

Together for the future

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1. WHY MEET?

After years of waiting and some months of organisation, on 13th and 14th of June 2023, 180 young surveyors under 35 years old met at the PalaCongresso in the city of Riccione in Emilia Romagna, to talk and discuss the present and the future of Italian (young) surveyors revolving around these themes: Technological Innovation, Environment Sustainability, Quality Education, and Profession 4.0. This event was born, introduced, and created from an idea of a group of young surveyors and the Commissione Nazionale Giovani (National Youth Commission) since 2021.

1.2 The National Youth Commission

The National Youth Commission is composed of thirty representing their home territory. The function of the commission is to create networks among young surveyors and keep a high profile of the needs of young surveyors to the national representatives of our profession.



1.2 The motivations

The organization of the event is part of #GEOfactory Laboratory of Ideas under 35, the project aimed at young professionals created in 2019 by the National Council of Surveyors and Graduate Surveyors with "the objective of initiating a broad and constructive discussion on important issues for the economic, social and cultural growth of the Category in the coming decades, with particular attention to the accompanying stages to two important goals set by the European Community by 2050."

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2. METHODOLOGIES USED

2.2 The POP Methods

The event was organized by the Youth Commission together with the National Council. To navigate the project, the Commission, with the collaboration of Paul Martinez, used the POP (purpose, outcomes and process) model created by Dr. Robert Gass.

POP is a simple but powerful tool for focusing actions on creating results, clarifying the purpose and outcomes of each planned action and focusing on results. Our energy and time are precious, so three questions must be asked before starting an activity:

Purpose: Why? Why are we undertaking this? What is the purpose?

Outcomes: What are the specific outcomes we want to accomplish as a result of this action?

Process: What steps will we take to achieve these outcomes and fulfill the purpose?"

Let us take a closer look at each stage of the model:

A. The purpose

The Youth Commission when asked this question, namely "why do we want to bring Young Italian Surveyors together," had the following answers:

- a. Because it was time to network among us young people
- b. The discussion of issues concerning the profession of the young surveyor
- c. Youth representation within our profession (young surveyors are there!).

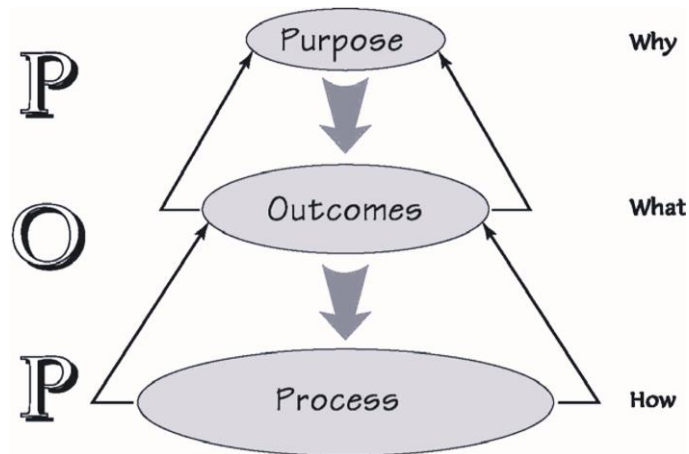
If we did not have an answer, the organization of this event would not have had a reason.

B. Results

The main objective was to prepare a report for presentation to the National Council that would keep alive the discussion that had taken place and outline clear goals for the work in the coming years.

