

# GREEN BELT

Protection and Valorisation of the longest habitat system in Europe  
INTERREG IIIB CADSES Neighbourhood Programme 2000 – 2006

## Newsletter 12/2006



### Editorial

Dear Project Partners,  
Dear Friends of the Green Belt,

Two busy and exciting months lie behind us, and we would like to inform you about the latest news around the INTERREG project GREEN BELT.

The Joint Convention is expected to come back to us these days after it has been signed by all the 17 project partners from 8 countries.

In this connection, we are very happy to inform you that both the project partners from Croatia and Bulgaria have meanwhile signed the contracts with their National Contracting Authorities, which enables them to participate in the project with their own budgets.

This newsletter will look back on the meeting of work group 2 “Sensitive Traffic Development” which took place in Sopron/HU from 27 to 29 October 2006 and inform on the activities of the other work groups as well as on important PR activities for our project.

Today’s partner profile will introduce BUND – the German branch of “Friends of the Earth” who were one of the initiators of the project looking back to more than 16 years of work for the GREEN BELT initiative on the German level which is the origin of the vision GREEN BELT Europe.

We are looking back to a successful project year, which is the result of an intensive teamwork, and we would like to use this occasion to thank everybody – directly or indirectly – involved in the project for their co-operation.

With best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year,

Uta Tannhäuser

### Bulgarian and Croatian partners signed their contracts

The 4<sup>th</sup> call under which the GREEN BELT project was approved was the first so-called “neighbourhood call” in which it was possible to include also non-EU partners funded from sources such as PHARE or CARDS. We are very happy to inform you that both the State Institute for Nature Protection in Zagreb/HR and the ETP (Environmental Training Projects) Foundation in Sofia/BG recently succeeded to sign the contracts with their Contracting Authorities. This will allow them to join the project activities funded by the mentioned programmes.

### 27 to 29/10/06

#### Work group meeting in Sopron/Hungary

At the end of October, the participants of work group 2 “Sensitive traffic development” met in Sopron/HU to discuss the activities planned in the framework of this work package.



*the participants of the meeting in Sopron*



*choosing exemplary regions for the feasibility study*

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The partners discussed the methodology proposed for the trans-national feasibility study "Sensitive traffic development across and along the (former) border regions – accessibility, visibility and valorisation of the Green Belt" including best practise examples for sustainable traffic on the Green Belt. They proposed a number of exemplary regions of different landscape types and different levels of development for the analysis which shall result in practical recommendations for their valorisation. The Czech, Slovak and Hungarian partners will realise selected thematic cycle tracks along the Green Belt.

The meeting took place in Arnika Forest School, a former pioneer camp run by the project partner Castanea who use this venue for education projects in the field of the environment.



*planting a Green Belt tree in the area of Arnika Forest School*



*the place of the "pan-European picnic" near Sopron*

At the end of the meeting, the participants went on a very interesting field trip to different places in the region around Sopron: from an area reforested by Castanea to the place of

the so-called "pan-European picnic" near Sopron (the place of the first border breakthrough of East German citizens in August 1989), to lake Neusiedlersee and finally to a night walk through Sopron.

Information on the activities of the work group and contact: Jörn Flaig (feasibility study) [joern.flaign@fh-erfurt.de](mailto:joern.flaign@fh-erfurt.de) and Adam Bodor (pilot projects) [bodoradam@axelero.hu](mailto:bodoradam@axelero.hu)

### Work group 1 "Gap Analysis"

The group preparing the "Gap analysis of the Green Belt" is working on the elaboration and delivery of the data/report for the "obligatory programme" defined in a work paper which was revised after the meeting in Leopoldschlag in September. The deadline for delivering the data/report to Melanie Kreutz is 26/01/2007.

Information on the activities of the work group and contact: Melanie Kreutz [melanie.kreutz@bund-naturschutz.de](mailto:melanie.kreutz@bund-naturschutz.de) or Helmut Schlumprecht (technical information) [kontakt@bfoes.de](mailto:kontakt@bfoes.de)

### Work group 3 "PR Initiative for the Green Belt"

The work group is currently working on the texts and layout for the internet presentation. The first draft of the text (general part and model text for one region - German Green Belt) has been finished. This draft as well as the revised work sheet defining the structure of the common presentation will be sent to the partners before Christmas. The deadline for delivering the contributions of the individual partners to Karin Kowol is 02/02/2007.

