

World Bamboo Organization
9 Bloody Pond Road, Plymouth, MA 02360 USA
Susanne Lucas, Executive Director / Michel Abadie, President / Jeffree Trudeau, Special Project
Director / Lisa Santos, Secretary Treasurer
info@worldbamboo.net



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Our Open Invitation

The World Bamboo Organization is extremely happy to announce the **9th World Bamboo Congress** is to be held in **Antwerp, Belgium** on **10-13 April, 2012**. **The theme of this event is Bamboo Biosciences, Bioengineering and Agroforestry Potentials.**

We are fortunate to have enthusiastic, competent organizers working with us from locally-headquartered IKEBANA (International Knowledge and Expertise centre Bamboo), alongside the University of Antwerp, to see this event a success. The generous financial sponsorship coming from the European Union, the local Flanders EFRD, local Antwerp provincial offices, Oprins Plant NV, and Genicap, gives us confidence and leverage to provide attendees a truly informative and beneficial conference experience.

Each World Bamboo Congress is positioned as a catalyst for dissemination of the most current scientific and field research information available worldwide in order to promote the sustainable and realistic utilization of bamboo for myriad of potentials, as well as to effectively promote the expansion of species-specific bamboo plantations for regional production and modern opportunities.

The 4 day event will include lectures divided into distinct categories relating to Science and Society (culture and economics). Focus will be on current status and future potential, include Regional Reports and conclude with a workshop entitled, "Bamboo - a 50-year Perspective". The last day will consist of optional tours of interest. All presentations will be compiled electronically into the 9th WBC Proceedings and be made available to all attendees as valuable resource for future reference.

Additionally, stay tuned for announcements and updates regarding the second stage of the 9th World Bamboo Congress, to take place from **17- 21 September, Toulouse FRANCE**, with a specific theme focused on Bamboo Design Innovation and Architecture .

Contact :

WBC Secretariat:

Ms. Frances Schutte // Email: secretariat@worldbamboocongress.org

Universiteit Antwerpen / Dep. Bio-ingenieurswetenschappen

Groenenborgerlaan 171 / B-2020 Antwerpen BE // Tel: +32 3 265 3569 / Fax: +32 3 265 3225



World Bamboo

The WBO is a tax-exempt trade association (501-c6) formed to facilitate the exchange of information from around the world on the environmental, socioeconomic, biological, and cultural aspects of bamboo. By bringing together local and regional bamboo people and creating mechanisms for global communications, the WBO's goal is to facilitate the development of new partnerships and alliances to advance the causes of bamboo and furthering the efforts of bamboo practitioners worldwide. www.worldbamboo.net