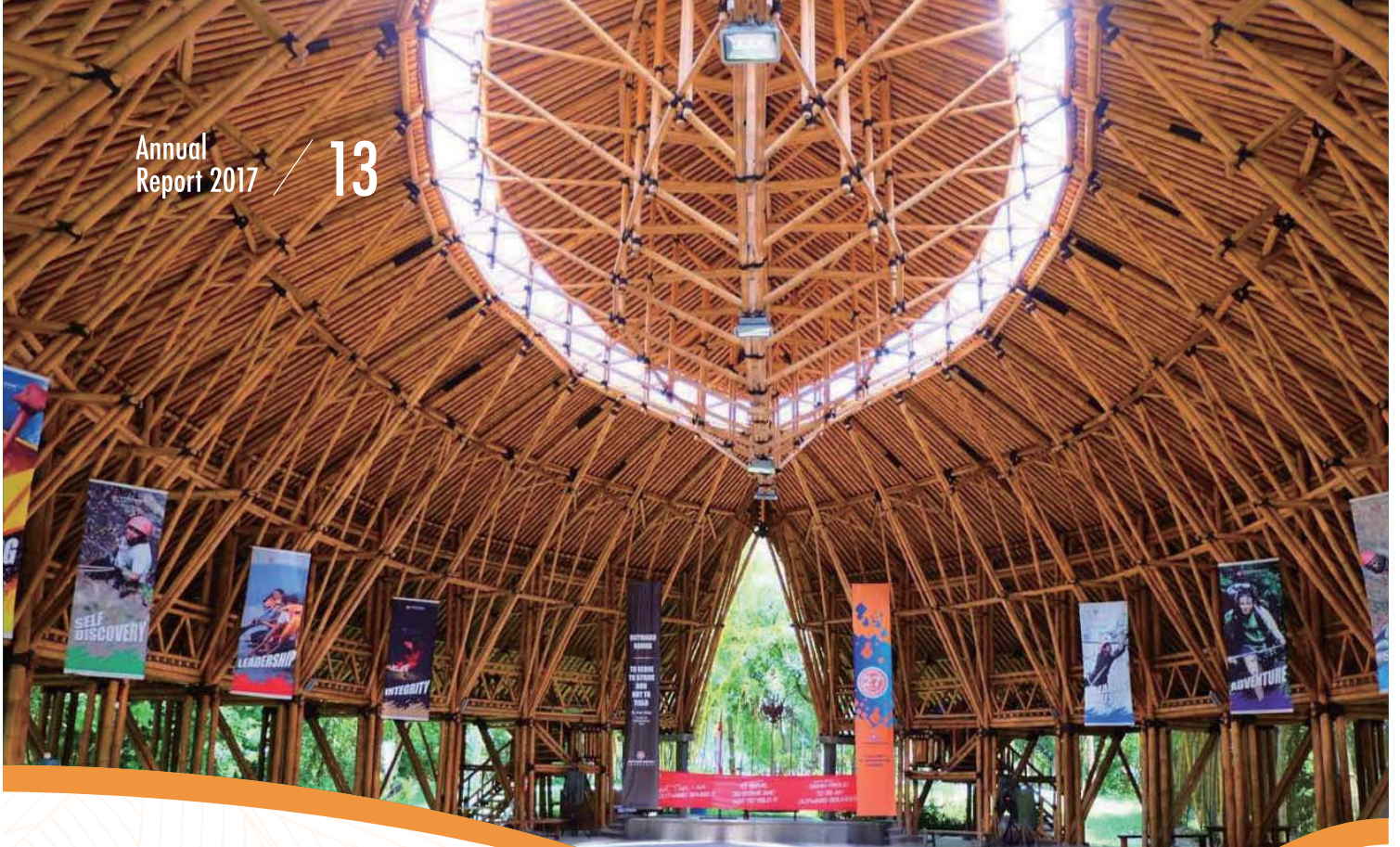


Meishan

Meishan is a prefecture-level city in Sichuan, China, and a bamboo-rich area, boasting over 400 species which cover some 70,000 hectares. Recently, Meishan has become a bastion of bamboo culture, promoting ancient practices and cultivating a vibrant bamboo sector. In 2008, China's Ministry of Culture listed the bamboo weaving unique to Qingshen, one of Meishan's counties, as part of the nation's intangible cultural heritage.

INBAR has a long history of working with Meishan. Together, INBAR and Meishan hosted the 2016 China Bamboo Cultural Festival, which promoted the development of local bamboo sectors and international cooperation. As well as this, INBAR conducts a lot of its training in Meishan. In November, INBAR and Meishan signed a strategic partnership to further their work together and promote the growth of the bamboo industry, as well as a greater understanding of Chinese bamboo culture. As part of the agreement, Meishan offered to provide financial support for INBAR's 20th anniversary celebrations and upcoming Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress.





Housing and infrastructure



Bamboo houses are flexible, affordable and resilient in natural disasters. In 2017, INBAR continued to work around the world to encourage the use of bamboo in construction: through research, advocacy work and the launch of an ambitious Vision to help 'green' China's Belt and Road Initiative. These efforts mark an important contribution to SDG 11, which aims to create safe, resilient and sustainable human settlements.

▶ New impetus for bamboo use in Ecuador ◀



In June 2017, Ecuador's Ministry of Agriculture published a new 'Technical Guide for Management, Harvesting and Elaboration of Cutting Programmes of *Caña Guadúa* and *Bambú Gigante*'. This is a major policy change, and shows the impact of INBAR's work over a number of years.

