| Question   | Life Terra   | Plantam Fapte Bune  | One Tree Planted  | My Forest Armenia  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| Do your organizations operate sustainably, for example the nurseries do the use solar and is the wateruse measured, transport as sustainable etc? Or do the different organizations and projects have their own sustainability policy? Does this differ per country and project? | At Life Terra, when choosing our own suppliers we look for organizations that have social and environmental goals in addition to their financial ones.   | In all the cases, the seedlings are coming prom certified nurseries, both from state-owned forest districts and private companies. In all the cases, they are following the specific legislation regarding starting from sourcing the seeds to producind certified reproductive forest materials. | OTP's comprehensive evaluation of reforestation programs includes thorough due diligence on local partners, assessing their environmental practices, goals, and alignment with broader sustainability initiatives.  | rather than petrol. We are planning to   |
| Are there any specific EU funding opportunities for NGOs interested in aforestation?   | The European Union offers several funding opportunities for NGOs interested in afforestation projects. Afforestation projects can align, depending on their objectives. The LIFE Programme co-finances projects, with specific eligibility criteria and annual calls for proposals. Interreg and some agricultural programs can also be of interest. | Yes, but we did not aply until present for these kind of funds. The most representative one in PNRR (National Resilience and Recovery Plan).  | It's true that the EU offers various funding opportunities that NGOs interested in afforestation can explore. However, it's essential to understand that the landscape of EU funding can be complex, and specific opportunities may vary. Among opportunities, a few example might include the LIFE Programme, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD), Horizon Europe.  | There is EU funding available but it is etremely complicated to access. Further more the appication process is complicated as well. We have not yet started one. |
| Regarding to carbon credits, what is the process of obtaining them?  | We work with Nat5.bio, they certify all our projects and work worldwide. Low entry barrier and they also certify biodiversity. They take a stake in the success of each project, so "skin in the game" which for us was important.   | This is a very new subject for Romania. I heard about some debates, but I don't know anything concrete.   | One Tree Planted develops high-quality nature-based carbon projects, such as ARR initiatives, that generate carbon credits in the long term. We don't sell credits directly; instead, we focus on project development, where corporations invest early to secure future credits while benefiting from ESG-aligned co-benefits, reduced reputational risks, and early pricing advantages. Through our global partnerships, we provide project selection, feasibility assessments, carbon development support, compliance assurance, and relationship building—ensuring transparency and impact throughout the process.   | We have not yet started to apply for carbon credits  |
| For the tree planting process, do you consider the water wanagement aspect? If so, what techniques have you used (would be nice if you have an exaple in an arid area).  | yes, we look at keyline opportunities or any other ways to "slow down" water (terraces, apply mulching, biochar, etc.) in order to catch as much water as possible   | Until present, we irigated only a few plantations in the last two years. In general, it is not the case to provide additional water to the seedlings that we planted. We started to use hydrogel in the moment of planting and it looks to be a significant contribution tot the survavil rate.   | Yes, in the reforestation projects we support, for our planting partners water management is a crucial aspect of successful tree planting, especially in arid areas. Here's how it's considered and some strategies and techniques used: Species selection / Drought-tolerant species: Planting a mix of native trees and crops that are adapted to the local climate; Timing of Planting: Planting during the rainy season, if one exists, allows seedlings to establish roots before the onset of dry conditions; Soil Preparation: Improving soil structure to enhance water infiltration and retention is essential; Mulching; Water Management Techniques: Techniques like building contour bunds or swales, terraces, and micro-catchments can capture and concentrate rainfall around the base of trees. | We tried watering by hose a plot of 30 ha (100.000 trees) but the results were not   |

| Hi, to all panelists: How your actions respect the EU biodiversity aspects (as stipulated e.g. in the EU NRL or Biodiversity Strategy)? I have seen on Mihai presentation a photo of a Robinia monoculture plantation -      | including the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030 and the Nature Restoration Law (NRL). Our afforestation and reforestation  | following the technical forestry norms that are adopted by mininsterial order. Black locust is one of the planted species both in Romania and across Europe. It is NOT an invasive species (please see EU Regulation 1143/2014). In Romania, only 5% of the forests are planted with black locust. In the majority of the cases, according to the technical norms, we are planting autochtonous species or we are promoting the natural regeneration (which | resilience. Furthermore, our partners engage in close collaboration with local ecologists, land managers, forestry experts, local authorities, and policymakers. This collaborative approach ensures that our reforestation efforts are scientifically informed, locally relevant, and effectively contribute to  | My Forest Armenia aims to build forests that are as diverse as possible to preserve biodiversity. For that reason, we only use seeds collected by oursevels in local forests from local and endemic species. Furthermore, we plant at least 5 to 10 different forest tree and shrub species. A big limiting factor is altitude as the lands we are afforestin are often at high altitudes which limit our choices. |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| specific themes, keywords, or approaches that tend to be particularly effective? Are there certain priorities that funders are especially responsive to?  