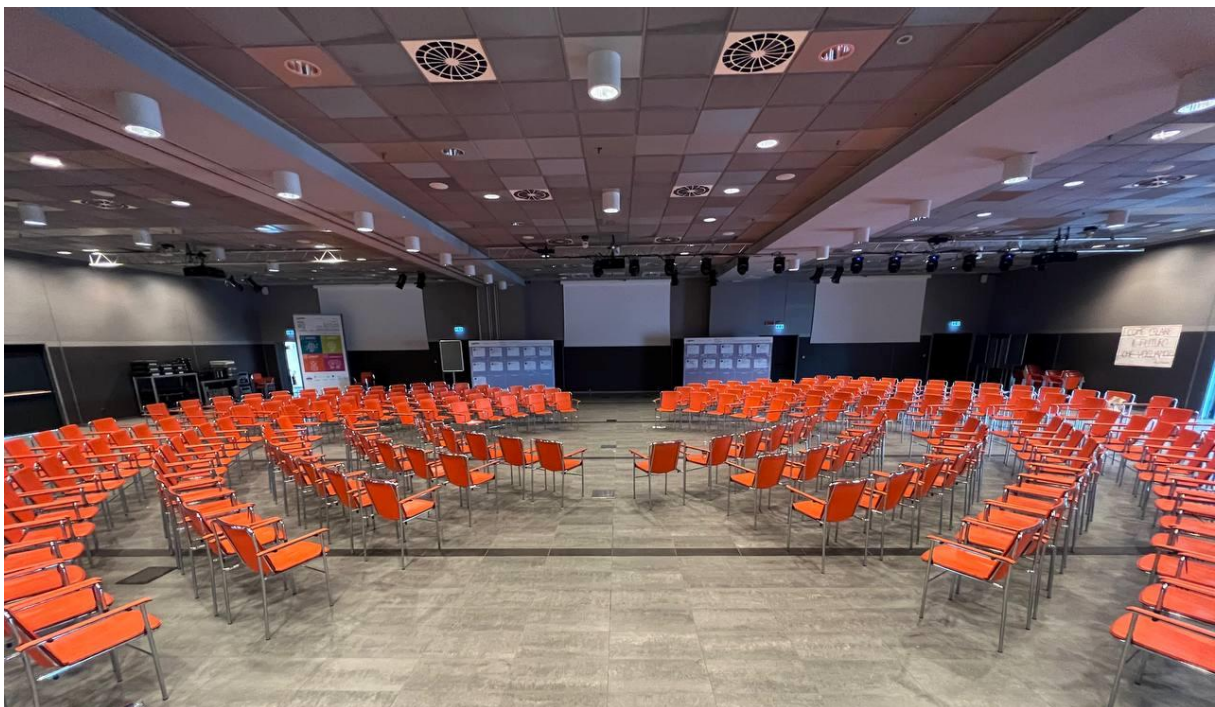
C. The process

The process was shared with the National Council. The Youth Commission took care of the management on the days of the events and the National Council and the consultants in charge, of the location and financial arrangements. Between many videoconferences, meetings in presents, emails and phone calls, it' was an adventure for both parties, but in the end we achieved the result: two days of meetings in the conference facility in Riccione, Emilia Romagna, where 180 members from 69 provincial colleges gathered to discuss, smile, hug and find solutions to the problems of young surveyors.



2.2 The OST Methods

The methodology used during the meeting is Open Space Technology (OST), which enables the creation of particularly inspired and productive working groups. Experimented over the past two decades in different countries around the world, it has been employed in the management of groups consisting of a minimum of 5 to a maximum of 2,000 people, in conferences lasting one, two or even three days. OST is an innovative working methodology to produce a summary document of all proposals/projects developed by the group.



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The method is based on four "principles."

- Whoever comes is the right person.
- Whatever happens is the only thing that could have happened.
- When it starts is the right time.
- When it is over is over

The topics covered in the OST tables were varied and divided into four macro areas: Technological Innovation, Environmental Sustainability, Quality Education, and Profession 4.0.

A. The Technological Innovation table discussed topics such as the opportunities that Calls for Tenders regarding public works can help improve the young surveyor's career, the role of competitiveness and culture within the surveyor profession, communication among us colleagues, and office management in step with new technological resources such as new surveying systems and software.

B. In environmental sustainability table's was discussed topics such as Nzeb Construction, the environmental impact of surveyor's work, ecological site management, and the difficulties young professionals face on new and evolving issues.

C. The topic of education is very important for Young Surveyors: it has been discussed how the need for professional and university education is the basis for the performance of our work. This can be accomplished as early as high school by improving the educational orientation that is carried out within schools. After finishing school, young people asked for more involvement of more experienced colleagues in the conduct of practical vocational courses.

D. In Italy, the surveyor is mostly self-employed. This condition means that Young surveyors find it difficult to support the start of the business and to maintain it. Therefore, in this area there are ideas to improve the conditions for entering the profession and economic livelihood.



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3. THE MEETING'S RESULTS

The final result of the meeting is a document with 42 page called "Final Report" and a summary document "Final Evaluation and Proposals" prepared by the Youth Commission, where the proposed actions were listed for each table of the thematic areas, divided into actions that can be implemented in the long term, already implemented, difficult to implement and actions that are not within the competence of the National Council.

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

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