

**SEPTEMBER 16**

# 25 Years of Young Planning Professionals Workshops 1991-2016



**ISOCARP**  
Knowledge for better Cities

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and Regional Planners

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FOREWORD BY ISOCARP  
PRESIDENT  
**RIC STEPHENS**

**YOUNG PLANNING  
PROFESSIONALS  
– COLLABORATIVE  
ENTREPRENEURS**

The ISOCARP Young Planning Professionals programme provides life-changing experiences for persons entering the field of city and regional planning. For many, these experiences are transformative and shape their career paths, goals, objectives, and values. My experience includes instructing Intensive Training Programmes [Abu Dhabi], mentoring a Mentor/Student Research Lab [Poland], and advising a Young Planning Professionals workshop [Poland]. It was a pleasure to see first-hand the creativity, collaborative design and action-oriented approaches these young professionals exemplify. The Young Planning Professionals programme is one of ISOCARP's most valued contributions to planning: nurturing cosmopolitan planners and global citizens.

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INTRODUCTION BY  
**PIOTR LORENS**  
ISOCARP VICE PRESIDENT  
YOUNG PLANNING  
PROFESSIONALS (YPPS)

This year, during the Durban congress, our society will celebrate another important event in the history of ISOCARP – the **25th anniversary of the Young Planning Professionals' programme**. It started in 1991 in Guadalajara, Mexico, at the 26th ISOCARP Congress and since then has always been held prior to our annual congresses. The YPP programme was initiated by one of the most appreciated members of our society – **Estefanía Chavez de Ortega**. YPP workshops have made a huge impact on participants' professional lives and contributed towards making life-long friendships beyond borders, languages, cultures and professional backgrounds – as you can read in the personal YPP experiences of this anniversary booklet. This is the tremendous success of many people who were involved in this process, including both my predecessors **Fernando Brandão Alves** and **Zeynep Enlil**, workshop tutors, local hosts and everyone else involved in developing, executing and summarizing these events. I would like to take this opportunity to express my greatest appreciation for their work and contribution to the development of the programme. A big thank you also to UNESCO that supported the programme for many years. I would very much like to thank the organizers of the 25th YPP workshop, developed in an 'XXL format' in Durban with more than 80 participants from all over the world and a fantastic representation of various African countries. I guess this event is an achievement in itself and shall be specially marked in our history. Although based on the annual congress-related workshop, the YPP programme is not exclusively limited

to this. In 2010 it started to evolve towards a much broader set of activities, including publications, intensive trainings, national and other special-purpose workshops etc. The expansion of the programme also includes developing contacts with the world of academia – with a special focus on cooperation with planning schools. The best example of this is the partnership with the Association of European Schools of Planning (AESOP), which already resulted in numerous joint initiatives. This was made possible thanks to work done by Zeynep Enlil, Vice President for the YPP programme at that time. I sincerely hope this part of the programme will be developed further in the near future. The same holds for two other components of the programme – national/regional and special-purpose workshops, organized in partnership and cooperation with national planning associations as well as other partners. This especially relates to the Urban Planning Society of China, the Russian Urban Planning Association, the Society of Polish Town Planners and Moscow Urban Forum. Thanks to the support of these entities it was possible to develop annual and /or bi-annual activities in various parts of the world. The results of these can be also spotted during the congress exhibition and can be obtained in form of electronic publications. But it is necessary to mention also developing partnerships with national planning organizations and agencies – such as the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council or the Al Ain Town Planning Sector. Within these a new type of activities was initiated, the ISOCARP Intensive Training Programmes. These offered unique opportunities for the

employees of these entities to further advance their professional planning abilities. Of course, all of these have also become a fantastic opportunity for ISOCARP members to serve as tutors, lecturers and coordinators of these activities – so a truly “win-win” scenario was created for the society. All of these made it possible to rethink the programme and trace some new paths for developing it further. The 25th anniversary is an excellent moment to do so, therefore a number of new initiatives have been planned already. But there is much more to do in the future.

Here I would like to mention at least four crucial components, which are already taking shape.

- The first of them is associated with developing subsequent thematic workshops, possibly in partnership with other organizations, enabling not only solving planning problems but also to advance the professional planning abilities. Such practice was initiated on the occasion of the EU-sponsored SUSREG project with the Wrocław workshop. Subsequent initiatives are already in the pipeline, e.g. a partnership with the International Tunneling Association. This fall the first of the joint workshops, that are supposed to advance partnership between our associations as well as recognize the importance of planning for engineers – and engineering for planners – is to take place in Glasgow, Scotland.
- Secondly, Young Planning Professionals shall get better opportunities to interact with “experienced planners” during congresses and other ISOCARP events. Therefore YPPs literally “took the lead” during the Rotterdam congress in 2015, assisting the

congress team with developing and – subsequently – delivering the results of the workshops and sessions. A similar practice is in store for the Durban congress and I hope it will be furtherly promoted and advanced during subsequent congresses and events.

- Thirdly, we would like to assist the younger and less experienced members of our planning family in developing their professional abilities. Therefore, aside from events associated with a partnership with entities such as the Abu Dhabi Urban Planning Council, it seems advisable to develop an offer of intensive trainings provided in various parts of the world and allowing our Young Planners to participate in these at minimum cost.
- Finally, since the Young Planners’ family is growing constantly, a new platform of exchange of ideas and developing connections, friendships and ties with professional planning entities will be developed. Therefore the initiative of a “Young Planners Network” was launched, which will take final shape during the coming months. It is intended both as place to meet and exchange ideas, develop ties with potential employers, but also as a mode of dialogue between generations and place of developing new ideas that will shape the planning abilities in the future.

