

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.151

1. Inaugural Address
2. Report on Joint Seminar with NPRA*on Strait-Crossing Technologies
3. Report on ICES Seminar: "International Engineers' Career Path in Japan"
4. Report on Participation in the 50th ECM, ACECC in Nepal

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Inaugural Address
*~ Three Principles for
Bridging Generations ~*



Kazumasa Ozawa
(114th JSCE President)

I, Kazumasa Ozawa, have been appointed as the 114th president of the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE).

Being appointed to the prestigious position of JSCE President is a great source of motivation for me to carry out my mission with distinction. I wish to express my respect and gratitude to the presidents who preceded me and who, through their dedication, ensured the success and development of JSCE over the years-even during turbulent times-spanning the Taisho, Showa, Heisei, and Reiwa eras.

JSCE's current activities are the result of over a century of shared commitment and bear witness to the trust the society places in us.

We are currently living through a period of profound upheaval. An increasing number of situations, where what was once traditionally thought of as correct practice, are being called into question by the development of digital technologies and the diversification of values.

However, despite these transformations, our fundamental principle remains unchanged: Civil engineers must be "leaders among leaders," in the words of Ko Furuichi, the first president of JSCE, at the first JSCE Annual Conference.

In this spirit, "we must break down barriers and build the foundations of a sustainable society"- a sentiment underscored by our 102nd president, Masahiko Isobe, as part of the 100th Anniversary Project.

The question now arises as to whether we can continue to evolve as a sustainable organization, guided by this universal philosophy. With my appointment, I hope to undertake initiatives at JSCE under the following three policies.

The first is: "Embrace innovation in response to contemporary imperatives." While respecting our history, we will remain open to questioning conventional practices that require re-evaluation - without being bound by tradition - and we will launch new initiatives to prepare for the future. At the same time, I believe it is essential to foster dialogue among people of all ages in order to become an open organization that combines the wisdom of experienced members with the enthusiasm of younger ones.

The second policy is: "Create value through collaboration." To address increasingly complex social challenges, we must create value by deepening dialogue with all our stakeholders and collaborating with partners within JSCE and beyond. JSCE must act as a core network to facilitate the above.

I hope to create opportunities for young leaders to contribute to these efforts and push their limits.

The third policy is: "Be an organization of exemplary transparency."
To strengthen the trust society places in us as a non-profit organization and to enhance the value of our efforts through collaboration with internal and external partners, it is essential that we manage JSCE in a proper and transparent manner. Mindful of the changes in society and the times, I wish to review our operating model to ensure our continued and autonomous development.

The world we live in is evolving today at an unprecedented speed. Faced with numerous challenges - such as the declining birthrate and aging population, advancing digital transformation (DX), globalization, aging infrastructure, and the rebuilding of local communities - it is no exaggeration to say that we currently stand at a crossroads. It is precisely in this era of uncertainty that the role of JSCE is more important than ever.

It is thanks to your wisdom and experience that JSCE will be able to write a new chapter in its history.

I sincerely thank you in advance for your support and encouragement as we shape the future of JSCE together.

Joint Seminar with NPRA* on Strait-Crossing Technologies

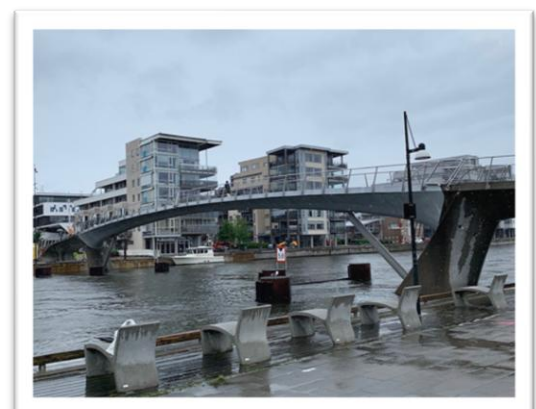
*Norwegian Public Roads Administration



Keitaro Konuma

(Chair, Subcommittee for Making Civil Engineers More Internationally Minded)

On Wednesday, June 10, 2026, the Work Group for Examining the Fundamentals of Strait-Crossing Technologies, which is part of the International Activities Center's Subcommittee for Making Civil Engineers More Internationally Minded, visited the Norwegian Public Roads Administration (NPRA) in Oslo, Norway, and held a joint seminar about the Submerged Floating Tube Bridge (SFTB).



Composite Steel-Concrete Footbridge
Across the Canal, Fredrikstad

The seminar saw NPRA provide an overview of road maintenance in Norway. Then our subcommittee outlined details of the research being undertaken by the Work Group for Examining the Fundamentals of Strait-Crossing Technologies, before closing with a lively discussion among attendees.



