

## **Talking Points**

Theme of this session is ‘win-win partnerships’ and I’m here to say that I agree! When you’re one organization you can do something. But when you’re two or more organizations pulling in the same direction, cooperating with each other in a collaborative way, positive change is deepened and broadened in ways that could not be achieved by working with only one organization.

The CABI ‘Priority Area’ in which INBAR stands to contribute to in significant ways is Number 5: Biodiversity and ecosystem management (incl. invasives species management). More on that in a moment!

First, a word on INBAR: brief intro including mandate, members, technical work areas, Task Forces, GABAR ...

INBAR in AP: 13 Member States, 8 of which are also Members of CABI. Those are Bangladesh, China, India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Vietnam and Sri Lanka.

Now back to Priority Area 5. A recent internal discussion at INBAR about classification of some bamboos as invasives highlights the need for a sensitive touch and further discussion. Let me explain:

- “Invasive” according to IUCN and CBD
- “Invasive” according to whom? One or two research scientists, one or two countries?
- Should we not include other screens by which we classify something as invasive? Screens or filters like a species’ economic benefits to a country or a species rate of growth depending on factors like soil type and rain fall?

These questions to illustrate how rich the discussion can be. We could think of facilitating a discussion together and of sharing the fruits of a discussion like that together. And maybe as a consequence, more or less species of bamboo would make it to the ISC!

The other area of potential collaboration regards GABAR. More on this!

These two ideas – our two organizations (and others!) tapping into a rich vein of discussion about bamboo invasiveness, and GABAR – don’t mean there aren’t others. For example, I could easily imagine things we can do together in CABI’s Priority Area 1 (Trade and market access) and Priority Area (KM, communication and use). I highlight these two simply to illustrate the potential public good we could do in working together and together with those Member States we have in common.

Thank you.