



Activity and financial report September 2013 - September 2017

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Introduction

This report presents the overview of the activities and financial issues of IALE-Europe aiming to inform the members of the European chapter of IALE and the other members about the actions taken in the period of September 2013 to September 2017.

The report is organized and structured according to the topics discussed in the General Assembly (GA) in September 2013 during the European Congress in Manchester.

During that GA, the Executive Committee (EC) 2013-2017 was elected and consisted of:

- Teresa Pinto-Correia – President
- Veerle Van Eetvelde – Secretary General
- Emilio Padoa-Schioppa – Treasurer
- Lone Kristensen
- Isabel Loupa-Ramos
- Janez Pirnat
- Jonathan Porter

Hubert Wiggering was elected as the representative of IALE-Europe in the IALE Council. Stig Roar Svenningson was appointed as financial auditor.

The report is organised into two main parts. The first section gives the overview of the activities of the period September 2013-September 2017. The second section presents the financial report.

Part I - Activity Report

1 Statutes of IALE-Europe

The Statutes have been revised and approved by the GA in September 2013. A set of internal rules was also approved at the same time. These specific regulations make the statutes operational. The statutes with specific regulations are compiled in one document and secure the straightforward functioning of IALE-Europe. The approved version of the statutes and internal regulations were sent to the members and are published on the webpage.

2 Meetings

2.1 Internal meetings of the EC

The Executive Committee has functioned with all its elected members during the 4 years of the mandate. Each year in January, the Executive Committee held its yearly meeting of two full days, in Ghent, hosted by the Department of Geography of Ghent University. In addition, several members of the EC have gathered on the occasion of other scientific meetings. To ensure a continuous communication within the EC, short Skype meetings were organised on a regular day once a month.

2.2 Participation of members of the EC in national or thematic meetings organized by European colleagues

On different occasions, the EC has been asked to represent IALE-Europe and has taken part in national meetings organized by national chapters in Europe or European colleagues of IALE.

What	Where & when	Who	How
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Workshop Agrosystem Services 2014	ZALF (Germany) 17-18 February 2014	Teresa Pinto-Correia	Lecture
Congress "Understanding Mediterranean Landscapes"	Antalya (Turkey) 23-26 October 2014	Teresa Pinto-Correia	Key-note
Conference of the Italian Chapter IALE	Milano (Italy) 2 October 2015	Teresa Pinto-Correia	Key-note
Workshop Ecosystem Services in Practice, APEP	Lisbon (Portugal) 1 October 2015	Teresa Pinto-Correia Isabel Loupa Ramos	Opening
IALE-D Annual Conference "Ecosystem Services to ensure Sustainable Rural Development and Sustainable Use of Natural Resource"	Bonn (Germany) 20-23 October 2015	Veerle Van Eetvelde	Keynote lecture Meeting IALE-D
Landscape Ecology Meeting in Spain – Co-organized with IALE-Portugal (APEP) "III Jornadas Ibéricas de Ecología del Paisaje: La escala humana de la Ecología"	Escuela Politécnica de Cáceres (Caceres, Spain) 5-6 May 2016	Isabel Loupa-Ramos	Lecture Reinforcing IALE-Europe Support for the formalization of a Spanish Chapter
7 th Hungarian Landscape Ecology Conference "Interdisciplinary landscape research in the 21 st century"	Szeged (Hungary) 25-27 May 2017	Veerle Van Eetvelde	Keynote lecture Exchange ideas for Hungarian chapter

2.3 Meeting of the General Assembly Ghent 2017

At the end of its mandate, the EC organised the General Assembly during the IALE2017 European Congress. All members of IALE have been invited: the individual members of IALE-Europe, the national chapters with a collective membership of IALE-Europe and all the other member of IALE attending the congress. During this General Assembly, elections for the next EC 2017-2021 will be organised as well as the elections of the representative in the Council of IALE and the appointment of the financial auditor. The elections were coordinated by a nominating committee (Søren Bech Pilgaard Kristensen (chair), Mária Kozová, Roman Lenz and Sima Fakheran (substitute)). The call was sent out to all the members, only members of IALE-Europe can participate in the elections.

2.4 Meetings with representatives of national chapters

- During the European Congress in Manchester 2013
- During the World Congress in Portland 2017

In these two occasions, we gathered the representatives of European national chapters and of coming national chapters, in order to discuss the organization and activities of IALE-Europe, the collaboration with the national chapters and to collect suggestions for the future. These meetings have been extremely useful to collect these meanings and suggestions, and also as a way to improve knowledge of each other and facilitate future contacts.

