



Young Professionals Forum
Consulting Engineers South Africa

REFLECTIONS & PROJECTIONS

A RECAP OF 2012 AND WHAT'S AHEAD FOR 2013

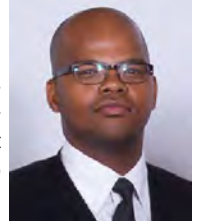
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR'S DESK



Let me first take this opportunity to wish each & every Young Professional (YP), not only in Consulting Engineering but all Young Professionals involved in Engineering as a whole including Client bodies, a prosperous 2013—I believe that our challenges are very much alike and we all need to work with each other to ensure a sustainable further for ourselves, our children, great grandchildren and all future generations.

The year 2012 had its challenges and I trust that we all rose above them & learned a thing or two from those challenges. The new year will certainly bring its own challenges & dynamics, but I am certain that we will strive and rise above them.

The previous year closed off on a high for most YPF branches with new Chairpersons being elected to lead their respective branches. The Border/Kei region, Port Elizabeth, Kwa-Zulu Natal, and the Western Cape all have new leadership and on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Young Professional Forum (YPF) I'd like to wish all the new Chairpersons all the best for the year. At the same time I'd like to thank all the Chairpersons that have stepped down in 2012 for all their efforts in ensuring that the YPF lives on despite all the challenges—Dr Michele Kruger deserves a special mention as the immediate past National Chairperson and for all her relentless efforts.

Nationally, the YPF was given a great opportunity by CESA to present a paper & contribute to the theme of the CESA Conference which was held in Durban at the Durban International Convention Centre from the 4—6 November 2012. The theme of the Conference was "Unlocking Infrastructure Delivery and Restoring the Ethical Balance in Construction".

The event started with the Golf Day on the 4th November 2012 and in the evening we had the Golf Prize giving & Welcome Dinner. The Conference started officially on the 5th November 2012 with Mr Graham Pirie the CEO of CESA doing the welcoming of all the delegates to the CESA Conference for 2012. The programme was filled with very interesting papers giving different & interesting views on the Economic & Political climate of the country. The day ended with a Gala Dinner at the ICC Ballroom.

Conference day 2 on the 6th November 2012 continued as day 1 with very informative papers & he Conference drew to a close at 13h00 in the afternoon.

My presentation was on "YPF - view on ethical balance from a YP perspective". My presentation was based on personal experiences of over a decade in Consulting Engineering including that of my company when it comes to Procurement of Consulting Engineers through Tendering. My argument was/is simple, Consulting Engineering Services should not be procured the same way & system that Government uses to procure toilet paper, school chairs, desks, books et cetera. Government & Clients in general need to understand that Consulting Engineers provide a professional service where the quality & intellectual skill provided should far outweigh the price at which this specific service is provided. The fact is that when Consultants tender, they reduce the gazetted fees for the service rendered. This leads to reduced revenue for Consulting Engineers, job losses (LIFO, usually YP's), reduced fees discourage innovation, YP's do not get adequate training, small emerging black firms are disadvantaged, the levels of fraud & corruption rocket sky-high and all this will ultimately lead to the demise of our industry. So why should we continue to lure young scholars and University graduates into our industry?

Consulting Engineers spend a lot of time completing tender documents - time which could be spent of delivering the much needed services, like water, electricity et cetera to households. Looking at the future & in order to ensure sustainability of our industry and also ensuring a positive economic growth for our country, smaller projects with a fee below R3m should be done through a fair, equitable and transparent roster system. Bigger projects can then be put out to tender, with more emphasis (weight) placed on quality (which must also be clearly defined). Further, stakeholders need

CESA YPF SPONSORS



to be reminded that Engineers are a scarce resource & should be treated as such.

The knock on effects of tendering are simple. Just as a rise in fuel & electricity prices is passed on to consumers - a fee reduction by Consulting Engineering firms will be passed onto the Young Professionals.

It is most unfortunate that Young Professionals don't see this as their fight for the survival of their industry. Most YP's in the industry are between the ages of 25—30 years, which means that for the next 30—40 years we will all still be playing second fiddle to the Accountants, Doctors, Lawyers et cetera.

