* Project Registration Form



Title	Expertise sharing for the Construction of Affordable and Sustainable Housing for Vulnerable Sectors			
Working Group	Socio-political Cooperation, Sustainable Development		Country	Argentina
Implementation Date			Venue	
Project Status (Choose one)	x New			
Project Category (Choose one)	x Consultation by Specialists			
	Short-term Training Course / Internships		Project Type	 National Project x Regional Project * Coordinating countries: Argentina and East Asia (TBD)
	Workshops / Seminars			
	□ Networks			
	Database			
	□ etc.			
Project Contact Point	Name	Rodolfo Caffaro Kram	ier	
	Position	President Mercosur-As	ur-Asean Chamber of Commerce (MACC)	
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Participants	Member Countries	Argentina and Eas Asia (TBD)		
	Organizations	MERCOSUR-ASEAN Chamber of Commerce (MACC) / Fundación Manos Verdes and a counterpart of East Asia to be determined		
Project Purpose & Description	Bamboo as an ecological agent because: a) using bamboo in the construction industry to replace timber, we take the pressure of the rainforest; b) erosion control: the bamboo greatly reduces rain run-off, preventing massive soil erosion; c) Bamboo releases 35% more oxygen than its equivalent of trees. Some bamboos even sequester up to 12 tons of carbon dioxide from the air per hectare; d) Bamboo is a high-yield renewable resource; e) There are 1500 species of bamboo on the earth. This diversity makes bamboo adaptable to many environments. It can be harvested in 3-5 years versus 10-20 years for most soft woods. Bamboo could be a compromise between economic and ecologic concerns.			
Activity Description	The aim of this project is to spread the Bamboo as a natural material for use in the construction industry and housing as a different kind of architecture. Also to work in the transfer of technology so as to learn how to use the raw material and how to extend its useful life for housing purposes. The education and training in all aspect of bamboo production from planting, to building bamboo houses and marketing, is part of this project and will definitely can help to create new jobs in an area of great potential. The first step is to obtain the whole information regarding the Bamboo and its features. Learn from the experience of working with Bamboo in MERCOSUR and ASEAN. Build a network with: architectural and environmental specialists; international bamboo associations; scientists; Universities and governments. We can also ask the Mercosur Asean Chair to organize education workshops; invite specialists to Argentina and spread the			
& Outcome	news about bamboo. Work also with international and regional NGOs; international and national higher education and research institutions; private- sector; entrepreneurs. We would like to work together in Argentina with I.N.T.A. (Instituto Nacional de Tecnología Agropecuaria) All these actions will bring new and creative solutions that will improve people's quality of life.			