

AHP NEWS: X OPTIMA & VI RED-M Conference Highlights

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The X OPTIMA & VI RED-M 2013 participants

Last October, two important events took place in Concepción, Chile. From the 27th to the 30th of October the University of Concepción hosted the 10th Biennial Conference of the Chilean Institute of Operations Research (OPTIMA), and the 6th Meeting of the Ibero-American Network on Multi-criteria Decision (RED-M). This year the events attracted about 120 participants, 30% of which were students, coming from Belgium, Italy, Spain, USA, Canada, Mexico, Colombia, Brazil and Chile.

Within this truly international environment, four sessions were dedicated to Multi-criteria Decision Making methods, two of which were themed on the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP). The first one, chaired by Professor Claudio Garuti, from Chile, concerned Multi-criteria Decision Making Methods for developing countries; the second one, chaired by Professor José María Moreno Jiménez, from Spain, concerned cognitive approximation in Multi-criteria Decision Making with two real applications in business and decision-making.

Moreover, other parallel sessions discussed the application of AHP in the logistic, operation management and environmental contexts. Some key contributions in a nutshell are following: Professor Valerio Salomon from

Brazil discussed the usage of the compatibility index to group decision-making; Professor Isabel Spencer from Chile presented an application for the construction of a sustainability index for the assessment of buildings' performances; Dr. Astrid Oddershede from Chile presented an application in the context of the reuse of organic waste; Dr. Juan Carlos Osorio from Colombia illustrated an application for integrated solid waste management in supply chain; Dr. Claudio Macuada from Chile proposed an application of the AHP to evaluate technologies for water treatments, while Marco Fuentes from Chile presented an application of the AHP dealing with hospital waste management.

The general good fellowship enjoyed by the participants, together with the active learning environment which was able to provide guidelines to the youngest participants as well as new insights for everyone, ensured the success of the meeting. Don't miss the next Conference which will likely be in Monterrey, Mexico, in 2014!

Finally, a special thanks to Dr. Javier Pereira for organizing this Conference for Red-M 2013, and to Claudio Garuti, from Fulcrum Engineering Consulting (Chile), and Valerio Salomon, from Sao Paulo State University (Brazil), for bringing our attention to this interesting event and providing all the relevant information.

For details, please visit the Conference website at www.optima2013.cl.

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