Oslo Cathedral and a tram

I was able to learn a lot through this seminar. Not only about the structure of the SFTB, but also the general discussions about bringing this large-scale government project to life touched upon topics such as how to achieve the bridge’s construction and maintenance, thoughts of making its construction carbon-neutral, how private funding was raised, as well as the use of digital data from the design stage through to its construction and maintenance. With these insights in mind, the work group will continue to examine the possibilities of strait-crossing technologies in anticipation of consolidating their achievements up to December 2026.



Discussion at the NPRA meeting



Group photo after the meeting at NPRA

■ **NPRA (NTNU) Attendees**

- Dr. Arianna Minoretti
- Dr. Xu Xiang

■ **JSCE Attendees (Online*)**

- Akira ITO
- Akio KASUGA
- Keitaro KONUMA
- Yasushi JOSEN
- Fumiya MURANO
- Aibek TOKTORBAI*
- Shota KAWASHIMA*
- Masayuki SHIJO*

【Subcommittee for Making Civil Engineers
More Internationally Minded HP】

<https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai14/>

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Reported by Keitaro Konuma
(Bay Current Consulting, Inc.)
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ICES* Seminar: “International Engineers’ Career Path in Japan”



TAN YEN XIN

(*International Civil Engineers Support Team)

■ Overview

On May 29, 2026, the International Civil Engineers Support Group (ICES) held its second seminar on “Career Paths for International Engineers.” The seminar aimed to help international engineers working in Japan’s construction industry gain a better understanding of career development opportunities and Japanese workplace culture.



Keynote presentations by two presenters

While last year’s seminar focused on career paths involving overseas assignments, this year featured an international civil engineer working primarily on domestic projects in Japan. Drawing on his personal experience, the speaker shared practical insights on career development, including overcoming early career challenges, improving Japanese language skills, obtaining professional qualifications, and building trust with supervisors and colleagues.

The seminar concluded with a panel discussion involving the speaker and two additional panelists. Participants actively exchanged views on the challenges and opportunities faced by international engineers in Japan, making the session a valuable opportunity to share experiences, perspectives, and future career aspirations.

**Career Talk :
International Engineers’
Career Path in Japan 2026**
「外国籍技術者としてのキャリアパス」セミナー 第2回

キャリアを構築する選択肢
日本の職場文化への適応
パネルディスカッションで話し合う

2026.05.29 金 土学会本部 JSCE Center
15:00～17:30 ※14:30～受付開始
東京都新宿区四谷 1丁目 外港公園内
Yotsuya 1-chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo

大歓迎/Audience 日本建設業界で働く技術者・研究者及び学生
Engineers and researchers from Japanese construction companies or students

開催形式/Method 対面・ウェブ (Zoom) /Hybrid
※対象参加に制限があるため、対象参加者の確認は後日ご連絡します

Keynote Speaker #1
ROKHAMSAV Chinda (ローカムサイ チンダー) 鹿島建設株式会社
2005年：日本留学開始
(新横浜工業高等学校・九州工業大学・同大学院 土木工学専攻 修了)
2013年～現在：鹿島建設株式会社

Keynote Speaker #2
黄 再弘 Hwang JaeHong (ファン ゼホン) 株式会社大林組
2008年5月：京都大学 博士号取得
2007年10月～2009年12月：韓国建設技術研究院
2010年1月～現在：株式会社大林組

申し込み/Registration
申し込み期限 (Deadline): 2026年5月15日 (May. 15, 2026)
QRコード

お問い合わせ先/Contact us:
土木学会 国際センター事務局
E: iad@jsce.or.jp T: 03-3355-3452
※詳細/More info:
https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/13/node/23

Date & Time	May 29, 2025 (Fri) 15:00 - 17:30
Venue	JSCE Conference Room & Online)
Number of Participants	Approximately 68 people (24 in-person / 44 online)
Organizer	International Civil Engineers Support Group Japan (ICES)
Program	Keynote presentations (2), panel discussion, group discussion

■ Lessons learned from the Event

According to the participant survey, many attendees learned that career development requires not only technical expertise but also strong communication skills and the ability to build trust. Participants noted that improving Japanese language proficiency, learning technical terminology, and understanding Japanese workplace practices, including Hou-Ren-So (reporting, communication, and consultation), contribute significantly to professional growth and recognition.

