



Celebrating 20 years of IBI, 2006–2026.

Annual Report

Biochar's Past, Present, and Future

FISCAL YEAR 2026

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Update from the Team and Board of Directors

Moving into the Mainstream

As reflected in the 2025 Global Biochar Market Report, biochar is entering a new phase of its development. What began as a pioneering concept has evolved into a rapidly growing global ecosystem with increasing relevance for climate action, sustainable agriculture, circular economy systems, and rural development.

Yet the significance of this moment goes beyond market growth. Across regions and sectors, a diverse community of scientists, entrepreneurs, farmers, policymakers, investors, and practitioners is coming together around a shared vision for impact. In many ways, biochar is evolving from a community of practice into a community of purpose.

The opportunities ahead are immense, but so is our collective responsibility. Scaling biochar will require integrity, sound science, collaboration, and a continued commitment to delivering meaningful benefits for people, communities, and ecosystems worldwide.

As we celebrate IBI's 20th anniversary, we remain committed to supporting this journey and helping shape the next chapter of biochar's global impact.

Lucia Brusegan
IBI Chairwoman

Update from the Team and Board of Directors

20 Years of Impact: Biochar's Past, Present, and Future

June 30 marks the close of a year unlike any other in IBI's history, one that carries the weight of two decades of work and the pride of knowing that what once felt improbable is now undeniably real.

Twenty years ago, a small group of researchers, NGOs, entrepreneurs and advocates gathered at a side meeting during the World Soil Science Congress with a shared instinct: that biochar could matter. Not just in labs or academic papers, but in soils, in communities, in the global effort to address climate change. There was no organization yet. But there was conviction, curiosity and the willingness to build something from scratch.

What they built is IBI, and this year, we took a moment to look back at everything that has grown from that first conversation.

Twenty years in, the numbers tell part of the story: members in more than 50 countries, practitioners across six continents, standards that helped shape an industry, and a presence at the global climate table from Copenhagen (COP15) to Belém (COP30). But the numbers don't capture the soul of it, the participants who came to a Biochar Academy curious and left with new collaborators, the practitioners putting what they learned to work in their own contexts, and the researchers who found their next project partner at one of our events.

This year we celebrate that story. And we keep building it.

In FY26, IBI continued to expand its global footprint through new education programs, deepened regional partnerships, and a growing community of

practitioners who are putting biochar to work in the field. We launched new courses, strengthened key alliances and showed up at conferences, events and in the places where biochar's future is being shaped.

Biochar itself has changed in these twenty years. It has gone from a niche research topic to a recognized climate solution, from a conversation among specialists to an entry in policy frameworks, carbon markets, and development agendas around the world. That shift didn't happen on its own. It happened because of a community that kept showing up, and IBI has been privileged to serve them as the platform where the community connects, learns and grows.

As we look ahead, the work feels both more urgent and more grounded than ever. The climate moment demands solutions that are scalable, credible, and rooted in real communities and biochar, done right, is exactly that. IBI's role is to make sure the sector has the standards, the knowledge and the relationships it needs to deliver on that promise.

None of this would exist without the people who showed up, and kept showing up: as members, partners, students, funders, and friends. The next chapter is already underway.

With gratitude,

IBI Team and Board of Directors

International Biochar Initiative

Programs and Workstreams



Education

In FY2026, IBI's education and training efforts were guided by our 2024–2030 Strategic Plan.

Wales Study Tour 2025

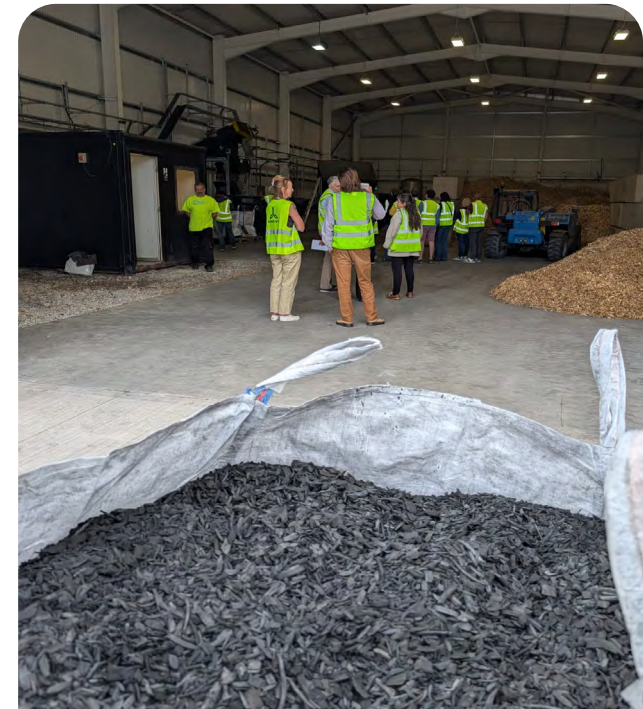
In August 2025, IBI hosted its fifth Study Tour in Wales, UK, in partnership with Kathleen Draper and Darren Jones of Woodtek Engineering. Over three days, 20 participants from 10 countries, including the United States, United Kingdom, Ireland, Greece, Morocco, Spain, India, Canada, Belgium, and the Netherlands, traveled through a landscape where ancient agricultural tradition and climate innovation sit side by side.

The program moved from urban production facilities to rural farmland, offering participants a firsthand look at biochar being made and applied across very different contexts. Day one included site visits to Black Bull Biochar in Radcliffe, Manchester, and Mersey Biochar in Severn Wye, two operations that together illustrate the range of scales at which biochar production can happen. Day two centered on the UK Biochar Festival at Woodtek's site in Powys, Wales, where participants explored full-scale

pyrolysis systems, witnessed live kiln demonstrations, joined farm walks with "The Biochar Farmer" Mick Jones, and learned about hemp as a rotational crop for biochar production. On the final day, participants chose between visiting TerrAffix, working on biochar applications for erosion control and microplastic remediation, or Nellie Technologies, a 2025 EarthShot nominee pioneering microalgae carbonization in Aberystwyth.

