



**Official partner**



**IAHR Portugal YPN Newsletter** is an electronic bi-annual publication of the Portugal Young Professionals Network of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research

**January 2020/1**

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**Welcome New Members**



### **Joana Baltazar – Instituto Superior Técnico**

Joana did the two first years of the Civil Engineering course in Instituto Superior Técnico (IST). Then, she switched to the Mathematics Department in IST, completing the Bachelor and Master in Applied Mathematics. During the Master, she specialized in Numerical Analysis, in particular on Numerical Analysis for Fluid Mechanics. Because of her great interest in this field, especially in Hydraulics, she has come back to the Civil Engineering Department in IST, starting, in 2018, the Doctoral program of Civil Engineering on Environmental Hydraulics and Hydrology (H2Doc program). She wanted to see the application of the mathematical models she had learned to real hydraulic engineering situations. Her PhD research comprehends experimental work and numerical simulations (Computational Fluid Dynamics) to investigate the control of sediments' entrance into lateral water intakes using submerged vane-fields.



### **Diogo Fonseca – FUTURE PROMAN**

Diogo holds a master's degree in Civil Engineering (Hydraulic and Water Resources) at Instituto Superior Técnico (IST). Since the graduation (2015) he has been a port & coastal design engineer at FUTURE PROMAN where is currently responsible for the Coastal

Management's unit, which includes the maritime hydraulic analysis, navigational channels, breakwaters & jetties design and also the management and conception of dredging operations. Diogo is also the current Head of Innovation of FUTURE PROMAN.



### **Anouar Kaouachi – COBA**

Anouar Kaouachi is a PhD student in Civil Engineering, specialized in hydraulics and fluid mechanics at the University of Amar Telidji Algeria, and a visiting Research at Coimbra University Portugal, his research is focused on CFD modelling and laboratory-based physical modelling, related with Free-surface flow interface and air-entertainment modelling in hydraulic structures.

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## **Website Updates**

New website contents include opinion articles on topics in the field of hydro-environment engineering and research and perspective articles from conferences, congresses and workshops (<http://iahrportugal.org/blog/>).

Greetings from the new President

It is an absolute pleasure to introduce myself as the new President of Portugal Young Professionals Network (YPN) of the International Association for Hygienic Environment Engineering and Research (IAHR). I am honored to serve this role in times when young professionals are challenged every day. Now more than ever, young professionals need help to boost their career, increasing their skills and their network of contacts. The new Executive Committee is engaged to show how our network can make a difference in your professional experience and development.



### Artigo de Perspectiva

Sessão "O Engenheiro do Futuro" em XVI SEREA – Seminário Ibero-Americano sobre Sistemas de Abastecimento e Drenagem

Read



### Perspective Article

Stay tuned and follow us at [www.iahrportugal.org](http://www.iahrportugal.org), on LinkedIn at link [linkedin.com/company/pt-ypn-iahr/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/pt-ypn-iahr/) and on Facebook at link [@portugal.ypn.iahr](https://www.facebook.com/portugal.ypn.iahr).

## IAHR News

Dear IAHR Young Professionals,

As the year is finalising we would like to thank you for your engagement to IAHR, our network is growing fast (we are now 58 networks from 49 different countries!).

We would like to give more visibility to our Young Professionals and so we would like to invite you to send us a brief feedback of your activities. **We very much appreciate your engagement and we are proud of having you on board of IAHR.** We would like to make you and your activities more

visible in our IAHR community. Thus, a little report of what happened in 2019 (professional and social) including some pictures, by December 31<sup>st</sup>, would be highly welcome so we can share them with the whole community.

In 2020 we plan to **improve our communications and facilitate connections** among all of you (for example by creating an instagram account and a special section of Newflash for Young Professionals). If you have any other ideas or requests, please let us know. We would also like to **improve the benefits offered to YPNs** (for example by organising regular meetings, introducing new grants, awards, and exchange opportunities, as well as to increase your participation and voice in the IAHR governance).

Finally we hope to see you all at next years regional and technical events and to remind you that the Europe Congress has offered **20 grants to YPs** to attend (all travel costs will be covered!) and that the deadline to apply is January 15th (<https://iahr2020.pl/grants/>).

