

**Cluster Forest for Society**  
**Lesy pre spoločnosť - Ліси для суспільства**  
**Annual report 2017**

**I. Identification data:**

**Name** in slovak: **Lesy pre spoločnosť**, abbreviated name: **LES**

in ukrainian: **Ліси для суспільства**, abbreviated name: **ЛІС**

**Seat** in Slovakia: Južná trieda 11, 040 01 Košice

in Ukraine: Мynajcka 27/39, 88000 Užhorod

**Date of establishment:** June 6, 2016 by signature of Cluster Charter

**Number of Cluster members at December 31, 2017:** 21 (Annex No. 1)

**II. Cluster mission and objectives:**

**Cluster** was founded as a part of the project No. CBC01013 Forests for Society - Forests Without Barriers, implemented through Norwegian Grants within the Cross-Border Cooperation Program. Cluster was founded by four project partners from Slovakia and two partners from Ukraine, who are members of the Cluster Board, as well.

**Cluster** is an association of equivalent members based on the mutual trust and cooperation.

The main objective of the cluster is to improve the development of cross-border cooperation within the Slovak-Ukrainian region and the promotion of sustainable development, tourism and the interpretation of natural values through intensive information exchange and counseling. Cluster enables to improve the potential of individual members and to promote common procedures in the development of the Slovak-Ukrainian region. It establishes a network of cooperating entities operating in concerned areas in order to create mutual cooperation among members of the cluster, supports and develops the cross-border cooperation of the Slovak-Ukrainian region among the members of the cluster, ensures information exchange, increases the potential of individual members in the field of development of regions and tourism through cluster membership. Membership in the cluster is free of charge.

### **III. Cluster Board**

The members of the Cluster Board are the founding members of the cluster as follows:

#### **National Forest Centre**

T. G. Masaryka 22, 960 92 Zvolen, Slovakia

In representation: Ing. Milan Sarvaš, PhD. – Chairman of the Cluster Board

#### **Forza, Agency for Sustainable Development of Carpathian Region**

Mynajska 27/39 88000, Užhorod, Ukraine

In representation: Lesya Loyko – Vice-Chairman of the Cluster Board

#### **Municipal Forests Košice, s.c.**

Južná trieda 11, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia

In representation: Ing. Miroslav Tököly

#### **Pro Populo Poprad, Ltd.**

Obrancov mieru 329, 059 34 Spišská Teplica, Slovakia

In representation: Ing. Peter Petrik

#### **Secondary Forestry School Prešov**

Kollárova 10, 080 01, Prešov, Slovakia

In representation: Ing Miroslav Fuchs, PhD.

#### **Slovak Disability Council**

Heydukova 25, 811 08, Bratislava, Slovakia

In representation: Mgr. Tibor Köböl

#### **National Nature Park "Zacharovanny kray"**

Zakarpatská obl., Iršavskij reg., Ilnitsya, Partizanska ul., 90130, Ukraine

In representation: Vasil Fennich

### **IV. Cluster activity during the period of January – April 2017**

The Cluster activity was associated with the activities of the international project FORSOC [www.forsoc.org](http://www.forsoc.org) in which cluster was established in 2016 in Košice as a network of Slovakia-

Ukrainian inter-related institutions created by the project partners to promote the border region, exchange of information and counseling. At the General Assembly of the Cluster, which took place on 28 April 2017, new members of the cluster - organizations from different economic areas from Slovakia and Ukraine were introduced. The discussion was about the possibility of joining to the new project within Call for project proposals from the Norwegian Financial Mechanism. In the cluster there were 19 members at the end of this period (12 entities from Slovakia and 6 Ukrainian entities).

## **V. Cluster activity during the period of May – December 2017**

From May 2017, the cluster activity followed the previous period and the cooperation of individual members has begun. The cluster website [www.forsoc.org](http://www.forsoc.org) has been presented with opportunities for cooperation through project participation in the Program of cross-border cooperation. Within the partnership, 2 projects were submitted through the HU-SK-RO-UA Cross-border Cooperation Program 2014-2020:

- The project "Roads to healthy forests", submitted by the State Enterprise „Uzhhorod Forest Enterprise“ (lead applicant, member of the cluster, UA), other partners are: FORZA (UA) – member of the cluster, Municipal Forests of Spišská Belá, Ltd., (SK) - member of the cluster, Municipal Forests of Kežmarok, Ltd., (SK), State Forests Tatra National Park, (SK) and State Enterprise "Vygodna Forest Management" (UA). The aim of the project is to improve accessibility to forest areas in the region of Prešov - Slovakia and Zakarpattia and Ivano-Frankivsk regions in Ukraine, to restore climate-affected forests and to increase the level of forest workers education of nature protection in these regions.
- The project "Forest in Motion: Knowledge and Keeping for Common Natural Values in the UA-SK Cross-border Area" focused on the development of the Transcarpathian and Frankivsk region in Ukraine and Prešov region in Slovakia. The main objective of the project is to recognize and promote the natural values and potentials of the protected areas of the Ukrainian-Slovak cross-border region. There will be cooperation between Cluster members from Ukraine - FORZA Agency as lead partner and National Park "Zacharovanyi kraj" together with partners from Slovakia – State forestry agricultural enterprise Ulíč and State Forests Tatra National Park.