Do you provide trainingship or internship for the people who don't | More and more important for us is: participation (so social aspect), integral approach (not just trees, but also taking landscape elements into account, etc.), biodiversity, long term success (maintenance, etc)  yes, we have 2-3 internship positions every year at Life Terra | Our funders are very interested to afforestate degraded lands and to establish protective foreste shelterbelts.  We have tens of volunteers in every planting campaign.   | OTP favors projects with a comprehensive environmental restoration strategy, alignment with broader goals (national & international), emphasizing native species and localized ecosystem requirements. We seek initiatives that actively involve communities, delivering concrete benefits to a variety of stakeholders. Crucially, proposals must demonstrate clear, measurable, and long-term impacts, including robust Monitoring, Reporting, and Verification (MRV) frameworks, while also showcasing sustainable and innovative solutions to address climate change and advance environmental sustainablity.  Yes, OTP offers valuable internship opportunities, providing a pathway to developing new talent and careers within the organization. | The social aspect is often very important for donors  We train all the workers who plant with us. Separately, we offer internships to a limited number of persons.   |
| How Can I contact you? or the  | www.lifeterra.eu or contact@lifeterra.eu   | mihai.enescu@plantamfaptebune.ro  | hello@onetreeplanted.org  | info@myforestarmenia.org   |

| Planting allways is important. Do you have any priority areas where the planting is more in your focus? P.e. protected areas, or wetlands, or measures against erosion?   | At Life Terra, we prioritize planting in areas where trees have the greatest impact, such as degraded lands, erosion-prone areas, and wildfire-affected zones. We also support agroforestry, riparian restoration, and biodiversity-friendly reforestation while ensuring alignment with EU conservation policies. Our focus is always on planting the right tree, in the right place, for the right purpose. | We planted in all types of terrains, from the sandy soils located in the southern part of the country up to 1.400m elevation. In general, we are targeting degraded lands, water erosion and wind erosion being the main degradation factors. | ecological corridors), disaster risk reduction, and sustainable agriculture, all while ensuring active community participation and benefit.  | No particula priority areas but we favor reforestation of degraded forests, particularly in protected areas, and doing large-scale afforestation. The aim is to foster strong and large forest ecosystems.  |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| If ordinary people planted trees, how many would you say each person should plant each year? Zella author and illustrator of book Socksy, Foxy and the 17 Trees   | Imagine every person would plant just 10 trees a year, that could add 100 bln trees a year to the planet. It's easy to do (at individual level) but hard to organise. Let's plant! (in our events, the average person plants 10-15 trees / bushes during a morning or afternoon)  | It depens very much of how the land was prepared. If for example the holes were previusly done, one volunteer could plant in 4 hours up to 100 seedlings.   | It's difficult to give a precise number of trees an individual "should" plant per year, as it depends on many factors, including the individual carbon footprint; tree species and growth rate; local ecological conditions. In general, even planting a few trees can contribute to a positive environmental and social impact. The combined effect of many individuals planting trees can be significant if these trees are planted where they are needed the most!  | According to our calculations, depending on his or her own lifestyle, each person should plant between 10 to 50 trees per month (100 per month for those that fly 50 hours per month). Not much if you think about it.  |
| I can see a big focus on planting "just<br>trees". Are organizations moving<br>towards a more holistic tree planting<br>approach, which includes seed<br>bombing, water storage, nests, etc.?<br>(Thanks Life Terra for leading the way | Yes! At Life Terra, we take a holistic approach to ecosystem restoration beyond just tree planting. We integrate seed bombing, water retention techniques, soil restoration, biodiversity support (e.g., bird nests, insect hotels), and agroforestry practices to maximize ecological impact. Our goal is to create resilient, thriving ecosystems, not just plant trees.                                    | We are planting also shrubs (around 15%). Since 2021, we are promoting and implementing the concept of tiny forests in Romania, which means a "coktail" of 15-10 species in the same plot.  | Increasingly, the limitations of simple tree planting are acknowledged, driving a shift towards holistic reforestation—an approach OTP has championed since its inception. This entails comprehensive landscape restoration, prioritizing local ecological conditions, biodiversity recovery, and ecosystem revitalization. Our projects encompass seed collection and banking, nursery management, soil health enhancement, water resource optimization, and the development of innovative solutions to contemporary challenges. Central to our strategy is the active engagement of local partners and communities throughout all project phases, fostering long-term stewardship. Crucially, we emphasize post-planting care and sustained monitoring, ensuring the enduring success and sustainability of our restoration efforts. | At My Forest Armenia, the focus is large-<br>scale reforestation, we plant thus a large<br>number of trees but also shrubs as they<br>will attract insects, birds, etc. Further we<br>install, where there are no trees at all,<br>supports for birds to encourage a varied<br>ecosystem. |