The tour also made space for a dimension of biochar that doesn't often appear in technical programs: art. Welsh artist Billie Ireland, whose practice for the past three years has centered on biochar and pyrolysis, was present with her work, land art and sculpture that explores carbon not as a pollutant but as a material of transformation, fragility, and connection. Her presence added a layer to the conversation that participants don't typically encounter at biochar events, and it reflected something the Study Tour has always done well: create space for biochar to be understood beyond the technical.

[View the Recap Booklet](#)



Education

Biochar Operator Course

In May 2026, in partnership with Lyntra Solutions, IBI launched the Biochar Operator Course, a fully virtual, self-paced training program designed to strengthen the operational capacity of the growing biochar industry. The course was developed in response to a critical gap identified across the sector: while technology and feedstock availability continue to advance, there remains a significant need for skilled operators, technical teams, and project managers capable of running safe, reliable, and high-performing biochar facilities.

The Biochar Operator Course bridges the gap between high-level engineering concepts and the daily realities of plant operations. Through seven modules and more than 10 hours of on-demand video content, participants gain practical knowledge on pyrolysis science, feedstock management, plant operations, safety and compliance, troubleshooting, maintenance, quality control, and carbon credit markets. In addition to the video lessons, the course includes a wide range of downloadable operational resources such as SOPs, incident reporting templates, operator logs, and quality assurance tools.

Developed by Travis Mays of Lyntra Solutions and reviewed by an expert advisory committee composed of industry leaders from organizations including Woodtek, Element Biocarbon, Biomass Energy Lab,

Byron Biochar, and Valorize Systems, the course reflects IBI's continued commitment to supporting high-integrity, scalable, and operationally sound biochar systems worldwide. The course is designed not only for plant operators, but also for project developers, investors, and carbon credit buyers seeking a deeper understanding of what reliable biochar production looks like in practice.



“This course is what the UK biomass and biochar industry has been missing for fifteen years. It should be the baseline training not just for operators, but for auditors, planners, permitting officers, insurers, and fire inspectors.”

Darren Jones, Woodtek

[Watch the Course Trailer](#)



Education

Virtual Graduate Lecture Series

The Virtual Graduate Lecture Series, launched in partnership with Washington State University in FY2025, successfully concluded in October 2025 after delivering 16 in-depth sessions led by internationally recognized experts in biochar science and engineering. The series brought together graduate students, researchers, and early-career professionals from around the world to explore both foundational and emerging topics in biochar research, including biomass chemistry, thermochemical conversion, reactor technologies, soil interactions, advanced characterization methods, and engineering applications.

With 132 registered participants, the program demonstrated the growing academic interest in biochar and the need for structured, high-quality educational opportunities within the field. Beyond providing technical knowledge, the lecture series fostered direct engagement between participants and leading scientists from universities, national laboratories, and research institutions, helping strengthen connections across the global biochar research community. In total, the series included 36 speakers from 19 universities and 5 research centers worldwide.

The successful completion of the series represents an important milestone in IBI's educational efforts and broader mission to support the development of the next generation of biochar researchers, innovators, and practitioners. By creating spaces where science, engineering, and practical application intersect, IBI continues to contribute to building the technical capacity needed to advance the biochar industry responsibly and effectively worldwide.

[Explore the Course](#)



Other Educational Offerings

In FY26, IBI continued to provide self-paced educational resources that support learners at different stages of their biochar journey. Biochar 101: What is Biochar? transitioned from a publicly available micro-course to an exclusive benefit for IBI members, providing a structured introduction to biochar science, production pathways, applications, and carbon removal.

IBI also continued to offer All About Biochar, an on-demand course that explores biochar fundamentals and practical applications. Together, these resources complement IBI's broader education and training portfolio, providing accessible learning opportunities for members and stakeholders seeking to deepen their understanding of the biochar sector.

Events

Conferences

North American Biochar Conference (NABC)

This year, IBI participated in the North American Biochar Conference, joining researchers, producers, project developers, and policymakers for two days of exchange on the state and future of biochar in North America. The energy at the conference reflected something that is becoming increasingly clear: biochar is moving from the margins to the center of climate and land-use conversations.

Sessions touched on a wide range of topics, from

carbon markets and dMRV to permitting, financing, and the progress on ANSI standards, and the discussions made clear that enthusiasm in the sector is real and growing. At the same time, recurring themes pointed to what still needs attention: stronger standards, more accessible laboratory infrastructure, and business models that go beyond carbon credits.

IBI's presence went beyond attendance. Valeria Araico, Operations and Programs Senior Manager, presented in a session on project development and carbon credit delivery, sharing lessons from IBI's work alongside practitioners and developers navigating similar challenges in the field.

Beyond the program, the conference was a space for the kind of conversations that don't fit neatly into agendas: reconnecting with longtime partners, meeting new collaborators and getting a clearer sense of where the sector is heading.

Latin American Biochar Congress

In September 2025, IBI participated in the first LATAM Biochar Congress in Bogotá, Colombia, which brought together approximately 100 participants from academia, industry, NGOs, and project development sectors to explore opportunities and challenges for biochar in Latin America. Representing IBI, Sofía Farías presented the organization's mission and activities, highlighting biochar's role in climate mitigation, soil health, and sustainability, as well as IBI's efforts to support sector growth through education, publications, and strategic collaborations.

The Congress underscored the significant potential for biochar development across Latin America, driven by abundant agricultural residues and growing interest in carbon removal and sustainable land management solutions. Discussions emphasized the need for greater technical capacity, access to reliable information, and stronger collaboration among stakeholders. IBI's participation reinforced its commitment to supporting knowledge exchange and capacity building across the region.



Conferences

ICHAR Biochar School Participation

In October, IBI participated in the 9th ICHAR Biochar School, held on the island of San Servolo in Venice. The event brought together practitioners, researchers and project developers from across Europe and beyond for three days of technical sessions, site visits and peer exchange.

IBI's Valeria Araico was invited to present on Global Biochar Diffusion: Opportunities, Limitations and Threats, a session that drew on IBI's international perspective on the opportunities and challenges of scaling biochar across different regions and contexts.

The School also marked an important moment for IBI and ICHAR's relationship, not only deepening an existing connection, but opening the door to conversations that would eventually lead to a formal partnership between the two organizations.



