HANDBOOK
PILOT PAVILION

for multifunctional public use in East-Africa.
Rural areas in the Lake Victoria Region often lack regular water and energy supply and the inhabitants generally live in poor constructed houses in difficult climate conditions. Focussing on finding sustainable and locally available alternatives, by reinterpreting and introducing natural and sustainable resources in a new way.

**Building a PAVILION**, *reacting on the sustainable and climate conditions of the Lake Victoria Region, while modifying it to the cultural and individual needs of the specific context* - step by step in accordance with the community.

In the form of this easy-to-read handbook, the local people will be empowered to understand the potentials of the Pavilion by means of explaining the single structural elements, and their requirements in the sequence of construction.

Simple drawings and schemes illustrate the building steps to be taken on site in order to build the Pavilion in collaboration with the community.* The drawings not only serve as a communication tool, but also as an inspiration for other communities and as guidance for maintenance activities after the building phase in order to keep the building in good condition.

*This manual will be developed into detail furtheron and can be changed after experiences on the construction phase / units will be changed.*
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INTRODUCTION

The PILOT PAVILION is designed to be reproducible and both simply and sustainably constructed by local people reinterpreting the use of local materials in the Lake Victoria region and fulfills several goals:

* The pilot can be implemented into several areas around Lake Victoria
  * Solutions and building techniques incorporated into the design should be communicated to the community, accepted, adopted and further developed by them
  * The region deals with the tropical rainforest climate with heavy rainfalls during the rainy season, followed by a dry season with many sun hours. The building should create awareness of rainwater and solar energy collection, free sources that are available
  * People use eucalyptus for construction of their buildings. Eucalyptus is locally produced and a fast-growing wood, but it demonstrably harms the soil around as it consumes a high demand of water. For this reason bamboo is introduced as construction material, growing in different forests in the region but not used as construction material. Bamboo is growing rapidly and is a sustainable, natural and endless resource. The material is pretty lightweight, has a tensile strength comparable to steel and a compressive strength even higher than concrete.
  * The building system will show how to incorporate sustainable cycles into architecture.
  * The multifunctional building is supposed to fulfil a social function therewith reacting on socio-cultural and economic problems of the region.
  * Workers have knowledge of the building system and facilities in order to maintain it.
* The pavilions can be featured, clustered and copied in many ways according to the individual context.
CONSTRUCTION SITE

TEAM

The construction team building the PAVILION consists of skilled and unskilled workers. The amount of workers depends on the time schedule, the weather conditions and the number of pavilions that will be built.

Common experts needed on the construction site:

* A local contractor has to be responsible for the different construction steps and guide the individual employees. The contractor knows the availability of materials and suppliers in the area.
* If the local circumstances allow it, an electrician is needed to connect the building to the electricity grid.

For the installation of solar panels an solar panel expert is needed, to install the panels on the roof and the connection to the inverter and battery.
* To guide and store the rain water that will be collected from the roof a water system has to be installed. The rain water should be filtered and be led to the waterstorage tank, from which it can be pumped to the water source. A constant water quality and temperature have to be assured.

Less common experts needed on the construction site:

* The bamboo expert is responsible for the selection procedure, the supply of well-treated bamboo and the processing of the material. The ‘Kenya Bamboo Centre’ is located in Nairobi, from where employees have the willingness to join the construction site.
* The ferrocement expert has to guide the mixing procedure of the different ferrocement layers and the water resistant additions.

It is important that the experts involved in the construction phase transfer their knowledge to the local people/workers, which offers the local people the possibility to resolve the small problems themselves.
Different tools are needed for the construction phase, especially for the further processing of bamboo and ferrocement. Special tools are required.

1 generator
2 work bench
3 horizontal + rope
4 shovel
5 cement mixer
6 wood saw
7 metal saw
8 drill
9 drill bit (length > 3 bamboo poles)
10 drill bit, grater
11 sander
12 pliers
13 wrench
14 trowel
15 hammer
The following pages illustrate and explain the 25 consecutive building steps leading to the construction of one Pavilion. Steps 22 to 25 are optional and therefore variable according to the circumstances and desired requirements.

The sequence of the steps serves as a guideline for the activities on the construction site.

