Background

The International CIB Symposium on Globalization and Construction will take place in Bangkok, Thailand on the 17th – 19th November 2004. Globalization refers to the increasing integration of economies around the world. It is a term that has become emotive in the last few years due to its promises and consequences. Opponents and proponents agree on certain aspects:

1. Globalization is happening and it is difficult to stop it
2. The benefits are unevenly distributed; and
3. Most countries likely to lose out are developing economies.

The symposium is premised on the assumption that globalization cannot be stopped. Therefore, it is important that developing countries prepare to meet the challenges of globalization and to reap benefits from it. It is not designed to argue the case for or against globalization as a process.

Objectives

The objectives of the CIB 2004 symposium are the following:

- Explore the potential effects of globalization on the construction industries in developing countries
- Explore the challenges of globalization to professionals, firms and countries in the developing world
- Explore what developing countries should do in order to reap the benefits of globalization
- Present and demonstrate how research innovations can be used to help companies and countries in a global economy
Who Should Attend

The CIB W107 2004 symposium is a major event for practitioners and researchers from both developing and developed countries in the areas of design and construction management, construction economics, real estate management and facilities management. It is a significant forum for accessing recent research results from different countries, to share knowledge and to network globally with experts around the world. The symposium will bring together an international audience of:

- construction educators
- researchers in architecture, construction, engineering and management
- company and project managers
- owners and managers of construction facilities and government officials
- design and construction software producers and vendors

Symposium Themes

There seems to be general agreement on the factors that are serving as the drivers of the globalization process:

1. Improvements in technology of transportation and communication have reduced the costs thereby transforming the world into a global village where goods, services and factors of production can be moved at greater speed and cheaper cost.
2. Tastes have changed generally to favour taking advantages of the opportunities created by the decrease in costs of transportation and communication.
3. Public policies have influenced the character and pace of globalization.

The symposium will deliberate on several sub-themes including but not limited to the following:

1. Construction in a Global Economy
2. Human Resources Development and Management
3. Construction Industry Development
4. ICT and Global Construction: Virtual organisations.
6. Real Estate Business and Housing
7. Infrastructure Development and Management
8. Project Management: Managing projects in a global context.
9. Ethics and Social Responsibility
10. Research and Development

Important Dates

Please note the following important dates:

**March 15, 2004**  Submission of the abstracts (not more than one page)

**April 16, 2004**  Notification of acceptance of abstract

**June 15, 2004**  Submission of full paper

**July 30, 2004**  Notification of acceptance with comments

**September 15, 2005**  Submission of revised final paper

Conference Website

For more information you can also visit the conference website at: www.sce.ait.ac.th/GC20044/Registration.html

The conference brochure including details on abstract submission can be downloaded here (pdf)

Additional Contact Details

Global Construction 2004
School of Civil Engineering, Asian Institute of Technology
PO Box 4, Klong Luang,
Pathum Thani 12120,
Thailand
Tel: +662 524 5534
Fax: +662 524 6059
Email: ogunlana@ait.ac.th

**Coordinators of CIB W107:**
Prof. George Ofori bdghead@nus.edu.sg
Prof. Alfredo Serpell aserpell@ing.puc.cl

**Coordinators of CIB TG23:**
Dr. Richard F. Fellows fellows@hkucc.hku.hk
Dr. Wilco Tijhuis w.tijhuis@sms.utwente.nl

You can read more about CIB W107 [here](#)
CIB TG23 [here](#)