



NEWSLETTER - GAMA YPF

GROUP OF AFRICAN MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS – YOUNG PROFESSIONAL'S FORUM PUBLICATION



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GAMA – Young Professionals Forum

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@GAMA_YPs



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR, FRANCIS KOFI YANKEY (GHANA):

The FIDIC-GAMA 2016 Conference ended successfully in Marrakesh, Morocco, on September 27, 2016. This was the first time Africa hosted the FIDIC Conference and also the first time both the FIDIC and GAMA Conferences were held at the same time and place. From the perspective of GAMA YPF, there were lots of positives. Two GAMA YPF Steering Committee Members, namely, Jeshika Ramchund-Moonsamy and Keamogetswe

made a joint presentation on the theme, the role of young professionals in achieving engineering sustainability". The presentation was made during the YP Open Forum. Secondly, at the maiden edition of the FIDIC YP Award 2016, the GAMA YPF Chair was among three Young Professionals worldwide to have received the FIDIC 2016 special recognition award. Thirdly, at the General Assembly Meeting of GAMA held on September 27, 2016, in Marrakesh, the meeting endorsed the GAMA YPF Chair or his representative as member of GAMA Executive Committee. This decision was unprecedented. This fourth edition of the GAMA YPF Newsletter will throw more lights on the other side of the Marrakesh Conference, dubbed, the sights and sounds of Marrakesh. The fifth edition to be launch in March 2017, will be dedicated mostly to the upcoming FIDIC-GAMA 2017 Conference to be held in Cape Town, South Africa, from 07 to 10, May, 2017, on the theme, African Partnerships for Sustainable Growth. Please enjoy the read!

I want to use this opportunity to wish FIDIC and GAMA Executive Committee Members, Member Associations Presidents or Chairs, FIDIC and GAMA YPFSC members, Chief Executives of our Member firms and all Young Professionals, a prosperous 2017. May this year bring more success to all of us.



FIDIC-GAMA 2017



Conference on Infrastructure

7 - 10 May | Cape Town | South Africa

African Partnerships for Sustainable Growth



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The GAMA YP Perspective

FIDIC GAMA CONFERENCE 2016, MARRAKECH MOROCCO



By: Harold M. Chibwe
(YPF Chair - Zambia)

Stories from the Red City

The excited chatter of tourists reaches a crescendo as the plane slows down at the end of its trip from home or from connecting flights. Infectious elation from a group of girls signals our arrival - we are about to set foot on Marrakech, a city of Expansion also known as the “Red City”.

Marrakech as spelled in French is a major city of the Kingdom of Morocco. It is the capital city of the mid-southwestern region of Marrakesh-Safi, being the fourth largest city in the country, after Casablanca. Located to the north of the foothills of the snow-capped Atlas Mountains, Marrakech is 580 km southwest of Tangier, 327 km southwest of the Moroccan capital of Rabat, 239 km south of Casablanca, and 246 km northeast of Agadir. From its narrow streets of the old Medina and to historical monuments such as Koutoubia, Bahia Palace, the Saadian Tombs or the new European modern district called Gueliz which host modern restaurants, fast food chains and big brand stores. Marrakech is a city of diversity and tolerance. It has all the advantages of a big city where non-shoppers will be amazed by the colour, diversity and vibrancy surrounding the markets or souks as they are commonly called in the local community. Tourists also enjoy a new-wave of hotels, riads and radical new Moroccan food.

The 2016 FIDIC International Infrastructure Conference was held in the City of Marrakech from 25 - 27 September at the Marrakech Palais Des Congress. The FIDIC Infrastructure conference presented and continues to present opportunities to interact with consulting engineers in one place from all over the globe. In the spectrum of the Young Professionals, it presented excellent opportunities to interact with other fellow young professionals who are determined to make a difference. Mark and I had the opportunity to represent the ACEZ's Young Professionals Forum of Zambia at the conference and all gratitude goes to Eng. Henry Musonda, Managing Director at Kiran & Musonda Associates, Consulting Engineers also listed on the FIDIC President list of international accredited trainers and Arbitrators for sponsoring our trip in full.