3 Activities of the working groups

There are three active Working groups of IALE-Europe: (1) Europe's Stakeholders; (2) Education in Landscape Ecology; (3) Landscape Ecology and Practice.

3.1 WG 1 Europe's Stakeholders - Shaping future policy and science

- Interviews by Isabel and Veerle with people from different DG's of the European Union
- Leaflet "10 key messages landscape ecology"

3.2 WG 2 Education in landscape ecology – Sharing knowledge and experience

3.2.1 IALE-Europe PhD courses in Landscape Ecology

In order to support young landscape ecologists in their PhD development and to promote the creation the growing of a European community of landscape ecologists, IALE-Europe planned to organize a PhD course every year, in connection with a conference or as a totally separate event. After the PhD course in Manchester (September 2013), there has been an attempt to organize a new course in June 2014 in Italy. This course did not take place since there were too few registrations. The EC has then decided to organize these PhD courses every two years. There was a PhD course organized in Copenhagen (October 2015) and one associated with the Congress in Ghent (September 2017).

A general document with guidelines and learning outcomes has been compiled.

Edition Manchester September 2013

- Theme: "European Landscapes in Transition: the interplay between local and global drivers."
- In association with the IALE2013 European congress. Students and lecturers met before the congress for lectures and poster discussions. They participated the congress after which they travelled to the Peak District for the main part of the course.
- 15 PhD researchers from 9 countries, 8 lecturers

Edition Copenhagen October 2015

- Theme: "Cultural Landscapes, Sustainability and New Modes of Governance."
- In association with University of Copenhagen, IGN. The first day was organized as a classic seminar with lectures and discussion held at the University. The remaining part of the course took place in a countryside location and was organised as a workshop with student paper presentations, discussions and selected lectures based on the wishes and needs from the students.
- 16 PhD researchers from 12 countries participated together with 7 lectures

Edition Ghent September 2017

- Theme: "From pattern and process to people and action."
- In association with the IALE2017 European congress. Students and lecturers met before the congress as an introduction to the course and poster discussions as well as in introduction to the congress. They participated the congress after which they travelled to Dourbes (Fagne-Famenne) for the main part of the course.
- 15 PhD researchers from 14 countries, 6 lectures

3.2.2 Symposia during IALE2013 and IALE2017

Landscape ecology education in a changing world. Symposium European congress 2013, Manchester.

During the European congress 2013, the WG organised a symposium, where 18 participants from 11 countries participated.

This symposium had as main outcomes:

- Prepare a platform on the website with personal access to download the material and texts together with some practical information and instruction how to use the material.
- To develop a classification of themes to group the material, make queries easier.
- Examples of laboratories organisation and connection to the field work and how to combine theory and practice in different disciplines: agronomy, forestry, like spatial planning, forestry, fire prevention.

Landscape Education and Awareness Raising in the 21st Century. Symposium IALE2017 European Congress in Ghent (Belgium)

Participants and outcomes to be registered after the Congress

3.3 WG 3 Landscape Ecology and Practice – Bridging science and society

- Wenche Dramstad led the review procedure of all available conference proceedings of one of the more active IALE chapters, IALE-UK, in total 17 proceedings, published between 1992 and 2011. The objective was to find out the enrolment of practitioners in LE and the use of LE principles in practice.
- This work was presented in an “interactive poster” during the IALE World Congress in Portland 2015: Landscape ecology: A science for practitioners? G. Jiménez Martínez, W.E. Dramstad and I. Loupa Ramos.

4 Other activities

4.1 Thematic workshops and symposia

The thematic workshops have been organized by different colleagues in different countries, in collaboration with IALE-Europe, who has supported the definition of the scope and the divulgation of the workshop and actively took part in its development.

These workshops have been:

Advances in spatial typologies – How to move from concepts to practice? Thematic workshop, Lisbon, 4-5 July 2014

- 70 participants, 10 countries, 40 oral and poster presentations + round table
- The advantages of typologies at different scales were discussed, as well as their application for real world management. In the round table discussion, academics joined together with practitioners to discuss how typologies can support decision making and adaptive management.