All of these are now under various stages of implementation. Therefore, the 25th anniversary of the YPP programme – besides being an excellent opportunity to reflect on the fantastic achievements of the last years – shall mark the start of the new generation of the programme – YPP 2.0. I sincerely

ly hope this agenda can be further developed both by my successors as well as the Young Planning Professionals themselves – since without them nothing of all this makes any sense. So – “lay back, relax and enjoy the ride” – as they say in the States. And since next year we are going to Portland, I hope this will be accompanied with another famous quote: **“Do not ask what ISOCARP can do for You, but ask what You can do for ISOCARP and the YPP programme in particular”**. I hope this will be an excellent motto for this anniversary and 25, 50 or more years of our successful YPP programme.

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**PETER NJERU**  
KENYA

### JAMBO...

My name is Peter Njeru from Kenya. I have been privileged to attend three YPP workshops, the first one being in my country Kenya in 2010. In 2011 I was in Wuhan, China, and in 2012 in Perm, Russia. In 2014, I participated in the international YPP workshop in Moscow.

The experiences have been amazing! I mean meeting and working with a group of very bright international professionals on a real urban problem and coming up with working solutions. In many instances we had to work around the clock to come up with a congruent presentation during the main Congress. Each professional had a unique way of looking at a problem and even a different angle of a solution; some were very good in graphics and the use of various software and I really learned a lot. In addition, the YPPs were from different backgrounds. It was fun to learn about all these different cultures. What I will not forget is the way I struggled to use chop sticks while in China. I had to go two days half full!! I later mastered the art anyway. What of the freezing weather in Wuhan? All the warm clothes I carried were of no help. At the end of the day I have been able to make innumerable international friends. On top of that I have had the honor of presenting papers in ISOCARP congresses.



**MADINA JUNUSSOVA**  
KAZAKHSTAN

### FROM YPP TO YPP COORDINATOR

I **HAVE** greatly benefited from participating in the Young Planning Professionals Workshops (YPPW) in Geneva (2004), Bilbao (2005) and Istanbul (2006). The YPPW helped me to learn more about planning practices around the world. Most importantly, it opened up broader research perspectives for me. The uniqueness of YPPWs is the opportunity for young planning professionals to present the outcome of their work to an audience of experienced planners attending the ISOCARP Congress. Thanks to the YPPW, I could meet with many influential ISOCARP members. Some have become my mentors whom I trust as my lifelong teachers and friends. I am in contact with all YPPW fellows as we are trying to support each other. Every YPPW was a unique experience, but together they gave me a push toward further self-development. Right after the first participation in the YPPW in Geneva, I decided to become an ISOCARP member. It also inspired me to develop and publish a paper

named “Trans-border Agglomeration of Geneva” in the academic journal of KazGASA in Almaty (Kazakhstan). The discussion around the South Wing of the Netherlands awoke my interest in regional development and planning. This included environmental challenges related to regional development. The workshop gave me confidence in the importance of strategic planning. I could apply some of the knowledge I obtained from the workshop to the preparation of the Development Strategies 2015 for Almaty and Mangystau Regions of Kazakhstan. The Istanbul workshop was the last and the most exciting event for me.

I met **v**, who passed away, but remains in my memories and heart. Manuel brought all of us a new level of understanding of the living environment. He spent a lot of time with us walking along the streets of Istanbul explaining and paying attention to every detail of people’s daily activities. Without a doubt the Istanbul YPPW was the start of my interest in the social patterns of urban development. It inspired me to learn more about place-based, inclusive development and participatory planning.

My involvement in the YPPW did not stop with my acting as a participant. I was attracted to try myself as a coordinator of the YPPW. In 2014, thanks to ISOCARP, I was able to become junior coordinator of the YPPW in Gdynia for the first time. Now, I am very proud to be assigned a role of coordinator of the YPPW in Durban. I am confident that all YPPWs are able to contribute toward the sustainability of our small, but strong community of young planners – the future of the planning profession in the 21st century.





**AHMED SANGARÉ**  
IVORY COAST

## PERM 2012 YPP EXPERIENCE

DISCOVERING a new city in person can be an intense and enjoyable adventure; but discovering it at the same time through the eyes of many young bright minds coming from cities located in various parts of the world is a truly unique and uplifting life experience. That's what happened to me in 2012 during the YPP workshop in Perm, Russia. I had the opportunity to see the city from the very different perspectives of planners coming from bigger, smaller, more developed or less developed cities, and above all from quite different cultural backgrounds. I spotted similarities in the expressed needs of people living in Perm and the other cities that were described to me, but also a lot of differences in the ways these needs were addressed and the resulting urban morphologies. The workshop was about the re-imagination of the central area of the city of Perm in order to make it more efficient and more competitive as a growth hub. During the onsite visits, besides the fact that the beautiful Russian women were wearing mini-skirts at 7 °C, one of the many things

that stroke my mind was the amount of dilapidated buildings, mostly industrial ones, and unused spaces in the city center. There are of course one or two abandoned buildings in the centers of Abidjan, but the proportion of the phenomenon in Perm was just not comparable. Later on I learnt that the situation in Perm was not that exceptional: a fellow young planner from Japan explained that half of the buildings in Tokyo skyscrapers forest were empty and another one talked about entire ghost cities in China. For me, these abandoned human built structures and settlements were truly thought provoking in that they made me question the vision I have about the future of cities in the world in general and in Africa in particular. After the Congress, the "monumental" Moscow, where everything is... well... monumental, was another great stay. I had the opportunity to visit some of the most beautiful metro stations in the world alongside interesting places that have immersed me in the history of the city. A particularly instructive moment in Moscow was the exhibition of the proposals of the shortlisted international teams for the Moscow City

Agglomeration Development Concept Competition. Through innovative presentation media, world renowned names like Office for Metropolitan Architecture shared their vision of what Moscow should look like in a few decades. Though the presented works were different in their approaches, the notions of connectivity, networks, mobility, linkages, etc., were common to them. This comforted me in my opinion that key to the development of the agglomeration of Abidjan is the re-imagination of its inefficient transport system.

