

Goal 13. Climate Action.
**«Take urgent action to combat climate change
and its impacts».**



International Day of Forests

On March 21, the world celebrates the International Day of Forests. This memorable date was introduced by the UN General Assembly on November 28, 2012, and its first celebration took place in 2013. The main purpose of this memorable day is to remind humanity of the need to protect and preserve the forest resources of our planet.

Today, about 30% of the world's land is covered by forests, and the plants and animals that live in them account for up to 80% of the world's biodiversity. Forests play a key role in stabilizing the Earth's climate, providing food, water and medicine to billions of people. The 13th Sustainable Development Goal of the United Nations ("Mitigating the effects of climate change") is linked to forest conservation.

Vasyl Karazin, the founder of Kharkiv University and a prominent Ukrainian naturalist, was concerned about the preservation of forests in the first half of the nineteenth century. In his writings, he proved the favorable impact of forests on the climate and water balance of rivers, called for the protection of forests from ill-considered deforestation, pointed out the need to plant trees in beams and ravines, and to reforest sandy areas unsuitable for agriculture, thus organically combining environmental issues with economic ones. The educator also became one of the pioneers of steppe reforestation and in his writings gave advice on the optimal selection of tree crops, soil selection, etc.



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Kharkiv Green Urban Fest 2023

On June 17, 2023, Kharkiv Green Urban Fest 2023 was held at the Yermilov Center of Karazin University as part of the international research project Fusilli (Fostering the Urban Food System Transformation through Innovative Living Labs Implementation). This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement №101000717.



Everyone had the opportunity to take part in a master class on growing microgreens from the Green Landia NGO. Also, 50 kits for growing microgreens at home were distributed. The main goal is to build a quality food system in Kharkiv, so these kits are the first step towards a greener future. This is especially important for implementing the strategy of the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

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