PIANC-AIPCN

Young Professional Commission (YP-Com)

Annual Report 2015

Introduction

The Young Professional Commission (YP-Com) organized during 2015 the 5th Biennial Technical Visit (5BTV) in Belgium, especially dedicated for young professionals. Furthermore, each national section locally organized small gatherings, technical visits, seminars, workshops and knowledge networking events. YP-Com also joined worldwide events of PIANC such as SMART Rivers 2015 in Argentina.

In addition to encouraging YP participation in the technical commissions and working groups, YP-Com offers an array of opportunities for YPs in different online platforms. Over 1700 are connected through PIANC Young Professionals on LinkedIn. Online meetings are already a part of YP-Com philosophy in order to reduce distances among our YP community and stay in the know.

Who we are

Current membership includes 39 delegates from Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Colombia, China, Finland, France, Germany, Iran, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, and Uruguay. Furthermore, 21 observers from several countries are regularly invited to join every YP-Com event and meeting; among these observers a special mention goes to the team in Singapore due to their commitment and great performance.

New delegates from Australia (Kate Panayotou & Tim Green), Germany (Anja Brüning), Italy (Giovanni Malara), Norway (Onno Musch), Philippines (Christopher Ornun & Adrian Cayanan), People’s Republic of China (Zhao Hongbo), and Uruguay (Sebastián Solari) joined YP-Com in 2015. This year also was the time to say “see you soon” to some of our delegates from Germany (Oliver Stoschek) and Philippines (Virginia Valero).

The 2015 membership roster of YP-Com is as follows:

Pablo Arecco, Argentina, Chairman
William Glamore, Australia, Co-Chairman
Inés Alvarez, Peru, Secretary

Delegates

Marcos De Vincenzi, Argentina, SMART Rivers 2015 YP-Com meeting organiser
Francisco Weyland, Argentina
Kate Panayotou, Australia
Tim Green, Australia
Jürgen Trögl, Austria, InCom Observer
Helene Gilkarov, Austria, ProCom Observer
Stefan Devocht, Belgium, InCom Observer
Jan Goemaere, Belgium, 5th YP-Com Biennial Technical Visit organiser
Carolina Piccoli, Brazil
Catherine Neira, Colombia
Zhao Hongbo, China
Kim Andersson, Finland & Nord PIANC, MarCom Observer
Eric Fernagu, France
Guillaume Carpentier, France
Ingrid Dispert, Germany
Anja Brüning, Germany
Reza Sohrabi, Iran
Mohammadreza Allahyar, Iran
Giovanni Malara, Italy
Hidenori Takahashi, Japan
Hiroshi Matsushita, Japan
Onno Musch, Norway
Marcin Przywarty, Poland
Luciana das Neves, Portugal
Monica Dumitru, Romania
Miguel Vázquez, Spain
Sara Calvo, Spain
Magenthran Ruthenavelu, South Africa
Daan Jumelet, The Netherlands
Christopher Ornum, The Philippines
Adrian Cayanan, The Philippines
Andy Wareing, United Kingdom
Mariana Fernandez, Uruguay, RecCom Observer
Sebastián Solari, Uruguay
Chris Siverd, USA
Jason Giovannettone, USA, EnviCom Observer

Observers
Erin Hall, Canada
Claudio Navarro, Chile
Yuting Li, China
Melina Godoy, Costa Rica
Jordan Lagnado, France
Deepak Benny, India
Apriyanto Kosindrantno, Indonesia
Alireza Shaifiefar, Iran
Patricia Angulo, Mexico
Manuel Jované, Panama
Chantal Lazarus, Panama
Hann Tia Jan, Singapore/Vietnam
Claire van Enk, Singapore
Zi Qian Yang, Singapore
Trang Vu Thu, Singapore
Maria Brunnmyra, Sweden
Alfred Roubos, The Netherlands
Robin van der Sligte, The Netherlands, FinCom Observer
Thijs de Boer, The Netherlands
Aysim Damla Atalay, Turkey
Meriç Selamoğlu, Turkey
Meetings:

- 20th YP-Com meeting on February 4 at PIANC HQ in Brussels, Belgium (also available online)
- 21st YP-Com meeting on May 6 at Virginie Lovelinggebouw (Vlaamse overheid) in Ghent, Belgium
- 22nd YP-Com meeting on September 6 at Estancia Don Manuel, Buenos Aires, Argentina

What we have done:

Our main event this year was the 5th YP-Com Biennial Technical Visit (5BTV) which was held from May 6 to 9 in Ghent, Oostende, and Antwerp, Belgium.