The Technical Guide is the first of its kind to discuss the sustainable management of bamboo forests and plantations in Ecuador. It provides clear advice for farmers on how to sustainably harvest and manage bamboo, as well as different technical criteria for the products which can be made, and advice for local officials who help review, approve and control this bamboo use.

This announcement is the result of long-running efforts by INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean office. INBAR has advised technicians belonging to the Ministry of Agriculture on how to strengthen the guide; in addition, INBAR has provided substantial support to the Rio 7 farmers' association, one of the major sources of inspiration for the policy guide.

The Technical Guide is closely linked to the recent 'Ecuadorian National Standard for construction with *Caña Guadua*', in which Ecuador endorses the use of bamboo as a safe construction material. Together, these two documents make clear the growing governmental support for bamboo in Ecuador.

▶ Building bamboo infrastructure in India ◀

The state of Odisha in India is vulnerable to a wide range of natural disasters, which cause widespread damage to housing and infrastructure. The humanitarian aid organisation Catholic Relief Services recently commissioned INBAR to conduct a study on bamboo shelters in this state, in order to improve and encourage the use of post-disaster and long-term shelters made with bamboo.

Experts from INBAR's Construction Task Force carried out a field visit in July, and have since completed a decision-making guide. The assessment found that bamboo plays an important role for rural communities across the state, but there is little information about best practices. As a result, bamboo shelters have poor durability and are less resilient to disasters. INBAR's new guide should help Catholic Relief Services to determine when bamboo will be appropriate for use in Odisha, and how to build more resilient bamboo housing.

This year, INBAR also compiled a bamboo and rattan resource assessment for Odisha, as part of the Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan (GABAR). The report uses extensive statewide surveys, travels, inventory work and consultations with various stakeholders associated with the bamboo and cane sector in Odisha.



▶ Bamboo and rattan for Belt and Road ◀

This year, INBAR has become more involved in China's Belt and Road Initiative, with a Vision document outlining how bamboo and rattan can be key resources for 'greening' the programme.

The Belt and Road Initiative is China's flagship economic policy, which aims to create infrastructure and trade routes linking countries across Asia, Africa and Europe. Bamboo and rattan can play a large role in 'greening' this initiative: they grow across many of the countries impacted by the Belt and Road Initiative and are resilient, low-carbon alternatives for construction and infrastructure. On 15 May, INBAR launched 'B&R for B&R: A Vision of Bamboo and Rattan for the Belt and Road'. The Vision lays out the ways in which bamboo and rattan are "highly compatible" with the overall objectives of the Belt and Road Initiative.

In the Vision, INBAR reiterates its commitment to "work closely with its Member States and partners... to push forward bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the countries with bamboo and rattan resources and industries along the Belt and Road".

In May, INBAR Director General Dr Hans Friederich also took part in the inaugural Belt and Road Forum, which took place in Beijing and was attended by heads of state from across the world. The forum focused on the need for coordination on policy and infrastructure: a promising signal for INBAR, and one which suggests bamboo and rattan can play a strategic role.



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Sustainable consumption and production

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Bamboo and rattan provide a low-carbon, renewable, resilient alternative to a number of traditional materials, including timber, cement and plastics. Every year, more and more products are developed using bamboo and rattan. By raising awareness about the benefits of these plants in sustainable supply chains, and sharing expertise about how to make bamboo and rattan products, INBAR contributes to SDG 12: encouraging sustainable production and consumption.

▶ Innovating with bamboo ▶

From bicycles and wind turbine blades to drainage pipes, INBAR showcased the more innovative uses for bamboo at the first Global Science, Technology and Innovation (GSTIC) conference, held in Brussels in October. Bamboo was one of six key focus sessions at GSTIC, and INBAR hosted a day of talks with leading experts to raise awareness of this resource.

INBAR's GSTIC speakers covered a wide range of bamboo's potential uses, including earthquake-resistant housing, bicycles, biofuel and as a tool for climate change mitigation and land restoration. Mr Ye Ling, of China's Engineering Research Center for Bamboo Winding Composites (ERCBWC), showcased his company's innovative bamboo winding technology, which is being trialed for everything from storm drainage pipes to high-speed rail compartments. Entrepreneur Bernice Dapaah introduced her Ghana-based bamboo bicycle business, and shared that the business had become an important means for local income creation and women's empowerment. And Dr D.N. Tewari, of the Utthan Centre for Sustainable Development and Poverty Alleviation, presented the results of his award-winning land restoration project in Allahabad, India, which restored severely degraded soil and provided a new source of income to local farmers.

Through the above and similar events, INBAR continues to make the case for bamboo in the private sector, as well as in innovative industrial contexts.



▶ Bringing bamboo composites to the Philippines ◀

In September, with the support of China's National Development and Reform Commission, INBAR and ERCBWC coordinated a Sino-Filipino Dialogue for Innovative Bamboo Technologies in Manila. The aim was to introduce ERCBWC's innovative bamboo processing technology to the Philippines, as a strategic material to help drive low - carbon infrastructure development.

In total, 70 participants attended the dialogue. The group included several high-level figures from the Chinese government delegation to the Philippines, as well as the Philippines' House of Representatives and Climate Change Commission. The dialogue also included participants from non-governmental organisations, research institutes and the private sector.

During the dialogue, participants from China and the Philippines expressed their willingness to support the introduction of the bamboo winding composite industry to the Philippines. With INBAR's facilitation, a Letter of Intention was signed between the Philippines' House of Representatives and the International Innovation Alliance of Bamboo Winding Industry, which commits both parties to further push the bamboo winding composite industry.



"As the current chairperson of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food, I am supporting bamboo industries, primarily because bamboo is a cash crop for farmers and can be a good source of income and livelihood of poor communities."

