



unitar

United Nations Institute for Training and Research

Unitar Online Catalogue

CIFAL Surrey - Sustainable Development of Biobased Construction Materials in Brazil (e.g. bamboo & palm) - from plantation to the final products

People

Deadline: 31 Mar 2025

Type:	Workshop
Location:	Belem, Brazil
Date:	1 Jul 2025 to 3 Jul 2025
Duration:	3 Days
Programme Area:	Decentralize Cooperation Programme
Website:	https://www.surrey.ac.uk/events/20250701-international-workshop-biobased-constr...
Price:	\$190.00
Event Focal Point Email:	cifal@surrey.ac.uk
Partnership:	CIFAL Surrey, , CIFAL Surrey

BACKGROUND

To tackle the climate crisis and support the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the use of sustainable, carbon-sequestering construction materials is essential. Bio-based materials are necessary to address this, but reliance on trees

alone is insufficient, particularly in regions where commercial forestry is underdeveloped. Tropical bamboo and palm have huge worldwide potential, but particularly in Brazil, for sustainable construction and circular economic development; these are low cost and widely available. Natural bamboo (NB), in use as culms, grows faster and fixes more carbon than commercial forestry timber. Engineered bamboo (EB), used as manufactured products, has one of the lowest environmental impacts compared with traditional structural materials. Palm is also widely available in Brazil, with especially high diversity in the Amazon, and provides trunks, leaves, and varied fibers with great potential to produce construction materials at an industrial scale.

Workshop delegates will benefit from the expertise of facilitators that are experts in the full lifecycle concepts from plantation or forest management, growth & harvesting; through material treatment & production; through engineering behaviour of the products & their use in construction. Workshop facilitators come from different universities & are members of an existing worldwide coalition of experts dedicated to promoting the use of bio-based construction materials.

EVENT OBJECTIVES

The key aims of the workshop are to:

- Explore the gap between potential versus current use of bio-based construction products in Brazil and Amazon in particular
- Examine the value chain and explore business opportunities for industrialisation of desired products
- Knowledge exchange between the researchers from both countries (and beyond)
- Identify the research required to support business ideas and commercialisation
- Create a forum for the stakeholders to consider the local situation for having a global impact
- Showcase the success stories of companies in the field of design and manufacturing of bio-based construction materials
- Strengthen and grow the network of researchers from the UK and Brazil (and internationally)

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

- In-person and online keynote lectures (from different parts of the world) to better understand both the local and global contexts
- Interaction between the UK and Brazil participants during the roundtable and group discussions
- Active-learning techniques and hands-on activities
- Field trips to riverside communities to learn their use of sustainable materials for construction
- Interaction with the local community and the experts through technical tours

METHODOLOGY

Hybrid method of presentations, networking sessions, hands-on activities and technical tours.

TARGETED AUDIENCE

Early career researchers in the UK and Brazil.