

# NEWSLETTER

YOUNG PROFESSIONALS FORUM  
INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS

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## Chairperson's message



**Nader Shokoufi**  
Iran

Finally, spring has come to the northern hemisphere but with all the beauty and all the rains that spring bring, it has not yet washed away a very big concern of mine: for the first time in my life, I didn't see the streets covered with snow. It only snowed twice this winter in my home town and only for a few minutes.

I think I can testify to my own firsthand experience that global warming is real. I can testify that when I was a little boy we had much more snow each winter and this is a very big loss for someone like me who loves skiing.

But there is so much more than skiing at stake. Cities, even countries (like Maldives) might sink to the ocean because of global warming and an entire continent (the North pole) might vanish. And many fabulous, wondrous creatures might become extinct. I hope Homo Sapiens will not be included in that list.

What adds to this massive problem is that it is all happening in our lifetime. Even worse is that it will not happen during the lifetime of our politicians and policy makers. That's why they don't seem to care as much as we do. That's why COP15 didn't have a real outcome. That's why we, the YPs, need to be even more concerned.

As a young professional, I feel a double responsibility towards sustainable development with its wide range of environmental, economical and social concerns. The first is to act responsibly both in our professional and private life and the second is to help inform the public about the possible outcome of irresponsible decisions. To fulfill these responsibilities we need active communities of professionals, and especially active communities of *Young Professionals*.

I have studied the final reports of all FIDIC YPMTF classes from 2005 to 2009, the so called "Future Leaders", and I am happy to conclude that sustainable development has been an issue in all of these reports. I'm happy that the young professionals within FIDIC have focused on the importance of this subject.

Bill Wallace, FIDIC Sustainable Development committee chairperson, (who has written an article for one our previous newsletters), mentions that we cannot be as effective as we shall be in the subject of sustainability unless we move up on the decision making ladder, and I believe that we cannot move up on the decision making ladder unless we have formed active and effective communities of young professionals.

So this would be my message: If you have a YPF in your country, participate more and be more active. If you don't have a YPF in your country, start one. And if you don't have a clue on how to start, don't worry, your peers in the FIDIC YPF steering committee will be at your side.

**Nader Shokoufi**  
FIDIC YPF Steering committee chairperson

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**Susie Grynol**  
Canada

## **ACEC Canada Student Awareness Campaign Completes First Year of Roll-Out**

Many trades and professions will suffer skills shortages in the coming years, and the Member Firms of ACEC Canada will be no exception. In 2008, the Board of Directors adopted a new area of strategic focus—human resources sustainability—and has been developing an awareness campaign called *Engineering Legacies* to promote the consulting engineering industry to engineering students.

The corner stone of the campaign is a series of video modules showcasing young engineers talking about their opportunities and experience working for consulting engineering firms. To accompany the modules, ACEC has developed a website, promotional brochures, posters, PowerPoint presentations and web banners.

Once all tools were finalized in September of 2009, ACEC kicked off a Cross Canada Tour to present the videos to students. Events included in-classroom presentations to engineering students, information sessions at university campuses, career fairs and student conferences.

To date, there have been thousands of hits on the *Engineering Legacies* website and a strong presence on social media including Facebook, YouTube and Twitter.

To view the *Engineering Legacies* campaign website and videos, please visit [www.engineeringlegacies.com](http://www.engineeringlegacies.com) or [www.legeniededemain.com](http://www.legeniededemain.com). This campaign is fully bilingual.

ACEC wishes to thank its sponsoring companies who contributed generously to make this project a success. To view sponsors, visit [www.engineeringlegacies.com](http://www.engineeringlegacies.com) and click on **sponsors**.

For more information about *Engineering Legacies*, please contact:

**Susie Grynol**  
**Vice-President, Policy and Public Affairs**  
[sgrynil@acec.ca](mailto:sgrynil@acec.ca)  
1-800-565-0569 ext. 203.

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**Emrah Uluverdi**  
Turkey

### GEM Platform

GEM (Turkish Young Engineers and Architects) Platform was established as a result of an EU funded project conducted by the Association of Turkish Consulting Engineers and Architects (ATCEA) and Dutch Association of Consulting Engineers (ONRI). Specifically, the platform included a “Young Experts” seminar with 33 initial founding members established 29 May 2009. The platform has grown into a non-official young organization of ATCEA and is continuing its activities within this frame. Currently the platform has 150 members from various professions.

