
FAO/COFO Forestry Meeting, BAMBOO SECTOR STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF ETHIOPIA
MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

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26 June, 2014
Rome, Italy

Objectives of BASSF

Bamboo in Africa

- The overall objective of BASSF is to promote the holistic development of the country's bamboo sector.
- As you know from about 43 bamboo species in Africa, the most two widely distributed are highland and lowland bamboos,
- 40 species are found in the main land of Africa. With a total land cover of the African bamboo above 2 million hectares, in which 1 million hectares is found in Ethiopia

Bamboo in Africa (Cont'd)

1. Sustainable Resource Development & Management

- The two bamboo species widely distributed in Africa are Yushania alpina and Oxytenanthera abyssinica.
Yushania alpina is a highland bamboo species growing in altitude between 2,200 and 3,500 masl, the lowland bamboo growing within the altitudes of 700 and 1,800 masl. It is a small sized bamboo that grows on very poor soils and dry areas or buffering zone of Semi Deseret and Desert ecosystems.

Bamboo in Africa (Cont'd)

1. *Sustainable Resource Development & Management (cont.)*

- Bamboo from grass family (Graminaceae), fast growing and have very short maturity period making them attractive for small to high scale investment. Also it is the strongest and fastest growing plant. It grows three times faster than eucalypts. 18 meters of tree to be cut for market takes 60 years to replace. But, 18 meters of bamboo to be cut for market takes only 60 days.

Why Bamboo ??

- **Substitute for timber products thereby helping to protect the forest and the environment**
- **Bamboo stands release 35% more oxygen than equivalent stands of trees/ha**
- **Holds 1000 tons Water per hectare**
- **Bamboo plant typically binds 6m³ of soil, good for Land Rehabilitation**
- **Useful carbon sinks (absorb large amounts of Co₂ up to 12 tons/ha from the air**
- **Today ,over US\$15 billion trade and substance uses of bamboo**
- **Over a billion of them live in bamboo house, helps in Poverty reduction& LH Improvement**

Bamboo in SLMP2 and in land management more general

INBAR/ MoA agreed to work together: to,

- Develop the bamboo resource base of the target pilot watersheds that would ultimately lead to sustainable land management and poverty reduction.
- Build capacity of the target beneficiaries with regard to sustainable bamboo development and management through transfer of pertinent knowledge, skill and technologies. Mainstream carbon finance in the sustainable land management program of the target watersheds
- MoA agrees to allocate funds to INBAR up to eight million, nine hundred forty eight thousand United States dollars (USD 8,948,000.00) for their technical support and technology transfer efforts in the 5 years period of SLMP II. The budget shall be extended for the support each year as indicated/ planned in the budget proposal in line with the approved action plans and Budget by the National Steering Committee for SLMP. 70 % of the support fund shall be transferred to the accounts of the regional states based

The establishment of the Africa Bamboo Centre (ABDTC)

Plans for the center:

- Millions of Africans use bamboo to make a living and hence bamboo plays considerable role in their livelihood. However, African countries lack the expertise, technology and skills to make bamboo production to consumption systems sustainable and effective.
- The implication is that the technical know-how in the bamboo production to consumption system of African countries needs to be improved. To this end, an African Bamboo Center will be established at Addis Ababa which will serve as a center of excellence for knowledge, skill and technology transfer. With knowledge, skill and technology to be improved.
- Site selected 10 Kms from Addis Ababa (Gefersa Area)
- The design and layout will be done by the Chinese Experts from SFA and ICBR through MoFCOM
- The Foundation Stone will be laid out in November, 2014 during the 9th INBAR Council Meeting and International Bamboo Summit in Addis Ababa, in the presence of the member countries.

The establishment of the Africa Bamboo Centre especially the plans for the center (Cont'd)

Funding Modality for the Centre:

- The Chinese Government through ICBAR shall deploy Expertise and cover the construction cost of the center
- MoA and other African Member Countries shall cover the running cost of the center through Annual Contribution to the Centre
- The center shall also generate income through the services it will provide
- Other development partners shall also be requested for funding to materialize the objectives

Specific Objectives of BASSF

Highlight on some points, within the African perspective, that I believe are decisive in defining the next stages of this bamboo development initiative and its expansion.

- Collaborate and Join Hands in the **establishment and running of the African Bamboo Training and Demonstration Center**, as center of excellence for the value chain improvement of Bamboo and Rattan Industries and its expansion to the rural, SME's, Medium and Large Scale Bamboo Enterprises.
- Support in **Frame work conditions (Institution, Policy & Enabling environment) and Capacity Building activities**, particularly in short and long term trainings as well as experience sharing and technology transfer, technical assistance and back stopping from INBAR.

Highlight on some points, Cont'd

- To promote the **contribution of bamboo and rattan to land and environmental sustainability integrating it to the existing Programs** (in the case of Ethiopia to **SLMP-II**) is useful for its sustainability, with focus to piloting of small projects and scaling up of the results attained in bamboo development for **GGWSI**
- **Introduce Rattan plantations and new varieties of bamboo genetical materials** in suitable Agro-Ecological Zones besides the proper Management of the existing bamboo forests; so, we need to strengthen the South-South Cooperation and Coordinated among countries for the sector to grow in a sustainable way, the support from INBAR and other Asia and Latin America countries to provide us the germ plasm and the necessary technical back up.

THANK YOU

BAMBOO SECTOR STRATEGY FRAMEWORK (BASSF)