

BIEN Annual Report 2021-2022

By the Chair and Vice-Chair

For the General Assembly at the 22nd BIEN Congress, Brisbane, Australia

September 2022

Dear friends,

This report is a summary of BIEN's 2021-2022 activities. BIEN has taken important steps towards the future with the aim to become a truly global movement, with all continents represented in our membership, affiliates, and on the Executive Committee. We hope you will enjoy reading this report. **We are the multinationals.**

1. BIEN Hubs Project (Adding muscle to BIEN)

National organisations affiliated to BIEN that research, educate about, and advocate for Basic Income are already doing excellent work engaging with academia, think tanks, opinion formers, politicians, the press, and the general public, in their own contexts, with the pattern of activity varying between countries. BIEN's role is a coordinating and facilitating one, in terms of strengthening these organisations both at the national level and at the regional and sub-regional levels. It could add value by providing access to resources - both intellectual and financial. To that end we propose to establish a series of well-resourced Basic Income Regional Hubs in different parts of the world.

Each Regional Hub would map existing organisations and their activity, and consult with existing Basic Income organisations in the region to discover what new activity might usefully be established, and what resources might be needed to enhance existing activity. For instance, interested individuals in a country without a national Basic Income organisation might be assisted to establish one; media expertise, educational materials, and research coordination might enhance existing activity; and staff time might be provided to enable national organisations to build new links with academia, think tanks, and opinion formers, and to develop campaigns and other projects. Each Hub's activity would be, and would be seen to be, complementary to existing activity, and the entire approach would be collaborative.

Early Regional Hubs should be where resources are currently limited and where the provision of the resources that a Hub could provide would enable new activity to take place and the effectiveness of existing activity to be increased. This suggests that the first Hubs should be realised in the Global South: Africa, Latin America and South Asia. Further Hubs might then

serve East Asia (with Australasia) and South America. Only then should consideration be given to North America and Europe, because in those regions activity is already better resourced than elsewhere.

Recruitment of Staff for the Hubs Project

The Executive Committee has appointed a new trustee, Dr. Neil Howard, who is on the staff of the University of Bath and is experienced in international development, project management, and large grant fundraising, to be Hubs supervisor. Effectively, Neil has taken on the role of project manager for the roll-out of the programme of action.

For this ambitious project, considerable additional funds and (paid) staff were needed and this project was therefore a key element in the Mustardseed fund application (see point 2). In order to appoint the best possible Hubs co-ordinator, the Executive Committee in its April meeting appointed a Central Team to conduct the procedures of staff recruitment. The Central Team (CT) comprised the Chair, Vice-chair, an EC member designated as the Hubs Supervisor, the Treasurer and one more member from Latin America. The CT agreed on a job description, person specification and appointment process, and advertised the post through BIEN's website and its monthly newsletter which has a readership of about 14,000 people around the world interested in Basic Income.

Eight applications were received, and following a scoring process four were shortlisted. Interviews were held, at which shortlisted candidates were asked to give a short presentation about how they would create a BIEN hub and ensure that it was doing what it was supposed to be doing. All of the candidates were then asked the same questions, the answers to which were scored by the panel.

The process resulted in higher and almost equal scores for two of the candidates, and even using the planned tie-breaker questions it was impossible to separate them. In relation to the expertise and experience of the two candidates, the panel, and subsequently the Executive Committee, agreed that Wolfgang Wopperer-Beholz would be offered the post of Hubs co-ordinator, and that Christopher Nwafor would be offered the post of Hub manager for Africa. Both offers were accepted. Wolfgang lives in the UK and so is now directly employed by BIEN since June 20th 2022, Christopher is an independent contractor since 1st of July 2022 with whom an appropriate contract has been agreed and signed. The EC also plans to raise further funds so as to enable recruitment of regional Hubs managers in Asia and Latin America.

It is through Neil Howard that Hubs coordinator and managers will be accountable to BIEN's Executive Committee, and he is responsible for their supervision, training and support.

2. Fundraising

Mustardseed Trust made a grant to BIEN for a period of three years starting from April 2022.

It is a three year grant with a minimum amount of 110,000 USD and maximum 150,000 USD (depending on additional fundraising).