Our first meeting was held on 4 July 2009, where our initial aim was to determine the organizational structure of the platform. The main objective of GEM is to “Improve the knowledge and skills of the young professionals in the field of engineering and architecture by enhancing their authority and responsibilities in view of contributing to the development of all stakeholders in the engineering consultancy sector”. A formal, hierarchical presidency system was avoided when establishing the group organizational structure, and it was decided that all activities will be performed by the following four working groups: Membership Development, Activities, Foreign Affairs, and Communication Working Group.

### Current Activities

GEM Platform has completed the following activities since its foundation:

- Coordination Meetings – Regularly held every week after working hours at ATCEA Head Office in order to determine and discuss plans and preparations for the future. To date, 55 coordination meetings have been held.
- GEM Conference – A conference was held with 150 participants in order to provide brief information about the consulting industry to young participants, create a consciousness among young participants, and assess mutual expectations of generations.
- Training – GEM has organized technical and non-technical training seminars. To date, two training sessions have been organized about Project Management and Communication Management.
- Collaboration Meetings – Meetings were held to observe and discuss “FIDIC and FIDIC YP programs” and “Consulting Engineering and Architecture”.
- Social Activities – Cocktails, networking, and presentations at universities.
- Internal Presentations – At the conclusion of coordination meetings, members of the platform make presentations about various topics chosen in order to share information and experience.
- Social and Cultural Activities – Breakfasts, museum tours, dinner meetings.
- ATCEA Congress GEM Parallel Session – A parallel session was held with a main theme of “How young generations could be improved?” Presentations and group discussions were organized in accordance with this main theme.
- Articles – Articles about the platform in ATCEA magazine and quarterly e-bulletin publication.

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GEM and ATCEA members in family photo at the closing of 1<sup>st</sup> GEM Conference

## Future Plans:

In the past 11 months, we have gained significant experiences from the activities we performed. However, these activities are just the beginning for us, and we are aiming to increase activities with the enthusiasm felt at the founding date and with the current momentum.

We believe that we could make great contributions to the FIDIC YP community as the GEM Platform and Turkish young professionals with our dynamic structure, our practices and members from various fields. Furthermore, with support from the FIDIC YPFSC we could work more effectively to organize new and different activities targeting more young people from larger groups. With this aim as the GEM platform, we wish to contact other young professional programs from different countries to share information, experiences and discuss what can be done together. Finally, we expect FIDIC YPFSC to assist us with communication among various young professional programs from different countries in order to get to know each other and better exchange information and experiences.

**Emrah Uluverdi**  
**GEM Platform /TURKEY**  
**[turk.gem@gmail.com](mailto:turk.gem@gmail.com)**



50<sup>th</sup> Coordination Meeting was celebrating



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## Call to YPs for the 2010 FIDIC Conference

The Annual FIDIC Conference is being held at New Delhi from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September 2010. It is the first time that the Conference is being organized in India, one of the fastest growing economies of the world. The theme of the Conference – Managing Innovation, the Way Forward is the next in the series of themes adopted by FIDIC with relation to sustainability.

Innovation is the Key Driver for achieving real growth in any economy. It is not a temporary effort, but a sustained one. Broadly defined to include the creation and commercialization of “new to the world” knowledge, as well as the diffusion and absorption of “new to the market” knowledge. Although both types of innovation are essential, countries in transition stand to gain more from catching up to the global frontier of knowledge through increased absorption than from trying to push out the frontier through creation. An enormous amount of knowledge is not fully utilized globally. Given the overriding urgency to better address the needs of countries in transition, and indeed the needs of all countries facing climate change and shortages of non-renewable resources, innovation must be targeted to be “inclusive” by addressing the demands of all and in particular those of economically emerging societies.

FIDIC has a structured program aimed at getting together the Young Professionals of our community, called the Young Professional’s Forum (YPF). The YPF has a Steering Committee (SC), which is chosen from among the Young Professionals across the globe who have displayed active interest in the basic role and aims of the YPF. The current Chair of the YPFSC is Nader Shakoufi from Iran, with Michele Kruger from South Africa as the Vice Chair.

The Annual Conference brings together people from across the globe with rich and varied experience from across the consulting engineering fraternity. It is a collection of people whose collective wisdom and ideas propel our industry and shape the way we move forward. I have myself attended two conferences and it is indeed an experience in itself. Meeting senior and young professionals from across the globe exposes oneself to new ideas and makes one aware of the concepts being adopted in different economies and societies.

It is indeed heartening to note that the YPMTF this year has 55 registered participants, and we hope that all the registered participants of the program shall be attending the conference. In addition, a large number of Young Professional’s from various countries are expected to attend the conference. The YPFSC has put together an interesting program for all the YP’s and hope that all the visitors to this year’s conference shall benefit from not only the deliberations at the conference but through interactions within the community during the various social events organized by FIDIC.

