

7 April, 2019

Tomorrow's Forest continues with the planting of 6,160 seedlings in Clit, Suceava county

- **Tomorrow's Forest's first planting session this year took place on 6 April, 2019 in Clit, Suceava county**
- **6,160 seedlings of fir, ash, maple and spruce have been planted**
- **Almost 200 volunteers offered their help**

The *Tomorrow's Forest* project rallied almost 200 volunteers on 6 April, in a planting session which helped the reforestation of 1.3 hectares in Clit, Suceava county. Members of the local community joined students at the Tomsa Voda Technical High School in Solca, students at the Radauti Technology College, students at the Forestry Faculty within the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava, forestry personnel from Solca Forest Management Unit and Holzindustrie Schweighofer employees at the Radauti and Siret, to plant 6,140 seedlings of fir, ash, maple and spruce. The project was launched in September 2017 as a partnership between the Association of Forests Administrators, the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava and Holzindustrie Schweighofer, in a move of helping private owners and local administrations to reforest the degraded forest areas.

The planting area in Clit is part of a body of wet forest (*bahna – moor/marshy land*). As a result of partial cuttings, the natural regeneration is made of pioneering species (goat willow, quaking aspen), while blackberry brambles covering the soil obstruct natural regeneration. At the same time, resinous species have been planted in this forest outside of their natural areal and, unfortunately, the procedures to modify the forestry plan to correct the regeneration composition are very difficult.

The Solca Forest Management Unit – which is managing the area - has drawn up the reforestation documentation. The FMU will also oversee the planting activities, as well as the subsequent works of completing and maintaining the plantation, which are done by a specialised reforestation company, during the 2019-2025 timeframe.

“We are glad to bring Tomorrow's Forest to Suceava county for the third time,” said Tomorrow's Forest project manager Ionut Apostol. “The first planting session meant the stating of the project, in the autumn of 2017, in [Poieni Solca](#). Last year, almost 600 volunteers joined the event in [Poiana Negrii](#). The area in Clit which we reforested today is one of the 12 areas selected for this year, as part of the Tomorrow's Forest project. We have reforestation projects in the counties of Cluj, Satu Mare, Harghita, Covasna and Brasov. We will reforest 50 hectares of degraded forest plots this year, with a total of 204,000 seedlings of spruce, beech, maple, ash, fir and oak.”

At the same time, during the Tree Planting Month, the *Tomorrow's Forest* project is planning to tend to the areas it planted in the previous years – one of the objectives it assumed is to care for the areas



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for at least three years, so that the seedlings are deep-rooted. Thus, completion works are carried out on the area planted in Poieni Solca in 2017, to compensate for the seedling losses during the draught. Since the project was launched in the autumn of 2017, over 160,000 seedlings have been planted on a total area of 40 hectares. Until now, *Tomorrow's Forest* has rallied over 1,000 volunteers in its actions carried out in eight counties nationwide. The project addresses private forest areas owners in Romania, who can register their property on www.padureademaine.ro

About Tomorrow's Forest

Tomorrow's Forest is a multiannual, national project, developed by the Association of Forest Administrators and the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava, with the support of Holzindustrie Schweighofer. The project answers an urgent need to reforest private lands. The forest lands have been restituted in several stages and certain situations have led – in some cases – to forest degradation. There are subsidies for afforestation (forests planted on non-forest land), but not for reforestation in such areas. The project aims to plant one million seedlings over five years. Maintenance and monitoring works will continue for three years, to assure the reaching of the objective, respectively the successful installation of forest vegetation. More details on www.padureademaine.ro

About AAP

AAP is a non-governmental organisation, apolitical, non-profit, the professional association of forest administrators. The association was set up in 2004 and has the status of a public utility since 2015. Its members are 109 private Forest Management Units, which manage 1.5 million hectares of forest land owned by the territorial administrative units (64%), legal entities (30%) and individuals. (6%)

About the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava

The main components of the Forestry Faculty within the Stefan cel Mare University in Suceava are education and scientific research in the forestry field. The institution trains forestry engineers for the activities of forest cultivation, harvesting and transporting wood and primary wood processing. The Forestry Faculty in Suceava is very active in the field of scientific research, as it runs several research projects at a national and European level and is a founding member of EFI CEEC – The Regional Centre for Central and Eastern Europe of the European Forestry Institute (EFI).

About the Schweighofer Group

The Schweighofer Group has its roots in a traditional Austrian family company with over 400 years of experience in wood processing. Today, the Group is primarily active in the wood processing industry, forest management, bioenergy production and real estate. The industry division of the Schweighofer Group operates three sawmills and two wooden panel production units in Romania and one sawmill in Germany. It takes a leading role in the European wood-processing industry, currently employing around 3,100 people. Holzindustrie Schweighofer exports products to over 70 countries worldwide.

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