Appendix 1 shows the Logframe of the application with outputs from year 1-3

The Mustardseed funding is as follows

Amount	Date of transfers	Condition
30,000 USD	20th February 2022 1 st Instalment Yr 1	Upon Mustardseed Trust staff's receipt of signed grant agreement the grant payment will be sent
30,000 USD	20 th August 2022 2 nd Instalment Yr1	Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report as stated within the reporting guidelines.
15,000 USD	20 th February 2023 1 st Instalment Yr2	Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report as stated within the reporting guidelines.
15,000 USD	20 th August 2023 2 nd Instalment Yr2	- Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report as stated within the reporting guidelines
20,000 USD	20 th August 2023 Match funding	-Match funding evidence of 20,000 USD provided by June 2023 will release an additional 20,000 USD
10,000 USD	20 th February 2024 1 st Instalment Yr3	Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report as stated within the reporting guidelines.
10,000 USD	20 th August 2024 2 nd Instalment Yr3	-Upon receipt of a satisfactory progress report as stated within the reporting guidelines.
20,000 USD	20 th August 2024 Match funding	-Match funding evidence of 20,000 -USD provided by June 2024 will release an additional matched 20,000 USD

As soon as the grant was announced, we set out to recruit the paid staff it will support.

The Executive Committee is aware of the need to raise additional funds to enable the release of that element of the Mustardseed grant that has to be matched. Plans are being put in place for this effort, beginning with an appeal for funds and funding contacts to be made at BIEN's General Assembly and a Crowdfunding campaign.

3. Strategic Partnerships: UNDP, FRIBIS, BIRAL, Blockchain Community,

a. UNDP

Last year, we signed an MoU with UNDP, as a result of a letter sent to the Secretary General of the UN by 96 Basic Income organisations from all over the World in 2020. Together with UNDP we organized a panel at the 2021 Glasgow Conference at which six UN agencies and two international organizations spoke in favor of Basic Income. These were: UNDP, ILO, UNESCO, UNESCWA, UN-ECLAC, UNIDO, World Bank and the IMF. To maintain the momentum which resulted from this panel, we drafted a Joint Statement for endorsement and publication by all participating agencies. In parallel, we proposed creating a Basic Income working-level platform, which would offer a space for discussing this tool in terms of policy implications, lessons learned etc. BIEN would offer expertise on advice sought. The joint statement is expected to come out soon.

b. FRIBIS

Freiburg Institute of Basic Income Studies is a recent initiative of the University of Freiburg. Several of BIEN members are associated with FRIBIS in various capacities - giving seminars, Visiting Fellows, members of various research teams, etc., As BIEN we had a couple of discussions with FRIBIS to sign a formal MOU to have a series of educational activities targeting global students. The MOU is likely to materialise soon. In the meantime, informally, FRIBIS and BIEN collaborated to conduct two online zoom conversations on basic income related topics, under a series called Global Basic Income Dialogue.

c. BIRAL

Basic Income Research Action Lab is a BIEN initiative, led by Julio Linares, to bring together researchers, practitioners and policy-makers who have initiated versions of basic income policies or experiments in different parts of the world. The first seminar was an online event where the South Korean Gyeonggi Model and Brazil's Marica Model were presented by respective researchers. The initiative subsequently created a platform for different BI research organisations such as Jain Family Institute, Gyeonggi Research Institute, and others to meet and share their work. They also plan to bring out a series of podcasts and also papers in future. The first podcast was published in the month of August featuring Laura from

Expedition Grundeinkommen and their campaign for a basic income in Berlin for which they collected signatures.

d. Blockchain Community

Basic Income is gaining attention in the blockchain community and more and more blockchain projects claim to distribute Basic Income, but only very few of them match BIEN's definition or come even close. BIEN has the ambition to be present in this new space, as the guardian of the concept and will actively try to find synergies. Thanks to the efforts of Julio Linares, the outreach coordinator of BIEN's EC and also involved with Circles, BIEN was invited at a blockchain conference (dapcon in Berlin 12-14 september 2022), where Basic Income was one of the main themes. A historic event which will hopefully lead to new partnerships.

