

The projects Baltic Green Belt and GREENNET are implemented through the Baltic Sea Region Programme and the Central Europe Programme co-financed by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

we kindly invite you to a

Lunch Debate about the European Green Belt

on

**Wednesday, 19 October 2011 from 13:00–15:00
in Brussels
European Parliament, Members Salon**

Rue Wiertz/Wiertzstraat 60, Brussels
ASP-Building (Altiero Spinelli), main entrance

The event is hosted by two transnational projects supported by the European Union:

- the **Baltic Green Belt** project
(Baltic Sea Region programme, www.balticgreenbelt.net)
- the **GREENNET** project
(Central Europe Programme, www.greennet-project.eu)

in cooperation with Mr. Jo Leinen, chair of the *Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety* (ENVI).

During Cold War times the Iron Curtain separated Europe in East and West for decades. A Green Belt of natural areas developed along the inhuman borderline. Today this is Europe's longest ecological network and an outstanding symbol of the peaceful ending of the Cold War and Europe's ongoing integration. It is not just an ecological corridor and a prime example for trans-boundary nature conservation, but also a territorial challenge with geopolitical and cultural relevancies. The Green Belt initiative spans the borders between old and new EU Member States, EU Candidate countries, and the external border of the EU – the Green Belt connects 24 countries along 12.500 kilometres (www.europeangreenbelt.org).

Currently the European Union supports two transnational projects along the Green Belt: the Baltic Green Belt project (Baltic Sea Region Programme, www.balticgreenbelt.net) and the recently started project GREENNET (Central Europe Programme).

The Lunch Debate will host short keynote speeches of Green Belt representatives active throughout Europe, which will outline future activities and the contributions of the EU-funded projects to the initiative, including an outlook on further needs and possible enhancements.

Programme:

Welcome by Jo Leinen, chair of the ENVI-Committee **and Prof. Dr. Hubert Weiger**
(Chairman of Friends of the Earth Germany (BUND))

Key-note speeches:

- **Dr. Liana Geidezis** (BUND-Project Office Green Belt) and **Gabriel Schwaderer** (European Nature Heritage Fund, EuroNatur)
Green Belt Regional Coordinators for Central Europe and South-Eastern Europe
The European Green Belt Initiative - Overview
- **Stefanie Maack** (Kiel University)
Baltic Green Belt INTERREG project
- **Detlev Geissler** (Association for Rural Development Thuringia)
Central Europe Project GREENNET

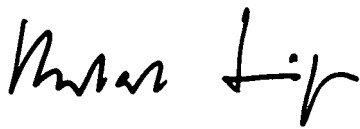
Challenges and possibilities for the EU to support this European natural and cultural heritage as well as opportunities for regional development, nature tourism and sustainable agricultural use will be presented and discussed. The working language will be English.

We kindly ask you to register (via e-mail or fax) using the attached registration form until 5th October 2011.

Please do not hesitate to contact the organisers, should you have further questions:

- Melanie Kreutz,
melanie.kreutz@bund-naturschutz.de, tel. +49-911-575294-14,
(GREENNET project, BUND-Project Office Green Belt)
- Jörg Schmiedel,
joerg.schmiedel@bund.net, tel. +49-381-2015755,
(Baltic Green Belt project, BUND Mecklenburg-Western Pomerania)

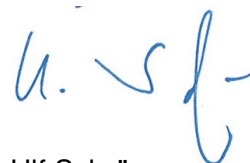
We would be very pleased to welcome you on 19 October 2011!



Prof. Hubert Weiger
Chairman of BUND/FoE Germany



Prof. Horst Steer
Kiel University, Lead Partner Baltic Green Belt



Ulf Schrön
Association for Rural Development Thuringia, Lead Partner GREENNET

Registration



Lunch Debate European Green Belt

Wednesday, 19 October 2011, 13:00-15:00

European Parliament, Members Salon

Rue Wiertz/Wiertzstraat 60, Brussels

ASP-Building (Altiero Spinelli)

Please send this registration form to:

greenbelt@bund-naturschutz.de or Fax 0049-911-575294-20

☐ I will participate ☐ I will not participate

First and Last Name (incl. title):

Institution:

Email:

Telephone:

Postal address:

☐ I would like a vegetarian meal

Please use a separate registration form for every person.



EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN REGIONAL
DEVELOPMENT FUND



**CENTRAL
EUROPE**
COOPERATING FOR SUCCESS.

The projects Baltic Green Belt and GREENNET are implemented through the Baltic Sea Region Programme and the Central Europe Programme co-financed by the European Union through the European Regional Development Fund