

## 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress in Rotterdam, The Netherlands

by Jouko Vaskimo

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Professor **Mladen Radujković**, **International Project Management Association** (IPMA) President and Mr **Joop Schefferlie**, **IPMA Nederland** (IPMA-NL) President opened the 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress at Rotterdam, The Netherlands, on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2014. The theme of the 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress, the second one to be organized in the Netherlands, was “Innovation through Dialogue”. Mr **Tom Taylor**, **Association for Project Management** (APM) President, performed the duties of Master of Ceremonies at the congress plenary events, including opening and closing.



*Mr Tom Taylor addressing the 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress opening ceremony audience (photos courtesy Jouko Vaskimo)*

The congress comprised an extensive system of plenary sessions with keynote presentations by renowned experts in project management, parallel streams with practitioner and scientific foci, and a generous offering of social events surrounding the official congress program. The congress, organized by IPMA-NL, took place in the World Trade Center Rotterdam on 29<sup>th</sup> September ... 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014, and attracted over 120 presenters and 1000 participants from 60 different countries.

For more information on the 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, including photos of the sessions and copies of the presentations (for registered participants only), please navigate to [www.ipma2014.com](http://www.ipma2014.com) .

An IPMA **Global Young Crew Workshop** (GYCW) preceded the World Congress on 26<sup>th</sup> ... 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2014. 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, streams, 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, IPMA President, was very happy with the successful congress, and commented “I am very excited and proud about the achievement IPMA did here. Rotterdam will be remembered for longer because of important strategic decisions we made during the IPMA Council of Delegates, so this is even more than having a very successful Congress. IPMA Council confirmed new strategic plan which will bring new dimension and speed in all of our future activities. We have heard about so many achievements that sometimes I ask myself: How is that possible? Our key strength are professionals who decided to volunteer, and dedicate own free time and capacity for better tomorrow of project management profession and society at the large. The Congress itself integrated very inspiring keynotes, strong professional and academic presentations, and fantastic social events. It was unique and fantastic festival of our project management profession.” Professor Radujković can be contacted at [Mladen.Radujkovic@ipma.ch](mailto:Mladen.Radujkovic@ipma.ch) .



Mr Schefferlie, IPMA-NL President, was very pleased with the congress, and said “I’m very proud of all the people who helped us in organizing this congress. Over 50 volunteers from IPMA-NL, CKC seminars (who did all the logistics and marketing), 30 sponsors. The theme of this conference is *Innovation through dialogue*. This is not without reason. We are jointly responsible for the realisation of professional and successful projects throughout the world. This means that the next few days of the Congress you will be inspired by new developments and insights in Project Management by sharing best practices and new findings from the academic and researchers. In dialogue with the YC, Old Crew, the academics. Let’s share our knowledge and experience the next days. Friday I asked the young crew to start the dialogue with the ‘other’ crew and now I will ask to the same. Let’s create a better world and sustainable world through the successful execution of our projects.” Mr Schefferlie can be contacted at [joom.schefferlie@kwdrm.nl](mailto:joom.schefferlie@kwdrm.nl) .



The congress opening session was concluded by a presentation by Professor **Richard Wiseman** titled *The luck factor*. The afternoon plenary session included presentations by Mr **Sajan Parihar** on *Unified work, project and portfolio management for 21<sup>st</sup> century*, Professor **Victor A. F. Lamme** on *Getting things done by pushing the right buttons in the brain*. The first congress day was concluded by welcome drinks at Stadhuis Rotterdam.



*Professor Richard Wiseman keynoting in the congress opening ceremony*

The second congress day was started by keynote presentations by **Her Royal Highness Princess Laurentien of The Netherlands** and Mr **René van der Plas**, and concluded by keynote presentations by Mr **Andy Baker** and Mr **Simon Henley**.



*Her Royal Highness Princess Laurentien of The Netherlands keynoting in the opening plenary of the second congress day*

The second congress day was topped off with IPMA Award Gala Dinner in the monumental Laurens Church, the oldest building in Rotterdam.

The third congress day was opened with keynote presentations by Mr **Jos Nijhuis** and the Dutch Minister for the Environment Mrs **Wilma Mansveld** on Schiphol airport expansion, and by Mr **Ricardo Viana Vargas** on United Nations projects. **Mr Dirk Draulans** presented his keynote presentation in the congress closing ceremony.



*The Dutch Minister for the Environment Mrs Wilma Mansveld keynoting in the opening plenary of the third congress day*

Professor Radujković, IPMA President, closed the 28<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress in Rotterdam on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2014. He was pleased to see the congress proceed according to plan, and become the latest link in the long tradition of IPMA World Congresses. Mr Schefferlie sincerely thanked the congress presenters and participants, everyone involved in planning and organizing the event, and wished everyone a safe journey home. Mr Schefferlie invited all congress presenters and participants to the Farewell Party at Maassilo, and finally handed the task of organizing the next IPMA World Congress to the organizing committee of the 29<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress.

Mr **José E. Reyes**, the President of **Asociación Panameña de Gestion de Proyectos** (APGP) thanked Mr Schefferlie, and formally took on the role of the organizer of the next IPMA World Congress: He warmly invited the entire IPMA family to the 29<sup>th</sup> IPMA World Congress which will be organized at Panama City, Panama, on the same dates as this event, 29<sup>th</sup> September ... 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015. The congress will deal with project and program management in the transport and infrastructure industries. For further information please at navigate to [www.apgp-ipma.org](http://www.apgp-ipma.org) or contact Mr Reyes at [JReyes@apgp-ipma.org](mailto:JReyes@apgp-ipma.org) .





*The Farewell Party at Maassilo*

**IPMA**®  
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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. The IPMA 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](http://www.ipma.ch) .

Text and photos by Jouko Vaskimo ([jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi](mailto:jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi)) – reporting from Rotterdam for PM World Journal.

## 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](mailto:jouko.vaskimo@aalto.fi).