

Final Report of the 4th CECAR

Reported by

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The Fourth Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region, 4th CECAR, organized by the Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council, ACECC, and co-hosted by the Chinese Institute in Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE) and the Department of Civil Engineering of National Taiwan University (NTU), was held in Taipei, Taiwan from June 25th to 28th, 2007. The conference attracted 1065 participants from 9 member societies of ACECC including 36 participants from 15 non-member countries.

1. Background of the 4th CECAR

CICHE (Chinese Institute in Civil and Hydraulic Engineering), a member of ACECC, officially submitted to the 6th ECM (Executive Committee Meeting) of ACECC held in Washington DC, in November 2002 a proposal of hosting the 4thCECAR in 2004. At that time, CICHE was decided as the host for the conference by a vote of 6 to 2. At the 9th ECM held in Seoul, August 2004, the LOC of 4th CECAR was initially established while its key members were officially approved. Dr. Kuo-Chun Chang of CICHE was initially committed as Vice Chair of the LOC (Local Organizing Committee) of the 4th CECAR. Subsequently, at the 10th ECM held in Kaohsiung, December 2004, he was officially approved as the Chair of the LOC.

The LOC, in close collaboration with the ACECC-ECM, selected “*Working for Asian Sustainability*” as main theme of the conference and the followings as major technical tracks:

- Track 1 (T1): Ecology, Environment and Engineering
- Track 2 (T2): Sustainable Construction
- Track 3 (T3): e-Construction and Information Standards
- Track 4 (T4): Disaster Reduction and Recovery
- Track 5 (T5): Innovative Technology and Modern Management
- Track 6 (T6): Mega Project and International Cooperation

Since the inauguration of the LOC in 2004, progress of preparation for the conference had been continuously reported to the ACECC-ECM through the 10th ECM in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Dec. 3, 2004, the 11th ECM in Tokyo, Japan, May 26, 2005, the 12th ECM in Los Angeles, U.S.A., October 23, 2005, the 13th ECM in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, June 17, 2006, the 14th ECM in Cebu, Philippine, January 20, 2007, and the 15th ECM that was held in Taipei on the eve of the conference.

2. Registration and Opening Ceremony

The conference officially drew 1065 persons making this conference to be the largest among the past four conferences in terms of number of registration. Number of registration from eight member societies and other countries are as follows:

Table1. Number of Registration

Member societies	CICHE	JSCE	KSCE	PICE	ASCE	MACE	EA	VIFCEA	Others	Total
number	722	118	81	53	19	14	13	9	36	1065*

Note) * It includes complementary registration (382), general participants (443), daily participants (58), students (175) and accompanying person (7).

The conference was held in **Taipei International Convention Center**, Taiwan, from 25th to 28th of June, 2007. The presidents of eight ACECC member societies and LOC Chair attended the opening ceremony. About 600 persons participated in the ceremony filling almost all of the seats in the conference plenary hall.

3. Conference Activities

The conference included major activities of **technical programs, social programs, technical exhibition** and **technical visits**. The highlight of each activity is summarized as follows.

3.1 Technical programs

The technical programs included Plenary and Parallel Sessions, Special Forums, Workshops, Student Essays and Young Engineers' Session.

(1) Plenary Sessions

Technical programs started with the Keynote Address of “Less desires, and more love for earth” by Dharma Master Cheng Yen, a Buddhist nun and founder of the Buddhist Compassion Relief Tzu Chi Foundation.

Eight special lecturers were given during the two conference days in the plenary and parallel session and all the participants were deeply impressed by those eight lectures.

On June 26th, the first special lecturer of the conference, Prof. Masanori HAMADA of JSCE, gave the participants a lecture entitled “Roles of Civil Engineers for disaster mitigation under changes of natural and social environments”, and the second lecturer, Prof. Richard N. WRIGHT of ASCE gave the participants a lecture on “Practice, education and research for sustainable infrastructure”. The third lecturer, Prof. Rolfe HARTLEY of EA, gave the participants a lecture on “Does Australia need a sustainability charter?” The fourth lecturer, Dr. Pham-Hong GIANG of VIFCEA gave the participants a lecture on “Flood mitigation strategy for sustainability in Vietnam”, and the fifth lecturer, Prof. Duinkherjav YAGAANBUYANT of MACE, gave the participants a lecture on “Deflection calculation and control - Mongolian code.”

