



**1<sup>ST</sup> FIG YOUNG SURVEYOR NETWORK  
ASIA PACIFIC MEETING**  
20<sup>th</sup> June 2014/ 8:00am to 5:30pm  
**Impiana Banquet Hall, Impiana KLCC Hotel**  
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

**MEETING CHAIR/S** : Nur Zurairah Abdul Halim (Malaysia)  
Donmarl Camua (Philippines)

**NUMBER OF ATTENDEES** : 44 young surveyors from 18 countries as follows:

- i. Malaysia;
- ii. Australia;
- iii. Brunei;
- iv. Cambodia;
- v. China;
- vi. Fiji;
- vii. Indonesia;
- viii. Japan
- ix. Mongolia;
- x. Nepal;
- xi. New Zealand;
- xii. Philippines;
- xiii. Samoa;
- xiv. Singapore;
- xv. South Korea;
- xvi. Uzbekistan;
- xvii. Austria (by invitation); and
- xviii. The Netherlands (by invitation).



Figure 1 The 1st FIG YSN AP Meeting participants with the FIG President

**LINK TO FIG COMMISSION:** Commission 1 – Professional Standards and Practice; Commission 2 – Professional Education Commission and Young Surveyors Network

## HIGHLIGHTS & OUTCOMES

### I. Youth Talk with the FIG President



Figure 2 Youth Talk with the FIG President session

The 1<sup>st</sup> FIG YSN Asia Pacific (AP) Meeting started at 8.15 a.m with the "Youth Talk Session" by having the FIG President, Teo Chee Hai as the guest of honour. Faz Haron (Malaysia) successfully moderated the session, providing a direct but informal communication between the AP Young Surveyors and the FIG President. At the same time, the session was also a place where YS shared their ideas and insights of FIG as a whole and as YS in the region, specifically. It was a lively 30 minutes session where the FIG President also shared his own experiences and journey in FIG with the participants. Some of the concerns raised were: 1) the gap between the young and senior surveyor, where the FIG President urged everyone that being a young surveyor is not an impediment; 2) the *Surveyor 2.0* - the surveyor is not just as a data provider but as a solution provider; 3) limited participation of surveyors in the formulation of policies; 4) age limit for YS, where it was explained that age limit is being put there just for administrative reasons but is not meant to restrict participation; and 5) threat to the surveying profession, particularly with the advancement in technology. The session was ended with a question by the FIG President which is, "*What will you tell / share to other YS who is not attending the FIG events?*".



Figure 3: FIG President shared his experience in FIG

### II. Country Reports and the Asia Pacific Regional Template

Fifteen (15) countries presented the country report based on a common YS template pertaining to the status of the surveying profession in their countries. These were from Malaysia, Australia, Brunei, Cambodia, PR China, Fiji, Indonesia, Japan, Mongolia, Nepal, New Zealand, Philippines, Samoa, South Korea and Uzbekistan. Praba (Malaysia) chaired the session and ensured all presenters kept their time.

The country report was indeed a good experience and a great platform to boost self confidence as most of the presenters presented for the first time at an international event. The following were the Country representatives at random orders:



Figure 4 Mohd Yusri, Malaysia



Figure 5 Chan Rithy Seng, Cambodia



Figure 6 Muhammad Hifney, Brunei



Figure 7 Kate Fairlie, Australia



Figure 8 Kevin Hu, China



Figure 9 Malakai Vakautawale, Fiji



Figure 10 Kazuaki Fujii, Japan



Figure 11 Chandan Das, Nepal



Figure 12 Rizqi Abdulharis, Indonesia



Figure 13 Odil Akbarov, Uzbekistan



Figure 14 Fenika Oloapu, Samoa



Figure 15 Odkhuu Kalzan, Mongolia



Figure 16 Matt Ryder, New Zealand



Figure 17 Donmarl Camua, Philippines



Figure 18 Hyun Sook Lee, S.Korea

The country template is as follows:

1. *Introduction*
  - a. *Brief country background*
  - b. *Name of surveying organisations in your country (include cadastral surveying, planning, real estate management, etc.)*
  - c. *How many Surveying Professionals? How many Young Surveyors? (Estimation is ok)*
  - d. *Do you have a national network of Young Surveyors? What are the activities?*
  - e. *What are the Universities that teach surveying in your country? How many graduates a year? (Estimation is ok)*
2. *(In your Country) Would you say there are:*
  - a. *Not enough young surveyors?*
  - b. *Not enough surveying jobs?*
3. *Top 3 challenges for young surveyors in your country?*
4. *Top 3 opportunities for young surveyors in your country?*
5. *To remain relevant, what should the role of an Asia Pacific Young Surveyor Network (AP YSN) be?*

Based on the country reports presented, the following regional template for AP was formed to give an overview of the YS status in the region. The session was led by Malakai (Fiji) and Zurairah (Malaysia), and the AP YS template was agreed as follows:

### ASIA PACIFIC YS TEMPLATE



Figure 19 Malakai (Fiji) and Zurairah (Malaysia) getting consensus for a YS Asia Pacific Template based on the Country Template

#### 1. Introduction

- a. The "Asia Pacific Region" shall include all countries in Asia namely Central, East, South and Southeast; and countries in Oceania (Pacific).
- b. Most countries in the region have Survey Organisations classified under government, academe and professional/non-government.
- c. There are a large number of Surveying Professionals in the Region and about less than 30% are Young Surveyors.
- d. Majority of the countries do not have a Young Surveyors Network except for Malaysia, Hong Kong, Japan, Australia and New Zealand and most activities

for young professionals are limited or confined to certain non YS oriented organisation.