More than 130 participants joined this event: 100 were Young Professionals (YPs), of those 36 came from abroad representing 16 different countries from 4 continents. The countries represented were Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil, France Iran, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Poland, Spain, The Philippines, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, and United States of America.

The subject of the event was Blue and Green Energy, and during those days professionals from different areas and companies related to this new tendency have shared a wide range of information from design stages to installation methods and technology.

Special thanks go for Jan Goemaere, Nathalie Gunst, Barbara van Sompel, Els Bonte, & Carine Vandevoorde the Belgian YPs and main collaborators organising the 5BTV!
5BTV participants at Port of Ghent visitors centre

From Port of Oostende YPs joining the 5BTV sailed in the North Sea for visiting an offshore wind farm park

5BTV sponsors
In addition to the 5BTV, the year 2015 represented another achievement for the Young Professional Commission, as we gathered for the very first time ever in the Southern Hemisphere. It was for the occasion of the 22nd YP-Com Meeting which took place in the surroundings of Buenos Aires city on September 6th (Sunday) prior PIANC SMART Rivers 2015 Conference.

22nd YP-Com Meeting where Kate Panayotou invited all the participants to the upcoming 6BTV in Australia

The spirit of the event proposed by the Argentine YPs brought a little bit of the Southern style within PIANC. Essentially, the meeting consisted in a full-day program at typical polo ranch in Pampas for strengthening the bonds, not only amongst PIANC YPs, but also among different generations of PIANC, as YP-Com invited every member of ExCom, Council and different organizing committees for SMART Rivers to join them during the ranch day. In total, 60 participants (36YPs) joined the venue at Estancia Don Manuel (www.estaciadonmanuel.com) in Cañuelas, Buenos Aires.

L: Argentine & Uruguayan YPs. R: Belgian and Dutch horsemen in Pampas prior SMART Rivers

The ranch day was a perfect combination of working in a relaxed environment. Of course lunch was “Asado” (Argentine style barbecue) combined with an Argentine wine tasting (local brewed beers “La Uribeña” were available too). Everybody enjoyed the free time for socializing and performing the different activities at the ranch, such as tennis, horseback riding, football, and so on. Moreover, Emiliano Blanco, owner of the ranch and professional polo player provided indoor polo lessons at wooden horses.

The contribution of YP-Com to the success of PIANC SMART Rivers 2015 was clearly noticeable due to large amount and diversity of young professionals (and papers presented by YPs) that joined the Conference in Buenos Aires. More than 100 YPs and students attended the venue, representing around 35% of the participants.
Consequently, after attending the technical sessions of the conference two YP events were organised by YP-Com taking advantage of the venue. First, a YP welcoming cocktail in Puerto Madero, and then networking event at an underground tango club in Abasto, where Trío Cañon delighted us with passionate tango songs while enjoying empanadas and wine in a very relaxed environment for networking and at the same time discovering the spirit of Buenos Aires.

Local Events: A few highlights of the YP activities within the National Sections of PIANC.

USA

The US YPs are steadily planning and working hard on settling the US YP section in 2016. Furthermore, YPs during 2015 were helping PIANC by representing our association during strategic meetings in New York which paved the way for PIANC’s participation during COP 21 (Thanks Jason Giovannettoni!).

Argentina - Uruguay:

As a host for Smart Rivers, the delegates of the Argentine National Section worked a lot in getting the Young Professionals involved in the event. Furthermore, as direct consequence, a new regional annual YP-Com event was set together with the representatives of Uruguay: the 1st YP-Com River Plate meeting. For this first occasion a full-day site visit to the Port of Montevideo was organised and around 15 YPs (8 AR-7UR) joined. They met with the CEO and the leader of engineers of ANP from Uruguay (Ports National Administration). Then, after lunch they visited the Trailering Suction Hopper Dredger. The main sponsors were CCCC Ltd., PIANC Argentina and ANP, whom covered all the expenses (travel from Buenos Aires to Montevideo on fast ferry, lunch and land transportation costs). Thanks Marcos De Vincenzi & Sebastián Solari!