On June 27th, the sixth lecturer, Dr. Sung-Wan HONG of KSCE gave the participants a lecture on “Lessons from construction failures in Korea”, the seventh lecturer, Prof. Yeong-Bin YANG of CICHE gave the participants a lecture on “The leading role of civil engineers in shaping the future of the world”, and the last lecturer, Anthony. Rolando. T. GOLEZ Jr. of PICE gave the participants a lecture on “Philippine disaster management system.”

(2) Parallel Sessions

During the two days of parallel sessions, a total of 145 papers were orally presented in 6 parallel sessions in six technical tracks while 5 papers that were planned for oral presentation had been cancelled at the last minute due to the absences of presenters. Each session was chaired by a chair and a co-chair of eight members. As for poster presentation, a total of 32 papers were presented with 5 papers planned not posted. All these papers, regardless of presentation, were listed in the conference proceedings. Table 2 shows the number of papers presented from member societies.

Table 2. Number of Papers Presented in Oral and Poster Sessions

Track Member	Oral						Total	Poster
	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5	T6		
KSCE	6	4	1	-	5	2	18	8
JSCE	9	8	4	4	7	9	41	6
EA	2	3	-	2	3	-	10	-
VIFCEA	2	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
PICE	1	3	-	6	2	-	12	-
CICHE	2	2	9	5	4	6	28	11
ASCE	1	1	-	-	2	7	20	-
MACE	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-Member	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	7
Tzu Chi	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
ICCMC	-	-	6	-	-	-	6	-
TOTAL	29	31	21	17	23	24	145***	32***

Note: (***) Total number of papers listed in the proceedings

Track 2 of Sustainable Construction drew the largest number of papers, a total of 31, followed by Track 1 of Ecology, Environment and Engineering and Track 6 of Mega Project and International Cooperation with number of papers of 29, and 24, respectively.

Besides, the six sessions contain three special sessions as follows :

- Tzu-Chi Foundation Session (T1S) was sharing their experiences in hazard recovery, ecology and green architecture.
- ASCE Leadership Session (T2S) had three past presidents and two industry leaders expressed their views and concern on Sustainable Civil Engineer.
- ICCMC Special Session (T3S) had six international experts discussed the international trend of ISO and the latest development of Asian Concrete Code.

Most of the parallel sessions were crowded with more than 50 audiences, while a few sessions were less crowded with less than 20 audiences, depending on the interest of the session topics.

(3) Special Forums # 1 , # 2, #3 and #4

The LOC planned and operated four Special Forums in the conference. Special Forum #1, organized by CICHE and EA, and chaired by Dr. Chien-Yuan LIN of CICHE, focused on the Sustainable Rural and Urban

Development. The forum drew about 40 participants and six papers were presented.

Special Forum #2, organized by JSCE, and chaired by Prof. Fumihiko IMAMURA of JSCE, focused on “The 2004 Indian tsunami - their damage, lessons and disaster mitigation.” The forum drew about 50 participants and six papers were presented.

Special Forum #3, organized by JSCE, and chaired by Prof. Yusuke HONJO of JSCE, focused on “Harmonization of Design Codes in the Asian Region.” The forum drew about 50 participants and five papers were presented.

Special Forum #4, organized by CICHE, Moderated by Dr. Si-Chen Lee, the President of National Taiwan University, focused on “High-Tech Industry for Sustainable Development.” The forum was quite successful drawing more than 100 participants.

(4) ASCE Workshop/Tutorial

ASCE Workshop, organized by Prof. A. H-S. Ang, of ASCE, focused on “Quantitative Risk Assessment for Natural Hazard Mitigation.” The workshop was very welcome. There were more than 100 participants and seven international experts presented on Quantitative Risk Assessment for Natural Hazard Mitigation.

(5) Student Essays

In order to encourage young undergraduate students majoring civil engineering in ACECC member societies, student essay contest had been conducted in each member society in advance and the best essay was selected and recommended to LOC. The winner was invited to the conference with all expenses paid by LOC. During the lunch break of June 26th, seven students presented their own views and comments on sustainable development and civil engineering future drawing much attention among participants. After the essay presentation, LOC guided all of the seven students to the Taipei Sin-Yi Project Zone.