But definitely, the most lasting impact of the YPP experience on me is the quality of the friendship I took home with me from buddies from Russia, Serbia, Kenya, Poland, Brazil, China, India, etc.. We are constantly in contact online and meet in person at congresses when time permits. The latest experience I got engaged in with YPPs is a book sharing game where we shipped our preferred books to each other. Directly or indirectly, they inspire me in my personal and professional life more than they realize it: this is something I am thankful to ISOCARP for.





**DIVYA CHOPRA**  
INDIA

AS a Young Planning Professional (YPP), I have had an incredible journey with ISOCARP. I have some great memories of my travel to Dalian in 2008 to the recent 2015 Congress held in Netherlands. YPP workshops have been a great platform for knowledge exchange, meeting interesting professionals from all across the world and making some great friends. I have had the fortune to be selected as YPP twice and also attend two of the Congresses with completely different formats. The YPP workshops along with the main congress have been one of the most enriching experiences for me as an urban design and research professional.

While being exposed to some of the most innovative city planning and design practices, it not only offers a space for intellectual exchange among professionals but also a possibility to connect with a peer group from different parts of the globe. One is able to be part of a global discourse on city building through varied inputs be it academic, research or practice oriented.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate ISOCARP for celebrating 25 years of YPP workshops and to extend a very warm thank you for making me a part of this wonderful event. This is truly one of the most unique programs offered by any international organisation for young planning professionals in the world.



**HÉCTOR FLORIANI**  
ARGENTINA

ELEVEN years already have elapsed since I was Coordinator of the Young Planners Workshop at the XLI International Congress of ISOCARP in Bilbao, Spain, in October 2005; and eleven more (that is, twenty two years in all!) since I participated as a young planner in the YPP Workshop of the XXX International Congress held in Prague, Czech Republic, in September 1994. Both experiences have marked me positively and durably.

The first one –in chronological terms: that is, the XXX Congress YPP WS, Prague 1994- actually became for me the “entrance door” to the ISOCARP world. The year before I had completed a six years professional and academic experience in Italy (and obtained my PhD degree at IUAV, Venice); near the end of that experience **Federico Malusardi** (University of Rome “La Sapienza”) informed me about the existence of the International Society of City and Regional Planners. I decided then to apply to the next YPP WS as a way to know personally the Society and start to participate in its activities.

The experience was highly enriching. Besides knowing Prague –it was my first visit to that beautiful city-, I lived

a truly international (intercontinental!) collaborative work session, in which Prague itself was our “experimental” field. I did never forget the intense exchange of ideas and perspectives, rooted in very diverse backgrounds of participants and coordinators, we all produced in the attempt to propose “solutions” to Prague’s planning challenges of that moment.

The other experience, that of being myself one of the Coordinators of the XLI Congress YPP WS, was quite different, but equally enriching. In the first place, I shared the coordination responsibility with Juan Luis de las Rivas Sanz, a highly qualified colleague, both in academic and professional terms. Besides that, I had the opportunity to live again the workshop experience – with all the attractiveness derived from its practical, experimental character in a multi-cultural environment-, but this time “on the other side of the bench”: that is, on the side of the coordinators, of the leaders of the exercise.

We had the possibility to interact then, from that position, with a very interesting array of young planners coming from quite different places –geographically and culturally speaking-, working on some of Bilbao’s planning problems at the time. That became a highly motivating challenge to our leading ability, even though our previous teaching experience at University level proved to be a significant qualifying precedent. I am very happy to participate in this celebration of ISOCARP’s Young Planners Workshops. I believe YPP Workshops deserve this celebration, because they have been, and still are, very significant for the development of a professional consciousness as planners in a stimulating multi-cultural environment.





## MY EXPERIENCE IN THE 45TH YPP WORKSHOP AS A PARTICIPANT IN 2009 IN PORTO, PORTUGAL

**KHAN R RAHAMAN**

I had a wonderful experience taking part in the 45th ISOCARP workshop as a participant in Porto. The participation contributed two major things in my career as: (i) to understand people from different backgrounds to work for similar objectives, and (ii) to make me more competent and confident as a researcher and academician at the international level. The experience I

received further helped me in different areas such as:

- Extending my academic and research network with people from similar backgrounds;
- Offering the ideas of people from different countries and culture to work together as a group for the betterment of humanity;
- Understanding people from different

- cultures to work together;
- Visiting the field (in our case it was Douro valley in Portugal) together as a group to understand planning problems and how to make recommendations for a better future;
- Working together and understanding the strengths of each individual in the group to make a wonderful presentation in the end;
- Overall, communicating among the participants with opportunities, ideas, and professional development activities as a continuity of the work.

I am delighted to mention that still many of us are in contact with our present career updates and sometime exchanging views for future works. In a nutshell, the opportunity to attend the YPP program is highly desirable for any young professional to develop a future career as a planner.



## FROM YPP TO ISOCARP VICE-PRESIDENT

**SLAWEK LEDWON**  
POLAND/QATAR

My Young Planning Professional experience was a start of an amazing journey with ISOCARP. It was not only an extraordinary workshop, where I have learned a lot of new skills, met wonderful peers and worked in a multicultural environment to deliver project solutions for a real case problem. It was also a kind and very friendly introduction to the Society. Since then I have been very actively involved in ISOCARP activities and growing my professional network by connecting with many amazing and experienced planners. I truly recommend YPP workshops and initiatives to all younger colleagues as a career changing experience.





