Description of planting model for the Baltics

Grow For It collaborates with Hedeselskabet on tree planting on marginal agricultural land in the Baltics.

With a pilot project for a European planting model, Grow For It has now made it possible for those interested to donate for climate forest in a Danish local area, i.e. Estonia, Latvia, or Lithuania. The pilot project takes place in collaboration with Hedeselskabet's local Baltic branch, HD Forest.

Grow For It has so far focused on planting mangrove forests in Madagascar, as well as afforestation in Nepal, Vietnam, and Uganda. The purpose is to give private individuals and companies the opportunity to compensate for their CO_2 emissions by planting climate forests, while at the same time strengthening biodiversity and protecting local areas, e.g. against soil erosion.

Grow For It has chosen to focus on countries with low costs as well as solid and credible partners, so that maximum security and effect for the invested money is achieved. Our goal has been and continues to be to achieve a CO_2 uptake from the plantations of 10 tons of CO_2 / year on average over several years for an investment of approx. € 1,000.

We have now investigated the possibilities of also being able to offer an economically realistic planting model in our immediate area, i.e. in Denmark or a nearby area in Europe, where you as a donor have easier access to visit your climate forest. This opportunity has now arisen. The price level is different, but very attractive by Danish or European standards.

Why the Baltics?
HD Forest and Grow For It have jointly developed a planting model for climate forests in the Baltics. HD Forest, which is part of Hedeselskabet, manages approx. 75,000 hectares of forest in the Baltics. In comparison, the Danish state forest area is approx. 110,000 hectares. HD Forest is therefore a highly competent partner for Grow For It with a crucial local knowledge of agriculture, forestry, and afforestation in the Baltics.

In addition, the opportunities for afforestation in the Baltics are favorable due to a coincidence of several factors:

- Favorable cost level
- Good protection of classified forest
- Sufficient suitable areas for planting
- Possibility of documentation in the form of geo-coordination and images

Planting model:

- Planting on marginal agricultural land
- The afforestation areas are reclassified from agriculture to forest => securing permanent forest
- Planting with a mixture of native tree species:

  • Birch
  • Scotch pine
  • Common alder
  • Spruce

Level of CO_2 sequestration:

- In the growth phase over the next approx. 60 years capture and storage of a total of approx. 400 tons of CO_2 - corresponding to approx. 6.5 tons / ha / year. The wood products from forests will subsequently be used sustainably for construction, furniture and in products where they replace more CO_2-emitting alternatives, such as plastic, coal, oil, etc.
- According to local legislation, the forests in the Baltics must be replanted if they are cut down. This ensures permanent forest on the new forest areas that are planted. On average, in a Baltic forest there is a binding of 200 tons of CO_2 per hectare, which will be the permanent binding ensured by the establishment of a new forest area.

Economy:

- Sponsorship of afforestation: 1,500 € / ha (approx. DKK 11,250 / ha)
- Price per tons of CO_2 uptake over 60 years: 3.75 € / tons (approx. DKK 28 / tons)
- Price per tons of CO_2, permanent binding: 7.5 € / ton (approx. DKK 56 / ton)
- Possibly administration fee for HD Forest depends on requirements for documentation of the projects. Further donor specific documentation needs will require an additional administration fee

Pilot project:

During the pilot project, the planting model will function as a crowdfunding project where the planting will start when there is a total financial commitment from private donors and / or companies, corresponding to 10 hectares. As a starting point, it is possible to make a commitment for a contribution of variable size to the planting project. Minimum contribution is DKK 300.

Examples of contributions and CO_2 uptake:

Area in hectares	Price in DKK	Price in €	CO_2 uptake in tons per year (average for 60 years) *
0.089	1,000	134	0.58
0.33	3,725	500	2.2
0.66	7,500	1,000	4.3
1	11,250	1,500	6.5
1.5	17,250	2,300	10

** CO_2 footprint per inhabitant of Denmark, approx. 10 tons/year*