(6) Young Engineers Session

Young Engineers Session (YES) intended to provide young civil engineers in the Asian region with experience of presentation/discussion and social friendship among participants. In this respect, this program was successful, drawing more than 30 participants. This program continued for two days with

11 presentations on the first day of conference and 4 presentations on the second day. Each session had one special lecture in the opening.

The closing ceremony of the conference was held with about 400 participants. The conference was officially closed with a conference summary reported by Dr. Kuo-Chun CHANG, Chair of the 4th CECAR LOC. The ACECC flag and conference bell were transferred from the immediate past chairs of ACECC and LOC to the next respective chairs.

A limited number of the conference proceedings are still available at the 4th CECAR LOC. They may be distributed to ACECC and member societies upon request.

3-2 Social Programs

The social programs of the conference included welcome reception and gala dinner.

(1) Welcome Reception

The welcome reception, held on the eve of the conference, drew about 300 participants. During the reception, key persons from each society were introduced among participants and many participants were interesting in the Folk Art.

(2) Gala Dinner

The gala dinner, held on the evening of June 27, drew about 400 participants enjoying a warm atmosphere of international friendship and the performance of Taiwan Aboriginal Art Group and Korea Civil Harmony.

3-3 Exhibition

The technical exhibition was another success of the conference with all of 80 booths opened. A ceremonial tape cutting was held at the entrance of the exhibition hall by presidents of eight member societies and some conference VIP's. Eight member societies of ACECC opened their own booths side by side. The other 61 booths were either by complementary or sale. Especially, LOC planed "the Aroma of Tzu Chi Humanistic Spirit." Tzu-Chi Foundation shared with participants in extending humanity as a base to put the ideal of sustainability into actions and it was very welcome.

3-4 Technical Visits

At the end day of the conference on June 28, four technical visits were offered by LOC. The Course 1, **Taipei 101 & MRT Shinchung Line**, drew 19 participants with one bus. Course 2, **Hsuehshan Tunnel & Tungshan River in I-lan County**, drew 10 participants with one bus. Course 3, **Taiwan High Speed Railway Experiences & 921 Earthquake Museum of Taiwan**, drew 15 participants also with one bus. Course 4, **Taiwan High Speed Railway Experiences & the River & Harbor Renovations in Kaohsiung**, drew 9 participants also with one bus. Most participants expressed satisfaction with the planning of visits as well as the beautiful natural environment and warm social environment during the trips.

4. Other Activities

4-1 ACECC Meeting

In the morning of June 25, the 15th ECM of ACECC was held in the same venue of conference with the ACECC Secretariats. During the meeting, the final preparation for the 4th CECAR was reported by LOC.

The Presidential Meeting for all current and past presidents of ACECC member societies attending 4th CECAR was held in the afternoon. The statement of Taipei Declaration had been concluded.

4-2 ACECC Awards Ceremony

There were five Engineering Technology Awards and three personal Achievement Awards presented in the conference.

4-3 Taipei Declaration

ACECC and Invited Engineering Leaders signed and declared a resolution on Civil Engineering for Asian Sustainability in Taipei 101, the world tallest building.

5. Financial Report of the 4th CECAR

(to be reported in a separate agendum) .

Please refer to <Attachment >.

Final Financial Report of the 4th CECAR and Suggested Disposal of Excess of Receipts

The following final report on the financial statements of the 4th CECAR has been prepared by the 4th CECAR LOC and audited by a public accounting company, Leader Accounting Company, Taipei, Taiwan. They audited the accompanying balance sheet of the 4th CECAR as of January 11, 2008 and the related statements of receipts and disbursements for the 29 months of the 4th CECAR's financial activity starting on September 1, 2004. The whole financial statements audited by the public accounting company are attached in a separate sheet.

1. Receipts and Disbursements

The actual receipts are totally NT\$**18,663,607** as specified in Table 1.

	Actual Receipts	
1. Registration	5,571,211	See Table 2
2. Gala Dinner	100,714	See Table 3
3. Contribution	7,192,552	See Table 4
4. Exhibition	2,768,472	See Table 5
5. Loans from CICHE	3,000,000	
6. Interest earned	30,658	
Total receipts	18,663,607	

Receipts from registration in item (1) of Table 1 are based on the following number of registration.

