

## Detailed Agenda

### **BESTbelt Balkan Regional Conference 13<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024 in Haskovo, Bulgaria**

Venue: [Park Hotel Green Europe](#)

#### **Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Time	Topic
18:00	Registration
19:00-20:30	Joint welcome dinner

#### **Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

Time	Topic
08:45-09:15	Registration
09:15-09:45	<p><b>Opening of the Conference</b></p> <p>Moderation: Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Petko Tzvetkov, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation</li> <li>• Dimitar Popov, Green Balkans</li> </ul>
09:45-12:00	<p><b>BESTbelt – More power for the European Green Belt</b></p> <p>Moderation: Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BESTbelt – More power for the European Green Belt, Samuel Carleial Fernandes, EuroNatur</li> <li>• BESTbelt Project fair of funded projects at the Balkan Green Belt (including coffee break)</li> </ul>
12:00-12:30	<p><b>Activities of the European Green Belt Association</b></p> <p>Moderation: Petko Tzvetkov, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insight into recent activities, Jessica Bitsch &amp; Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur</li> <li>• Nomination of representatives of the region to the Board, Dimitar Popov, Green Balkans</li> </ul>
12:30-13:45	Lunch break

13:45-14:30	<p><b>Exchange on activities along the Balkan Green Belt</b></p> <p>Moderation: Anne Katrin Heinrichs &amp; Isabel Wintermantel, EuroNatur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint collection of ongoing and planned activities along the Balkan Green Belt</li> </ul>
14:30-15:45	<p><b>Best practices of the Balkan Green Belt</b></p> <p>Moderation: Dimitar Popov, Green Balkans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential of green jobs for the Balkan Green Belt in Bulgaria, Petko Tzvetkov, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation</li> <li>• Enhancing Connectivity along the Balkan Green Belt, Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur &amp; Emir Gjyzeli, PPNEA</li> <li>• Hidden Worlds: A journey of discovery into subterranean speleology spanning four generations, Sofia Galceava, Explorers Speleological Association</li> </ul>
15:45-16:15	Coffee break
16:15-18:00	<p><b>Sharing of knowledge and experiences</b></p> <p>Two rounds of parallel working groups</p> <p>Moderation: Samuel Carleial Fernandes, EuroNatur</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unlocking the potential of green jobs, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation, Petko Tzvetkov</li> <li>• Telling the story of your project and increasing your reach, EuroNatur, Jessica Bitsch</li> <li>• Connecting young people with the European Green Belt, EuroNatur, Isabel Wintermantel</li> <li>• Getting the European Green Belt Days flying, EuroNatur, Anne Katrin Heinrichs</li> </ul>
18:00-19:00	Delivery of documents for reimbursement of travel costs
19:00-20:00	Joint dinner
20:00	<p><b>Balkan Green Belt Fair</b></p> <p>Traditional food and drinks from along the Balkan Green Belt</p>
20:00-21:00	Reimbursement of travel costs

### Wednesday, 15 May 2024 - EXCURSION

Time	Topic
08:00-08:45	Breakfast
09:00-20:00	<b>Field visit to learn more about BESTbelt projects in the region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Micro wetlands: Fountains of Life for Biodiversity and Human Wellbeing (Municipality of Topolovgrad and Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation)</li> <li>- BirdsBELT (Green Balkans and Association of Back to Nature)</li> <li>- Safeguarding trans-border Eastern Imperial Eagle population in Thrace (DOKU and BSPB)</li> <li>- Balkania Route (Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation)</li> </ul>
20:00	Joint dinner at the hotel

### Thursday, 16 May 2024

Time	Topic
07:30-08:30	Breakfast
9:00-9:15	<b>Recap and intro into the day</b> Moderation: Jessica Bitsch, EuroNatur
9:15-10:15	<b>Future of the Balkan Green Belt: Potential and challenges</b> Moderated exchange in groups, EuroNatur
10:15-10:45	<b>Collection of feedback</b> Moderation: Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur
10:45-11:00	<b>Wrap-up and closing of the Conference</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anne Katrin Heinrichs, EuroNatur</li> <li>• Petko Tzvetkov, Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation</li> <li>• Gradimir Gradev, Green Balkans</li> </ul>
11:30	Transfer to airport in Sofia*
12:00	Lunch (optional)

\* Lunch will be provided as take-away package