

ASSISTED NATURAL REGENERATION PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Season 2024-2025

V06.2024

*We are accepting submissions for regeneration projects that
will take place from autumn 2024 to summer 2025*



TABLE OF CONTENT

| | | |
|----|--|----------|
| 1. | REFOREST'ACTION..... | 3 |
| 2. | PRINCIPLES AND FUNDING..... | 4 |
| | OVERALL PRINCIPLE | 4 |
| | FUNDING OFFERED AND PROVISION OF ASSISTANCE | 4 |
| 3. | SELECTION CRITERIA | 5 |
| 4. | MONITORING AND INSPECTION | 6 |
| 5. | DOCUMENTATION TO PROVIDE | 6 |
| 6. | THE OWNER'S COMMITMENTS..... | 7 |

1. REFOREST'ACTION

Reforest'Action is a company whose mission is to restore terrestrial ecosystems on a large scale to meet environmental challenges. A global player in reforestation and agroforestry, Reforest'Action designs and develops projects with multiple benefits for the environment and communities, monitored and measured over time. The foundation of its action is based on the multifunctionality of ecosystems to optimize their resilience and long-term stability.

Different types of projects are financed by Reforest'Action:

- **Restauration of forest plot :**
 - o plantation on plots affected by climatic or biological hazards, such as storms, diseases, fires, droughts, etc.;
 - o With **assisted natural regeneration** (refer to the 'overall principle' section below).
- **Agroforestry:** Plantation of trees within agricultural land and of hedgerows

The funds provided by Reforest'Action to the landowners are raised from companies and individuals seeking to protect the environment and enhance all long-term ecosystem benefits that flow from forests:

- **Economic benefits** through timber production and the development of employment in the wood industry
- **Environmental benefits** via increased CO2 storage and the enrichment of habitats for local biodiversity
- **Social benefits** through improvements in the quality of air, water and the well-being of people living in the vicinity of the forest massif.

The funding provides support with all or part of the necessary work over one or more years. The stands worked on may be regular, irregular or in the process of irregularisation.

Through the funding provided, the owner encourages the improvement and regeneration of their standby complying with more ambitious biodiversity targets. In so doing, Reforest'Action improves the way in which biodiversity is taken into account and contributes to the financial support in place for a long and often expensive forestry process.

2. PRINCIPLES AND FUNDING

Overall principle

The process focuses on a specific situation on a plot of land or in a forest and addresses improvement and regeneration needs over one or more years in a regular or irregular stand or one that is in the process of irregularisation.

Projects must be presented using the Excel file made available, accompanied by maps, illustrative photos, and any other element that can be used to gain a full understanding.

The initial assessment is used to obtain a description of the **types of stand at the plot** (species, sizes and stages of development) **as well as the most accurate possible assessment of the work to be carried out, with the location displayed on a map** (removing climbers, removing competition, coppicing excess trees, pruning, crop-tree thinning, providing seedlings with light, clearing brambles and other plants that could stifle young trees, etc.).

Regeneration encouragement work is based on **the sustainability of the ecosystem benefits provided by the forest and improvements to these benefits over time**, whether this is the proposed process, the initial stand or the final result. Emphasis will be placed on adaptability to climate change in future years.

R'A will highlight projects for its marketing and internal management under the name 'Assisted Natural Regeneration'. An average density of 1500 plants/ha (average density of our planting projects in France) to reflect a felling/planting scenario as an alternative to regeneration may be applied.

Funding offered and provision of assistance

Reforest'Action validates the projects that will be financed, under the condition that funds are obtained from the companies beforehand. After Reforest'Action has validated the projects, they will be placed on the "funding waiting list". In the event that funds are obtained, Reforest'Action will transmit to the owner concerned the letter of commitment issued by Reforest'Action for their signature.

Reforest'Action offers funding that depends on the work required, up to a maximum of €1750/ha. This work may take place over several years (between 1 and 5 years).

The funding can cover a portion of the work, assessment and project management by the manager, subject to a maximum of €1750/ha.

For large-scale projects, the payment will be made in two instalments: up to 70% of the total funds granted will be paid upon signature of the letter of commitment, with the remaining sum paid at the end of the work (after a maximum of five years), upon presentation of the regeneration report and following a site visit where necessary.