Highlights of the conference included but not limited to the presentations by Keamogetswe Mmweka, Jeshika Ramchund (GAMA YPFSC) and, Eng. George Sitali (Immediate FIDIC GAMA past President). Some thoughts that we were left with include:

- The world in particular Africa, is waking up to the importance of infrastructure and the impact it has on emerging economies.
- Africa is infrastructure ready, nonetheless to see infrastructure development engineers need to engage stakeholders such as politicians who form a cluster of policy makers.
- “A society grows great when old people plant trees whose shade they know they shall never sit in”.

Join us at the 2017, the FIDIC Global Conference, will be held in Jarkata, Indonesia, from 1-3 October.

Save the date!





The GAMA YP Perspective

FIDIC GAMA CONFERENCE 2016, MARRAKECH MORROCCO



By: Jane N. Tetteh-Anowie
(Member – Ghana)

The Inside Scoop

This year's FIDIC conference was held in Marrakesh, Morocco and that main conference venue was Palais Des Congres, from 25 – 27 September 2016, themed: "Engineering for the Challenges of Climate Change".

The conference sought to explore Scenario Based Planning, Stakeholder Engagement, Consistency in Design and other criteria, Integrated Resource Management (solving multiple problems simultaneously), Risk and Liability, and the looming Water Crisis. Renewable and Clean Energy, as well as Designing for Disaster, also received attention.

The FIDIC Conference 2016, was attended by 750 participants including; International Development Banks, African Ministers dealing environment, water and public works, COP22 leaders, companies providing technology and management solutions, and Young Professionals from over 80 countries.

Conference Programmes

The FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Programme started ran from 21-25 September parallel to the Conference's Director's and Secretary Meeting at Asni Hotel, attended by Mr Jae Wan Lee (FIDIC President), Mr. Enrico Vink (Managing Director of FIDIC), Members of the FIDIC Executive Committee and representatives from various Member Associations. Topics discussed included:

- Relevance of the vision and mission of the Federation and issues particular to FIDIC operations;
- Current model and possible shortcomings, pros and cons

FIDIC Best Business Practice Forum was held at Palais Des Congress, 25 September 2016. This forum saw FIDIC specialized committees discussing tools and services available to the industry, Young Professionals Open Forum, Sustainability, Capacity Building, Integrity Networking Lunch, Risk & Quality, Contracts and Business Practice.

Plenary Sessions – 26 – 27 September 2016

Thirty-four (34) speakers presented during the plenary sessions on:

- Infrastructure in Africa
- Strategies to Mitigate Climate Change
- Innovative Technology and Management Systems
- Future Leaders Forum
- Water Challenges
- Engineering Leaders towards COP22
- Renewable Energy Solutions
- Building Information Modelling (BIM)





The GAMA YP Perspective

FIDIC GAMA CONFERENCE 2016, MARRAKECH MORROCCO

The Inside Scoop

YP Technical Tour

At the late afternoon, YPs' activities started with a technical tour of the waste treatment Plant site. We were taken through the processes the waste water is treated before discharged. The Picture on the right shows the YP's and Plant operators on site.



YP Breakfast Meeting with FIDIC EC

YPs started the second conference day by a breakfast meeting with FIDIC Executive Committee (EC). The YPFSC Chair informed YPs about the uniqueness of the meeting and how it's offers great opportunity for YPs to learn more about FIDIC and its activities.

The FIDIC President Mr. Jae-Wan Lee, promised to support YP activities. The out-Going Chair of the FIDIC YPFSC was honoured with a plaque for his service to the YPFSC. The picture on the Left shows YPs with members of FIDIC Executive Committee

FIDIC Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony was held at the Beldi Country Club on 26th September 2016. At the Gala Dinner a number of individuals and companies were honoured including our own GAMA YPF Chair Francis Kofi Yankey. He received FIDIC 2016 Special Recognition Award. Guests were treated to good music and food.





