SUSTAINAMENTALS® Insight

November 2022

# **UNFOLDING ECOLOGICAL IMPACT WITH MIND AND HAND!**



UNIVERSAL INVESTMENT

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## Highlights

- Hessian forest data has been deteriorating rapidly since 2018. We shed light on the situation and look at measures. Every helping hand can have a high impact here!
- CHOM CAPITAL plants the first 1,000 trees in the Friedrichsdorf district as part of the company's commitment to donate 10% of fund revenues

Making an ecological and social impact on our own doorstep. And not just with our wallets, but actively with our minds and hands. As a Frankfurt-based sustainability fund boutique, we are now in our second year of donating 10% of the revenues of our *CHOM CAPITAL PURE Sustainability - Small Cap Europe UI* fund to such projects and always underpin this with deeper, personal commitment to the cause. For the first time, we would therefore like to use our current SUSTAINAMENTALS®-Insight edition to draw attention to one of these projects.

Specifically, we would like to focus our attention on our regional ecosystem, the Hessian forest. With approximately 890,000 hectares of forest land, Hesse's forests cover 42% of land area - which, along with Rhineland-Palatinate, is tops nationwide.

## HESSIAN FOREST AREA BY OWNERSHIP



Bund 
Landeswald 
Körperschaftswälder 
Privatbesitz

However, especially since 2018, our forest has been greatly affected by climate heating up. In the areas of the national forest alone, 11% of these forest areas have become damaged in the last three years. Across Hesse, 9% of trees are currently suffering from severe damage or tree death. The cause of this is always drought. Drought does not only lead to tree death by drying up. The resulting lack of water weakens the vitality of the trees and increases the susceptibility to harmful organisms such as bark beetles on spruce (21% of trees in Hesse) or fungi on beech (31%). Beeches already have a proportion of damaged wood of over 80% in some districts of Hesse.

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Long dry periods favor the development conditions of these parasites. In order to control the spread of parasites, the stand is reduced depending on the danger of the situation. This creates new open areas in the forest and healthy trees, which previously concentrated more on their height growth in competition for light than on their rooting, are now additionally exposed to strong winds. So, what to do?

The Hessian state enterprise HessenForst has made the adaptation of the forest to these new conditions its core task. The focus is on spreading risk through diverse mixed forests that offer natural protection against parasites. It is estimated that half of the damaged areas created will have to be replanted in this way.

## The fund range publishes in accordance with Article 8 of the Disclosure Regulation









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**CHOM CAPITAL - START OF OUR PROJECT IN THE HESSIAN FOREST** 



The thus increasing number of so-called regeneration areas will lead to an increasing need for maintenance in the future: The faster trees grow again on an area the less time grass and blackberries have and the faster the trees can extract carbon dioxide from the air.

And this has an effect: Forest management in Germany fixes an average of approx. 6 tons of CO2 equivalents per hectare. The use of wood products (also substituting other materials such as concrete or aluminum) adds another approx. 3 tons/hectare. Looking at the overall balance, the managed German forest can set and substitute about 92 million tons of CO2 equivalents every year.

Together with the state enterprise HessenForst, we therefore decided to take long-term actions.

In addition to an initial donation of 1,000 trees, we planted the first bird cherries in the Friedrichsdorf forest district with forester Philipp Gerhardt. **You too can make an impact!** 

With your donation, you are not only making an active contribution to climate and environmental protection in our region. Planting trees means looking to the future. Because trees are a symbol of permanence, growth, hope and peace.

# GREAT LEVERAGE FOR THE CLIMATE



5€ 5 Mio. Trees costs one planted tree including care HessenForst 9 t CO2/Ha are fixed or substituted per year

INTERESTED IN SUPPORTING THE HESSIAN FOREST?

# CLICK HERE

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