

IAC News

Japan Society of Civil Engineers International Activities Center

About IAC News

IAC News highlights JSCE's international activities, including:

- Updates from JSCE International Sections (UK, Korea, Taiwan, Turkey, etc.)
- ACECC initiatives and global committee efforts
- Introductions to active professionals and unique projects in civil engineering

**We introduce the lively and engaging views of the current civil engineering field through JSCE's global network.
Your feedback and suggestions are always welcomed!**

Featured Articles in Issue No.149

1. Report on the First Seminar on the Globalization of Civil Engineering Technology
2. Evaluation and Analysis of Questionnaire Survey Results

Report on the 1st Seminar on the Globalization of Civil Engineering Technology



Masaru Suzuki

Head of Project Working Group,
the International Activities Center, JSCE

On February 21st, 2026, the International Activities Center of the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE) held the first session of the “Seminar on the Globalization of Civil Engineering Technology,” featuring the activities of the Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC). The seminar was conducted in a hybrid format.

This seminar series has been newly launched to address a broader range of themes, building on the achievements of the “Annual Seminar on the Internationalization of Technical Standards,” which has been held seven times starting in 2018. The first session of this series focused on ACECC, which has been organized in collaboration with civil engineering societies and related organizations across Asia by the JSCE since its first meeting in Manila in 1998. This provided a strong and meaningful start to the series.

On the day of the seminar, approximately 200 participants attended both in person and online, allowing the

event to contribute, albeit modestly, to the dissemination of ACECC’s achievements.

During the seminar, following opening remarks by Vice President Kenichi Tsukahara of the society, presentations were delivered by Professor Osamu Kusakabe, who contributed significantly to the establishment of ACECC, Dr. Kenichi Horikoshi, who served for many years as Secretary General, and Professor Hironori Kato, the current JSCE representative. They spoke about the background, activities, and challenges of ACECC.

In addition, regarding Technical Committee 21 (TC21), which Japan places particular emphasis on, information was provided by Professor Kuniyoshi Takeuchi and Professor Mikio Ishiwata, and a video message was delivered by Dr. Youb Raj Paudyal, a member from Nepal.



Video message from Dr. Youb of Nepal

Through the seminar, participants are believed to have gained a deeper understanding of the importance of ACECC’s activities.

Amid today’s increasingly complex global situation, multilateral cooperation grounded in civil engineering technology is extremely important. It is our sincere hope that cross-border technical collaboration will continue to be realized through ACECC.



The Panelists at a Q&A Session
(From left: Prof. Kusakabe, Mr. Horikoshi,
and Prof. Kato)

The seminar proceedings were recorded on video and will reportedly be edited for the development of international human resources, so further utilization of these outcomes is therefore anticipated.

Lastly, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to Mr. Masashi Inoue, who served as moderator on the day and contributed greatly to the organization of the seminar.

The International Activities Center Project Working Group is scheduled to hold the second “Seminar on the Globalization of Civil Engineering Technology” on April 21, featuring the activities of the United Nations Centre for Regional Development (UNCRD) in Nagoya under the theme “UNCRD Initiatives on the SDGs and Global Challenges.” Online participation will also be available, enabling attendance from across the country. We look forward to the participation of many attendees.

In addition, the International Activities Center Project Working Group is conducting other initiatives such as the “Japanese Civil Engineers the Global

Leaders Symposium Series” and the publication of archives on international infrastructure contributions and cooperation.

Through these activities, we aim to share with you the accomplishments of Japanese civil engineers working overseas, and we appreciate your continued cooperation.



The Audience Exchanges with the Panelists

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Reported by Masaru Suzuki,
Head of Project Working Group,
the International Activities Center, JSCE
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Evaluation and Analysis of Questionnaire Survey Results: ~Measures to Enhance the Motivation of the Young Generation for Overseas Projects and Students' Awareness of International Opportunities~



Taisuke Maniwa

(Team 2, Transportation Group,
Infrastructure Management Department,
JICA)



Emi Yamaguchi

(Research Assistant, Department of Civil
Engineering, College of Science and
Engineering, Kanto Gakuin University)

■ Survey Overview

In recent years, interest in studying or working abroad has declined, transferring technical expertise and developing next-generation talent in overseas projects are

urgent issues.

As announced by the JSCE International Activities Center (IAC) on July 31, 2024 (<https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/node/401>), we conducted the surveys titled “Questionnaire for Working Professionals on Measures to Enhance the Motivation of the Young Generation for Overseas Projects” and “Questionnaire for Students Regarding Overseas Projects” to gather insights on awareness and challenges related to international infrastructure development and overseas business. We are currently evaluating and analyzing the responses.

● Purpose:

To examine strategies to improve young generation’s interest and motivation for working abroad and overseas projects in light of the current trend of declining overseas orientation.

● Target Respondents:

Working professionals and undergraduate and graduate students, including both JSCE members and non-members.

● Response Period:

July 31, 2024 - December 31, 2024.

