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The Prince
Nicholas of Romania Charity
Forests of Tomorrow
in Schools





Inspired by the words used by HM King Michael I, who said in Parliament:

“ I don’t see Romania today as something inherited from our parents, but as a country borrowed from our children.”

We want, Romania to be the country to set the tone for change regarding the **responsibility** towards future generations.

The Foundation's Mission Statement

Through his foundation, Nicholas of Romania aims to continue his ancestors' mission and be involved in the country's future, together with its citizens.

The charity has founded various projects that aim to positively impact the education of Romania's future generation.

Environmental education is an education through and for values, which can take concrete forms of achievement, at different levels in schools, delivering content with a preventative role, in a formal or non-formal context. The results of environmental education will appear over time, improving the quality of life.

Romania has a unique dowry in Europe (national parks, extensive reservations, etc.), that needs to be preserved and passed on responsibility to future generations.





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Presenting
Forests of Tomorrow
in Schools

The Project's Aim

Our aim is to promote enviromental education in schools and to tackle deforestation in Romania.

Through schools, this project puts into practice the objectives of enviroment protection and conservation of the environment as a necessity. Activities in schools are practical and highlight mans impact on nature.

Wild animals stray into towns and villages due to the lack of shelter and food, while houses and roads are affected by landslides. Now is the moment to bring solutions to the problem caused by human intervention in the form of deforestation.

We plan to rebalance the ecosystem of the environment in which we live, reducing the negative impact of pollution.





Context

The Romanian Royalty National Day, 10th of May in 2019, Nicholas of Romania held an informal workshop with the students from "I. L. Caragiale" National College in Bucharest, regarding the history of Royalty in Romania. The discussion included both topics of history and current topics of interest for students.

The success of the action showed that there is an acute need for knowledge in modern history and the values the Royal Family passed on from generation to generation.

Since then we have been bringing these topics up to date, discussing with students about problems that they face, the world around and much more.

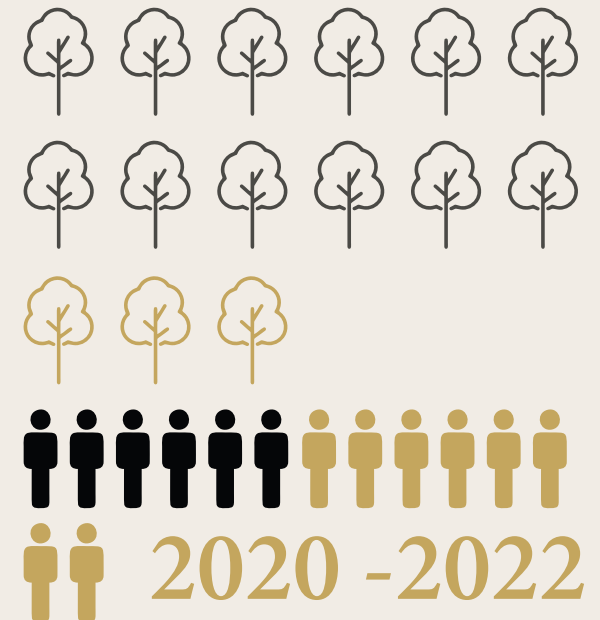
Understanding the needs and opinions of young people's life and their future in Romania is very important. This will be achieved through a strong connection established between them and the foundation.

Achievements so far in our educational activities

The History of Royalty in Schools

Achievements so Far in our planting activities

We started planting trees the autumn of 2019 with 250 volunteers using 12 000 seedlings. During the coronavirus pandemic, we planted a further 13 000 seedlings with the help of 550 volunteers, showcasing our determination to make this project a success.





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Action Plan

I. We aim to promote environmental education

Environmental education invests in developing the awareness of citizens regarding environmental issues, engages in problem solving and acts to improve the environment.

As a result, citizens develop a deeper understanding of environmental issues and acquire the tools to make informed and responsible decisions.

As part of our tree planting events, we intend to visit schools and universities to promote environmental education in a formal and non-formal context to our target group, the younger generation of citizens.

The general goals and reference objectives in environmental education lead to the formation of skills and attitudes regarding environmental and ecological issues. Through interactive activities, pupils and students are put in a position to observe, analyze, investigate, phenomena and processes in the environment, practicing intellectual work skills, while developing a responsible, involved behavior in relations with the environment.





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Forests of Tomorrow *in Schools*

- We want to implement the project program Forests of Tomorrow in middle schools and high schools, throughout Romania in the areas we will have reforestation activities twice a year.

- The target group is about 1250 pupils and students with the implicit participation of teachers.