Landscape ecology of urban forests: enhancing ecosystem services. Thematic workshop, Ljubljana, 2015

- 20 participants, 9 countries
- 11 lectures in 3 symposia with a final roundtable.
- Urban and suburban landscapes are areas where nature meets culture, areas of work and leisure, understanding and misunderstanding, areas of well-being and areas of conflict. These landscapes stimulate transdisciplinary research from theory to application in the fields of agroforestry, agronomy, geography, forestry, landscape architecture, planning, psychology and sociology. Landscape ecology, working with a wide range of disciplines has a role to develop methods and tools to understand landscape processes and measure ecosystem services for an ever-changing society.

The 2015 IALE-Europe Thematic Workshop explored new ways in understanding, mapping and managing ecosystem services in urban forestry, agroforestry and agriculture including their environmental limits and the future opportunities. The thematic Workshop high lightened the contribution of Landscape Ecology in these developments and trends.

4.2 Symposium on the IALE World Congress Portland 2015

Shaping Landscape Ecology approaches worldwide in different regional contexts. Symposium at the World Landscape Ecology Congress, Portland, July 2015

Multiple approaches to the landscape have emerged in different regional contexts worldwide. Some approaches are commonly identified as having American or European roots. These roots have further evolved in landscape ecology communities around the world – cross-fertilizing with other disciplinary perspectives; responding to specific landscape challenges; engaging in unique dialogues between nature and culture; mobilizing new tools for linking pattern and processes, as well as, pattern and people at different scales; and linking landscape structures, management and values. This symposium gathered insights into these regional perspectives related to evolving concepts, approaches and methodological developments. A lively discussion has followed the oral presentations. The overall conclusions pointed in the sense that there are no regional specific approaches, but more a combination of disciplines contributing to LE overall, which interact in different ways in different contexts, due to the different questions LE is faced with. Therefore, we should not stress the regional dimension, but more the interactive dimension of LE in its capacity to cope with different real world questions.

4.3 European Congress 2017

The Congress is on-going on the day we presented this Activity Report. The Congress is the first organized by IALE-Europe, with the very strong support and engagement of the Landscape Research Unit of the Department of Geography of Ghent University.

Around 310 participants of 40 different countries, 27 symposia were organised.

Participants and outcomes to be registered after the Congress

5 Communication

- Visual identity: enhanced in 2013 (reshaped logo)
- Website: Established website in 2013 and updated design in 2015, including mobile
- Twitter: Established 2015, 550 followers

6 Status of memberships

- Individual members: 69
- National chapters with collective memberships: 5, corresponding to 137 members (according to fee payment)

Part II - Financial Report

7 Introduction

According to statutes of IALE-Europe (General Assembly, Manchester 2013), the EC (in the person of the Treasurer) has to report on the statement of the account each year to be discussed at the General Assembly. This financial report should include the balance to indicate how the money was collected and spent.

This report explains the actions done by the treasurer, the problems that arose during this term and how they have been solved. Thus this report does not only includes the balances of years 2013 to 2017, but also aims to give a transparency of the financial situation to members of IALE-Europe.

This financial report has been sent to the auditor, Stig Roar Svenningsen (Denmark) and will be discussed and approved during the General Assembly 2017.

The report contains:

1. Situation of the current bank account, explaining the of the art of the account before 2013, the role of treasurer, the fee structure and the reason why we opened both a bank account (2013) and a Paypal account (since 2015)
2. The balances of years 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017¹
3. An overview of the bank account for 2013-2017
4. An overview of Paypal account for 2015-2017
5. A graphic synthesis how the money was collected and spent
6. Some final remarks useful for next treasurer

8 Situation of bank account

8.1 Status of the finances before 2013

When IALE-Europe was founded in 2009, the account was a subaccount of Portuguese IALE Chapter (APEP), since the European treasurer was also treasurer of APEP. In 2013, after the official registration of IALE-Europe, an own bank account was opened and thus separated from APEP. The official owner of the bank account is the current IALE-Europe president (according with portuguese laws that required a portuguese responsible of the account to register the association as non business company, with the consequent fiscal rules).

8.2 Role of treasurer

The treasurer has to 'keep the books' of the association. At some stages, the treasurer was not able to operate directly in the bank account (only in Paypal) to spend money. Hence, to make operations more accurate and fast, the treasurer used his personal bank account, anticipating the expenses and asking later to be reimbursed by IALE-Europe (any payment was made by the President). Because of one year (2014) the bank of treasurer lost the documents of expense for that case the treasurer did not asked for a reimbursement.

¹ The balance of 2017 will be concluded at the end of the year (after the European Congress 2017 and the PhD course).