New Delhi, one of the world’s oldest continually inhabited cities, and India’s second largest metropolis with a population of around 15 Million is located on the banks of the River Yamuna in northern India. New Delhi, is the seat of Government, a major commercial hub, and a gateway to some of the world’s majestic sites, including the universally admired Taj Mahal, itself an engineering marvel ahead of its times. Throughout the conference there is a lively and entertaining series of optional events and tours, and a full program is offered for accompanying persons. New Delhi has a significant youth population and thus has a number of night clubs, restaurants, bars and lounges.



**Prashant Kapila**  
India

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We urge all the YP's globally to mark the above mentioned dates in their diaries in advance and register themselves for the conference as soon as possible to be eligible for the early registration discount. Also, since New Delhi is also the host city for the Commonwealth Games talking place soon after the FIDIC conference, it is advisable to book early and confirm that you shall be a part of a truly enriching experience.

We look forward to seeing you at New Delhi.

### Prashant Kapila

Member, YPFSC and Member, Governing Council, Consulting Engineers Association of India (CEAI)



### Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore Young Professionals Connection (ACES YPC)



Er. Toh Han Lin  
Singapore

The idea of starting a young professionals group in Singapore was envisioned in 2006. In November 2008, the Young Professionals Connection was launched during the 36<sup>th</sup> anniversary dinner of the Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES).

The Young Professionals Connection or YPC in short, aims to be a platform through which Young Professionals can make a positive difference in the consulting engineering community. Amongst our objectives, we aim to help young professionals advance their careers in the consulting engineering industry and to encourage recent university graduates to consider the consulting engineering profession.

To date, we have 70 Young Professionals actively participating and benefiting from our activities.



ACES Visit to steel fabrication yard

In the 18 months since launch, our committee has organized site visits, talks to schools and also a social networking night.

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In May 2009, YPC also successfully organized an inaugural dinner to raise funds for our activities. The occasion was very well received by members of the industry.



YPC Inaugural Dinner 2009

Our parent association, ACES, has also co-sponsored one member of YPC to participate in the FIDIC YPMTF for 2010. The beneficiary is currently going through the program. One of the notable events this year will be an overseas trip to Shanghai in September to visit the World Expo as well as other places of interest.

YPC hopes to organize many more interesting activities for its members in the future.

**Er. Toh Han Lin**  
Chairman  
ACES YPC

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## Green-Technology Evaluation Standards System for Shenzhen Government Investment Projects

The concept of a "Green City" was first proposed by Le Corbusier who expanded and reformulated his ideas on urbanism, eventually publishing them in "The Radiant City". A "Green City" was defined as a city which is fully merged with nature, in which the creativity of human beings and the productivity of the community can be optimized, while residents' health and the environment can be well protected. The planning and development of a Green City incorporates sustainability in areas of high human activity. Since the introduction of an "Ecological City" (1970s), many countries around the world have established various policies on sustainable development based on their own characteristics. Sustainable development has become an irreversible trend that is leading the world towards an evolutionary green civilization. As rapid developments are taking places globally, we have to ensure all economical and social activities are compatible with environmental protection. The utilization of natural resources should not be detrimental to the natural environment.

Shenzhen City is located in the Guangdong Province, along the south coast of mainland China. Shenzhen is a center of foreign investment and since the late 1970s it has been one of the fastest growing cities in the world.

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**Julia Cheng**  
China

The growth of Shenzhen occurred mostly in the past few decades leaving Shenzhen as a moderately well planned city compared to others in China. However, the tremendous consumption of natural resources resulted in a number of constraints for further development in the city. These constraints include the limitations on land, water resources, and energy; moderately low GDP per capita; and decreasing environmental and ecological capacity. In order to solve these problems and follow the pace of sustainable development, the Shenzhen government has implemented a Green-Technology Evaluation Standards System for government investment projects.

Shenzhen Government Investment Project Evaluation Center began to develop and edit the Green-Technology Evaluation Standards System in 2006. It was completed and has been brought to implementation in early 2010. The purpose of the system is to introduce the Green City concept into projects funded by the government, and eventually into all projects in the city. It is composed of three individual standard systems: for "Green Architecture", "Green Roads" and "Green Water-Related Projects". These standards aim to be used as guidelines for the design of public buildings, roads and infrastructures and as evaluation standards in early phases of these projects.

