GTL Project

GreenTecLab

Forest Management II - The Mobile Forest Farmers' School

The Mobile Forest Farmers' School is an idea developed and tested in Germany.

It helps private forest farmers to acquire the necessary knowledge to manage their forest sustainable and as well equipped as possible for the upcoming climatic changes.

Forests in Germany, Greece, Slovakia & Spain

In the partner countries of the GTL forests still occupy large areas. Considerable shares of the forest are managed by private forest owners (often as a sideline without forestry training, but on the basis of experiential knowledge)

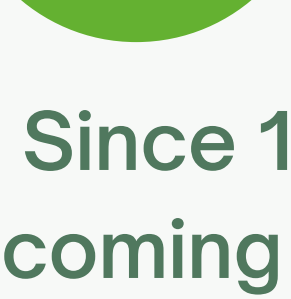
	Forest area in % of land area	Share in % private forest
Germany	32,7 %	48,0 %
Greece	30,3 %	25,0 %
Slovakia	40,1 %	> 30,0 %
Spain	37,2 %	

Destasis.de 2019

1 Concept of the Mobile Forest Farmers' School

Since 1986, the Forest Farmers´ School has been coming to these private forest owners in the Odenwald (Germany, Land Hessen) as a mobile school with converted construction trailers.

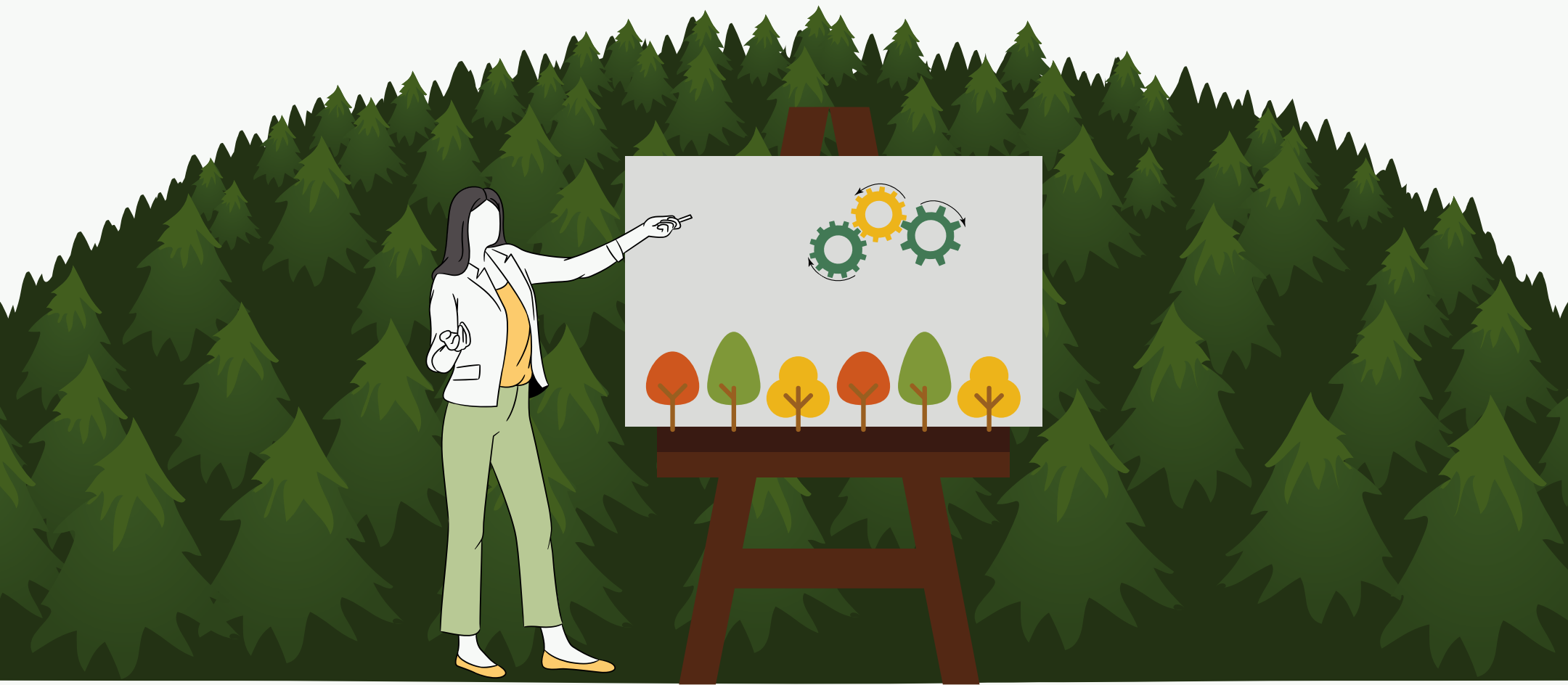
Today, the main aim is to impart new knowledge about forestry in times of climate change and to provide concrete assistance in the transformation of the forest and the reforestation of damaged areas. After all, the forest should still be available for future generations, in all its facets of use.



