

BESTbelt Conference 2024 Agenda

Monday, 14 th October 2024 – Arrival	
Time	Topic
19:00	Welcome dinner for all conference participants
20:00–21:00	Registration
16:00-18:00	Board meeting of the European Green Belt Association e.V. only EGBA Board members
Tuesday, 15 th October 2024 – Conference Day 1	
Time	Topic
8:00-9:00	Registration
9:00-9:30	Opening and welcome Moderation: Gabriel Schwaderer, EuroNatur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dace Sāmīte, Director of Kurzeme Regional Administration • Jutta Paulus, Member of the European Parliament (video message) • Ben Caspar, European Commission
9:30-12:00	Session 1: BESTbelt - More power for the European Green Belt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BESTbelt – More power for the European Green Belt: Presentation, Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur • Project Rallye of BESTbelt funded Projects
12:00-13:15	Session 2: Potential of the Nature Restoration Law for the European Green Belt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation and discussion, Ben Caspar and Hélène Perrier, European Commission
13:15-13:30	Group picture
13:30-14:45	Lunch break
14:45-16:00	Session 3: Generating nature-based income

	<p>Moderation: Ben Caspar, European Commission</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential of green jobs for the European Green Belt in Bulgaria, Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur and Petko Tzvetkov, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation • Local engagement in supporting development of nature-based businesses in Shar-Korab Koritnik Mountains, Frosina Pandurska Dramikjanin, Macedonian, Ecological Society • EuroVelo 13 –Iron Curtain Trail - Governance, promotion and innovative business model for cycling along the European Green Belt, Agathe Daudibon, European Cyclists’ Federation • Discussion
16:00-16:30	Coffee break (Submission of reimbursement documents)
16:30-17:15	<p>Session 4: The European Green Belt on the way to a UNESCO World Heritage designation</p> <p>Moderation: Jörg Schmiedel, BUND Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best Practice: Inclusion of the German green belt on the tentative list for UNESCO World Heritage sites; Liana Geidezis, BUND Department Green Belt • UNESCO World Heritage: What does it mean and which steps are necessary? Alexandra Kruse, Insitu Heritage Consulting • Discussion
17:15-18:30	<p>Session 5: Poster Session</p> <p>Guided poster Session facilitated by BESTbelt Project team</p>
18:30-20:00	Dinner
19:00-20:00	Reimbursement of travel grants
20:00	<p>European Green Belt Fair</p> <p>Traditional food and drinks from along the European Green Belt</p>
Wednesday, 16th October 2024 - Conference Day 2 (Field trip)	
Time	Topic
8:45-21:00	<p>Working groups on the road</p> <p>Fieldtrip to visit BESTbelt best practices close to Jurmala including lunch, coffee breaks, and dinner</p>

Thursday, 17 th October 2024 – Conference Day 3	
Time	Topic
9:00-9:15	Session 6: Review of BESTbelt Conference Moderation: Jörg Schmiedel, BUND Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrap-up of field-trip and main findings of the first conference day • Outlook on the last conference day
9:15-10:15	Session 7: Experiencing the European Green Belt Moderation: Melanie Kreutz, BUND Department Green Belt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 360 Grad Tours, Karin Kowol, BUND Thuringia • Digital Field Guide Green Belt Germany, Thom Gallie, berlinHistory e.V. • Borderlands – exploring the Fennoscandian Green Belt, Diane Robert, Borderlands Project (Oxford University) • Discussion
10:15-12:30	Session 8: Tools and next steps to further develop and promote the European Green Belt Moderation: Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of joint communication activities, Jessica Bitsch, EuroNatur • European Green Belt Days, Selcuk Aslan, Association Back to Nature • European Green Belt Municipality Award for the Municipality of Stregna, Italy, Francesca Visintin, Rete Italiana EGB • Vision for a European Green Belt Hiking Trail, N.N., Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation • Expansion of the European Green Belt Network, Gabriel Schwaderer, EuroNatur <p>“Market of possibilities” to discuss the presented approaches and their implementation</p>
12:30-13:00	Wrap-up and closing of conference Gabriel Schwaderer, EuroNatur and Ben Caspar, European Commission
tbd	First transfer to airport (lunch bag)
13:30	Lunch for participants EGBA General Assembly
15:00-18:00	General Assembly of the European Green Belt Association e.V.
19:00	Dinner
Friday, 18 th October 2024 – Departure	
tbd	Transfer to airport for EGBA members