

## 1. INTRODUCTION

FIDIC has indentified the need to train young professionals who are the future of the consulting engineering industry and has thus developed a training program known as the Young Professional Management Training Program (YPMTTP) which is organized on an annual basis.

The training is in two parts; the virtual sessions and the physical session which coincides with the annual FIDIC Conference with the Future leader's workshop as part of the conference. This year's conference was held in Barcelona, Spain and it brought together about 83 Young Professionals (YP's) from 32 Countries.

## 2. VIRTUAL/ONLINE SESSION

YPs across the world who register to participate in the training are categorized into groups based mainly on time zones of the different countries so each can participate conveniently. The sessions are held monthly for a period of seven months. Participants are taken through lectures, case studies, group discussions and presentations.

### Some lessons learnt

- ✓ Team work
- ✓ Effective communication
- ✓ Leadership roles
- ✓ Knowledge acquisition
- ✓ Ability to research

## 3. PHYSICAL SESSION/FIDIC CONFERENCE

This aspect of the training brings together all YPs under one umbrella to learn and share ideas. It comprises of lectures by mentors, group discussions and presentation of group works. YPs also come up with a deliverable which is presented during the Future leaders Workshop at the main conference. The sessions during the conference also echoed our training on sustainability and integrity as professionals. Some of the lessons learnt during this part of the training include but not limited to:

- ✓ Team building
- ✓ Knowledge acquisition and sharing
- ✓ Communication skills
- ✓ Presentation skills
- ✓ Networking

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

The FIDIC YPMTTP is very useful and I would recommend it for all YPs in the consulting engineering industry. Amongst others, the trainees benefit from education, knowledge broadening, communication and presentation skills, networking, team spirit, improved confidence etc. It also helped to the trainees to appreciate different cultures and to interact with peers and senior colleagues.

The climax of the training for me was the future leader's workshop where I got the opportunity to be one of the speakers to present the work of the entire group. I believe the impact the class of 2013 made at the conference would forever be in the record books of FIDIC.

The 2013 FIDIC Centenary Conference in Barcelona was thought provoking, challenging, educative and fun. It was not all about work but there were social aspects also and everything put together makes it a memorable experience for all YPs who attended the Conference.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the FIDIC Past Presidents Scholarship Scheme and my company Messrs Associated Consultants Limited for making it possible for me to be a part of such a wonderful experience. It has made me a more holistic professional.

To our mentor and FIDIC I would say more grease to your elbows and continue the good work in building the capacity of YPs in the industry.