

Linear Infrastructure and Environment: Impact Assessments, Mitigation measures, Monitoring

IENE Workshop, Commemorating Conference of Dr. Miklós Gábor Puky

4th of May 2016, Budapest Zoo & Botanical Garden

This conference was the 6th event organised by the Hungarian Toad Action Group Association, MTA Centre for Ecological Research and Budapest Zoo in cooperation with IENE, which brings transport infrastructure and its effects on wildlife into focus. Apart from professional interest this event was organised to pay tribute in memory of Miklós Puky, who was member of the IENE Steering Committee and thereby our colleague but moreover friend and brother.

Miklós Puky, biology Ph.D. (1961-2015) established the Toad Action Group in 1986 and later became President of the Toad Action Group Association (1996-2015) and was the main organiser of all previous meetings. 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, member of the Hungarian Hydrological Society, the IUCN ASG and IUCN SSC DAPTF, the SIL, the CRAYNET and the IAD. As member of Steering Committee of IENE, Miklos was emerging the protection of amphibians and reptiles and their habitats on linear infrastructure projects in European and international level and he was the head of the IENE International Conference for Ecology and Transportation in Hungary in 2010 and plenty of projects and initiatives.

Miklos Puky was the author of more than 110 articles, books, book chapters and scientific papers that initiate new scientific research, new conservation approaches. His work was honoured with numerous national and international awards.

At the Workshop special presentations took place related with linear infrastructure, environment impact assessments, mitigation measures and monitoring in Europe. On behalf of IENE a short history of the 20 year of activities was presented, as well as the implementation of the Dawei road project in Myanmar and Thailand as one of the last projects that Miklos participated as basic contributor.

By this conference, the Toad Action Group Association would like to pay a worthy commemoration to Miklós Puky, as the international citizen whose career and philosophy can be an example to be followed.

The conference was supported by the Budapest Zoo and the application system of Hungarian Academy of Sciences (MTA).



The IENE SC members Lazaros Georgiadis, presenting the Dawei road project, and Elke Hahn, presenting the activities during the past 20 years of the IENE network.