Conferences

COP30

COP30 represented an important milestone in IBI's evolution. Representing the organization, IBI Chairwoman Lucia Brusegan attended the conference and participated in discussions alongside global leaders, policymakers, researchers, investors, and industry representatives. For the first time in its history, IBI participated through a dedicated pavilion, providing a level of visibility, presence, and institutional anchoring that it had never experienced before. More than a physical space, the pavilion reflected IBI's growing recognition as an active contributor to some of the most important conversations shaping the future of climate action and carbon dioxide removal. Alongside its partners in the CDR Coalition, IBI demonstrated its transition from observing global discussions to becoming a visible and respected participant in them.

Beyond the negotiations and official outcomes, COP30 served as a space where relationships were strengthened, ideas gained momentum, and future opportunities began to take shape. The event provided a focal point for meetings, strategic conversations, and exchanges with decision-makers, investors, researchers, policymakers, and industry leaders from around the world. These interactions enabled IBI to deepen existing partnerships, establish new connections, and engage with stakeholders of significant influence across the climate and carbon removal sectors.

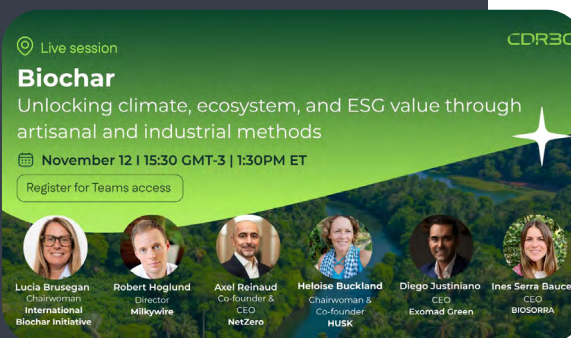
Perhaps most importantly, the organization's presence at COP30 opened doors to future collaborations and opportunities that extend well beyond the conference itself. In that sense, COP30 was not only a successful event for IBI, but also a meaningful investment in its future role and influence within the global climate and carbon dioxide removal community.

Bio360

This year IBI also took part in Bio360 Africa in Johannesburg, joining the conversation about how biochar carbon projects actually get built – and what it takes for them to issue credits. Valeria Araico, Operations and Programs Senior Manager, joined remotely from Mexico City for the session "Navigating Biochar Carbon Projects," which brought together three perspectives on the operational side of project development: IBI's view from the field, an investor and registry angle from Yanzi Zhou (atmosfair), and the regulatory frameworks shared by Anna Schniepper (Carbon Standards International).

Valeria's talk, "Scaling Real-World Biochar: Lessons from Project Development to Carbon Credit Delivery," moved past the high-level pitch and into the details that decide whether a project ships on time.

The African framing ran through the whole session: the continent has the biomass, the agriculture, and the supply chains, and the variable that decides success is operational discipline, not potential. That's also where the inseting model fits – deploying biochar inside a buyer's own coffee or cacao supply chain can become a project's first real revenue, long before any credit is issued. For a 20-year-old organization, showing up in these conversations is part of staying close to where the next chapter of biochar is being written.



Conferences

Biochar Commercialization Summit

IBI's Executive Director, Luisa Marin, attended the Biochar Commercialization Summit in London (March 2026), moderating two panels focused on the commercial case for biochar and on developing economically viable projects in global contexts. The event yielded concrete follow-up across multiple fronts, with three webinar collaborations confirmed—covering biochar permanence and characterization methods, digital MRV applications, and biochar stacking and alternative uses—strengthening IBI's programming pipeline through the second half of the year.

The summit also advanced IBI's membership and partnership priorities. Initiated conversations with a Latin American agro-industrial group actively developing a palm oil residue biochar project. A first exchange with the leadership of an international biomass carbonization association opened discussions around reciprocal membership, cross-contributions to market intelligence, and broader sector collaboration. An informal encounter with the Sustainability Manager of IBI's first Corporate member confirmed that the company holds serious, long-term strategic interest in biochar and is actively evaluating its first pilot deployment – a reminder of the relationship-deepening that professional gatherings uniquely enable.

Biochar Summit Vienna

IBI participated in the Biochar Summit 2026 in Vienna, one of Europe's premier forums for the biochar sector. This year's program marked a significant inflection point for the industry: the agenda was dominated by heavy industries – metallurgy, steel, construction, and waste management – signaling that biochar is gaining serious traction as a high-readiness carbon removal technology among actors with the scale, capital, and regulatory influence to reshape the market. Presentations from major industrial players demonstrated active evaluation of biochar integration across production processes, value chains, and decarbonization roadmaps – a development with meaningful implications for IBI's membership base and the broader sector. If heavy industry commits to biochar at scale, the downstream effects on agricultural adoption and carbon credit markets could be substantial.

IBI's presence at the summit was both substantive and relational. IBI contributed to the agriculture track through a poster presentation of the Biochar Resilience Network (BRN), highlighting the platform's capacity to aggregate standardized field trial data, improve research comparability, and accelerate evidence-based adoption of biochar in agricultural commodities. On the membership side, Luisa Marín engaged directly with several IBI members in attendance – an opportunity to acknowledge their continued support and reinforce the connections that make IBI's global network meaningful beyond the digital space.



FY2026 Annual Report

WEBINAR

Ensuring Quality at Scale

Inside the 2025 Puro.earth
Biochar Methodology

28 October • 11am ET | 5pm CEST

Register Now



Elias Azzi, Puro.earth



VIRTUAL EVENT

Member Social & Exchange

4 November • 11:00am EST | 5pm CEST

Join us as we launch
the new online forum
and Community of
Practice!



MEMBERS ONLY

ASK ME ANYTHING (AMA) - WEBINAR

Biochar Science to Systems: Advancing a Scalable Climate Solution

18 March 2026 • 10am ET

Register Now



Dr. Abhilasha Tripathi,
IBI Biochar Research
Coordinator



WEBINAR

Isometric: A new approach to distributed biochar certification

June 9, 2026

Register Now



David Armstrong,
Policy & Partnership Manager,
Isometric

Events

Webinars

Biochar Webinar Series

In FY26, IBI delivered 15 webinars, including 10 public webinars and 5 member-exclusive events, reaching 2,955 registrants worldwide. The series provided opportunities for learning, professional development, and community engagement across the global biochar sector.

