

23
August
2022

beeEFB DIGEST

Dear alumni,

Even though we are in the midst of summer, many flagship beeEFB initiatives continue to push forward. Check out this month's release in order to get updated on the latest activities in beeEFB community and check out inspiring stories.

The beeEffect Programme



THE BEE
EFFECT
PROGRAMME
Connect.
Act. **Impact.**

Preparations for the launch of the beeEffect programme are well underway: the Programme team was busy during the summer and selected 13 amazing participants and is currently finalizing the mentor matching and the overall programme.

We will be sharing public updates on the programme's [instagram account](#) and [EFB website](#), and you can expect additional updates on alumni-only channels, like the platform and our FB and LinkedIn group.

Alumni Representatives

Individual and personal connections have always been an important feature of how alumni communicate, which is why we decided to develop the role of **Alumni Representatives** and use the natural flow of alumni communication to increase understanding and engagement of alumni with the beeEFB Network. Announced in the Annual event in Tirana and developed during the spring, pilot model of alumni representatives role kickstarted in June, when the select active alumni were selected and started their onboarding. They are now finalizing the onboarding and getting ready to start with their role, which is to nurture alumni and increase understanding, interest and engagement of alumni in the beeEFB, serve as a connector between Board and wider alumni base and receive pulses from the community and collect and provide alumni and their own feedback to the beeEFB Board on activities and programming.

By the end of 2022 we will be piloting the role of alumni representatives with the following alumni: **Ana Angelovska, Arabela Iljaz, Bojana Lakovic, Drilon Shala, Marija Maras, Migena Kalthi, Miruna Troncota, Nina Brankovic!**

We are proud to see alumni stepping up to ensure their communities are informed and active 🙌

HIVE FIVE!

with Fisnik Salihu

Your “blast from the PAST”: What’s your favorite memory/souvenir from your EFB?

Of course, the whole experience with the 2nd generation of LDP (2007/08) in Brussels and Berlin. A diverse group of young professionals, which are part of a long lasting memory from my EFB experience, as a part of LDP.

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

The EFB experience was beneficial, both for personal development and professional goals. Learning from the LDP content and follow up projects and events, has broadened my knowledge, network and skills, which are a precious added value for my career goals. and professional projections afterwards.

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

EFB is a bunch of incredible people. In addition to continuous communication with other bees from the hive, EFB network serves as an important social and professional referral network. For me, this initiative and EFB Alumni are an interactive network with a lot of know-how, resources and potential.

To Bee or Not to Bee: Would you mind sharing your memorable Bee moment of your EFB experience?

The first Kosovo (bees) national meet-up meeting in November 2021. A refreshing event, and opportunity to catch up and meet with Kosovo bees with a lot of interesting talks.

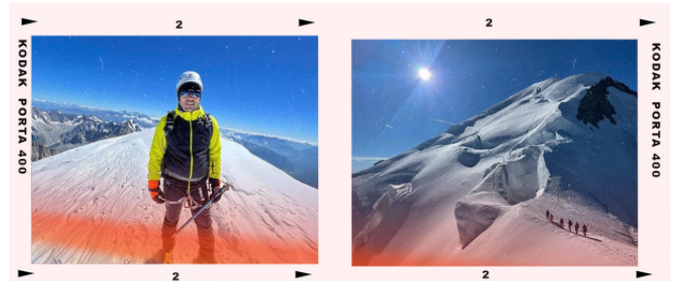
Last but not least, tell us a bit more about your latest climb to Mont Blanc...

I was part of the expedition organized by the Prishtina Alpine Club, who successfully conquered the top of Mont Blanc, at an altitude of 4,810 meters above sea level. The ascent of Mont Blanc, in one of its most challenging seasons, represents an extraordinary achievement and life experience for me and the other participants of the expedition. I will make sure next time, **EFB flag** is with me.



On the way forward: Your two cents on how should we grow as a community and on the avenues of getting there?

More regional events, more inclusion of EFB alumni and more regional visibility and engagement. We grow by providing opportunities for an effective debate and more joint initiatives about the challenges facing the Balkan countries and beyond, which could serve as a guide for young professionals and activists to find solutions to these challenges.



“Climbing the highest peak in the Alps and Western Europe - Mont Blanc, was a lifetime experience.”

Blast from the PAST



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In 2018 EFB has launched the policy hackathons based on the idea that in the age of artificial intelligence, augmented reality, blockchain technologies and algorithms

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EFB NEWS

Upcoming call for the Response Hub

As you may be aware, the European Fund for the Balkans has established its Response Hub as an instrument of micro financial support to civic groups, local initiatives, and movements in the Western Balkans. The aim is to provide a flexible response to specific and urgent needs, contributing to impact and sustainability, empowering the claim for accountable institutions, democratic policy processes and to defending the public interest.

The next call is expected for September, so in the meantime get informed on what is needed [HERE](#). You will receive an e-mail when the call will be officially launched so you can apply on time.

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

See you on the **BeeEFB Platform**



May the hive **Bee** with you