Shifting the attention back to the New Year: To the current & new Chairpersons, despite all the aforementioned challenges, let us continue to vigorously market Engineering as a career of choice. Young children growing up in rural areas, in townships, including those growing up in suburbs deserve to be exposed to the World of Engineering. I can tell you from personal experience as a person that grew in the township that we are not exposed to Engineering, it is only reserved for a specific few, at least that's what people think, let's erase those negative thoughts from peoples minds and go out there and tell them all about what we do. Let us also make sure that we get involved in Youth In Construction, Job Shadow Month, SciFest Africa Festival et cetera.

To close off, there are a few ventures I would like to see realised during this year:-

- YPF branch of the year. This can be the most innovative branch or one with most activities et c.
- Best Matriculant bribe. To further market YPF, we can offer a "bribe" to the best Maths & Science student in each Province, regardless of whether they'll do Engineering or not.
- Engineering Wonders. We can include a short write up on each Newsletter on any "Engineering wonder" around the World. The Grand Canyon Skywalk comes to mind, the Beijing Water Tube etc. These can be further workshopped by the Exco.

Kind regards

Mr Likhaya Nkonki (Carifro Consulting Engineers)
CESA YPF National Chairperson

RECAP OF 2012 ACTIVITIES

Northern Cape Chapter

1) Branch Meeting / Maccaferri Presentation

The Northern Cape CESA YPF Branch official opened on the 24th of October 2011. The branch hosted its opening meeting at WorleyParsons RSA Sponsored the Kimberley office. The meeting was followed by a Maccaferri Presentation on Soil Bioengineering. The keynote speaker for the day was Moragh Dann, Maccaferri Area Manager. Her presentation covered bioengineering products, application, monitoring and erosion control.



Pictured Top Right: L-t-R: Cecil Rhodes (DAR), CF Le Roux (MVD Kalahari), Mahlomola Letele (Aurecon) and Moragh Dann (Maccaferri).

Left: Vincent Seane and Elmar Deyssel from WorleyParsons RSA



2) ECSA Road To Registration

The Road To Registration Presentation was held on the 15th of March 2012. Riana Starr from ECSA conducted the presentation and a Q&A session for YP's. The Event was well attended by 30 YP's, where some of them raised questions with regards to registering within the minimum period and challenges they encounter with regards to registrations. The branch decided that the should be hosted annually in order to ensure that there is follow up on YP's progress.



Left: Riana Starr (ECSA)

Right: YP's in attendance



3) CESA Presidential Visit:

The Northern Cape's CESA Branch hosted its Annual Presidential Visit on 15th of May 2012. CESA President, Naren Bhojaram, was accompanied by Graham Pirie. The Presidential Speech was hosted at the Protea Hotel in Kimberley. A toast for CESA's 60th Anniversary was lead by Graham Pirie.

Mr. A. Abraham from DWA Regional office was the Guest Speaker for the day. His presentation was on the Status Quo of Availability of Water in the Northern Cape. The event was well attended by YP's, thank you to them for coming.



Right: Naren Bhojaram (CESA President)



Left: Guest Speaker : Mr. Abe Abrahams from DWA

4) Job Shadow Day

NC YPF members (Peet and Vincent) from WorleyParsons RSA, participated in the 2012 Job Shadow Initiative on the 27th of July 2012. A total of 18 learners were exposed to a day in consulting engineering and most importantly the got a chance to interact with various engineers. The learners were also taken through the process of waste water treatment at the recently refurbished Beaconsfield WWTW. The learners thoroughly enjoyed themselves and had many questions with regards to engineering industry.



Kwa-Zulu Natal Chapter

YPF KZN had an eventful 2012. It started off in March with a social superbowling event between the YP's from the various consulting firms. This was followed by the YPF breakfast with CESA President, Naren Bhojaram in April. YP's had an opportunity at the breakfast to discuss industry related issues with the President and also get some insight from Mr Bhojaram regarding world trends in the Engineering Field and especially the role of YPs in the consulting engineering industry.

