

9th Pan-European Green Belt Conference 2016

Results of session 8:

List of ideas for the Programme of Work 2017-2018 for the European Green Belt Association



Group 1A:
Knowledge Exchange and Capacity
Building with Focus on monitoring
and research

Group 1A: Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building with Focus on monitoring and research

Website

- Online Forum with special section for scientific exchange (moderated, open for anyone to join)
- Section on website for links to external websites
- Section for presenting best practise examples from European Green Belt

Milestones:

- ❖ Have sub-sections built by mid/end 2017
- ❖ More time for Forum to be established
- ❖ Present one best practise example from each region per year = 4 best practise examples from GB per year

Regional/national/local support:

- Provide best practise examples upon call for submission from EGBA
- Provide links to EGBA for putting them online



Group 1A: Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building with Focus on monitoring and research

Expert Meetings

- Pan European Conferences (PECs)
- Regional Conferences (RCs)
- Special topic/theme meetings (STMs):
 - special meetings where EGB actors as well as outside EGB actors are invited to discuss a scientific theme/topic. Similar to the PECs but with a broader scientific focus and audience; can be included into other conferences

Milestones:

- ❖ PECs: continue as is, but include more decision makers/GOs
- ❖ RCs: continue as is, but include more decision makers/GOs
- ❖ STMs: have one STM every 2 years, participants include NGOs and GOs from both inside and outside EGBI

Regional/national/local support:

- Help host and organize all types of expert meetings
- Help with the invitee list to name relevant actors that should be invited



Group 1A: Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building with Focus on monitoring and research

Joint Database

Issues to define:

- Type of data to be shared
- Ownership
- How to handle sensitive data

Milestones:

- ❖ By end of 2018:
 - ❖ have defined which data should be shared
 - ❖ have set up guidelines and rules for data upload
 - ❖ have found an agreement on how to ensure alignment of data sets as well as how to safeguard sensitive data

Regional/national/local support:

- Engage in discussion on rules and guidelines
- Provide information / data if possible and wanted (voluntary data sharing)



Group 1A: Knowledge Exchange and Capacity Building with Focus on monitoring and research

Other ideas and topics without defined milestones:

- ❖ Establish national focus points for species groups (invertebrates, birds, etc.)
- ❖ Launch a „EGBI shared species“ project
 - Project about an iconic species that is found along whole EGB
 - Use project for communication, awareness raising
 - Scientific data and monitoring data will be provided by the regions/countries
- ❖ Annual Research Report
- ❖ Establish a clear structure, regulations and mandate to gather scientific data from all members

Group 1B:
(Knowledge) Exchange within the
European Green Belt Initiative

Group 1B: (Knowledge) Exchange within the European Green Belt Initiative

Milestones EGBA

- Mailing List set up
- Online forum established
- Newsletter (3 per year)
- Share information on projects (personal exchange!)
- Online library on webpage/dropbox (studies, presentations, media)
- Annual scientific workshops (representatives from NGOs and GOs)
- Regional workshop every 1 or 2 years
- Calendar (englisch) every year
- PECs (every 2 yrs)
- LinkedIn group for EGB members who have LinkedIn account to join
- Annual publications with concrete results
- Platform on Ecosystem restauration



Group 2:
(EU-) Lobbying

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Declaration of EP recognising EGB

- Identify MEPs to lead
- Association to ask members which MEPs would support EGB
- Members of Association to approach MPs from country

Group 2: (EU-) Lobbying

Request for financial instrument on Green Infrastructure formulated and relevant institutions addressed

- Prepare position paper (policy) requesting funding for GI
- Members to use position paper to approach their governments and MEPs for support

Group 2: (EU-) Lobbying

Request of the integration of the EGB in sectoral funding (H 2020, Interreg, CBC ...) formulated and relevant institutions addressed

- Prepare position paper (policy) requesting sectoral funding for EGB
- Members to use position paper to approach their governments and MEPs for support

Group 2: (EU-) Lobbying

Declaration of Intent signed/ endorsed by all 24 countries along the EGB

- Make good use of “Year of the environment” in Russia (2017)
- Association to send a letter to the Russian Government
- Set up bilateral contacts with members in other relevant countries (Greece, Turkey, Lithuania)
- Association to explore how MoU can be reached

Group 2: (EU-) Lobbying

Increase membership of the European Green Belt Association by 50 %

- Activities to be developed

Group 2: (EU-) Lobbying

Further Milestones (on demand or need for further elaboration)

- ❖ Support letter of EGBA to national governments in case enlargement of protected area network is required but no decision taken by national level (on demand)
- ❖ Explore options for World Heritage nomination of relevant sites along the EGB (link to available study to be shared)
- ❖ EGBA to become opinion leader when it comes to GI on European and national level (further elaboration required)
- ❖ To explore options to form a NGO alliance in Brussels to support the EGB (further elaboration required)



Group 3:
Awareness Raising and Education
about the European Green Belt to
different stakeholders

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1. Communication within EGBI
2. Communication within EGB regions
3. Communication with outside of EGBI

Communication Strategy:

- Wikipedia Information
 - Definition of scope
 - Lobbying beyond project level
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- In 2 yrs, EGBA contacted all national administrations to inform about EGBI
 - Communicate values
 - Cooperation with other networks
 - Simplified information on EGBA needed but not on separate leaflet: maybe one new leaflet including both (EGBA & EGBI)?



Group 3: Awareness Raising and Education about the European Green Belt to different stakeholders

Dissemination of EGB-Logo

- Milestone: In 2 yrs, EGBA members and Initiative stakeholders are informed

Combine EGB Award + Green Belt Day (milestone: each yr in each region)

- Award for:
 - For municipalities
 - For other stakeholders
- GB Day
 - Event
 - Communication with locals
 - Connecting people across borders

Press Tour

- Milestone: In next 2 yrs, one press tour in each region



Group 3: Awareness Raising and Education about the European Green Belt to different stakeholders

Loose Items

- Define added value of EGB on 2 pages
(For local organisations & administrations)
- Collection of best practises
- Identify education institutions on all levels
- EGB Educational Concept
- Instagram Page
- Identify other players outside