Many also emphasized the importance of continuous learning and perseverance in overcoming challenges, as well as the value of trust and communication with supervisors and colleagues. The speaker's personal experiences were particularly encouraging for younger engineers. In addition, participants gained a greater appreciation for how the diverse perspectives and ideas of international engineers can contribute to organizational development and innovation.

Participants commented that the seminar offered valuable insights not only for international engineers but also for Japanese employees. Many expressed interest in hearing from international engineers with a wider range of experiences and career paths in future events. Overall, the seminar provided a meaningful opportunity to promote mutual understanding and support career development.



Panel Discussion

■ Future ICES Activities

In addition to seminars on career development, ICES organizes site visits and networking events to deepen participants' understanding of the construction and infrastructure sectors. By providing opportunities for international and Japanese engineers to share experiences and perspectives and expand their professional networks, ICES aims to foster a more diverse and inclusive industry where people from various backgrounds can thrive.

Information on upcoming events and activity reports is regularly posted on the ICES website and Facebook page. We welcome you to visit these platforms and participate in future activities.

• Website:

https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai13/f_e_support_team2

• Facebook:

Search for "International Civil Engineer Support Group Japan -JSCE"

• Email Address:

for Inquiries and Participation Requests:
iad@jsce.or.jp

(JSCE International Activities Center Office)

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Reported by TAN YEN XIN

Nippon Koei Co., Ltd.

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Attending the 50th ACECC* ECM**in Nepal

*ACECC: Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council

**ECM: Executive Committee Meeting



Masashi Inoue

(Secretary General, ACECC Committee)

■ Overview

The Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC) is an organization established in September 1999 to improve and develop sustainable social capital in the Asian region. At present, with the help of the 17 engineering-related academic societies affiliated with the ACECC, the organization is engaged in various activities to promote learning and skills.

The Executive Committee Meeting (ECM), the highest-level decision-making body of the ACECC, is held twice a year by affiliated academic societies on a rotating basis.

The 50th Executive Committee Meeting was held at the Royal Tulip Hotel in Kathmandu, Nepal, from April 22 to 24, 2026, hosted by the Nepal Engineers' Association.

Representing the Japan Society of Civil Engineers (JSCE), JSCE Representative Hironori Kato (University of Tokyo), Committee Chair Miho Ohara (University of

Tokyo), and I attended the meeting in person. This is a report on these meetings.

■ The 50th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)

At this ECM, ACECC transitioned to a new leadership structure. The new leadership structure is centered around the Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE) of Taiwan, which will host the 11th Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region (CECAR11) in 2028, with Prof. Yu-Chi Sung of CICHE assuming the position of ACECC Chair.

(1) Technical Coordination Committee Meeting (TCCM)

Dr. Shieh-Kung Huang of CICHE was appointed as the new TCCM Chair.

The Technical Coordination Committee Meeting (TCCM) played host to reports on the activities of the active Technical Committees (TC). There were also reports on TC21 (Transdisciplinary Approach for Building Societal Resilience to Disasters, Co-chair: Mikio Ishiwatari (Meiji University)), TC28 (Application of Monitoring Technology for Infrastructure Maintenance, Chair: Eiki Yamaguchi (Kyushu Institute of Technology)), TC30 (Digital Technologies for Smart Construction, Co-chair: Pang-jo Chun (University of Tokyo), and TC33 (Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education in Civil Engineering, Co-chair: Ji Dang (Saitama University)), for which JSCE members are either the Chair or Co-chair. In addition, four new TCs were proposed at this TCCM.

- TC-37: Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region (jointly proposed by the Australian and New Zealand societies)
- TC-38: Seismic Resilient Infrastructures for Sustainable Development (jointly proposed by the societies of Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, and Myanmar)
- TC-39: Cascading and Compound Risk Assessment for Resilient Engineering (jointly proposed by the Nepalese and Indonesian societies)
- TC-40: Hydropower Knowledge & Innovation Network (proposed by the Nepalese society)

A recent trend in TC activities has been the growing number of active TCs based on collaboration among multiple member societies. JSCE is currently considering members to participate in these TCs. If you are interested in getting involved in these activities, please feel free to contact us.

✉ iad@jsce.or.jp

(International Activities Center)

🌐 [HACECC Home page](#)



The ECM in progress

(2) Finance Committee Meeting (FCM)
At the FCM, ACECC's recent financial status was reported and discussed, and the related matters were approved. This was the final FCM under the current leadership structure, marking the end of the term of JSCE Representative Hironori Kato, who served as FCM Chair. During his term, various initiatives were undertaken to strengthen the foundation of ACECC's financial management, including establishing an operational cycle for the FCM, developing standardized formats for budget planning and financial reporting, and examining medium- to long-term financial policies. These contributions were highly recognized and appreciated by ACECC's member societies. Dr. Moonkyung Chung of the Korean Society of Civil Engineers (KSCE) was appointed as the next FCM Chair.

