



WEBINAR:

From the Barents Sea to the Balkans - The BEST for the European Green Belt

26 March 2021, 16:30 – 18:00 CET via Zoom

Jutta Paulus and Nicolae Ștefănuță, Members of the European Parliament

Where once the Iron Curtain separated countries from each another, nature now connects them in a unique continuity of natural habitats which span the length of the European continent. The European Green Belt runs through sixteen EU countries, five candidate countries, one potential candidate and two non-EU countries. This is Europe's longest green network, a flagship of green infrastructure, which must be protected and conserved for future generations. The so-called BEST-project (Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services in EU Overseas Countries and Territories) shall be replicated in an adjusted way to the European Green Belt context. The objective is to enable, empower and strengthen local initiatives and civil society organisations which are committed to local development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use of ecosystem services. This webinar will serve as a starting point to inform about the opportunities of a BEST Belt-project. It is meant to generate and exchange ideas how the related opportunities can be used in the best possible way.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction

Jutta Paulus and Nicolae Ștefănuță, Members of the European Parliament

The European Green Belt and why it is important

Gabriel Schwaderer, Executive Director of EuroNatur and Chair of the European Green Belt Association

The Baltic Green Belt – A regional perspective, challenges and opportunities

Jakub Skorupski, Green Federation 'GAJA', Poland

The Balkan Green Belt – A regional perspective, challenges and opportunities

Sofia Galceava, Speleological Association Explorers, Romania

Setting the scene in the EU - A BEST-pilot project in Europe

Jutta Paulus and Nicolae Ștefănuță

The BEST Initiative – Lessons learned, challenges and opportunities

Stefan Leiner, Head of Unit Biodiversity, European Commission
Carole Martinez, Senior BEST Programme Coordinator, IUCN

Discussion and closing

All participants, Jutta Paulus and Nicolae Ștefănuță

Please register: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_fcZ0gNkWSiW4RW_ZaftTdA