8.3 Fee structure

The fee structure of IALE-Europe is described into the webpage of the association (www.iale-europe.eu/join). There is a distinction between:

- Individual members (distinction between student and regular membership)
- National chapters

For the individual members, the following fees are set:

Individual membership:

- 15 € Students (10 € to IALE International; 5 to IALE-Europe)
- 30 € Regular (20 € to IALE International; 10 to IALE-Europe)

The collective membership fee for the national chapters is depending on the number of members of the national chapter:

- >150members = 500€;
- >100 member = 375€;
- >51 members = 250€;
- <= 50 members = 5€ per member

No distinction is made between regular and student memberships, because students gets the reduction from the national chapters. No fee is paid to IALE International, since this is collected on the national level.

8.4 Bank account and Paypal account

The bank account of IALE-Europe was opened in 2013. The membership fees were collected through bank transfers. However, in the period of 2013-2014, it was often not possible to identify where the payment came from. For example, when the membership payments were paid by a university or institute, it was not possible to link the name of members to the payment.

For this reason, a Paypal account was opened in 2015 to collect the membership fees more effectively. This account has been used only to collect individual fees (and in 2017 for the fee of ialeUK). One of the main advantage of this approach is the work for secretary and the treasurer was reduced because, when a Paypal payment is done, an automatic receipt from Paypal is sent. Furthermore, it is much easier for the treasurer to link the payment with the member. The members use the membership form on the webpage (www.iale-europe.eu/join) and are direct to the Paypal account to finalise their payment. Members that can or do not want to use Paypal had encouraged to contact the treasurer and could finalise their payment with a bank transfer.

12 Synthesis

12.1 Where does the money come from (incomes)?

The income of IALE-Europe is mainly based on the fees of the individual members and national chapters (see Figure 1 and Figure 2). The total income of individual members is higher than contribution of the national chapters, but about 66,6% of individual membership fees is transferred to IALE-International (during the years there were some variations depending on the agreement for Landscape Ecology Journal and for reimbursement of 20% fee for “early bird” registrations).

An additional income was created by the fees for activities (PhD courses, workshops, see Figure 3), which has been used to cover the costs of these activities.

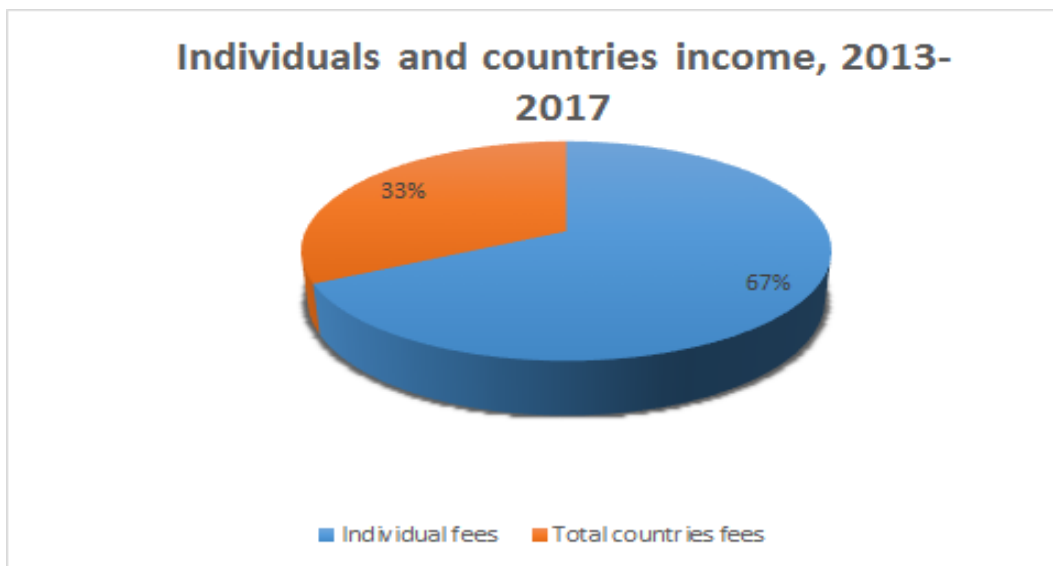


Figure 1 The ratio of the income from individual membership fees and fees from national chapters