- Representative speaking on behalf of Cynthia Villar, Senator of the 17th Congress of the Philippines



▶ New work on standards ◀

Developing and monitoring standards for bamboo and rattan products - to ensure they are safe, reliable and of a consistently good quality – improves their marketability and value. This year, INBAR has continued to play a major role in helping develop and publicise bamboo and rattan standards with the ISO.

In August, INBAR attended the second plenary meeting of ISO/Technical Committee (TC) 296: a technical committee that aims to standardise the terminology, specifications and quality requirements for bamboo and rattan products. The meeting saw the launch of a new INBAR-led Working Group that will focus on rattan products. This year, INBAR also helped its Member States Ghana, Kenya and Uganda become Participating Members of this technical committee. This is welcome evidence of INBAR Member States' growing interest in the development of bamboo and rattan international standards.

As well as bamboo products, several standards are currently being developed under ISO/TC 165, which focuses on timber structures. The INBAR Task Force for Structural Uses of Bamboo is leading this work. In September, INBAR attended the plenary meeting of ISO/TC 165 in Vienna, Austria, and updated on the work it is doing as convener of Working Group 12.

▶ Bamboo demonstration houses ◀

INBAR's sister organisation in China, the International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (ICBR), has constructed two pre-fabricated engineered bamboo houses in Inner Mongolia and Fujian province.

The demonstration house is around 45m² in area, and it would take five workers a total of seven days to build. The average price is around 80 per cent of the price of an equivalent timber structure. Due to its modular design, customers can assemble different modules based on individual requirements. It can also be flat-packed and fitted into a standard container for ease of transport. The laminated bamboo fibre is a good option for exterior panels: it has a low density, good durability and dimensional stability.

With several of China's national policies promoting pre-fabricated houses, ICBR is scaling up its plans to build more demonstration houses in Guangzhou and Sichuan provinces to explore its market potential.

Climate change and energy



The UN's Agenda for Sustainable Development makes clear the urgent need to combat climate change. In 2017, INBAR has continued to take part in the global discussion around this topic, and to promote the use of bamboo and rattan as a way to help communities mitigate and adapt to climate change, as well as a source of renewable energy.

Part of the global climate change discussion



Xie Zhenhua, China's Special Representative on Climate Change Affairs, and INBAR Director Dr Hans Friederich

This year, INBAR co-hosted two sessions at the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change COP23 in Bonn, Germany.

COP23 was hosted by the government of Fiji: a low-lying island state and one of the countries most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. INBAR was proud to co-host an event with Fiji on 'Bamboo for Climate Change Action in Small Island Developing States'. At the event, Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Fiji's Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, stressed that bamboo can be used to create diversified income streams for particularly vulnerable groups, such as women, as well as to create earthquake- and typhoon-resilient housing.

INBAR also co-hosted an event on 'Bamboo for Climate Action and South-South Cooperation' with the UNOSSC. At the event, UNOSSC Director Jorge Chediek, INBAR Director Dr Hans Friederich and representatives from the FAO and China's National Development and Reform Council shared very real examples of how bamboo is being used for climate change mitigation and adaptation across INBAR's 43 Member States.

"Bamboo and rattan countries should make full use of INBAR's platform to strengthen cooperation, promote exchanges and achieve win-win results."
- Xie Zhenhua, China's Special Representative on Climate Change Affairs



Secretary General of the Pacific Islands Development Forum, François Martel; UN Special Envoy for Oceans, Peter Thomson; Fiji Assistant Minister, Lorna Eden; and former Ambassador of Grenada to the United Nations, Dessima Williams - all standing next to INBAR Director Dr. Hans Friederich (centre)



UNOSSC Director Jorge Chediek was one of several keynote speakers at INBAR's COP23 events.

▶ Transferring knowledge: charcoal kilns ◀



Bamboo charcoal production provides a good substitute for wood timber charcoal and reduces the pressure on natural forests. As well as this, using bamboo for charcoal-based products provides income-generating options for farmers and communities.

This year, the INBAR-led, IFAD- and EU-funded South-South Knowledge Transfer Strategies project produced a number of training reports on how to set up a bamboo nursery, as well as how to build and operate a bamboo charcoal kiln. All technical reports can be accessed on INBAR's online resource centre, and provide a useable step-by-step guide. Although the major beneficiaries of the South-South project are Ethiopia, Madagascar and Tanzania, INBAR continues to share knowledge products such as these ones across all of its Member States.



Building a bamboo charcoal kiln



Bamboo charcoal can provide a cleaner, renewable source of energy

▶ Innovative agroforestry systems in Ghana ◀

Lack of research on bamboo has limited its use in Africa, particularly as a component of agroforestry systems or as a source of energy.

In 2017, INBAR successfully completed a four-year project to design and set up bamboo agroforestry systems in Ghana, as part of the BiomassWeb initiative, 'Improving Food Security in Africa through Increased System Productivity from Biomass-Based Value Webs'. The research and demonstration sites made several important findings. Bamboo charcoal, it was found, has a similar calorific value to other commonly used biomass resources, and is more environmentally-friendly and cost-effective. When intercropped, bamboo raised the yield of several common plants by up to 28 per cent and increased the soil's carbon content.

More results from the project can be found on INBAR's website. It is hoped these sites will influence the expansion of African biomass use more generally across INBAR Member States and beyond.



Life on land



SDG 15 aims to 'Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems'. Because of its extensive roots system, year-round canopy and high rate of carbon sequestration, more and more governments around the world are using bamboo as a tool for reversing land degradation.