- e. Most countries have at least one (1) institution teaching surveying except for Brunei and Singapore. YS from Brunei and Singapore graduated with surveying degrees from abroad.

## 2. Are there enough Young Surveyors? Surveying Jobs?

The numbers of professional Young Surveyors vary in each countries, ranging from a minimum of just 4 YS in Samoa and Brunei, to more than 5,000 in China. But overall, the Region does not have enough Young Surveyors, as the average age of a Surveyor is 55. One reason is that some countries have rigid licensing process which less than 40% qualifies or get licensed. The demand for surveyors, however, is high and plenty of jobs are available both local and abroad. Qualified, skilled and experienced surveyors are being regarded as a requirement.

## 3. Top 3 Challenges for Young Surveyors in the Region

### a. *Quantity and Quality of Young Surveyors (YS)*

- Number of Licensed YS/Professional Registration of YS;
- Need for skilled and experienced YS; and
- Lack of exposure to relevant trainings, seminars or global agendas.

### b. *Culture*

- Diversity and requirement to understand local customs;
- Seniority basis;
- Lack of international networking; and
- Language.

### c. *Employment and Working Conditions*

- Not a popular profession;
- Low Salary ;
- Demanding Work/ Laborious Work;
- High cost of technology /equipment; and
- Dominated by male.

## 4. Top 3 Opportunities for Young Surveyors in the Region

### a. *Networking and Linkages*

- Connecting with young surveyors globally;
- Creation of local YSN; and
- Linkages to other existing bodies i.e AFLAG, PCGIAP, SEASC etc.

### b. *Continues Learning/ Education*

- Continuing Professional Education/Development; and
- Opportunity to study abroad or apply grants / scholarships.

### c. *Region Updates*

- Connected easily via easy / affordable access to the internet;
- Embracing latest trends and technology for information sharing; and
- Business opportunity

5. The Role of an Asia Pacific Young Surveyor Network (AP YSN)

- a. *Establishing a network for the benefit of all Young Professionals within the whole Asia & the Pacific Region;*
- b. *Establish further a network young ambassadors of the surveying profession ;*
- c. *Engine for youth coordination, knowledge advancement and sharing;*
- d. *To increase co-operation between senior and younger professionals in the region;*
- e. *To help young professionals in the Asia-Pacific beginning of their careers with contacts;*
- f. *To improve the number of young professionals participating within the FIG and in their respective National Professional Organization;*
- g. *A platform that create demand for YS in survey industry; and*
- h. *Be a dynamic and productive network by connecting with FIG Commissions.*



Figure 20 YS with the President elect FIG 2015 - 2018

The participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> FIG YSN AP Meeting were very fortunate to have Chryssy Potsiou (President elect of FIG 2015 - 2018) during the morning session. She shared her hopes and dreams in future collaboration and work plan between FIG and FIG Young Surveyors specifically from the AP region and supports the establishment of the AP YSN.

**III. Asia Pacific Forum: Exchanging Ideas**

The participants were divided into four (4) groups to discuss the role of the AP YSN.



Figure 21 Participants were grouped according to themed topics

Each groups were tasked to discuss on four (4) themed topics and later required to present it in a forum setting for further deliberations. Rizqi (Indonesia) ensured each group understood the objective of the discussion and the meaning of each themed topics.

The panels for each themed topic for the AP Forum were as follows:

1. Engaging YS challenges (Panel: Melissa O'brien, New Zealand)
2. Enhancing YS relevance (Panel: Christian Clemeno, Philippines)
3. Identifying YS opportunities (Panel: Nabin Paudel, Nepal)
4. Region Network Strengthening (Panel: Saf Zaffryn, Malaysia)



Figure 22 Forum Panels on Themed Topic (Challenges, Relevance, Opportunities and Strengthening)

The AP Forum was moderated by Ms. Kate Fairlie (Australia) and after the forum concluded, participants were regrouped to further discuss and write down the action steps or the “how to” on the AP YSN roles to engage YS challenges, enhancing YS relevance, identifying YS opportunities and AP region strengthening.



