

5 REASONS TO #THINKBAMBOO

1 BAMBOO - A UNIQUE PLANT

- ▶ There are **1642 known species** of bamboo.
- ▶ Bamboo is technically a **grass plant**, but can grow up to 35 metres tall and up to 30 cm in diameter.
- ▶ Bamboo covers over **30 million hectares of land across the world** - in Africa, Asia, and Latin America.
- ▶ Bamboo is the **fastest growing plant in the world**. Certain species can grow up to 91 cm a day.

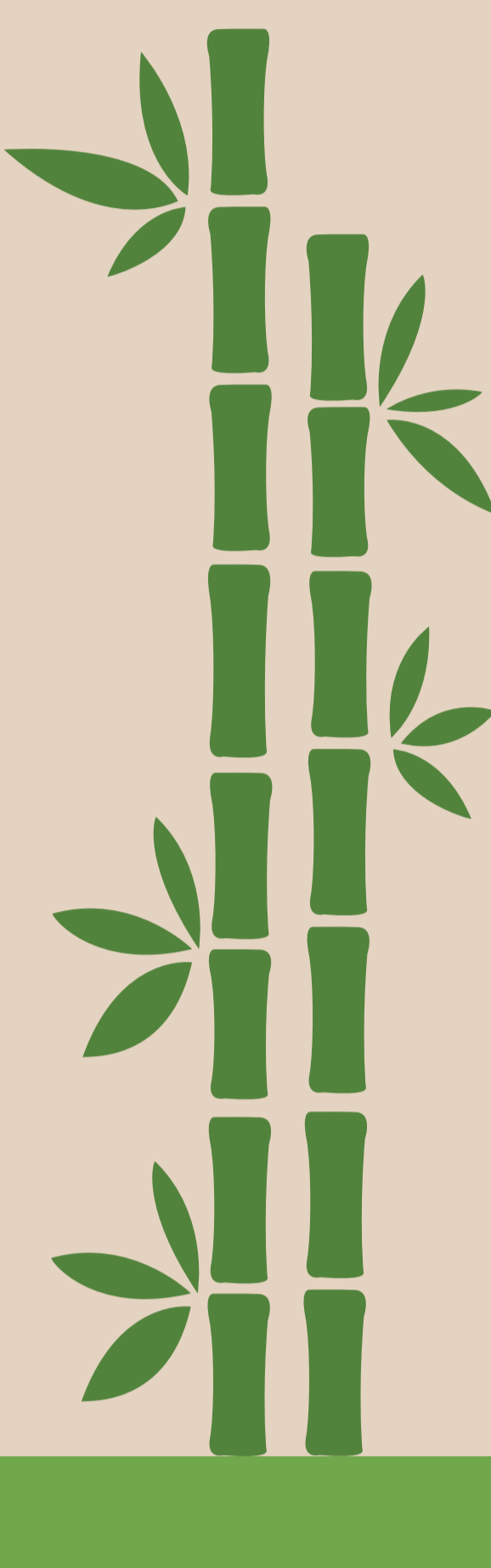
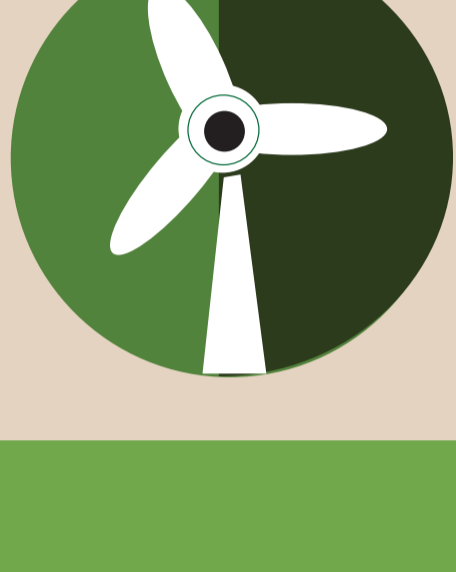
2 AN EXCELLENT WAY TO STORE CARBON

Like all plants, **bamboo stores carbon**.



Over a period of 30 years, one hectare of bamboo plants and its products can store up to 600 tonnes of carbon per hectare.

Durable bamboo products include: pipes, shells for transport vehicles, blades of wind turbines, shipping containers, flooring and housing. Bamboo can provide a low-carbon alternative to materials including timber, cement, steel and plastic.



