



ABOUT INBAR

The International Bamboo and Rattan Organisation (INBAR) is a multilateral development organisation of 42 states for the promotion of bamboo and rattan. INBAR plays a unique role in supporting its Member states to find and demonstrate innovative ways of using bamboo and rattan to promote sustainable development and provide tools to adapt to and mitigate climate change.

CONTACT:

Durai Jayaraman: jdurai@inbar.int

Uganda: Andrew Kalema (akndawula@inbar.int)

Ethiopia: Fiker Assefa (fatareke@inbar.int)

Kenya: Nellie Oduor (ncmoduor@inbar.int)

DUTCH-SINO-EAST AFRICA BAMBOO DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Supporting poverty
reduction, sustainable
development, climate
change action and
international trade

(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 is applying experiences and lesson learned from the hugely successful transformation of Asia and Europe's bamboo market 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 will build on 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 design via national consultations with Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda and liaison with Chinese and Dutch partners.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The overall objective of this triangular programme is to contribute to green economic growth and international trade and investment between East Africa, Europe and China. This means developing pro-poor industrial value chains for bamboo in East Africa with Dutch and Chinese expertise. At the same time, the programme aims to restore degraded lands in Africa and contribute to climate change mitigation.

GOAL

The overall objective of this triangular programme is to contribute to green economic growth & international trade and investment between East Africa, Europe and China.



BENEFICIARY COUNTRIES

The project is being implemented in three beneficiary countries:

- ETHIOPIA
- KENYA
- UGANDA

UGANDA

PROJECT SITES:

Kampala; Mount Elgon; Rwenzori; Echuya; Bwindi; Mgahinga

BAMBOO IN THE REGION:

In Uganda, which has an estimated 40,000-50,000 ha of bamboo, small local markets already exist for bamboo products. Bamboo is also included in the 2003 National Forestry and Tree Planting Act, meaning that communities can include bamboo in management plans for forest reserves and community forests. Yet at present, there is still very little management of bamboo resources in the country, and natural bamboo forests are often under pressure from intense demand for biomass energy and culms.

ETHIOPIA

PROJECT SITES:

Amhara; Addis Ababa; Benishagual-Gumuz; Oromia; Tigray; 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.

KENYA

PROJECT SITES:

Mount Elgon; Aberdares; Muranga County; Kirinyaga County; Mount Kenya; Migori

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 3.2 million bamboo culms being used. Despite recent work by the private sector to use bamboo as a tool for land restoration and energy production, the nation's bamboo resources have dwindled from a historical high of around 450,000 ha to 150,000-110,000 ha in 2016.

PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

TIMELINE

October 2016-
December 2019

THE NETHERLANDS:

- Moso International BV
- Netherlands Standardization Institute
- Wageningen UR
- Netherlands Development Organisation SNV

CHINA:

- State Forestry Administration
- China Green Carbon Fund
- International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan
- Tsinghua University
- Zhejiang A&F University

ETHIOPIA:

- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Ethiopian Institute of Building Construction and City Planning
- Federal Micro and Small Enterprises Agency

KENYA:

- Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources
- Kenya Forestry Research Institute
- Green Belt Movement
- Green Pot Enterprises
- Climate Change Mitigation Initiatives

UGANDA:

- Ministry of Environment and Water
- National Forestry Authority
- SNV Uganda
- Divine Bamboo
- Bamboo For Goods
- Muni University
- Jane Goodall Institute

OBJECTIVES

1

REDUCED POVERTY AND GREEN ECONOMIC GROWTH:

Develop and improve industrial bamboo value chains by assessing bamboo resources.

2

INCREASED INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT:

Develop technical guidelines on bamboo processing and improve capacity of producers to adhere to these; improve dialogue between international bamboo producers, investors and consumers.

3

RESTORE LAND AND MITIGATE CLIMATE CHANGE:

Restore or establish bamboo nurseries and develop local capacity to manage, plant and restore bamboo.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Value chains developed / improved for at least 5 bamboo products
- Livelihoods enhanced
- Incomes increased

- Increased import and export trade in bamboo products between Europe, East Africa and China
- Expanded size of the three national domestic markets
- New grant/loan investments made to East Africa's bamboo sector

- Degraded bamboo forest under improved sustainable management; some restored with bamboo by the end of the project
- Improved yields
- Increase carbon sequestration