Webinar topics reflected the rapid evolution of the industry, covering climate-smart agriculture, carbon removal methodologies and certification frameworks, project finance, operational best practices, industry standards, and emerging scientific research. Highlights included sessions on the Unlocking the Future of Climate-Smart Agriculture report, updates to the Biochar Carbon Removal Manual, the 2025 Puro.earth Biochar Methodology, and scaling biochar applications in agricultural systems.

IBI also strengthened member engagement through Member Social & Exchange events, creating additional opportunities for networking and peer learning. Several webinars were delivered in collaboration with organizations including

Puro.earth, Isometric, The Nature Conservancy, GRAIN Ecosystem, Qualterra, Lyntra Solutions, and the American Biochar Initiative, among others, bringing diverse expertise and perspectives to IBI's global audience.

By combining technical education, scientific updates, market intelligence, and community-building opportunities, the FY26 webinar program advanced IBI's mission to support the responsible production and use of biochar while fostering a more connected and informed global biochar community.

Development & Strategic Partnerships



20 Years of Impact Campaign

Biochar's Past, Present, and Future



Celebrating 20 years of IBI, 2006–2026.

20 of Pioneering Biochar THE FOUNDERS SERIES



**Johannes
Lehmann**



**Ellen
Baum**



**Stephen
Joseph**



**Debbie
Reed**



This year, the International Biochar Initiative marks its 20th anniversary.

Over the past two decades, IBI, together with its leaders and community, has been at the forefront of advancing the understanding and development of biochar. What began as a pioneering vision 20 years ago has now become a reality.

As we celebrate our anniversary, we're also launching the next era of global scale for biochar: the next 20 years as we hope to see them.

All year long, we've invited our audiences to dive into our legacy, hear from our members, and participate in the celebration through content, events, and more.

Launching on International Day of Education (January 24, 2026), the 20th anniversary campaign uses the unifying narrative "Past, Present, and Future" to celebrate IBI's legacy while positioning the organization as the

steward of biochar's next phase of growth.

The anniversary is not treated as a single moment, but as a year-long, multi-channel storytelling campaign that builds momentum toward the August 2026 anniversary celebration – hosted in China in tandem with the International Conference on Biochar Research and Application – and supports measurable audience growth, engagement, and membership conversion goals.

Campaign Goals

- Celebrate 20 years of impact, learning, and leadership in the global biochar ecosystem
- Reinforce IBI's authority and credibility across science, industry, and policy
- Deepen member and stakeholder connection through recognition and storytelling
- Grow IBI's audience and convert interest into membership and newsletter signups

[Explore the Anniversary](#)



Projects

Biochar Atlas: Supporting Data Collection

In FY2024, IBI was awarded the Bezos Earth Fund Greenhouse Removal Ideation Prize (Phase II) to advance the development of the International Biochar Atlas, a science-based decision support tool designed to help farmers, researchers and other stakeholders identify biochar products suited to specific soil and crop conditions. Developed in collaboration with USDA-ARS, American Farmland Trust, and the American Biochar Institute (ABI), the pilot focuses on Mexico and Colombia, two regions where IBI has been actively coordinating producer engagements since the project's early stages.

By early 2026, meaningful progress had been made. Biochar producers across both countries had been recruited, samples received, and the database infrastructure and Biochar Selection Tool framework completed, ready for data integration once laboratory analyses are finalized. The underlying data schemas, decision logic, and backend workflows are in place.

That said, the pilot timeline has shifted. Temporary capacity constraints at partner laboratories, including equipment downtime that reduced analytical throughput, affected the sequencing of sample analysis. These challenges did not

compromise data quality or the project's scientific approach, but they did require adjusting the timeline. Laboratory analyses were completed in early June 2026, with full integration into the Biochar Selection Tool to follow.

Given this, IBI requested a six-month extension to ensure the pilot can be completed with the technical rigor and real world applicability it was designed to deliver.

The project remains on track scientifically and within budget.

Once the Atlas is fully populated and the Selection Tool is live, mechanisms for producers to submit standardized laboratory results directly will be explored, reducing manual data entry and supporting the tool's long-term sustainability as the sector grows.



Publications and Resources

Global Biochar Market Report

This year IBI published the second edition of its Global Biochar Market Report, based on the 2025 Global Biochar Industry Survey, with 930 respondents across 96 countries and eight stakeholder groups, from feedstock suppliers to end-users. That reach makes it one of the most comprehensive reads on the global biochar market to date, and a clear marker of how far the sector has come over 20 years.

The headline is a sector at an inflection point: supply-ready, but not yet market-ready. Global production roughly tripled, reaching an estimated 520,810 metric tonnes in 2025, with Asia overtaking North America as the leading producing region and Africa posting the fastest growth of any region. Commercial producer revenue climbed from \$47M to \$245M over the same period. And yet the barriers producers flagged in 2023 – low awareness, weak demand for physical biochar, limited capital, and the absence of shared standards – are largely the same ones they name today. The report puts it plainly: the bottleneck is no longer how to make biochar, but how to build the markets, standards, and financing that let it scale, exactly the systemic work the industry is asking its organizations, IBI included, to lead.



Global production of biochar has roughly tripled since 2023, reaching an estimated 520,810 metric tonnes in 2025.