1 Pavilion:
- Ground surface: 71.40 m²
- Roof surface: 67.90 m²
- Lowest point roof: 2.56 m
- Highest point roof: 3.99 m
Preparation construction site

- Preparing the construction tools
- Determine the orientation of the building
- Measuring the site
- Marking the building plot and the height of the building. (outdoor area, gradient of 2% away from the building)

Material

Excavation of the vegetation and ground.
**Element**

corner: 850 x 850 x 1000 mm  
4x

middle: 700 x 1050 x 1000 mm  
4x

**Pile foundation**

Connects the structure to the ground and transfers loads to the ground  
- Mix the cement  
- Pour the footing

**Material**

Concrete proportion:  
Cement : Sand : Ballast  
(50 kg) : (wheelbarrow) : (wheelbarrow)  
1 : 2 : 4  
Addition: Water
**Foundation watertank**

Collected water will be led to the water storage underneath ground level in the middle of the building.
- Water or a standard water storage tank of 5000L fits in the foundation.

**Material**

Concrete proportion:

Cement  |  Sand (wheelbarrow)  |  Ballast (wheelbarrow)  
--- | --- | ---  
1 (50 kg) | 2 | 4  

Addition: Water
Element

- outside long: 350 x 250 x 4025 mm
  - 4x
- outside short: 350 x 250 x 2025 mm
  - 4x
- middle: 300 x 250 x 4100 mm
  - 4x

Fabrication strip foundation

The strip foundation provides the base for (possible) interior and exterior walls and allows future changes.

Material

Concrete proportion:
- Cement : Sand : Ballast
  - (50 kg) : (wheelbarrow) : (wheelbarrow)
  - 1 : 2 : 4

Addition: Water
**Bamboo columns**

- Indigenous Yushania alpina specie
- Bamboo poles Ø 150 mm
- Selecting straight bamboo poles without cracks
- Bamboo has to be treated 3 months before with chemicals, e.g. borax and boric
- Holes should be drilled around the nodes

**Material**

Securing bamboo: Bolts M10, washer, nuts
Element (assembling page 16+17)

Horizontal bamboo poles

- Indigenous Yushania alpina specie
- Bamboo poles Ø 150 mm
- Selecting straight bamboo poles without cracks
- Bamboo has to be treated 3 months before with chemicals, e.g. borax and boric
- Holes should be drilled around the nodes

Material

Securing bamboo: Bolts M10, eye bolts, washer, nuts

Ø 150 mm
L = 2800 mm  8x
L = 4800 mm  8x
ASSEMBLING BAMBOO FRAME A

Roof inclination 7°

2X Frame A

All underlined bamboo measurements have a fish-mouth, which guarantees an actuated/frictional connection.

Bamboo poles

1  L = 3515 mm  1x
2  L = 3375 mm  1x
3  L = 1000 mm  2x
4  L = 2680 mm  2x
5  L = 1030 mm  2x
6  L = 3250 mm  1x
7  L = 2980 mm  1x
8  L = 4715 mm  2x
9  L = 3730 mm  1x
10 L = 3875 mm  1x
ASSEMBLING BAMBOO FRAME B

2X Frame B

Roof inclination 14°

Bamboo poles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bamboo pole</th>
<th>Length (mm)</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>L = 3795</td>
<td>1x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>L = 2770</td>
<td>2x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>L = 1030</td>
<td>2x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>L = 4285</td>
<td>1x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>L = 4575</td>
<td>1x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>L = 4805</td>
<td>2x</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>L = 3425</td>
<td>1x</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All underlined bamboo measurements have a fish-mouth, which guarantees an actuated/frictional connection.
### Reciprocal frame

- Indigenous Yushania alpina specie
- Bamboo poles Ø 150 mm
- Selecting straight bamboo poles without cracks
- Bamboo has to be treated 3 months before with chemicals, e.g. borax and boric
- Holes should be drilled around the nodes

### Material

Securing bamboo side: Bolts M10, washer, nuts
Securing bamboo middle: steel wire Ø 2 mm + rubber ring
Securing bamboo pair: Bamboo sticks Ø 10 mm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element (assembling page 19)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ø 150 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L = 5000 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L = 4850 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ø 150 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L = 4850 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L = 4700 mm</td>
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![Diagram](image-url)
Reciprocal frame

In order to assemble the reciprocal frame, two support columns are needed to position the pairs of bamboo and can be removed after the last pair of bamboo. A rubber ring is placed in between the bamboo pairs in order to avoid shifts and steel wire is wrapped around to reinforce the connection.