■ Overview of the Questionnaire Survey Results

We received responses from 182 students (111 undergraduates, 54 master’s students and 17 doctoral students) and 560 working professionals (30 in their 20s, 93 in their 30s, 126 in their 40s, and 311 aged 50 and above).

We sincerely appreciate all respondents for their cooperation and contribution.

Approximately 60% of the students expressed interest in working abroad and overseas projects, with higher interest observed among those in master's and doctoral programs. Conversely, the reasons cited by the students who had little interest in working abroad and overseas projects included finding domestic work more appealing, concerns about language proficiency, a fundamental lack of overseas orientation, and insufficient information about overseas projects.

For the working professionals, differences emerged between the young generation and senior generations regarding perceptions of challenges and experiences in working abroad and overseas projects. For example, the respondents in their 20s frequently mentioned difficulties in communication, such as language barriers and cultural differences, while those in their 30s and above increasingly emphasized the sense of fulfillment from contributing to society through engaging in overseas projects. These findings provide valuable insights for further detailed analysis.

Moving forward, we will deepen the analysis of the responses and opinions across the generations and consider strategies to secure future professionals who will drive international projects and to develop younger generations in civil engineering. Subsequently we will present them in detail in the IAC News.

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Reported by
Taisuke Maniwa
(Team 2, Transportation Group,
Infrastructure Management Department,
JICA)

Emi Yamaguchi
(Research Assistant, Department of Civil
Engineering, College of Science and
Engineering, Kanto Gakuin University)

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Announcements

■ International & Committee News

◆ Concrete Committee Newsletter No.76

▶ : <https://www.jsce.or.jp/committee/concrete/e/newsletter/newsletter76/index.html>

◆ FY2026 JSCE 2026 Annual Meeting: The 81st Annual Conference

▶ : <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/zenkoku/>

◆ IABSE Newsletter March 2026

▶ : <https://www.iabse.org/Newsletter>

◆ ASCE magazine "Civil Engineering Source"

▶ 詳細 : <https://www.asce.org/publications-and-news/civil-engineering-source>

◆ IAC News No.149

▶ Japanese : https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/iac_news_149

▶ English : <https://www.jsce-int.org/pub/iacnews/149>

■ Event Announcements

◆ 第 2 回 土木技術のグローバル化セミナー :

「国際連合地域開発センターの SDGs と地球規模課題への取組み」

・Organizer: JSCE International Activities Center (Project WG)

・Date & Time: Tuesday, April 21, 2026 | 14:00–17:00

・Venue: JSCE HQ (2F Auditorium)

・Fee: Free

▶ Details: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai12/node/8>

◆ Company Information Session for International Students

・Organizer: JSCE International Activities Center (International Student and Foreign Engineer Group)

・Date & Time: Saturday, May 23, 2026 | 12:00–17:50

・Format: Online (via Zoom)

・Language: English

・Fee: Free

▶ Details: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/node/439>

◆ Career Talk: International Engineers' Career Path in Japan

・Organizer: JSCE International Activities Center (International Student and Foreign Engineer Group)

・Date & Time: Friday, May 29, 2026 | 15:00–17:30

・Venue: JSCE HQ (2F Auditorium)

・Fee: Free

◆ IABSE Symposium Copenhagen 2026: "Bridge Advanced Technologies - Structural Innovation -"

・Date: April 21–24, 2026

・Venue: Tivoli Congress Center, Copenhagen

▶ Details: <https://www.iabse.org/events>

◆ IABSE Congress Incheon 2026: "Structural Engineering Towards Evolution and Hyper-Expansion"

・Date: September 16–18, 2026

▶ Details: <https://www.iabse.org/events>

◆7th fib Congress

- Date: June 15–19, 2026
- Venue: Culturgest, Lisbon
- ▶ Details: <https://fiblisbon2026.pt/>

Call for Submissions

The JSCE International Center invites you, the JSCE members to share your committee reports, technical essays, project briefs, and opinions and findings in and outside professional activities. There are no specific format or length requirements, so please feel free to send yours to the JSCE International Center.



- Submission & Inquiries: International Activities Center (IAC),
Japan Society of Civil Engineers : iad@jsce.or.jp
- ▶ : <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/node/47>



Reader Survey & Feedback Reques

We would greatly appreciate your thoughts and feedback on this publication.



Survey Form ▶ <https://forms.gle/M6UVUUqM37Ak6mDK7>



Newsletter Subscription

Please sign up for the IAC News updates from the JSCE.

【Subscription Form】

- ◆Japanese: <http://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/node/31>
- ◆English: <http://www.jsce-int.org/node/150>

SNS & Web Resources

Learn more about the latest activities of the JSCE IAC, via the following platforms:

- ◆ JSCE Website (English): <https://www.jsce-int.org/>
- ◆ JSCE Website (Japanese): <https://www.jsce.or.jp/>
- ◆ International Center Website: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/>
- ◆ 【Facebook】 https://www.facebook.com/JSCE.en/?locale=ja_JP
- ◆ 【YouTube】
https://youtube.com/channel/UCGIs6DHrzX_cGDmHUrRlKA?feature=shared