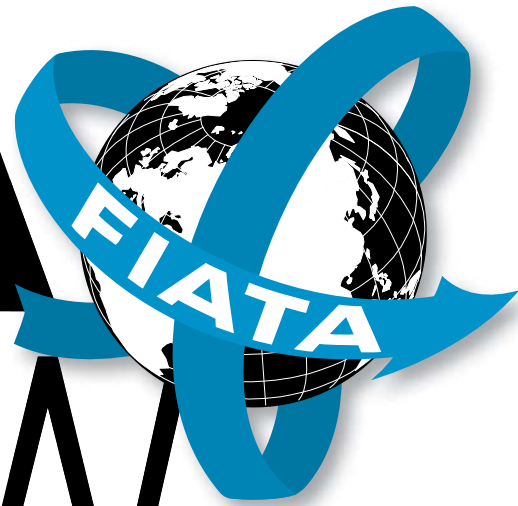


FIATA REVIEW



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INTERVIEW

The 2023 Young Logistics Professionals Award (YLP) has already been launched, but FIATA still wants to pay tribute to the 2022 YLP regional winners. Here they share their unique experiences in a quadruple interview conducted during the FIATA World Congress in Busan, Republic of Korea. The youngsters' stories are quite a read!

Meet the regional winners of the 2022 YLP competition

The YLP experience is unique and includes describing your operational activities. Can you tell us how you came into this industry?

Avishkar Srivastava: I come from a logistics business family and realised there are many opportunities in the sector. Together, youngsters make this a more organised sector. I've been in it for six years and have tried to bring technological advance to the company and focus on building good structure with human resources at the core.

Maximilian Drüschler: I've been in the logistics sector for six years. I didn't know what to do after school, whether to study or do an apprenticeship. I was told about an apprenticeship in logistics. My relatives work for the same company and encouraged me. I finished my apprenticeship and continued with a bachelor in logistics management.

Karina Pérez Pérez: Growing up, I was fascinated by logistics as my parents work in the fruit and vegetable export business. After obtaining a degree in engineering, where I learnt about the processes in the food industry, I decided to further pursue my post-secondary education in the logistics industry.

Ruvimbo Gukwe: My story is different, as I wasn't exposed to this industry, with my background in finance and accounting. While between jobs, I was recommended to do a FIATA-certified programme taught by SFAAZ, and I got interested in the many layers of the industry, be it sales, customs, transport or other areas related to trade.



The regional winners of the Young Logistics Professionals Award – Ruvimbo Gukwe, Karina Pérez Pérez, Avishkar Srivastava, Maximilian Drüschler (from the left) – took centre stage in Busan.

What is your favourite part of the daily job?

AS: I work as a Chief Innovation Officer because innovation can't be a luxury, it's a necessity for businesses in this fast-paced and changing world. The best part is to come up with strategies for issues raised by the staff and see them coming to fruition. I enjoy innovation, working with data and trying to solve issues in a sustainable manner.

RG: Challenging aspects are the best part of my job. I had to deal with customs at high levels with lots of responsibilities. Having been exposed to the harder things, it's easier for me to better adapt. I was able to build relationships in the right places and improve my problem-solving skills.

Why did you take part in the YLP competition, what benefits did you see in it?

KPP: I learned about the YLP Award at my school, which is run in partnership with CIF-FA. Having the opportunity to attend the FWC and present my work was a breathtaking experience. In the competition, I expected to gain public speaking experience, expand my network, and develop logistics expertise.

MD: My company introduced me to the competition through the national one in Germany and I thought, why not! I then qualified for the global round in Busan; I thought it would be good for my career and it was interesting to work on a rather unique consignment. It was great talking about transport as my daily work is mainly meetings and reports.

Why would you recommend the competition to YLPs?

KPP: It's an opportunity to challenge yourself and learn from industry professionals.

RG: It's a growth opportunity to improve your writing, ability to articulate and fill in professional qualification gaps.

MD: Networking and boosting your career! You get better at public speaking and it's also fun!

AS: It helps youngsters get out of their comfort zone, understand where you stand in your country and in the world. Irrespective of the result, you learn something. ■