Experience Green Belt:
Connecting Nature, People and History.
Green Belts: Local Solutions for Global Challenges, 22 – 24 March 2011, Toronto

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Experience Green Belt: The idea
- Structure
- Implementation
- Some results
- Outlook
The Green Belt in Germany shall work as

- part of the national and international ecological network
- refuge for a lot of endangered Species
- a living monument for the younger European history
- a chain of beautiful and remote areas with high value for recreation
'Experience Green Belt': the idea

Green Belt

- perception
  - nature value
  - living historic monument
  - space for nature experience

- local population
  - appreciation
    - economic value
    - hist. monument
    - touristic destination

- visitors

- protection, management, development
'Experience Green Belt': structure

Complex structure:
- three model regions (MR)
- in each region numerous partners from:
  - nature conservation, tourism and administration
  - several federal states (Bundesländer)
- each model region also with complex structure
- lots of coordination, public relation work etc.

Three model regions (MR)
- Elbe / Altmark / Wendland (MR I)
- Harz (MR II)
- Thuringian / Franconian Forest (MR III)

Steering board
- Scientific steering
  - modul I: support and coordination of the MR
  - modul II: scientific monitoring
  - modul III: corporate design, public relation work
Slogans

Elbe / Altmark / Wendland: 'Border experiences in the quadripoint country'

Harz: 'On Harz border paths through nature and history'

Thuringian / Franconian Forest: 'Green Belt - an (inter)active experience'
Nature conservation activities

- Data collecting, mapping planning
- Management of valuable habitats
- Construction of water bodies (breeding and resting habitats)

Fotos: D. Leupold, Trägerverbund Burg Lenzen e. V.
Thuringian / Franconian Forest: Black stork
Thüringer Wald & Schiefergebirge / Frankenwald
Nature conservation aspects, including:

- controlling of management measures
- special focus on water bodies and dry open ecosystems
- structural development
- species (e.g. plants, birds, several groups of insects)
- etc.
Nature experience

- hiking paths, guided tours
- canoeing
- biking courses
- audio guided tours
- work camps
- special concrete touristic offers
Thuringian / Franconian Forest:

Seven information points 'Experience Green Belt'*

- internet access and special information on the Green Belt
- 4 info-points also offer the opportunity to loan audio guides (MP3-, SatNav-Audioguides)

Mobile phone guides

A lot of printed information

- maps
- tour books
- etc.
Model region Harz

Establishing and marking the 'Harz Border Path'
- 650 signs,
- 1000 labels,
- information panels

Thematic route 'Historic borders'
Model region Harz

National park visitor’s center Torfhaus:
- opened 26. May 2009
- exhibition on ‘Experience Green Belt‘
- special guided tours
- education programme for rangers and national park guides
Younger German history

- historic workshops
- cooperation with border museums
- witness of history reports
- Integration of land art objects
- development and reconstruction of border relicts

Fotos: D. Leupold, Trägerverbund Burg Lenzen e. V.

24 March 2011, Toronto, Dr. Uwe Riecken
Culture

- literature dealing with aspects of nature or history of the border area: Exhibition
- art projects with schools
Touristic offers

- Elbe-Altmark-Wendland
- Harz
- Thuringian / Franconian Forest
Events

- media tour
- touristic trade show Munich
- 20th anniversary fall of the Iron Curtain
- regional conferences
www.erlebnisgruenesband.de

- general information
- regions
- touristic offers
- outdoor navigator
Bilanz I: Corporate Design
Representative questionnaire I

Have you ever heard about the "Geen Belt"?

- Jan. 2007:
  - Yes, I have: 20.4%
  - No, I have not: 79.6%

- Oct. 2010: Not applicable.
Representative questionary II

Did you targeted visit the former border stripe since the reunification in your free time?

Oct. 2010

Jan. 2007

13,3% yes
86,7% no
Would you approve a visit of the Green Belt to friends or relatives?

Oct. 2010

Jan. 2007

83.9%

16.1%

yes  no
Crossing borders: partners and networks

geographic:
- 8 German Federal States (Bundesländer)
- more than 20 counties

stakeholders:
- administrations (municipalities, counties, federal states, nature reserve administrations)
- nature conservation NGOs
- touristic organizations and touristic enterprises
- historians, writers
- scientists (e.g. universities)
- schools, youth hostels etc.
- local people
- guests, tourists
- project managers
A future task in good hands

Thank you for your attention!

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