The "Green Architecture" manual of the Green-Technology Evaluation System was derived based on the National Standards for Green Architecture with further specialization due to the specific climatical, technical and economical conditions, and regulatory conditions specific to Shenzhen. It applies to the design and evaluation of public buildings such as schools and hospitals. The guidelines in this manual consist of six sections: land-use efficiency and outdoor environments, energy use efficiency, water resource utilization, efficient use of material, quality of indoor environments, and operation management.

The "Green Roads" manual applies to constructions of new public roadways and rehabilitation of existing roads. It aims to optimize material utilization and environmental protection and to minimize pollution throughout the life cycle of the road. The Green Roads standards provide a means for comfortable and convenient traveling for residents while adding aestheticity to the surroundings. The evaluation standards for green roads include the following: the objective and need for construction, the feasibility of implementation of green-road technology, detailed analysis of economic and efficiency conditions, comprehensive assessment on technical background, and risk assessment.

The "Green Water-Related Project" manual (currently in trial implementation) applies to the design and evaluation of water related projects funded by the government such as water treatment facilities, flood control and river regulation projects, erosion and sedimentation control, water supply, stormwater and wastewater discharge. The following four categories are taken into account when assessing a water related project based on this manual: land-use efficiency and the surrounding environments, efficient energy use, water resources utilization, and material utilization.

Although environmental protection has been taken into account in recent development of the city, Shenzhen is still experiencing a serious shortage of natural resources since its rapidly growing economy demands high environmental and ecological capacity. In other words, finding the solutions to balance the economic growth and the ecological system is vitally important. The Green-Technology Evaluation Standards System incorporates relative national and international standards and has been validated to specific conditions for Shenzhen. Its publication and implementation have made a significant strategic step towards sustainable growth of Shenzhen.



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## Establishment of Young Professionals (YP) Sub-Committee in The Association of Japanese Consulting Engineers (AJCE)

FIDIC YPF and ASPAC (FIDIC Asia-Pacific Member Associations ) YPF was established in 2008, and the activities of Young Professional Engineers has become more and more active in the FIDIC community. In Japan, the YP activity is lead by a YPG (Young Professional Group) organized by volunteer members. **From this established group, a Young Professionals Sub-Committee has been formally established within AJCE under the Engineering Development Committee in October 2009 to act as a core group to promote YP activities.** The 3 goals of YP Sub-Committee are set: 1) To support training and networking of young engineers through the participation to FIDIC/ASPAC activities, 2) To promote young consulting engineer's skills to be active in the international market, 3) To make the Consulting Industry more interesting to youth, including students.

The YPEP (Young Professional Exchange Program) continues to grow. It has been operating for nearly 10 years between Japan and Australia. The graduates from YPEP are now taking major roles in the YP Sub-Committee. A series of activities are listed in the first meeting and summarized as Figure 1. (One of our activities is to translate this FIDIC YPF News letter and distribute to YPs!)

The YP Sub-Committee has the following three functions: FIDIC/ASPAC YPF, YP Networking, and Public Relations that are related to each other. This Sub-committee carries out external activities as a YPG and maintains continuity with AJCE/FIDIC activities.

We would like to carry out new event plans in addition to the current activities (YPEP, Round-table for young engineers, Translation support etc.) this year.

