

Dear alumni,

The year 2022 is counting its last days, therefore we would like to wish you happy holidays and a joyful New Year 2023. When you look back to the past 365 days, we have accomplished quite a bit, from the Annual Event in Tirana to numerous National Meet-Ups to the Bee Effect Programme and the selection of new Board Members 2023-2024. Now it is time to encapsulate the latest updates for you in order to wrap-up 2022 the best way we can!

Joint Initiatives

Promoting Green and urban mobility solutions through street art

The initiative organized by a of alumni group raised awareness of the negative impacts on our environment if we continue with the current habits in driving cars: by promoting green transport and improving (young) critical thinking in utilizina alternative transport options.



More than 1.500 school kids, school teachers, street artists, and principals were engaged to explore and research on benefits of biking and express their thoughts through art on the topic of green mobility: 50 drawings were exhibited, out of more than 500

drawings collected.

Many thanks to Filip Nelkovski, Marija Maras, Dejan Tonic, Nejra Hiros, Tihana Lolic, Ognjen Alagić, Kosta Zivanovic, Alekasndar Maksimovic!

Small project, huge impact!



Youth Awareness of Green Agenda in Albania

The project activities involved the preparation and distribution of a questionnaire to social faculty students of the public universities of Tirana, Durres and Elbasan. The team drafted a questionnaire and distributed it to a total of 255 participants. The results were later on analysed and reflected in in a report highlighting all relevant outcomes.

One of the core outcomes was related to preparing a training curricula (including introduction worksheet. various thematic selection worksheets. of classroom exercises and relevant materials) to be used by teachers when discussing green agenda climate change; foresee and training of trainers' activities to them understand enable to properly the information them to be delivered to youth.



Kudos to the team **Baisa Sefa, Blerta Derhemi, Migena Kalthi, Redi Saliasi and Aurora Mukaj**.

SAVE THE DATE for the Annual Event 2023

We are happy to announce the dates for the beeEFB Annual Event in 2023!

Book your calendar for 3-5 March as all of us will meet in Skopje!

Further details will follow soon.





HIVE FIVE! with Natalija Pesic



Your "blast from the PAST": What's your favorite memory/souvenir from your EFB?

Favorite memory: I am not sure if I can write about one memory, because to be honest, everything about my EFB journey is my favorite memory. **Favorite souvenir**: new friends and friendships, some of them lasting till today.

Years after: How did the EFB experience added to your career goals and professional projections?

The skills and the education that I gained during the LDP program is something that I am still using directly or indirectly during my everyday professional life. Moreover, meeting smart and talented young people from the region has broadened my perspectives and for that I am more than grateful.

Your views on the EFB networking potential... Do you still buzz (with) the other bees from the hive?

Still buzzing, but most of the time on private matters. Everyday life and work are not giving me the time to be part of the bees' initiatives as much as I would like to.



On the way forward: Your two cents

on how should we grow as a community and on the avenues of getting there?

The wide network of young, talented and educated professionals can provide great benefit to the whole community.

#SharingIsCaring: You come from a country with a great pool of beeEFB alumni members - what would be your message to EFB alumni in North Macedonia?

For me, sharing the potential and the benefits that we all acquired from the Programs we participated in, will help and support new generations on their path in becoming young leaders.

Blast from the PAST



Parliament Austria



The European Fund for the Balkans gathered 40 community members from the region to participate in the specially designed EFB Community workshop "Envisioning Europe". During the two brainstorming waves "Colors of the EFB Community" and "Towards Europe 2020 synchronizing effects" each group worked on different topics, discussing the trends which can create a better future in Europe. The workshop offered an interactive setting and free flow of creativity, but it also motivated the participants to propose various scenarios for our common future.



Western Balkans Fellowship



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Western Balkans Fellowship Programme at the Austrian Parliament

The European Fund for the Balkans (EFB) announces the call for applications for the Western Balkans Fellowship Programme at the Austrian Parliament. The fellowships funded by the Austrian Parliament are designed for civil servants working in the administrations of the National Parliaments in the Western Balkan countries. It is a unique opportunity to gain knowledge about the operations and practices of the Austrian Parliament as well as to observe and to learn from the administrative staff and professionals about the different aspects of their work.

May the hive **Bee** with you

The programme description and the full guidelines for the applicants are available at this page.

In case you got ideas, questions, comments - email us at efbalumni@gmail.com.

See you on the BeeEFB Platform