[Access the Report](#)



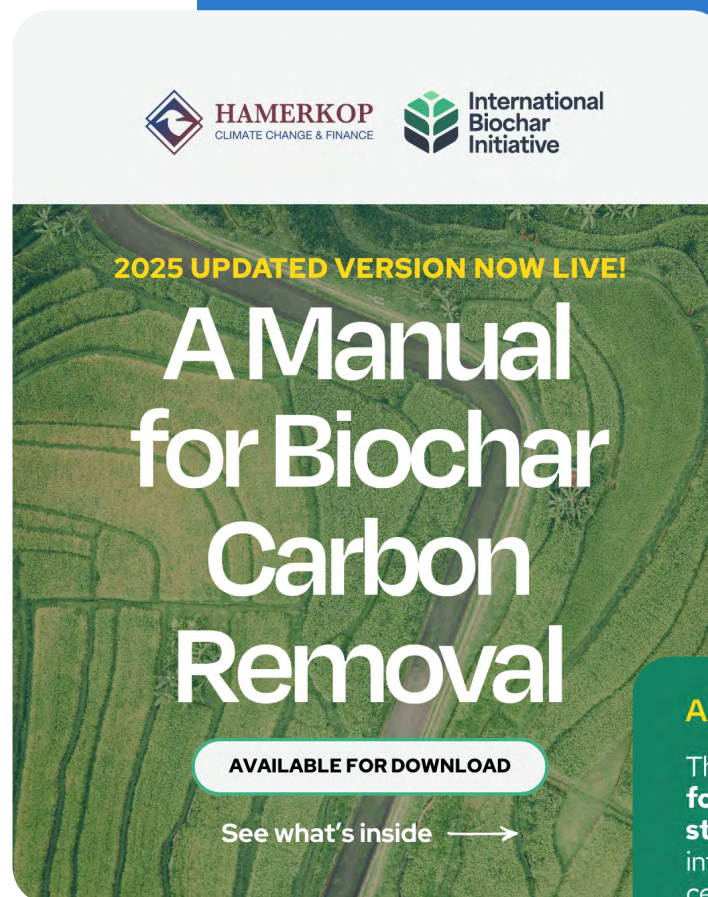
Publications and Resources

Manual for Biochar Carbon Removal - Update

IBI also began updating its Manual for Biochar Carbon Removal, the reference many practitioners use to navigate methodologies, MRV requirements, and registry decisions. To ground the revision in what's actually happening across the certification landscape, IBI surveyed the major carbon registries on their current requirements and where the field is heading. The work is being carried out with Hamerkop as a partner, keeping the Manual current with a fast-moving carbon market.

dMRV Manual

Building on that same approach, IBI started developing a new dMRV Manual. A companion to the Carbon Removal Manual, this time focused on digital MRV. Where the existing Manual helps projects choose a methodology and registry, the dMRV Manual maps the tools and providers that make measurement, reporting, and verification work in practice, giving project developers a clearer guide to one of the most technical, and most decisive, parts of issuing credits.



A Manual for Biochar Carbon Removal

This digital guide provides **a roadmap for biochar producers, investors, and stakeholders** keen on understanding the intricacies of biochar carbon removal certification.

You'll gain a clear overview of the various methodologies established by leading certification standards:

- Carbon Standards International
- Climate Action Reserve
- Isometric
- Puro.earth
- Rainbow (formerly Riverse)
- Verra

Discover practical insights and comparisons to assist your selection of the most appropriate approach for your specific biochar projects.

Partnerships

In FY2026, IBI continued building the collaborative infrastructure that the biochar sector needs not just in scale, but in coherence.

This year's partnership work reflects a deliberate shift: moving from one-off collaborations toward structured, long-term alliances with national and regional organizations that share IBI's mission and complement its reach.

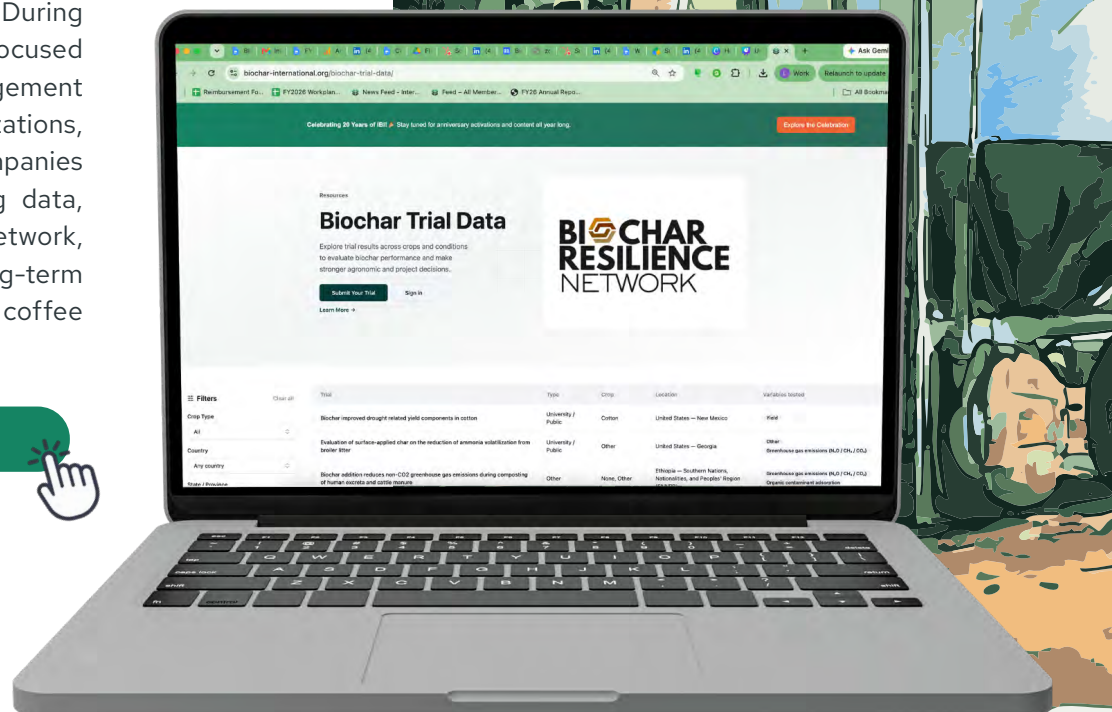
Biochar Resilience Network

In April 2026, IBI helped to officially launch the Biochar Resilience Network (BRN), a collaborative initiative focused on accelerating the adoption of biochar within the coffee sector through data sharing, research collaboration, and stakeholder

engagement. Developed alongside partners including Valorize Systems, Climateb2c, and academic stakeholders, the initiative aims to address one of the key barriers to biochar adoption in agriculture: the lack of centralized, accessible, and comparable field trial data.

As part of this effort, IBI supported the development of the Initiative, a platform designed to collect and anonymize field trial data from coffee producers, companies, researchers, and project developers. By creating a neutral and pre-competitive space for collaboration, the BRN seeks to reduce duplication of pilot projects, strengthen understanding of biochar's impacts within coffee systems, and support more informed decision-making across the sector. During FY2026, the initiative focused on stakeholder engagement and outreach to organizations, researchers, and companies interested in contributing data, participating in the network, and supporting the long-term development of resilient coffee production systems.