## LIFE-CHANGING WORKSHOP

**EDGAR CIPRIANO NAVARRO**  
MEXICO

BEING part of the YPP Workshop in Wuhan, China, was an amazing experience. Being part of a planning workshop is a great motivation to any young planner. You meet people from all around the world and get an overpowering cultural showcase. The city was part of this adventure, in the middle of China you'll find an interesting city as Wuhan where the gastronomic experience was also delightful. We even got the opportunity to meet several universities and talk with the urban planners of tomorrow. We got a real challenge making an urban proposal for the city, working hand in hand with colleagues, the Wuhan urban planning office, and our

ISOCARP Workshop coordinator was a demanding but enriching person. Those were hard working hours but every hour was worth it, I remember those times as a personal and professional development. One of the finest moments of the YPP workshop was performing in a huge Chinese theater for all the congress assistance, with the support of my new friends. We did a good show that night. This adventure turned me into an active city planner. I'm pretty sure all my colleagues from all around the world are following the same path after this life-changing workshop.



## YPP REFLECTIONS BY **MARCIN SLIWA** POLAND/MEXICO

I had the pleasure to participate in the YPP workshops twice: at the 2014 Congress in Gdynia, and at the 2015 Congress in Rotterdam. Both of these were truly inspiring and life-changing experiences and I would like to thank the organizers for giving me the opportunity to be part of YPP. I find such initiatives are indispensable to bridge the academic and professional worlds of planning, and give young planners the knowledge and confidence that are extremely valuable in our future career. The workshop in Gdynia had a symbolic meaning to me, as it allowed me to return to my homeland and engage in urban planning activities in the region where I come from for the first time in a very long time, as I have been living abroad for many years. It was interesting for me to get to know the challenges and opportunities of places which used to be known to me, and to listen to the observations and opinions of the different international participants of the workshop, some coming from such distant places as Australia and Brazil. The mix of nationalities and professional backgrounds among the YPPs resulted in some very creative proposals and solutions that were well received by the local planning authorities and experts. It was

nǐ kāi tiān pì dì  
hōng mǎn zhe cháo qì  
ài yáng xià fèn xiǎng

léng ù







clear to me that the methodology and concept of the YPP workshop have a lot to contribute to the development of cities in which planning processes are still based on outdated and technocratic methods which undermine the power of public participation and qualitative research. Therefore, one of the strengths of ISOCARP's YPP program is that it has the unprecedented opportunity to spread progressive and critical approaches to planning in the different cities around the world, including the most remote ones.

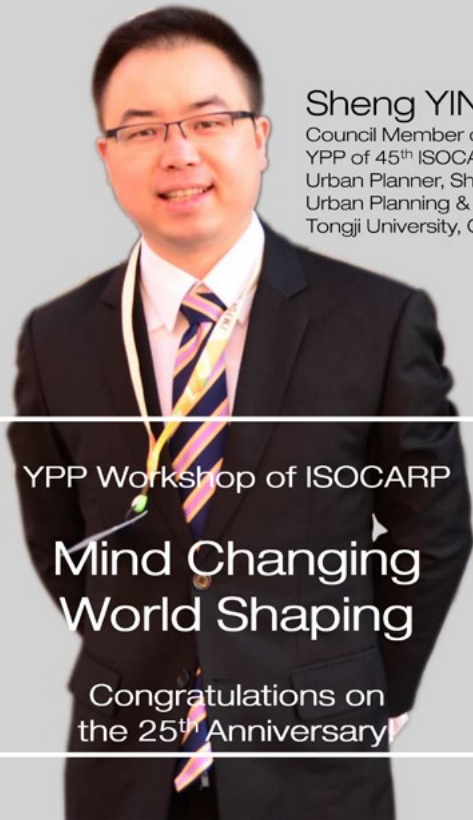
The second YPP workshop had a very different setup from the one in Gdynia. Before all the participants had gone to their corresponding workshop cities, we all met in Eindhoven and learned about the challenges and prospects of this fascinating city.

Then, instead of investigating and coming up with recommendations for a specific site, we were responsible for coordinating and moderating the thematic discussions in the different cities and presenting the results at the main conference in Rotterdam. I was assigned the Antwerp workshop themed "How to rework the productive city?" I really liked the fact that I was able to contribute to the content generation at the congress, as it

was a completely different learning experience from the traditional YPP workshop. Few young professionals are given the chance to go that deep into the most critical contemporary urban issues, unless they engage in advanced academic research. Our YPP group was fortunate enough to get to work with top notch experts and specialists in urban development, social science and related disciplines, which was a one in a lifetime opportunity. Since both workshops were so different from each other, I was able to get diversified learning experiences and see the same challenges and issues from very different perspectives.

Having said all the above, perhaps the most valuable thing I gained through the YPP workshops are all the friendships and professional contacts I gained. Through the projects I was involved in, I came across many of the people I met in Gdynia and Eindhoven. We have also organized a number of informal meetings with other members of the YPP network. I am proud to form part of the Young Professional Planners community I hope that this great initiative will continue for the next 25 years, and many more to come!

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## Sheng YING

Council Member of ISOCARP  
YPP of 45<sup>th</sup> ISOCARP Congress  
Urban Planner, Shanghai Tongji  
Urban Planning & Design Institute,  
Tongji University, China

YPP Workshop of ISOCARP

Mind Changing  
World Shaping

Congratulations on  
the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

## CONGRATULATIONS ON THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF YPP WORKSHOP OF ISOCARP!

### SHENG YING CHINA

AS a YPP of the 45th ISOCARP Congress held in Porto, Portugal, and now a Council Member of ISOCARP, the experience of YPP was priceless! The YPP workshops contribute to “Mind Changing, World Shaping”. It helps young planners to change the planning mind and shapes cities around the world more sustainable. All my best wishes for the 25th Anniversary!

Best Regards!



### ALEKSANDRA STUPAR SERBIA

DURING the 2004 ISOCARP's congress in Geneva I was a participant of the Young Planners V&W Workshop - 'Railway Stations and the Human Perspective'. Generously funded by the Dutch Ministry of Public Transport and Water Management, our group was coordinated by professor Zeynep Enlil and professor Fernando Brandão Alves, who were supporting us on our way to respond to the challenges of Utrecht train station and its transformation.

