



Activities

[Singapore 2007 beckons](#)

The FIDIC 2007 Singapore conference offers an in-depth analysis of the latest business developments in a remarkably multicultural atmosphere.

[BIMILACI 2007 highlighted procurement policies](#)

FIDIC's biennial BIMILACI meeting with the multilateral development banks focussed on ways to improve the quality of procurement outcomes.

Events

[SKOL-Finland celebrates its 40th anniversary](#)

Finland's recognized its 40th anniversary by reflecting on the universal challenges that the consulting engineers face everywhere.

[FIDIC Jordan Training Programme gets underway](#)

Regular two-day training courses given by international experts are now being offered by a Jordan-based FIDIC programme.

[Forthcoming meetings and events](#)

Late-2007 events include FIDIC contracts courses, training seminars and conferences.

Contracts

[Several new publications on track](#)

The FIDIC DBO contract, one of several new FIDIC publications, will be released at a special FIDIC 2007 conference seminar.

Representation

[Developing vigorous consulting industries in eastern Europe](#)

FIDIC urges firms operating in east and central Europe to support newly established associations.

[Asia-Pacific 2007 regional conference targetted disaster mitigation](#)

Role of consulting engineers in disaster mitigation recognized at the FIDIC 2007 ASPAC-TCDPAP Asia-Pacific Regional Conference.

[GAMA-Africa consolidates](#)

African associations reviewed key industry issues and adopted an action plan at the FIDIC GAMA-Africa 2007 Regional Conference.

Business practice

[Japan pursues quality and state-of-the-art practice in procurement](#)

A FIDIC delegation to Japan was briefed on AJCE-Japan initiatives to promote best practice in procurement.

Business development

[Sustainability management links carbon credits to standards](#)

FIDIC's Project Sustainability Management can offer practical tools for linking ISO project indicators and Kyoto carbon credit baselines.

Ethics

[Government Procurement Integrity Management System](#)

FIDIC is developing a demand-side integrity tool called Government Procurement Integrity Management System (GPIMS).

Image

[AfDB procurement rules revision](#)

FIDIC to comment on draft revised African Development Bank procurement rules for consultants and for works.

[FIDIC attends the USIC-Switzerland 2007 annual meeting](#)

Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, stressed the importance of international best practice at the USIC-Switzerland 2007 meeting.

[Infrastructure need highlighted at the ACEC-US 2007 annual convention](#)

A FIDIC delegation participating in the ACEC-US 2007 annual convention heard about an US infrastructure report card indicating a USD 1.6 trillion requirement.

Notices to Member Associations

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Activities

Singapore 2007 beckons [\[full item: 94Ac\]](#)

FIDIC 2007 Singapore Conference (9-13 September; www.fidic2007.org) keynote speakers will offer a wealth of experience and a solid foundation for the workshops that follow. Mah Bow Tan (see photo; [CV](#)) Singapore's Minister for National Development and Leader of Parliament, will be the Guest of Honour. He will describe his country's success in becoming both a regional and an international hub, with consulting engineers playing a major role in infrastructure development and demonstrating the global nature of the international trade in services. An Asian Development Bank Vice-President will then focus on the bank's role as a major regional investor, highlighting the importance of engineers in developing the sustainable infrastructure needed for robust economies. A Japan Bank of International Cooperation project director will then compare and contrast the roles of aid agencies and the international financial institutions, both of which stress the need for quality in infrastructure projects.



On the supply side, the chief executive of Leighton Asia, a major construction firm, will share his considerable experience on the opportunities arising from new types of project delivery, with new roles for consultants and clients, to achieve higher quality projects. His counterpart from Maunsell AECOM Asia, a major consulting firm, is well placed to describe how these changes are affecting business dynamics: local and international firms are both using innovative models for business relationships to enhance collaboration and maximise opportunities.

FIDIC 2007 also offers an exciting social programme, including post-conference tours to Malaysia and Indonesia, a lively and varied programme for accompanying persons, and special activities for young professionals. Registrations and bookings can be made online at www.fidic2007.org, and there are special hotel prices for participants making reservations through the organizers.

BIMILACI 2007 highlighted procurement policies [\[full item: 95Ac\]](#)

In early-May 2007, FIDIC led the charge on procurement reform at the biennial BIMILACI meeting with the major multilateral development banks (MDBs). Under the banner "Partners for Quality Infrastructure", procurement systems were put under the spotlight, and found lacking (presentations and a summary report are available at www.fidic.org/bimilaci).



