

27th IPMA World Congress in Dubrovnik, Croatia

by Jouko Vaskimo

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Professor **Mladen Radujković**, **International Project Management Association** (IPMA) President, **Croatian Association for Project Management** (CAPM) President and Chairman of the 27th IPMA World Congress, Mr **Stacy Goff**, IPMA Vice President in charge of marketing and events, and Dr **Mladen Vukomanović**, the Program Director in charge of the 27th IPMA World Congress opened the 27th IPMA World Congress at Dubrovnik, Croatia, on 30th September 2013. The theme of the 27th IPMA World Congress, the first one to be organized in Croatia, was “finding balance and moving forward”.

The congress, which comprised an extensive system of plenary sessions with keynote presentations by some of the most renowned experts in the profession, simultaneous parallel sessions with both practitioner and scientific foci, and a generous offering of social events surrounding the official congress program, took place at the **Valamar Resort Babin Kuk** on 30th September ... 3rd October 2013.

The congress was organized by IPMA and CAPM in association with the **Civil Engineering Faculty of the University of Zagreb**, the **International Cost Engineering Council** (ICEC) and the **Baltazar Adam Krčelić College of Business and Management**.



In the photograph (from left to right): Professor Mladen Radujković and Mr Stacy Goff opening the 27th IPMA World Congress (photos courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)

An IPMA **Global Young Crew Workshop (GYCW)** preceded the World Congress on 27th ... 29th September, 2013. The Global Young Crew Workshop was organized as an opportunity for young project-oriented people around the world to get to know one another. The GYCW comprised interactive workshops and presentations from renowned keynote speakers. Participants had the opportunity to expand their horizons and bring new and creative views to the way they manage their projects. A special emphasis was on group discussions, interactive learning, networking and having fun. The GYCW can be considered the premium IPMA event for young project managers and people building a career in project management.

Professor Radujković, the Chairman of the 27th IPMA World Congress, was pleased to have the congress start with over 650 participants from over 55 countries. Professor Radujković sincerely welcomed all congress participants, and warmly invited everyone to enjoy the official congress program, and the social program surrounding the official program in Dubrovnik, known as *the Pearl of the Adriatic*. Mr Goff welcomed congress participants, explained the structure of conference program, and invited the congress participants to actively participate in the plenary sessions, the individual streams, the poster sessions as well as the symposia and panel sessions in the program. The conference program included plenary sessions with several state-of-the-art keynote presentations, ten simultaneous parallel tracks, posters sessions, symposia and panels with over 200 topics. The three-day congress was aimed for all project management practitioners from practice organizations as well as scholars from universities and the academia.

Professor Radujković, Chairman of the 27th IPMA World Congress, was very happy with the successful congress, and commented “We are all delighted with the program and the participation at the 27th IPMA World Congress, the top global project, program and portfolio management of the year. In Dubrovnik we introduced new panels, new topics and keynote speakers who joined us for the first time. The participation from around sixty countries, from all continents, demonstrated strong global dedication to IPMA ideas, respect for differences, and facilitation of competence-oriented new developments. The Congress was a triumph of creative thinking and working in project management area. We are thankful to all those who provided support and participated in the event. We hope you enjoyed your stay in Dubrovnik, the famous city-republic from the past and the contemporary pearl of Adriatic.” Professor Radujković can be contacted at Mladen.Radujkovic@ipma.ch .

The opening ceremony keynote presentations were presented by Mr **Jakša Puljiz**, deputy Minister of regional development and EU funds in Croatia, Mr **Mike Brown**, former head of the centre for project management, Rolls-Royce plc, Dr **Prajapati Trivedi**, Secretary to the Government of India, and Mr **Ricaurte “Catín” Vásquez**, Vice President of Government affairs and public policies for Latin America in Panama.



In the photograph: Mr Mike Brown keynoting in the congress opening ceremony.