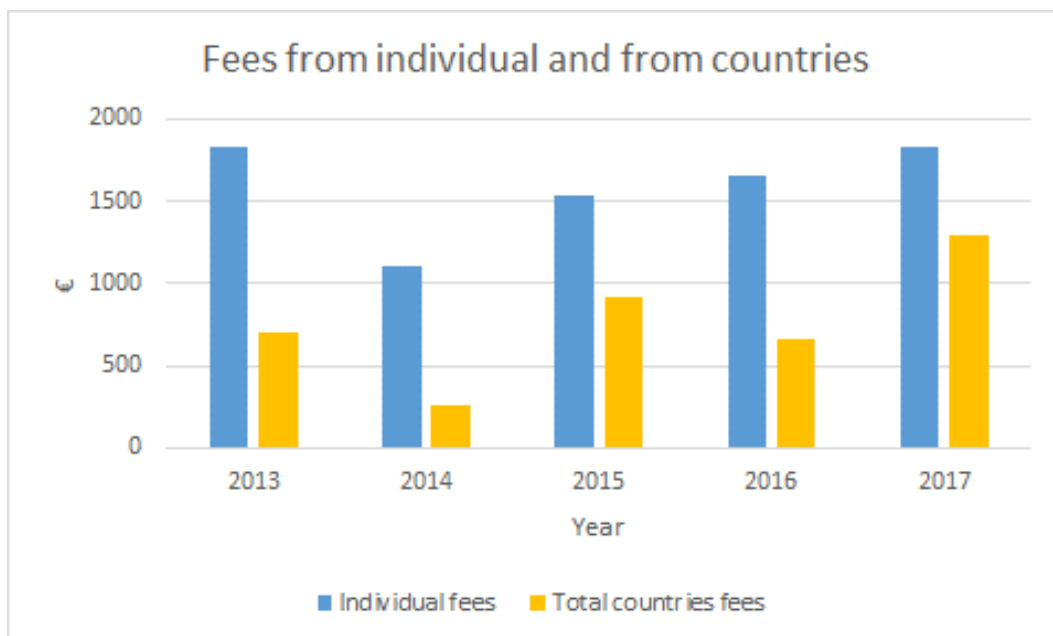


Figure 2 The income from individual membership fees and fees from national chapters

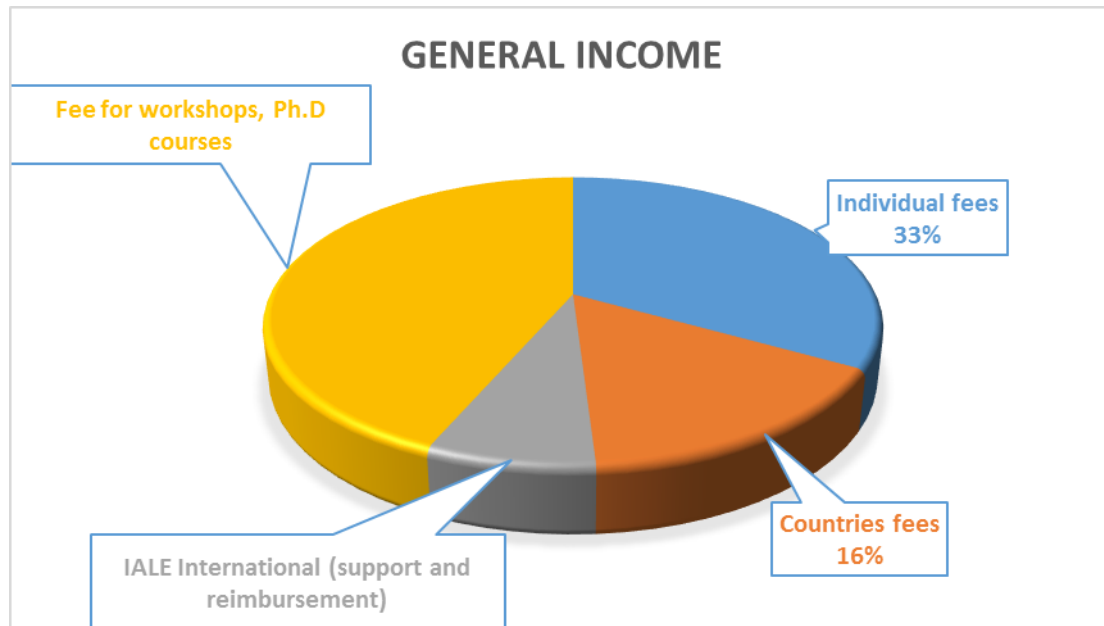


Figure 3 The total income from 01/01/2013 to 01/09/2017

12.2 For what is the money used (expenses)?

The majority of money collected was used for the organization of the different activities (PhD courses, thematic workshops, congress – see Figure 4). 34% of the expenses covered the contribution of the membership fee for IALE International.