This was emphasised by a presentation of the key findings of an important study commissioned by the World Bank, the need for which had been identified and agreed at the 2005 BIMILACI. The study, as yet unpublished, revealed significant opportunities for improvement in procurement policies that impact on integrity, capacity utilisation and the quality of services. With the growing demand for consulting engineering services and fewer firms participating in MDB funded work, there was a positive reaction for collaborative solutions to improving procurement policies. FIDIC argued for release of the study's report to help provide a solid background for new initiatives. The areas in most need of reform are evaluation committees, selection criteria, opportunities for local consultants, and transparency and integrity in procurement. The photo shows the FIDIC delegation, from the left: Gregs Thomopoulos, Executive Committee (EC) member; Enrico Vink, Managing Director; Jorge Diaz Padilla, President; John Boyd, President-Elect; Bayo Adeola, EC Member.

As an outcome, the MDB heads of procurement agreed to hold an integrity workshop to review anticorruption tools, including FIDIC's Business Integrity Management System (BIMS) and Government Procurement Integrity Management System (GPIMS), see News [item](#) below. The outcome would be to review the possibility of implementing a pilot project to analyse the applicability of GPIMS in MDB executing agencies, an area of procurement that was identified as requiring considerable support.

The banks also agreed to hold a workshop to share tools on sustainable procurement, including FIDIC's Project Sustainability Management System (PSM), and to review their applicability for procurement policies, and to inform all involved. On consultant selection, the banks agreed to focus on: selection methods; timeframes; shortlisting; terms of reference and scopes of service; cost and revised scoring formulae in quality-cost based selection; capacity development; local consultants. Other issues raised and taken up by the banks related to late payments and unclear liability provisions in consultant contracts.

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Events

SKOL-Finland celebrates its 40th anniversary [full item: 54Ev]

Finland is recognised as having one of the most sophisticated and developed consulting engineering sectors. Nevertheless, many issues of particular interest such as skill shortages and fees are no different from elsewhere. SKOL-Finland, which has been responding to the challenges for 40 years, invited Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, to recognise this milestone by addressing a 250-strong audience on FIDIC principles, which have not changed in nearly 100 years. However, consulting engineering's contributions, while widely recognised, are not appreciated by all clients and by society at large. Enrico emphasised the need to "humanise" the business of consulting engineering, so that people can better relate to what consulting firms actually do.

FIDIC Jordan Training Programme gets underway [full item: 55Ev]

The FIDIC Jordan Training Programme got underway in June 2007 with two courses given by international experts. There was a full house for each two-day course, and repeat events will need to be organized. The plan is to offer participants from the region the full range of courses based on the FIDIC Contracts and Guide to Practice manuals. Jordan is enjoying an unprecedented economic boom, and its engineers are highly sought after owing to language skills, excellent training and their knowledge of FIDIC contracts. The programme is a joint venture with the Jordan Engineers Association (www.jea.org.jo) that registers firms and the A/E Business Council (www.aeb-council.org) that represents the business interests of consulting engineering and architecture firms. An umbrella association grouping the two partners is planned so that Jordan's dynamic industry can be represented in FIDIC.

Forthcoming meetings and events [full item: 56Ev]

FIDIC-ECV Adjudicators (Module 3) [Course](#), Bucharest, 14-15 Jun 07
FIDIC-ECV Contracts (Module 1) [Course](#), Bucharest, 25-26 Jun 07
FIDIC-JTP Contracts (Module 1) [Course](#), Amman, 8-9 Jul 07
FIDIC-JTP Claims Management (Module 2) [Course](#), Amman, 11-12 Jul 07
FIDIC-ECV Contracts (Module 1) [Course](#), Trinidad, 9-10 Jul 07
FIDIC-ECV Claims Management (Module 2) [Course](#), Trinidad, 13-14 Jul 07
FIDIC PSM [Training Seminar](#), New Zealand, 9-11 Aug 07
FIDIC-Cornerstone Contracts [Workshop](#), Abu Dhabi, 6-7 September 07
FIDIC 2007 [Conference](#), Singapore, 9-13 Sep 07
FIDIC DBO [Seminar](#), Singapore, 13 Sep 07

Contracts

Several new publications on track [full item: 68Co]

A FIDIC Contracts Committee in Berlin in early May 2007 confirmed that FIDIC's new and eagerly awaited Design-Build-Operate (DBO) contract is on track for publication as a Trial Edition at the FIDIC 2007 Singapore Conference (9-13 September; www.fidic2007.org) where there will be a special DBO Seminar (see FIDIC.org/DBO) on 13 September 2007. Also well advanced are updates to the *Joint Venture Agreement* and to the *Sub-Consultancy Agreement*, and a revision of the *FIDIC Tendering Procedures* publication as a new publication called *FIDIC Procurement Procedures*. A huge debt of gratitude is owed for the considerable efforts of members of the committee and its task groups.

