

# About delineating the Green Belt of Fennoscandia (Russian part)



A. Kryshen', B. Raevskii

*Karelian Research Centre RAS*

E. Borovichev, O. Petrova

*Kola Science Centre RAS*



# Main steps of GBF developing

1. The baseline was to create and develop the network of protected areas
2. Green Belt of Fennoscandia seminar in Petrozavodsk (June, 2008): GBF is integral environmental-economic space
3. Green Belt of Fennoscandia conference in Petrozavodsk (October, 2013): understanding GBF as a holistic area, so it must have scientifically grounded boundaries
4. Green Belt of Fennoscandia conference in Petrozavodsk (September, 2015): Understanding that GBF should be viewed as the cornerstone of the environmental framework of the European North.

# **Spatial Reference Area of the European Green Belt**

**European Green Belt Association**

**Petko Tzvetkov (BBF)**

Balkan Green Belt Regional Conference 2018

6 June 2018 in Strumica, FYR Macedonia

## Objective

The spatial reference area of the European Green **Belt** **specifies its spatial location.**

Thus, the spatial reference area of the European Green Belt **defines the area where the activities of the initiative are concentrated.**

The purpose of the spatial reference area is to **support the work of the European Green Belt Association and the European Green Belt Initiative**, e.g. as a base for analysis and implementation of connectivity and Green Infrastructure.

Naturally, this reference area may be **narrowed down or widened** according to specific questions.



## Process: Identification of criteria

### Natural aspects: Protected Areas

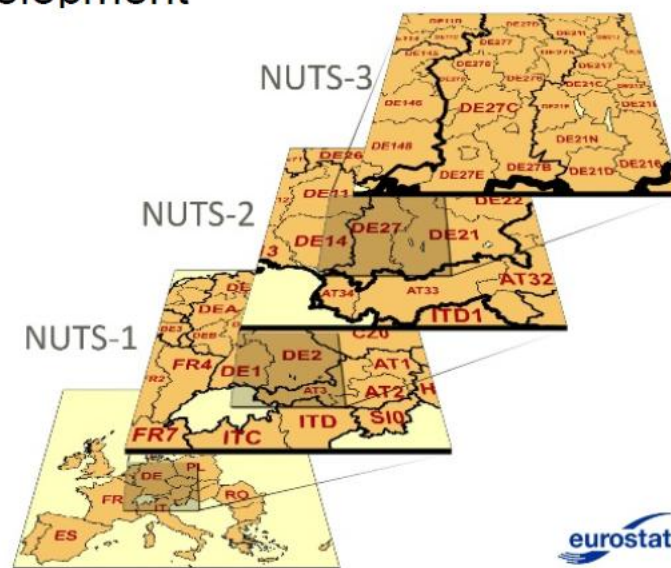
- Reference to the natural environment
- Consider functional coherent units in the landscape (important starting points / core for the development of connectivity in the landscape)



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### Administrative units

- Identification of decision makers, etc.
- Spatial planning
- Addressing people in concrete terms