Best

wishes,

**Prof**

**Silke**

**Wieprecht**

*IAHR Vice President, Chair of IPD & Chair of Standing Committee on Membership (including YPNs)*

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## **Upcoming Events**



## **15º Congresso da Água**

15º Congresso da Água will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, from 25th and 28th March 2020, and is dedicated to the topic "For a water policy in Portugal - the contribution of APRH. <http://www.aprh.pt/congressoagua2020/index.html>



## **6th IAHR Europe Congress**

The 6th IAHR Europe Congress will be held in Warsaw, Poland, from 30th June and 2nd July 2020. Deadline for abstract submission has been extended till January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2020. <https://iahr2020.pl/>

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**Opinion article: "Young Portuguese engineers abroad: flourishing far from home"**



João Fabião is a Senior Maritime Engineer in Dubai, UAE. He graduated as MSc in Civil Engineering – Hydraulic and Water Resources in 2012, in Instituto Superior Técnico. He spent the following years between research and consultancy, acquiring relevant experience in the field of Coastal Engineering. In 2017, he moved to the United Arab Emirates, where he has been involved in the development of large scale coastal projects. He was involved in megaprojects as Dubai Harbour, with a world class cruise terminal and the biggest marina in the Middle East, and Hail and Ghasha Offshore Development, which included the design of 11 reclaimed islands for gas extraction. His tasks include coastal numerical modelling, design of coastal protection structures and the development of coastal studies and assessments.

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Every time I open LinkedIn, I find new cases of classmates that left Portugal. I am part of this group. Graduated in 2012, at the height of the Economic Adjustment Programme, I spent the first years between research and consultancy, before taking the chance of moving abroad in 2017. In the UAE, I found a group of young Portuguese engineers that shared the same fate. All of them were young, talented and motivated civil engineers who went abroad not long after graduating. All of them were thriving and progressing in their fields. All of us share the same dream of one day returning to Portugal.

There is a similar backstory for thousands of young Portuguese engineers succeeding in different places of the world. This is no coincidence. Portuguese engineers generally have a very good technical background, are easily adaptable to different environments, deal well under pressure and have a good command of English. The combination of these skills is acknowledged and valued by the markets.

There are challenges for newcomers, of course. In addition to all the natural differences of living abroad, every country has its own engineering practices and cultural specificities. The contrast is starker the more one moves further from Portugal. The pace of work can be shocking, particularly in the UAE, where projects are fast-tracked by default and requirements can change at the blink of an eye. However, the high pace can also be an advantage, accelerating technical development and career progression. Other benefits include the opportunity to be involved in large scale projects and work within multicultural teams with different approaches and work ethics.

All things accounted, there are significant advantages for young Portuguese engineers working abroad. Like the ancient Portuguese sailors of the Discoveries, we are exploring the world and actively contributing for the development of cities, countries and entire regions. However, like most of the ancient Portuguese sailors of the Discoveries, it is not the spirit of adventure that is driving us abroad, but the lack of opportunities in our home country. It is sad to see an entire generation leaving Portugal in search of better opportunities. Some call it a "brain drain". It is said the domestic market is too small to absorb all the engineer graduates. Despite this gloomy scenario, most of my fellow Portuguese colleagues dream about returning one day to give back what the country invested in us. We saw the world, acquired new tools, learned new skills. When will the country be ready to welcome us again?

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## Suggested Readings

"Como acelerar a inovação nos serviços da água em Portugal - **Jaime Melo Batista**  
<http://ambienteonline.pt/canal/detalhe/comentario-jaime-melo-baptista->



[como-acelerar-a-inovacao-nos-servicos-de-aguas-em-portugal](#) -

IAHR White Papers: Artificial Intelligence how can water planning and management benefit from it? – **Dragan Savic**

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### **Join IAHR Portugal Young Professionals Network!**

Improve your network, skills, participate in ambitious events and become part of the International Association for Hydro-Environment Engineering and Research.

Please contact us at [hello.ypn@iahrportugal.org](mailto:hello.ypn@iahrportugal.org)

[\*\*Join us\*\*](#)

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