Representation

Developing vigorous consulting industries in eastern Europe [full item: 57Re]

FIDIC has been working closely for several years with emerging consulting engineering industries in central and eastern Europe. A special forum was held in Moscow in April 2007, with delegations from Russia, Kazakhstan and Belarus confirming their commitment to agreements to develop closer collaboration, especially by supporting newly established, independent associations. Belarus, already a FIDIC member, was able to share its experience, and other countries are also following the FIDIC model. While opportunities in the emerging economies are huge, much work is needed to change years of state control, so that the value of a private sector industry is clearly demonstrated. The support of multinational firms operating in the region is vital for developing robust industries. FIDIC Member Associations are being asked to encourage any of these firms that are members to support the new associations (please contact Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, for more information).

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Asia-Pacific 2007 regional conference targeted disaster mitigation

[full item: 56Re]

Following on from the FIDIC 2006 Asia-Pacific (ASPAC) Regional Conference on poverty alleviation, the consulting engineering industry continued to raise its profile at the 2007 ASPAC conference (Lahore, Pakistan; 20-22 March 2007) on disaster management by demonstrating, with many practical examples, how consulting engineers make a significant impact on improving the quality of life. The photo shows, from the left: A. Hirotani, ASPAC Chair; M. Haque, TCDPAP President; K. Ullah Chaudry, ACEP-Pakistan President; J. Diaz Padilla, FIDIC President; S. Abrol, TCDPAP Secretary General. Hosted by ACEP and with some 300 participants, including delegations from nine ASPAC Member Associations, ASPAC 2007 enjoyed strong support from the Pakistani government. This reflected the important role of engineers in mitigating and alleviating the effects of natural disasters. Although often frustrated by political issues and the well-intentioned efforts of volunteers, consulting engineers are acknowledged contributors to sustainable solutions. There are many opportunities for becoming more involved through planning for a longer term, developing appropriate infrastructure and disseminating best practice.



An ASPAC meeting held during the conference (chaired by Aki Hirotani, AJCE-Japan) recognized that there were both challenges and opportunities for FIDIC ASPAC to provide a platform for closer collaboration and to find new ways for collaborating. The value of the Asia-Pacific ASPAC regional conference and the international FIDIC conference (Singapore; 9-13 September 2007; www.fidic2007.org) were appreciated. With skill shortages being a major issue, ongoing training was also high on the agenda, with FIDIC now organizing regular training events throughout the region (see FIDIC.org/ASPAC).

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GAMA-Africa consolidates [full item: 55Re]

Excellent presentations (see www.fidic.org/gama) at the FIDIC Group of African Member Associations (GAMA) Africa 2007 Regional Conference (12-14 May; Gaborone, Botswana) covered crucial issues such as anti-corruption strategies in procurement, capacity development, the value of engineering services, public sector reform, regulation of the engineering industry, risk management in road construction, procurement issues impacting on firms, and ways to develop an engineering industry. GAMA 2007 was opened by Ms L. Motsumi, Botswana Minister of Construction (shown in the photo with Jorge Diaz Padilla, FIDIC President, and Keinee Kwerepe, ACEB-Botswana Chair), who highlighted the opportunities stemming from economic growth and the industry's need for more women and young professionals. Noting her interest in best practice and international standards, The FIDIC President and Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, presented her with copies of FIDIC's documents.



The host association, ACEB-Botswana, offered a superb setting and a well organised conference, and 11 African countries were represented at the GAMA Annual Meeting, including Tunisia and Sudan with which GAMA has been working closely to develop capacity. The general assembly adopted a new GAMA structure and elected a steering committee to push forward the recommendations of the GAMA Task Force. The task force was established two years ago to develop strategies for enabling the consulting engineering industry in Africa to tackle specific regional issues. Its action plan based on key outcomes is available at www.fidic.org/gama in [PDF](#). A new GAMA Executive was also elected comprising: G. Sitali, Zambia; R. Izzert, Botswana; A. Taute, South Africa; M. Atetiba, Nigeria - chair; N. Chater, Tunisia; A. Zaki, Sudan; E. Mushi, Tanzania.

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Business practice

Japan pursues quality and state-of-the-art practice in procurement

[full item: 73Pr]

Gregs Thomopoulos, FIDIC Executive Committee Member, and Richard Stump, FIDIC Young Professionals (YP) Forum Chair, took advantage of a business trip to Japan to meet with AJCE-Japan to be briefed on FIDIC-related initiatives. AJCE has been actively promoting international best practice in a several areas, including state-of-the art contracts, Risk Management, Business Integrity Management, and quality-based selection and design-build in procurement (where there have been AJCE surveys of several countries). The AJCE Newsletter is available at www.ajce.co.jp and the association runs a very active YP [programme](#).