- We will create a miniature mini ecosystem - 3D model, which will contain the main elements of the environment together with natural samples of biological material (bark, plants, pieces of wood, etc.) while also showing the effects of deforestations on the land, towns and villages and the ecosystem



Learning activities

- Recognising components of the immediate environment ("Find the differences", "Forest alphabet", etc.),
- Ordering the images / completing a natural frame with the characteristic elements;
- Observing biological factors;
- Creating the *Green Living Corner* of the classroom;
- Observing the transformations undergone by the plants in the living corner of the aquarium class / animals;
- Observing simple experiences to highlight the importance of water, air, soil, sun, to maintain life;
- Collecting rocks, plant seeds, soil varieties;
- Identifying cause-effect relationships between human actions and their consequences on the environment;
- Creating a code of good manners in the environment.



II. We intend to plant 1 000 000 trees in Romania

Our aim is to plant 1 000 000 seedlings in Romania, to reforest some of the most affected areas, amongst them: Bacău, Brăila, Botoșani, Buzău, Constanța, Călărași, Dolj, Galați, Iași, Ilfov, Neamț, Prahova, Sibiu, Suceava, Tulcea, Teleorman, Vrancea, Vaslui, but also the city of Bucharest.





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Description of the
Budget Expenses

I. Human Resources

We intend to hire a project manager to assist with project organisation and follow up with necessary documentation.



II. Consumables

Trees are our raw materials.

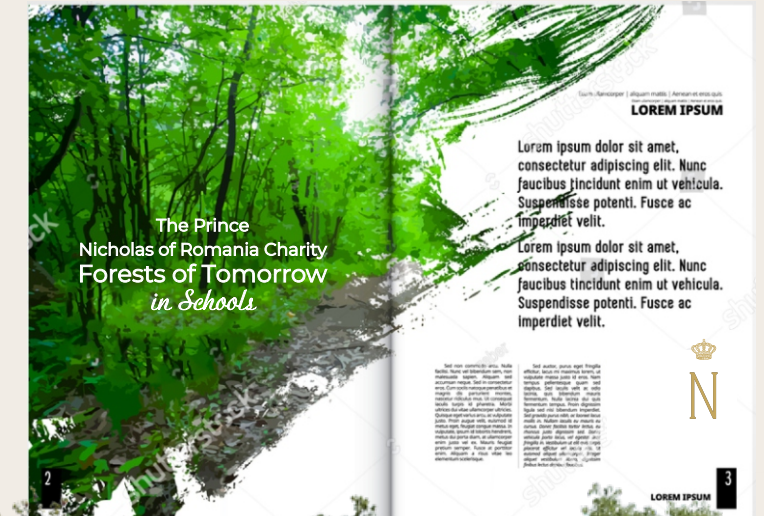
There will be 2 planting events, 1 /each season, spring and autumn respectively. The tree species necessary will be chosen depending on the areas which will be selected.

The related expenses - volunteer provisions: the other expenses mentioned in this chapter include food and beverage services and the arrangement of a shelter / rest space for the approximately 500 volunteers / action.

Each planting action will take place over 2 days, estimating the planting of 10,000 trees / 2 days.

We support and encourage local products from each chosen area, so we will buy food from local producers promoting national values and traditions.

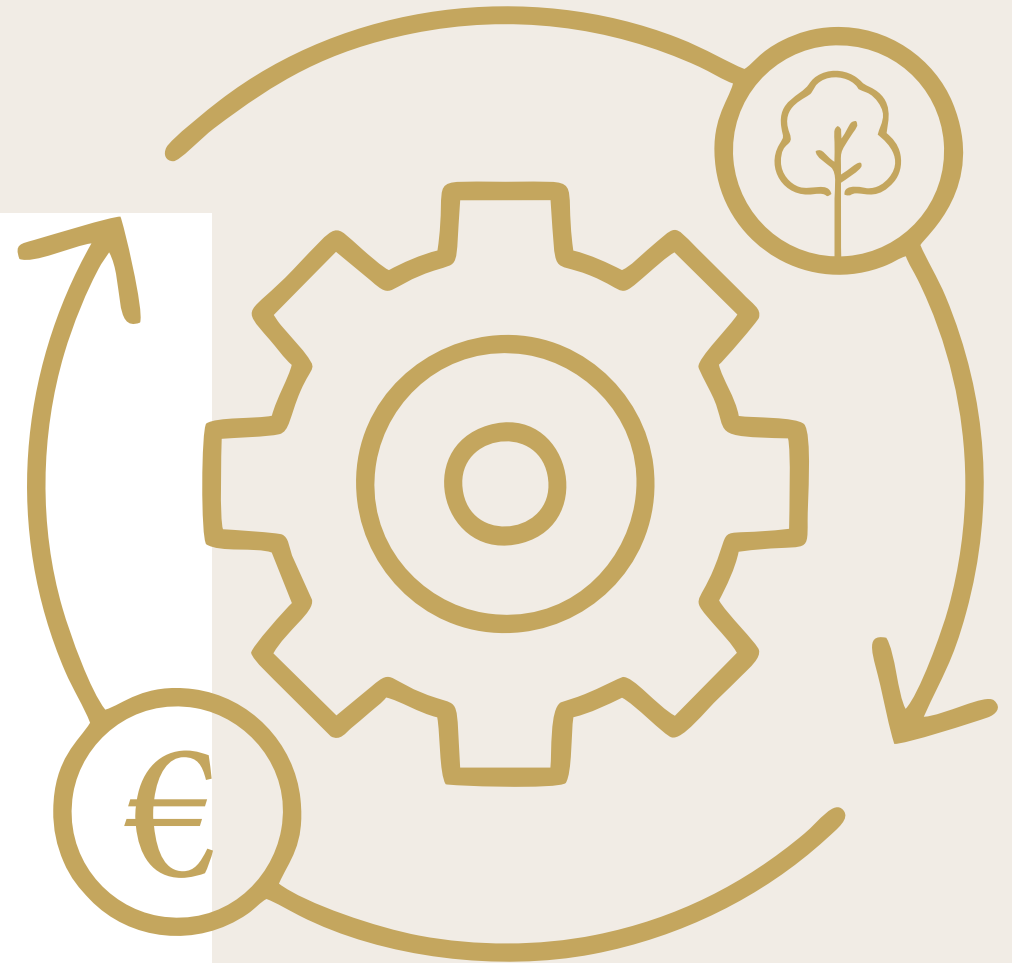
Creating an educational and informational brochure about the actions and impact of the project.



