**INVITATION**

On behalf of the joint project team I would like to kindly invite you to the „**FORBEST** – Forest Based Education and Training“ project’s **Closing Conference and the related press conference** which will be held in Szirmabesenyő from 9:30 on **24th January 2019,** in the local Pál Szinyei Merse Primary School (H-3711 Szirmabesenyő, Állomás u. 1.)

FORBEST project aims to improve the missing or low level of environmental awareness of children and youth to mitigate the future challenges and impacts of the changing natural environment.

The needed changes do not start with political declarations and signatures but with the changes in practices of common people. The project wants to contribute to this change through innovative environmental education and training based in natural environment appreciation. The forest environment with innovative methods will have deep impact on attitude and awareness of kids.

Szirmabesenyő Municipality, developed an outdoor educational, training and information facility in their settlement, near the Szirmay Castle, serving both school children and summer camp visitors and tourists. The facility should operate during the school year as outdoor classroom that focuses on innovative environmental education.

On Slovakian side the Mestské lesy Košice, a.s. will establish an international environmental education center from their decayed suburban forest cottage for year-around activities of youth. The center should provide services for organisation of school based education, training courses, leisure time activities and summer camps. Part of the innovative approach is the participation of foresters and NGO activists, as invited trainers, in the learning lessons of school children.

**Proposed program:**

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| 9:00 | 9:30 | Arrival, registration |  |
| 9:30 | 9:50 | Press conference about the results of FORBEST project |  |
| 9:50 | 9:55 | Opening of final conference | Gábor Huszti - Mayor of Szirmabesenyő |
| 9:55 | 10:05 | Welcome speech and Introduction of Interreg Programme | Dezső Török, Chairman of Borsod-Abaúj-Zemplén County Council |
| 10:05 | 10:15 | Introduction of FORBEST project activities in Hungary | István Csaba Botos |
| 10:15 | 10:25 | Introduction of FORBEST project activities in Slovakia | Gejza Legen, Maros Vanyo |
| 10:25 | 10:35 | Experience of the Training programmes | Judit Csellárné Németh, |
| 10:35 | 10:45 | Experience of FORBEST summer camps | Gergely Molnár |
| 10:45 | 10:55 | Introduction of Guidebook | Gejza Legen, Gergely Molnár |
| 10:55 | 11:05 | Our summer camp experience – from the children’s point of view | Students from the summer camps |
| 11:05 | 11:10 | Questions and Answers |  |
| 11:10 | 11:15 | Summary and closing of the event | Gábor Huszti, István Csaba Botos |
| 11:15 | - | Joint dinner |  |

**Location on Google Map:**

<https://www.google.hu/maps/@48.1525405,20.800604,1017m/data=!3m1!1e3>

I look forward to meeting you soon in Szirmabesenyő.

Kind regards,

Gábor Huszti

Mayor of Szirmabesenyő Municipality