

LINEAR INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT: Impact Assessments, Mitigation measures, Monitoring

Department of Environmental and Nature Protection of Hungarian Biological Society, Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden, MTA Centre for Ecological Research and Varangy Akciócsoport Egyesület are organizing a Linear Infrastructure and Environmental Conservation Workshop all day long on 4 May 2016 in Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden.



The detailed description of the event, as well as a downloadable application form, can be found on the Conference website:

http://www.mtbk.hu/IENE_muhely_2016/



Dear Reader,

It is the sixth event organized by the Hungarian Toad Action Group Association, which brings transport infrastructure and its effects on wildlife into focus.

Our first event called "Amphibian Rescue on Roads" was held in 2005 at Szekszárd-Palánk, in Hungary. On basis of this two-day meeting with 64 participants, in order to develop our knowledge on amphibian mitigation measures in Hungary, many organizations successfully studied and developed methods and techniques on amphibian rescue.

Our second four-day event was the international Re-Start Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE) Workshop, which was organized by request of the IENE, and held at Nyíregyháza in 2008. All the 47 experts from 20 countries agreed that we need an effective European cooperation on transport infrastructure and road ecology.

As a result of this event, we organized our third meeting which was an international congress held at Venice in 2010. We had 200 participants from 32 countries around the world. These events effectively contributed to the development of the Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE). As an evidence, since our congress in 2010 events have been organized in Portugal, Greece, Germany, Romania, Czech Republic, Sweden and this year, France.

Our next event was the first Hungarian IENE Meeting in 2011. We had more than 100 participants which clearly shows the development and actuality of this professional discipline.

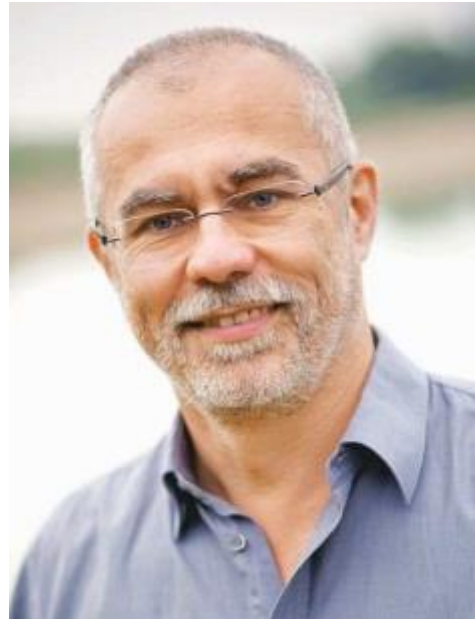
On the success of this meeting, we organized our second Hungarian IENE Meeting in 2013 which was our fifth event at the same time. We had almost 100 participants from ministries and their background institutions, the Hungarian Public Road Non-profit Private Limited Company, the Hungarian State Railways and independent railway companies, environmental, nature and water inspectorates, national park directorates, research institutes, universities, and non-governmental organizations. We decided that organizing a further IENE Meeting can be essential and inspirative for every expert interested in transport infrastructure and road ecology.

Of course, all the events would not have been organized and held without the necessary support of the MTA Centre for Ecological Research, the Hungarian Biological Society, the Budapest Zoo, the Nature Conservation Foundation of Tolna County, the Csapó Dániel Secondary School, the Zsigmond Móricz County and City Library, and the members of Infra Eco Network Europe.

The main goals of our 6th Meeting are, on one side, to get a better picture of the connections between the transport infrastructure and the environment and wildlife in order to evolve more effective conservation interventions, and, on the other side, to pay tribute in memory of Miklós Puky, biology Ph.D. (1961-2015) who established the Toad Action Group in 1986 and later became the President of the Toad Action Group Association (1996-2015). He was the main organizer of all our events mentioned above, including this IENE Meeting.

Miklós was the first frog rescuer in Hungary and he was also the initiator of environmental education in Hungary. As a senior research fellow of the MTA Centre for Ecological Research he studied amphibian, reptile and malacostraca biogeography and ecology. He was deputy chair of the Department of Environmental Protection and Nature Conservation of the Hungarian Biological Association, Steering Committee member of Infra Eco Network

Europe, member of the Hungarian Hydrological Society, the IUCN ASG and IUCN SSC DAPTF, the SIL, the CRAYNET and the IAD. He is the author of more than 110 articles, books, book chapters and scientific papers that initiate new scientific research, new conservation approaches. Many well-functioning amphibian tunnel and fence systems have been implemented on basis of his expertise, and among others he is the author of the first herpetological atlas of Hungary. Due to the results of his studies on genetic and morphological differences among *Zootoca vivipara* populations in the Carpathian Basin, the species became strictly protected in Hungary.