Belgium:

Beyond the great job done for the 5BTV, the Belgian YPs gathered for a site visit to one of the working points of the Seine-Scheldt project which aims to connect the Seine basin in the Paris region with the Scheldt basin in the region of Antwerp-Rotterdam. The YPs visited the construction of a new lock in Harelbeke and its simultaneously reassessment of the urban site with its waterfront and its two bridges. In addition, by the end of the year there was a visit to the Headquarters of DEME where the experience in the execution of the new Suez Canal was shared.
As every year, the Young Dutch National Group had many activities. More than 70 YPs attended a Working Group Evening, in which the experience on RecCom and MarCom where shared. More than 40 YPs could visit the modeling facilities of Deltares to see the impressive Ijmuiden scale model, which will be one of the world’s largest sea locks. By the end of the Northern Hemisphere summer around 30 YPs joined for a trip to the most South Western part of the Netherlands, to see the construction of a new X-block breakwater and marina in Cadzand finishing the event with a nice BBQ on the beach. The last activity of PIANC NL was combined with the Dutch YPs as well, and it took place at totally refurbished RDM Rotterdam which has become the innovation showcase centre for Port of Rotterdam.
Italy

The Italian delegate, Giovanni Malara, is working hard since May for setting up the YP group. He already presented PIANC YP-Com twice; first in October, during a national conference at the University of Genoa, and then in December during a technical visit to the Port of Civitavecchia, Rome, where a new wave energy converter breakwater is under construction.

Germany

The German PIANC YP Group organized a networking event on the 12th of November in cooperation with the German Port Technology Association (HTG). The meeting was held at Bremen’s City University of Applied Sciences where about 20 colleagues from administration, consulting and academia came together to exchange their experiences in the field of ports and navigation.

Poland:

The Polish delegate, Marcin Przywarty, arranged a PIANC session during the MTE-ISIS Conference at Kotobrzeg last October.

South Africa:

With new delegates and new YP board structure, South Africa is working on creating more bonds among their members to strengthen the contacts within PIANC related companies. The YPs gathered several times along the year and during one of those meetings they also took the chance to visit the dredging works in the Port of Cape Town which is executed with a Grab Hopper Dredger called Italeni.

South African YPs on board of Italeni – Dredging Works in the Port of Cape Town.
Australia

An Australian YP networking event was held in Perth. The event promoted PIANC’s activities to those in attendance and highlighted the Board’s aim to deliver events back to members, grow the YP community and build on our existing membership base. Another meeting was held in Auckland during the biannual Australian Coasts and Ports Conference. This event is now a regular part of the mentioned Conference calendar.

Iran:

Some actions took place towards spreading the voice of YP-Com in Iran through PMO who organized a short course about "Minimising Harbour Siltation" (PIANC Report No 102), students & YPs were invited to join this course.

Japan

As a new National Section, Japan growing stronger and stays on the run with technical visits and by sharing their experience with other Asian Members.

The Philippines

The Philippines is giving a great impulse to start the YP group and had its First Official Meeting during 2015. Moreover, the YP Philippines group is working hard and looking forward to seeing all of you at the upcoming 2nd Asian PIANC YP-Com Seminar to be held on April 11-14, 2016 in the Philippines.

Singapore:

The second PIANC YP event in Singapore, and the first of 2015, was a Networking Drink held on January 23. The event was a total success. More than 50 people from 15 different parties participated including different fields and companies. One of the goals was to attract people from local consultants and contractors to let PIANC, and specially PIANC YP-Com, become known in the local industry.

Our YPs from Singapore are working really hard on spreading the voice of PIANC over there. Consequently, an informative session was organized at the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) with the goal of connecting the students to PIANC.

By the end of the year, on November 27 our YPs held another important networking event at one of the most iconic locations in Singapore, Boat Quay, where guests of various fields and regions from our marine industry have joined, shared their knowledge and experiences. Positive feedbacks were received from many of the guests, stating this is a very valuable platform for sharing and deepening of knowledge within this field, and a highly needed networking platform for marine professional in Singapore. This evening in a magnificent location was generously sponsored by Trelleborg.

This group has become one of the most active teams within PIANC YP-Com and they totalized 3 events during the year.