

ABSTRACT

POSSIBILITIES FOR REDUCED TIMBER IMPORTATION  
IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

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The current recession experienced in Trinidad and Tobago due to the fall in oil prices has severely impacted the level of construction activity and as a consequence the annual volumes of imported lumber. Significantly high levels of lumber imports characteristic of recent years have been severely reduced. At the same time domestic lumber production stagnates. Against this background the project examines the potential for revitalization of the local lumber industry through increased utilization of local forest resources. It concludes that only persistent cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors, together with research, consolidation of lumber industry operations, an emphasis on the optimal exploitation of non-petroleum-related resources and the exercise of governmental will, can make any significant impact on the current crisis situation.

increasing local lumber outputs (2)