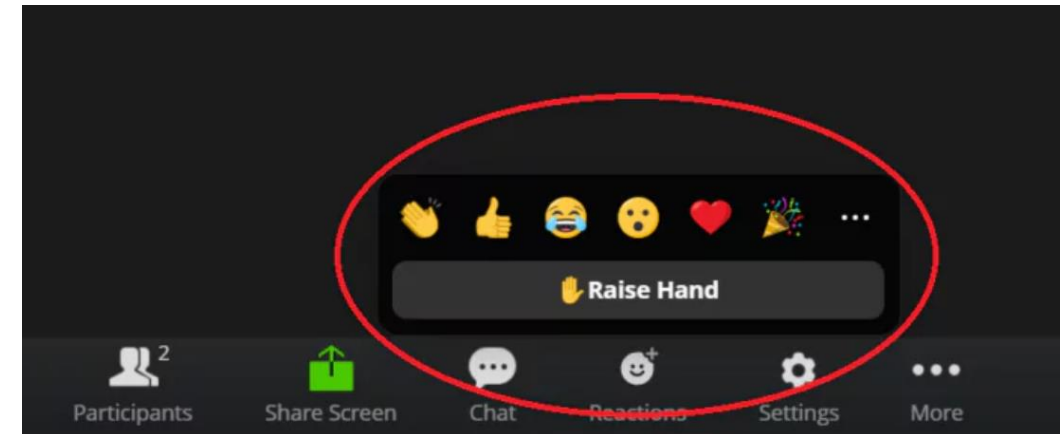
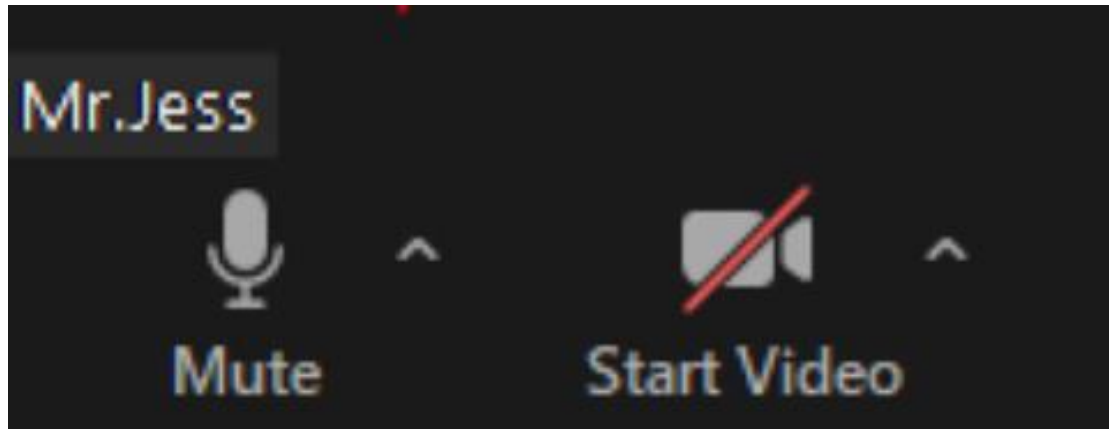




Kathleen Ehrlich & Karin Kowol, BUND Thuringia

April 29, 2025

Technical Notes:



Introduction: Project and Partners	Kathleen Ehrlich
Organisation and Implementation of Projects at the European Green Belt	Karin Kowol
Organisation of Camps and Trainings – basic questions	Karin Kowol
Breakout-Sessions – Technical Advice	Kathleen Ehrlich
Breakout Session 1 – Event Formats and their Requirements	Karin Kowol
Discussion of results	Karin Kowol
Breakout Session 2 – Target Groups, Recruitment of Participants	Karin Kowol
Discussion of results	Karin Kowol
Breakout-Session 3 – Programs and Methods of Knowledge Transfer	Christian Elster, Karin Kowol
Discussion of results	Karin Kowol
Wrap-up (questions and discussion)	Karin Kowol

Let's get to know each other.

Please write in the chat:

Where are you from? (Country, city, organization?)

If you have one: What is your most favorite spot at the Green Belt in your region?



