



EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU
Celebrating 40 years of environmental action

European Environmental Bureau
Boulevard de Waterloo 34
BE - 1000 Brussels
Tel. +32- (0)2- 2790 8810
conferencemanager@eeb.org
www.eebconference.eu

EUROPEAN ENVIRONMENTAL BUREAU
TWELVE STARS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AWARD

Celebrating Environmental Excellence

WINNER 2014

To mark its 40th anniversary, the European Environmental Bureau is presenting four 'Twelve Stars for the Environment' Awards. The winners are outstanding individuals who in different ways have made an exceptional contribution to the cause of environmental sustainability in Europe.

The Awards will be presented on the occasion of the EEB 40th anniversary celebrations on 1 December 2014 at the BIP, Brussels.

The winners have been selected by the EEB Board following an open nomination process and recommendations for nominees from the EEB Twelve Star Award Committee consisting of the EEB President, Vice-Presidents and Secretary General.

Winner

Corinna Cwielag

BUND für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland, Landesverband Mecklenburg-Vorpommern

For her contribution to the Baltic Green Belt and nature protection in Europe



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EEB 'TWELVE STARS FOR THE ENVIRONMENT' AWARD WINNER 2014

Corinna Cwielag

Corinna Cwielag has dedicated herself to building the environmental movement and advocating for nature protection in Eastern Germany, on the Baltic Coast and in many countries in Europe.

Corinna is best known for campaigning for the "Baltic Green Belt", which extended the EU "Green Belt" conservation programme for the former Iron Curtain, to include a significant area of land along the Baltic coast. To achieve this, Corinna engaged twenty partners from non-governmental, governmental and scientific organisations in Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Germany, to advocate for the conservation and sustainable development of the Baltic Sea coast.

For twenty-five years, Corinna has dedicated her career to strengthening the environmental movement in Eastern Germany. After Corinna became Director of the Mecklenburg-Vorpommern branch of Bund für Umwelt und Naturschutz Deutschland, in 1996, the organisation grew from 400 to 2000 members.

'Corinna deserves our respect and gratitude for not giving up in her determination to engage citizens and get them involved in environmental protection,' said EEB President Mikael Karlsson. *'The high number of people engaged in nature conservation in Eastern Germany is at least partly the result of Corinna's sheer determination, particularly when seen against the backdrop of widespread mistrust of membership organisations after the fall of communism.'*

Highlights of Corinna's outstanding environmental achievement:

- Leading the "Baltic Green Belt" initiative to extend the "Green Belt" conservation programme of the former Communist bloc countries to include a largely unspoilt stretch of land along the Baltic coast.
- Opposing industrial agriculture and mass meat production: Corinna led a strong citizens' movement against industrial livestock farms, mobilizing city dwellers and taking court action over pollutants.
- Advocating for protecting environmental heritage: Corinna mobilized German citizens and authorities to save historic tree-lined avenues. The campaign now also includes Polish, Czech and French networks.
- Campaigning for conservation areas: Corinna engaged relentlessly to stop plans for gravel mining inside a conservation area on the island of Rügen.
- Spearheading a citizens' initiative for bird protection: Corinna led a successful campaign against plans to build a landfill in close proximity to a bird sanctuary.