ACECC Code of Ethics Guidance
Adopted September 20,2022

Preamble

The Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC), a council of civil engineering organizations established in 1999 to mutually collaborate in the development of sustainable infrastructure in ACECC member economies, is providing this Code of Ethics as a **guidance document** to complement the Code of Ethics maintained and enforced by individual member organizations. While the diversity in cultures, religions, politics, and beliefs may differ within the region, the moral and ethical obligations of the civil engineer do not. The member organizations recognize the importance of professional Codes of Ethics for the benefit of the society at large within the region, and to ensure the reputation of the profession.

This exemplar is structured on four primary pillars namely, integrity, obligation to sustainable development, competence, and responsibility. These pillars are critical to civil engineers (and all other engineers) for earning the trust and confidence of the public.

The ultimate responsibility of the civil engineer is to hold paramount the health, safety, and welfare of the public. While civil engineers use their knowledge and skills to enhance the quality of life for all, they shall preserve the natural resources for the future generations.

In consensus, ACECC considers consisting of the 4 pillars of ethics listed below to define the basic principles that may be used as a guide for the development of or future reviews of their own code of ethics within each ACECC member economy.

Integrity

- Uphold the honor, integrity, and dignity of the profession.
- Have zero tolerance for bribery, fraud, and corruption.
- Identify and disclose any or all conflicts of interest.
- Do not disclose any confidential information identified as such during any phase of a program or project unless required by law or because it violates a higher principle such as protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public.
- Faithfully discharge your duties to clients and employers disclosing any conflicts of interest.
- Provide verbal or written opinions, findings, and recommendations truthfully based on the best available data and knowledge.

Obligation to Sustainable Development

- Commit to principles and goals of sustainable development.
- Ensure wise and optimal use of natural resources.
- Provide due consideration to all options in terms of their social, environmental, and economical benefits, and life cycle costs.

Competence

- Agree to only practice in one's area(s) of competence.
- Represent personal professional knowledge and experience, truthfully.
- Offer opinions on topics honestly and respectfully and only when competent to do so.
- Do not express disparaging views and opinions on other engineers' work without adequate knowledge or evidence.
- When using the work product of others, ensure to acknowledge and give appropriate credit accordingly.
- Do not engage in any form of plagiarism.
- Do not engage in unfair competition.
- Do not take undue credit and give credit where credit is due.

- Consider the capabilities, limitations, and implications of current and emerging technologies.

Responsibility

- Ensure safety and security for all in the place of work.
- Comply with all laws, rules, and regulations.
- Treat everyone with dignity and respect irrespective of gender, race, religion, sexual orientation, or age. Ensure that everyone is given a fair opportunity to be seen and heard.
- Be inclusive and equitable in all interactions at all times.
- Provide fair and honest assessment in a professional manner on the competence of subordinates.
- Engage in lifelong learning and professional development.
- Provide adequate opportunity for professional development for all those under one's direct supervision.
- Educate the public on the role of the civil engineer in society.
- Mentor those in need and when asked to.

Commitment

Each society/institution will use ACECC Code of Ethics Guidance to inform the development of or future reviews of their own code of ethics. If a society/institution does not have its own Code of Ethics, the society's/institution's leadership may adapt this guidance document as a basis to develop their own Code of Ethics.