Borders Separate – Nature Unites: European Green Belt Youth Encounters

The project connects young people across borders exploring nature and history of the European Green Belt borders.

Strengthening cross border cooperation and awareness of the Green Belt in our project regions by:

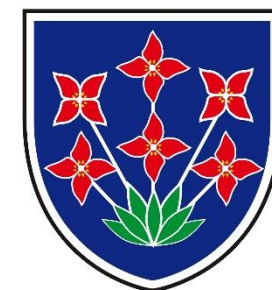
- **International work camps and youth leader training** to get to know different regions of the European Green Belt
- **Creative Outputs:** Social media campaigns, videos, and local events





**ŐRSÉGI
NEMZETI
PARK**

**National Park
Őrség,
Hungary**

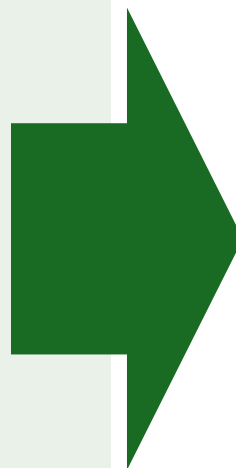


**Municipality
Šalovci,
Slovenia**

The EU-funded BESTbelt project, part of the European Green Belt Initiative, aims to **enhance biodiversity conservation across 24 countries**. Launched in 2021, it empowers civil society organizations with small grants to **protect biodiversity, restore nature, raise environmental awareness, strengthen communities, and create green jobs until the project's end in 2026**. With 49 projects in 21 countries involving around 80 organizations, **BESTbelt promotes cross-border collaboration to turn the vision of safeguarding Europe's longest green network into reality**.

Questions for organising a project:

- Which projects are implemented currently?
- Which activities/ one main task or diverse programs?
- Target groups? Where to recruit participants?
- Organisational support, e.g. by organisations facilitating volunteers to organisations?
- Transborder or international?
- Which funds do you use?
- Is the exchange long term?



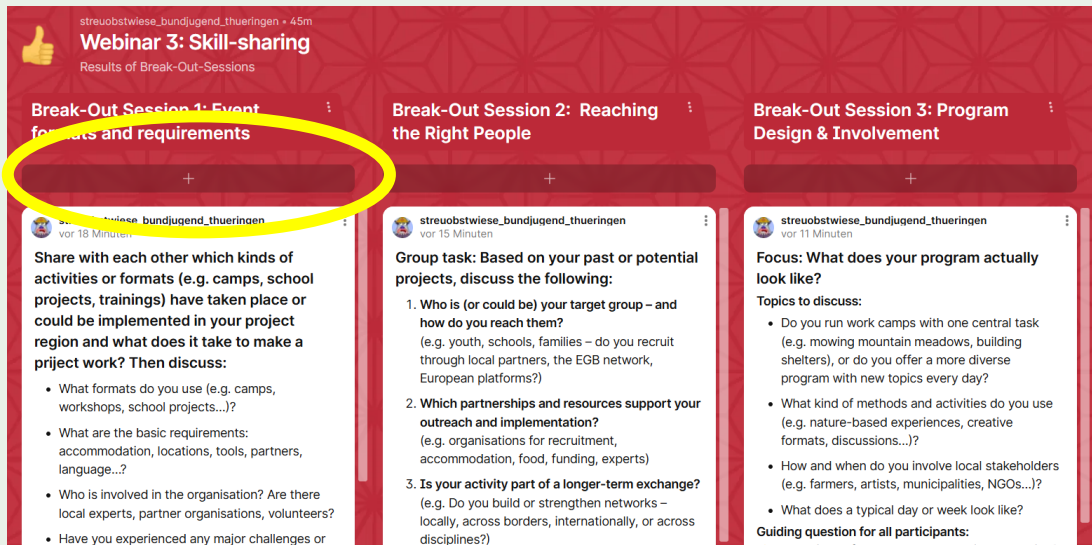
Our implementation (BUND/ BUNDjugend):

- Independent organisation, partly in cooperation with existing partners and regional stakeholders
- Funding through existing project funds (european, federal and state funding)
- Participation is free for all participants
- Implementation carried out independently by project staff and existing partners