As a network of 43 Member States, covering many millions of hectares of bamboo across the Global South, INBAR is well placed to coordinate the use of bamboo for land restoration.

▶ Attending the UN Convention to Combat Desertification ◀



In September, INBAR attended the UN Convention to Combat Desertification's COP13 in Ordos, China, to co-host an event on 'Bamboo for Landscape Restoration' alongside the FAO and China's State Forestry Administration.

Speakers from the FAO, State Forestry Administration, World Bank and the governments of Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana and Vietnam shared successful case studies of bamboo in landscape restoration, and discussed the benefits it brings for ecosystem resilience and livelihood outcomes. The event also raised several important lessons for INBAR to take forward, including the need to build capacity and raise awareness among its Members. As well as this, participants stressed the need to reach out to new partners, in particular the private sector.

▶ INBAR represented at top-level Chinese think tank ◀

In September, INBAR was delighted to announce the appointment of its Director General, Dr Hans Friederich, as a Member of the China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development (CCICED), for a term of five years.

The CCICED is an international advisory body based in China, which provides expertise to the government on a range of environmental and developmental issues. Dr Friederich was part of a group of 60 distinguished representatives from governments, businesses and international organisations to attend the 2017 session on the Belt and Road Initiative and the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

With Dr Friederich as a member of CCICED, INBAR hopes to promote bamboo and rattan's greater involvement in an important high-level platform about climate change, environmental protection and rural development in China, including land restoration.

▶ Sustainable land management in Ethiopia ◀

INBAR is supplying technical support to a major project that is using bamboo for land and watershed restoration in Ethiopia, as part of the World Bank's 'Sustainable Land Management Programme' (SLMP) initiative. In 2017, the project came closer to its overall aims of deploying bamboo to restore lands and improve the livelihoods of farmers. So far, the project has created seven bamboo nurseries, introduced 13 bamboo species, produced 1.2 million bamboo seedlings and trained almost 1300 people in five regions. Some 215 hectares of new bamboo plantations have also been established.

In May, INBAR welcomed Mr Kebede Yimam, State Minister to the Ethiopian Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) and 17 department heads of the MoEFCC to find out more about their work. In November, Ethiopia's State Minister for Education, Dr Kaba Urgessa, and SLMP Coordinator Mr Habtamu Hailu, also visited China for an INBAR-guided tour of the nation's bamboo regions.

▶ Training in bamboo's ecosystem services ◀

The sheer number of bamboo species, and their different properties, can make it difficult to know how to treat and use them for a range of environmental services. This is one major challenge that the IFAD- and EU-funded South-South Knowledge Transfer Strategies project, led by INBAR, is aiming to tackle through its intensive training programmes taking place in Ethiopia, Madagascar and Tanzania.

In one three-day training course, candidates from each country – 62 overall – received custom-designed teaching about the tools, techniques and skills required to study the hydrological behaviour of bamboo. This training aimed to help participants use bamboo as a way to reduce water run-off, restore degraded soil and improve soil moisture. In another course, 52 students were taught how to collect and analyse data on the environmental metrics of different bamboo species – helping them to empirically validate the environmental benefits of bamboo.





GABAR update

The Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan (GABAR) is a flagship initiative of INBAR. It aims to ‘unlock’ the potential of bamboo and rattan by researching and providing targeted, policy-relevant information. This year, GABAR has made several important strides ahead in documenting and sharing knowledge about bamboo and rattan stocks.

Resource assessments

A core outcome of GABAR is the provision of accurate data about bamboo and rattan species and where they grow. This year, INBAR and Tsinghua University have used innovative geographic information system technology to map out bamboo forests across Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar and Uganda, and have developed a methodology for assessing bamboo forest area. With financial support from the World Agroforestry Centre, GABAR and the Cameroon Agriculture and Rural Development Institute are also conducting a rattan resource assessment and rattan value chain analysis in Cameroon. Next year, the GABAR programme aims to train more of its Members in how to use these methodologies and technology, to contribute to the mapping of a global inventory for bamboo.

Sharing knowledge: GABAR



Several core GABAR documents were published in 2017.

The *World Checklist of Bamboos and Rattans* and *World Atlas of Bamboos and Rattans* were launched in the UK and China. These two publications, produced by the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew for INBAR and ICBR, together provide the most comprehensive taxonomic study of bamboo and rattan species published in recent years. At the launch event in London, Minister to China's Embassy to the UK Mr Ma Hui described bamboo as "green steel", and an important material for the Belt and Road Initiative and UK-China collaboration. In China, INBAR Co-Chair Madame Jiang Zehui introduced the report to an audience of over 100 government representatives and senior officials.

Also under the GABAR project, an updated *Diseases of Bamboos in Asia* was published, as well as a market study of rattan and its contribution to livelihoods in Nepal, and a national strategy for bamboo supply chain development in Rwanda.



"[The World Checklist] is a breakthrough in the bamboo and rattan sector... It has important academic value, and practical significance to guide related research and industrial development of the bamboo and rattan sector"
– Madame Jiang Zehui



The Checklist covers over 1600 bamboo and 600 rattan species. Pictured here: *Hibanobambusa tranquillans* f. *shiroshima*, *Phyllostachys edulis* f. *obliquinoda* and *Indosasa acutiligulata*.



