



# BAMBOO ARCHITECTURE & AGRICULTURE WORKSHOP

COASTAL ECUADOR  
10 DAY IMMERSIVE COURSE  
REGENERATIVE DESIGN





# CONTENT

01 WHY BAMBOO?

02 BIOREGIONALISM OF COASTAL ECUADOR

03 REGENERATION FIELD INSTITUTE: AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENTERPRISE

04 LOS ARBOLEROS FARM: BAMBOO AND AGROFORESTRY







# WHY BAMBOO?

- Harvestable in 3-5 years
- Stronger than steel
- Indigenous building material
- Native and locally abundant
- Ethically and sustainably sourced
- Emblematic of local culture
- Aesthetically beautiful
- Ecologically regenerative
- Returns biomass to degraded soils
- Sequesters carbon





## BIOREGIONALISM OF COASTAL ECUADOR

The bio-regionalism of Coastal Ecuador has long taught its resident organisms how to thrive within its ecosystem. The indigenous Caras people understood the biological and ecological patterns of the coast and built their structures accordingly: utilizing bamboo to absorb the force of frequent seismic activity. With a 98% deforestation rate, Ecuador holds some of the last remaining fragments of tropical dry forest, one of the most understudied ecosystems in the world and host to thousands of species of endemic flora and fauna. By reviving a culture that builds with bamboo, we recall the incredible abundance of the forest. We are inspired to steward and protect it as we learn how to create and relate to both our natural and built environments.



# REGENERATION FIELD INSTITUTE:

AN ENVIRONMENTAL ENTERPRISE



## IDEOLOGY AND GOALS:

Regeneration Field Institute aims to empower students, professors, researchers, farmers, architects, builders, entrepreneurs and designers to engage in socially and ecologically regenerative work. We provide people with hands-on, interdisciplinary courses exploring regenerative bamboo building, design, and agroecological farming practices.



# LOS ARBOLEROS FARM

AGROFORESTRY AND BAMBOO



In 2017, RFI partnered with Los Arboleros Farm to model bamboo cultivation, curing, and processing on a large scale as well as work to become an organic agricultural resource and training center for local farming communities. Los Arboleros is a 70-acre property below the Cordillera Costanera mountain range focusing on the production of timber bamboo species, banana, plantain, citrus, cacao, moringa, turmeric, diverse fruits and vegetables, and hardwood species. Participants stay and work on the farm during their course as the headquarters of RFI.

## THE DESIGN FOR THE FARM INCLUDES:

- A bamboo curing and treatment facility large enough to produce high volumes of bamboo for local farmers of the region.
- Greenhouses and propagation operations for bamboo and high-value crops to be used in agroforestry systems.
- Accommodations for up to 35 students, farm workers, builders, architects, engineers, professors, interns and community members to be present at anytime.
- The Regeneration Field Institute to host workshops on bamboo construction certifications, agroforestry, sustainable farming practices, entrepreneurship, agricultural business development, etc.

