ECOTOURISM WITH BAMBOO IN COLOMBIA

XIMENA LONDON

A BAMBOO AND GUADUA PARADISE

World Bamboo Workshop
IMPHAL MANIPUR INDIA 2019
Area: 1,141,748 km²
Population: 46 millions
- second most bamboo diverse country in Latin America with ca. 16 spp.
WHAT IS ECOTOURISM?

"a responsible trip to natural areas that conserve the environment and improve the well-being of the local population." - TIES
The importance of ecotourism for the sustainable development of nations.

DECLARATION OF QUEBEC – 2002: International year of Ecotourism

It is recognized that ecotourism meets the basic principles of sustainable tourism in the economic, social and environmental aspects of the tourism industry, and also complies with specific principles:

- Actively contribute to the conservation of natural and cultural heritage.
- Includes or incorporates local and indigenous communities in their planning, development, exploitation and well-being.
- Interprets the natural and cultural heritage of the destination for visitors.
- Offers a better service to independent travelers, as well as to circuits organized for small groups.

ST CENTURY: specialized tourism will be preferred. The World Tourism Organization (WTO) determined that tourists prefer: ecotourism, agrotourism, adventure tourism, cruise tourism and cultural tourism.
ECOTOURISM WITH BAMBOO IN COLOMBIA

1948 – Juan Maria Céspedes Botanical Garden, Tuluá, Valle del Cauca

50 YEARS!!

FOUNDER: Victor Manuel Patiño & Ciro Molina Cabal

AREA: 154 ha.

MAIN OBJECTIVE: to protect and do research on the flora of Valle del Cauca.

1986-1989: “Botanical, ecological, silvicultural and economic-industrial study of the ambusoideae from Colombia” by COLCIENCIAS – INCIVA.
Herbarium collection: 461 specimens, described 20 new bamboo species for Colombia, 1000 pieces of bamboo for the woody selections and 250 jars with FAA solution for morphological and anatomical studies.

Germplasm bank of Bambusoideae with native and exotics bamboos.

55 accesions of *Guadua angustifolia* Kunth from 48 colombian’s sites.

Laboratory and documentation center were established.
1983 – The Botanical Garden of UTP
Pereira, Risaralda

FOUNDER: Technological University of Pereira
AREA: 13 ha
MAIN OBJECTIVE: It is an important center for research, conservation and environmental education in the urban area of the city of Pereira. 10,000 visitors/year of whom 50% are students.
ECOTOURISM WITH BAMBOO IN COLOMBIA

1986 - National Center for the Study of Bamboo Guadua
Cordoba, Quindío

UNDER: Government organization: Autonomous Regional Corporation of Quindío - CRQ

AREA: 7 ha.

MAIN OBJECTIVE: Provide new techniques for the management and propagation of Guadua angustifolia Kunth.
1987 – The MAGIC BAMBOO FOREST
Santander de Quilichao, Cauca.

FOUNDER: Diego Serna

AREA: 3 ha

MAIN OBJECTIVE: To bend bamboo, and make a magic guadua forest. To create a living book with the historical events of Colombia.
1991 - Guadua Park “Guillermo Ponce de León”
Tuluá, Valle del Cauca

UNDER: LEVAPAM, private company – produces yeast

AREA: 5 ha

IN OBJECTIVE: Established a public park in the city of Tuluá with an ecological destination.
2014 – A BAMBOO AND GUADUA PARADISE
Montenegro, Quindío

FOUNDER: Ximena Londoño

AREA: 16 ha

MAIN OBJECTIVE: It is an educational bamboo park where visitors learn about the diversity of bamboo; its methods of reproduction; its management; its harvest and post-harvest process; the environmental benefits of bamboo; its use and applications, and agroecological systems.
A BAMBOO AND GUADUA PARADISE, we meet the basic economic, social and environmental principles of sustainable tourism.

To actively contribute to the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of bamboo-guadua.

To involve the local community of “Once Casas” in the planning and development of agro-tourism to generate wellbeing.

To offer a unique environmental education and recreation service to domestic and foreign visitors around bamboo.
CONSERVATION ACTIONS.

