



Bruges Greenbelt Charter
To a greenbelt of the 21st century

On 13 October 2010

- Land and Soil Protection, Subsoil and Natural Resources Division
- Agency for Nature and Forestry
- Agency for Roads and Traffic
- Sint-Lucas General Hospital
- BLOSO (Flemish sports agency)
- Boerenbond (Farmer's Union)
- Houtland Forest Group
- CVN West Flanders (Centre for Nature and Environmental education)
- Ministry of Spatial Planning, Housing and Heritage
- Municipality of Beernem
- Municipality of Jabbeke
- Municipality of Oostkamp
- Municipality of Zedelgem
- Municipality of Zuienkerke
- Green non-profit organization
- Youth association for nature and environmental studies
- Natuurpunt Brugs Ommeland
- Bruges Public Centre for Social Welfare
- Spatial planning group of the Bruges conurbation
- Province of West Flanders
- Government of Gemene and Loweiden
- Regional Landscape of Houtland
- Ministry of Spatial Planning, Housing and Heritage
- City of Bruges
- City of Damme
- UNIZO West Flanders (Organization of Self-Employed and SMEs)
- Flemish Land Agency
- Ons Erf (Non-profit care centre organization)
- Westtoer

will join the **Bruges Greenbelt Charter**.

The **Bruges' greenbelt** within the Bruges conurbation is characteristic and beautiful by its diversity. The Bruges greenbelt stretches from between the city centre of Bruges and the surrounding centres of the municipalities of Zedelgem, Beernem, Zuienkerke, Oostkamp, Jabbeke and the city of Damme. This area characterises itself through diversity in valuable agricultural areas, woodlands, nature areas, residential nuclei, residential ribbon development, SME zones, industrial areas and conurbation residential areas.

Apart from this diversity there are also many groups active that make this a dynamic region. Residents, commuters, farmers, holiday-makers, tourists, business managers, associations, organizations, ... that live, reside and work in this area, attach a large significance to the economic, ecological and social quality.

By signing this Charter, governments and organizations recognize the importance and the value of the Bruges greenbelt and commit themselves to joint investment in the further development of a qualitative and liveable Bruges greenbelt, with specific attention for:

1. the environmental quality of open spaces in the Bruges conurbation;
2. the conservation and reinforcement of the liveability of the Bruges conurbation;
3. the accessibility of the Bruges conurbation and the connection between the various sub-areas;
4. openness to enter into dialogue about the quality and the liveability between the various sub-areas;

to come to a Bruges greenbelt where it is good to live, work and relax.

Each of the partners, within their possibilities, contributes to increasing the value of the Bruges greenbelt. How they will actually do that, is stated in the appendix with this Charter.

The partners in the Bruges region call upon other urban areas to take care of their surrounding open spaces (greenbelt) and to set up a joint commitment based on their example.