Press Release

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Sonae Forest exceeds 160 hectares with more than 200 thousand trees planted

- **Sonae Forest aims to capture carbon dioxide and allows for the neutralization of over 56,000 tons of emissions over the past four years.**
- **Castelo de Paiva and Valongo are receiving the latest plantations, allowing for the recovery of burnt areas, combating invasive species, and restoring biodiversity.**
- **Investment in Sonae Forest estimated at over 16 million euros over 30 years.**

Sonae has already financed the planting of over 540,000 trees in Portugal, of which 200,000 were planted in the last four years. The recent plantations will allow for the neutralization of 56,000 tons of unavoidable emissions from the light fleet of companies through carbon capture over 30 years. Through the Sonae Forest project, over 160 hectares have already been reforested in Portugal, with plantations currently underway in Castelo de Paiva and Valongo. The project is facilitating the recovery of burnt areas, the fight against invasive species, and the restoration of biodiversity and watercourses.

Sónia Cardoso, Sustainability Director at Sonae, states: "We recognize the crucial need to value Biodiversity and Water, which is why we have positioned this issue as one of the guiding axes of our Sustainability Strategy. Ensuring the protection, recovery, and regeneration of biodiversity and ecosystem services, including soil, drinking water, and oceans, is of utmost importance to our businesses. Sonae Forest expresses the commitment of all Sonae companies to protect nature and restore biodiversity, simultaneously contributing to offsetting part of their carbon footprint and increasing carbon storage in forests."

Sonae Forest is a project led by Sonae and operationalized by Sonae Arauco, with the support and contribution of Bright Pixel, MC, Sierra, Universo, Worten, Zeitreel, NOS, SC Industrials and SC Investments. The selection of areas is based on a preliminary assessment of the lands, identifying existing opportunities for restoration, conservation, and biodiversity promotion. Subsequently, an intervention plan is drawn up, which includes all necessary actions, such as species to be planted (in a mix of deciduous and coniferous suitable for local conditions), invasive species control, watercourse restoration, among others, which, after implementation, will be managed for a minimum period of 35 years, aiming at landscape transformation and consolidation. By 2030, the planting of one million trees is planned, equivalent to over 1,000 hectares of area, in a total investment exceeding 16 million euros over 30 years.

Sonae exists to create a lasting positive impact on businesses, people, communities and on the planet. Managing a diverse portfolio of businesses in retail, financial services, technology, investments, shopping centres and telecommunications, we make the most of our expertise and push ourselves to create the future we all want and need. Creating today a better tomorrow, for all.
Find out more at www.sonae.pt

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Nuno Calado, Wood Regulation & Sustainability Manager at Sonae Arauco, the entity responsible for managing Sonae Forest, emphasizes: "Forests play a vital role in combating climate change, providing goods and services, and preserving biodiversity. Therefore, we manage them responsibly and actively contribute to ecosystem restoration. Sonae Forest is a successful example that will, in the long run, offset thousands of tons of CO2 and restore burnt areas through reforestation that promotes long-term sustainability of territories."

The offsetting of Sonae's emissions through Nature-Based Solutions - in this case, focused on afforestation and restoration - aligns with the Group's sustainability positioning, its connection to the forest, and the urgency of addressing the challenges facing the Portuguese forest. This approach aims to voluntarily offset a percentage of unavoidable greenhouse gas emissions at present, in addition to the decarbonization roadmaps developed by Sonae companies.

The Sonae Forest project was publicly announced in 2021, with plantations in the Mangualde area, in severely fire-affected areas. This year, it has expanded its activity to the municipalities of Castelo de Paiva and Valongo, contributing to the recovery of ecosystems and biodiversity in these regions.

Sonae Forest: A Living Laboratory

Sonae Forest has allowed for the initiation of the process of restoring biodiversity in all intervened territories, but also contributed to the creation and dissemination of knowledge about the forest. The planted areas function as living laboratories, allowing for the technical demonstration of sustainable solutions to forest producers. The work carried out in the field by Sonae Arauco will contribute to the dissemination of best forest management practices, as well as promoting community involvement, opening doors to reforestation and environmental awareness actions.

Commitment to Zero Deforestation

Sonae companies are committed to promoting the conservation of natural forests worldwide, having signed the "Zero Deforestation" commitment, which aims to ensure, by 2030, the absence of deforestation associated with the activities and direct operations of subscribing companies, as well as in their supply chains. The "Zero Deforestation" commitment reflects the commitment of Sonae companies to combat deforestation by adopting goals that ensure the preservation of forests throughout the activity of their supply chains associated with the production of critical raw materials - cattle, timber, palm oil, and soy. Additionally, it aims to ensure "zero deforestation" in the development of new infrastructures and to positively contribute to forest conservation and restoration. To achieve the proposed objectives, Sonae companies are collaborating with their supply chains, focusing on local production where the absence of deforestation must be ensured. In this sense, coordination with various stakeholders is underway to ensure traceability and

monitoring of the materials acquired, namely through the adoption of control mechanisms and other procedures, including, for example, the certification of raw materials.