

Global Bamboo Housing Programme



The huge potential of bamboo for the construction of affordable and environmentally friendly homes has motivated INBAR to initiate a global housing programme to promote bamboo for social housing. To this end, the programme aims to promote the integration of resources, information, technologies and the collaboration of various partners.

Vision

The Global Bamboo Housing Programme believes that bamboo housing can make a significant contribution to improving the quality of life of many hundreds of millions of poor and disadvantaged people.

Mission

To realize the vision, the Global Bamboo Housing Programme's mission is to promote the substitution of unsustainable building materials with environmentally friendly bamboo for construction, where appropriate, to provide solutions to the shortage of proper housing for the poor, and to develop housing-related livelihood options. The programme also aims to contribute to Millennium Development Goal (MDG) 7, target 11, by helping achieve significant



improvements in the lives of 100 million slum dwellers by 2020.

To achieve this INBAR intends to build partnerships with governments, non-governmental organizations, private companies and the donor community to carry out research and to develop and promote bamboo in construction in various ways for different geographical regions and different kinds of buildings. INBAR welcomes your participation and collaboration in the Global Bamboo Housing Programme.

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Bamboo Housing Programme at a Glance



"Promoting Environmentally Friendly Bamboo Homes for All"

Introduction



Office building by Simón Veléz, Colombia

Population growth, rapid rural-urban migration, inadequate housing for the poor and an unsustainable use of forest resources are compelling us to find alternative, affordable and environmentally friendly housing solutions. Due to its versatile nature, bamboo provides the perfect solution to these problems.

Why Bamboo for Construction?



House by TRADA/IPIRTI, India

Bamboo has been used for the construction of houses for a long time throughout tropical and sub-tropical regions. It is estimated that more than one billion people live in bamboo houses - in Bangladesh alone more than 70% of the houses are made of bamboo. In some countries in Latin America, there is a rich and longstanding building culture, using *Guadua* bamboo for the construction of *Bahareque* and *Quincha* houses. Bamboo has strength, flexibility and versatility and when treated properly it is a suitable material for almost every component of the house.



House by Bamboo Technologies, Maui, Hawaii

Bamboo:

- is easily accessible in many regions
- requires minimum technology
- is easy to use and build-simple prefabricated houses can be assembled in 4-5 hours
- is inexpensive
- is earth-quake resistant
- is environmentally friendly and sustainable

Bamboo Housing Activities at INBAR

INBAR has been promoting bamboo for the construction of houses in its member countries. Several demonstration bamboo housing projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America have been successfully completed. Examples include:

- Construction of a bamboo school in Ghana (Partners: TRADA international, British High Commission Accra, BARADEP, BARNET and BRRI)
- Construction of a demonstration bamboo house and running a training workshop in Ethiopia (Partner: Federal Micro and Small Enterprise Development Agency – FeMSEDA)
- Development of a panel-based bamboo prefabricated house in P. R. China (Partner: The Nature Conservancy - TNC)
- Construction of a bamboo demonstration house and running a training workshop in North East India (Partner: UNIDO Cane and Bamboo Technology Center)
- INBAR collaboration with Viviendas del Hogar de Cristo, an NGO in Guayaquil Ecuador that specializes in providing low cost houses based on bamboo to the very poor

- Construction of Pingbian school in Yunnan, P. R. China (Partners: Japanese Embassy Beijing, WWF China)



- Construction of a model bamboo house in Guayaquil, Ecuador (Partners: European Union, Catholic University of Guayaquil)

Prefabricated house by Viviendas del Hogar de Cristo, Guayaquil, Ecuador

- Construction of 18 prefabricated bamboo houses in the eco-housing project in Nepal (Partners: GEF/SGP, RES Nepal and Himalayan Bamboo)

- Development of a prototype bamboo refugee shelter in Ghana (Partner: UNHCR Ghana)



- Development and promotion of pre-fabricated modular houses to provide both income and housing to the poor (Partners: Blue Moon Foundation and ICBR)

Bamboo school, Ghana



Addis Ababa, Ethiopia