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President's Report on a Proposed Grant under the Global/Regional Window to the International Network for the Bamboo and Rattan for the Programme Innovation and Promotion of Bamboo through Action Research Processes for Resilient Agriculture in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

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For: Approval

Recommendation for approval

The Executive Board is invited to approve the recommendation for the proposed grant as contained in paragraph 22.

President's Report on a Proposed Grant under the Global/Regional Window to the International Network for the Bamboo and Rattan (INBAR) for the Programme Innovation and Promotion of Bamboo through Action Research Processes for Resilient Agriculture in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru

Background and compliance with IFAD Policy for Grant Financing

- 1. The Amazon region of Colombia, Ecuador and Peru (CEP) is part of the planet's largest fluvial biome and is massively important from a biodiversity and ecosystem services standpoint. Oil exploitation, mining, agricultural expansion of industrial monocultures (palm, soybeans, pasture grasses), illegal logging, and illicit crop cultivation are having a deleterious impact on the biological wealth of these areas and the local populations that rely on this heritage.
- 2. Bamboo has been used in CEP since pre-Columbian times. Nevertheless, it is a vast untapped strategic resource that can be used to better manage climate change, as it provides both beneficial "ecosystem services" and new income sources for the rural populations of these countries. Communities are including bamboo in their strategies for climate change adaption and mitigation, given its rapid growth and ability to quickly recover from extreme weather events. Indeed, national bamboo-related climate change policies and rural development investments offer an excellent opportunity to boost the effectiveness of national plans.
- 3. Bamboo use is trending upward in the tourism and construction sectors in the Amazon region, and agricultural and environmental authorities Servicio Forestal y de Fauna Silvestre (SERFOR) in PERU, Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganaderia (MAG) in Ecuador, and the Ministry of Environment in Colombia have developed legal and regulatory frameworks for bamboo management. In addition, the New Urban Agenda adopted at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in 2016 has helped to promote the use of renewable materials (such as bamboo) in public works and urban infrastructure projects. However, the full potential of bamboo as an economic and social catalyst has yet to be grasped.
- 4. The proposed grant seeks to harness bamboo's potential as a readily available natural resource to restore degraded land and mitigate climate change in alignment with CEP national strategies for climate change and the Paris Agreement. It also aims to provide a means for rural communities to develop new bamboo-based pathways for income generation. It will create a body of regional research, increase both awareness of bamboo's benefits and the technical capabilities of rural households and build knowledge bridges between CEP and Asian countries (China and India). Indeed, the project is based on shared challenges and solutions/opportunities within CEP Amazon regions that will be addressed through South-South and Triangular Cooperation strategies, thus providing CEP with evidence-based bamboo policy approaches and practices for development. These

- key points are aligned with the main recommendations highlighted in the Beijing Declaration issued at the Global Bamboo and Rattan Congress (June 2018).
- 5. The proposed programme is consistent with the goal and objectives of the IFAD Policy for Grant Financing (2015)¹ and other corporate priorities in the following ways: (i) it promotes innovative, pro-poor bamboo farming system approaches and technologies with the potential to be scaled up for greater impact; (ii) it strengthens the institutional and policy-making capacity of key national ministries, subnational government institutions, research agencies and local civil society and private sector stakeholders in sustainable bamboo resource management and new bamboo technologies and innovation; (iii) it furthers advocacy and policy engagement, creating an enabling policy environment for bamboo sector development; and (iv) it generates and shares knowledge about the importance of bamboo farming systems, climate resilience and pro-poor value chains and market development.
- 6. The grant will directly contribute to all the strategic objectives (SOs) in IFAD's Strategic Framework 2016-2025, which focus on poor rural people by: SO1 increasing their productive capacities (in a sustainable and resilient manner); SO2 increasing their benefits from market participation (while enabling them to better manage related risks); and SO3 strengthening the environmental sustainability and climate resilience of their economic activities. This intervention will pursue these SOs in an integrated manner, based on target groups' needs and priorities.