Throughout several sunny September days, eight of us, coming from different countries and continents, worked together - bonding as friends and young professionals, expanding our knowledge, merging our skills and energy, exchanging our experiences, sharing jokes and good time. This exuberant international atmosphere

stimulated our creative thinking and interlinked us on many levels, setting up a unique foundation for lasting friendships and cooperation which continued. Imagined as a specific urban task force, our YPP workshop confirmed its role - after twelve years of professional work, each one of us has really become a part of the planning force to be reckoned with :)



### BRETT CLAVIO USA

ISOCARP's YPP workshop was a great experience for me. The young team had a brief amount of time to learn about a Planning case in a different country. The team received the background information, shared their understandings, their methodologies and developed innovative planning solutions to address the subject issues.

The YPP workshop is valuable because it allows young planners to gain international planning experience, meet great people and develop great friendships that can last a lifetime. My YPP experience was in Zamalek, Cairo, in itself an amazing place to be. honor of presenting papers in ISOCARP congresses.



## I HAVE FOND MEMORIES OF MY PAIR OF EXPERIENCES WITH ISOCARP!

**LAURA BISAILLON**  
CANADA

I was first involved as a Young Planner at the ISOCARP Congress in Cairo, Egypt, in October 2003. I was working for UNHCR and living in Djibouti at the time. I was grateful to be awarded funding to attend the Young Planners' workshop where I presented the co-authored paper that would later be published in 2005 as "Djibouti, The Two Faces of the City: Modern and Traditional Forms". In Cairo, along with six fellow planners from around the world, I worked to co-produce the report entitled "Land-use Intensification and Transportation in Almere, Netherlands". What a fascinating foray into contemporary Dutch society this work afforded! Together we deliberated on immigration, safety and spatial concerns. I recall wondering at the opulence of the conference venue; appreciating the brilliantly coloured textiles and foods prepared for Ramadan; enjoying lively conversations with fellow ISOCARP delegates aboard a Nile boat cruise; beholding ancient gold and Puntland incense in the Valley of the Kings, all in the company of my former professor, the late Jeanne Wolfe of McGill University; taking in new housing projects in a site visit into Cairo's sprawling periphery. During the latter visit, I made the acquaintance of Federico Malusardi of the Sapienza University of Rome, who was also acting editor of *Urbanistica PVS*. In 2010, I was pleased to accept his invitation to contribute a scholarly article based on my fieldwork in Ethiopia. In what would later come to be recognized by ISOCARP as an award-winning series, I published: "Harar, Ethiopia: Dualities, Discursive Meanings and Designations". This article was presented at the Society for Applied Anthropology conference in 2011. Gauging by the

number of times it has been downloaded, interest in this research has been strong.

My second experience as a Young Planner was in 2004. I was invited to be part of ISOCARP's first Urban Task Force in Enciso. This is a small municipality in the Alto Cidacoas Valley in the La Rioja region in northeastern Spain. For nine consecutive days, four colleagues and I closely cooperated, under the guidance of facilitators from each Spain and Portugal, to develop a tourism proposal articulated around a distinctive aspect of the village's natural historic heritage: the passage of Jurassic and Cretaceous dinosaurs and the presence of their traces in Enciso. I fondly recall nocturnal explorations of the environs under a near-full moon; our group's symbolic induction into La Rioja's wine fellowship; and leisurely lunches in an local café. We produced a document called "The Footprints of Dinosaurs" that we presented to Spanish urban planning students and practitioners. I had the pleasure of rekindling association and working with three colleagues whom I met at the ISOCARP Congress in Cairo the year before: Irene Rubitzki of Austria, Dino Juloya of the United States, and Lalit Khishor Bhati of India. (Several years later, Lalit and I saw each other again when he visited Montreal, where I was living at the time, for a conference.) I am grateful to Asad Mohammed of the University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago. He generously facilitated and supported my entry into the ISOCARP community. After the Cairo meeting, where he presented findings from his work in Port of Spain, we generated the first article listed above from fieldwork we carried out in Djibouti. His ideas about social justice,

and taking scholar-research action on socially produced injustice shaped my thinking. He encouraged my scholarly writing, and I am grateful to him for this. Professor Mohammed introduced me to Milica Bajic-Brkovic of the University of Belgrade, Serbia. I had the pleasure of meeting her first in Cairo, and then again in St. Lucia. While I am no longer a practicing urban planner, it is obvious that I have benefited from being involved with ISOCARP as illustrated above. I was introduced to a universe of ideas and persons whose work challenged and inspired me. After receiving the invitation to prepare a contribution to this anniversary publication, I wrote to my colleagues Andre Sorensen and Ahmed Allahwala, the chair and former associate chair of Human Geography and City Studies at the University of Toronto Scarborough, respectively. In doing so, I hope that they might spread the word about ISOCARP such that their students might 'catch the ISOCARP bug' and benefit, as I have, from association with your organization.

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## INTEGRATE YPPS IN THE CONGRESS PROGRAMME

**AAFKE NIJENHUIZEN**  
THE NETHERLANDS

MY introduction to ISOCARP was in 1993, when my former boss, ir. Hein Struben, asked if I wanted to participate in the YPP workshop in Edinburgh with the subject: “Cities, Regions and Well Being. What can planners do to promote the health and well-being of people in city regions?” I took advantage of this fantastic offer and wrote and presented the paper “Physical Planning as an Ingredient of Well Being – What do People Think?” about a research of the university of Utrecht about the well-being of residents of Dordrecht (the municipality was my employer) and the relation with city design. (My employer took also care of a professional translation of the article, what a luxury.) The 26 Young Planners, from 15 countries, who took part in this pre-congress event were divided into 3 groups. The first day experts from the municipality of Glasgow and region gave information about three adjacent areas along the river Clyde for which a vision was asked. I participated in group B, that got the job to make an analysis and a proposal for designing the North Bank of the river Clyde between Glasgow and Victoria bridge. It was fun and educational to do this with a small group of people with different backgrounds and to work on a task and to get a result in short time. On the second day of the congress the Young Planners presented their proposals. During the congress the Young Planners rented a van and made a trip to the Highlands, so we weren’t part of the congress. At that time it wasn’t easy to keep contact (the time before email and facebook). After the Congress I also attended the Post Congress tour and this was interesting and fun. This