4. BIEN delegation to international conferences

Individual BIEN members have always been attending and speaking at international conferences. However, now, we are actively lobbying with organisers of conferences in different domains to add a basic income track where a delegation from BIEN shall go and make a series of presentations. The first such effort occurred in Braga, Portugal.

a. The Ethics and Political Philosophy Conference - Braga, Portugal, June 2022

In this Conference a delegation from BIEN made a presentation on the current state of BIEN and facilitated a discussion on the Future of BIEN. While many of the participants in the conference were BIEN members and representatives of affiliates, there were also several others present. The session generated many new ideas concerning the potential trajectories of BIEN's future.

b. DappCon 2022: Developers Conference for Ethereum Dapps and Infrastructure

The second effort was at the dapcon conference in Berlin, 12-14 september 2022. A variety of presentations was given to an audience of blockchain-developers. From the definition of Basic Income, Basic Income as a peacemaking tool, the history and future of BIEN to actual pilot projects (Hyderabad waste collectors in India and a blockchain based pilot in Kowiti-A, Kenya). Even if we may not speak each other's language we bridged through the heart and are hoping to be present next year again. In the meantime we can build partnerships and collaborations with projects such as Circles, which is combining the concepts of Basic Income and money creation by the people through blockchain

5. Definition of Basic Income

The meaning of words is important and regarding Basic Income, we feel BIEN should be the guardian of the concept. During the GA of 2019 a working group on the 'Clarification of the BI definition' has been formed who organised meetings and discussion fora. The existence of these fora has facilitated both rigorous academic discussions and provided an avenue for open communication among BIEN members who would like to express their opinion on the matter. These discussions are important and keep BIEN members sharp when discussing Basic Income-like proposals or projects that do not match with BIEN's definition of Basic Income.

6. Meeting with BIEN's founders

BIEN was established in 1986 and now races into a complex future with the simple message of real freedom. To celebrate 36 years of BIEN's existence and work, the EC organised an online event to meet the founders, listen to them, express gratitude and get inspired to renew our commitment to work for freedom and dignity for every man, woman and child on this planet. The meet-up was informal and inspiring for both old and young Basic Income activists. The reconnection between the founders, the pioneers in our field was heart-warming. We plan a six-monthly repeat.

7. Connecting more closely with affiliate organisations

With 38 affiliate organisations and 3 new applications this year, BIEN's footprint is expanding gradually. We feel we need to do more to connect the affiliates, listen to their ideas and needs. Coming year we will organise a meet-up for affiliate organisations to get to know each other better and discuss in what form we can facilitate collaboration between them, both through the regional hubs we are establishing as on a global level.

8. Individual memberships

We have approximately 400 individual members, which is very little for a global movement. We are aiming for a yearly increase of 5-10% in individual membership, preferably from new countries as a result of the regional hubs. We also encourage our affiliate organisations and individual members to encourage their members to also become a member of BIEN.

Unconditionally,

Sarath Davala and Hilde Latour (Chairs)

Appendix 1

Logframe of Mustardseed Trust Project

		Year 0	Year 1	Year 1	Year 1
	Three years Impact/ Targets/ Goals	Baseline	Outputs	Outcomes	Indicators
1	BIEN transitions from a purely volunteer-led organisation to one with increased number of people working comprising of volunteers and paid staff working on different projects. This will give a strong muscle to carry out the organisational goals more effectively and efficiently.	BIEN run by only volunteers	1. Central Team constituted: comprising of 5 people: the Chair, Vice-Chair, and senior academic volunteer, Treasurer and Volunteer Coordinator. 2. BIEN will form the People Recruiting Committee (PRC) which will recruit necessary Regional Hubs staff. PRC will be an efficient and knowledgeable team that will determine procedures to recruit the regional staff - one each for the following 3 continents.	BIEN transitions to a hybrid model organisation with volunteers and paid staff/ consultants; With increased staff and volunteers, there will be increased activity overall.	1. Central Team and newly recruited staff in place with job descriptions. 2. Regional Hubs begin to function. 3. Evidence of activities – Regional office; Minutes of meetings; and reports and photographs of various activities.