In exchange for the funding offered by Reforest'Action, the owner undertakes, among other pledges, to retain a diverse stand (different species), to maintain continuous forest cover, and to artificially enrich certain areas.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

Our project specifications are based on fundamental principles that enable the development of ecosystem services over the long term. As a result, compliance with these criteria is essential.

In order to receive Reforest'Action funding, the owner undertakes to obtain a diverse range of species and to encourage biodiversity throughout the entire forestry process:

- Certain pioneer species must be left during the regeneration encouragement work. Species diversity must be obtained three years after the funding. The diversification species (other than the majority species) must account for at least 25% of the plot area.
- Improvements are required, with no exceptions. These will improve the diversity of clearings or areas of seedlings in order to obtain species diversity in keeping with the proportions set out in the first point.
- The owner undertakes to retain and encourage elements that improve biodiversity: dead wood on trees, dead wood on the ground, trees that provide microhabitats, etc.

Projects must be submitted by project leaders, describing the benefits of the work, justifying the improvements to the stand, and underlining the necessity of the work to be carried out.

4. MONITORING AND INSPECTION

Over the first five years of the project, Reforest'Action may carry out or task others with carrying out two site visits. These will take place whenever it seems appropriate to do so, with the owner given prior notice.

For five years, the owner or their manager will be required to provide Reforest'Action with photographs, the bills arising as a result of the work carried out (if any), and as much information as possible on the plot being regenerated, including via a report.

5. DOCUMENTATION TO PROVIDE

In order to submit an Assisted Natural Regeneration project, the owner must provide Reforest'Action with:

- **The completed Excel file (three sheets)**
- A map of the stands identifying:
 - The species
 - The life stage of the stands (seedlings, saplings, poles, mature trees, coppice)
 - The areas in which work is to be carried out.
- The elements of the management document that cover the regeneration work or the need to regenerate the plots in question (sustainable management document)
- At least 10 photos of each plot to be regenerated or for which regeneration is under way (general photos of the plot, close-ups of seedlings and clearings)
- Invoices for work carried out in previous years in the event that work has already begun (for information purposes).

In order to receive the full funding, the owner must provide Reforest'Action with:

- Invoices for work from previous years and the current year or any other proof of work being completed
- Photos (at least 10) before and after the current year's work
- Dated photos taken during forestry work from previous years and the current year
- The owner's bank details.

6. THE OWNER'S COMMITMENTS

In exchange for the funding, the owner signs a letter including the following commitments:

- To make the plot accessible to a forest manager or competent professional, who is permitted to carry out one or more visits up to 30 years after planting;
- To carry out a project that is compliant with the laws and regulations in force;
- To carry out the work agreed on at the time of signing this letter in compliance with species diversification requirements;
- To provide contact details for a preferred contact to the Reforest'Action project monitoring officer for the five years following the funding;
- To allow the erecting of a sign mentioning the name of the company funding the regeneration if so desired;
- To manage and maintain the regenerated stand for a minimum duration of 30 years;
- To keep Reforest'Action informed of the progress of the work and of developments to the regeneration every year for five years from the first part of the funding, including photographs depicting the development of the trees, stems or seedlings;
- To allow Reforest'Action to conduct monitoring visits, with two visits in the first five years on dates to be agreed by the parties;
- To take the recommendations made by Reforest'Action during monitoring operations into account;
- To agree to the use of the plot for potential visits or educational events on the significance of forests that are offered to financial backers via Reforest'Action;
- To inform Reforest'Action in the event that private, corporate or individual financial backers contact it;
- To avoid accumulating additional funding from private organisations without the prior agreement of Reforest'Action;
- To avoid accumulating additional funding linked to carbon offsetting measures (such as the Low Carbon label).

In the event that the stand is not maintained for the thirty-year period (excluding force majeure: storms, drought, fire, disease), the owner must repay all of the funding provided.

In the event of a mortality rate of over 20%, the owner or manager must bear the costs of and implement a full restocking during five years following the funding, excluding in the event of drought or frost.

Finally, the owner agrees that Reforest'Action and its financial partners may publicly disseminate information on the project via any medium (press, print, digital, etc.) in order to raise funds and promote the ecosystem benefits contributed by the project.

The Assisted Natural Regeneration project will be presented on the www.reforestaction.com site with GPS coordinates of the plots, the species planted and the project background. The name of the plot owner will not be given on the site.

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