The GAMA YP Perspective

FIDIC GAMA CONFERENCE 2016, MARRAKECH MORROCCO

The Inside Scoop ...continued



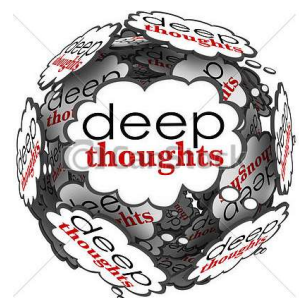
General Assembly Meeting (GAM)

Ing. K. Asare-Yeboah (pictured right) was confirmed as the new GAMA during the General Assembly Meeting. Francis was also endorsed as a member of GAMA Executive Committee Member at the GAMA General Assembly Meeting in Marrakesh.



Local Colour Night

The Local Colour Night was also held at the Palais Ghanata on 27th September 2016. We were treated to local cuisines and we were entertained to local music and dance. The picture below shows the Moroccan architecture and famous lamp shades and tilework.



One of the frequent arguments against investing in professional development is "What happens if I train my people and they leave?" A better question is "What happens if you don't train them and they stay?"

The GAMA YP Perspective

POST CONFERENCE, MORROCCO

Photos by: Jeshika Ramchund



Above: Jeshika and Keamogetswe at Yves Saint-Laurent's Majorelle Garden in Marrakech

The Great Moroccan Adventure



Above: Cobbled walkways of Chefchaouen
The "Blue City"

Right: Experiencing the heat of Marrakech with a camel ride through a date plantation



Below: Traditional lamb tagine with dates and raisins served with cous cous accompanied by a refreshing mint tea





Getting to Know...

Mbalaso Kenneth Chikezie



Experience

Mbalaso Kenneth Chikezie has nine years working experience covering civil/structural engineering design and supervision and project management. He is currently in employment with Aurecon Group, a global engineering/project management firm with a global staff strength of over five thousand. Within Aurecon he has been involved in a number of projects ranging from planning, design, supervision and management.

He previously worked with Ekiti State Housing Corporation, Ado-Ekiti, Ekiti State, Nigeria as a graduate engineer. He also worked with Vasons Concept Consultants Limited an indigenous engineering consulting firm with over 40 years design and development experience Civil/structural Engineer.

Education: Mbalaso's highest academic qualification is a Post Graduate Diploma (PGD) in Civil Engineering. He also has Higher National Diploma (HND) and Ordinary National Diploma (OND) both in civil engineering. He has attended several professional and technical training.

Member Association (MA): Association of Consulting Engineers Nigeria (ACEN) & Association of Consulting Engineers Nigeria Young Professional Forum (ACEN-YPF)

Mbalaso's views on YP Development: YP development is a work in progress and will continue into the future. Although a lot of effort has been made, there is much more YP's can achieve. Good progress has been made no doubt, but broader chapters need to be available.

What I Hope to Achieve While in GAMA YPF: GAMA-YPF with greater membership and richer programs.

START A Young Professionals Forum (YPF) IN YOUR COUNTRY

The vision of GAMA YPF is to provide a unified voice for young professionals throughout the Group of African Member Associations (GAMA) community through a variety of forums, events and communication mechanisms.

Membership is open to any engineer, planner or allied professional under the age of 40 and their firm is a member of GAMA. You will receive updates, newsletters and information on upcoming events such as conferences as well as activities from FIDIC and GAMA YPF Steering committees.

Find out if there is a YPF running in your country and become part of this dynamic group of Young Professionals by providing your contact details. This can be done through your country Member Association of GAMA. Alternatively you can contact us through our various social media platforms where the YPF Steering committee is always available to offer the necessary support.