			<p>3. Recruitment completed by April 2022. Paid staff for 3 regional hubs hired, trained and on-boarded.</p> <p>4. Central Team hands over the supervision role to either a paid or volunteer line manager appointed by the EC. CT however will continue in an advisory capacity.</p>		
2	<p>Regional Hubs are established, and they begin to function as Activity Hubs with increased activities run efficiently.</p>	<p>1. BIEN has no regional offices or activities. It only has affiliates and individual members.</p> <p>2.</p> <p>3.</p>	<p>1. Three BIEN Regional Hubs are established – Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America.</p> <p>2. Consolidate country-wise affiliates and individual members in each region and form local networks. Regional Hubs staff to work in close coordination with the local networks as well as central team.</p> <p>3. In each Hub, Assembly of Affiliates established</p>	<p>1. By the end of the year, three well-functioning Regional Hubs will be established. BIEN activities related to Education, research and advocacy will become visible.</p> <p>2. BIEN is functioning in a decentralised manner with 3 strong regional hubs.</p> <p>3. By end of first year, three regional hubs prepare 3 year perspective plan and begin activities.</p>	<p>Number of webinars, seminars and workshops held per region</p>

			<p>that will play an advisory role.</p> <p>4. A Core Operational Team is established with volunteers and paid staff (Coordinator). A governing structure will be established.</p> <p>5. Regional Hub team will prepare a three-year perspective plan.</p> <p>6. Activities will be planned.</p>		
3	<p><i>Increase the geographical coverage</i> of affiliations and membership and BIEN's reach in the world.</p>	<p>As in December 2021, BIEN has 43 country affiliates: and 403 individual academic and activist members.</p>	<p>1. Each year 3 more countries in each continent take part in the conversation, form groups and affiliate to BIEN through regional hubs. That will be 9 new affiliates in total.</p> <p>2. With regard to membership, each year at least there would be a 5-10% increase in individual membership, preferably</p>		<p>1. Number of affiliates with increase.</p> <p>2. Number of individual members will increase, particularly from new affiliate countries.</p> <p>3. The number of visitors to BIEN will increase and from more countries.</p>

			from new countries.		
4	Strengthen BIEN's identity as an Earth Network. Body of knowledge on basic income is increased, well-documented, structured, and easily accessible online in more languages. This will enable more people from non-English speaking regions gain access this knowledge and resources on basic income.	We have BIEN website core articles in 3 languages now English, Chinese, Japanese, Spanish, and French.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise translation of core writings on basic income into regional languages in 3 more new languages per year. 2. Develop new language pages on BIEN website. 	The information regarding a basic income is more widely available in regional languages	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New language pages on BIEN website. 2. Core basic income writings in new languages available. 3. The number of visitors to BIEN will increase and from diverse countries. 4. BIEN's website content more diversified with enriched content, and in more world languages. 5. Website Footprint increases.
5	Strengthen the current strategic partnerships and increase the number and domains.	Current partners: 1. UNDP 2. BIRAL Partnerships - Alliance of Mayors Project. 3. FRIBIS Germany	The number of strategic partnerships is increased: with UN agencies, EU, Mayors in different parts of the world, Blockchain and tech organisations, universities, organisations working in the ecological movement, care economy, and world	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New partnerships identified and engaged with. New projects emerge from these partnerships. 2. Partnerships happen both at the global level as well as regional level in the second year and third year.1. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Number of global and regional partnerships increase. 2. Newer projects flow from the new projects.

			<p>basic income. In each of the domains mentioned, we would like to identify networks and organisations. In our half-yearly report in 2022, we will be able to mention the names of such organisations.</p> <p>Each regional hub will identify strategic partners and begin to engage with them</p>		
6	<p>BIEN will be financially sustainable by raising funds sufficient to meet its annual budget, progressively over a period of three years, BIEN will reach their target figure committed, and will cease to depend on single donor.</p>	<p>1. Currently only the Local organising committees of countries that organise annual BIEN Congresses raises funds. 2. For the central office, membership fee and odd donations are the only source of revenue.</p>	<p>1. Engaging with donors and begin to raise funds 2. Identify donors both globally and regionally. Fund-raising process begins. Raise at least half of next year's conditional grant. (10K)</p>	<p>During the first year, the process of fund-raising is initiated and by the end of the year new funds will be received.</p>	<p>1. Number of donors identified and approached, and evidence of negotiations begun during the first year; Amount of funds raised (vis a vis the budget) 2. Additional funds received.</p>
7	<p>BIEN develops a decentralised structure by activating affiliates and members</p>	<p>Currently very weak coordination and conversation with country affiliates.</p>	<p>By the end of the year, at least one meeting of all affiliates in each of the</p>	<p>First step towards decentralised functioning of BIEN.</p>	<p>1. Communication with affiliates established and strengthened. 2. Preparations for establishing</p>