PUBLICATIONS

For a full list of our publications, please see the Resource Centre at www.inbar.int

Policy reports

Diseases of Bamboos in Asia: An Illustrated Manual

Scoping study to inform the Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan (published with the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre)

South-South in Action - Inspiring Sustainable Development with Bamboo (published with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation)

World Atlas and World Checklist of Bamboos and Rattans

Position papers and statements

B&R for B&R: A Vision of Bamboo and Rattan for Belt and Road

Vision on Bamboo and Rattan for ASEAN Sustainable Development

Conference proceedings

Bamboost Conference Programme and Abstracts – conference held at Wageningen University, 25 April 2017

Technical Reports

Technical bulletins on: Process of Bamboo Boat Making; Process of Whole Culm Bamboo Furniture Making; Charcoal Production in Dome Charcoal Kiln; Construction of Brick Charcoal Dome; Propagating Bamboo from Seed; Bamboo Rhizome Propagation and Planting; Macro-Proliferation of Bamboo; Propagating Bamboo through Layering; Propagating Bamboo through Culm Cuttings; Propagating Bamboo through Branch Cuttings. (All published as part of INBAR's work on the EU- and IFAD-funded 'South-South Knowledge Transfer Strategies' project.)

Working Papers

Impacts of INBAR Interventions in Ghana

20th anniversary books

100 Heroes of China's Bamboo Industry

Booming Bamboo: the (re)discovery of a sustainable material with endless possibilities (INBAR provided an introduction to this book, written by Pablo van der Lugt for MOSO International BV)

In Celebration of INBAR's 20th anniversary (Chinese, English)

New translations

Bamboo Test-Kit-In-A-Backpack (French)

Charcoal Production in Dome Charcoal Kiln (French)

Construction of Brick Charcoal Dome (French)

Design Guide for Engineered Bahareque Housing (French, Spanish)

INBAR Annual Report 2016 (Chinese, French, Spanish)

Academic articles published by INBAR staff

Friederich H., Subramony T.P., Kosemund W., Frith O., Wu J., Jayaraman D. 2017. 'Bamboo: A Strategic Resource for Pro-poor, Green Economies'. In Tewari, D.N. (ed.) *Forests and People*. Ocean Books: New Delhi, India.

Partey S.T., Frith O., Kwaku M., Sarfo D.A. 2017. Comparative life cycle analysis of producing charcoal from bamboo, teak and acacia species in Ghana. *International Journal of Lifecycle Assessment*, 22, 758–766.

Partey S.T., Sarfo D.A., Frith O., Kwaku M. 2017. Potentials of bamboo-based agroforestry for sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa: a review. *Agricultural Research*, 6, 22–32.

Zhao Y., Feng D., Jayaraman D., Belay D., Sebrala H., Ngugi J., Maina E., Akombo R., Otuoma J., Mutyaba J., Kissa S., Qi S., Assefa F., Mugure Oduor N., Kalema Ndawula A., Li Y., Gong P. 2017. Bamboo mapping of Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda for the year 2016 using multi-temporal Landsat imagery. *International Journal of Applied Earth Observation and Geoinformation*, 66, 116–125.

Zhiyong L., Zhu Z., Zhang D. 2017. 'The Development of China's Forestry: Present State, Potentials and Prospects'. In Tewari, D.N. (ed.) *Forests and People*. Ocean Books: New Delhi, India.

TRAINING

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Project training and capacity building

This year, INBAR has trained over 5000 people as part of its project work taking place in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda. Training included a wide range of courses on bamboo processing and value chain development, as well as capacity building.

Training and seminars

As in previous years, INBAR also organised several training sessions in collaboration with its sister organisation, ICBR, and with generous financial support from China's Ministry of Commerce. This includes two bilateral training sessions for participants from Ethiopia and Ecuador.

Seminar on Scientific and Technological Innovation Capacity and Standardisation of the Bamboo Industry for Developing Countries, 5–25 May	47 participants from 13 countries took part in this training.
Training course on Bamboo Handicrafts Production Technology for Ethiopia, 15 June–14 July	41 participants from Ethiopia were picked to undertake this intensive course on making value-added bamboo handicrafts.
Bilateral training course on Bamboo Innovative Utilisation and Post-Disaster Reconstruction for Ecuador, 9 August–7 September	29 participants from Ecuador took part in a month-long training course in China.
Seminar on Sustainable Development and Management of Bamboo and Rattan Resources for 'Belt and Road' Countries, 11–31 October	58 participants from 10 countries took part in this course on how bamboo and rattan can be part of the Belt and Road Initiative.
High-level workshop on 'Policy Approaches of Bamboo and Rattan in Sustainable Development and South-South Collaboration', 5–14 November	65 ministers and high-level representatives from 24 countries attended this workshop as part of INBAR's 20th anniversary celebrations.



