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## **IENE annual report 2015**

It is very satisfying to note that IENE continues to grow: in number of members, in actions and influence. The number of members has steadily increased since the restart of IENE 2010, and is now quickly approaching four hundred, mainly from Europe but pleasing is also that all continents are represented. Many members participate in conferences all over the world representing IENE and also in a growing number make presentations in the name of IENE. A cooperation with WWF has been launched and has already resulted in a successful outcome in Myanmar and Thailand.

The upcoming IENE 2016 International Conference occupied a lot of attention during the year 2015. And a very fruitful cooperation with the organisers vouch for a successful conference in Lyon, France.

Finally, and not least important: The Swedish Transport Administration has decided to financially support the IENE until 2018.

*/ Anders Sjölund, Chair of IENE Steering Committee*

## ***IENE conferences and workshops***

### **Conferences**

The preparations and planning for the upcoming conference IENE 2016 started during the year. The conference will take place in Lyon on August 30 to September 2.

The director of the conference is Yannick Autret, also a member of the IENE SC during the mandate period 2015-2016. The whole steering committee have been involved in decisions and advisement about the arrangement.

Organisers of the conference are Cerema (*Centre d'études et d'expertise sur les risques, l'environnement, la mobilité et l'aménagement*) and FRB (*the Foundation for Research on Biodiversity*). Co-organisers are *France Diplomatie*, *Jean Moulin Lyon 3 University* and *Ministère de l'environnement, de l'énergie et de la mer*.

### **National workshops of 2015**

IENE did not arrange any national workshops during 2015.

## ***Promotion, cooperation and advisement projects***

### **Presentations of IENE**

These are some of the presentations about IENE that have been made during the year:

- Forum: “Green Economy, Green Growth” (GEGG), Naw Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 3-4 February 2015.  
Speakers: Elke Hahn (Austria), Lazaros Georgiadis (Greece) and Miklós Puky (Hungary).  
Session title: Moving Forward: Developing Environmentally Sustainable Transport Infrastructure in Myanmar
- Meeting: Civil Society Introductory Meeting on Green Transport Infrastructure, Kanchanaburi, Thailand, 9 February 2015.  
Speakers: Elke Hahn (Austria), Lazaros Georgiadis (Greece) and Miklós Puky (Hungary).
- Seminar: Green Transport Infrastructure, 11 February 2015.  
Speakers: Elke Hahn (Austria), Lazaros Georgiadis (Greece) and Miklós Puky (Hungary).
- Technical workshop: Green Transport Infrastructure, Bangkok, Thailand, 12 February 2015.  
Speakers: Elke Hahn (Austria), Lazaros Georgiadis (Greece) and Miklós Puky (Hungary).
- Project meeting REDVERT, 9 July 2015.  
Speaker: Carme Rosell (Spain)  
Presentation introducing the IENE network and the general concepts of transport infrastructure and ecological corridors.
- Conference: ICOET 2015, Raleigh, USA, September 20-24 2015.  
Speaker: Anders Sjölund (Sweden)  
Presentation about IENE
- Conference: ICOET 2015, Raleigh, USA, September 20-24 2015.  
Speaker: Lazaros Georgiadis (Greece)  
Presentation title: It is a Long Way from Bangkok to the Andaman Sea: An IENE Mission for Greening Development Plans and Promoting Environmentally Friendly Solutions in a Biodiversity Hotspot of Southeast Asia.
- Conference: Implementing the Green Infrastructure Strategy in Romania – policy and practice, Arad, Romania, 29-30 October 2015.  
Speaker: J-O Helldin (Sweden)  
Presentation title: Green and grey infrastructure
- Conference in Japan, 2015  
Speaker: Marita Böttcher (Germany)

## Cooperation project in Myanmar/Thailand

Based on the need of support, international cooperation and exchange of knowledge and experience, IENE and WWF developed a short scale project in Southeast Asia during 2014 and 2015. It was focused on the planning of the Dawei road, which will connect the cities of Dawei in south Myanmar with Bangkok in Thailand. A three-person team with representatives from IENE spent two weeks in Myanmar and Thailand in February 2015. They participated in special technical and scientific meetings with relevant authorities and conducted fieldwork along the proposed route.

More information about the project can be found at the IENE website: <http://www.iene.info/planning-applying-mitigating-measures-green-transport-infrastructure-myanmar-thailand/>.