	<i>region-wise, i.e., starting with Regional Hubs.</i>		three regions will occur.		Regional Assembly of BIEN Affiliates and Members. 3. One large meeting of all regional affiliates and members by end of 2022.
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		Year 2	Year 2	Year 2
	Three years			
	Impact/ Targets/ Goals	Outputs	Outcomes	Indicators
1	BIEN transitions from a purely volunteer-led organisation to one with increased number of people working comprising of volunteers and paid staff working on different projects. This will give a strong muscle to carry out the organisational goals more effectively and efficiently.	Regional Hubs function with paid staff and increased activities: seminars, workshops, etc.	A strong operational team is established, and these Identify stakeholders and decision makers in each region, and open conversation via webinars, workshops, seminars.	1. Timeline of Activities of the three regional hubs; 2. Evidence of well-functioning offices and staff and volunteers in each region.
2	Regional Hubs are established, and they begin to function as Activity Hubs with increased activities run efficiently.	1. Each of the three regional hubs will initiate new activities. 2. At the beginning of the year, activities are planned as per the 3-year perspective plan. 3. Activities done during the year. 4. New activities initiated in the new countries.	In the second year, more activities of BIEN not only at the regional level but also at individual country level.	1. Basic Income groups in an additional 3 countries each in Asia-Pacific, Africa and Latin America will be affiliated to BIEN. 2. Evidence of more activity at the regional and country level.
3	Increase the geographical coverage of affiliations and membership and BIEN's reach in the world.	1. Each regional hub – AP, Africa, and Latin America will add 3 more countries. 2. More new members. 3. Each year 3 more countries in each continent	1. The network of BIEN will grow by a total of 9 countries each year. 2. Activities initiated at the country level. 3. Basic Income literacy increases and debates happen in newer countries.	1. The number of visitors to BIEN will increase and from diverse countries. 2. More activities in the region. 3. Small activities begin at the country level.

		take part in the conversation, form new basic income groups and affiliate to BIEN through regional hubs.		
4	Strengthen BIEN's identity as an Earth Network. Body of knowledge on basic income is increased, well-documented, structured, and easily accessible online in more languages. This will enable more people from non-English speaking regions gain access this knowledge and resources on basic income.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organise translation of core writings on basic income into regional languages in 3 more new languages per year. 2. We will expect an increase of visitors from these additional countries. 3. Regional staff collect news items from the region 4. Provide news of the region to BI News and report the progress of BI advocacy in the region, increasing the knowledge of local UBI news nationally and globally so that BIEN is a true hub of knowledge. 	Knowledge about basic income becomes accessible to people in diverse countries in different languages. And people from different countries provide news items to BI News in their respective languages.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BIEN will have information in 9 additional languages available and accessible within its network and online. 2. The information regarding a basic income is more widely available in local languages 3. An additional 3 new languages will be added to the BIEN network - meaning an larger impact allowing a wider understanding of a basic income
5	Strengthen the current strategic partnerships and increase the number and domains.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increased activity with the current partners. 2. Identify and initiate dialogue with new partners globally. 3. Identify and initiate dialogue with new partners at regional level. 	BIEN increases its activities not just on its own but also by means of strategic partnerships regionally and globally.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Number of strategic partnerships formed globally. 2. Number of strategic partnerships formed regionally.