III. Operating Expenses

(Utilities, Space Rental, Transport / Travel, Etc.)

- Fuel is an expense related to the project's activity, being necessary in our actions through multiple trips in search of the affected areas, obtaining permits and agreements for the plantation. While estimating the cost / action, the distances that may differ from one action to another and the average price of fuel / km were taken into account.
- Car insurance expenses are also included in the budget.
- Renting ecological toilets is a must, considering that more than 500 people could take part at a planting event.



IV. Tangible Fixed Assets

A. Short Term Expenses, Running Costs/Basic Needs

A van is an important expense in transporting trees and the equipment needed for each tree planting operation. It is preferable to purchase it instead of renting it, because the warranty costs are very high and ensuring a return in a very good condition (as stipulated in the rental contracts) of the vehicle is difficult to achieve, so the warranty can be easily lost. We also have more flexibility for each move in planting actions, because it is important to choose the right days for several reasons: favorable weather conditions, volunteer availability, obtaining planting agreements, etc. In addition, through this acquisition, we ensure project continuity and safety.





Before each planting event, we estimate a number of 5-7 trips that include activities such as: the identification of affected areas, study of landforms, flora and fauna in that particular area, meetings with representatives of local / county authorities, meetings with specialised institutions in the field of forestry, meetings with local NGOs and institutions to co-opt volunteers for project events. In most circumstances, the routes and areas where the planting actions will take place are hard to reach areas for any vehicle, so a 4x4 car ensures travel on difficult routes in optimal conditions.



Dacia Duster 4x4 Vehicle



We will create 2 transportable models, one showing a flourishing environment unaffected by man where ecosystems and animals live in harmony, the second will show the impact of man and deforestation while also showing the effects of pollution (packaging, plastics, etc). By pouring water over the models we will see the importance of forests and how they protect us from landslides, flooding and animal encounters



3D Printed Ecosystem

Tree Auger



The tree auger is an equipment that helps in the planting stage and shortens the digging time of the holes and the total time of the planting action.

Wireless Speaker Audio System + Microphone

The sound system is necessary for the presentations of the project actions about the importance of reforestation in the affected areas and the rebalancing of the natural ecosystem. It also helps us in coordinating and organizing field teams in planting actions.



