

DRAFT REPORT

Action Plan for Promotion of Bamboo in the North Eastern Region



ACTION PLAN FOR PROMOTION OF BAMBOO IN NER



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**Submitted to
Ministry of Development of the North Eastern Region
Government of India**



North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd.

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TITLE OF THE STUDY

ACTION PLAN FOR PROMOTION OF BAMBOO IN NER

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Bamboo is one of the most versatile plant species in the world. It has a wide variety of uses in today's world. In North Eastern India, local communities have traditionally used bamboo throughout their lives- from cutting the umbilical cord of new born babies to carrying the dead on their final journey. While it had been eclipsed by other materials after the advent of modernity, bamboo is enjoying a renaissance globally. Nearly two-fifths of the bamboo stock of India is concentrated in the North Eastern (NE) Region of the country. But, the contribution of bamboo towards the economic development of the NE states of India remains subdued.

In July 2020, the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India highlighted the potential of value addition to bamboo in the NE states, which could contribute to the on-going national initiatives for an Aatmanirbhar Bharat(self-reliant India) by replacing imports with local production. Further, he suggested that bamboo centred initiatives could help to boost the incomes of people in these states. Bamboo can play an important role in making a self-reliant India through reduction of import in several product categories such as timber, stick, fibre, charcoal etc. Therefore, it is the need of the hour to explore more impactful initiatives in order to address the gap in the existing bamboo ecosystem above and over the existing initiatives. As an outcome of the above vision, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region (DONER), Government of India in October, 2020 assigned the work of undertaking the 'Preparation of an Action Plan for the Promotion of Bamboo in the North Eastern Region' to the North Eastern Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (NEDFi) in association with North Eastern Council (NEC).

The potential role of bamboo in North Eastern economy has also been highlighted in several policy documents and forums such as North East Vision Document 2020, NITI Aayog etc. This Action plan also aims to address the critical issues highlighted in such policy documents and forums.

Terms of Reference: The approved Terms of Reference of the present assignment are as follows:

(a) To assess the current status of the bamboo sector of NE region(NER) through stakeholders' consultation on challenges, prospects and recommendations for development and promotion of the sector; (b) To identify priority areas for intervention with its implementation strategy; and (c) To develop a 5-year holistic action plan including state(s) specific sub-plans, implementation mechanism, fund requirement, convergence with existing scheme/mission and formulation of new scheme if required. The Scope of Work has been furnished at Appendix-2 of the report. This covers the above Terms of Reference in detail.