II. The proposed programme

- 7. The overall goal of the programme is to increase the climate change resilience of rural smallholders in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru through diversified bamboo production systems. To meet this goal, the project will allow for inputs in: awareness raising, research, knowledge strengthening, technology transfer, entrepreneurial opportunities, social empowerment (especially of women and youth) and a vigorous monitoring and evaluation plan.
- 8. The objectives are: (i) governance improvements at the subnational and local levels; (ii) farmers effectively employ climate-smart bamboo practices; (iii) profitable bamboo microenterprises are launched; (iv) learning and new knowledge are effectively disseminated to reinforce and scale up successes.
- 9. The target group will consist of small-scale farmers (and cooperatives) and indigenous peoples living in rural areas. Area selection will be based on: above average rural poverty and extreme poverty indicators, the existence of natural bamboo stands and/or their production or degraded agricultural areas suitable for restoration. Indirect target groups will include local governments and representatives from the Ministries of Environment and Agriculture, national universities with ongoing research programmes and civil society organizations involved in alternative development. It is anticipated that beneficiaries will include at least 2,200 small-scale farming and indigenous households (with at least 45 per cent women and 30 per cent youth).
- 10. The programme will be implemented over three years and will have the following components: 1. subnational governance; 2. climate change; 3. livelihood development; and 4. knowledge management and South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC).

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¹ See EB 2015/114/R.2/Rev.1.

- 11. The following activities will be conducted:
- 12. Component 1 Subnational governance: (a) systematic reviews (one per country) of international, national, regional and local policies and regulations that support/impede development of the bamboo sector; (b) participatory development and validation of subnational strategies for bamboo development; and (c) implementation of subnational bamboo roundtables, bringing government officials, businesses and communities together (one per country).
- 13. Component 2 Climate change: (a) rapid rural livelihood assessments to prioritize beneficiary groups, including bamboo forest/plantation assessment, ecosystem services and a comparative analysis of bamboo monocropping vs intercropping systems (Global Assessment of Bamboo and Rattan[GABAR]); (b) sustainable bamboo management trainings for smallholder farmers, community leaders and technical specialists; and (c) participatory guarantee groups (two per country) to help develop pilot demonstration scenarios/models to incentivize climate-smart bamboo practices at the farm level.
- 14. Component 3 Livelihood development: (a) country market studies, including the assessment of existing bamboo products in the region and global trends; (b) a regional feasibility study for right-size technologies suited to local conditions (c) development of local incentive proposals for bamboo market access; (d) reinforcement of technical skills and capabilities in bamboo transformation and marketing; (e) the establishment of community cluster enterprises using low-cost technology equipment; and (f) the development of commercial linkages with downstream actors, including the private sector, cooperatives, consumers and civil society.
- 15. Component 4 Knowledge management and SSTC: (a) overarching communication plan for national, regional and international information sharing; (b) a bamboo communication campaign that includes the targeting of women and youth to inform the public about bamboo's potential; (c) the organization of a trilateral multi-stakeholder project inception workshop, sub-thematic round table workshops/events and a wrap-up workshop that includes INBAR Latin American and the Caribbean (LAC) countries; (d) the organization of knowledge exchange sessions/events (regional study tours/workshops); (e) the preparation and publication of bamboo training/awareness/sensitization materials for priority groups; and (f) the development and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system.

III. Expected outcomes/outputs

16. The programme is expected to have the following outcomes: (i) improved enabling conditions at the subnational and local levels (e.g., policies, institutions, guidelines, networks) for the development and introduction of bamboo management and production schemes; (ii) climate-smart bamboo practices adopted by smallholder farmers in the Amazon region of the three countries; (iii) small bamboo enterprise models implemented and access to markets by smallholders increased, improving their livelihood diversification and economic income generation; and (iv) focus group of leaders, stakeholders and residents of the project area in CEP informed about the uses, benefits and potential of bamboo from producers to consumers through enduring knowledge networks and strategic partnerships.

IV. Implementation arrangements

- 17. INBAR is the grant recipient and implementing agency and will be responsible for overall programme execution and coordination with partners. The programme will be directly supervised by IFAD in close collaboration and coordination with INBAR.
- 18. A project manager based in INBAR's regional office in Quito, Ecuador, will be responsible for managing the grant in accordance with the results-based

management approach. The manager will oversee a core grant implementation team consisting of two national technical coordinators based in country project offices, a knowledge management and communications specialist and a project finance officer, both based in Quito. Each project office in Colombia and Peru will have a dedicated administrative staff member. The three country teams will include one field support staff member in each country to coordinate activities.

- 19. INBAR is a highly specialized organization and unique in its representational mandates; it therefore has no competitors. In light of the above, pursuant to paragraph 15 of the Policy for Grant Financing, INBAR was selected as the recipient of this grant through direct attribution.
- 20. There are no deviations from standard financial reporting and audit procedures.

V. Indicative programme costs and financing

21. The total programme cost is US\$2,500,000; US\$2,000,000 of which will be financed by IFAD and US\$500,000 by INBAR; US\$395,000 of the latter in-kind and US\$105,000 in cash.

Table 1
Costs by component and financier
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Components	IFAD	INBAR	Total
Subnational governance	255	76	331
2. Climate change	530	142	672
3. Livelihood development	556	66	622
4. Knowledge management and SSTC	511	216	727
5. Overhead	148	-	148
Total	2 000	500	2 500

Table 2
Costs by expenditure category and financier
(Thousands of United States dollars)

Expenditure category	IFAD	INBAR	Total
Salaries and allowances	541	150	691
2. Equipment and materials	175	-	175
3. Operating costs	152	75	227
4. Goods, services and inputs	178	20	198
5. Travel and allowances	185	40	225
6. Consultancies	191	35	226
7. Training	312	175	487
8. Workshops	118	5	123
9. Overhead	148		148
Total	2 000	500	2 500

VI. Recommendation

22. I recommend that the Executive Board approve the proposed grant in terms of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: that the Fund, in order to finance, in part, the programme Innovation and Promotion of Bamboo through Action Research Processes for Resilient Agriculture in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, shall provide a grant of two million United States dollars (US\$2,000,000) to the International Network for the Bamboo and Rattan for a period of 36 months upon such terms and conditions as shall be substantially in accordance with the terms and conditions presented to the Executive Board herein.

Gilbert F. Houngbo President

Results-based logical framework

	Objectives hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
Goal	Increase Climate Change resilience of rural smallholders in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru through diversified bamboo production systems	1. 90 % of target group smallholder's beneficiaries diversified their livelihoods with bamboo-based solutions	Quarterly monitoring reports. Final evaluation report	Smallholder farmers/ indigenous people, government / research institutions/civil society/private sector partners, donor and implementing agencies considered diversified bamboo production systems as suitable land management approach to reduce Climate Change vulnerability.
Objectives	Outcome 1 (O1). Improved enabling conditions at the subnational and local levels (e.g., policies, institutions, guidelines, networks) for the development and uptake of bamboo management and production schemes. O2. Adopted bamboo climate smart practices by smallholder farmers in the amazon region of the three countries. O3. Implemented small bamboo enterprise models and access to market by smallholders improving their livelihood diversification and economic income generation O4. Informed the focal group of leaders, stakeholders and inhabitants of the project area in CEP about the uses, benefits and potential of bamboo from producers to consumers, trough lasting knowledge networks and strategic alliances.	O1.1. Three Subnational Bamboo Strategies aligned to national/subnational frameworks, validated by stakeholders and approved by authority (per country). O1.2. One public-private policy dialogue mechanism on bamboo issues per country set up at subnational level. O2.1. 1540 smallholder farms implement bamboo climate smart practices (70% beneficiaries) O2.2. 60% of positive feedback delivered from trained participants and new practitioners (level of critical engagement). O3.1. Two partnership contracts for market access (per country). O3.2. 90 small farmers involved in transformation or value added processes. O3.3. 1100 of small farmers (50% beneficiaries) with increased annual income by at least 20%. O4.1. 30.000 inhabitants of the project countries are aware about bamboos uses, benefits and potential. O4.2. 50 % of participant (public, private, indigenous) in knowledge exchange events, have included bamboo initiatives at their working/daily activities (level of critical engagement).	