## Economy

The Swedish Transport Administration have secured the funding of the IENE Secretariat for the four-year period 2015-2018. Decisions about the budget are made by the Steering Committee and the resources are covering e.g. the secretariat work with administration of members and websites, coordination of Steering Committee meetings etc. For the year 2015 the secretariat had incomes of around 77 600 EUR and costs for 34 000 EUR. The remaining money is transferred to cover costs during 2016.

## Members

The network did get 27 new members during 2015. These members are from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, Ivory Coast, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and United Kingdom.

Total number of members were 336 at the end of December 2015.

## Public and members services

### Website

The website of IENE is improved piece by piece. For example, an online web form for nominations to the IENE Awards of 2016 was developed during the autumn. In order to make the work of the Steering committee more transparent to all members, the SC started during 2015 to regularly publish short summaries of their meetings on the website.

The presence of IENE on social media like LinkedIn and Facebook has been improved. The number of followers are increased over time (LinkedIn: 42 and Facebook: 110, in December 2015).

### Publication in Nature Conservation

In August 2015 IENE was pleased to announce that the special issue of Nature Conservation with proceedings from IENE 2014 International Conference was published. All papers are free to read in full-text and download as PDFs from the website:

[http://natureconservation.pensoft.net/browse\\_journal\\_issue\\_documents.php?issue\\_id=642](http://natureconservation.pensoft.net/browse_journal_issue_documents.php?issue_id=642).

### IENE Awards 2015

The Personal Award 2015 was given to Jean Carsignol from France:

*“For his outstanding achievements and personal engagement concerning the mitigation of negative impacts of infrastructure on nature. During the past decades, he has accomplished extraordinary work concerning road ecology in France. Thanks to his dedication and engagement the subject has evolved*

*significantly and he has inspired and supported many researchers and practitioners – not only in France.”*

There were no IENE Project Award in 2015, due to lack of nominations.

## **Guidelines for organising IENE conferences/workshops**

The Secretariat and the Steering Committee completed the document *Guidelines for IENE conferences and workshops* during the first half of the year and it was published on the web in July. The document is meant to be a helpful tool for any organisation that plans to organise an IENE conference or workshop in the future. It can be found here: <http://www.iene.info/organising-an-iene-event/>.

## **Steering Committee (SC)**

### **SC members**

During 2015 the IENE Steering Committee has had the following members:

**Anders Sjölund** (Sweden) – chair of IENE SC. Ecologist and National coordinator of Nature at Swedish Transport Administration. Field of expertise: wildlife and transport, animal vehicle collisions, wildlife crossings, infrastructure habitats and maintenance, planning.

**Andreas Seiler** (Sweden) – staff at IENE secretariat. PhD, senior researcher, ecologist at SLU (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences). Field of expertise: wildlife and traffic, animal-vehicle collisions, mitigation, monitoring, landscape ecology, fragmentation, permeability, GIS.

**Carme Rosell** (Spain/Catalonia). PhD and senior consultant at Minuartia wildlife consultancy. Field of expertise: wildlife and transport, animal vehicle collisions, wildlife crossings.

**Elke Hahn** (Austria). Work at the Federal Ministry for Transport, Innovation and Technology, Department of Roads – Planning and Environment. Field of expertise: Environmental Impact Assessment, mitigation, wildlife and roads.

**Lazaros Georgiadis** (Greece). Biologist-Environmental consultant. Field of expertise: large carnivores, mitigation measures, environmental policy, nature conservation, education.

**Marita Böttcher** (Germany). Scientific counsellor at the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation, Department: Mitigation Impact Regulation, transport and planning. Field of expertise: fragmentation (also indicators), planning (SEA; EIA; MIR), other impacts: artificial lightening, noise, small species.

**Miklós Puky** (Hungary) – died in March 2015

**Paul J. Wagner** (USA) – representing ICOET. Washington State Department of Transportation.

**Tony Sangwine** (United Kingdom). Senior Principal Environmental Adviser at Highways England. Field of expertise: horticulture, environmental assessment and design for transport.

**Yannick Autret** (France) – conference director of IENE 2016. French Ministry of Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy (MEDDE), Directorate of Research and Innovation, Secretary of ITTECOP Research Programme (Infrastructures, Ecosystems and Landscape). Field of expertise: environmental impacts of transport (vehicles and infrastructure) - noise, pollution, landscape and biodiversity