ITTECOP is a research program created in 2008 by the French Ministry of Ecological Transition (MTE), in coordination with Ademe (French Agency for the Environment and Energy Management), in the framework of the first governmental strategy for biodiversity. With six calls for research proposals (2008, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2017 and 2020) ITTECOP contributes to a strong reflection on the integration of ecosystem and landscape issues in the development and implementation of infrastructure projects or the adaptation of existing facilities.

The program deals with land transport infrastructure rich variety, whether waterways rail, road or energy infrastructure, as well as their interrelations with the territories: stations, ports or airports. The effects of ILTe are analyzed, according to their scale, from several complementary angles: ecological, territorial, social, economic, landscape or heritage.

The MTE’s research and innovation department is in charge of steering the national ITTECOP research program. It guarantees the independence of the Scientific Council (SC) and the excellence of the research conducted. The program is carried out in open collaboration with ADEME, the French Office for Biodiversity (OFB), the members of the Linear Infrastructure and Biodiversity Club (CILB) and the Foundation for Research on Biodiversity (FRB).

ITTECOP participates in international collaboration. As a member of the research networke IENE (Infrastructure and Ecology Network Europe), it actively accompanies future European research and innovation orientations carried out in the H2020 strategic project BISON (Biodiversity and infrastructure Synergies and Opportunities for European transport Networks). It also contributes strongly to international coordination with the Sustainable Infrastructure Partnership, the UIC N (Center for Large Landscape Conservation) and the Kheops research program.

The 2020 call for research proposals (APR) encourages the development of interdisciplinary research on the interactions between linear transport infrastructure and their rights-of-way (ILT), eco-systems at different scales: rural, peri-urban and urban territories. It takes into account their historical or geographical dynamics and landscapes, understood as the relationship between representations, perceptions and materiality.

The projects supported aim to:
• improve retrospective, present or prospective knowledge;
• to produce a conceptual and methodological framework shared between researchers and operational actors;
• integrate procedures from the life sciences, human and social sciences, and planning disciplines (architecture, urban planning, landscape design) into a coordinated approach.

The scientific council, chaired by Sophie Bonin from the Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Paysage, encourages collaboration with ILT network operators and local authorities, and supports projects promoting international collaboration.

2020 call
Situated infrastructure: ecosystems, landscapes and territorial dynamics

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The Scientific Council and the Steering Committee selected 18 projects for the 2020 call, including two from the FRB’s ITTECOP-CESAB call. The call was co-financed with 2.3 million euros by the MTE, ADEME, OFB, FRB and CILB members: ASFA, EDF DPIH, Eiffage, Enedis, GRT Gaz, Lisea, RTE, SNCF Réseau, Terega and VNF.

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