

# ESR & LULUCF

## Romanian Perspectives

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# Minister of Environment: a fan of forestry offsets



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connections

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“The phenomenon of illegal logging is not that serious if one is looking at the figures; annually, between 26,000 and 30,000 hectares are being reforested.”

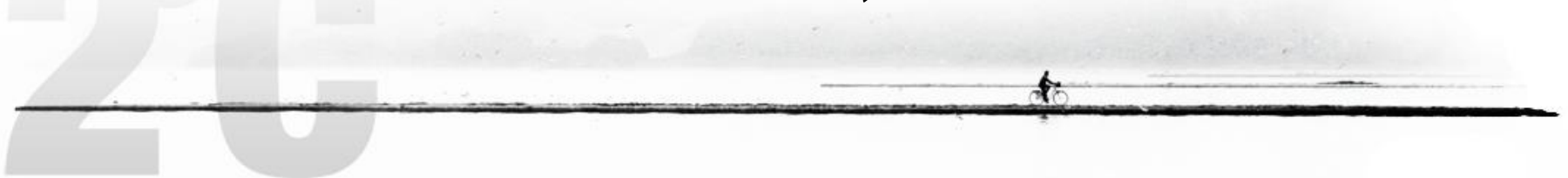
March, 2016

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# Ministerial explanation

- Romania has one of the best forest management systems in Europe.
- Legislation is good as well – leads to an annual 2.8 m<sup>3</sup>/ha – less than in many EU Member States.
- Illegal logging is contained by “Forest Radar” + the SUMAL wood traceability system (to whom citizens do not have access).



# A new Forest Code

- 30% of one wood essence type out of all production of the processing company
- Opposition from the President: arguments copied from a letter issued by the dominant market player



# LULUCF

- The hottest Romanian issue: FORESTS and deforestation
- In a decade the country lost around 3% of its forested land
- Forestry offsets are appealing to market players and the government

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# Monopoly



HOLZINDUSTRIE  
**SCHWEIGHOFER**

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# Spindle, a method



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**THUS, on paper Romania might harvest half than it projects.**

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# Corruption, the environmental problem

- EIA
- Agent Green
- Antena3

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# EIA



**Sorin: Noi achităm un bonus dacă livrezi 3000 de metri cubi si semnezi un contract pentru 2000.**

# Agent Green



**Wood sourcing in protected areas**

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# Solution: Moratorium



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Solution: Moratorium on exports (?)



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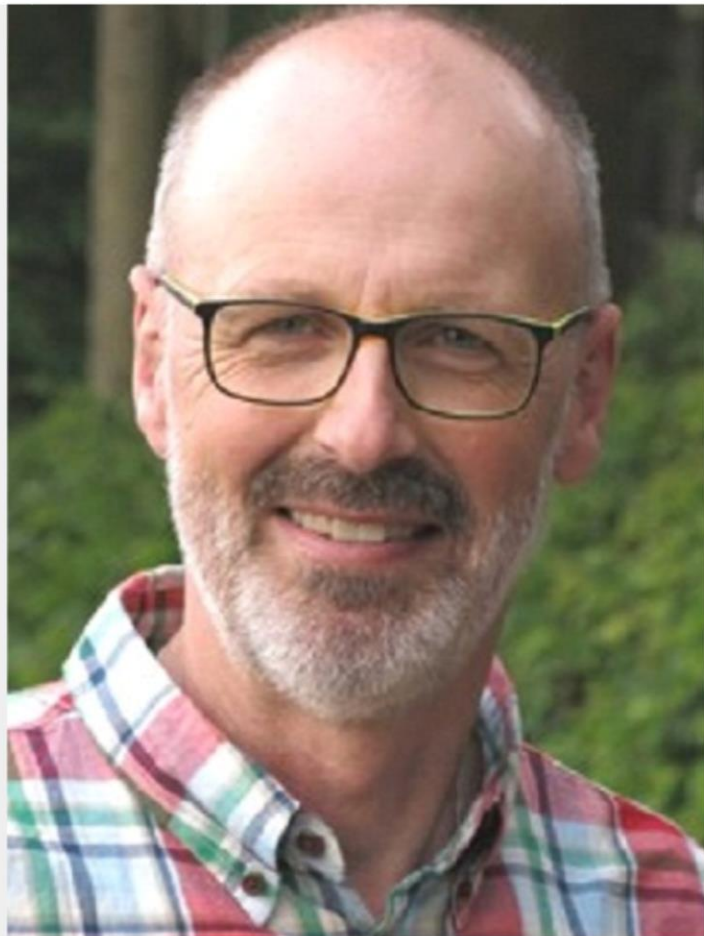
# Forestry offsets: a panacea for loggers

- do not take pressure away from the need to decarbonize the energy sectors and significantly reduce emissions from **fertilisers, meat production and industry processes.**

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foreword by TIM FLANNERY  
**PETER WOHLLEBEN**

# The Hidden Life of **TREES**



What They Feel,  
How They Communicate

Discoveries from a Secret World

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# Complexity of carbon sinks

**Peter Wohlleben**

- “The forest is really a gigantic carbon dioxide vacuum that constantly filters out and **stores** this component of the air.”

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# Wohlleben again

- For every log you burn in your fire at home, a similar amount of carbon dioxide is being released from the forest floor outside.

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# Wohlleben concludes

- In older trees, fungi can lead to rot inside the trunk, but this doesn't slow future growth one little bit. If we want to use forests as a weapon in the fight against climate change, then we must allow them to grow old, which is exactly what large conservation groups are asking us to do.

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# Metaphor. Listening to the trees

- It is not a tree-hugger's exaltation, but an approach that switches the extremely complex argument to the tree's and the forest's perspective.

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# The couple: Romania - Austria

- Good practices in alpine paradises: Voralberg
- Horrid practices in the European East

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# Sawdust

## **Good practice from the buddies in Austria**

- No pressure from any dominant player on the market
- Complete community control over felling trees
- Certification and strict local consumption/added value processing of wood
- Use of sawdust for central heating (in addition to hey pellets)

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# Wetlands restoration

- WWF – Danube: restoration of wetlands south of Romania and on the Ro-Ukr border after the RAMSAR Convention of 2012.
- REGIO – Flooded areas restoration (Braila)

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Thank you!

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