The First Annual CESA Consultants Relay held on 12th May saw 12 CESA Member Firms and their families come together for a day of sport and fun. Essential Skills for a Young Professional was the topic addressed by Nyami Mandindi (CEO of RHDHV). She had the YP's captivated with her experiences as a young professional and she also highlighted characteristics necessary to be a successful professional.





The YPF continually seeks opportunities to contribute to society in terms of social responsibility. The Charles Hugo School in Sydenham was identified for such an initiative. In June the YPF obtained sponsorships from various consultants and purchased jerseys for 30 children at the school. YPF KZN is currently hosting a drive to restock the school library. Donations close in mid-October.

The annual ECSA registration workshop was held in September. YP's had the opportunity to learn more about the new registration process which starts in April 2013. Christiaan Mostert from Jeffers and Greene was the lucky draw winner of the CESA course.



The YPF KZN committee also had a reshuffle of committee members. Naomi Naidoo from Goba was appointed as the new branch Chairman and Ashley Sewmungal from Goba as Vice-Chair. Yolani Pillay was appointed as branch Treasurer. At the National YPF meeting in July, Jeshika Ramchand from Iliso was elected as National Vice-Chair.

CESA YPF KZN UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Activity Details
5 April 2013	Inter-company Action Soccer
March/April	School library Re-model
April 2013	Site Visit to Umgeni Inter-change
17 May 2013	Presidential Visit
25 May 2013	Consultants Relay
June 2013	Financial Management Seminar

This year the relay will take place on the 25th of May 2013. Make sure your company is part of the action by registering for the event before the end of March 2013.

YPF KZN undertook a drive to restock and refurbish the school library. We are extremely thankful to all the consultants that contributed. The books have been purchased. All YP's are invited to join us for a few fun Saturdays in March and April as we attempt to re-model the library before we hand over the re-modelled library and new books to the children of Charles Hugo School. Some YPF activities in KZN to look out for in the near future in the table above.

Gauteng South Branch

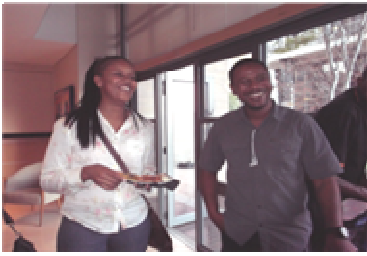
In June last year we organised a Goba Showcase that saw speakers such as the CEO Mr. Trueman Goba talking about his role on the National Planning Commission and encouraging Young people to get involved. This was followed by an exceptional presentation giving us a global perspective of our role as engineers on a Global scale, by possibly one of the most humble and smartest intellectuals, the Dean of Engineering and Built Environment at UJ Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala.

We took part in Job Shadow month that saw two of the companies that the committee members are a part of take home first and second place in the job shadow competition poster.

We then decided to take a holistic approach to betterment of engineering professionals by organizing a series of Financial Planning Seminars in collaboration with STANLIB. The First Seminar was a General discussion on financial planning, how STANLIB came to being, the current state of the economy and interest rates, giving the Basic fundamentals and skills needed to produce financially savvy individuals. The Second Seminar focused on Wills, estate planning, trusts, capital gains tax and devising a personal comprehensive plan. With the limited time that the speaker had during the second seminar and the amount of knowledge that the speaker had the third session became a continuation of Estate Planning titled: "Opening a trust and what the implications are. Drafting of a will: when is the right time?"

Towards the end of 2012 we had a PDNA Showcase. The speakers included the Chairman of PDNA who took us down memory lane back to why he formed PDNA and how those principles that he formed it against have shaped the company to where it is today. He was followed by an interesting Presentation by Mike Aldous on the future of construction if we intend to preserve the planet.

The members of both the North and South committee took part in the CESA Golf Day and challenged our levels of fitness at the annual CESA Relay.



FINANCIAL PLANNING SEMINAR SERIES

Estate Planning: Wills, estate duty, trusts, capital gains tax & why you need a comprehensive plan.



