



ABOUT INBAR

Established in 1997, the International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) is an intergovernmental development organisation that promotes environmentally sustainable development using bamboo and rattan. It is currently made up of 47 Member States. In addition to its Secretariat Headquarters in China, INBAR has five Regional Offices in Cameroon, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana and India.

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DUTCH-SINO-EAST AFRICA BAMBOO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME: PHASE II

Supporting poverty reduction, food security, climate change mitigation and adaptation through sustainable bamboo value chains.

(A project implemented by INBAR)



Ministry of Foreign Affairs

BAMBOO

FOR GREEN GROWTH

At present, East Africa's bamboo sector remains largely untapped, despite the region having sub-Saharan Africa's largest natural bamboo forests and accounting for around 3-4% of the world's total known bamboo coverage. Low value products and a lack of capacity to adhere to international standards have resulted in Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda's exclusion from a global export trade in bamboo products already valued at over USD1.8 billion.

In response to this challenge, this programme, now in its second phase, is applying experiences and lessons learned from the hugely successful transformation of Asia and Europe's bamboo markets to East Africa, thus enabling Ethiopia, Kenya, and Uganda to fully participate in and benefit from the new bamboo economy of the twenty-first century.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The Dutch-Sino-East Africa Bamboo Development Programme-Phase II will bridge the existing gaps by leveraging the Chinese and Dutch expertise in bamboo value chain development, product design, marketing and standardisation to help East Africa unlock the vast potential of its indigenous bamboo resources for green economic growth, trade and poverty reduction.

INBAR has developed this programme via national consultations with Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda and liaison with Chinese and Dutch partners.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The overall objective of the program is to enhance climate change mitigation and adaptation benefits, by developing inclusive and sustainable industrial and SME bamboo value chains resulting in enhanced livelihood opportunities, food security, and environment management in East Africa, by:

- Up-scaling existing and diversifying into new value chains;
- Restoring and sustainably managing bamboo resources, contributing to decreased deforestation enhanced sinks and increased climate resilience;
- Improving the business environment for bamboo producers and developing the market for bamboo products;
- Improving the policy and regulatory framework for increased public and private sector investment into bamboo.

GOAL

The goal of this programme is to enhance climate change mitigation and adaptation by developing inclusive and sustainable industrial and smaller scale bamboo value chains, resulting in improved livelihood opportunities, food security and environmental management in East Africa.



BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES

The project is being implemented in three beneficiary countries:

- ETHIOPIA
- KENYA
- UGANDA

UGANDA

PROJECT SITES:

Kampala; Moyo; Nebi; Kisoro; Gulu; Mount Elgon; and Rwenzori

BAMBOO IN THE REGION:

Uganda has an estimated 54, 533 ha of bamboo growing area, mostly located in protected areas. Bamboo utilization and production is mostly confined to meet the sustenance needs, traditional and low value products. An estimated one million people in Uganda is dependent on bamboo for sustenance and livelihood. The country has prioritised bamboo for promoting sustainable development and has developed a National Bamboo Strategy and Action Plan (2019-30).

ETHIOPIA

PROJECT SITES:

Addis Ababa; Amhara; Benishangul Gumuz; Oromia; and Southern Nations, Nationalities and Peoples' Region

BAMBOO IN THE REGION:

Ethiopia has the largest bamboo sector of the three countries, with a large number of urban bamboo micro-entrepreneurs. Most are involved in the production of furniture and handicrafts for sale in the domestic market, although some larger companies are also starting to diversify into bamboo flooring and charcoal briquette production. The country has published a robust Bamboo Development Strategy and Action Plan 2019-30.

KENYA

PROJECT SITES:

Bomet; Busia; Elgeyo-Marakwet; Homa Bay; Kisumu; Kirinyaga; Migori; Murang'a; Nandi; Narok; Nyandarua; Nakuru; Nyeri; Uasin Gishu; and Vihiga

BAMBOO IN THE REGION:

In Kenya, bamboos form an integral part of the nation's indigenous forests. They play a critical role in local livelihoods, with an estimated 25 million bamboo poles annually harvested. There is an estimated 133,273 ha of indigenous bamboo in Kenya.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

TIMELINE

April 2020-March 2023

THE NETHERLANDS:

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Wageningen University and Research
- Moso International BV
- SNV Netherlands Development Organisation

CHINA:

- National Forestry and Grassland Administration
- International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan
- China International Development Cooperation Agency
- Zhejiang Agriculture and Forestry University
- China Africa Bamboo Centre

ETHIOPIA:

- Environment, Forest and Climate Change Commission
- Ministry of Trade and Industry
- Federal Small and Medium Manufacturing Industry Development Agency
- Regional Micro and Small Enterprise Development Agency
- Federal Technical and Vocational Training Agency
- Ethiopian Environment and Forest Research Institute
- Ministry of Mines and Energy
- Ministry of Agriculture
- Regional Bureau/Authority of Agriculture
- Ethiopian Tourist Trading Enterprise
- Ethiopian Standards Agency
- Ethiopian Job Creation Commission
- Ethiopia Bamboo Association

KENYA:

- Ministry of Environment and Forestry
- Kenya Forestry Research Institute
- Kenya Forest Service
- Kenya Water Towers Agency
- Kenya Bureau of Standards
- Kenya Tea Growers Association
- Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries
- Ministry of Industrialization and Enterprise Development
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training Department
- Ewaso Ngiro South River Basin Development Authority
- Bamboo Association of Kenya
- Private sector, non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations

UGANDA:

- Ministry of Water and Environment
- Uganda National Bureau of Standards
- National Forestry Authority
- National Forestry Resources Research Institute
- Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development
- Uganda Industrial Research Institute
- Uganda Investment Authority
- Uganda Bamboo Association
- Ministry of Education
- Technical and Vocational Education and Training
- Makerere University
- Muni University
- Private sector, non-governmental organisations and community-based organisations

OBJECTIVES

1

Develop, upscale and diversify pro-poor, inclusive bamboo value chains, on both an industrial and a smaller scale.

2

Restore and sustainably manage bamboo resources, contributing to decreased deforestation, enhanced carbon sinks and increased climate resilience of both ecosystems and livelihoods.

3

Enhance market development and policy and regulatory framework for increased public and private sector investment in the bamboo industry.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Improved employment and livelihood opportunities through strengthening and diversification of SME's and specialisation of industrial value-chains;
- Strengthened value chain governance and institutional mechanisms.

- Increased bamboo restoration, sustainable management in forest and farms providing climate change mitigation and resilience benefits;
- Improved yield and quality.

- Establishment and strengthening of multi-stakeholder platforms at the national and regional levels;
- Increased public and private sector investment.