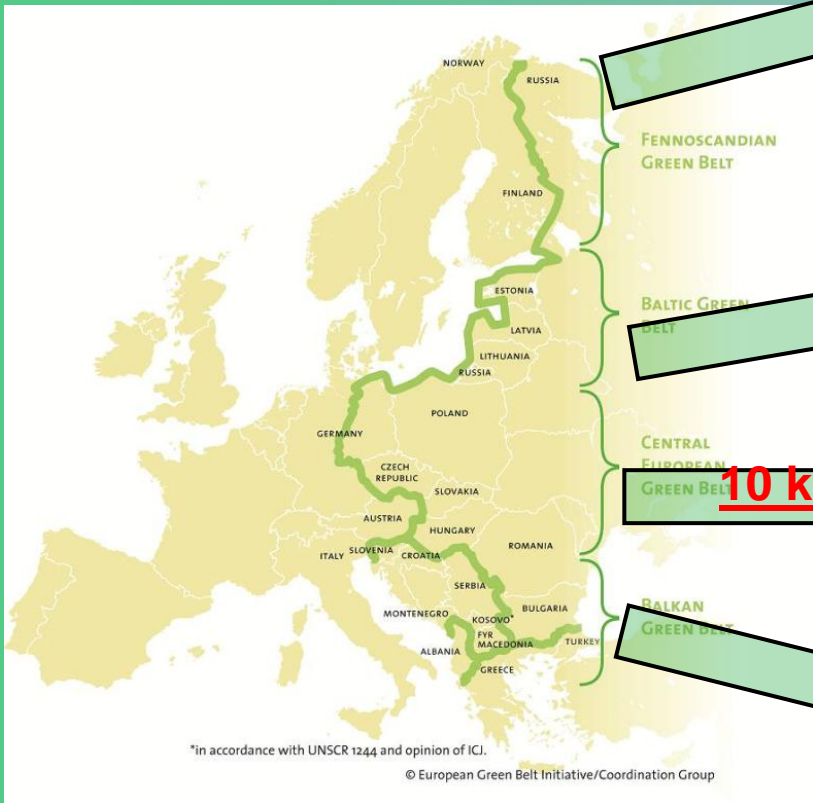
## Process: Identification of criteria

- **The criteria „distance to the border“ is necessary**, in order to select the protected areas and the municipalities spatially connected to EGB
- 25 km distance to the border NOT suitable for many countries
  - **Research of former border situation** necessary to identify distance
- 10 km distance to border will be used for Balkan and Baltic
- 5 km distance to border will be used for Central Europe
- Fennoscandian not decided yet

The spatial reference area of the European Green Belt comprises:

- the total area of **municipalities located directly or with their midpoint within a corridor of 20km** (Central European Green Belt: 10 km) around the European Green Belt Line
- the total area of **protected areas** (all categories) located **with their midpoint within a corridor of 20 km** (Central European Green Belt: 10 km) around the European Green Belt Line
- **Baltic Sea coastal waters** seawards: 12 nautical miles from the baseline (according to the definition of territorial waters of the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea)
- **Other coastal waters:** until a **distance of 5 km from the coast**











# The current practice of establishing green belts has no background of scientific developments for their delineation

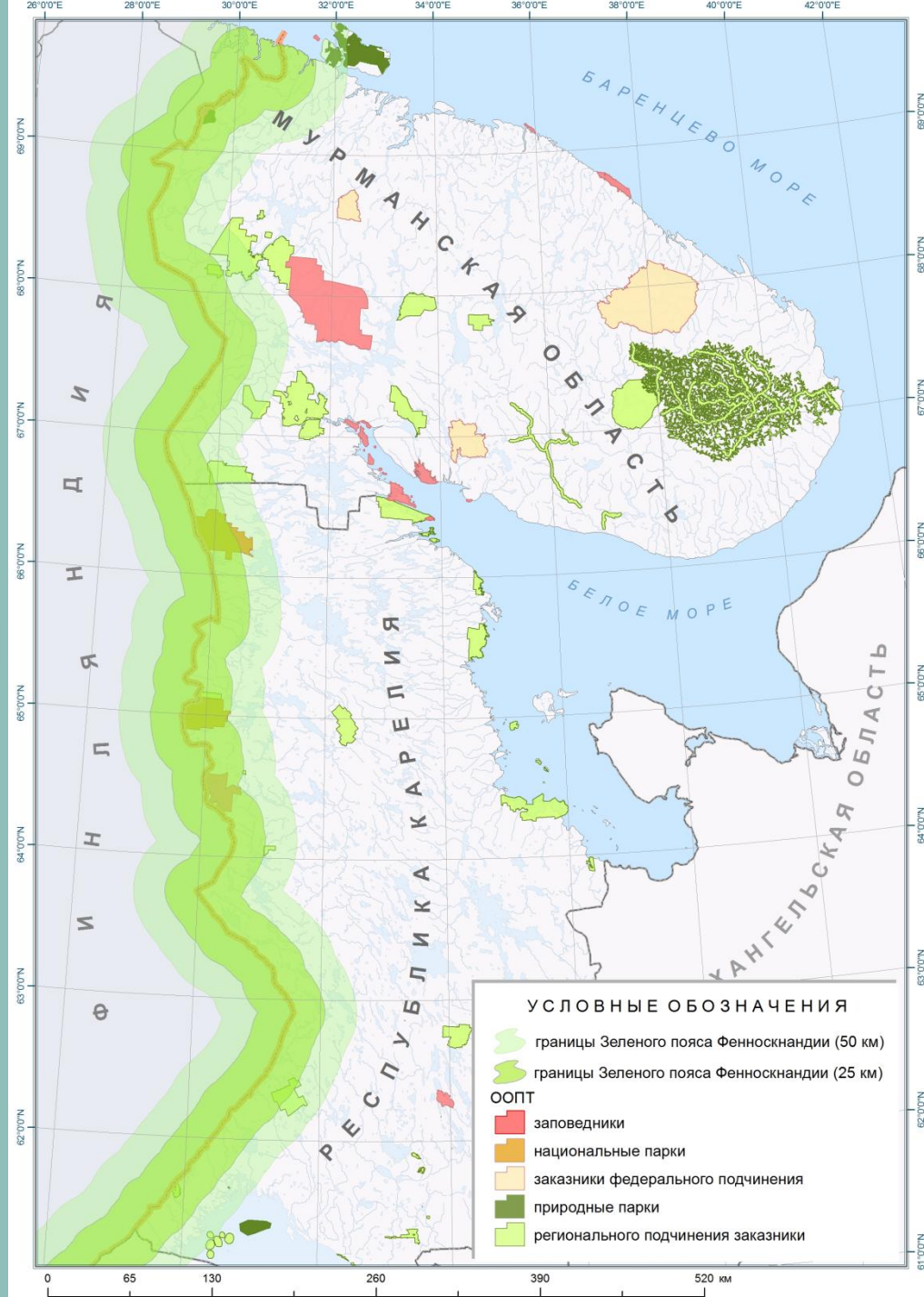
Conclusion of the meeting was held via Mikogo with representatives from Finland, Norway, Russia and EuroNatur (8 March 2018)



