

March 2024

# **BAMBOO FOR CHANGE:**

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**INNOVATING FOR  
A GREENER TOMORROW**



PREPARED BY

MANIPUR TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION HUB (MTI HUB)

# Field Visit Report

## South Asia Bamboo Foundation



**DATE : 6th March, 2024**

**ADDRESS : BAMBOO COMPLEX, PATSOI PART-I,  
IMPHAL WEST, MANIPUR, 795113**



## KAMESH SALAM

FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
SOUTH ASIA BAMBOO FOUNDATION

# INTRODUCTION

On the 6th of March, 2024, a visit was conducted to the **South Asia Bamboo Foundation (SABF)**, located in the Bamboo Complex in Patsoi Part-I, Imphal West, Manipur. Founded by **Kamesh Salam**, SABF stands as a beacon for sustainable development, environmental conservation, and social inclusion. With a focus on harnessing the potential of bamboo, the foundation is dedicated to promoting green entrepreneurship and fostering inclusive growth across the South Asian region.

## OVERVIEW

Nestled amidst the serene landscapes of Manipur, the Bamboo Complex serves as the nucleus of SABF's operations. Here, the foundation has established state-of-the-art facilities for bamboo processing, product manufacturing, and training. The complex not only showcases a diverse range of bamboo products but also fosters innovation, collaboration, and community engagement.

Under the visionary leadership of **Kamesh Salam**, SABF has aligned its efforts with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**, recognizing the pivotal role of bamboo in achieving these global targets. Through its initiatives, the foundation addresses multiple SDGs, including poverty alleviation, sustainable cities and communities, climate action, and responsible consumption and production.

# KEY FINDINGS

## **Infrastructure and Facilities:**

The Bamboo Complex boasts modern facilities equipped with advanced machinery for bamboo processing and product manufacturing. Visitors were impressed by the efficiency and scale of operations, reflecting the foundation's commitment to excellence in sustainable enterprise development.

## **Product Innovation:**

SABF's innovative approach to bamboo utilization was evident in the diverse array of products showcased during the visit. From furniture and handicrafts to packaging materials and construction components, the foundation's products exemplify the versatility and eco-friendliness of bamboo.

## **Employment Generation:**

The foundation's initiatives have catalyzed employment generation, particularly in rural and marginalized communities where livelihood opportunities are limited. By providing training and support for local artisans and entrepreneurs, SABF empowers individuals to build sustainable livelihoods and contribute to economic growth.

## **Community Engagement:**

SABF actively engages with local communities, promoting bamboo cultivation, value addition activities, and entrepreneurship. Through capacity building programs and outreach initiatives, the foundation fosters community participation and ownership, driving socio-economic development at the grassroots level.

**Environmental Impact:**

Bamboo, renowned for its rapid growth and minimal environmental footprint, serves as a sustainable alternative to conventional materials. SABF's promotion of bamboo-based solutions contributes to carbon sequestration, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem restoration, aligning with SDG targets for environmental sustainability.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

**Partnership Building:**

Strengthening partnerships with government agencies, non-governmental organizations, and industry stakeholders will enhance SABF's reach and impact, facilitating the scaling up of sustainable bamboo enterprises.

**Policy Advocacy:**

Advocating for supportive policies and regulations that incentivize bamboo cultivation, processing, and trade will create an enabling environment for sustainable development and green entrepreneurship.

**Research and Development:**

Investing in research and development initiatives to enhance bamboo processing techniques, product quality, and market competitiveness will drive innovation and market penetration.

**Education and Awareness:**

Increasing public awareness about the benefits of bamboo and sustainable consumption practices will stimulate demand for bamboo products and foster a culture of environmental stewardship.

# CONCLUSION

The site visit to the **South Asia Bamboo Foundation** provided valuable insights into its transformative impact on sustainable development, environmental conservation, and community empowerment. By leveraging the potential of bamboo as a sustainable resource, SABF exemplifies the principles of green entrepreneurship and inclusive growth, contributing to the achievement of the **United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**.

# SNAPSHOTS



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