O1.1. Bamboo Strategy document for each country O1.2. Policy mechanisms dialogue meeting reports O2.1. Monitoring report - Quarterly report O2.2. Report of Feedback (surveys, statistics) from participant's events, workshops. O3.1. Partnership contracts O3.2. Quarter project reports O3.3. Livelihood assessment Report (Year 1); Survey report of beneficiaries household incomes (Year 3) O4.1. Social media monitoring report (feeds, interactions, exchanges, views). O4.2. Final Report of Regional Exchanges Experiences O4.3. Survey, Feedbacks from users reports. O4.4. Post Training Evaluation of participants to knowledge exchange events	O1: Project Champion within national partner agency is a reference to implement enabling policy./ Sub regional governments are committed to sustainability options and bamboo is on the scope as a strategic resource./ Government willingness to invest and require studies O2: Willingness of participation of rural farmers, groups of women, youth and associations./ Local knowledge and CSA available for technical assistance on bamboo Universities and experts interested in bamboo research O3: Increased demand for bamboo added value products, sub products and materials at local, national and scale./ Key private partners active on segments of bamboo value chain. O4: Engagement of Public/Private Media for bamboo information spreading./ Synergies with other knowledge regional platforms./ Availability of learning materials, replicability, gender and intercultural approaches
Outputs	Output 1.1 (OP1.1). A set of policy studies and recommendations to increase transparency on bamboo development elaborated. OP1.2 Consensus oriented processes through roundtables, workshops at subnational level implemented. OP2.1 RRLA and baseline socioeconomic and environmental studies related to the potential of bamboo (GABAR) in the area of the project influence conducted. OP2.2 Training, field visits, and incentivization bamboo climate-smart practices, developed and implemented. OP3.1 Feasibility studies and incentives proposals for associative and micro-enterprises including economics, technical, technological and market access aspects for small farmers/entrepreneurship developed.	OP1.1.1 Three Policy systematization reports (one per country) delivered to governmental authorities and counterparts. OP1.2.1 Three sub-national bamboo sectoral roundtables implemented and operating. OP2.1.1 Three RRLA (one per country) including bamboo forest/plantation assessment ecosystem services with particular focus on water, soil, biodiversity and carbon values. OP2.1.2 One comparative analysis/opportunity Cost of representative bamboo mono-cropping vs inter-cropping systems OP2.2.1 600 smallholders/indigenous people trained "Bamboo Farmer Field School approach" (per country). OP2.2.2 120 community leaders and technical specialists trained and competence certified "train to trainers approach".	OP1.1.1.Local Policy Brief delivered to local government OP1.2.1 Action Plan for Sub-national sectoral roundtable for bamboo (per country) OP2.1.1 Scoping study of livelihood and bamboo forest/plantation assessment (adapted methodology) OP2.1.2 GABAR studies elaborated OP2.2.1 Records, statistics report of participants assistance disaggregated by gender and age OP2.2.2/3.Report of Feedback(surveys, statistics) from participants events, workshops. (Train to Trainers), Bamboo Assessment. OP2.2.4 Follow up filed visit mechanism methodology document and visit reports OP3.1.1 Market Study Report on selected value chains (i.e. fibers, charcoal, shoot, housing)	OP1.1 Public information is available and free for access./ Local Governments, counterpart institutions and local partners have the political willingness to support the process for the construction of sub-national strategies. OP1.2 Local Bamboo stakeholders and public sector representatives willing to collaborate voluntarily. OP2.1 Communities in the amazon interested in bamboo management./ Field Bamboo Practitioners an local farmers/indigenous people willing to collaborate./ National authorities are committed to include bamboo as a resource to tackle climate change./ Universities and local experts interested in sharing and participate research. OP2.2 Field Bamboo Practitioners an local farmers/indigenous people willing to collaborate

