



Activity and financial report 2019

1. Activity report 2019

The work of the Executive Secretariat in 2019 focused around 3 types of action:

1/ Operation of the network

- ✦ Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB) (11 meetings per year, summer break in August), with several extra meetings dedicated to cover pending issues. The meetings are held online, except two face-to-face meetings, in Paris (France) in June and in Evora (Portugal) in November.
- ✦ The Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC) has not been operational before the second semester; its chair organized two meetings in 2019, with attendance of the executive secretariat.
- ✦ Representation of the network and establishment of partnerships, in particular with the Transport Research Committee of the OECD and with IUCN.
- ✦ Technical support to members of the GB in their interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations on IENE in European and international forums (e.g. IGELI, ACLIE).
- ✦ Organization of the first direct elections of the GB and the first nomination of the SEC as per IENE new statutes (see point 2 below). Members will take office during IENE General Assembly in April 2020.
- ✦ Migration of IENE archives and website servers of IENE websites and stand-alone IENE previous conferences to servers managed by the FRB; drafting of specifications for a redesign and streamlining of the website, which is outdated and unsecured.
- ✦ Two communications for members of the network, to describe the evolution of the network (see point 2).

2/ Establishing a legal status for IENE

- ✦ Research on options to give a legal status to IENE, the GB finally opting for a European association under French law.
- ✦ The process was delayed because it was first envisaged that the IENE would be a foundation under the aegis of the FRB, but this eventually could not be endorsed by FRB's Board of Directors.



- ✎ Drafting of the association's statutes and internal rules of procedure, in close collaboration with the GB and in harmony with the initial Memorandum of Understanding of the network.
- ✎ The legal status of the IENE will be officialized when the statutes are submitted to the French administration, after signature by the three founding members (in progress).

3/ Scientific support for the preparation of a call for research projects

- ✎ Discussions with the European Commission (mission to Brussels) to discuss funding on the theme of infrastructure and biodiversity within H2020 research program.
- ✎ Coordination of a work package as part of a proposal for a European Coordinated Support Action (CSA), focusing on networking, structuring the community of experts, stakeholder engagement and promoting the results of the CSA project, capitalizing on the existing IENE network.
- ✎ Several meetings of the consortium and its work packages were organized online, as well as a face-to-face meeting in Paris in November.
- ✎ IENE is expected to participate in the general coordination of the CSA along with the MTES and FEHRL. The Secretariat was however unable to fully fulfill the coordination activities in 2019 to, due to a lack of human resources. It is suggested that 0.5 additional FTE is made available for the secretariat of the IENE in 2020, in order to strengthen the coordination of the CSA.



2. Financial report 2019

Income source	Amount in EUR
Swedish Transport Administration	37,500
French Ministry for the Ecological and Inclusive Transition	35,000
French Agency for Biodiversity	20,553
Balance from IENE 2016 conference	6,605
Total	99,658
Expense type	
Cost in EUR	
Salary costs	44,756
Missions for the Executive Secretariat	461
Missions for GB members	3,638
Publication costs (from IENE 2016)	1,558
Website and software	2,484
Services (translation of the statutes)	857
Total	53,754
Overheads 30%	16,126
Grand total	69,880
Balance for 2020	29,778

Activity and financial report 2020

1. Activity report 2020

1/ Operation of the network

- Organization of the General Assembly of IENE Network at the occasion of the IENE International Conference in Evora in April 2020, then postponed to January 2021 and taking place online.
- Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB) (11 meetings per year, summer break in August), with several extra meetings dedicated to cover pending issues.
- Organization of three meetings of the Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC).
- Organization of weekly service meetings throughout the year to coordinate the activities of the Executive Secretariat.
- Oversight and support to the preparation of IENE International Conference in Evora in April 2020, then postponed to January 2021 and taking place online.
- Interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations of IENE in European and international forums (e.g. IGELI, ACLIE, Cibiv).
- Redesign of IENE website to make it more secure and user-friendly (to be finalized early 2021).
- Redesign of IENE logo to make it punchier and a better reflection of the latest developments of the network, such as openness to multiple transport modes and willingness to develop more partnership with the private sector, among other (to be finalized early 2021).
- Development of a communication strategy, to start being implemented in 2021.
- Development of the Transport4nature project as part of the *Global Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Transport and other Linear Infrastructure* (see below) and of the communications strategy.
- 8 monthly updates sent to the network to summarize key events, publications and research projects and relay requests from the network for experience sharing, to ensure that information keeps flowing until the new communication strategy and tools are operational (scheduled early 2021).
- Selection of dissemination tools to reach the European media and to spread IENE messages more widely to members and on social networks (to be deployed in 2021).
- Submission of the IENE association statutes to the French administration, after signature by the three founding members (to be finalized early 2021).