is the only time that my employer has paid for the participation of the congress. This is also the reason that I didn’t come to the congress every year. You have to make choices. On 12 and 13 October in 1996 I participated in the YPP again, this time in Jerusalem, with the theme “Migration and the Global Economy”. Together with Associate Professor Spatial Planning Edward Hulsbergen (from the University of Technology Delft), we wrote a paper titled “Bijlmermeer, a multi-ethnic Future for the Ideal City” that I presented in a workshop. The Young Planners Programme was very well co-ordinated by ir. Hein Struben, ir. Chaja Heyning from the Netherlands and Prof. I. Salomon and Dr. Ronni Ellenblum from Israel. The topic was “Design Quality of a Place of Encounter”. The Mamila neighbourhood was the location for the participants to work on. The task of the groups was to address the dilemma of how space can provide the means or can obstruct the bridging between different communities. This was for me a completely different continent and context. In the Netherlands, we are used to fight against the water but now I saw that planning was also used for other battles.

After this congress some Young Plan-

ners (from Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands) formed TAN – the Temporary Autonomous Network established and as the name indicates it ended after several years. Max van den Berg gave financial and mental support to these activities. TAN members got and took the opportunity to prepare the contents of the congress that was hosted at the university in Utrecht in 2001, entitled ‘Honey I shrunk the Space – planning in the information age’. (And we have organised a workshop for ‘older’ planners after the congress, because it is fun to work together on a design). In 2013-2015, as secretary of LOC and Foundation ISOCARP2015, I was involved in the organisation of the ISOCARP congress “Cities save the world”. We considered the Young Planners Program important and we wanted to integrate YPP in the normal congress program. We wanted real participation of the Young Planners. The special YPP program was made possible by the Creative Industries Fund. It is important to have a Young Planners Program to acquire young members, and according to me it is even more important to integrate this in the normal congress program so they are fully involved.





## THE WOW EFFECT

**HANNA OBRACHT-PRONDZYNSKA**  
POLAND

I had a pleasure to be part of the YPP workshop three times, both as a participant and an organizer. There is one thing I have to admit: once you join the YPP team you become a part of the global urban planners' family. Even though the meetings are exhausting and keeping your creativity extremely busy for the whole duration, you can be 100% sure you will be satisfied with the final effects and you will be looking forward to meeting the YPP team once again to be challenged in another urban project anywhere in the world. It gives you a chance to open up your mind, turning the ideas to adjust the new themes, researching new theories and applying creative solutions. Secondly, it is an occasion to work in the excellent environment and improve teamwork skills. THE YPP workshop is an unforgettable meeting with enthusiast participants who constantly want to challenge and learn new things and never get bored, focusing on their passions and interests. They are addicted to working in a team and are totally city-obsessed. They all work with passion and enjoy both designing and discussing about the current city problems and challenges and spent long (even night) hours with projects. The interdisciplinarity of the teams is of positive

influence for the final results. The YPP participants are super creative, and when led by inspiring mentors are always able to provide an innovative and fresh perspective to the challenge of the designing site. The work includes participants from a wide range of disciplines related to design, architecture, urban planning, new technologies in the cities and many others including social studies as well as animators. Everyone involved is supposed to effectively create fresh ideas of the project and be ready to stimulate open minded discussions leading to the creation of a new, surprising vision that in the future will positively shoot. The process is possible thanks to the work with an elite group of professional managers, knowledgeable local urban planners and amazingly qualified professors. It is an occasion to learn and exchange knowledge and point of views with professors who have many valuable research and long time working experience around the world. YPP expectations are always really high and there is always someone looking for the final results. Being part of the ISOCARP team means you need to be prepared to inspire with your concepts. The main challenge that is intended to be achieved while these

workshop is the WOW effect meaning new, fresh perspectives or ideas which may be inspiring - for everyone involved as well as the observers and may be brought back home and be used in future projects. IN conclusion, it is a great chance to participate in the YPP workshop and I would highly recommend it to anyone who is passionate about urban planning and feels the need of being inspired for their future work by meeting creative, positive, active, designing and planning participants.

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**OLUSOLA OLUFEMI**  
CANADA

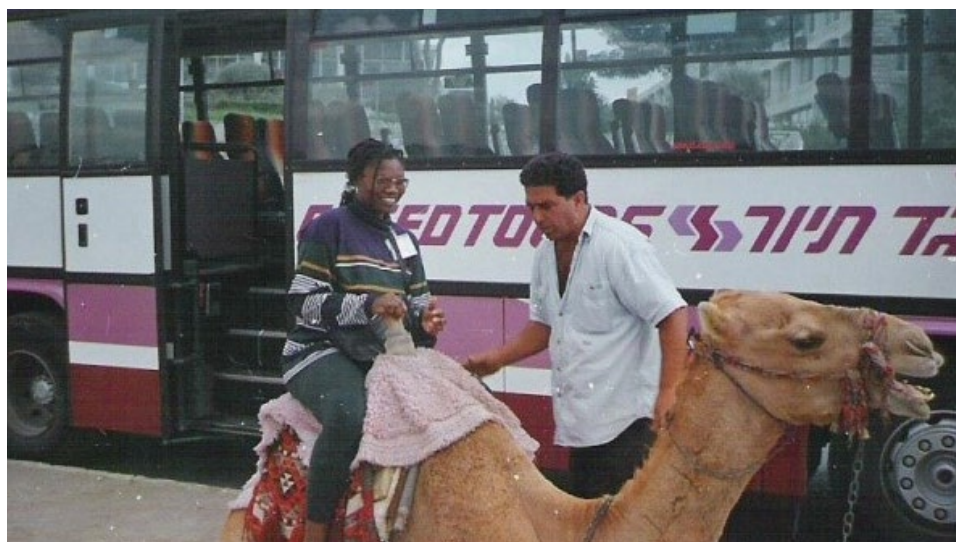
**ISOCARP 25 YEARS MEMORIES AND EXPERIENCES  
KNOWLEDGE! KNOWLEDGE!  
KNOWLEDGE!**