3 A NATURE-BASED SOLUTION FOR RESTORING DEGRADED LAND

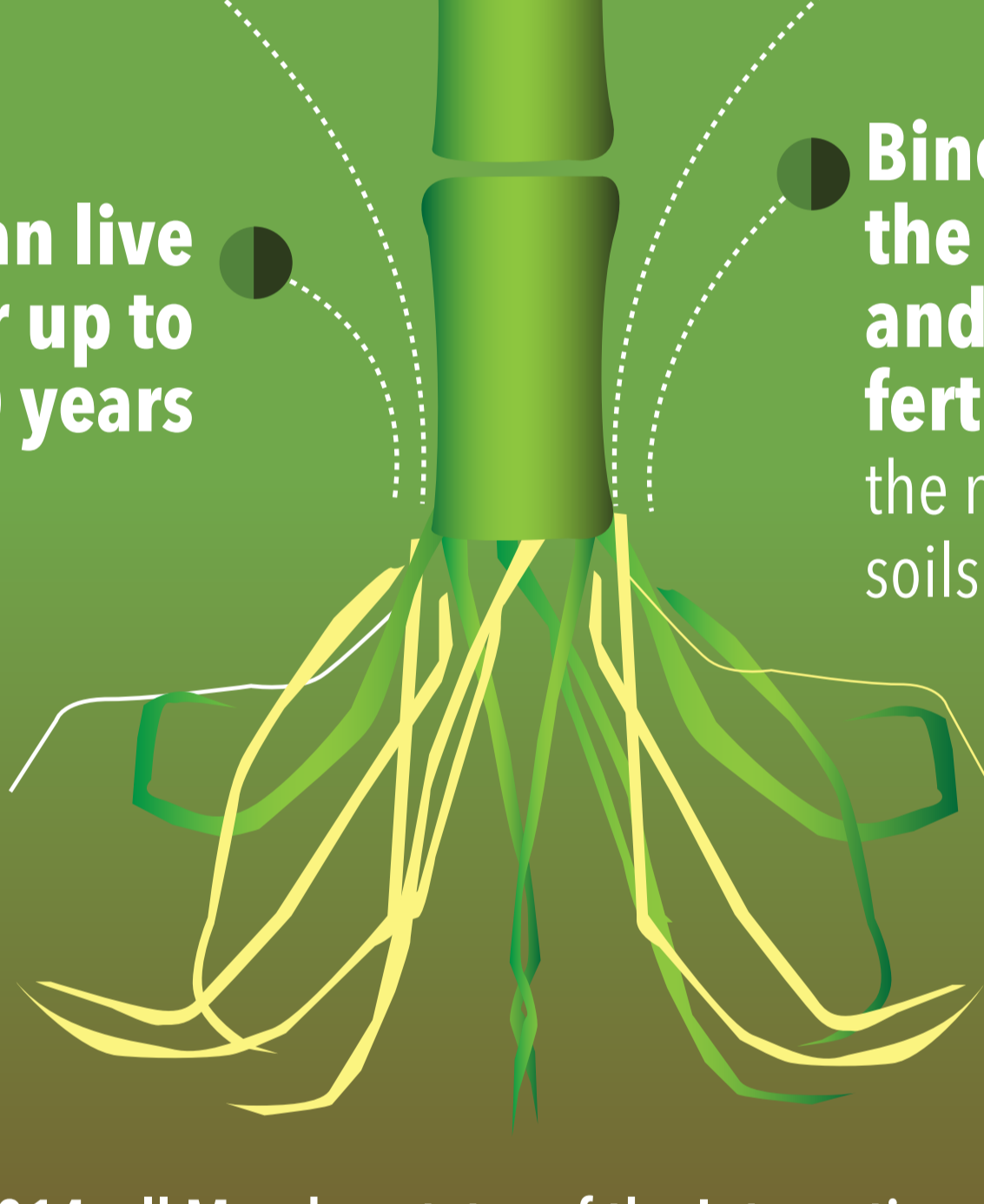
Bamboo roots and rhizome systems:

Can reach up to **100 kilometres** per hectare

Does **not require replanting** after harvesting

Can live for up to **100 years**

Bind soil, raise the water table and improve fertility in even the most degraded soils



In 2014, all Member states of the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation committed to reforest 5 million hectares of degraded land with bamboo, for the Bonn Challenge.

4 A TASTY PART OF BIODIVERSE LANDSCAPES

The giant panda, Angonoka tortoise, mountain gorilla, bale monkey and the greater bamboo lemur are just some of the mammals and reptiles which rely on bamboo for food and shelter.



5 AND IT'S NOT JUST ANIMALS WHICH RELY ON BAMBOO...



Millions of people around the world rely on bamboo for their livelihoods.



There are **over ten thousand** known uses for bamboo.



The bamboo sector has created **10 million jobs** in China alone.



Bamboo can be regularly harvested, without the need for replanting.

www.inbar.int
www.globallandscapesforum.org

Fast growing, flexible and with thousands of uses, bamboo can be an important part of biodiverse landscapes and sustainable development.

#thinkbamboo



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