2/ Projects and initiatives

- The online update of the *Wildlife and Traffic Handbook* continued over 2020. Cooperation with the Conference of European Directors of Roads (CEDR) allowed to

produce the first new chapter on *Maintenance of Ecological Assets* uploaded on the website in December 2020.

- The drafting of *A Global Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Transport and other Linear Infrastructure* was completed and is under final review before publication, to be presented at the 15th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity in the second semester 2021.
- Organisation of a series of webinars in partnership with other organisations involved in the Infrastructure & Nature Pavillion originally planned for the IUCN World Congress on Nature. The webinars explored solutions for reducing risks and generating incentives for building nature into future infrastructure business models. Invitation to join the webinars were circulated through IENE social networks and recordings of the webinars are available on IENE website.
- Participation to UNEP's Sustainable Infrastructure Partnership (SIP) through its Sustainable Infrastructure Community of Learners (SI-Col) initiative, a virtual community that connects experts engaged in sustainable infrastructure capacity development. Several members of the Governance Board have participated to the preliminary meetings. development of the Transport4nature project as part of the overall strategy and communication strategy.
- Participation to the SaveGREEN project as Associated Strategic Partner, to develop cross-sectoral plans to allow functional ecological corridors in the Danube region.
- Support to the LIFE SAFE CROSSING project on large carnivores and roads, through the organisation of a side event in connection with IENE Conference.
- Submission of the CSA proposal under H2020 *Biodiversity and Infrastructure Synergies and Opportunities for European Transport Networks (BISON)*. Signature of the Grant Agreement is due by the end of December 2020 for a start of the project in January 2021. With 39 members from 16 countries, the consortium will develop a state-of-the-art on existing knowledge on the topic of transportation (of persons, goods, energy) and biodiversity, and a Strategic Research and Deployment Agenda to promote future work and implementation of projects to increase mainstreaming of biodiversity into infrastructure. The project covers roads, rails, rivers, ports, airports and energy networks transportation infrastructure.
- Exchanges with key stakeholders in railway transportation, upon invitation by the International Union of Railways (UIC), through the rEvERsE project and upcoming BISON project.
- Participation in the definition of the Global Congress Linear Infrastructure and Environment (GCLIE), together with representatives of other organisations dealing with biodiversity and infrastructure in the world: African Conference for Linear Infrastructure and Ecology (ACLIE), Australasian Network for Ecology and Transportation (ANET), International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET), Congresso Iberoamericano de Biodiversidade e Infraestrutura Viária (CIBIV).



2. Financial report 2020 (up to 30.Nov. 2020)

Income source	Amount in EUR
Swedish Transport Administration	37,500
French Ministry for the Ecological Transition	15,000
French Agency for Biodiversity	27,404
Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	5,000
Balance from 2019	29,778
Calluna (leftover from previous hosting of the IENE Secretariat)	51,000
Total	165,682
Expense type	Cost in EUR
Salary costs	65,692
Missions for the Executive Secretariat	69
Missions for GB members	897
Website and software	4,166
Total	70,824
Overheads 30%	21,247
Grand total	92,071
Balance for 2021	73,611



Planned activities and budget 2021

1. Planned activities 2021

The following activities are planned for 2021:

1/ Operation of the network

- When published, notification to all current members of IENE of the new association statutes and internal rules of procedures, for them to sign the statutes electronically and join the network.
- Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB).
- Organization of quarterly meetings of the Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC).
- Oversight and support to the preparation of IENE International Conference in Evora in April 2020, then postponed to January 2021 and taking place online.
- Interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations of IENE in European and international forums (e.g. ICOET online conference in September 2021; memorandum of cooperation with the Secretariat of the Carpathian Convention).
- Launch of the updated version of IENE website and graphic charter.
- Deployment of social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, YouTube) to reach out to and engage with members.
- Facilitation of experience sharing and direct communication among members through a forum-like online tool.
- Implementation of the communication strategy: monthly newsletters, press releases.