6	<p>BIEN will be financially sustainable by raising funds sufficient to meet its annual budget, progressively over a period of three years, BIEN will reach their target figure committed, and will cease to depend on single donor.</p>	<p>1. In the second year, BIEN raises funds as per commitment and also at least 10% more than that to fund its increased activities. 2. BIEN will begin to work with more partners of which some will also bring in funds such as UNDP, UNESCO, etc.</p>	<p>BIEN will raise sufficient funds to meet its annual budget and also meet commitments made to Mustardseed.</p>	<p>Actual funds raised beyond the funds received from Mustardseed Trust.</p>
7	<p>BIEN develops a decentralised structure by activating affiliates and members region-wise, i.e., starting with Regional Hubs.</p>	<p>1. One big meeting of all affiliates in the region and plan activities. 2. Affiliates will play a stronger role in building the Regional Hub. This will be collectively discussed and decided upon.</p>	<p>By the end of second year, Regional Hubs will lay out a plan of how the Regional Assembly of BIEN Affiliates will play a greater role in developing the Regional Hub.</p>	<p>Three-year plan developed by the Regional Assembly about how Decentralised functioning will happen.</p>

	Three years Impact/ Targets/ Goals	Year 3 Outputs	Year 3 Outcomes	Year 3 Indicators
1	BIEN transitions from a purely volunteer-led organisation to one with increased number of people working comprising of volunteers and paid staff working on different projects. This will give a strong muscle to carry out the organisational goals more effectively and efficiently.	The third year is the consolidation of the Regional Hub functioning with volunteers and paid staff sufficient to conduct all planned activities.	By the end of third year, BIEN will have a strong central team and three strong Regional Hubs with paid staff and volunteers.	1. Documents such as minutes of the meeting showing the density of activities.
2	Regional Hubs are established, and they begin to function as Activity Hubs with increased activities run efficiently.	1. Each regional hub will bring on board 3 more new countries as affiliates of BIEN. Altogether 9 new countries will be added.	Regional Hubs will be fully active.	1. Regional Hubs will be fully active. Documents related to their activities are indication of how active they are. 2. BI News, digital media or activities, etc.
3	Increase the geographical coverage of affiliations and membership and BIEN's reach in the world.	BIEN activities spread to 9 more countries this year 2024.	By the end of the third year (2024) BIEN will have 27 new countries altogether -between the beginning of 2022 and 2024. Each Regional Hub will add 9 countries each.	We will expect an increase of visitors from these additional countries

4	<p>Strengthen BIEN's identity as an Earth Network. Body of knowledge on basic income is increased, well-documented, structured, and easily accessible online in more languages. This will enable more people from non-English speaking regions gain access this knowledge and resources on basic income.</p>	<p>BIEN's core writings to be made available in 3 more new languages.</p>	<p>An additional 3 new languages will be added to the BIEN network - meaning a larger impact allowing a wider understanding of a basic income.</p>	<p>By the end of 2024, BIEN will have information in 9 additional languages within its network and online.</p>
5	<p>Strengthen the current strategic partnerships and increase the number and domains.</p>	<p>Increase the number of strategic partnerships and conduct activities jointly such as webinars, workshops online interviews with local stakeholders.</p>	<p>Increase in activities of the Regional Hubs by strengthening both global and local partners.</p>	<p>1. Number of partnerships. 2. Number of activities conducting via these partnerships – both global and local partners.</p>
6	<p>BIEN will be financially sustainable by raising funds sufficient to meet its annual budget, progressively over a period of three years, BIEN will reach their target figure committed, and will cease to depend on single donor.</p>	<p>1. BIEN will raise funds as per the commitment made to Mustardseed and 10% more. 2. BIEN will also begin to raise funds local via Regional Hubs.</p>	<p>By the end of 2024, BIEN demonstrates its growing capacity to raise funds and have a profile of multiple donors both global and local.</p>	<p>1. Funds raised. 2. Number of new donors identified and working with.</p>

7	<p><i>BIEN develops a decentralised structure by activating affiliates and members region-wise, i.e., starting with Regional Hubs.</i></p>	<p>1. One major meeting of Regional Affiliates along with critical Social Influencers in the region to promote the idea of Basic Income. 2. Affiliates and local members also raise funds to conduct activities.</p>	<p>By the end of 2024, BIEN will have a strong decentralised structure – working actively in decision-making, fund-raising and also conducting activities.</p>	<p>1. Evidence showing that the local Assembly of Affiliates playing a greater role in the governance of the Regional Hubs and taking greater ownership. 2. Evidence along three indicators: decision-making, fund-raising and conducting activities.</p>