Figure 23 Lively group discussions



#### IV. Benchmarking: Plans on Moving Forward

Donmarl Camua (Philippines) and Kate Fairlie (Australia), identified four (4) key areas of action and these are:

1. Communication/ Database;
2. E-forum and Social Networking;
3. Funding; and
4. Capacity Development.

The participants were grouped according to the areas of action they are interested in. Some participants were asked to be group leaders and they were:

1. Communication/ Database lead by Melissa O'brien from New Zealand;
2. Social Networking lead by Nabin Paudel from Nepal;
3. Funding lead by Zareena Ariffin from Malaysia; and
4. Capacity Development lead by Matt Ryder from New Zealand.



Figure 24 Group Presentation on AP YSN Action Plans

Chandan Das (Nepal) suggested that there should be a person in charge from the group who will lead in the realization of the action areas.

The following Young Surveyors volunteered to lead on these Action Areas, they are:

- |                           |                                    |
|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Communication/Database | - Rhea Lyn Dealca from Philippines |
| 2. Social Networking      | - Nabin Paudel from Nepal          |
| 3. Funding                | - Malakai Vakautawale from Fiji    |
| 4. Capacity Development   | - Miim Wijayanti from Indonesia    |



Figure 25 The YS who Volunteered to lead on Action Areas (From Left to Right: Rhea, Nabin, Malakai and Miim)

## V. Closing

In closing the session, participants were given the questions to reflect upon:

*“Based on what have transpired in this meeting, how should we as individual members of the NETWORK contribute?”*

- *What Can I Do?*
- *How Should I Do It?*
- *Whom Should I Seek Support To Realized It?*
- *Whom Should I Collaborate With?”*

Participants were asked to post their answer on the newly established Facebook group – “Young Surveyor Network Asia Pacific”.



Figure 26 Kota from Japan the youngest YS giving his first international speech

Before the meeting was concluded, the participants listened to a short message from Kota Shimizu of Japan, the youngest participant of the 2nd FIG Young Surveyor Conference and 1st FIG YSN AP Meeting (age 17) who was very much inspired by the overall events.

At the end of the session, all participants were given certificates to commemorate their part in establishing the AP YSN!

## DIRECTION OF THE AP YS NETWORK

### Initiatives and Action Plans

- i. The network is committed to realize the four (4) Action Areas identified. Area leaders were assigned before the meeting concluded. Moreover, a Facebook group was already created and active which is <https://www.facebook.com/groups/ysnap/>.



Figure 27 The official AP YSN Facebook Group

- ii. There is an ongoing exchange of ideas on E-forum and other ways on Online Networking. The E-forum will be announced once it is live and free web based services will be ventured as pilot.
- iii. The initial goal for the Network is to continuously communicate with the attendees and participants of the 1<sup>st</sup> APYS Meeting so that ideas and online initiatives can be realized.
- iv. It was also agreed, those who attended the 1st FIG YSN Meeting will be the key person or point of contact for the country they represent, for future AP YSN collaborations. At the moment, there are 16 country representatives within the AP YSN.
- v. It is the goal of the AP YSN to have as many representatives of the AP region in any FIG events in the future.
- vi. Continuous promotion should be made to promote AP YSN to the whole forty (40) AP countries and having at least identified a YS as country representatives (other than the 16 country representatives). In other words, spread the words!

### General Support

AP YSN basically looks forward for a continuous support from FIG YSN and FIG to enable activities related to YS in the region. Supports in the form of funding, trainers and speakers are indeed welcome. Most importantly, the support from FIG Country Member Associations

in the AP region are also vital to assist and open opportunities for YS to participate FIG events in the future. On that note, AP YSN representatives in each country should also play their roles and engage with the respective FIG Member Association or any related professional bodies in their respective country for assistance and support in relation to enable AP YSN activities.

#### Near future activities

- i. A network strengthening program of the AP YSN will be conducted in the near future and to follow up the working plan of the activities in the region.
- ii. AP YSN should take opportunities of organising collaborative event / activities for AP YS at any FIG related or non FIG related conferences that will be held in the region in the coming futures. List of events in the region shall be duly updated to identify opportunities.



**Figure 28 The AP YSN established!**

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

The 1st FIG AP YSN Meeting participants are very thankful and acknowledged the supports and contribution given by all parties who have enabled the AP YS to participate such a successful and fruitful meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia:

1. FIG President, Teo Chee Hai;
2. FIG President Elect (2015 - 2018), Chryssy Potsiou;
3. FIG Foundation;
4. FIG YSN Chair; Kate Fairlie;
5. FIG YSN Chair Elect (2015 - 2018), Eva-Maria Unger;
6. FIG YSN, Paula Djikstra;
7. Persatuan Jurukur Tanah Bertauliah (PEJUTA), Malaysia;
8. Young Surveyors Network Malaysia; and
9. 1st FIG YSN AP Meeting Committees; Zurairah (Malaysia), Faz Haron (Malaysia) Donmarl (Philippines), Rizqi (Indonesia), Chandan Das (Nepal), Nabin Paudel (Nepal), Kazuaki Fujii (Japan) and Hyunkee Lee (South Korea).