PDNA SHOWCASE



Above and Right: YP's in action



Left: Dempsey Naidoo (PDNA) at the PDNA Showcase



GOBA SHOWCASE



Thabo Hloele (Goba), Wiebke Toussaint (Hatch) and Antoinette Mmekwa (Goba)



Left to Right: Trueman Goba and Prof. Tshilidzi Marwala

Message from CESA Young Engineer of the Year 2012—Imraan Mohammed

"I was honoured to be awarded this prestigious prize by CESA in August last year. All the nominees were excellent professionals, and being included amongst them was satisfying enough, but having being chosen as the winner I feel a deep sense of gratitude and I will certainly do my best to represent the young professionals of our industry.

I attribute the success in my career to date to always focusing on extracting value out of whatever project or task I am engaged on. I have also actively chosen to develop my technical and non-technical skills, which I believe is essential to career success. I have a strong interest in the fields of management, human resources and psychology because I've realized early in my career that success is always achieved together with and through others, whether it be colleagues, employers, community or government.

During the year that I will be engaged with the CESA YPF, I would like to understand the state of mind of young professionals in South Africa, in the context of being a developing nation with a diverse range of challenges. Do young professionals in the built environment see South Africa as having opportunities for their professional career success? Have young scholars realized the value that they can add as engineers to our communities and the esteem with which they will be regarded by providing human dignity to many that have never been afforded that luxury? I strongly believe that engineering lies at the heart of improving quality of life, whether it be clean water and sanitation, or advanced telecommunications and power networks. I would like to assist CESA YPF with spreading this message amongst existing young professionals, as well as young scholars and students on the verge of selecting a career.

I was afforded a wonderful opportunity by the Airports Company South Africa, as the sponsor of the 2012 CESA Young Engineers Award, to attend the recent FIDIC annual conference in Seoul, South Korea. The conference made it clear that sustainable and "green" engineering is the way of the future. Our implementation of "green" engineering may differ in South Africa compared to high tech regions such as Korea and Japan. But what is still exciting for us is how the philosophy of "holistic engineering solutions", considering ALL stakeholders in a project (and not just the client paying for the project) presents opportunities in a developing economy like South Africa for projects that are designed from the outset to better serve their communities, improve life for coming generations (rather than being to their detriment) and provide a massive, new industry for job creation. Exciting times for young engineering professionals!

I look forward to working with the excellent young leaders who form the CESA YPF committee."

Western Cape Chapter**Legal Liability Seminar — 8 May 2012**

The Western Cape branch hosted a Legal Liability seminar presented by Riaan de Villiers from "Safe Working Practise". This is a topic in our industry that is rarely fully understood and as young professionals, particularly those in construction, knowledge of this subject is vital. Some of the topics covered included legislative requirements, legal requirements, development and introduction to OHS Act, causes of injuries and occupational illness, etc. The seminar was well attended and feedback from the YP's was positive.

Indoor Soccer — 29 June 2012

The Western Cape branch once again hosted the highly anticipated Action Soccer event. Ten consultants entered the event held at the Montague Action Arena. Teams played in a round robin format with the 2 top scoring teams in each group advancing to the knock out finals. After some show boating of skills to teach Lionel Messi a thing or two, GIBB emerged as the night's winners! Well done!

Financial Planning Workshop — 18 July 2012

The Western Cape branch hosted a Financial Planning Workshop presented by "Plan B", a Financial Advisory Team affiliated to Sanlam. The principal focus of the seminar was to acquaint YP's with the basics of effective investing. The talk was very well attended and the speakers were knowledgeable, engaging and very informative. Much positive feedback was received from the YPs that attended.

Professional Registration Seminar - 25th October 2012

On the back of the changes with the ECSA registration process and the confusion that YP's experienced with understanding the new process etc. the Western Cape branch arranged with Riana Starr and Rod Harker from ECSA to host our annual, and always highly anticipated, Professional Registration seminar at UCT.

As usual we had a packed auditorium, with close to 120 members that attended. The speakers were excellent and much positive feedback was received from the YPs that attended.