[View the Trial Data](#)





Partnerships

ICHAR Reciprocal Membership

What started as a conversation in Venice became, by January 2026, a signed agreement. IBI and the Italian Biochar Association (ICHAR) formalized a Memorandum of Understanding in January 2026, launching a six-month pilot collaboration focused on membership value sharing, program exchange, and cross-promotion.

Under the agreement, ICHAR members gain access to IBI's Professional Membership benefits, including webinars, publications and the IBI member hub, while IBI members receive curated access to ICHAR's activities and content in Italy. The pilot also includes joint participation in events and webinars, and coordinated communications across both networks. A mid-point review in April and a final evaluation in June determined the path forward: expand, deepen or adjust the model.

This collaboration is grounded in something real: a shared belief that the global biochar community grows stronger when its national and international networks are genuinely connected.

German Biochar Association

In April, IBI formalized a Letter of Intention with the German Biochar Association, marking the beginning of a structured Phase 1 collaboration focused on content exchange, speaker sharing and cross-promotion between both organization's communities.

Key commitments include a joint webinar, mutual event listings and member discounts, and two concrete knowledge products: a German translation of IBI's Manual for Biochar Carbon Removal and a short market analysis of biochar production facilities in Germany, published in both languages through IBI's publications hub. The partnership is designed to be lightweight and high-value, with a mid-year check-in and annual review to guide next steps.

CBEA

Building on the first IBI Biochar Academy in Africa™, held in Kenya in June 2025, IBI and the Circular Bionutrient Economy Association (CBEA) spent FY2026 working toward a formal alliance, now in its final stages. CBEA brings deep roots in Sub-Saharan Africa – over 100 individuals, 50+ organizations, and a presence across 14 countries – while IBI brings its global platform, educational programs, and 20-year track record.

The alliance is designed so that CBEA members will receive IBI Professional Membership benefits at no cost during Phase 1 – immediate access to IBI's global network, publications, and event discounts. In return, CBEA will bring African voices, cases, and practitioners into IBI's webinar series and content pipeline, helping make sure the global biochar story reflects the full range of where biochar is actually happening.



Solidaridad

Partnerships

Center for Circular Economy in Coffee (C4CEC)

IBI and the International Trade Centre (ITC) through the Center for Circular Economy in Coffee (C4CEC) started building a partnership centered in the coffee sector. The two organizations first crossed paths through the Biochar Resilience Network (BRN), the pre-competitive data commons for the biochar field trials, where C4CEC took part as a founder collaborator, an experience that made the fit between IBI's biochar expertise and C4CEC's deep roots in coffee clear to both organizations.

The Phase 1 centers on reciprocal membership, cross-promotion to both membership bases, and the creation of jointly branded resources for the coffee-biochar nexus, including a possible joint publication and training materials for coffee sector practitioners. The shared goal is to become the go-to reference for biochar in the coffee value chain worldwide.

Asosiasi Biochar Indonesia Internasional

In FY2026, IBI deepened its collaboration with the Asosiasi Biochar Indonesia Internasional (ABII), building on a working relationship that began earlier in the year through mutual promotion and ABII's support in sharing IBI's educational opportunities with its network. Over the year the two organizations developed a Phase 1 collaboration framework, a 12-month partnership that gives ABII members access to IBI's global resources and Professional Membership benefits, and brings Indonesian and Southeast Asian cases, speakers, and practitioners into IBI's programs and publications.

Indonesia is one of the most strategically important biochar markets in the world, and the partnership is built to strengthen the evidence base and visibility of biochar there. Among the areas being explored: translating IBI's Manual for Biochar Carbon Removal into Bahasa Indonesia, ABII speakers in IBI's webinar series, and co-organizing a future Biochar Academy or Study Tour in the region.

Solidaridad

In FY2026, IBI signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Solidaridad, the international civil society organization with more than 45 years of experience building socially responsible, ecologically sound, and profitable supply chains. The partnership pairs Solidaridad's deep field implementation and scaling experience with IBI's global coordination role, around a shared focus on biochar systems that put agronomic benefits, farmer livelihoods, and soil fertility first, especially for smallholders in the Global South.

Under the MoU, the two organizations will co-lead work across four areas: exchanging knowledge on project design, kiln technologies, feedstock use, and dMRV; jointly fundraising and developing projects by mapping donors and pursuing grants for pilots in priority countries; strengthening the evidence base on agronomic impact and monitoring; and amplifying the voice of smallholders in the biochar community and in policy conversations. It's a partnership built to move biochar from promise to practice where it can matter most, in the hands of the farmers growing the world's food.

Building Regional and Thematic Partnerships

Beyond these flagship collaborations, IBI also engages in a broader set of partnerships that support the development of the sector through co-organized events, educational programs, joint reports, grant proposals, and conference participation. These collaborations help extend IBI's reach across regions and strengthen knowledge exchange across the global biochar community.



