

## Regional Conference of the Central European Green Belt

- 26 June 2024, Wednesday, 10.00-14.30 CET, online –

### MINUTES

(Participation of 36 people from 26 organizations and all 8 countries along the CE EGB)

#### Introduction and Welcome

Introduction by **Dr. Liana Geidezis** (Head of BUND Department Green Belt, Board of the European Green Belt Association (EGBA)) on EGB current challenges and achievements, plus appeal to participants to become an EGBA member.

Round of introduction with most memorable moments at the EGB.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Session – BestBELT - More power for the European Green Belt

1. Introduction by **Anne Whitney** (BUND Department Green Belt)
2. BESTbelt Project Fair
  - **Michael Meyer** (LT&C, Medjmore Nature & DOPPS – 2. Call transboundary project – Croatia/Germany/Slovenia): Sustainable water-based sports solutions in Slovenia and Croatia
  - **Davide Scridel** (Rete Italiana EGB – 1. Call project – Italy): Restoring biodiversity along the Italian Green Belt: forgotten bunkers, abandoned meadows and disappearing ponds
  - **Jan Skalík** (Hnutí DUHA – 2. Call project – Czech Republic): Systematic protection of high biodiversity value forests in the Czech Republic
  - **Marion Zottel** (BienZen Wien – 2. Call project – Austria): BEE-BIO-NET: Blooming landscapes for wild bees and other pollinators in the Marchfeld region in Austria
  - **Oliver Gebhardt** (Austrian Youth League for Nature Conservation in Styria – 2. Call project – Austria): Youth Experience European Green Belt in Austria

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Session – News and activities along the CE EGB

1. Introduction by **Melanie Kreutz** (BUND Department for the Green Belt) **communication material:**
  - Brochure on Green Infrastructure by FRACTAL project (version available to download in **Italian, Slovenian, German and English** language under “resources”:  
<https://www.alpine-space.eu/project/fractal/>)
  - “LIFE for MIREs” textbook and workbook for kids “In the kingdom of water and wetlands” available in German and Czech language
2. **Katrin Evers** (FoE Germany): New visions: experience 360 degree tours in the Green Belt
  - Example from [Altmark region](#)
  - Examples from [Rhön mountains](#) and [Werra mountains](#) **also available in English**
3. **Alois Lang** (Austrian League for Nature Conservation): Making the European Green Belt visible (in Austria): placing a border stone and support local community
4. **Thom Gallie** (Wanderwall): Inventory of points of interest (POIs) for digital Green Belt map

- Map concept and Points of Interest (Example [video of Billmuthausen](#) - a razed village, available in German)
- 5. **Francesca Visintin** (Rete Italiana EGB): Creating role models: the municipality of Stregna
- 6. **Jörg Schmiedel** (BUND Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania): Interreg Project ReCo – Restore degraded eco-systems along the green belt to improve and enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Nomination of the representatives for the EGBA’s general assembly in Latvia (mid-October 2024)

- **Melanie Kreutz** → Declaration of voting procedure (12 out of current 17 EGBA members present) → to secure anonymous election: direct message to BUND Department Green Belt
  - BUND Department Green Belt (**Liana Geidezis**) announced that they are willing to continue their role in the EGBA Board as the Regional Coordinator for CE EGB
  - Rete Italiana EGB (**Francesca Visintin**) announced that they are willing to continue their role in the EGBA Board as National NGO for CE EGB
  - German Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (**Daniela Mewes**) announced that they are currently not able to continue their role in the EGBA Board as National Focal Point/GO for CE EGB
  - In response to enquiries, for the time being no other organisations have expressed their willingness to be included as representatives for Central Europe on the EGBA board.
  - Candidates for the future National Focal Point/GO representative should be announced latest until 4 weeks before the EGBA’s general assembly, mid-October, GO members of EGBA were encouraged to consider the representation.
  - All present EGBA members voted with “yes” for the proposed candidates:
    - BUND Department Green Belt as Regional Coordinator**
    - Rete Italiana EGB as National NGO**
    - (National Focal Point / GO representative is vacant)

Attachments: All presentations are available here:

### **DOWNLOAD LINK**

Materials for children (in German language):

- Colouring pad for children with “Bandi” (Bely) the Green Belt mascot and species from all along the European Green Belt <https://nx17201.your-storageshare.de/s/jCZzaHGSoqioQNi>
- Handicraft sheet "Make yourself a Bely" <https://nx17201.your-storageshare.de/s/oWkdQmapiJWichW>
- Handicraft sheet “Bely and his mire friends” <https://nx17201.your-storageshare.de/s/md5YA9cb7wPpoAq>