

**Application Question:**

You are the manager of a U.S.-based construction company that relies heavily on imported lumber for building projects. Recently, the U.S. government has imposed tariffs on Canadian lumber, claiming unfair subsidization by the Canadian government. This tariff has significantly increased the cost of Canadian lumber, impacting your company's operating expenses and profit margins.

**Task:**

Develop a strategic plan to address the increased costs of Canadian lumber due to tariffs. Your plan should include the following elements:

**Alternative Sourcing:** Identify at least two alternative countries or methods for sourcing lumber and justify your choice based on cost, quality, and reliability of supply.

**Budget Adjustments:** Propose adjustments to your company's budget to accommodate the increased costs without compromising on the quality of the construction projects.

**Stakeholder Communication:** Describe how you would communicate these changes and their implications to key stakeholders, including investors, clients, and employees