“The discussion showed that EGB Board members agree that it would be favorable to develop a consistent definition based on the same criteria (municipalities, protected areas and distance to the border) and which is applicable for all countries. If this is not possible it might be a potential solution to work with one definition for the European Green Belt Initiative and with a different definition on the national levels”



Why we suggested 50 km line along the border?



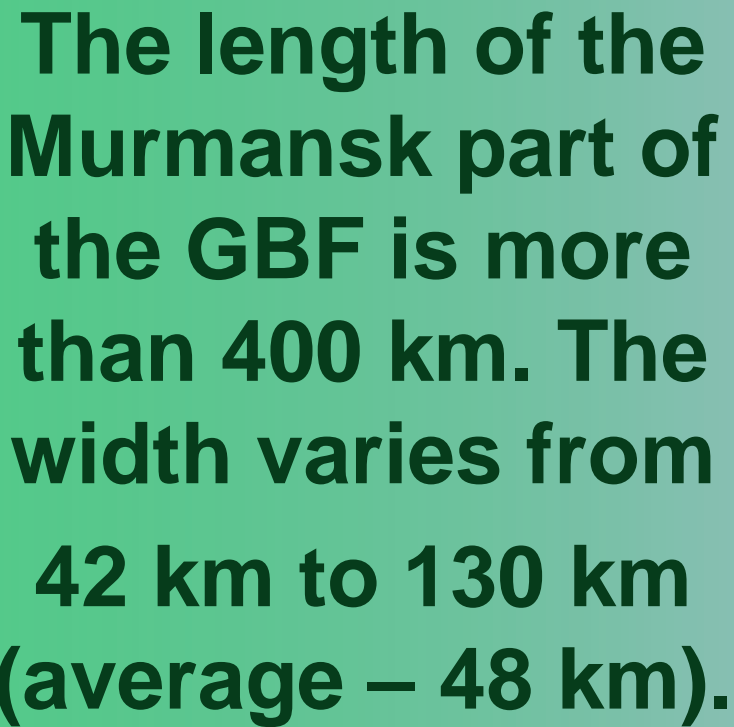


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According to: A. Kryshen', A. Titov, R. Heikkila, A. Gromtsev, O. Kuznetsov, T. Lindholm, A. Polin (2013)

