

## Report from the IPMA Project Excellence Awards

# IPMA Announces 2013 Project Excellence Jury Members

By Ewa Bednarczyk

Rich experience in project management, different working backgrounds and cultural awareness, contribution to spreading the project excellence philosophy and experience in project evaluation. This is what characterizes this year's [IPMA Project Excellence Award Jury Panel](#).

### Additionally:

- 3 Jury members are previous IPMA PE Award Finalists
- 2 Jury members were also IPMA VP Presidents responsible for the Awards
- 3 Jury members acted as an Award Assessor
- 2 Jury members acted as a Jury for the National PE Awards
- 3 Jury members received prestigious Otto's Zieglmeier Award for contribution to the development of the IPMA PE Awards.



This year Project Excellence Awards Applicants will be in great hands:

- Mrs. Mary McKinlay, UK
- Mrs. Constanta Bodea, Romania
- Mr. Frank Menter, Germany
- Mr. Roberto Mori, Italy
- Mr. Hans van Wieren, The Netherlands

The Awards Jury was convened for the 2013 PE Award edition by Reinhard Wagner, IPMA Vice President--Awards, Mary Koutintcheva--Award Management Board Chairman and Ewa Bednarczyk--IPMA Award Office Manager.

**The mission** of the IPMA Award Jury is to decide objectively, based on the information provided by the IPMA Award Team Lead Assessors (TLA) and Award assessor teams, which projects can be IPMA Finalists, Bronze, Silver Winners and Gold Winner for the current years. Mrs. Mary McKinlay explains: "the Jury members are unique in the Awards system as the only people who have an overview of all the entries. Team Lead assessor and Assessors only have visibility of the entry that they are examining. All the Jury members are familiar with the PE Model and how the Award works." **The IPMA Award Jury's goal** is to meet twice to make the right decision.

**The first Jury meeting**, which this year takes place on 15 June 2013, is a conference call during which the IPMA Award Chairman acts as a moderator of the IPMA Award Jury meetings. She will present the IPMA Award Applicants for the current year. The IPMA

Award Jury then specifies key questions and additional information that must be checked during the Site visit.

Mrs. Mary McKinlay adds: “the first Jury meeting is a review of all the entries and the jurors have the TLA reports to guide them as well as access to the entries if they wish. In the early days of the IPMA Excellence Awards, the jury would decide if an entry should have a site visit or not but now it is assumed that all entries will have a site visit. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the findings of the assessor team up to the first team virtual meeting, check that the entry is in the correct category and identify areas that may need further investigation or clarification on the site visit.”

“The Jury members are interested in how well the process has gone to date and whether there are any potential problems with the teams or applicants. E.g. It has been known that a team member having very strong views has made it difficult to obtain consensus on the initial assessment and this is a situation that may require some assistance. Over the years the standards have risen but we do find that occasionally the marking has been over-generous and does not correlate with the comments from the team. As Jury members we do need to raise these questions. We look carefully at the scores in the categories and whether or not they are consistent.”

“The answers to Jury questions are required for making the final decisions during **the second IPMA Award Jury meeting**, which will be organized on 27 July 2013. After the Site visit and the feedback provided by the IPMA Team Lead Assessors the IPMA Award Jury takes the final decision for all the IPMA Finalist(s), Bronze, Silver Winner(s) and Gold Winner in three categories for the current year.”

“We pay a lot of attention to the changes in scoring and whether or not the teams have provided answers to the questions raised earlier” explains Mrs. McKinlay. “We again check that the project is entered in the correct category. The TLAs are asked to make themselves available for telephone consultation should the Jury have particular issues to discuss. The scores are important but so are the comments. Jurors are interested in the delivery of benefits, complexity of the project, innovative practices and how difficulties were resolved. Everyone is aware of the responsibility that they carry and our discussions are serious.”

In 2013 the IPMA Award Management Board announced the change in the names of levels which can be achieved by the applicants. Following Olympic Philosophy the Project Excellence Award Finalists from now on will be identified as Gold, Silver or Bronze winners. Moreover, taking the same philosophy in every category, the best managed project will be announced as the Award Gold Winner.

This year’s Project Excellence Award Winners will be presented at the Gala Dinner on 1 October 2013 during the [27<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress in Dubrownik](#).



For more information please visit: <http://ipma.ch/awards> or contact the IPMA Award Office Manager Ms. Ewa Bednarczyk [award@ipma.ch](mailto:award@ipma.ch).

More at <http://ipma.ch/awards/project-excellence/>

**About IPMA:** Founded in 1965 and registered in Switzerland, the **International Project Management Association** (IPMA) was the world's first project management professional organization. IPMA is an international federation of more than 50 national PM societies in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe and the Americas. IPMA offers an International Competence Baseline standard, a four-level project manager certification, expert seminars and global knowledge. IPMA's annual world congress is one of the most important meetings of the world's project management experts and leaders each year. The president of IPMA for 2013 is **Professor Dr. Mladen Radujkovic, of Croatia**. Additional information about IPMA is available at [www.ipma.ch](http://www.ipma.ch)

The 27<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress will be held in Dubrovnik, Croatia during 30 September – 2 October, 2013. For information, go to <http://www.ipma2013.hr/>

## About the Author



### **EWA BEDNARCZYK**

Krakow, Poland

**Ewa Bednarczyk** currently works for the International Project Management Association (IPMA) where she has administered the IPMA International Project Excellence Award Office since 2007. She is responsible for the coordination of the projects' assessment process, including organization of the assessors training, assessors' team composition, preparation of the Jury and final reports. She is the first contact person for the current and potential applicants and those who are interested in the Project Excellence Model. Moreover she supports the establishment of national Project Excellence Awards among IPMA member associations around the world. Ewa is also a partner in a company pm2pm sp. z o.o. which offers project management training in Poland. Pm2pm mainly trains candidates for the IPMA certification.

In year 2010-2012 Ewa served as the IPMA-PI Vice President responsible for the Polish Project Excellence Award. Ewa graduated from the Kraków University of Economics and Avans Hogeschool in Breda. She is an IPMA Level-D certificate holder. In her free time she regularly plays squash and treks. Her favorite destination is Nepal.

Ewa is also an occasional International Correspondent for PM World in Kraków, Poland. She can be contacted at: [award@ipma.ch](mailto:award@ipma.ch).