EVENTS

CGIAR RESEARCH PROGRAM ON FORESTS, TREES AND AGROFORESTRY (FTA) MANAGEMENT MEETING, NAIROBI, KENYA, 18–20 JANUARY	A meeting to discuss INBAR's ongoing partnership with FTA
CAMEROON NATIONAL BAMBOO MEETING, YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON, 17 JANUARY	INBAR presented to prospective donors on its new five-year management plan for the development of bamboo and rattan value chains in four regions of Cameroon
EXPERT MEETING ON REPORTING TO THE UNFF, BRASILIA, BRAZIL, 7–10 FEBRUARY	INBAR highlighted bamboo and rattan's potential in helping achieve the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030 and the UN Forest Instrument
BAMBOO IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT, BOGOR, INDONESIA, 7–10 MARCH	A meeting of the INBAR Construction Task Force
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF FORESTS 2017, BEIJING, CHINA, 21 MARCH	INBAR took part in a tree-planting event to mark this day
NIGERIA INSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT SCOPING VISIT, ABUJA, NIGERIA, 28–31 MARCH	INBAR had a scoping visit and organised a stakeholder forum to develop a roadmap for Nigeria's bamboo and rattan sector
WORKING GROUP MEETING OF THE INBAR COUNCIL, BEIJING, CHINA, 11 APRIL	INBAR hosted its Seventh Council Working Group Meeting of the Tenth INBAR Council
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF ETHIOPIA AND CHINA, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA	INBAR coordinated this visit from China's State Forestry Administration to Ethiopia, and the signing of a memorandum for bilateral forestry cooperation including bamboo
'BAMBOO AND RATTAN FOR ASEAN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT', BEIJING, CHINA, 21 APRIL	INBAR hosted an event of bamboo planting at the Embassy of the Philippines in Beijing, to launch a Vision for bamboo and rattan in ASEAN
BAMBOOST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON BAMBOO UTILISATION, WAGENINGEN, THE NETHERLANDS, 25 APRIL	INBAR co-organised this conference, which included presentations from experts about bamboo's use as fuel, fibre, food and other products
GREEN GOLD BAMBOO SUMMIT, ASSAM, INDIA, 28 APRIL	INBAR attended this conference, which aimed to promote bamboo as an economic tool for livelihood generation in the state of Assam, India
12TH SESSION OF THE UN FORUM ON FORESTS, NEW YORK, USA, 1–5 MAY	INBAR spoke about bamboo and rattan's role and potential in addressing the UN Strategic Plan for Forests 2017–2030
BELT AND ROAD FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, BEIJING, CHINA, 14–15 MAY	INBAR's Director General attended this high-level international summit. INBAR also co-hosted an event with the UN Environment World Conservation Monitoring Centre, to launch a Vision on Bamboo and Rattan for Belt and Road
2ND MULTI-STAKEHOLDER FORUM ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FOR THE SDGS, NEW YORK, USA, 15–16 MAY	INBAR spoke at a technology for sustainable development side event at the Belgian Mission to the UN
FOREST AND LANDSCAPE INVESTMENT FORUM CONFERENCE, KIGALI, RWANDA, 16–17 MAY	INBAR presented on bamboo's uses and business opportunities in agroforestry
SEMINAR ON ENSURING SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION, ROYAL NETHERLANDS EMBASSY, BEIJING, CHINA, 18 MAY	INBAR presented on bamboo and rattan's role in UN SDG 12: sustainable consumption and production
CAMEROON GOVERNMENT DELEGATION TOUR OF LIN'AN AND ANJI, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, CHINA, 21–31 MAY	INBAR accompanied a high-level delegation to showcase China's best practices in sustainable bamboo development
CONSULTATION WORKSHOP WITH ETHIOPIAN MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE, OROMIA, ETHIOPIA, 23 MAY	INBAR briefed Mr Kebede Yimam, the State Minister, and 17 department heads, on the status of its bamboo projects in Ethiopia
ASIAN CLEAN ENERGY FORUM, MANILA, PHILIPPINES, 5–9 JUNE	INBAR met with several partners and organisations at this forum to discuss bamboo's role as a source of clean energy
YES BANK GREEN FINANCE CONFERENCE, MUMBAI, INDIA, 20 JUNE	INBAR promoted bamboo's role in environmental protection and climate change mitigation

'IMPROVING FOOD SECURITY IN AFRICA THROUGH INCREASED SYSTEM PRODUCTIVITY FROM BIOMASS-BASED VALUE WEBS' BIOMASSWEB CONFERENCE, 22 JUNE, ACCRA, GHANA	INBAR organised a workshop on the management and use of bamboo biomass in agroforestry systems
AFRICAN ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDISATION (ARSO) 23RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY, OUAGADOUGOU, BURKINA FASO, 26-30 JUNE	INBAR spoke at this meeting, and met with representatives from a number of INBAR's African Member States
INTERNATIONAL SHANGHAI BAMBOO INDUSTRY EXPO, SHANGHAI, CHINA, 7 JULY	INBAR co-organised the International Bamboo Industry Development Summit during the Expo
VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 12 JULY	INBAR's Board of Trustees convened a virtual meeting
INTERNATIONAL BOTANICAL CONGRESS, SHENZHEN CHINA, 23-25 JULY	INBAR presented at the congress for BARC 2018
20TH MEETING OF ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT, 25 JULY, PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA	INBAR presented its proposed Vision on Bamboo and Rattan for ASEAN Sustainable Development
WORKING GROUP MEETING OF THE INBAR COUNCIL, BEIJING, CHINA, 28 JULY	INBAR hosted its Eighth Council Working Group Meeting of the Tenth INBAR Council
UN HIGH LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, 12-13 JULY, NEW YORK, USA	INBAR spoke at a side event on technology for sustainable development at the Belgian Mission to the UN
JOINT GABAR STAKEHOLDERS WORKSHOP, 20 JULY, BHUBANESWAR, INDIA	INBAR co-organised a 100-strong workshop to discuss the findings of INBAR's GABAR study that was completed for Odisha State, India
ASEAN WORKING GROUP ON FOREST PRODUCTS DEVELOPMENT, 25-25 JULY, PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA	INBAR presented its proposed Vision on Bamboo and Rattan for ASEAN Sustainable Development
'PUTTING BAMBOO AND RATTAN ON THE MAP: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHINA-UK COOPERATION', LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM, 1 AUGUST	INBAR co-hosted this discussion and launch of two publications, the <i>World Atlas</i> and <i>World Checklist of Bamboos and Rattans</i> , with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
ANNUAL MEETING OF ISO/TC 296, JAKARTA, INDONESIA, 22 AUGUST	INBAR attended the second plenary meeting and launched a new INBAR-led Working Group that will focus on rattan products
ANNUAL MEETING OF ISO/TC 165, VIENNA, AUSTRIA, 5-8 SEPTEMBER	At this meeting, INBAR chaired an assembly of ISO/TC 165 Working Group 12, on 'Structural uses of bamboo'
UN CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION COP13, ORDOS, CHINA, 6-16 SEPTEMBER	INBAR co-hosted a side event with the government of Ethiopia and China's State Forestry Administration, on bamboo for landscape restoration
FIFTH INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON BAMBOO AND <i>GUADUA</i> , BOGOTA, COLOMBIA, 18-20 SEPTEMBER	INBAR co-organised this symposium on guadua bamboo, which is native to a large number of countries in Latin America
THE SINO-FILIPINO DIALOGUE FOR INNOVATIVE BAMBOO TECHNOLOGIES, MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES, 18-24 SEPTEMBER	Seventy high-level representatives from China and the Philippines attended this dialogue, co-organised by INBAR
PHOTO EXHIBITION OF BAMBOO AND RATTAN, BEIJING, CHINA, 30 SEPTEMBER-6 NOVEMBER	INBAR hosted two photography exhibitions in Beijing, as part of its 20th anniversary celebrations
INTERNATIONAL UNION OF FOREST RESEARCH ORGANIZATIONS' 125TH ANNIVERSARY CONGRESS, FREIBURG, GERMANY, 18-22 SEPTEMBER	INBAR attended this event to represent bamboo's usefulness in forestry programmes
THE SINO-FILIPINO DIALOGUE FOR INNOVATIVE BAMBOO TECHNOLOGIES, MANILA, THE PHILIPPINES, 18-24 SEPTEMBER	Seventy high-level representatives from China and the Philippines attended this dialogue, co-organised by INBAR
GLOBAL SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION CONFERENCE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM, 23-25 OCTOBER	INBAR hosted a day-long side event on bamboo's place in forest research and forest-based solutions
INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM OF BAMBOO, ACRE, BRAZIL, 23-27 OCTOBER	INBAR presented on bamboo value chains in China and Ecuador