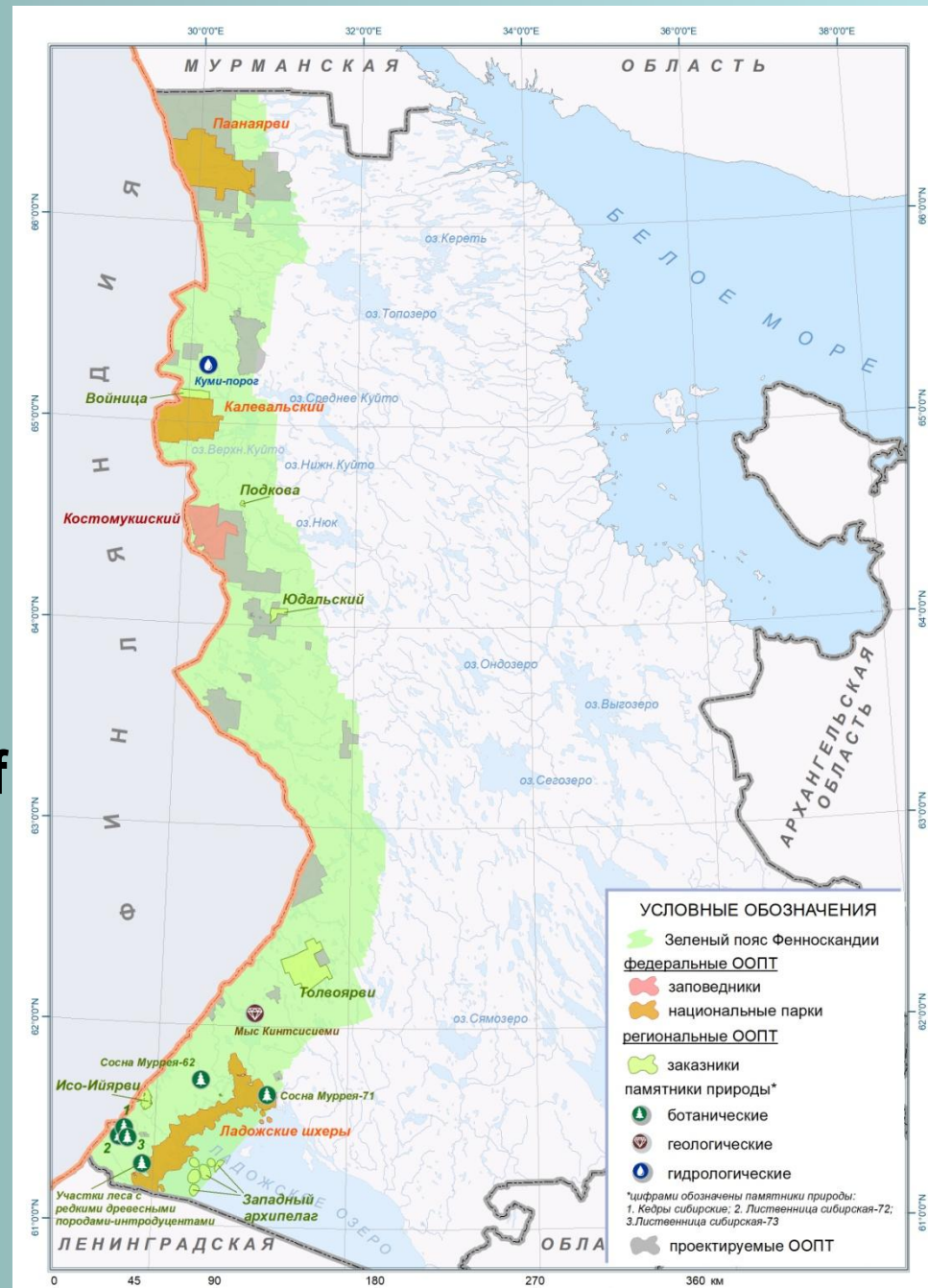
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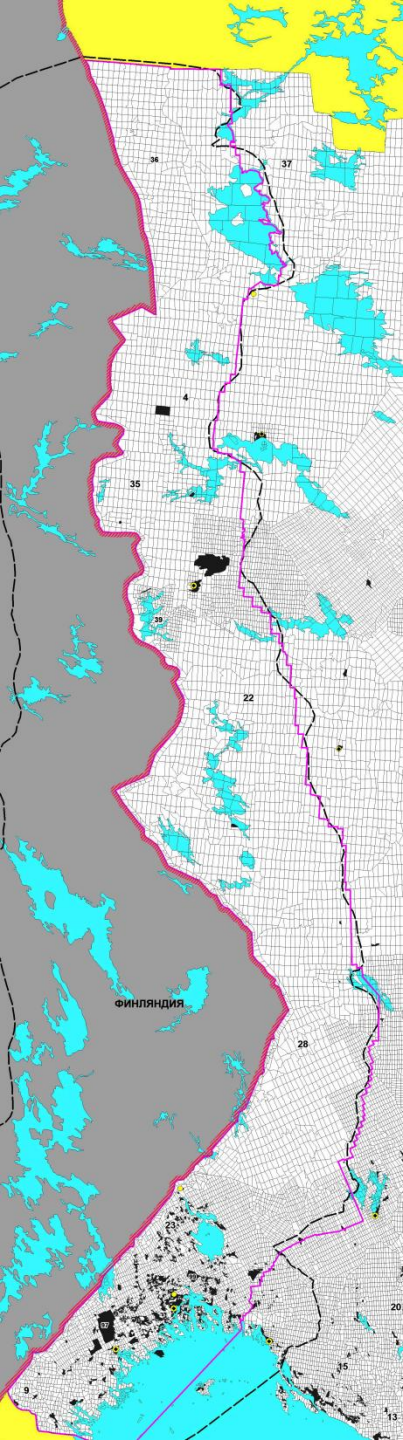
- The area of GBF on the territory of Karelia is 36640 sq. km, and its width is on average 57 km.
- The widest part is to the North of the lake Tulos - 92 km., the narrowest South of the lake Tulos is 33 km. This variation is explained by the contours of the state border. The length of the border of GBF on the territory of Karelia – 961 km.





# GBF boundaries and forest inventory network

- forest inventory network is used to mark the boundaries of protected areas and is convenient for assessing the state of forests and determining the areas of various natural complexes
- mostly GBF boundaries are very close to the boundaries of the respective quarters



**So, ecosystem-based approach rests on the most solid scientific grounds for delineation of the territory where environmental and socio-economic issues would be addressed.**

**And if we imagine the next steps in the development of GBF, then this approach can provide a discussion of the special status of the territory because the boundaries are clearly marked in nature and do not depend on the changing administrative zoning.**





# Thank you!