(3) Planning Committee Meeting (PCM)
Prof. Yuan-Lung Lo of CICHE was appointed as PCM Chair. One of the main agenda items at the PCM was the new leadership structure of its subcommittees. Frederick Sison of the Philippine Institute of Civil Engineers (PICE) was appointed Chair of the ACECC Awarding Sub-Committee, while Maqbool Mohammed of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) was appointed Chair of the ACECC Future Leaders Forum. Overall, these appointments marked a generational shift toward younger and mid-career members.

A final report was also presented on the 10th Civil Engineering Conference in the

Asian Region (CECAR10), held on Jeju Island, Korea, last October. It was reported that a total of 554 participants from 23 countries and regions attended the conference, and it was announced that US\$20,000 from the surplus would be contributed to ACECC.

(4) Executive Committee Meeting (ECM)

At the ECM, the decisions made at the TCCM and PCM were approved. The application of the Cambodian Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE) for membership in ACECC was also reviewed and approved. This brings the total number of ACECC member societies to 18.

It was also reported that the 51st ECM (October 27–30, 2026) will be held in Tainan, Taiwan, and the 52nd ECM (April 8–10, 2027) in Ahmedabad, India. An update was also provided on preparations for the 11th Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region (CECAR11) in 2028, and it was announced that the conference will be held from November 13 to 18, 2028, at TaiNEX (Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center).



The International Conference on Day 2

(5) Seminars

On the second day of the ECM, an international conference entitled “International Conference on Sustainable, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure” was held.

The technical seminars included a joint session by TC26 (Climate Change, Water Resources, and Sustainable Development in the Asian Region), TC31 (Sustainable Infrastructure Capacity Building), and TC33 (Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education in Civil Engineering), as well as a session on BIM and digital transformation by TC30 (Digital Technologies for Smart Construction) and TC34 (Digital Transformation for the Sustainable Built Environment), and a Future Leaders Forum (FLF) seminar led by young engineers. A wide range of presentations and discussions were held on topics including climate change, human resource development, AI, BIM, digital twins, and cultural heritage conservation, providing a shared vision for sustainable and resilient infrastructure development that integrates education, technology, and practice.

A seminar entitled “From Ruins to Resilience: Lessons from the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake and Beyond” was also held to reflect on the recovery process and lessons learned in the approximately ten years since the 2015 Gorkha earthquake in Nepal.

■ Looking Ahead

With this meeting, ACECC transitioned to a new leadership structure, with a generational shift toward younger and mid-career members taking place across its leadership and affiliated bodies. Recently, Knowledge Sharing Seminars have also been actively held on topics such as the 2025 Myanmar earthquake and fire damage

to buildings in Nepal, alongside a growing range of knowledge-sharing and collaborative activities centered around ACECC. These developments give the impression that ACECC's activities have entered a new phase. Going forward, we will continue our efforts to further promote mutual cooperation and collaboration among ACECC member societies.



Group photo after the ECM

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Reported by Masashi Inoue

(Eight-Japan Engineering Consultants Inc.)

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Announcements

■ International & Committee News

◆ IABSE Newsletter August 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.151

▶ Japanese : https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai/iac_news_151

▶ English : [IAC News No.151, Oct. 2026 | Japan Society of Civil Engineers](#)

Event Announcements

◆ IEEE International Conference on Electrical, Computer and Energy Technologies(ICECT 2026)J

•Dates : Oct 15-17, 2026

•Venue : Indonesia, Bali Island

▶Details: <https://www.iceccme.com/2026>

◆Field Trip by ICES

•Dates : Oct 16, 2026

•Venue : Saruhashi Bridge, Otsuki Bypass, Yamanashi Prefectural Linear Exhibition Center

▶Details: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai13/node/24>

◆MLIT Lunchtime Session 2026 for International Students and Researchers

•Dates : Oct 19, 2026

•Venue : Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism (MLIT)

▶Details: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai13/node/25>

Event Announcements

◆The 8th JSCE-CICHE Joint Workshop

- Dates : Nov 5-8, 2026
- Venue : Kansai International Airport, Lake Biwa Canal Facilities – Nanzen-ji Aqueduct (Suirokaku), Kyoto University – Yoshida Campus
- ▶Details: <https://committees.jsce.or.jp/kokusai0901/node/18>

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.

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

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Reader Survey & Feedback Request

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

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

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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_cGDmHUrRlIkA?feature=shared