

4th IENE meeting, Brig, Switzerland 22-26 April 1998.

Report of the meeting

INTRODUCTION

The 4th meeting of the Infra Eco Network Europe has been organised and supported financially by the Dutch Ministry of Transport, Public Works and Water Management, the Swiss Agency for Environment, Forest and Landscape and the Swiss Ornithological Institute. The meeting has taken place in the city of Brig, in the heart of canton Valais. This event brought together more than 40 experts representing 16 European countries. About 15 Swiss professionals in infrastructure and environment were present along the three days of meeting. The opportunity to exchange information both ways and to establish contacts along them and the IENE representatives from abroad has been positively exploited

The main subjects tackled during the meeting were:

1. Introduction of new IENE members
2. COST Action 341 'Habitat Fragmentation due to Transportation Infrastructure'
3. IENE in the future

The goal of the meeting were:

- to inform the potential partners in the new COST action 341 on the last procedural developments of the Memorandum of Understanding.
- to present and comment the proposals on the content of the first deliverable of COST 341 'State of the art report on habitat fragmentation infrastructure' out coming from the potential partner institutions.
- to discuss on the different technical and legal approaches on integration of environmental aspects in the process of planning new infrastructure works in European countries.
- to learn from the Swiss experience and know-how on research and implementation of mitigation and compensation measures. Information on the implementation of one of the largest compensation project in Switzerland has been given on-site during a field-trip on the second day of meeting.