Business development

Sustainability management links carbon credits to standards [full item: 54De]

If buildings are recognized as activities under carbon credit trading schemes, they could generate tradable carbon credits, and the energy saving potential of a building would represent a business opportunity. The UNEP Sustainable Building and Construction Initiative (SBCI) of which FIDIC is a member, thus has as a main focus area the eligibility of buildings and construction for support under the Kyoto Protocol's flexible mechanisms. At present, owing to complicated administrative requirements for developing a business-as-usual "baseline" for a certain type of project, there are very few construction-related projects registered (the difference between the planned emission from, say, a building and the baseline is counted as an emission reduction for which an investor can claim credit). SBCI will develop proposals for specific provisions in post-2012 Kyoto agreements so that construction can receive improved support under Kyoto carbon trading schemes (a so-called Kyoto Strategy). Further details of the UNEP SBCI work programme are at www.unepsbci.org. It is unclear how this programme relates to a ISO Technical Committee 59 proposal (available [online](#)) to use the ISO Technical Specification 21929-1 *Framework for the development of indicators for buildings* to develop a core set of sustainability indicators for buildings. What is sure that FIDIC's Project Sustainability Management (www.p-s-m.net) aims to integrate both Kyoto baselines and core indicators in its set of tools.



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Ethics

Government Procurement Integrity Management System [full item: 34Et]

As corruption is a two-way street, FIDIC's Integrity Management Committee is developing an integrity system that mirrors FIDIC's Business Integrity Management System (BIMS) but is geared to the demand side of corruption. Called the Government Procurement Integrity Management System (GPIMS), it is also a ISO 9001-2000 quality management based system where integrity is considered as part of quality. GPIMS meets the protocols for the government procurement anticorruption policies of the OECD's Principles for Managing Ethics in the Public Service and of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. In addressing the integrity of government procurement processes for consulting services, GPIMS also accommodates the fundamental principles of a government's legal system. Details of BIMS are available at FIDIC.org/BIMS, together with a summary of the development of GPIMS.

Image

AfDB procurement rules revision [full item: 37Im]

The African Development Bank (AfDB) reports that it is time to reform the Bank's *Rules of Procedure for the Procurement of Goods and Works and Rules of Procedure for the Use of Consultants*. The 2000 versions (available in [Works Rules PDF](#) and [Consultant Rules PDF](#)) have gone through a lengthy revision and "a rigorous harmonization process and the inclusion of new modalities which will help the Bank improve its efficiency and delivery on its mandate" (available in [New Draft Works Rules PDF](#) and [New Draft Consultant Rules PDF](#), see ADB.org). FIDIC, which been invited to comment by 5 July 2007, will coordinate remarks from its Group of Africa Member Associations (GAMA) and from committees through the FIDIC Secretariat.

FIDIC attends theUSIC-Switzerland 2007 annual meeting [full item: 38Im]

Despite its proximity to the FIDIC office in Geneva, it took Enrico Vink, FIDIC Managing Director, three years since taking office before he could attend the annual meeting ofUSIC-Switzerland. As with other European countries, progress within the consulting engineering industry has been impressive, in spite of issues related to risk, sustainability, skill shortages and fees. Enrico took the opportunity to explain FIDIC's many guidelines and policies covering most of the crucial topics. That FIDIC represented much more than just international business interests was of considerable interest to the audience assembled in Basel University's venerable halls. The message was that FIDIC develops international best practice for local use: think global - act local.

Infrastructure need highlighted at the ACEC-US 2007 annual convention

[full item: 391m]

The US consulting engineering industry is enjoying record levels of activity, thanks in part to the ACEC-USA success in lobbying the US Congress for increased spending on infrastructure. While visiting Washington DC for the BIMILACI 2007 meeting with the development banks (see News [item](#)) a FIDIC delegation participated in the ACEC-USA annual convention that reported on a recent infrastructure report card (see www.asce.org/reportcard) indicating that USD1.6 trillion is required over a five-year period to bring US infrastructure to "a good condition". Such report cards have been adopted by other countries, and may be of interest to FIDIC Member Associations interested in highlighting a country's needs, from an industry perspective. Infrastructure report cards use a panel of leading engineers to analyze studies, reports and other sources, and to survey individual engineers to determine what has happening in six areas (aviation; bridges, roads and transit; industrial sites ; dams; water; waterways). Grades are assigned on the basis of condition, capacity and operations, and funding versus need. They are then adjusted to reflect positive or negative trends and the critical consequences of a catastrophic failure. An excellent example of report card methodology (for California) is available online ([Word file](#)).

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Contracts Committee, Geneva, 28 Aug 07

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04/07: Events [PDF](#)

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06/07: FIDIC 2008 GAM agenda [PDF](#)

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