Step 1, A - roof inclination 14°

Step 2, B - roof inclination 6°

Step 3, A - roof inclination 14°

Step 4, B - roof inclination 6°
**Bamboo construction**

- Indigenous Yushania alpina specie
- Bamboo poles Ø 75 mm
- Selecting straight bamboo poles without cracks
- Bamboo has to be treated 3 months before with chemicals, e.g. borax and boric
- Holes should be drilled around the nodes

**Material**

Securing bamboo side: Bolts M10, washer, nuts
Securing bamboo middle: steel wire Ø 2 mm
Element

Papyrus ceiling
- Papyrus mat is commonly used for ceilings
- Protects against mosquitoes and other insects

Material
Securing papyrus ceiling: nailed

Available in different sizes
68 m²
Wood battens

- Important to use dry wood
- Forms the underlayer for the balancing layer on top

Material

Securing: nailed

Element

30 x 50 x 4150 x mm
24x
Element (assembling page 25)

Counter battens long

- Important to use dry wood
- Forms the balancing layer between the main bamboo construction and the finishing ferroconcrete roof in order to protect the bamboo
- The counter battens decline height to a min of 30 mm

Material

Securing: nailed
Counter battens long

- Important to use dry wood
- Forms the balancing layer between the main bamboo construction and the finishing ferrocement roof in order to protect the bamboo
- The counter battens decline height to a min of 30 mm

Material

Securing: nailed
COUNTER BATTENS

- Every counter batten appears two times
  The wooden board can be cut half with the right dimensions.

- The marked points where the roof surfaces connect have to be positioned in the same layer. The counter battens should balance these height differences creating a smooth surface.
**ROOF / Roof edge capping**

**Roof edge capping**
- Protects the main bamboo construction and wall against rain
- Metal plate leads the water from the lowest roof-point to the ground

**Material**
- Securing: screws
Rain pipe, watertank

- Rain pipe leads the collected rain water form the roof to the storage tank, located underneath the building

Material

Securing: clamps
Damp proof layer

- Moisture control, prevents moisture to pass into the construction and interior

**Material**

Securing: nails
Element

5 mm thickness, 72 m²

Jute fabric

- The jute fabric has to be stretched over the wooden counter battens and serves as underlayer for the ferrocement to stick on

Material

Securing: nails
Ferrocement roof
- The ferrocement roof consists of one layer of welding mesh/chicken wire and 3 layers of ferrocement
- To make the roof water resistant, the last layer has to be mixed with latex/acrylic
- The roofshape follows the underlaying structure, which also marks the drainage direction
- It is important that the welding mesh/chicken wire is covered by ferrocement to prevent corrosion

Material
Securing: staples
Well compacted hardcore
- Well compacted hardcore has to be placed between the strip foundation
- Hardcore layer interrupts capillary action
- Thickness 150 mm
FLOOR / Bituminous felt paper

Drainage system, bituminous felt paper

- Masonry layer 200 mm, protection against water and serves as frame for the rammed earth floor
- Bituminous felt paper prevents moisture to pass into the construction and interior
**Compressed clay soil**

- The compressed clay soil has been placed on top of the bituminous felt paper.
- Acts as thermal insulation.
- Thickness 100 mm.
**Rammed earth floor**

- The rammed earth floor consist of three layers
  rammed earth 60 mm - 60 mm - 80 mm
- Thickness 200 mm
- Top coat: 2mm hard wax layer

**Material**

After the rammed earth is completely dry, the surface has to be waxed (2mm) which increases the durability and lustre

**Element**

10 m³
Element

brick

bamboo

rammed earth

Exterior and Interior walls

- The exterior and interior walls are not load-bearing and can therefore be chosen according to individual needs
- The wall can be either completely closed, different levels of permeability or completely open

Material

Mortar proportion:
Cement  Sand  Water
(50 kg)  (wheelbarrow)
1  :  3
OPTIONAL: WALLS / Windows, doors, plaster

Water system cover, windows, doors, plaster
- Removable bamboo mat to cover the drainage system
- Dependent on the function, steel or wooden doors and windows can be placed

Material
Plaster proportion:
Cement : Sand : Water
(50 kg) : (wheelbarrow)
1 : 3
OPTIONAL: WATER SYSTEM / Drainage system, cover mat

Element

Water system cover, windows, doors, plaster

- Drainage system collects the water from the surrounding to avoid water in the building
- Removable bamboo mat to cover the drainage system
OPTIONAL: ELECTRICITY / Electricity, solar panels

Electricity, solar panels
- Electricity can be installed on the assigned spots, taking safety into account with rainwater
- Installation of solar panels on the roof - inverter
- Battery

Material
Frame solar panels

Element
PVC pipes
1250 x 640 mm
CONSTRUCTION PROCESS

2 PAVILIONS

2 Pavilions

The modular system of the pavilions has the capacities to be clustered and featured in many different ways.

Two pavilions can be easily connected, but some remarks have to be taken into account for the construction steps of the two connecting facades:
- Pile and strip foundation have to be combined (step 2,4)
- Wooden battens and counter battens have to be 150 mm shorter (step 10,11,12)
- Roof edge capping has to follow the outer facade (step 13)
- Floor drainage system has to follow the outer facade (step 19)