Impact Snapshot



Impact Snapshot

3,030

PEOPLE TRAINED

through IBI webinars, events,
and courses

\$16,602

USD SCHOLARSHIPS

Total worth of grants given for virtual
education in FY2026

56

countries
represented in IBI
membership

73,000
PAGEVIEWS

across our website's
publications, resources, online
member hub, and more

33

**SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED**

for virtual courses in FY26

26%

increase in social
media followers

18K

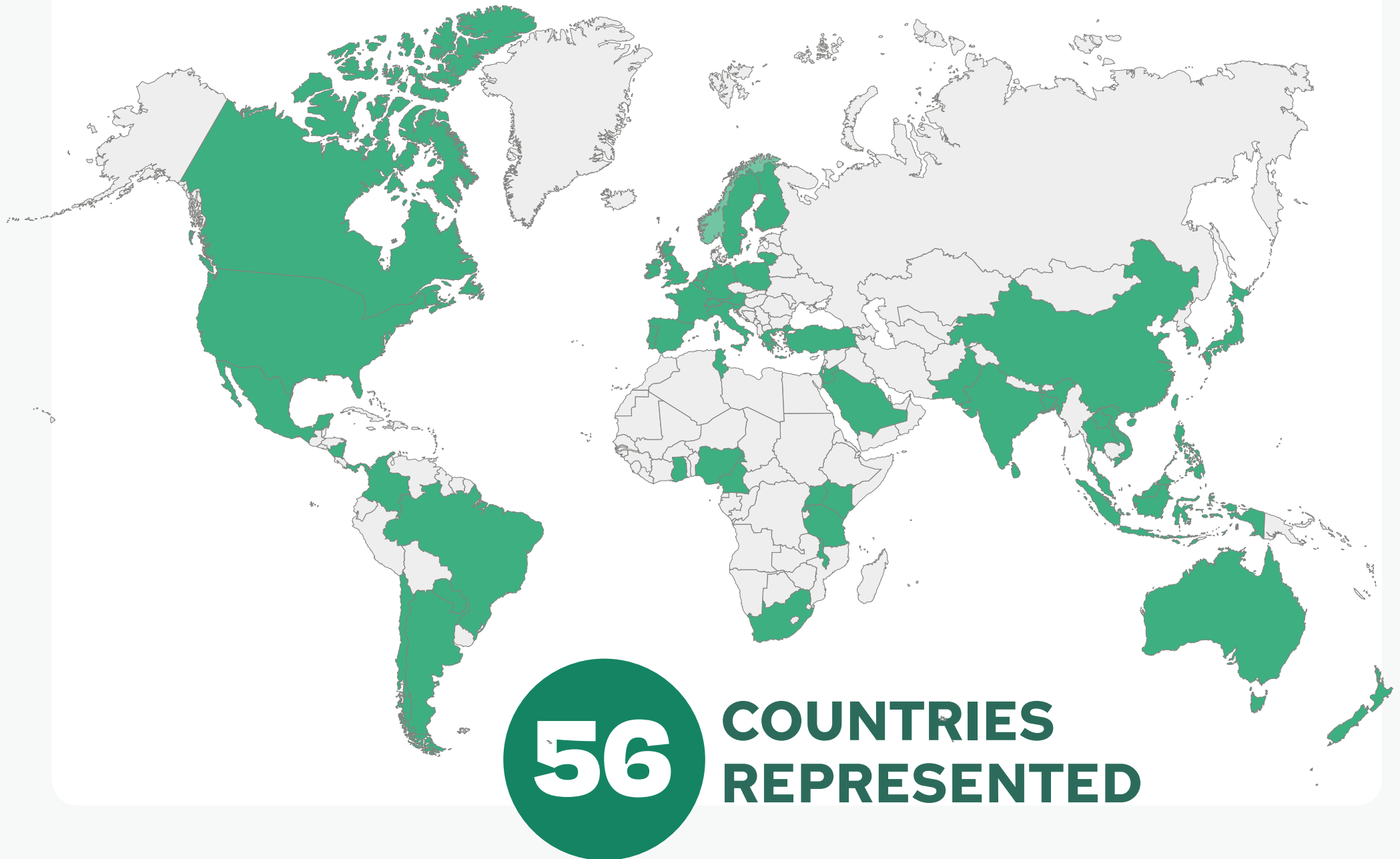
WEB VISITORS

IBI Membership Network



368 MEMBERS

IBI Membership Network



IBI Membership Network

Launch of the Corporate Membership Tier

In FY26, IBI introduced a new Corporate Membership Tier designed to better serve organizations seeking deeper engagement with the global biochar sector and greater access to industry intelligence, networking opportunities, and strategic support.

The new tier was developed in response to the growing number of companies entering the biochar and carbon removal markets and the increasing demand for resources that support business development, partnership building, and market navigation. In addition to IBI's core member benefits, Corporate Members receive access to specialized resources such as the Global Biochar Market Report, Quarterly Industrial Round-Up and Market Intelligence Briefings, curated introductions to relevant partners and experts, and an annual strategic briefing with IBI leadership. The tier also provides enhanced organizational visibility through featured website placement, newsletter recognition, social media promotion, and company spotlight articles.

The introduction of this membership category represents an important step in IBI's efforts to support commercial stakeholders while fostering collaboration across the broader biochar community.

Tierra Prieta
Biochar Case Study

Biochar Carbon Removal from Pecan Shell Pyrolysis

PROJECT TYPE: Production

PYROLYSIS TEMP: 550-700C

REGION: Mexico

Biochar Applications & Specs

Physical biochar is exported to the U.S. market, while carbon credits are sold exclusively through Carbon Direct.

The facility currently operates one pyrolyzer producing approximately 2,000 CORCs per year, with expansion plans to double capacity by Q3 2026.

FEEDSTOCK TO PRODUCT RATIO: 3

H/CORC RATIO: ~21

APPROX. PRODUCTION COST: Under \$50

APPROX. MARKET PRICE: Under \$100

APPLICATION AREAS: Agriculture + building materials

[Read Tierra Prieta's](#)

Member Engagement and Benefits

IBI continued to strengthen member engagement by expanding opportunities for learning, networking, and collaboration across the global biochar community.

A key milestone during the year was the launch of the IBI Member Forum, creating a dedicated space for members to connect, share experiences, ask questions, and engage with peers across sectors and regions. IBI also hosted member-exclusive webinars and Member Social & Exchange virtual gatherings, providing opportunities to discuss emerging trends, share project updates, and build professional relationships.

Members continued to benefit from access to the Members Hub, which houses a growing collection of resources including the Publications Archive, webinar and event recordings, and exclusive industry insights. Additional benefits included discounted access to IBI training, courses, certifications, conferences, and events, as well as preferential pricing for selected opportunities offered through IBI's partner network. Representing academia, industry, NGOs, biochar producers, project developers, consultants, carbon market stakeholders, and other sectors, IBI's members bring diverse perspectives and expertise that strengthen the global biochar community. Their engagement helps inform emerging areas of interest and supports the continued development of resources and opportunities that benefit the broader biochar ecosystem.

