

POLAND

Carbon conservation & sequestration

Location
Sanok

Programming period
2014 – 2020

Priority
P5 – Resource efficiency & climate

Measure
M8 – Investments in forest areas

Funding (EUR)*
Total budget 3 125
EAFRD 1 325
National/Regional 475
Private 750

Project duration
2015 – 2020

Project promoter
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Website
n/a

* Annual

An example of how afforestation allows for the development and maintenance of farm lands where crop cultivation is almost impossible.

Summary

The beneficiary's land is located on a difficult, mountainous terrain of poor soil fertility and thus was not suitable for any kind of profitable cultivation. As the beneficiary wanted to avoid the wild overgrowth of blackthorn, the only solution was the investment in an afforestation project.



Results

The beneficiary currently has 22 500 trees on his land and each year another 1000 trees are planted.

The total area of the afforested land is 8 ha including firs, beech, oak, black alder, birch and pine.

Lessons & Recommendations

- ❑ The beneficiary recommends increasing the amount of co-financing according to the geographical conditions of the forested land. From his own experience, he can say that the more difficult the land conditions are, the higher the cost of achieving afforestation and ensuring its subsequent care and maintenance.
- ❑ A potential fear or constraint for those who would like to apply for support, could be the number of documents that must be collected in order to apply for co-financing, and the multitude of institutions that participate directly or indirectly in this activity. However, the beneficiary believes that as soon as the whole procedure starts, it turns out that it is not as difficult as it seems.

Context

The afforestation of agricultural land and lands with ecological succession allows for the development of forests on farm lands where crop cultivation is almost impossible.

The beneficiary's land is located on a difficult mountainous terrain with poor soil fertility which is not suitable for any kind of profitable cultivation. As the beneficiary wanted to avoid wild blackthorn overgrowth of the land, the only solution was the investment in an afforestation project.

Objectives

The main goal of the beneficiary was to avoid wild overgrowth on his land. Thus, he decided to realise a project to plant a forest in order to:

- increase the natural absorption of CO₂,
- increase the value of the landscape
- produce value for future generations in the form of timber
- and finally to make good use of land which was not suitable for cultivation.

Activities

As part of the afforestation project, the following steps were made in chronological order:

1. obtained the necessary certificates to allow afforestation;
2. prepared the afforestation plan;
3. applied for financial aid to the Agency for the Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture (ARMA) in Poland;
4. obtained the approval decision for afforestation;
5. carried out the afforestation works;
6. Underwent inspection from the Agency for the Restructuring and Modernisation of Agriculture (ARMA) and by the employees of the forest district of State Forests (<http://www.lasy.gov.pl/pl>);

7. received the decision granting financial aid and co-financing;
8. performed the annual care of the afforested area;
9. prepared and submitted the annual application for financial aid.

Main results

The afforested area is protected from soil erosion and contributes to the absorption of CO₂.

The project helps to increase awareness about the possibility of making use of agricultural land affected by diminished profitability due to unfavourable conditions (such as mountainous areas, infertile soil, etc.)

The beneficiary currently has 22 500 trees on his land and each year another 1000 trees are planted. The total area of the afforested land is 8 ha. The types of trees planted include firs, beech, oak, black alder, birch and pine.

Key lessons

The beneficiary recommends increasing the amount of co-financing according to the geographical conditions of the forested land. From his own experience, he can say that the more difficult the land conditions are, the higher the cost of achieving afforestation and ensuring its subsequent care and maintenance.

The beneficiary had already carried out afforestation with support from the RDP 2007-2013, hence, he was already aware of the basic steps to be taken when applying for co-financing from Measure 8 "Investments in the development of forest areas and improvement of the vitality of forests". In his opinion, a potential fear or constraint for those who would like to apply for support, could be the number of documents that must be collected in order to apply for co-financing, and the multitude of institutions that participate directly or indirectly in this activity. However, the beneficiary believes that as soon as the whole procedure starts, it turns out that it is not as difficult as it seems, as his particular case proves.

Additional sources of information

n/a