The first congress day was topped off with a generous welcome reception at the Revelin Fortress in the old town of Dubrovnik.



In the photograph: Mr Stacy Goff and Professor Mladen Radujković welcoming the congress participants to the welcome reception at the Revelin Fortress.

During the second congress day keynote presentations were delivered by Mr **Edward Logan**, Vice President for Evolver Inc., Mr **Colin Carlile**, Director of European Spallation Source Scandinavia, and Mrs **Gordana Kovacević**, President and CEO of Ericsson Nikola Tesla.



In the photograph: Mr Colin Carlile delivering his keynote presentation.

During the third congress day a panel of former IPMA Presidents convened before a full auditorium to discuss the past, the present, and the future of IPMA – the oldest global project management professional organization.



*In the photograph (from left to right): Former IPMA Presidents Dr **Morten Fangel**, Mr **Gilles Caupin**, Professor **Rodney Turner**, Mr **Miles Shepherd**, Mr **Adesh Jain**, Mr **Veikko Väilä**, Mrs **Brigitte Schaden**, and Mr **Roberto Mori**.*

Professor Mladen Radujković, IPMA President, CAPM President and the Chairman of the 27th IPMA World Congress closed the 27th IPMA World Congress in Dubrovnik, Croatia, on 2nd October 2013. Professor Radujković was pleased to see the congress proceed according to plan, and become the latest link in the long tradition of IPMA World Congresses. In his closing remarks Professor Radujković sincerely thanked the congress participants, everyone involved in planning and organizing the event under the direction of Dr Mladen Vukomanović, and wished everyone a safe journey home. Finally Professor Radujković handed the task of organizing the next IPMA World Congress to the organizing committee of the 28th IPMA World Congress.

Mr **Joop Schefferlie**, the President of **IPMA Netherlands** and chairman of the Organizing Committee for the 28th IPMA World Congress, thanked Professor Radujković, and formally took on the role of the organizer of the next IPMA World Congress. Wearing the jersey of the local football club **Feyenoord Rotterdam** he warmly invited the entire IPMA family to the 28th IPMA World Congress which will be organized at the World Trade Center in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, on 29th September ... 1st October 2014. For further information please navigate to www.ipma2014.com .



In the photograph: Mr Joop Schefferlie inviting the IPMA family to the 28th IPMA World Congress in Rotterdam, the Netherlands.

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Founded in 1965 and registered in Switzerland, **International Project Management Association (IPMA)** is the oldest global project management professional organization. IPMA is an international federation of more than 55 national project management societies in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. IPMA annual World Congress is one of the largest and most important gatherings of project management authorities and leaders each year. The president of IPMA for 2013 and 2014 is

Professor Mladen Radujković. For further information please navigate to www.ipma.ch .

About the Author



Jouko Vaskimo

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Jouko Vaskimo works as Development Manager at Aalto PRO, the Professional Development unit of Aalto University in Espoo, Finland. He is also an International Correspondent and Editorial Advisor for **PM World** in Finland. Jouko graduated from Helsinki University of Technology in 1992. Since then he has held project management related assignments with increasing levels for responsibility at Sinebrychoff Ltd, the oldest brewery in Scandinavia; Kemira Engineering Ltd, the leading chemicals manufacturer Finland; DNA Finland Ltd, a large Finnish mobile phone operator; Nokia Business Infrastructure; and Ixonos PLC, one of the leading Finnish ICT consultancies. Jouko holds the IPMA Level C (Project Manager) and Level B (Senior Project Manager) certificates and is the chairman of the Finnish IPMA Certification Body operating IPMA certification in Finland. He is a member of the Project Management Association Finland Board of Directors and a founding member of PMI Finland Chapter. He received the PMP certificate in 2003. Since October 2007, Jouko has been heading the Finnish delegation to ISO/PC 236 and ISO/TC 258. Jouko resides in Espoo, Finland and can be best contacted at jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi.