

Activity and financial Report 2023

1. Activities 2023

The following activities were conducted in 2023:

1/ Operation of the network

Regular activities:

- Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB).
- Organization of quarterly meetings of the Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC).
- Organization of the yearly General Assembly (online in 2023).
- Interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations of IENE in European and international forums and organizations (e.g. ICOET, ACLIE, ANET, GCLIE, ATEF, IUCN, WWF).
- Finalization of the IENE Strategic Orientation and start to develop the IENE Action Plan based on the 4 Goals of the Strategic Orientation.
- Update and implementation of the IENE communication strategy:
 - Sending a bi-monthly newsletter.
 - Sending regular post on IENE LinkedIn
 - Updated IENE website
 - Writing policy briefs
 - Publishing articles in press media (e.g : published on an italian review on the need to enhance the word connectivity into the nature restoration law)
 - Sending press release
 - Writing, layout and printing of roll-ups and flyers.

Extraordinary activity:

- Starting as an urgent demand at the end of the year to look for a new hosting organization of the IENE secretariat.

Ad-hoc activities:

- Update of the Guidelines for IENE International conferences.
- Update of the Guidelines for IENE Workshops and Training Seminars.
- Writing Guideline for the communication of IENE International conferences.
- Launch of the first IENE Student Awards in collaboration with the French programme Ittecop in June 2023.

2/ Projects and initiatives

IENE Conferences

- Support for the communication and dissemination and outreach of the IENE 2022 International Conference (e.g., preparation of a journal special issue in Nature Conservation Journal, videos of the conference).
- Oversight and support to the preparation of the IENE International Conference in the Czech Republic scheduled in September 2024.
- Communicate and promote the IENE International Conference on a regular basis .

IENE workshops

- Start in cooperation with the Bern Convention to organize a technical IENE workshop in Sandanski, Bulgaria, related with the Struma Motorway in the biodiversity key area of Kresna Gorge (Natura 2000 site).

IENE initiatives

- Development of the IENE online handbook 'Biodiversity & Infrastructure' in the framework of the BISON project. With cooperation of the IENE Handbook working Group. <https://www.biodiversityinfrastructure.org/>
- Development of the European Defragmentation Map in the framework of the BISON project.
- Establishment of a Declaration related to the Nature Restoration Law.

Projects

- Participation in the smooth running of the Horizon 2020 BISON project (monthly pilot group meeting, involvement of the Advisory Group, development of the communication plan, final seminar in June 2023). <https://bison-transport.eu/>
- Organization of the next steps after the BISON project, including consideration of a project call to advance research and implementation based on the BISON Strategic Research and Deployment Agenda.
- Writing 4 policy briefs in the framework of the BISON project. <https://bison-transport.eu/2023/10/16/bison-policy-briefs/>
- Participation at the BISON Wilding Railways. Scaling Up the EU project outcomes for railways. 27 February 2023 Paris
- Participation at the FIRM 23. FEHRL Infrastructure Research Meeting. 25-26 April 2023 Brussels
- Support the LIFE Safe Crossing Project and participation in the dissemination activities. <https://life.safe-crossing.eu/?lang=2>
 - Participation on the LIFE SAFE-CROSSING Final Conference. Sulmona, 17-18 May 2023
- Support to the artist Marina Caneve developing the project 'On the ground among the animals' about wildlife passages in Europe. Participation in the identification of experts on fauna passages to visit structures and prepare the exhibition <https://marinacaneve.com/On-the-ground-among-the-animals>

- Start to discuss the IENE participation in a new proposal (Symbiosis) in the framework of Horizon Programme in cooperation with UIC as a next step of the BISON project.

Communication

- Writing several articles for PIARC magazine.
- Writing and implementing a term of reference of the IENE Wildlife and Traffic Handbook website.

Collaborations

- Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with the World Road Association (PIARC) in February 2023.
- Establishment of a Memorandum of Understanding with Pensoft Publishers in April 2023.
- Participation and support to the International Advisory Council of the upcoming 2nd Asia Transport Ecology Forum scheduled for October 26-27, 2023.
- Collaboration with the Bern Convention Secretariat to involve IENE members in their activities and vice-versa.
- Participation at the meeting on Ecological Restoration and Transport Infrastructure organised by the Spanish Ministry of Ecological Transition and Transport Infrastructure (31 May -2 June, Seville, Spain) [Meeting Ecological Restoration Transport Infrastructure](#)

Working Groups

- Launch of an IENE Working Group on Animal Detection and Driver Warning System in January 2023.
- Launch of the IENE Working Group on Safer Railways for Wildlife (SR4W) in December 2023.