I became a member of the ISOCARP family in 1987 as a young, fresh graduate planner attending the first congress in New Delhi, India (It was quite an extraordinary introduction to this visionary and noble society). My involvement with ISOCARP for the past 29 years in various capacities has been refreshing and enriching because ISOCARP is about **“knowledge”– knowledge creation, sharing, diffusion and dissemination.** The wealth and depth of knowledge advanced through ISOCARP congresses, and publications is phenomenal and it continues to be of tremendous reference for me in my academic and professional endeavours. The ISOCARP Institute couldn't have been founded at a more appropriate time than now. The content (themes and sub-themes of congresses) and context (spatial/geographical spread and/ or communities of interest/diversity) of ISOCARP also contributes to the participants and members knowledge enrichment. ISOCARP is about visionary futures grounded in the past and present. The values of ISOCARP are firmly embedded in the society's vision and administration. The administrative staff have always been polite, courteous, patient

and diligent in their interactions with members. I have not known any differently since I became a member. The 1992 ISOCARP congress theme in Cordoba, Spain was “Cultural Identities in Unity” and **Serge Domicelej** worked with young professional planners from different countries to shaping their worldview of the diverse cultural identities and how planners can integrate this in drawing up plans and policies.

The 1996 ISOCARP congress in Jerusalem, Israel was about “Migration and the Global Economy: Planning Responses to Disintegrating Patterns and Frontiers”. As a young planner the design studio was very informative because we learned firsthand about the intersection of land, religion, history, geo-political and economic issues with planning in the new versus the old Jerusalem and East Jerusalem. **Dina Rachewsky** was of immense assistance if I could remember. As a young planner the talents drawn from all over the world is quite enriching and the enthusiasm from the young planners is palpable. Attending the ISOCARP congresses and most importantly, participating in the young planners workshop, interacting with other colleagues and incorporating our ideas into the various design charrette helps us in our various workplaces. The richness of diversity, ideas and innovative techniques in planning is always unequalled. These workshops indirectly teaches us how not to buckle when under pressure while working with very strict time limit. These workshops have continually evolved over the years under the tutelage of senior colleagues who act as mentors.