INTERNATIONAL YONG'AN BAMBOO EXPOSITION, FUJIAN, CHINA, 27–29 OCTOBER	INBAR co-organised this Exposition to celebrate World Bamboo Day.
BAMBOO CHARITY SALE, 25 OCTOBER, BEIJING, CHINA	INBAR took part in a stall selling bamboo products donated by Yong'an
INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON BAMBOO'S EFFICIENT UTILISATION AND INNOVATION, 10 NOVEMBER, HANGZHOU, CHINA	INBAR co-organised the forum as part of the 20th anniversary high-level policy workshop
GLOBAL SOUTH-SOUTH DEVELOPMENT EXPO, ANTALYA, TURKEY, 29 NOVEMBER	INBAR launched the report 'Inspiring Sustainable Development with Bamboo' with the UN Office for South-South Cooperation
MEETING OF THE INBAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BEIJING, CHINA, 4–5 NOVEMBER	INBAR's Board of Trustees convened its 21st meeting
ON GLOBAL BAMBOO AND RATTAN RESOURCE ASSESSMENT (GABAR) AND DISCUSSION, 6 NOVEMBER, 2017, BEIJING, CHINA	Panellists from a wide range of organisations, including the Global Green Growth Institute and the World Food Programme, discussed GABAR within an international context
BRAZIL FLAG RAISING CEREMONY, BEIJING, CHINA, 6 NOVEMBER	INBAR held an event to celebrate the accession of Brazil to INBAR
INBAR'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY, BEIJING, CHINA, 6 NOVEMBER	INBAR hosted a day of celebrations to mark its 20th birthday, attended by over 100 high-level representatives from INBAR Member State governments and partners.
STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN INBAR AND THE MEISHAN MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT, BEIJING, CHINA, 6 NOVEMBER	INBAR signed an agreement with Meishan, to coincide with its 20th anniversary celebrations
MEETING OF THE INBAR COUNCIL, BEIJING, CHINA, 7 NOVEMBER	INBAR's Council convened its Tenth Session, at which Ecuador was appointed as the new Council President and Cameroon as the Vice-President.
UN FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE COP23, BONN, GERMANY, 10–16 NOVEMBER	INBAR representatives spoke in plenary, and organised two side events on bamboo for small island developing states and South-South Cooperation
ETHIOPIAN DELEGATION TOUR OF CHINESE BAMBOO REGIONS, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, CHINA, 11–20 NOVEMBER	INBAR accompanied a high-level Ethiopian delegation around a number of bamboo counties
INTERNATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE, SHENZHEN, CHINA, 23 NOVEMBER	INBAR made the case for bamboo and rattan in private sector corporate social responsibility programmes
RENEWABLE ENERGY AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY WORKSHOP, KATHMANDU, NEPAL, 1-2 DECEMBER	INBAR attended a validation workshop organised by ICIMOD and UNIDO on the establishment of the Himalaya-Hindukush Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency
APPROVAL OF INBAR'S OBSERVER STATUS TO THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, NEW YORK, USA, 7 DECEMBER	The UN General Assembly voted to grant INBAR Observer status during its 67th plenary meeting of the 72nd session in New York
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CHINA COUNCIL FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT, BEIJING, CHINA, 9 DECEMBER	INBAR's Director General attended his first meeting as a member of the Council's Phase VI; INBAR also co-organised a parallel forum on the Belt and Road Initiative and SDGs
TWENTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES GOVERNING COUNCIL, THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS, 7-8 DECEMBER	INBAR, in its capacity as the International Commodity Body of bamboo and rattan, presented at the meeting
'SMART URBAN DEVELOPMENT: FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL ACTIONS', YAOUNDÉ, CAMEROON, 12-14 DECEMBER	INBAR presented on bamboos' innovative uses in urban environments
INBAR-CIFOR BIOENERGY POLICY WORKSHOP, ACCRA, GHANA, 14 DECEMBER	INBAR organised a workshop on bamboo charcoal production in Ghana
FORESTS, TREES AND AGROFORESTRY (FTA) MANAGEMENT TEAM MEETING AND FTA SCIENCE WORKSHOP, BONN, GERMANY, 16-19 DECEMBER	INBAR attended this meeting to discuss and develop the Programme of Work Plan and Budget with FTA

