



**UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION  
INTEGRATED PROGRAMME FOR ETHIOPIA (Phase II)**

**Eastern Africa Bamboo Project (EABP -Ethiopia)  
Project Progress Report from January 2006- May, 2007**

***Comp 1: Technology transfer and skills development for increased productivity***

- (i). Setting up of project offices, establishing communication facilities, purchasing of project vehicles, hiring the relevant project staffs as well as introducing project staff to the UN-administration has been undertaken.
- (ii). The project has selected three target villages in three regions and identified about 150 direct beneficiaries of the rural communities and about 101 bamboo entrepreneurs that would benefit from the transfer of appropriate and low cost technology as well as the technical training to improve the quality and design of their products.
- (iii). 3 FeMSEDA's technical personnel trained in China and India on 'Bamboo Industrial & Processing Technologies and Machines' as well as on 'Bamboo Industrial Processing and Handicrafts' in order to upgrade skills and capacities of project relevant staffs and to expose them to international environment.
- (iv). The civil works required to install different machineries which will arrive in Ethiopia in June 2007 has been completed by International Consultant (IC). The investigation of existing machineries has also been accomplished. Meanwhile, the IC has also conducted training of trainers (TOT) to ten FeMSEDA technicians and staffs on preservation methods and operations of the different hand tools.
- (v). The trainings on 'Bamboo Weaving and Furniture making' which will roll for one full month have commenced in May 2007 at two of the project target villages of the SNNPR (Abela) & Amhara (Injibara) regions.
- (vi). 8 hand tools and 13 sets of various tools (electrical power tools etc) have been purchased from Ethiopia and Indonesia respectively by the IC for FeMSEDA bamboo workshop. 100 sets of hand tools, which will be handed over to the beneficiaries after completion of the training on 'Bamboo Weaving and Furniture Making', have arrived from China which is currently under clearance from customs. Similarly, 4 sets of hand operated tools are on the way to Ethiopia from India through postal services.
- (vii). All preliminary steps have been completed for entrepreneurship training for micro & small enterprises engaged in bamboo crafts making. The training will be given to 103 rural and urban entrepreneurs on Entrepreneurial Competency, Marketing, Record Keeping, and Business Plan Preparation for a total duration of 7 days starting from late May 2007.
- (viii). Cross-visits from Kenya to relevant bamboo stakeholder institutions and private sector companies in Ethiopia for experience exchange has been undertaken during the second Regional Project Steering Committee (RPSC) meeting in Ethiopia. In this meeting, the project progress report of 2006 was evaluated, work plan for the year 2007 was revised and corrective measures required to improve implementation were identified. Accordingly, the first draft minutes of the Second RPSC meeting was finalized and disseminated to all RPSC members.

### ***Comp 2: Developing capacity for the sustainable supply of raw materials***

- (i). The draft guideline on 'Bamboo Propagation' prepared by Kenya-KEFRI for bamboo propagation and management including trial plantations for the Ministry of Agriculture (MoARD) in Ethiopia has been collected and disseminated to the respective government and non-governmental offices for comments, clarification and further enrichment of the document.
- (ii). In order to provide different varieties of bamboo seedlings to farmers and producers from indigenous and non-indigenous bamboo species, 500 cuttings and rhizomes of 8 bamboo species are to be imported to the country from KEFRI-Kenya. Subsequently, one of the bamboo flowering areas in SNNPR (Masha area) has been visited by a team of experts drawn from Forest Research Center, SNNPR and the EABP. The team confirmed that seeds can be collected with low cost for bamboo propagation and gave possible recommendations for the management and sustainable utilization of the bamboo forest.
- (iii). Three Development Agents (DAs) from each target areas have been trained by INBAR experts in 'Bamboo Cultivation' to assist the farmers in the project target areas. Subsequently, farmers and extension agents have been identified to receive the training on 'Bamboo Cultivation' from the DAs.
- (iv). To initiate a policy dialogue on the potential of bamboo to contribute to sustainable development in the country, the study on Legal Environment Assessment and Policy and Strategy Suggestions has been undertaken by a National Consultant (NC) and appraised in the midst of policy makers and other experts from different academic and research institutions.
- (v). The Policy Makers Study Tour to China, comprising high level delegation from Ethiopia and Kenya, took place successfully whereby visits were made to different bamboo products manufacturing companies and other bamboo related sites.

### ***Comp. 3: Increasing market access***