## YEARS AND TOPICS ISOCARP YPP WORKSHOPS

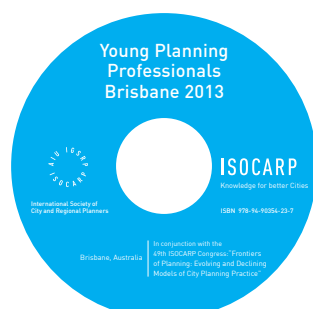
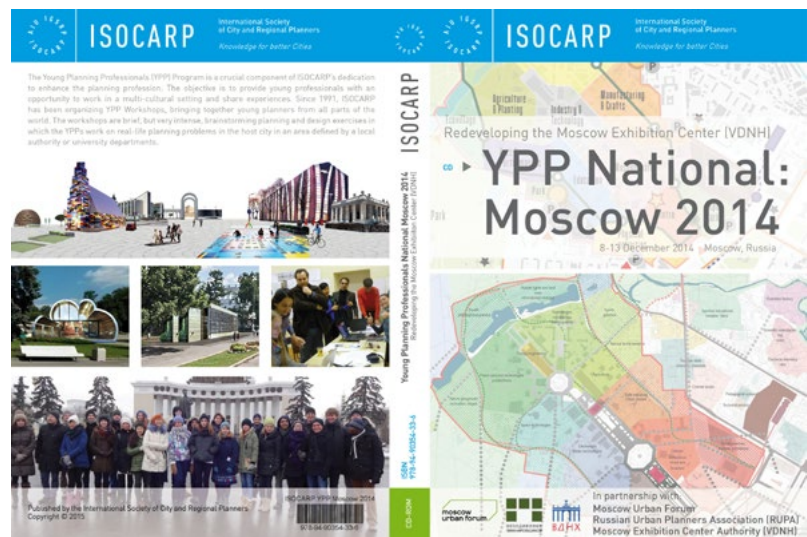
- 2015, Rotterdam, Netherlands – “ROADS ARE OFTEN MADE BY WALKING” on the occasion of the 51st ISOCARP Congress ‘Cities Save the World. Let’s Reinvent Planning’
- 2014, Gdynia, Poland – “RETHINKING THE CITY-WATER INTERFACE” on the occasion of the 50th ISOCARP Congress ‘Urban Transformations – Cities and Water’
- 2013, Brisbane, Australia – “HOWARD SMITH WHARVES – INNER CITY REJUVENATION AND URBAN CONNECTIVITY” on the occasion of the 49th ISOCARP Congress ‘Frontiers of Planning: Evolving and Declining Models of City Planning Practice’
- 2012, Perm, Russia – “PERM-2 STATION AREA” on the occasion of the 48th ISOCARP Congress ‘Fast Forward – Planning in a (hyper) dynamic urban context’
- 2011, Wuhan, China – “CONCEPTUAL DESIGN OF THE WUHAN HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY STATION AREA” on the occasion of the 47th ISOCARP Congress ‘Liveable Cities: Urbanising World. Meeting the challenge’
- 2010, Nairobi, Kenya – “INTEGRATING URBAN COMMUNITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE CITIES” on the occasion of the 46th ISOCARP Congress ‘Sustainable City / Developing World’
- 2009, Porto, Portugal – “AN URBAN DESIGN FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND LOW-CARBON PINHÃO” on the occasion of the 45th ISOCARP Congress ‘Low Carbon Cities’
- 2008, Dalian, China – “THE ROLE OF ‘GREEN AND BLUE’ IN IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF PUBLIC URBAN SPACE IN THE CITY OF DALIAN” on the occasion of the 44th ISOCARP Congress ‘Urban Growth without Sprawl’
- 2007, Antwerp, Belgium – “LEFT BANK, ACTIONS FOR A PARADIGM SHIFT” and “EUROPE-BRUSSELS, AN URBAN PROJECT” on the occasion of the 43th ISOCARP Congress ‘Urban Dialogues’
- 2006, Istanbul, Turkey – “RE-ASSEMBLING THE PATCHWORK OF DISINTEGRATED FUNCTIONS IN ISTANBUL CENTRAL AREA” and “CLIMATE CHANGE IN DELTA REGIONS” on the occasion of the 42th ISOCARP Congress ‘Integration and Disintegration’
- 2005, Bilbao, Spain – “MAKING SPACES FOR THE CREATIVE ECONOMY” and “INCREASING THE INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS OF THE SOUTH WING OF RANDSTAD HOLLAND – NL” on the occasion of the 41st ISOCARP Congress ‘Making Spaces for the Creative Economy’
- 2004, Geneva, Switzerland – “MANAGEMENT OF URBAN REGIONS” and “UTRECHT, NEW CENTRAL STATION” on the occasion of the 40th ISOCARP Congress on ‘Management of Urban Regions’
- 2003, Cairo, Egypt – “ACCESSIBILITY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION” and “LANDUSE INTENSIFICATION AND TRANSPORTATION IN ALMERE” on the occasion of the 39th ISOCARP Congress “Planning in a more globalized and Competitive World”
- 2002, Athens, Greece – “RE-ASSEMBLING THE CITY: ESTABLISHING URBAN CONTINUITY IN ATHENS” on the occasion of the 38th ISOCARP Congress “The pulsar Effect”
- 2001, Enschede, Netherlands – “COMBINING ICT AND SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT” on the occasion of the 37th ISOCARP Congress, Utrecht ‘Honey, I Shrunk the Space – Planning in the Information Age’
- 2000, Cancún, Mexico – on the occasion of the 36th ISOCARP Congress “PEOPLE’S EMPOWERMENT IN PLANNING: Citizens as Actors in Managing their Habitat”
- 1999, Gelsenkirchen, Germany – “INDUSTRIAL REGIONS: Regional strategies and local action towards sustainability” on the occasion of the 35th ISOCARP Congress ‘The Future of Industrial Regions – Regional Strategies and Local Action towards Sustainability’
- 1998, Azores, Portugal – on the occasion of the 34th ISOCARP Congress ‘Land and Water – Integrated Planning for a Sustainable Future’
- 1997, Ogaki, Japan – on the occasion of the 33rd ISOCARP Congress ‘Risk Assessment and Management: Planning for an Uncertain Future’
- 1996, Jerusalem, Israel – on the occasion of the 32nd ISOCARP Congress ‘Migration & the Global Economy: Planning responses to disintegrating patterns and frontiers’
- 1995, Sydney, Australia – on the occasion of the 31st ISOCARP Congress ‘Adaptation and Mediation in urban planning’
- 1994, Prague, Czech Republic – on the occasion of the 30th ISOCARP Congress ‘Expanding Demands on Planning’

- ‘1993 Glasgow, United Kingdom – on the occasion of the 29th ISOCARP Congress ‘Cities, Regions and Well-being’
- 1992 Cordoba, Spain – on the occasion of the 28th ISOCARP Congress ‘Cultural Identities and Unity’
- 1991 Guadalajara, Mexico – on the occasion of the 27th ISOCARP Congress ‘Planning for Leisure – the Challenge of Tourism’.

### National YPP Workshops, Training Workshops

- 2016, Moscow, Russia – “RETHINKING MOSCOW SPACES”
- 2016, Gdynia, Poland – “NEW APPROACHES TO URBAN HOUSING”
- 2016, Guangzhou, China – “CITY MEMORIES AND RECREATION OF LOST SPACE LAOXIGUAN DISTRICT”
- 2014, Moscow, Russia – “REDEVELOPING THE MOSCOW EXHIBITION CENTRE (VDNH)”
- 2014, Wrocław, Poland – “ŚĘPÓLNO DISTRICT, WROCŁAW” within the framework of the EU-SUSREG Project.
- 2014, Shenzhen, China – “DRAFTING THE NEW STRATEGY FOR THE KEY PART OF THE CITY OF SHENZHEN”
- 2014, Al Ain, UAE – “INTRODUCTION TO URBANISM” Intensive Training Course Al Ain 2014/15
- 2014, Abu Dhabi, UAE – “URBANISM 1-2” Intensive Training Courses 2014/15
- 2013, Ulyanovsk, Russia – “COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT – CAPITALIZING THE POTENTIALS OF FIFA WORLD CUP 2018”
- 2013, Lisbon, Portugal – “FROM SPLINTERS TO PARKS. TOWARDS A METROPOLITAN DESIGN”
- 2012, Perm, Russia – “PERM-2 STATION AREA”
- 2012, Pushchino, Russia – “VISION FOR 2040: NEW DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES AND SPACES FOR CHILDHOOD” .

All results of YPP Workshops are published as reports. The YPP Workshop Reports can be downloaded as a Pdf below, or ordered from ISOCARP as a CD-Box (available from 2008). The CD-Box includes extra content, such as presentations and background material.





# IN SHORT, YPP WORKSHOPS ARE WORK ... AND FUN.



ASSOCIATI  
SOCIETÀ