2/ Projects and initiatives

- Organisation of IENE International Conference in 2021.
- Start preparation of IENE International Conference 2022.
- Support to the organisation of ICOET and ACLIE conferences.
- Participation in the organising committee of the Global Congress Linear Infrastructure and Environment (GCLIE) to be held in connection with ICOET 2021.
- Implementation of the BISON project: launch of a dedicated website, kick of meeting and support to the work of all work packages, e.g. for stakeholders' consultation and input.
- The online update of the *Wildlife and Traffic Handbook* will continue over 2021. Update of Chapter 7 about Solutions to mitigate habitat fragmentation will be finished.
- Preparation of a note dedicated to infrastructure and zoonosis emergence, to inform decision-makers on risks and opportunities in the infrastructure sector to prevent the emergence of zoonosis.
- Launch of a Transport4Nature Initiative, as a sectoral initiative related to Act4Nature. The objective is to engage European businesses from the transportation sector (all modes, including energy) to commit to follow the 10 common engagements for

biodiversity adopted by the members of Act4Nature, and to commit additionally to a set of specific commitments, that they will identify with the support of a steering committee coordinated by IENE.

- Following the series of webinars organised with partners of the IUCN Infrastructure & Nature pavilion, the coalition would like to have a dedicated website. IENE will participate in the coalition meetings to identify future actions to be taken together. The IUCN Congress is rescheduled from 3 to 11 September 2021.
- The Governance Board of IENE will remain involved in the specific activities of the Sustainable Infrastructure Community of Learners (SI-Col) initiative by UNEP SIP.
- Participation to the SaveGREEN project and joint communication actions.

2. Budget 2021

Income source	Amount in EUR
Swedish Transport Administration	37,500
French Agency for Biodiversity	20,553
Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	5,000
European Commission (for BISON project)	52,000
Balance from 2020	
Total	188,664
Expense type	Cost in EUR
Salary costs	ncl. December 2020)
Missions for the Executive Secretariat	
Missions for GB members	
Website and software	
Graphic Charter	3,500
Prints (flyers, kakemonos)	1,000
Networking and side-events	10,000
Total	
Overheads 30%	
Grand total	
Balance for 2022	24,669

The Swedish Transport Administration and the French Ministry for the Ecological Transition have been funding the operation of IENE for several years. They were joined by the Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management in 2020, as a Founding member of the new IENE association. The rest of IENE income comes out of *ad hoc* subventions, dedicated to the implementation of specific projects and activities. Such funds cannot be used for the regular operation of the network (e.g. meetings of the Governance Board and the Scientific and Expert Committee, communication with and to members). Future subventions are always uncertain, and the public authorities funding the network can plan their budget only on an annual or short-term basis. Therefore, any balance resulting of one year of operation of the network is saved, in order to ensure some funding for the year after.

The planned expenses for the year 2021 are significantly higher than actual expenses in 2020. Two main factors explain this difference:

- In 2020, there were some staff changes at the IENE Executive Secretariat. One officer's contract ended and there was a short gap in replacing that officer. A part time communication officer was added to the team, in order to cover this part of activities which had been nearly non-existent for two years and was identified by the interim Governance Board as a critical area of work. In 2021, the team at the IENE Executive Secretariat is up and running with 1.6 FTE.
- In 2020, there was no travel due to the COVID-19 crisis. The budget for 2021 assumes that international meetings will resume, including key meetings for the biodiversity agenda in which IENE will promote the topic of mainstreaming biodiversity in infrastructure (e.g. IUCN World Conservation Congress, 15th Conference of the Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity). It also includes budget for the Transport4Nature initiative, which is a fully new activity of IENE.