For further enquiries, contact us on: fidicgamaypf@gmail.com or visit our webpage at <http://fidic.org/node/7946>

“Gen Z is fluent in internet, brilliant, pragmatic and self-taught. They have a mindset of ‘why not?’ which changes the pattern of how they interact with the world.”

- JENNY GOTTSTIEN: FORBES

30 Under 30 honoree



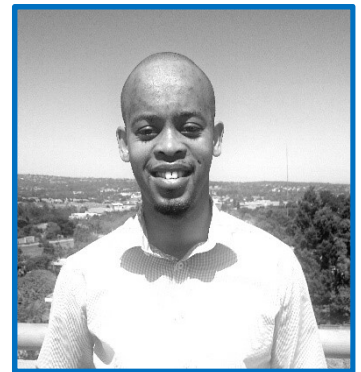
Burning Issue

An opinion piece for you by you

NOTE: Please note that the articles under this segment do not necessarily represent the views of GAMA YPF

Editor's Note: This opinion piece was first published in the Consulting Engineers South Africa – YPF National Newsletter in 2016. Sisanda has kindly agreed to the republishing of his article.

To contribute articles for this section please contact the editor on:
ramchundj@boschprojects.co.za



By: Sisanda Dyubhele
(JG Afrika – South Africa)

Lost in Translation

“If you speak to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you speak to him in his language, that goes to his heart” ~ Nelson Mandela

I remember the first time it happened to me, my mentor took me along to a site meeting and with it being my first ever, I was naturally excited. I sat down for the meeting, with my pen and pad seething for action. Then the facilitator proceeded to greet and introduce everyone in a language that was foreign to me. Initially I thought this was being done to ween everyone into the formalities of the meeting, but after the first hour, I started to realise that this meeting was going to continue, with or without my full comprehension. In my relatively short career, this has happened to me many times and each time the repugnant feelings of alienation and disregard proved to be too much to bear. Initially I would raise my hand and nervously ask that we converse in the Queens language, if not for decency, at the very least for my own personal sake. The response was always the same, the first two discussions points would be in English and by some Freudian slip we would land slap bang back in that puddle of misunderstanding and hand gestures. I now handle those scenarios by incessantly asking that the chair accommodate my “disability”, failing which I just excuse myself. However I must admit that I was only able to do this later on in my career and as a youngster, my dignity was in my mentors hands as I would have not yet found my voice at that point in my career.

The spoken language is only one form of alienation I have observed in my career as a human being, I have heard accounts of how my female colleagues would get to meeting and the attendants would let out a sigh of relief, because now tea and cookies could be served. How many times have we as men sat in a setting where we are the majority and started informal conversations over how “special” women are? How many times have you been at your organisation’s Christmas party and after suffering through a Credence/Queen/Eagles revival, you knew that your only solace would come in the form of Mandoza’s “Nkalakatha”? How does your organisation accommodate women who show potential for growth in the corporate structure but would also like to start a family? When in casual conversation, do you always assume that all your colleagues are in heterosexual relationships or identify with a binary sexual orientation?

I believe that as human beings, we have a fundamental responsibility to improve the existence of our fellow beings or at the very least, to not make it any worse than it already is. Whether we alienate people out of intent or ignorance is irrelevant, as the result is all the same. Furthermore to simply ask “What should I do to make a more inclusive environment for others” is a lazy grasp at a solution, as it seeks to burden the victims of your own discrimination with responsibility of formulating solutions for a problem which you in part contributed to. A more appropriate response is one of self-acknowledgement, not only of ourselves and our actions, but more importantly how our actions make other people feel. If I had to sum up the intent of this piece in one word, it would be compassion. We need to be more than providers of technical solutions, we need to be compassionate human beings who actively acknowledge the presence of others in whatever space we may momentarily share with them. We need to acknowledge that even when words are not being spoken, we are constantly communicating with those around us and we need to be cognisant of what message we are sending out. When we communicate our being to the world, let us each try and ensure that our humanity does not get lost in translation.