Meetings with Ministers and Ambassadors

22 January	A delegation from Myanmar met with INBAR Co-Chair Madame Jiang at the International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan in Beijing, China
7—10 February	Senator Jorge Viana, from the Federal Senate of Brazil, met INBAR HQ staff in Brazil
8 March	A delegation from the Fiji Embassy in Beijing, headed by Ambassador Major-General (Retired) Ioane Naivalurua, visited INBAR HQ
13 March	A delegation from the Philippine Embassy in Beijing, headed by Ambassador Jose Santiago L. Sta. Romana, visited INBAR HQ
28—30 March	The Joint Secretary of the Ministry for the Development of the North-East Region of India, Mr Satya Narayan Pradhan, met INBAR HQ staff in India
6 April	The President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Dr Mulatu Teshome, and the Ambassador of China to Ethiopia, Mr La Yifan, visited INBAR's East Africa Office
10 April	The Ambassador of India in China, Mr Shri Vijay Gokhale, met INBAR staff in Beijing
11 May	A delegation from the ASEAN-China Centre, headed by Yang Xiuping, Ambassador of China to ASEAN and Secretary-General of ACC, visited INBAR HQ
11 May	The Vice-Minister of Agrarian Policy in Peru, Benjamín Quijandría Salmón, met with INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean Office in Peru
22 May	The Ambassador of Canada to China, Mr John McCallum, met INBAR staff in Beijing
23 May and 29 November	A delegation from Ethiopia's Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, headed by State Minister Mr Kebede Yiman, met with staff from INBAR's East Africa Office.
4—9 June	The Director General of the ASEAN-Philippines National Secretary, Ma. Hellen Barber De La Vega, and the Philippine Senator Cynthia Villar, met INBAR staff in the Philippines
28 June	The Ambassador of Timor-Leste to China, Mr Bendito dos Santos Freitas, met INBAR staff in Beijing
5 July	A delegation from the Mauritius Embassy in Beijing, headed by Ambassador Mr André Lee Hon Chong, visited INBAR HQ
6 July	The Ambassador of Cambodia to China, Mrs Khek Cai Mealy Sysoda, met INBAR staff in Beijing
28 July	A delegation of government officials from Maharashtra State, India, visited INBAR HQ
2 August	Ecuador's Minister of the Environment, Mr Tarcisio Granizo, had a meeting with INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean Office
24 August	Cambodia's Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, Veng Sakhon, met INBAR staff in Cambodia
6 September	Ecuador's Minister of Agriculture and Livestock, Mrs Vanessa Cordero, had a meeting with INBAR's Latin America and Caribbean Office
22 September	The Vice-Minister of Environment of Colombia, Mr Carlos Botero, met with INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean Office
26 October	The Governor of Acre state, Brazil, Mr Tião Viana, met with INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean Office
31 October	A delegation from the Burundi Embassy in Beijing, headed by Ambassador Mr Mbazumutima Martin, visited INBAR HQ
22 November	A delegation from the Senegal Embassy in Beijing, headed by Mr Mamadou Ndiaye, visited INBAR HQ
23 November	The Ambassador of Uganda to China, Dr Crispus Kiyonga, met INBAR staff in Beijing
24 November	Ambassador of Brazil to Ecuador, Mr Carlos Lazary Teixeira, had a meeting with INBAR's Latin American and Caribbean Office
6 December	A delegation from the government of Fiji, headed by Mereseini Vuniwaqa, Minister for Women, Children and Poverty Alleviation, visited INBAR HQ



BRAZIL JOINS INBAR

As part of INBAR's 20th anniversary celebrations, representatives from embassies, ministries, INBAR Member States and partners were invited to take part in a flag raising ceremony for INBAR's newest Member: Brazil. At the ceremony, a range of speakers – including Madame Jiang Zehui, Co-Chair of INBAR's Board of Trustees; Mr Antonia Hugh, Ambassador of Jamaica in Beijing; Mr Jorge Viana, Senator of Brazil; and representatives from China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and State Forestry Administration – congratulated Brazil on its accession and stated how they looked forward to enhanced cooperation within INBAR's growing family. Brazil's Ambassador to China, Marcos Caramuru de Paiva, and INBAR Director General Dr. Hans Friederich raised the Brazilian flag.

Home to diverse wildlife and extensive natural forests, including over one million hectares of bamboo forest and 232 species of bamboo, Brazil is an important addition to INBAR's growing network. In a speech to attendees, Senator Jorge Viana said that, "For Brazil, the time is right for bamboo and rattan" – a sentiment INBAR wholeheartedly supports.

Ambassador to Brazil, Marcos Caramuru de Paiva, and INBAR Director General Dr Hans Friederich raise the Brazilian flag – the 43rd to fly outside INBAR's Headquarters



BARC 2018

Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress

世界竹藤大会