Barents Protected Area Network
Green Belt of Fennoscandia

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Barents Protected Area Network

Green Belt of Fennoscandia
Barents Protected Area Network (BPAN I, 2011-2014)

• evaluated and analyzed the PA network in the Barents Region
• Recommendations for Strengthening the PA Network in the Barents Region
• Regional activities and communication
• Connectivity between PA’s is of outmost importance
  • To maintain the functionality of the ecosystems and ecosystems services
• Funded by NCM, governments of Finland, Sweden and Norway and WWF Russia.
GBF- one of the large ecological corridors in the Barents region
Green Belt of Fennoscandia

• Cooperation scheme between FI, RU and NO
• Core is the network of PA’s near the border of FI, RU and NO
• Focus on *mainstreaming* biodiversity conservation to other sectors in the *cooperation of stakeholders* and in *participatory cross-border processes*
• Platform also for:
  – Developing livelihoods and social well-being based on nature
  – trilateral cooperation in research on biodiversity and on impacts on it
  – improvement of environmental awareness
Strategy for the development of the GBF 2020

The Vision in 2020
The GBF is developed into a widely acknowledged transboundary model area for biodiversity conservation, social well-being, and environmentally sustainable economic growth generated by the region’s unique biological and geological diversity and cultural heritage.

Goals
1. Protection of biodiversity
2. Research
3. Economic and regional development
4. Social and cultural development
5. Institutional development
6. Communication, education, participation, awareness + 19 subtargets
Synergies between BPAN and GBF

Both projects aim for

• transboundary biodiversity conservation,
• reaching of CBD Aichi Biodiversity Targets and
• strengthening adaptation capabilities to climate change by developing connectivity of the PA’s and therefore supporting migration of species

Partial overlapping geographically

• Specific approaches ensure that the actions and results support each other and feed information to another
• GBF implements the BPAN recommendations into practice

Lot of synergy opportunities in communication activities

• Partially different network of stakeholders widens the audience for results and gives an opportunity for stakeholder groups to mix and change information
BPAN II and GBF II

Focus of the BPAN II, 2015-2017
• compiling information on high conservation value forests
• analysing connectivity of the protected area network
• preparation of map presentation on coastal protected areas – expert workshop in spring 2016

Focus of the GBF II, 2015-2017
• supporting mainstreaming of biodiversity conservation in the regions
• supporting stakeholder networking and cross-border cooperation in BD conservation related activities
• Supporting project development with priority themes
• communication actions aiming for developing the GBF into a widely acknowledged transboundary model area for BD conservation
• deepen the cooperation with the EGB

Both projects are coordinated by the Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)
Paanajarvi National Park, Russia, Photo: Aino Rekola

Thank you!