IV. Tangible Fixed Assets

B. Long Term Investments

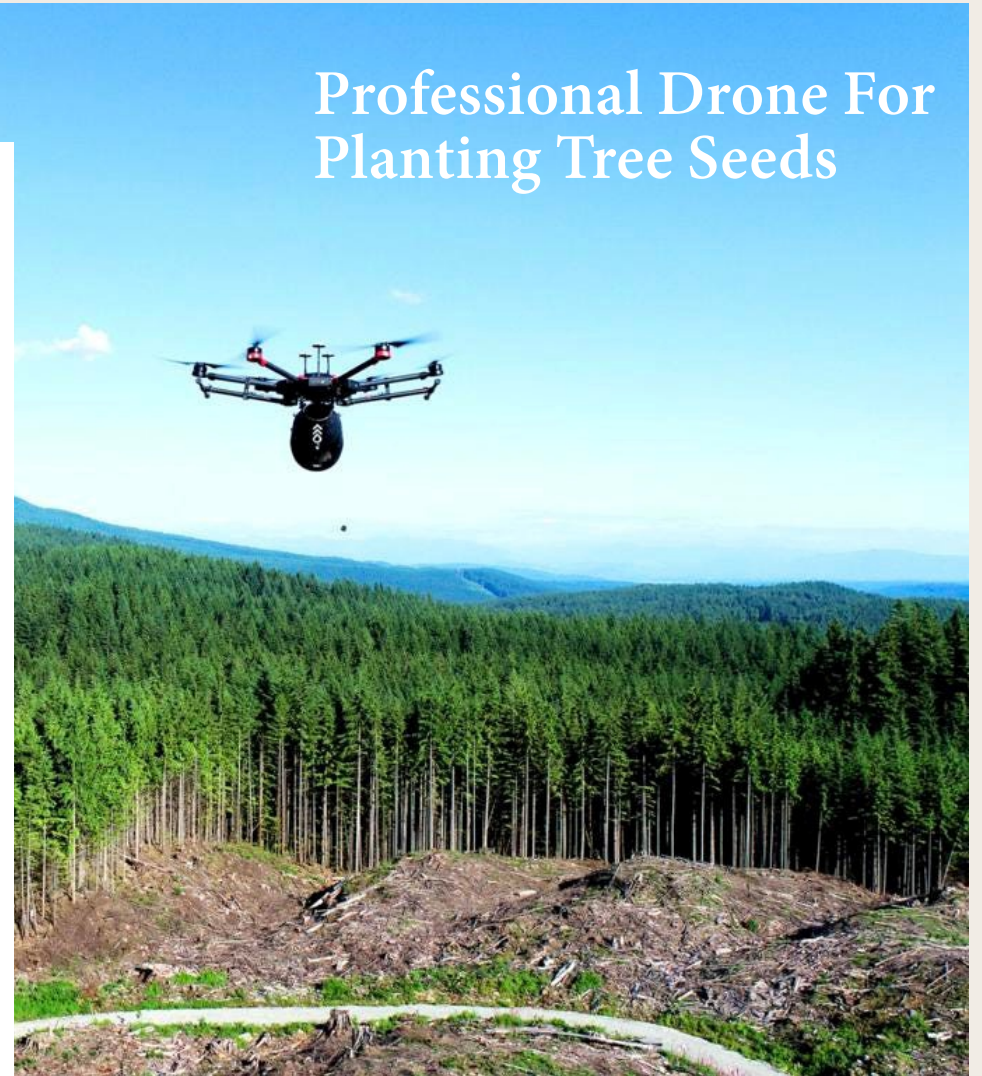
This innovative equipment that uses the state-of-the-art technology will facilitate the planting of seeds of different tree species in mountainous and hard to reach areas where access is challenging. The equipment is designed with a relief scanning software with the help of which a controlled planting is subsequently programmed.

From the market study in Romania and Europe, the equipment is difficult to access, so we are discussing about the collaboration with the robotics faculty within the Bucharest Polytechnic University, which through research, will make and create this type of drone. We will invest in necessary materials / equipment, in software research and implementation.

The drone will be used to reforest and afforest the affected hard to reach areas, where access is very difficult. Moreover, with the help of this drone, up to 10,000 seeds / day can be planted, which will have an accelerated impact in time to rebalance the ecosystem of the environment in which we live, diminishing the negative impact of pollution.



Professional Drone For Planting Tree Seeds



Educational Center

We will build a reference educational center for Romania where we will carry out regular activities about the positive impact of the project's actions and where we will promote the importance of a healthy environment by educating young people on nature protection and especially their involvement in afforestation.

Furniture for the Educational Center

Necessary expenses for the arrangement and endowment of the educational center



V. Land Assets

On this land we will create a mini ecosystem of trees and plants in order to present, educate and inform in the most realistic way the evolution of species, the difference between them, their appearance and the importance of their presence in different affected areas.



VI. Outsourced Services

Promotional materials and marketing campaigns are needed to spread information on education and awareness of the impact that the project's mission has, namely educating the population, especially the younger generations about rebalancing the natural ecosystem by planting trees where deforestation has severely affected the land or there is an increased risk of disaster. we will also co-opt the volunteer teams in the planting actions.

The financial services are a massive support for the activities we propose through the "Forests of Tomorrow in Schools" project in order to have transparency in the financial area and to ensure the legality of any approach. The website will include our presentation and we will promote it through all the events, as well as other important materials about the impact of the project at the country level and beyond.





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By understanding the needs of our forest lands and their future, this project will, in time, have an accelerated impact in rebalancing the ecosystem of the environment in which we live and diminishing the negative impact of pollution.





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The Prince Nicholas
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