1. USING EXOTIC BAMBOOS A WETLAND WAS TRANSFORMED INTO A SMALL CREEK WITH A WATER VOLUME FLOW OF 4 LITERS PER SECOND IN 16 YEARS.
2. WILDLIFE CONNECTIVE CORRIDORS
CONSERVING BIODIVERSITY
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BIOLOGICAL GROUP</th>
<th>Number of species</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLANTS</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BIRDS</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MAMMALS</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HERPETOS</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 CONSERVATION OF A GERMOPHASM BANK OF BAMBUSOIDEAE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>BAMBOO SPECIES &amp; GENERA</th>
<th>NATIVE</th>
<th>25 SPP.</th>
<th>7 genera</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EXOTICS</td>
<td>45 SPP.</td>
<td>10 genera</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>70 SPP.</td>
<td>17 genera</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
1.3.2. *EX – SITU* COLLECTION ARE IMPORTANT FOR BAMBOO RESEARCH:

**AFTER 23 YEARS FLOWERING**

*Ottea colombiana* Ruiz-Sánchez & X. Londoño

**AFTER 14 YEARS FLOWERING**

*Guadua incana* Londoño
CONSERVATION OF TRADITIONAL CONSTRUCTION METHODS

BAHAREQUE
BAMBOO-TOURISM: GENERATES WELL-BEING FOR LOCAL COMMUNITIES
GENERATES WELL-BEING FOR LOCAL HANDICRAFT MAKERS: SELLING BAMBOO HANDICRAFT PRODUCTS OR TRAINING PEOPLE.
RESEARCH & EDUCATIONAL SERVICE: INTERNSHIPS

Istom School FRANCE, UTP
Ministry of Culture of Colombia.
Nagaland bamboo mission
Peruvian Bamboo Society,
Brazilian Bamboo Mission.
EDUCATIONAL SERVICE: WORKSHOPS COVERING SEVERAL BAMBOO ASPECTS

- INSTRUCTION
- NATURAL HISTORY OF BAMBOO
- PRESERVATION
- CULM LEAVES HANDICRAFTS
TIPS TO KEEP IN MIND BEFORE DEVELOPING BAMBOO RELATED ECOTOURISM

- Have a property that produces bamboo or be in a bamboo production region
  - To develop an innovative idea
  - To contact government institutions to support the initiative.
  - To be convinced that bamboo is an integral plant.
  - To work hard and with PASSION!!
BENEFITS OF ECOTOURISM

✓ It has a minimal impact on the environment.
✓ Create awareness and respect for the local culture and the environment.
✓ Offers positive experiences for all.
✓ Employs and benefits communities.
✓ Educate visitors about the local socio-political, and environmental issues.
ECOTOURISM WITH BAMBOO MUST BE A MODEL OF HARMONY BETWEEN AGRO-EDUCATION, TOURISM AND ECOLOGICAL PRESERVATION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND OF THE CULTURE.

WE CAN MAKE OUR LIVES MORE VALUABLE IN A LIFESTYLE AND CULTURE WITH BAMBOO.
ARTAGENA, Colombia (Reuters) - Colombia’s center-right government and the Marxist FARC rebel group signed a peace deal Monday to end a half-century war that killed a quarter of a million people and once took the Andean country to the brink of collapse.

The peace agreement signed between FARC and the Government is only one step on the long road to the former guerrilla fighters’ full reintegration into Colombian society. What to put in guerrillas’ hands that once held a weapon?

GUADUA - BAMBOO FOR PEACE!!
WITH THE BEAUTY OF THE LANDSCAPES IN MANIPUR, ITS NATURAL AND CULTURAL WEALTH, AND ITS MILLENNARY HISTORY, MANIPUR IS A CULTURAL STOPPING POINT WITH A GREAT POTENTIAL OF BECOMING A DESTINATION FOR ECO-TOURISM, WHERE BOTH DOMESTICS AND FOREIGN TOURIST MIGHT MADE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO THE PRESERVATION OF NATIVE COMMUNITIES AND NATIVE BAMBOO FOREST.
WHAT WOULD A BETTER FUTURE FOR BAMBOO MEAN?

Increase the bamboo products sold to consumers?

To preserve the national bamboo culture and native bamboo forest?

ECOTURISMS IS THE SOLUTION TO PRESERVE NATIVE COMMUNITIES AND NATIVE BAMBOO ECOSYSTEM

Chinese proverb: “RATHER LIVE WITHOUT MEAT THAN LIVE WITHOUT BAMBOO”