



## PRESS RELEASE

**The 5th European Greenways Awards have been given on the 8<sup>th</sup> September 2011 the official ceremony Épinal the Vosges, (France).**



**Eight greenways from France, Ireland, UK, Italy and Spain were awarded as reference of best practices in Europe. Award ceremony held in Épinal(France), the 15<sup>th</sup> Rencontres des Départements Régions Cyclables de France.**

This 5th European Greenways Award (EGA) has been organized by the European Greenways Association (EGWA) in cooperation with the de France and the Conseil Général des Vosges, with the support of the DG of Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission and Council of Europe / European Landscape Convention, the Ministère de l'écologie, du Développement Durable, des Transports et du Logement and the Walloon Region.

European Greenways Award (EGA) was created in 2003 and has been held. In its edition it has two categories: Excellence and Exemplary Initiatives. The EGWA has been delighted to receive 20 exceptional candidates from 10 countries.

The international Jury for the 5th EGA met in Brussels on 15 September 2011 to select 3 for each of the 2 prize categories, given the high quality of the presented and after

careful consideration, the members of the Jury chose to add two "Special Prize of the Jury" and third prize in the category of "Exemplary Initiatives. The awarded candidacies are:

Excellence Category:

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize Avenue – Avenue Vert (France) / Département de Seine-Maritime**

For the excellent quality of the Greenway as a whole and its appeal to tourists, and its future plans for international connection.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Parco costiero del Ponente Ligure (Italy) / Area 24 SpA**

For the integration of an excellent Greenway in a very attractive and territorially complex setting on the Mediterranean coast.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Worcester Connect2 Greenway (UK) / Sustrans**

For the excellence of its conception, design and technical execution as a Greenway, especially its magnificent bridge, which enhances the daily mobility of all kinds of users.

Jury:

Exemplary Initiatives Category

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Discover the Secrets of Girona Greenways (Spain) / Consorci Vies Verdes de Girona**

an innovative action with major impact on the outreach and promotion of the Girona Greenways as a resource for discovering the cultural and natural value of the region.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Padiham Greenway Creative Engagement Program (UK) / Mid Pennine Arts**

For the use of Greenway and art as a tool for social integration and cohesion in a difficult socio-economic environment.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Sentiero della Bonifica (Italy) / Provincia de Arezzo**

For the development of a cycling and walking tourism product in Tuscany that allow users to enjoy nature, the art of bygone days, and human contact, taking advantage of a historic work of hydraulic engineering.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Hotel and restaurant railway wagons on La Jara Greenway - (Spain) / Mancomunidad de la Vía Verde de la Jara**

For reusing old railway coaches placed on the Greenway itself as facilities for visitors in an isolated and depressed rural area.

The organization wishes to thank all the candidates for the quality of their work and the effort done to provide the jury

[www.europeangreenwaysaward.org](http://www.europeangreenwaysaward.org)