His work was honoured with numerous national and international awards: the "Pro Natura" (in 2004) the "For Our Environment" Plaques (in 2000), the "Ten Outstanding Young People" Award (in 1996), the Henry Ford European Conservation Awards (in 1992) and the Géza Entz Award (in 2011). The Toad Action Group Association would like to pay a worthy commemoration to Miklós Puky, our friend and colleague whose career and philosophy can be an example to be followed.

I wish you success in participation, exchange of experience and networking as well as further professional progress.

Budapest, 04.05.2016

András Weiperth

President of the Organizing Committee

The workshop's theme

Department of Environmental and Natura Protection of Hungarian Biological Society, MTA Centre for Ecological Research and Varangy Akciócsoport Egyesület are organizing the upcoming IENE workshop whose theme is the relationship between the environmental and the linear infrastructure, canals and railways, particularly considering environmental protection.

The workshop's aims

The workshop's aims are to create a forum for national and international researchers, ecologists, engineers and environmentalists thus finding an opportunity for communications and reviewing the successful and less successful solutions for the target problem. The workshop is kindly open for experts as well as those interested.

The workshop is also a commemorating conference of the biologist and nature conservationist Dr. Gábor Miklós Puky.

Date and place of the workshop

The symposium's date is 4 May 2016, the venue is Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden (1146 Budapest, Állatkerti körút 6-8.).

Professional program

The inspiration of the project came from the successful IENE conference in 2010 with a participation from 32 countries of 4 continents in Venice and from the upcoming first IENE workshop in Hungary. Accordingly, the program covers a number of aspects (botanic, both vertebrates and invertebrates) of the relationship between the linear infrastructure and the environmental protection.

In the first section of the workshop national researchers are presenting the result of the CEDR supported Harmony project. The presentations will be followed by the poster section, facultative programs, and depending on interest, there will be a small field trip.

Submitting application and abstract

The downloadable application form is available on the website in downloads menu (letöltések). Please send the complete application form to the event's official email address: ienebudapest2016@gmail.com. **The final deadline for registration and abstract submission: Friday, 22 April 2016.** The final schedule will be based on the received application forms and abstracts. In addition to lectures, poster presentation is possible.

Participation is free

The workshop and the entrance to the Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden are free for the participants. The condition for this is a completed application form and submission. The participants please sign on the scene at the register. Please send the intention of participation till **22 April 2016** with the complete registration form. The application forms and submission are required even from those who will not give a presentation or provide a poster. In case of co-authored presentations, please indicate who are participating in the event.

The length and form of the abstract

The abstract must be maximum one A4 page length, 2.5 margins, line spacing 1, font size 12, and justified form. Please follow this order for the construction:

- 1st line: Author(s)
- 2nd line: Title
- 3rd line: Empty
- 4th line: workplace, email
- 5th line: Empty
- 6th line: The text of the abstract (steadily)

Technical information

A laptop computer and projector for presentations are provided. The participants requested to hand in the presentations (in MS PowerPoint 2003 or Adobe Acrobat PDF 6.0 format) to the organizers before 9.15 am, or in case of afternoon presentations before 13.00 pm. For poster presentations: the poster must be maximum 90 cm wide and 120 cm high, in standing format.

How to get there

By public transport:

- Take the yellow Metro line/Underground/M1 to "Széchenyi Fürdő" stop. It is only a 2 minute walk from there
- or take Trolley 72 to "Állatkert" stop,
- or take Trolley 75 or 79 to "Gundel Károly út" stop,
- or take bus 20E, 30, 30A, 105 or 230 to Hősök Tere stop (Heroes' Square).

Parking space: parking is currently free of charge on Zoo Boulevard (Állatkerti körút) but it is hard to find a parking slot even in the morning hours on busy days. This is why we suggest parking on the large parking area on 56'-osok tere, which is behind Múcsarnok. (Múcsarnok is on the southern end of Heroes' Square).

Contact - further information

For further information, please write to the event's official email address (ienebudapest2016@gmail.com) or to Weiperth András, Centre for Ecological Research Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Danube Research Institute, 1113 Budapest, Karolina út 29. Tel: +36 1-279 3100/304, e-mail: weiperth.andras@okologia.mta.hu.

The organizing body

Dalkó Szilvia - Gál Blanka - Hanga Zoltán - Kéri András - Mester Béla - Tóth Mihály - Vili Nóra - Weiperth András

Organizers

- Department of Environmental and Natura Protection of Hungarian Biological Society
- Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden
- MTA Centre for Ecological Research
- Varangy Akciócsoport Egyesület