The notary expense is quite big (14%, 1.982 €), but this was necessary to recognise IALE-Europe officially (and to open a bank account). This expense has to be paid only once, unless the statutes would change fundamentally.

This report does not include yet the funding for the IALE2017 congress and related PhD course, this can only be included after these activities.

All the meetings of the EC (once per year, in January/February in Ghent) were covered by members of EC, and thus no expenses for these meetings have been charged from the accounts of IALE-Europe.

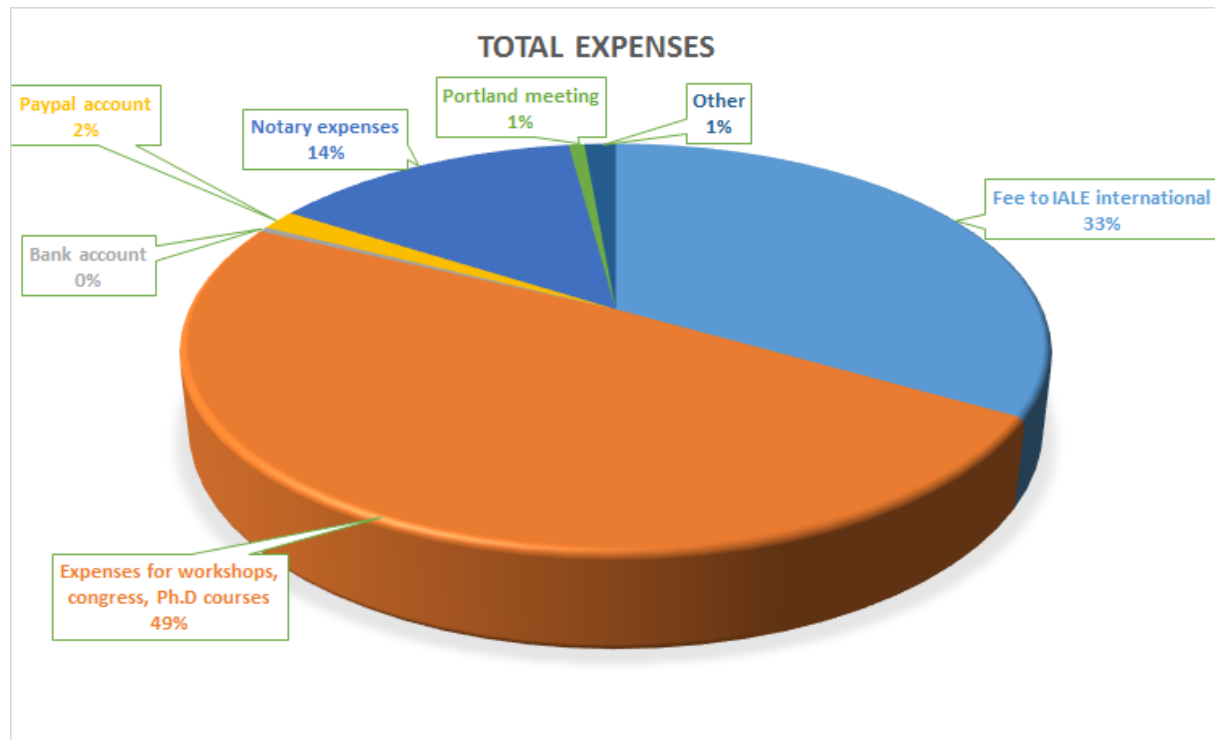


Figure 4 The total expenses from 01/01/2013 to 01/09/2017

13 Suggestions for next treasurer and EC of IALE-Europe

Based on the experience of the period 2011-2017 (the term of the current treasurer), this financial report is ending with suggestions to take into account by the next treasurer and EC.

- In case there will be a bank account in BPN Portugal and a Paypal account, the current treasurer strongly advised to have a credit card linked to the bank account. In this way, it will be possible to transfer (larger amount of) money from the Paypal account to the bank account much easier.
- Currently there is a discrepancy between the balance (that follow solar year) and the operations (*i.e.* fee to IALE International and from national chapters will be done often some week/month after the solar year). Consequently, is not always possible to finalise a balance during solar year. A general overview after four years may give a better idea of what is the real balance.
- The EC of IALE-Europe recommends the next EC to keep the books updated and have an annual report like asked in the internal regulations, in close collaboration with the financial auditor.