**Uganda to exploit bamboo resources**

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1. Uganda will soon start exploiting its untapped bamboo resources and use bamboo technology for construction, the Minister of Water and Environment, MSc Maria Mutagamba, has said.
2. “The project will be carried out with help of China, the world’s leading in Bamboo technology. She said China earns Euro 800 million annually from growing bamboo for export. They are doing all sorts of things with the Bamboo. It is used for food, making cloth, furniture, building poles, making baskets, and as water pipelines in rural areas” MS Mutagamba said.
3. Other uses for Bamboo include making charcoal out of bamboo dust. MSc Mutagamba said this on Monday at the Ministry Head quarters during a ceremony to hand over equipment worth shs70 million from Germany Development Cooperation to her Ministry, under the now phased out project of cooperation among River Basin Organizations.
4. It is a good resource especially where there is plenty of rain.
5. Bamboo is the fast growing tree which takes at least two years to mature and can become a source of food at two months
6. Currently, bamboo grows in the wild in Uganda especially in the East and west parts of the country. It is also used as a source of food commonly known as Haleiwa among the Bagisu in Eastern.

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