Welcome

FIDIC GAMA 2017 – CONFERENCE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

FIDIC-GAMA 2017



Conference on Infrastructure

7 - 10 May | Cape Town | South Africa



Consulting Engineers South Africa

This year South Africa plays host to the FIDIC-GAMA conference.

South Africa has a population of over 54 million people. It has 9 provinces and 11 official languages of which, most South African's can speak more than one! South Africa became a democratic country in 1994 and has one of the best constitutions in the world. It is the only country in the world that has two countries located inside of it. It is the country where the world famous president, the late Nelson Mandela was born, imprisoned and became President in.

Table mountain, one of the 8 wonders of the world is located in Cape Town where the conference is going to be held. South Africa has one of the best wines in the world. With the rich history, culture and heritage the country has, it continues to be 'Alive with possibilities'.

We can't wait to see you in SOUTH AFRICA!

Register for the conference at: <http://www.fidic-gama2017.org.za/>

WHO'S CHIRPING?

Our most recent favourite Tweets



What are
YOU
Tweeting?





International Federation of Consulting Engineers
The Global Voice of Consulting Engineers



Young Professionals Management Training Programme

An intensive management training programme based on case studies and discussions of management issues within an international team of participants and mentors. The programme provides international networking and active participation in the annual FIDIC conference meeting key representatives of the world wide consulting industry.

Developing consulting engineering firms today and in the future and identifying and developing the required management skills of the young professionals, implies major challenges. The future leaders have to be motivated, trained, get international exposure and network, all of which are addressed by the FIDIC Young Professionals Management Training Programme (YPMTP).

The reference textbook is the FIDIC Guide to Practice (GtP). The electronic copy of the book is provided to the participants, together with other FIDIC relevant documents.

24th Annual
FIDIC-GAMA 2017

CONFERENCE | 7-10 MAY | CAPE TOWN

Register/book by 28February to save...

More at : fidic-gama2017@org.za

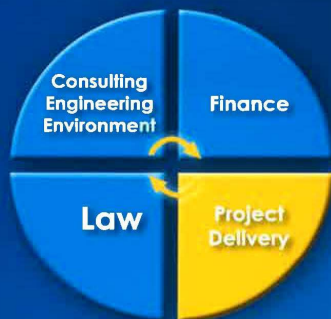
#FIDIC_GAMA2017

Conference Days
8-9 MAY

Half Day Workshop
10 May

Business of Consulting Engineering (BCE) Certificate Programme

Equipping future leaders in the business of Consulting Engineering.



Benefits:

- Accelerate the ability of young professionals to add value to your company
- Industry specific and developed by senior expert Consulting Engineers
- Developing business proficiency and competencies
- Becoming a holistic professional, in the field of consulting engineering

This development programme consists of three trimesters / block weeks (Monday to Friday), taking place at the CESA Training Centre in Bryanston. In the time between each block week (approximately 12 weeks) students complete 2 assignments each week with a final assessment / exam at the end of the year.

A dedicated Facilitator supports each student throughout the programme.

Students have access to CESAnet - an interactive Student and Facilitator online facility where all reading, reference and resource documents are accessible, assignments are uploaded and results and feedback are provided to the student. CESAnet also facilitates communication with Facilitator as well as classmates.

Entrance Requirements:

- BSc/BTech degree with a minimum of 2 years' experience in a CESA Member firm or
- Technical Diploma with a minimum of 5 years' experience in a CESA Member firm or
- Non-engineering tertiary education with a minimum 3 years' experience in a CESA Member firm Supported by a 'letter of motivation' from applicant's employer

* All applications will be evaluated and approved by CESA Education & Training Committee

***** 100% of all students that have completed the Business of Consulting Engineering Development Programme, stated that they would 'Definitely' recommend this programme *****

ONLY 20 PLACES AVAILABLE

For more information and to register go to the School of Consulting Engineering website:
(011) 463 2022
www.cesa.co.za/sce

