

Young Professionals in Latin America Infrastructure in Peru, Latin America and the World

By: Rodrigo Juarez (México) & André Assumpção (Brasil)



It was a great pleasure to attend the Symposium Conference "Infrastructure of Peru, Latin America and the World" organized by the Peruvian Association of Consultants (APC), organized under the framework of their 50th anniversary. During this full one-day event, the participation of the Pan-American Federation of Consulting Engineers (FEPAC) and the International Federation of Consulting Engineers (FIDIC) was fundamental to make this event richer in international matters.

Welcome

The event was officially inaugurated by Eng. Jaime Saavedra, current president of the APC. He gave some welcome words and appreciated the presence of the international guests. He briefly described the formation of the APC and how it has maintained until these days. It was with great honor that he introduced the following speakers and proceeded with the Symposium.

The Role of FIDIC & FEPAC

The word was handed to Mr. Alain Bentéjac (France), current President of FIDIC, were he spoke about the World problematics in the development of Infrastructure. He provided a view in the role of FIDIC to achieve great infrastructure based on FIDICs main pillars: Quality, Integrity and Sustainability. He reiterated the global objective of being the Global Voice of Consulting Engineers and stressed the importance of collaborating with Latin American Countries through FEPAC and the MAs that together, make FIDIC community stronger.





After his words, Eng. Angel Ferrigno (Argentina), current president of FEPAC proceeded to speak about the main and most common problems that are encountered with the development of infrastructure in Latin America, stressing the difficulty of having secure investments, the main reasons for conflicts and the importance of having QBS System. He concluded with the compromise to increase the participation of more Latin American Countries within the FIDIC community.

Local & International Best Practices and Experiences

The event proceeded with the presentation of more distinguished speakers. The following speaker was Eng. William Howard (USA), FIDIC Vice president. He proceeded to speak about the Resilience to Natural Resources, stressing his experience in Flood Control Strategies, and discussion of the recent problematics in Peru, were he presented some global consequences, required actions for prevention and mitigation measures.





Because of recent problematics in Peru, an obvious question was raised. Is the lack of preparedness influenced by corruption? The next speaker, Dr. Jorge Diaz Padilla (Mexico), former FIDIC President and current President of the Integrity Committee began his presentation. His topic: Integrity as a tool for fighting and preventing corruption in Infrastructure projects. He stressed about the current challenges in Latin America, FIDICs Integrity best practices, the tools FIDIC has for preventing corruption and the recommendation for implementing FIDIC Integrity Management System (FIMS).

The following speakers, Dr. Angel Unchupaico, Governor of the province of Junin (Peru) proceeded to speak about the current infrastructure projects that have been developed and that are being planned, stressing the importance of infrastructure development for increasing the competitiveness of each region in Peru.

Young Professionals

After some interesting presentations, it was the opportunity of the Young Professionals to participate. Rodrigo and Andre spoke about the Young Professionals Forum Steering Committee, our objectives, mission, vision and activities, including the YPMTP. During our presentation, we also stressed the importance of having the participation of Young Professionals as the future of our industry, as the successors of



the Consulting companies in which we develop and the importance of allowing the participation of YPs in such important events like this one. We both presented the initiatives we have for our countries, with the support of the National Chamber of Consulting Companies (CNEC Mexico) and the Brazilian Association of Consulting Engineers (ABCE Brazil), were we also invited members from the FEPAC region to join, presenting the initiative to create a regional group, as FEPAC region is currently the only MA that does not have a consolidated YPF that participates actively in FIDIC activities.

The initiative was well received. Compromise from young Peruvian consultants was manifested. Colombian Chamber of Infrastructure, Argentina and Paraguay also demonstrated their support to include YPs. Mexican and Brazilian senior professionals reaffirmed their commitment as FIDIC & FEPAC MAs. In general, the presentation caused a great impact, we invited the participants to reflect and consider about the future of our industry.

Local & International Best Practices and Experiences (continuation)...

After our participation, some other international experiences shared. Some more distinguished speakers such as Eng. Henrique de Aragao (Brazil), Luis (Spain) and Eng. Francisco Daza (Colombia), spoke about the modality of financing for infrastructure in their respecting countries. They spoke about the challenges they are facing and what





has been done to improve the projects. Finally, the last presentation was done by Dr. Reyes Juarez (Mexico), current FIDIC EC Member and FEPAC Past-President, were he spoke about the different modalities of Public Private Partnerships for Infrastructure Projects.

Closure

The event concluded with the signing of the *Lima Manifest*. A document that stated the participation of the President of FIDIC, FEPAC and APC, were they formally appreciated the attendance of the international participants and compromised to a closer relationship between the Latin American Countries with FIDICs international Community.



It was a great pleasure and of course, a great experience to attend this great event in a city like Lima. The hospitality received, the attention provided by APC and the great collaboration from FIDIC members was a great way to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Consulting Industry in one of the most active countries in Latin America.