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3. Public information and studies on Bamboo Market and technologies is available and free for

	Objectives hierarchy	Objectively verifiable indicators	Means of verification	Assumptions
	OP3.2 Community/private business models including the development of technical skills for bamboo transformation, implemented and transferred. OP4.1 Communications strategy for bamboo uses, benefits and potential, elaborated and implemented OP4.2 Knowledge networks of bamboo technical information and South-South Cooperation implemented.	OP2.2.3 75 Technical specialists trained in bamboo methodology assessment OP2.2.4 Six Participatory Guarantee Groups (two per country) to help develop demonstrative pilot scenarios/models to incentivize bamboo climate-smart practices at the farm level. OP3.1.1 One Report of market study with focus on selected bamboo chains trends and business intelligence analysis (per country). OP3.1.2 One Feasibility study with CBA to implement units of technology and facilities adapted to bamboo added value chains (per country). OP3.2.1 Six Community Cluster Enterprises (CCE) piloted by selected organized groups OP3.2.2 Four national-level business tables and one regional business and trade exchange fair for inclusive markets among entrepreneurs and large private companies implemented. OP4.1.1 One overarching communication plan for national, regional and international information sharing, designed and approved by main project partners. OP4.1.2 360 stakeholders (focused on women and young people) participated in sessions about bamboo benefits (six events) OP4.2.1 30 multi-stakeholders participate in a project Inception and wrap up workshops, including representatives from INBAR LAC Member Countries. (2 events) OP4.2.2 10 representatives of the bamboo sector take part in three high-medium level training sessions related to policy influence, green development and climate change. OP4.2.3 Three technical experiences exchanges South-South among Colombia, Peru, Ecuador. OP4.2.5 One Project Monitoring system in operation alignment with the main project indicators	elaborated (per country). OP3.1.2 Feasibility study document with CBA to implement units of technology and facilities adapted to bamboo OP3.2.1 Legal stablished document and/or related legal instrument for CCE's OP3.2.2 Purchase contract agreement. OP4.1.1 Regional Plan approved by stakeholders. OP4.1.2 Local mass media publications, magazines articles, journal news products with project logos. OP4.1.3 Statistics report of participants to events disaggregated by gender, age, number of feedbacks at social media monitoring report. OP4.2.1 Minutes of workshop. OP4.2.2/3/4 Workshop Report OP4.2.5 Quarterly Report - Performance Data - Indicators.	voluntarily./ Extension Services of Government at local level willing to participate/support the project./ Train of Trainers approaches availability. /Stakeholders recognised bamboo as an strategic natural resource for climate change adaptations and mitigation. OP3.1Public information and studies on NWFP is available and free for access./Field Bamboo Practitioners willing to collaborate voluntarily./ Governments and Academia with advanced technologies for bamboo management are open to sign agreements and share information/knowledge. OP3.2 Academia and companies want to work with farmers to improve supply chains. /Availabilit of low cost equipment for wide dissemination./Local associations and organizations are committed to entrepreneurial with bamboo./Key private and public partners are active in segments of the value chain. Companies want to work with farmers to improve supply chains & farmers willing to form cooperatives to enhance competitively and adequate supply. OP 4.1 Consumers, Farmers, researchers consulted to co-develop options and take action. OP 4.2 National Counterparts have the political willingness to support./Farmers, researchers, employees, companies candidates involved in bamboo are willing to participate. /Bamboo researchers and practitioners interested in providuraining and design support to local governments, NGO and private initiatives.
Key activities by component	Component 1. Subnational Governance: 1.1 Preparation of systematic reviews (one per country) of international, national, regional and local policies that support/impede the development of bamboo sector; 1.2 Participatory development and validation of sub-national strategies for bamboo development Component 2. Climate Change: 2.1 Development of rapid rural livelihood assessments (RRLA); 2.2 Implementation of sustainable bamboo's management training	1.1.1 Three policy reports elaborated 1.2.1 Six workshops (two per country) with bamboo stakeholders to validate the Subnational Bamboo strategies. 2.1.1 Three Reports of Rapid Rural Livelihood Assessment (one per country) 2.2.1Training Plan developed and in operation 2.3.1 Six bamboo nurseries stablished (two per country)./ 54 km of farm boundaries planted with bamboo./ 240 ha of bamboo systems areas managed or implemented.	1.1.1.Local Policy Brief delivered 1.1.2 Records of participation to from stakeholders 2.1.1 RRLA report assessment. 2.2.1 Training Plan document and report of participants. 2.3.1 GIS Report and records of bamboo plots system. 3.1.1 Market Study Report 3.1.3 Incentives proposals for bamboo market	1. Local Governments, counterpart institutions and local partners have the political willingness to support the process for the construction of subnational strategies. 2. Stakeholders recognised bamboo as an strategic natural resource for climate change adaptations and mitigation. /Train of Trainers approaches availability. /Existing forestry/environmental services & community nursery systems that include or are willing to include bamboo.

access.

3.2.3 Records of participation to Field

3.1.1 One market report study and one feasibility study on selected bamboo chains and technology.

sustainable bamboo's management training processes; 2.3 Establishment of PGG to help develop bamboo demonstrative pilot scenarios

		Assumptions
Component 3. Livelihoods Development: 3.1 Elaboration market and feasibility studies including assessment of existing bamboo products in the region and global trends; 3.2 Development of local incentives proposals for bamboo market access; 3.3 Improve technical skills and capabilities in bamboo transformation and marketing in already existing training facilities; 3.4 Establishment of CCE in three countries using low cost technology equipment Component 4. KM and SSC: 4.1 Elaboration and implementation an overarching communication plan for national, regional and international information sharing; 4.2 Organization of multistakeholder trilateral project inception workshop, roundtable sub-thematic workshops/events, wrapup workshop and knowledge exchange sessions/events; 4.3 Production and publication of bamboo related training/awareness/sensitization materials for priority groups; 4.4 Development and implementation of a monitoring and evaluation system	Trainings/events 3.2.1 CCE Operation plan 4.1.2 Local mass media publications, magazines articles, journal news products with project logos. 4.1.3Statistics report of participants to events disaggregated by gender, age, number of feedbacks at social media monitoring report 4.2.1 Printed documents related to each project component 4.2.5 Quarterly Report - Performance Data - Indicators	access./ Governments and Academia with advanced technologies for bamboo management are open to sign agreements and share information/knowledge./ Academia and companies want to work with farmers to improve supply chains. /Local associations and organizations are committed to entrepreneurial with bamboo. 4. Farmers, researchers, employees, companies candidates involved in bamboo are willing to participate./ National Counterparts have the political willingness to support media events./Bamboo researchers and practitioners interested in provide training and design support to local governments, NGO and private initiatives.