CESA YPF Western Cape Year End Function—30th of November 2012

After a fantastic year for the CESA YPF Western Cape branch the time had come for us to let our hair down, have a few beers (or soft drinks) and reflect on what had been an exciting and successful year for the YPF Western Cape Committee! Members as well as their partners were invited to join us at the Rooftop Bar of Vela VKE (Part of the SMEC Group) for our end of year function. Members had an opportunity to network with fellow YP's, while enjoying a few refreshments, before finishing the night off at Tjing Tjing Bar. The outgoing Chair, Duncan Pascoe (PRDW), also said a few words and announced the new committee for 2013:

Chairperson:	Pravanya Pillay (GIBB)
Vice-Chairman:	Nicholas Gorman (SMEC)
Treasurer:	Michael Vice (J&G)
Secretary:	Oscar Mia (Bosch Stemele)



The Western Cape Committee looks forward to engaging with you in 2013. Stay tuned and be sure to keep an eye out for the invitations coming to your Inbox soon. *If you would like to be included in the Western Cape mailing list please send an email to: ypf.wcape@gmail.com*

As a treat from the YPF Western Cape Branch you will find a YPF WC Calendar at the end of this document.

Limpopo Chapter

The Limpopo CESA Branch hosted its annual Presidential Visit on the 18th July 2012. YPF was given the opportunity to give a short presentation on the YPF Limpopo at the gala dinner that evening. The branch and the YPF also joined the 67-minute initiative on Nelson Mandela's birthday on the 18th July 2012, by donating 67 blankets to two children homes.



Right: CESA delegation and YPF handing over blankets at the Children's Home

Left: CESA Limpopo Presidential Visit

The YPF hosted two member meetings in August and December 2012. In addition, YPF Limpopo hosted a braai and networking session with the members on the 13th August 2012. The braai and venue was sponsored by Muteo Consulting Polokwane.

A “Road to Professional Registration” workshop was held on the 4th October 2012. The workshop was held at Masana Lodge in Polokwane and the venue was sponsored by Nyeleti Consulting. The workshop was presented by Mr. Johan Pienaar from ECSA and was followed by a 2 hour networking session and lunch. The event was well attended by approximately 20 YP’s. Clients were also invited and two Municipalities also attended. Questions were raised and Mr. Johan Pienaar explained the new system to be implemented for professional registration.

YPF and branch committee at the CESA Conference held in Durban at the Durban International Conventional Centre from the 4th – 6th November 2012 as well as the CESA Conference Golf day on the 4th November 2012.



Right: YP’s in attendance at the Road to Registration Workshop

Young Professional Out and About.....CESA YPF National Committee at the CESA Awards 2012



For comments and suggestions related to CESA YPF, please email jeshika@iliso.com.

To receive all our future mails and invitations,

Join CESA YPF: <http://www.cesa.co.za/node/105>

2013

Notes:						
EVENTS:						
9th Feb 2013 - Annual Volleyball Tournament						
9th March 2013 - The MyCOT Project						
20th March 2013 - Touch Rugby						
12th April 2013 - CESA Awards - Gold Day						
18th April 2013 - CESA Awards - President's Cup						
22nd April 2013 - CESA Awards - Bronze						
30th May 2013 - CESA Resilience Workshop						
27 June 2013 - Quiz Night						
10th July 2013 - Standard Bank Challenge - Share Trading Seminar						
10th Aug 2013 - Kayfrock Seminar - Intro to Coaching						
12th Nov 2013 - CESA Challenge Day						
2nd - 3rd Sept 2013 - CESA Challenge						
28th Sept 2013 - Green Engineering						
14th Oct 2013 - Action Soccer						
2nd Nov 2013 - CESA YPF Tour Day - Plination						
MEETINGS:						
Thursday, 24th Jan 2013 (1100H)						
Tuesday, 19th March 2013 (1100H)						
Wednesday, 22nd May 2013 (5M00)						
Wednesday, 17th July 2013 (Afternoon)						
Wednesday, 18th September 2013 (1100H)						
Thursday, 3rd October 2013 (1600)						



CESA YPF (WC) - Year Planner 2013

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