Oak Grove

Urban forests Krupina Ltd. with full attendance Krupina (City) was founded in 1994. They manage on the area more than 4600 ha of forest land which they lease from the Krupina (City) with an annual production capacity of 18 000 m3. The own staff is 18 employees. 55 external contractors carry out logging. The company supplies firewood for inhabitants, managed two plantations of Christmas trees (spruce and black pine), take care of forest roads and other services for organizations in the city. Urban forests Krupina Ltd. obtained from the European Union under the Rural Development Program 2004-2006 for the reconstruction of approximately 6.5 kilometers of forest roads 385 049 € They paid another 3319 €to develop the project from its own resources.

Urban forests Krupina Ltd. are the owner of a recreational cottage, which is rented for a symbolic price. The cottage is built close to the monument, which is in the responsibility of the Urban forests Ltd. They are involved in various projects and campaigns.

Activity description:

In 2005 was launched environmental project Oak Grove. The main objective is to restore the traditional habitat in locality Stávka near Krupina. The Oak Grove is represented nine species of the Carpathian oak and red oak. The initiator of this idea was a ten-year old boy, who wanted to realize the idea of RNDr. Julius Vachold and contribute to the protection of oak species. This idea took students of Andrej Sládkovič eight-year High School. City Krupina provide suitable land for the project. Urban Forests Ltd. Krupina as manager of municipal forests, provide professional guarantee of the project and offer suitable planting material. Students of Andrej Sládkovič High School under their supervision began to form Oak Grove. In the first year were planted more than a hundred plants, since each year continually accrue additional oaks in the Grove. One of the main priorities is to achieve the oak stand that serves as a suburban recreation, which will keep the different types of oak and also serve as an educational facility.

Chronology:

1996 The first idea of protecting oaks - RNDr. Július Vachold and RNDr. Dezider Magic (dendrologists in Krupina). The original park was located on the ground, 6 km from Krupina in the area called Šváb - in the area that was affected by wind storm, where natural conditions are suitable for oak. Execution failed for lack of funds.

- 2005 Meeting Vladimír Macko (student) with RNDr. Vachold. Restore the idea of oaks the beginning of the project Oak Grove. A. Sládkovič High School approached Krupina (City) and Urban forests Krupina Ltd.
- **2006** Registration in Project ProEnviro 3rd place award for students.
- **2007** Project Presentation on the nationwide Youth Festival of Science and Technology in Bratislava Young Naturalist Price.

2006 - 2009

Annual planting seedlings trees, protection of young trees - students under the supervision of foresters.

- **2008** Earth Day installation of information panel for visitors about the project Oak Grove.
- **2009** Participation in the competition for high school students 1st place in the regional round.

Actors:

Andrej Sládkovič High School - Initiator of the project was only a ten-year student who came up with the idea while studying to prepare a joint project that would be a permanent character and reminds them of youth times. High School is participating in various competitions where is seeking financial support for implementation and expansion project.

Urban Forests Krupina Ltd. - foresters provide technical assistance, planting material, technology and oversee the proper planting and forest tending.

Krupina (*City*) – provide land for the project Oak Grove

Advertising Agency – printing of matherials, e.g. advertising brochure Oak Grove

State administration body - Department Environment - rise to the meeting High School and Krupina Municipality

Future challenges:

Oak Grove – Oak Grove completion, building up benches for relax.

Public policy and programs relevance:

The most important factor in implementation was the personal commitment and enthusiasm of each partners for the project. Oak Grove project is realized from a non-financial contributions from individual partners. Urban forests Krupina Ltd. engaged itself in projects from EU funds.