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Initiative spotlight: East Africa value chain

CONTEXT

Construction currently accounts for 39% of all carbon emissions, a figure set to increase as the global population grows

East Africa's expected housing demand of >200,000 units per year makes it an ideal setting for the growth of a biobased construction industry

Opting for a regional approach rather than a national one allows us to leverage the forest partners in Tanzania and Uganda, alongside Kenya's timber manufacturing sector and ready market. These elements support the formation of a regional value chain alliance.

IMPACT

- The market assessment demonstrated the **potential and viability** of establishing a **biobased construction industry in East Africa** and outlined the implementation strategy
- **A task force of 15-20 actors** in the ecosystem has been created to actualise the East Africa value chain alliance (VCA)
- Although still in the early stages, **lessons learnt** from this VCA will inform the soon-to-be-launched **Central America and India regional VCAs**
- The task force will work towards the initial milestones of the VCA, with one of the key outcomes being the **establishment of a manufacturing sector** while ensuring safeguards are in place to serve local demand

Steps to set up value chain alliances:

Ideating a regional value chain

BuildX and CSFEP originated the idea of a biobased construction industry in the region



Assessing the market

CSFEP funds assessments to demonstrate the potential for an East African value chain



Creating a roadmap for success

Outcomes and outputs are identified with clear timelines, resourcing needs are understood, and quick wins are prioritised for action



Convening value chain working groups

Relevant ecosystem players from the public, social, and private sectors come together to collaborate on the prioritised wins



Collaborating to achieve victory

MATERIALS ARE COLLECTIVELY CREATED TO MEET THE OUTCOMES IDENTIFIED, WITH A CLEAR ACTION AGENDA WITHIN EACH WORKING GROUP