

A photograph of three people (two men and one woman) smiling and holding a young tree sapling in a forest with autumn foliage. The scene is bright and sunny. The text is overlaid on the image in white and teal colors.

*Mother
Nature as
our nursery*

**Help to
transplant
trees**

MORE TREES NOW 

www.moretreesnow.eco





LET'S PLANT TREES FASTER, CHEAPER AND MORE FUN

To stop climate change and restore our biodiversity, we need to plant many trees and shrubs quickly. More Trees Now is a social green project for everyone with climate and biodiversity concerns. With the More Trees Now transplanting method we can make our environment greener faster, cheaper and more fun.



Planting trees for the climate and nature restoration is necessary. The UK for instance has lost 65% percent of biodiversity in the past 100 years. The climate is continuing to warm, which has far-reaching consequences for the environment and the ecosystems on which we depend. At European level, the goal is to plant 3 billion trees. That means more forest, but also something deeper. A more nature-inclusive society; an infrastructure of hedges, hedgerows, forests, green areas, green cities, nature-inclusive agricultural practices, agroforestry, and ecologically healthy waterways. This is feasible, but the question is: where to start?



The campaign has three goals



Stop climate change



Increase biodiversity



Providing perspectives for action to people with climate concerns

Nature gives in abundance

Each tree produces hundreds of saplings every year. Many of these saplings play a role in nature: they are food for (forest) animals, develop the forest through competition, decay naturally and thus contribute to the biotope. The strongest trees and shrubs eventually grow into mature trees and reach the forest canopy. However, most saplings do not survive. Sometimes these saplings can be scooped out and moved without negative impact. The ecological management of ecologist Franke van der Laan stimulates the growth of certain species and thins out excessive species to give space to the popular species. Many saplings are also pulled out, for example to promote the development of heathland or to prevent overgrowth on a walking path. Saplings can be found everywhere and many management plans include lifting and thinning saplings. From demolition sites to municipal, recreational and nature parks, estates with overdue maintenance and roadsides. An unwanted birch that grows in the heath is often very popular in a starting food forest. The trees that grow one meter from a walking path and are mowed away, can grow into an adult tree elsewhere.



By using what nature gives us for free, we can save a lot of time

Planting trees for the climate and nature restoration is necessary

Circular green management

By using what nature gives us for free, we can save a lot of time. Saplings that are already several years old have stored CO₂. By not removing or shredding these saplings, you ensure that the CO₂ remains stored. The saplings can also continue to absorb CO₂. In addition, these trees and shrubs have grown without any additives: no fertilizer, no crop protection products or extra land. This makes them extremely durable!

The More Trees Now transplanting method is circular; abundant saplings are harvested and distributed to planting sites. In between, they are sometimes stored at a collection point, the Tree Hub. Saplings grow large, and these trees eventually produce saplings again. And those saplings also make saplings. This makes the method circular and infinitely scalable!

The method

Tree hub¹

TREE HUB

In a treehub the saplings are heeled-in and preserved until distributed.



2

HARVEST LOCATION

At a harvest location unwanted or redundant saplings are collected.



1

PLANT LOCATION

Here the saplings have a chance to become mature trees. In ten years this is a prospective harvest location.



3

Sometimes saplings can be transported immediately to the planting location!

MORE TREES NOW

The More Trees Now campaign was founded in 2020. Inspired by Ecologist Franke van der Laan (MeerGroen foundation), as he devised the transplanting method and has been applying it for more than ten years in the nature reserve (150 hectares) that he manages himself.



The Urgenda Foundation, an organization that wants to change society into a circular society through innovation and courage, has scaled up the method to a (inter)national campaign. In collaboration with Caring Farmers, a growing group of farmers who want to accelerate the transition to nature- inclusive circular agriculture.



Trees can only be safely transplanted when they are dormant. In winter the sap flows stand still. If a tree is not dormant, a tree will dry out quickly and the trees will die during transplanting. More Trees Now works with nature organizations, forest rangers and forest and estate owners to identify underprivileged saplings and the locations where they are found. We adhere to the management plan of the site manager and only harvest with permission and in consultation. Currently, we have a growing set of over 700 harvest locations, 200 Tree Hubs and over 6000 planting locations in the More Trees Now Tree Planner.

A decentralized transplanting tool

The Tree Planner is an online system in which supply and demand for trees and shrubs come together. All harvest locations, Tree Hubs and planting locations are in this system and also volunteers can create an account. Using the Tree Planner, users can create and organize events to harvest, distribute and plant trees. After three seasons, the Tree Planner has more than 22,000 users, mostly still in the Netherlands.

All ecological knowledge is also collected here so that harvesters, collectors and planters can find out how it works and which trees fit where. This information can also be found at moretreesnow.eco

Towards circular green management

More Trees Now started as a centrally organized campaign: ecological knowledge (Meer Groen foundation), organizational capacity (Urgenda) and contacts with private large landowners (including Caring Farmers). Farmers own more than 60 percent of the land in the Netherlands and are therefore indispensable. However, we are working towards a decentralized system, where every forester, farmer, citizen, municipality and green group is given the tools to work independently. The Tree Planner is a tool for this.