**Kazutoshi AKASAKA**  
**Young Professionals Sub-Committee Chair**  
**Nihon Suido Consultant Co.,Ltd.**



**Kazutoshi Akasaka**  
**Japan**

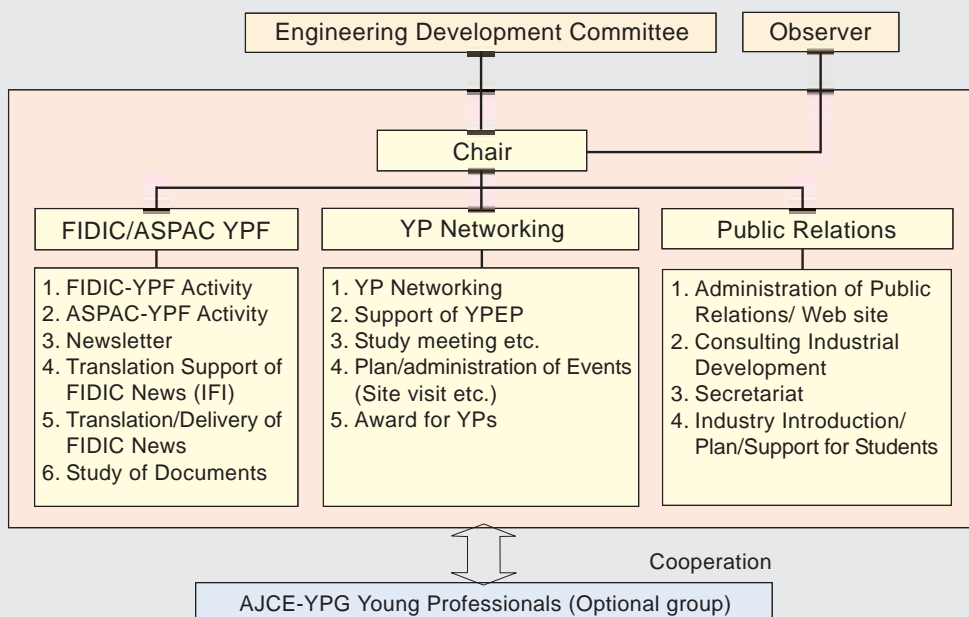


Figure-1 Function and Organization of YP Sub-Committee

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## Back by Popular Demand, ACEC-Canada Holds Second Annual YP Program at National Summit and Convention



Association of Consulting Engineering Companies  
L'Association des firmes d'ingénieurs-conseils

### ACEC - Canada

The Association of Consulting Engineering Companies - Canada (ACEC) is extremely pleased to be hosting its second annual **Young Professional Program** at the **ACEC Summit & National Convention** on **June 24-26, 2010**.

Intended for the under-35 professional, the YP program is designed to allow YPs the opportunity to interact and network with their professional peers, and to participate in a number of sessions and tours tailored especially for Young Professionals.

All new this year is the YP Forum where YPs from across Canada can share their experiences and challenges in addressing the needs of YPs in different areas of the Country.

Business sessions will include building high performance organizations, market trends, the changing demands of the industry, as well as a technical tour of an historic site, Minister's Island for YPs. The YP program is sure to educate and stimulate.

Let down your hair at night with the maritime-flavoured social program and take in a chance to experience fiddles, dancing and beer. It is sure to be a highlight worth remembering!

We hope to welcome to you New Brunswick in June.

For registration information, visit <http://www.acec.ca/en/services/acec/index.asp>, or contact the ACEC office at 1-800-565-0569.

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## ISCE YPF NEWS

ISCE YPF has followed its routine program of seasonal meetings during the past year. The Spring and Autumn meetings are social gatherings where YPs and their families can get together and listen to a musical performance, while Summer and Winter meetings are organized as half day seminars.

The Winter 2010 seminar of ISCE YPF had four speakers and two themes. The themes were professional integrity and energy efficiency. The two speakers on professional integrity lectured on the ISCE's code of conduct and the FIDIC BIMS and GPIMS. The two speakers on energy efficiency spoke about Iran's energy development program and the role of energy efficiency in sustainable development. The ISCE YPF executive committee had translated and dubbed a short movie about global warming that was shown between the two sessions of the seminar.



**Shayan Moin**  
Iran

**Shayan Moin**  
ISCE YPF





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**Communications  
Chairperson  
FIDIC YPF Steering  
Committee**



**Michele Kruger**

## HOW TO BECOME PART OF THE FIDIC YPF GROUP

Become part of this young dynamic group of people and receive updates, newsletters and information on upcoming events, such as FIDIC conferences and training opportunities.

International YPF Groups: find out what the YPs in your country are doing and how to connect with them! Please register on the YPF homepage listed below.

Once we have your details this way, we will send you our newsletter and other info as it comes up. Please remember to keep your details updated!

For general information about us and FIDIC, go to:

<http://www1.fidic.org/resources/young/default.asp>

For more information or if you need help to connect, contact me at:  
[fidicypforum@gmail.com](mailto:fidicypforum@gmail.com)

**Michele Kruger  
Communications Chairperson  
FIDIC YPF Steering Committee**

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## Starting your own YPF in your country

If you liked what you saw of the FIDIC YPF and YPFs across the world, why not start your own. This is best achieved through your country's Member Association (MA) of FIDIC. However, if no such association exists, or your MA does not want to have their own YPF, you can contact us to find out how to start your own YPF. Through FIDIC we may have some contact to make it easier or help partner it with you. All you need is your enthusiasm for Engineering! From there you decide what it is that you want your YPF to represent. What is your focus? Is it training Young Professionals? Is it getting the youth interested in Engineering? Is it just socializing with your peers? Or is it all of the above? As the FIDIC YPF, we will do all we can to support your new endeavor!

**Contact us at: [fidicypforum@gmail.com](mailto:fidicypforum@gmail.com)**