- Please present yourself and (optional) your projects shortly
- Select a group leader, who presents your results afterwards
- Discuss the topic and the questions of this session
- Write down the results and present them in the plenum



Link in Zoom-Chat

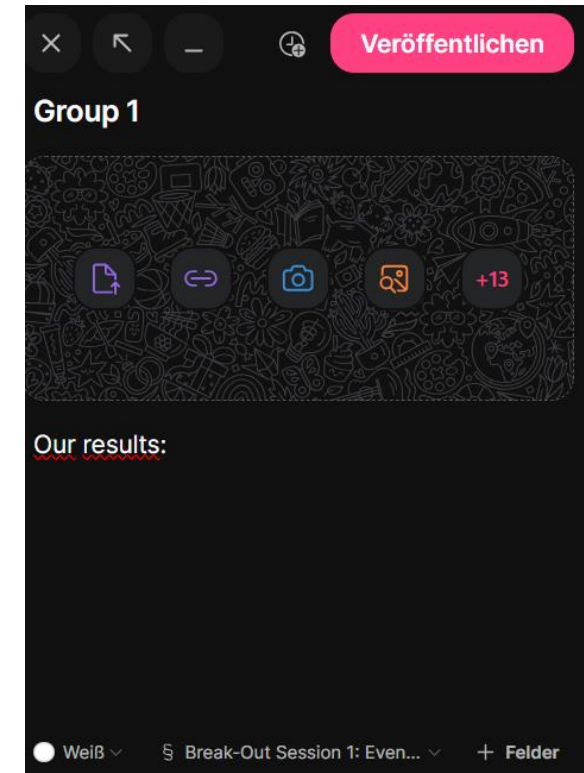


ONLY ONE PERSON
OF EACH GROUP:

1. Write down the
number of your break-
out session or a group
name:

2. Write down your results:

3. Publish your results:



First break-out session: event formats and requirements

- Which event do you (want to) implement? (e.g. camps, trainings, school projects)
- What do you need for implementation? Accommodation, tools, areas, partners, food...
- Which target group do you address? (will be picked up in second break-out session)
- Do you want to address specific skills? Or do you offer a mixture of different activities?
- Do you need/integrate experts (historians, species specialists, e.g.)?
- In international projects - do you integrate the presentation of typical places or topics, that are not directly connected to the Green Belt?
- Who is integrated in the organisation - do you have partner (organisation)s for acquisition of participants, as specialists, for accommodation and food?
- Which language(s) do you use?

Target groups, recruitment of participants

- Potential target groups: school classes, student (group)s, local/international volunteers, mixed groups (international young groups, mixed age, locals and internationals...)
- Recruitment of participants: In the region, within the EGB network, on (European) platforms for volunteers
- Recruitment of experts (e.g. historians, orchid specialists, contemporary witnesses)
- Accommodation: e.g. vacation camps or apartments, outdoor wilderness camps...
- Potential funds: e.g. Bestbelt, Erasmus, national or local funds, foundations
- Singular event or long term exchange : e.g. annual camp or training
- Networks (local, crossborder, international, interdisciplinary)
- Certification for educational leave possible



Second break-out session – target groups, recruitment of participants

- Which target group do you address?
- Where do you find participants? Within the EGB network? On European platforms?
- Who is integrated in the organisation - do you have partner (organisation)s for acquisition of participants, as specialists, for accommodation and food?
- Which funds do you use? When do you apply for funds?
- Is the exchange long term? Do you build up networks (local, crossborder, international, interdisciplinary)



Content and Activities

- **History of the Iron Curtain** from the Second World War until 1989, encompassing the two military power blocs and social and economic systems
- **Personal Stories** (experiences of escape, forced resettlement, life in the restricted zone, or as border guard)
- The development of the **Green Belt as positive example of transformation** (National Natural Monument, Natura 2000)
- The importance of the **Green Belt for biodiversity, species protection and habitat connectivity**
- **Landscape History**: explaining geology, cultural landscape, influence on biodiversity and habitats at the Green Belt
- **Dependence of species spectrum on Site Conditions**
- **Succession versus landscape management**
- **Borders** (personal, visible, invisible borders)
- **Excursions**, including identification of local animals and plants, and visits to historical remnants of the former border.
- **School projects with field trips** (e.g., assessing site conditions and habitats, identifying plants and animals, conducting water quality and hydromorphic structure).
- **Green Belt Rallies**, featuring environmental games and nature discoveries, e.g. with kindergartens.
- **Work camps/ Youth camps** with locals and internationals/ **Landscape management with volunteers** (e.g., scything, clearing bushes, creating animal shelters, land art)
- **Youth leader/multiplier training**: multi-day hikes exploring the Green Belt with expert inputs and contemporary witnesses
- **Readings and conversations** with contemporary witnesses around the campfire
- **Supervision of seminar papers**
- **Virtual 360 degree tours** (e.g. www.360-grad.bund.net/gruenes-band/rhoen) to explore the Green Belt regions digitally