2 Mobile Forest Farmers' Workshops

The workshops last two days and take place on site in the forest. Topics include

- the establishment of stable forests
- forest conversion and regeneration
- forest stand maintenance
- tree species mixture, alternative tree species
- game and damage management



3 Success Factors of the Mobile Forest Farmers' School

- The offer is mobile and comes to the forest farmers
- The offer addresses the forest farmers thematically and is practical; training can be used and implemented on site
- The forest farmers have access to and benefit from new forestry knowledge
- The offer reaches the target group, duration and costs of the courses are adapted, a certificate certifies the acquired expertise

4 Mobile Forest Farmers' School as a Role Model for GTL Start-ups

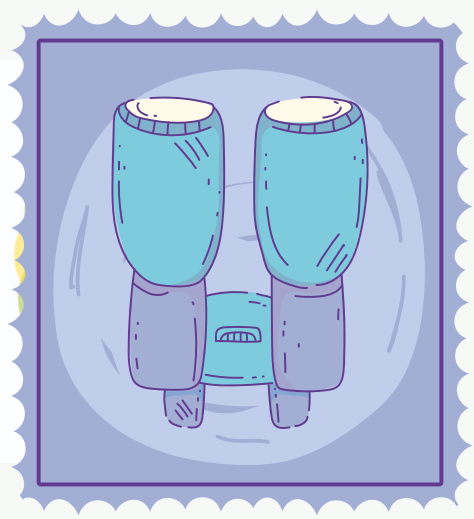
- adapted to to the country specific conditions (climate, landscape, challenges)

- Funding could be provided by the state, regions, municipalities, interest groups, labour administration.

- Could also be run as a private enterprise if there is sufficient market demand

The European Forest Institute (EFI) provides information & assistance on the subject of forests and forest management

Thinking ahead: the (Mobile) Forest School for All



In addition to the mobile forestry school, let's set up a mobile forestry school for everyone. It can impart knowledge about the importance of the forest and its inhabitants in a playful and interesting way and thus anchor the topic of forests in people's minds and hearts.
Because: You love and protect what you know!

Target groups could be:

- children of all ages, young people
- school classes
- interested adults
- tourists

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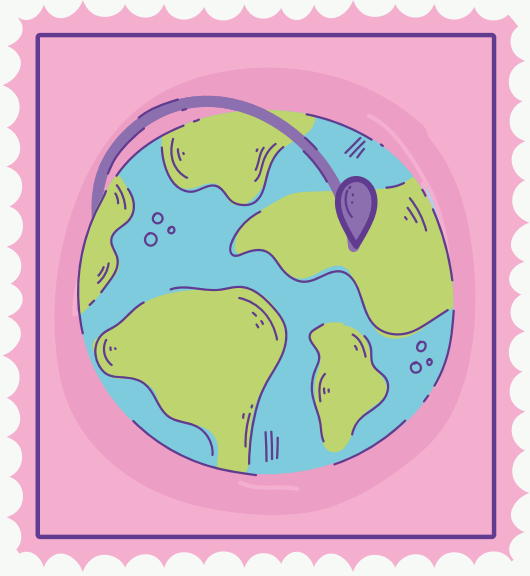

The forest school for all is also an interesting idea for alternative tourism offers.

In Great Britain and in Germany, the topic of forest education is widespread, numerous, very different forest schools already exist and are partly publicly funded. More information can be found here.

The Forest School Association is the professional body and UK wide voice for Forest School, promoting and supporting best practice, cohesion and 'quality Forest School for All'.

You want to learn about sustainable forest management?

Visit the website and check out our Knowlegde Pill
"Forest Management I - Importance and Threats to Forests"

GreenTecLab

- https://www.hessen-forst.de/post/aktuelles/mobile-waldbauernschule/
- https://efi.int/
- https://forestschoolassociation.org/