More Trees Now is infinitely scalable

2+ million

free saplings rescued planted

3000+

rescue missions launched

20.000+

participants in the project world wide

Netherlands, Germany, the UK, Ireland and France

all have local sapling rescue groups



The Tree Planner collects ecological knowledge. This allows harvesters, collectors and planters to find out how it works and which trees fit where. This information can also be found at moretreesnow.eco



MORETREENOW

By using what nature gives us for free, we can save a lot of time

We strive for a time when every municipality has its own Tree Hub, where trees and shrubs can be brought from that municipality and where citizens can collect trees and shrubs for free. Where every province has circular green management as standard in its policy and supports harvesting groups and circular site managers. Where every demolition project, every forester, and every green manager leaves the mower in the shed, because the underprivileged

trees are scooped out for a second chance. Citizens have concrete tools to get started on climate and biodiversity. They spend longer and more often in nature and learn more about tree species, management and the resilience of our ecosystem. We dream of circular green management as a new standard for forest and green management in the Netherlands and any other country where trees have been dormant for long enough.



We dream of circular green management as new standard for forestry and green management.

AN ECOLOGICAL CALL FOR TREE TRANSPLANTING

It is necessary to think about what kind of trees we (re)plant in Europe. Exotics are still planted a lot and are often monotonous. For biodiversity, it is essential that we plant diversely.



The transplanting method can help with this. Each seed is unique and we always distribute the trees in a mix. This means diversity in genetic material and species.

But which types are also important. The Netherlands only has 2 to 3 percent of autochthonous forests left. Things are no better in the rest of Europe. The European Union estimates the autochthonous forest area to be between 0.7 and 3 percent. An autochthonous tree means that the genetic material of this tree dates back to the last ice age in that country. The tree has slowly adapted to its habitat, which means that a lot of local nature, insects and animals are associated with it. Autochthonous trees are always native, but native is not

always autochthonous. Native means that a tree species naturally thrives in our climate. Exotics are tree species from other climate zones that we have planted here and can also thrive here under good management. However, exotics do less for biodiversity because they have not committed themselves to the biodiversity of this country. Sometimes an exotic species can become invasive. This means that the species oppresses other species and has a negative impact on the ecosystem.

Ecologists are rightly concerned about the loss of native trees. We must protect our forests, as a valuable heritage for our posterity, and as a priceless source of ecosystem services and a healthy environment.

With transplanting method of More Trees Now...



...exotics find a safe home

There is still a lot of discussion about the use and application of exotics: where is the line between native and exotic? When has a tree adapted sufficiently? What are the functions of exotics, or should you avoid them altogether? After all, many fruit-bearing trees are exotic and very popular for food forests to make our food supply more sustainable. Non-native trees are also an interesting option for sustainable timber construction or climate-proof plants.



...you promote biodiversity

We always distribute a variety of trees. Planting homogeneous trees is how diseases can spread more easily. By planting diversely, with both trees and shrubs, diseases are less likely to spread to their own species, because there are other species among them. A higher diversity of tree and shrub species also ensures a higher diversity of insects and animals above and below the ground.



...we spread native species and make nature reserves healthier

At More Trees Now, 80% of what we transplant is native. We do not know whether it is also autochthonous. You have to do genetic research for that. The exotics that are harvested find a safe place in a food forest or back yard, where many exotics are already grown and where they can still fulfill a good function. We pull out and dispose of invasive exotic species so that we leave areas where we harvest more beautiful. The transplanting method is therefore a win-win for existing nature reserves and the demand for new trees.

TAKE ACTION FOR THE CLIMATE AND BIODIVERSITY AND PARTICIPATE!



... we go faster by working together

All our ecological advice is open source, and every ecologist who works on the campaign is always invited to help. We always try to be aware of the latest insights; ecologically responsible transplanting without slowing down. Because what is most important is that there are trees at all, instead of the proliferation of stones, grass and concrete. To tackle heat stress in our cities, to restore our landscape with more hedges, to make agriculture, nature more inclusive and animal-friendly. Worse than a non-autochthonous or cultivated tree is no tree. Action is needed now.



Would you like to transplant?
moretreesnow.eco/iwanttohelp



Would you like to have trees?
moretreesnow.eco/i-want-trees



Would you like to set up a treehub?
moretreesnow.eco/i-will-become-a-treehub/



Would you like to donate?
moretreesnow.eco/donate



**Let's plant
1 billion trees!**



We're on our way to 1 billion transplanted trees



Participate? Join us! By transplanting trees, planting trees on your own land or donating them.

Scan the QR code or go to

[moretreesnow.eco](https://www.moretreesnow.eco)

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