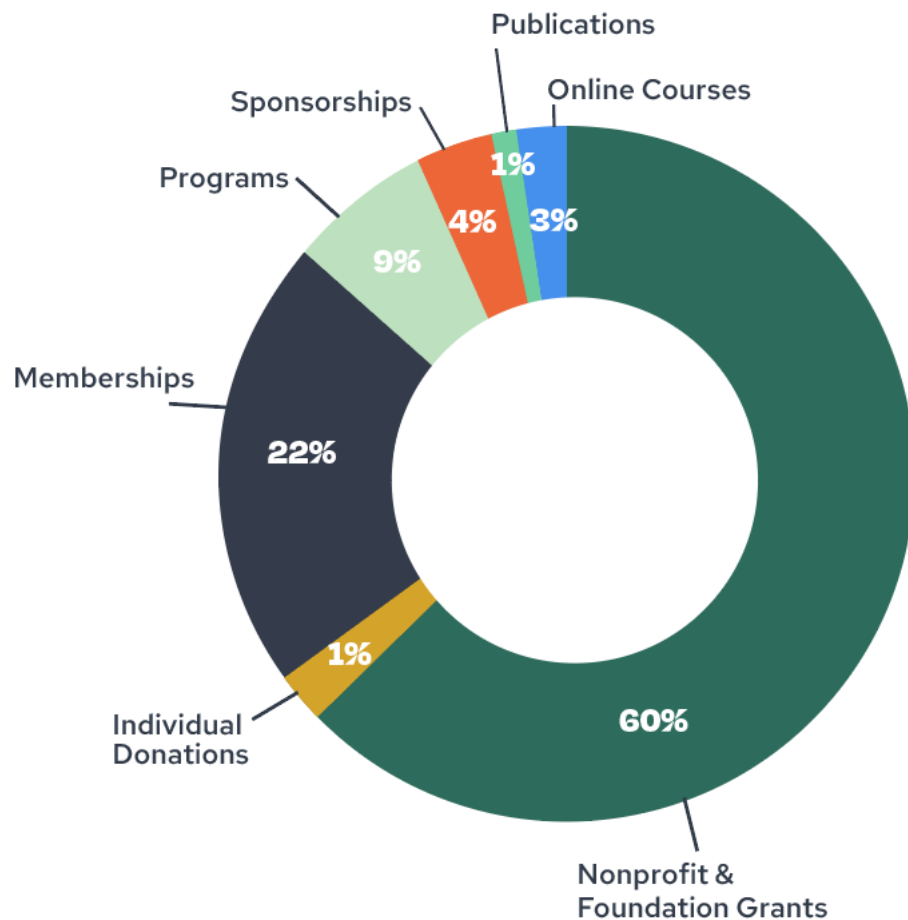
Financial Snapshot



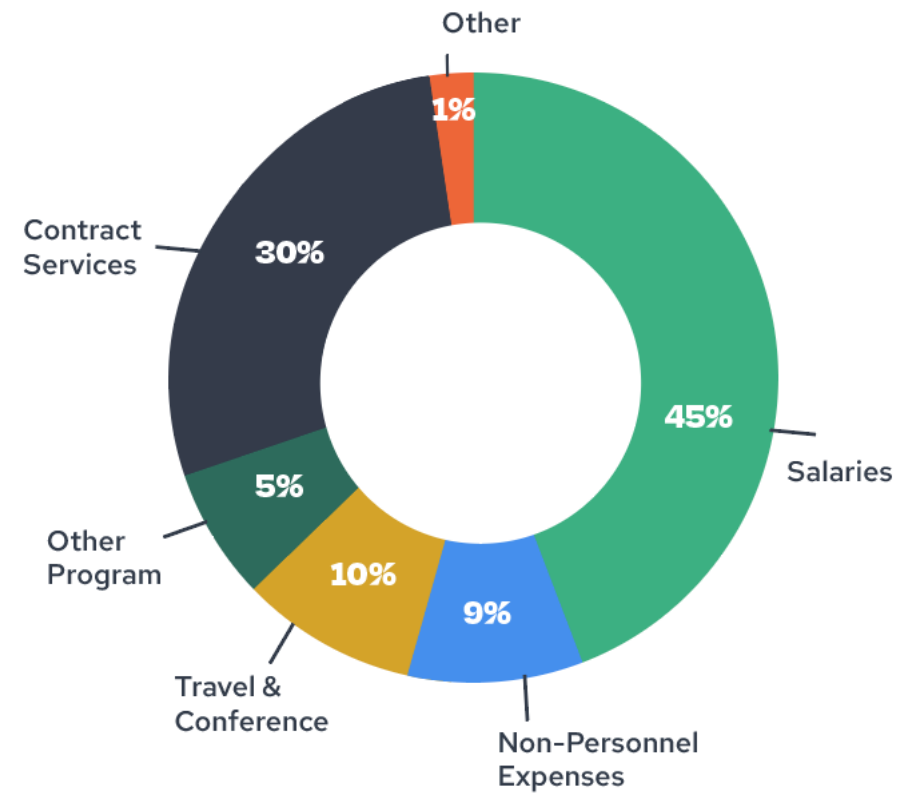
Financial Snapshot

IBI has made progress in developing strategic partnerships and exploring funding opportunities to diversify our financial support.

Revenue



Expenses



Our Organization

Team



LUISA MARIN de
BLOCK

Executive Director



VALERIA
ARAICO
CORDERO

Programs &
Operations Senior
Manager



SOFIA FARIAS
BARONA

Programs &
Operations
Coordinator



LAUREN
BORITZKE
SMITH

Climate Change
Communications
Lead

Board of Directors

Our Board of Directors is made up of committed individuals with experience across the biochar industry who are passionate about IBI's mission.



LUCIA BRUSEGAN
Chair of the Board, Starter
Italy



CLAUDIA KAMMANN
Hochschule Geisenheim
University
Germany



HARN WEI KUA
Vice Chair of the Board,
National University
of Singapore
Singapore



CRAIG LEE
Board Treasurer, Ciprus
Consulting
United States



OLIVIER REINAUD
NetZero
France / Brazil



HAILONG WANG
Foshan University
China



MIKE WERNER
Qualterra, Inc.
United States



NADAV ZIV
Earth Biochar
Israel



Celebrating 20 years of IBI, 2006–2026.

Stay Connected

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