Another cluster activity was aimed at promoting tourism and raising awareness of forestry and nature protection through forest pedagogy activities. In May 2017, the pilot activity of program „To the Forest with Forester” has begun and took place for 90 primary school pupils from Spišská Belá town and its surroundings, in cooperation with members of the cluster - National Forest Centre and Municipal Forests of Spišská Belá, Ltd. On the occasion of the establishment the company Municipal Forests of Dobšiná in October 2017 there was a public ceremonial program, were took place National Forest Centre and Secondary forestry school from Prešov - cluster members, which have prepared activities of forest pedagogy.

FORZA Agency during this period of time, was also actively promoting ideas of forest pedagogics, particularly representative of FORZA held forest pedagogics during three events organized for school children (Myro Lito Festival in Uzhhorod in June, Forest Fest in Uzhhorod in September, Forest Rangers Meeting in Lumshory in August), one event for children with disabilities (in Uzhhorod in December) as well as during two events for teachers and pedagogs (EdCamp festival in Uzhhorod in August and Ukrainian Forum of Climatic Education in Kyiv in November). Besides this, FORZA was an active co-organizer of Forest Fest in Zakarpattya, promoting approaches of forest pedagogics and interactive learning among forestry enterprises.

The National Park „Zacharovanyi kraj” during this period has carried out several activities related to the promotion of the region and the development of tourism in the given area as follows:

- Article about the services for public and visitors of the Park at the website [http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-pro-nadannja-gromadskikh-poslug-dlja-vidviduvachiv-parku.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-pro-nadannja-gromadskikh-poslug-dlja-vidviduvachiv-parku.html) (May 2017)

- One-day trip to the Park for children from the summer health and recreation camp - 3rd classpupils of Ilnitska Secondary School No. 1 (May 2017)

- Program of forest pedagogy for pupils of the Dubrovka Secondary School in the area of National Nature Park performed by forest pedagogues (June 2017) [http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/u-gosti-do-npp-zacharovanii-krai-priishli-naimenshi-shkoljari-dubrivskoji-zosh-i-iii-st.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/u-gosti-do-npp-zacharovanii-krai-priishli-naimenshi-shkoljari-dubrivskoji-zosh-i-iii-st.html)

- Program of forest pedagogy for children from summer camp „Veselka” in the area of National Nature Park performed by forest pedagogues (June 2017)

[http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/u-npp-zacharovanii-krai-gostjuvali-diti-litnogo-ozdorovchogo-taboru-veselka.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/u-npp-zacharovanii-krai-gostjuvali-diti-litnogo-ozdorovchogo-taboru-veselka.html)

- Program of forest pedagogy for children from summer health camp „Vodograi” in the area of National Nature Park performed by forest pedagogues (June 2017)

[http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/u-npp-zacharovanii-krai-shchodnja-bazhani-malenki-gosti.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/u-npp-zacharovanii-krai-shchodnja-bazhani-malenki-gosti.html)

- Program of forest pedagogy for participants of the Club of Young Forest Rangers in the area of National Nature Park performed by forest pedagogues (July 2017)

[http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/juni-lisovi-reindzheri-v-gostjakh-u-npp-zacharovanii-krai.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/juni-lisovi-reindzheri-v-gostjakh-u-npp-zacharovanii-krai.html)

- Program prepared for Forest Fest in Uzhorod – promotion of the region and nature through various activities for public (September 2017)

[http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-razom-z-ditmi-vidznachali-den-lisivnika.htm](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-razom-z-ditmi-vidznachali-den-lisivnika.htm), [http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/diti-i-npp-zacharovanii-krai-na-svjati-lisivnikiv-v-uzhgorodi.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/diti-i-npp-zacharovanii-krai-na-svjati-lisivnikiv-v-uzhgorodi.html)

- Outdoor activities of the forest pedagogy prepared by National Nature Park „Zacharovanyi kraj“ in Irshava City Day (October 2017)

[http://nppzk.info/no\\_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-prijednujetsja-do-vidznachennja-dnja-mista-irshavi.html](http://nppzk.info/no_cache/novini/novina/article/npp-zacharovanii-krai-prijednujetsja-do-vidznachennja-dnja-mista-irshavi.html)

Two companies entered the Cluster during the period: a publishers LESMEDIUM SK, Ltd. and Ukrainian Research Institute of Mountain Forestry.

In the LES & LETOKRUHY magazine, published by LESMEDIUM SK, Ltd., there will be regularly published information on cluster members' activities that will contribute to the promotion of these areas and to the protection of natural values. Information day of the HU-SK-RO-UA Cross-Border Cooperation was held on 26 July 2017, where members of the cluster has discussed about possible cooperation and projects preparation. The cluster is open to new members whose active participation will be welcomed and it will contribute to the development of the border region.

Cluster activity in the next period is proposed in the Action Plan for 2018 (see Annex 2).

## **Cluster Action plan for 2018**

1. Cooperation during the event „Forestry day“ in the area of communication and public relations in Košice. Goal is to raise awareness of forestry and nature protection and promote tourism in the region.
2. Cooperation during the event Forest Fest in Zakarpattya, Ukraine, with other forest enterprises of the region, including cluster members.
3. Promotion of the forest pedagogics approach among foresters and pedagogues of other regions of Ukraine.
4. Cooperation among cluster members on preparation of project proposal within Norway mechanism International Cooperation Program.
5. Participation at the program of forest pedagogy „To the Forest with Forester“ for primary school pupils from Spišská Belá town. Goal is to develop the region in the area of forest tourism.
6. Meetings of the cluster members and effective communication on the issues of tourism, forestry, public relations and looking for solutions, that will contribute for better development of the region.