Description	Persons	Amount (NTD)
Complementary Registration	382	0
General Participant	443	4,490,213

Daily Participant	58	353,520
Student	175	657,398
Accompanying Person	7	23,104
No show	5	46,976
TOTAL	1,070	5,571,211

Receipts from corporate contribution in item (3) of Table 1 are based on the following table.

Table 3 Corporate Contribution

Member Societies	Assigned Amount (Optimistic scenario)	Actual Contribution (Bank charge subtracted)
ASCE	USD 24,000	USD 23,990
CICHE	USD 24,000	NTD 4,033,100
EA	USD 18,000	USD 17,969
JSCE	USD 30,000	USD 30,000
KSCE	USD 18,000	USD 18,000
PICE	USD 6,000	USD 5,990
VIFCEA	0	0
MACE	0	0
Total	USD 120,000	USD 95,949 plus NTD 4,033,100, equivalent to USD 219,429

CICHE has increased her contribution from USD 24,000, which had been committed through the previous ECM's, to USD 123,480 (converted from NTD 4,033,100 by the rate 32.662 : 1) by USD 99,480. As the hosting society, CICHE wishes to do her best to fulfill her strong commitment to the success of the 4th CECAR.

Receipts from booth rental in item (4) of Table 1 are based on the following table.

Table 4 Receipts of Booth Rental

Description	Booth	Amount (NTD)
Shell Stand	61	2,768,472
Booth for ACECC Members	19	0

Receipts of gala dinner in item (2) of Table 1 are based on the following table.

Table 5 Receipts of Gala Dinner

Description	Persons	Amount (NTD)
Gala Dinner	66	100,714
TOTAL	66	100,714

The following is disbursements spent for the conference and excess of receipts over disbursements, a surplus of the conference finance. The actual disbursements are totally NTD **16,473,852** (excluding surplus).

Table 6 **Disbursements** (New Taiwan Dollar, NTD)

	4 months ended December 31, 2005	12 months ended December 31, 2006	13 months ended January 11, 2008	Total
1. Printing/Shipping	104,957	412,200	722,170	1,239,327
2. Registration Cost			127,200	127,200
3. Conference Program			2,500,700	2,500,700
4. Meal Function			2,639,099	2,639,099
5. Invitation			691,087	691,087
6. Operation/administration			1,692,730	1,692,730
7. Technical Visit			266,477	266,477
8. LOC Expenses	815,171	1,951,626	1,313,005	4,079,802
9. Miscellaneous			237,430	237,430
10. Repayment of Loan (CICHE)			3,000,000	3,000,000
11. Excess of receipts over Disbursement			2,189,755	2,189,755
Total Disbursement	920,128	2,363,826	15,379,653	18,663,607

2. Suggested Disposal of Excess of Receipts

By item (11) in Table 6, the excess of receipts over disbursements, a net surplus of the 4th CECAR is NTD 2,189,755. That amount has been converted

into USD 67,043 at NTD 32.662 = USD 1.00, the rate of exchange in effect on January 11, 2008.

The excess of receipts over disbursements, USD 67,043 will be distributed first to the ACECC Secretariat according to the Constitution and By-Law of ACECC. Accordingly, 40% of the total excess of receipts of USD 67,043 is distributed to the Secretariat of ACECC, i.e.,

$$\text{USD } 67,043 \times 0.4 = \text{USD } 26,817 \rightarrow \text{ACECC}$$

The remaining 60% of the excess, USD 40,586, will be distributed to CICHE, based on the ACECC tradition that institutes financial supporting CECAR by loaning money would receive any excess of receipts from the conference after distributing the first 40 % of the total excess to ACECC as have been done both in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd CECAR's. Actually, CICHE will equally share this remaining excess with her main partners, the Civil Engineering Department of National Taiwan University and the Taiwan Construction Research Institute, for their manpower contribution in supporting the activities.

In order to follow the good tradition of supporting the next CECAR by contributing some money from the excess of receipts of the immediate past CECAR, as had been done by JSCE for the 3rd CECAR and KSCE for the 4th CECAR, the LOC has not included this supporting money (USD 7,000) into the receipts of 4th CECAR, and just passed it to the fund as an income of 2007 which had been stated in the ACECC 2007 Finance Report. Following this tradition, the LOC hope that this money could be transferred to the 5th CECAR LOC. The fund has been sent to the current Secretariat's account in November 2007.