2. Budget 2023

IENE Budget 2023

Income source		Expense type	
Swedish Transport Administration	37 500,00	Salary costs	40 320,78
Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	5 000,00	Missions for the Executive Secretariat and meetings organisations	3 573,74
French Ministry for the Ecological Transition	23 000,00	Missions de GB & SEC members	5 264,51
Memberships	1 630,00	Communication and website	1 928,21
IENE 2022 registration fees*	2 028,39	Reimbursement IENE 2022*	18 005,62
Balance from 2022	37 512,22		
		SubTotal Expenses	69 092,86
		Overhead (15%)	10 363,93
		Total Expenses	79 456,79
		Balance for 2023	27 213,82
Total Income	106 670,61		

**income and reimbursement from IENE 2022 conference that was supposed to happen in 2022*

Current and Planned Activities and Budget 2024

1. Current and planned Activities 2024

The following activities are done or planned for 2024:

1/ Operation of the network

Regular activities:

- Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB).
- Organization of bi-monthly meetings of the Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC).
- Organization of the yearly General Assembly planned in 2024 during the IENE International Conference in Prague in September 2024.
- Organization of the elections for the renewal of the Governance Board and the Scientific and Expert Committee.
- Interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations of IENE in European and international forums and organizations (e.g. ICOET, ACLIE, ANET, GCLIE, ATEF, IUCN, WWF). See also at Projects and Initiatives/Collaborations.
- Implementation of the IENE Strategic Orientation developing the IENE Action Plan based on the 4 Goals of the Strategic Orientation.
- Implementation of the IENE communication strategy.
 - Sending a bi-monthly newsletter.
 - Sending regular post on IENE LinkedIn
 - Updated IENE website
 - Writing policy briefs
 - Publishing articles in press media (e.g : published on an italian review on the need to enhance the word connectivity into the nature restoration law)
 - Sending press releases (e.g: Handbook, awards, IENE declaration...)

Extraordinary activity:

- Meetings with CEDR and FEHRL to explore potential new hosting organization of the IENE secretariat. Selected proposal from FEHRL to host the secretariat since 2025 to be submitted to the IENE GB approval in September 2024.
- Organization of an Extraordinary General Assembly in June 2024 related to the transition of the Executive Secretariat and to changes of the IENE Statute.
- Communication campaign in LinkedIn to promote the use of the IENE online handbook 'Biodiversity & Infrastructure' <https://www.biodiversityinfrastructure.org/>

Ad-hoc activities:

- Writing an editorial charter for IENE editorial products.

2/ Projects and initiatives

IENE Conferences

- Oversight and support to the preparation of the IENE International Conference in the Czech Republic scheduled in September 2024.

IENE workshops

- Organize in cooperation with the Bern Convention, the technical IENE workshop in Sandanski, Bulgaria in April 2024. The workshop is related to the Struma Motorway in the biodiversity key area of Kresna Gorge (Natura 2000 site). A joint conclusion has been written at the workshop.

IENE initiatives

- Relaunch the initiative Transport4Nature. Contact the companies involved or targeted for the Transport4Nature commitment and preparation of a workshop for the IENE International Conference 2024.

Collaborations

- Collaboration with the Bern Convention Secretariat to involve IENE members in their activities and vice-versa.
- Support the Infrastructure and Nature Coalition in CBD COP 16 in Cali, Colombia (Oct 2024) led by WWF.
- Cooperation with PIARC and BISON project writing articles about biodiversity and roads to be included in the journal 'Routes/Roads' Number 398 (September 2023). [Routes/Roads Magazine - PIARC | N° 398 - Roads and Biodiversity.](#)
- Cooperation with PIARC to produce the Glossary linked to the IENE handbook <https://www.biodiversityinfrastructure.org/glossary/>
- Cooperation with European Investment Bank. Participation in a meeting of the Nature/Biodiversity group, introducing the Handbook 'Biodiversity & Infrastructure: 7 March 2024 (online)
- Cooperation with EC DGNEAR. Participating in the meeting 'Green-Net meeting on Biodiversity Mainstreaming: Examples from Agriculture and Infrastructure sectors' introducing study cases of best practice and the IENE Handbook. 18 April 2024 (online).

Projects

- Start the IENE participation at Symbiosis (Systemic Mobilization for Joint Biodiversity and Infrastructure) project as a member of the Advisory Group of the proposal. The project has been approved and its implementation starts in September 2024.
- Prepare and submit in July a proposal to the ITTECOP call as one more next step after the BISON project, including consideration to advance research and implementation based on the BISON Strategic Research and Deployment Agenda.
- Continue the support to Marina Caneve in the preparation of the exhibitions in Modena and Prague <https://marinacaneve.com/On-the-ground-among-the-animals>
- Evaluating possibilities for submitting a project proposal in the upcoming Biodiversa call in autumn 2024.

Working Groups

- Launch of an IENE Regional Working Group for Eastern Europe and the Balkans (GreenWeb) in January 2024.
- Launch of the IENE Working Group for the Asia-Europe Transport Ecology Forum (AETEF) in January 2024.
- The WG of the Global Strategy prepared an updated version in a manuscript for its publication in a scientific journal (Transportation Research Part D - transport and environment) with the support of the IENE Scientific and Expert Committee.

2. Budget 2024

IENE Budget 2024

Income source		Expected expenses	
Swedish Transport Administration	37 500,00	Salary costs	52 840,00
Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	5 000,00	Accounting	108,00
French Ministry for the Ecological Transition	48 500,00	Missions for the Executive Secretariat	5 900,00
Memberships*	1 000,00	Missions de GB & SEC members	6 600,00
		Communication and website	8918,15
Balance from 2023	27 213,82	IENE 2024 conference	10 000,00
		Other costs	2000
		SubTotal Expenses	86 366,15
		Overhead (15%)	12 954,92
Total Income	119 213,82	Total expected expenses	99 321,07
		Expected balance for 2024	19 892,75

Planned Activities and Budget 2025

1. Planned Activities 2025

The following activities are planned for 2025:

1/ Operation of the network

Regular activities:

- Organization of monthly meetings of the IENE Governance Board (GB).
- Organization of bi-monthly meetings of the Scientific and Expert Committee (SEC).
- Organization of the yearly General Assembly planned in 2025.
- Interactions with third-party organizations, in particular for presentations of IENE in European and international forums (e.g. ICOET, ACLIE, ANET, GCLIE, ATEF, IUCN, WWF).
- Sending of a bi-monthly newsletter.
- Implementation of the IENE Strategic Orientation and Action Plan.
- Implementation of the IENE communication strategy.
- Writing policy briefs

Ad-hoc activities:

- They will be determined after the prioritization of the activities of the IENE Action Plan until the end of 2024.

2/ Projects and initiatives

IENE Conferences

- Oversight and support to the preparation of the IENE International Conference scheduled in 2026.

IENE initiatives

- They will be determined after the prioritization of the activities of the IENE Action Plan until the end of 2024.

Collaborations

- IENE contribution to ICOET 2025.
- IENE contribution to ACLIE 2025.

- IENE contribution to ATEC 2025.
- Continue the cooperation with PIARC to produce the Glossary - IENE handbook <https://www.biodiversityinfrastructure.org/glossary/>
- [Cooperation with the French Ministry for Ecological Transition to produce the translation of the Glossary - IENE handbook](#)
- Other cases of collaborations will be determined after the prioritization of the activities of the IENE Action Plan until the end of 2024.

Projects

- Participation at Symbiosis project as member of the Advisory Group of the proposal.
- Implementation of the ITTECOP project about the handbook in case of its approval.
- Search for new calls and prepare new proposals.
- Continue the works to complete the IENE handbook and include information about waterways and other infrastructure

Working Groups

- Develop activities of the existing IENE Working Groups for:
 - i) The IENE Handbook.
 - ii) The Global Strategy.
 - iii) Animal Detection and Driver Warning System.
 - iv) Safer Railways for Wildlife (SR4W).
 - v) Eastern Europe and the Balkans (GreenWeb).
 - vi) The Asia-Europe Transport Ecology Forum (AETEF) which will be organized in autumn 2025.
- Initiate new Working Groups following the priorities of the IENE Action Plan.

2. Budget 2025

IENE Budget 2025

Income source		Expense type	
Swedish Transport Administration	37 500,00	Salary costs	40 000,00
Dutch Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management	5 000,00	Accounting	3 108,00
French Ministry for the Ecological Transition	18 500,00	Missions for the Executive Secretariat	4 500,00
Membership	1 000,00	Missions de GB & SEC members	6 500,00
Projects (Hopefully ITTECOP)	5 000,00	Communication and website	4 500,00
		Other costs	2 000,00
Balance from 2024		SubTotal Expenses 60 608,00	
		Overhead (15%)	9 091,20
Total Income 86 892,75		Total Expenses 69 699,20	
		<i>Balance for 2025 17 193,55</i>	