Information and contact: Karin Kowol [k.kowol@bund-th.net](mailto:k.kowol@bund-th.net)

### Project leaflet in Czech language

The project colleagues from the Institute of Systems Biology and Ecology in Ceske Budejovice printed a leaflet presenting our project in Czech language, which will be used for informing potentially interested persons on the local, regional and national level. The .pdf file will be attached to this newsletter. For more information, you may contact Michael Bartos [michlba@usbe.cas.cz](mailto:michlba@usbe.cas.cz) or Frantisek Zemek [f.zemek@usbe.cas.cz](mailto:f.zemek@usbe.cas.cz)

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### Green Belt wall calendar 2007

Our colleagues from the Nature Park Goricko issued a very nice wall calendar presenting protected areas and Natura 2000 areas on the border between Northern Slovenia and Austria.

The calendar can be downloaded from the website of Nature Park Goricko [http://www.park-goricko.org/de/informacije.asp?id\\_informacija=2555&id\\_jezik=1&id\\_tip1=1&id\\_tip2=9&id\\_tip3=5](http://www.park-goricko.org/de/informacije.asp?id_informacija=2555&id_jezik=1&id_tip1=1&id_tip2=9&id_tip3=5). You may also contact Stanka Desnik directly [stanka.desnik@siol.net](mailto:stanka.desnik@siol.net)

### Second payment claim submitted

The second payment claim was submitted to the CADSES Managing Authority at the beginning of December. The deadline for the next payment claim is 01/04/07.

### Partner profile

Today's partner profile will introduce the project partner who was one of the initiators of the project: **BUND**.

The German branch of Friends of the Earth, Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland (BUND), was founded in 1975 as a federation of pre-existing regional groups. The Bavarian branch (Bund Naturschutz in Bayern, BN) dates back to 1913 and is one of the oldest nature conservation societies in Germany. The Thuringian branch was founded after the political changes of 1989. Although it is much smaller, the Thuringian branch is engaged in several projects of nature conservation, environmental education and policy and, of course, in the field of Green Belt Thuringia.

BUND has its origins in the nature conservation movement. Today, the organisation is one of the most influential environmental organisations in Germany. BUND has 390,000 members and supporters. Members are active in some 2,200 local and regional groups, involved with everything from lobbying work to practical nature conservation.

BUND works on all of today's major environmental issues and is a well recognised lobbyist with a high media profile. Internationally, BUND works on climate policy

and co-ordinates campaigns for Friends of the Earth International. In order to promote nature conservation, BUND carries out specific, topic-based campaigns every year.

Since the fall of the Iron Curtain in 1989, BUND and especially BN were engaged for the protection of the habitats along the former inner-German border soon extending the idea to the vision of the Green Belt Europe. In April 2004, BUND-Project Office Green Belt situated in Nuremberg carried out the first press-journey along the Central European Green Belt in co-operation with further NGOs. The trip lasted 5 days and was a big PR-success for this unique idea. In the same year, the Project Office started to co-ordinate activities and projects along the Central European Green Belt as Regional-Coordinator announced by the participants of the first international conference on the European Green Belt in Hungary in September 2004. In this function the Project Office also conducted the first international conference for the central part of the European Green Belt in October 2005 in Mitwitz/DE which was funded by the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (BfN).

For more information on the BUND-Project Office, please contact Liana Geidezis [liana.geidezis@bund-naturschutz.de](mailto:liana.geidezis@bund-naturschutz.de) or [www.bund.net/green-belt-europe](http://www.bund.net/green-belt-europe).



*the participants of the meeting in Mitwitz in October 2005*

In the framework of the GREEN BELT Interreg project, BUND contributes essential project activities. Melanie Kreutz [melanie.kreutz@bund-naturschutz.de](mailto:melanie.kreutz@bund-naturschutz.de) is co-ordinating the activities of the project group working on the "Gap Analysis of the Green Belt". Karin Kowol [k.kowol@bund-th.net](mailto:k.kowol@bund-th.net) looks after the work group developing the PR

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activities (new corporate design, website, printed material, mobile exhibition).

### Project calendar

26/01/2007

Deadline for delivering the data/report to  
WP 1 (Gap Analysis), see above

02/02/2007

Deadline for delivering the contributions to  
WP 3 (Common Presentation), see above

31/03/2007

next **Progress Report** deadline

01/04/2007

next **Payment Claim** deadline

13 to 16/05/2007

**Project Meeting** in National Park  
Bayerischer Wald/Sumava, meeting venue:  
"Haus zur Wildnis" in Ludwigsthal/DE  
Information and contact: Uta Tannhäuser,  
[greenbelt@salve-consult.de](mailto:greenbelt@salve-consult.de)

Feel free to comment on this newsletter as well as to support the work of the editorial staff by sending your links, information or articles on our subject to [greenbelt@salve-consult.de](mailto:greenbelt@salve-consult.de).

### Imprint

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