Third break-out session – programs

- Please exchange about your programs
- Do you have work camps with one big task (e.g. mowing mountain meadows, building shelters...) and additional program or do you have a diverse program with every days changing events?
- (How) do you integrate local stakeholders?



Questions and Discussion



Camps Bestbelt

- **June 12-15, 2025:** Youth Leader Training at the Green Belt Thuringia
- **July 13-20, 2025:** Youth Camp at the Green Belt in the Tri-Border Region of Austria, Hungary, and Slovenia
- **August 3-9, 2026:** Work Camp at the Green Belt in Thuringia

Camps in other projects

- **August 2-9, 2025:** Work Camp at the Green Belt in Thuringia
- **August 31 – September 7, 2025:** Summer Camp for students, Bavaria



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Városszer 57.

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onpi@onpi.hu

360-Degree-Tours at the Green Belt Thuringia

Tour at Werrabergland

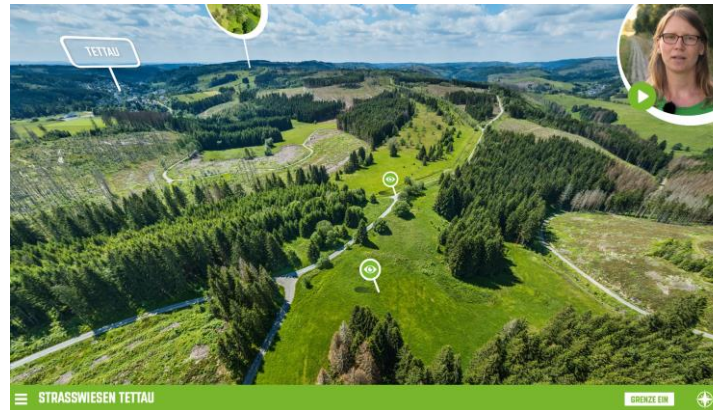
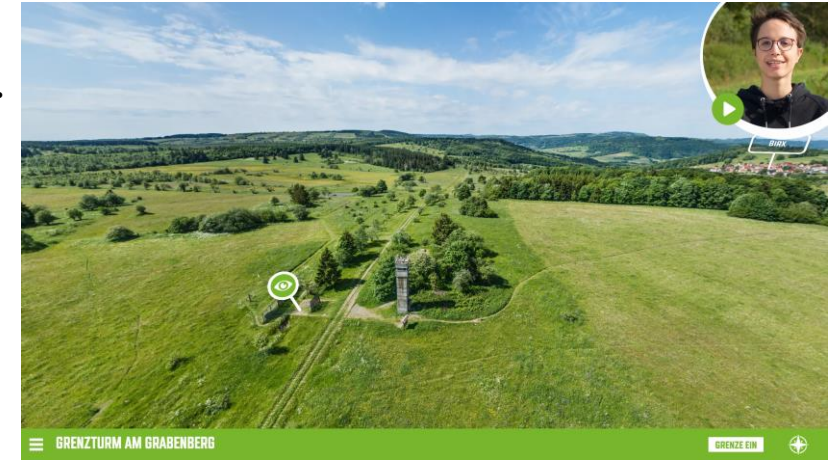


Click at the picture.

All tours available under:
www.360-grad.bund.net/gruenes-band
(incl. Altmark and Inner Bavarian Forest)

Tour at Rhön

Click at the picture.



Tour at the Thuringian Schist Mountains

Click at the picture.

Join our project and explore the European Green Belt with us.

