

BAMBOO AS ONE OF THE SLM OPTIONS IN KAGERA TAMP

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Introduction

- Bamboo is a fast growing woody grass
- It's a highly renewable material
- It's the earth's fastest growing plant
- It needs no replanting, grows without fertilizers or pesticides and is harvested from controlled stands with an astounding growth cycle of 3-5 years.
- It offers vital economic and ecological benefits to the lives of millions of people worldwide.

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- Bamboo in general plays a very important role in watershed protection and in rehabilitation of degraded sites.
- Bamboo is also a vital component of plant and forestry resources in the world with the outstanding characteristic of short rotation, high economic value and advantage for sustainable management, becomes one of the most important non-wood forestry resource

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- They are also useful in Charcoal making, furniture, fencing, house construction, water harvesting, and cottage industries especially in the production of matchsticks, baskets, toothpicks, and various other handcrafts and in the horticulture industry.
- Bamboo is used by over half of the world's population for application as varied as food, fuel and clothing

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- Bamboo plays an important role in reduction of timber consumption, environmental protection, poverty alleviation and sustainable development of rural economies.
- It is the fastest growing canopy for the re-greening of degraded lands and releases 35% more oxygen than equivalent timber stands.

Chemical utilization bamboo

- There are various bamboo products that have economic advantages including bamboo made paper and bamboo charcoal.
- There has been evidence of healthcare capacity of bamboo charcoal of absorbing unpleasant odours etc
- Bamboo extracts containing flavonoid for beer making.
- There are also bamboo bio-pesticides and antifungal properties.

Bamboo shoot processing



In Tanzania production of bamboo is mostly done with the cultivated species (*Oxytenanthera braunii*) which is famous for bamboo juice production



Carbon sequestration

- Bamboo plays an important role to control adverse effects of climate change.

Generally speaking one hectare of bamboo has capacity to absorb 12 tones of carbon dioxide gas from the atmosphere.

Bamboo and wild life



Bamboo for soil and water conservation

Bamboo can also be used in purifying water



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Bamboo ongoing projects in Kagera



Bamboo ongoing projects in Kagera



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Bamboo along river banks



Bamboo for handcrafts



Bamboo species in Kagera Basin

- *Oxytenanthera spp*
- *Bambusa spp*
- *Dendrocalamus spp*
- *Arundinaria alpina*
- *Etc*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION