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Message from the Secretary General

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Dr. Udai P. Singh

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[READ MORE ON PAGE 3](#)

## 50<sup>th</sup> ECM Kathmandu

### Message From ACECC Chair Prof. Yu-Chi Sung

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Colleagues, the 50th ECM is a milestone in our journey. It reminds us of how far we have come, and it challenges us to envision how far we can go. With unity, commitment, and action, I am confident that ACECC will continue to grow in influence and service, making our contributions ever more significant.

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[READ MORE ON PAGE 2](#)



### The 50th ACECC Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) and International Conference

From deep-diving into the future of civil engineering to strengthening our regional ties, the 50th ACECC Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) and International Conference were about more than just meetings, they were about building a better, more resilient future together.

Nepal Engineers' Association





## 50<sup>th</sup> ECM Kathmandu

### Message From ACECC Chair Prof. Yu-Chi Sung

*Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE)*

It is my great honor to welcome you all to the 50th ECM in Kathmandu, Nepal. On behalf of ACECC, I would like to take this opportunity to extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Nepal Engineers' Association for hosting us with such dedication, and to our Secretariat for their tireless efforts in preparing this important gathering. I also sincerely thank the representatives of our member societies for active participation and commitment to ACECC's mission.



Over the past decades, ACECC has advanced civil engineering knowledge, strengthened disaster prevention science, and promoted sustainable development across Asia and beyond. Through the work of our Technical Committees, the exchange fostered at our conferences, and the collective voice we have built, we have shaped engineering policy and practice — achievements born of shared vision and cooperation.



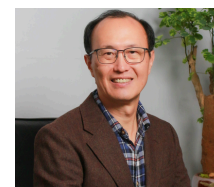
As we honor these accomplishments, we must also face the challenges ahead: rapid urbanization, climate change, and rising disaster risks demand innovation and adaptability, while financial sustainability, deeper engagement of member societies, and clearer communication of our work remain pressing. At the same time, the evolving role of technology—from digital platforms to artificial intelligence—calls us to rethink collaboration and prepare the next generation of engineers.

The ECM is not only a forum for discussion but a platform for action. I hope we can ensure that the conclusions we reach today are transformed into concrete steps. Let us move beyond resolutions and translate our collective wisdom into initiatives that will strengthen ACECC's impact.

Colleagues, the 50th ECM is a milestone in our journey. It reminds us of how far we have come, and it challenges us to envision how far we can go. With unity, commitment, and action, I am confident that ACECC will continue to grow in influence and service, making our contributions ever more significant.

Let us move ACECC forward together.

*Prof. Yu-Chi Sung*  
Chair, ACECC



## Message from the Secretary General

**Dr. Udai P. Singh**  
Asian Civil Engineering  
Coordinating Council



The 50<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) held in Kathmandu, Nepal on 22 to 24 April, 2026 was a true milestone for ACECC. We celebrated our golden jubilee ECM in many ways, such as having a day long International Conference on 23 April and cutting a cake at the welcome dinner hosted by Nepal Engineers' Association (NEA). Many important decisions were made at the ECM. We completed the roster of the remaining officers and leaders of ACECC. The first Deputy Secretary



General (Er. Win Mon Mon Lwin of Fed. MES) and the second Deputy Secretary General (Dr. Prasanti Widyasih Sarli of HAKI) had been appointed days before the ECM. A new Finance Committee was appointed for the next 3 years, with Dr. Moonkyung Chung of KSCE serving as its Chair. Er. Frederick Sison of PICE was elected Chair of the Awards Sub-Committee, and Er. Maqbool Mohammed of ASCE was elected Chair of the Future Leaders Forum (FLF). Congratulations and best wishes to all new leaders!

Dr. Mony Mom, the President of the Cambodian Society of Civil Engineers (CSCE), attended the

ECM as an observer after applying for CSCE membership into ACECC, and answered questions from member societies. The application was approved and CSCE became ACECC's 18<sup>th</sup> member. Congratulations and welcome to CSCE! The TC31 Chair's (Dr. Cris Liban) proposal to engage ACECC member societies in the Institute for Sustainable Infrastructure (ISI) training for the ISI Envision Rating Tool used to evaluate the sustainability of a project was approved. Moreover, four new technical committees were approved:

- TC37: Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the Asia Pacific Region (sponsored by EA and ENZ).
- TC38: Seismic Resilient Infrastructures for Sustainable Development (sponsored by IEB, IEP, NEA, and Fed. MES)
- TC39: Cascading and Compound Risk Assessment for Resilient Engineering (sponsored by NEA and HAKI)
- TC40: Hydropower Knowledge & Innovation Network (sponsored by NEA)



We look forward to knowledge acquisition and sharing by the four new TCs on these important topics. Governance changes and a new slate of officers of the Future Leaders Committee (FLC) were approved. The FLC released its booklet titled "Emerging Voices: Civil Engineering Insights From ACECC's Future Leaders". It is exciting to see FLC making such progress.



The new ACECC Chair (Prof. Yu-Chi Sung of CICHE) laid out his vision for ACECC in the coming years. Moreover, the CECAR10 Final Report and CECAR11 plans were approved. Also approved was ACECC's budget for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Five TCs and FLF contributed to the technical sessions at the International Conference on Sustainable, Resilient, and Digital Infrastructure on 23<sup>rd</sup> April. NEA organized and brought in excellent keynote speakers at the opening plenary session and closing technical session on the Gorkha Earthquake 2015.

NEA was the perfect host, taking care of all delegates throughout the ECM from picking them up at the airport on 21<sup>st</sup> April to dropping them off on 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup> April. We enjoyed their hospitality and excellent Nepali cuisine at the lunches and dinners. The heritage walk at Patan Durbar Square on the evening of 22<sup>nd</sup> April and the Kathmandu sightseeing tour on 24<sup>th</sup> April afternoon are events etched into our memories for a long time.

Thank you, NEA. And now we will look forward to the 51<sup>st</sup> ECM at Tainan, Taiwan on October 27 to 30, 2026.

Dr. Udai P. Singh  
Secretary General  
Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating  
Council (ACECC)



# Message from First Deputy Secretary General

**Engr. Win Mon Mon Lwin**  
**First Deputy Secretary General, ACECC**

*Vice President, Federation of Myanmar  
Engineering Societies (Fed. MES)*



It is a great honor and a true privilege to address you all for the first time as the First Deputy Secretary General of the Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC). Taking on this leadership role at such an exciting time in our council's history is a big responsibility. I feel both deeply humbled and highly motivated to serve our vibrant, diverse engineering community across Asia and the Pacific.

My personal journey with ACECC began when I attended the 45th Executive Committee Meeting (ECM) in Taipei. Although I am a newer face in the Secretariat, I carry with me the proud, long-standing legacy of the Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies (Fed.MES), which has been a dedicated member society of ACECC since 2019. Witnessing firsthand how this council bridges different cultures, shares technical skills, and raises engineering standards across borders has been incredibly inspiring. It is a genuine privilege to transition from a member delegate to serving the organization from within the Secretariat.

Our most recent milestone—the 50th ECM in Kathmandu, Nepal—was a powerful reminder of the unity, friendship, and enduring strength of our organization. Meeting half a century of milestones is no small feat. I would like to extend my warmest appreciation to the Nepal Engineers' Association for their wonderful hospitality and flawless organization. I also want to express my deepest gratitude to our Secretary General, Dr. Udai P. Singh, and the entire Secretariat team. Their tireless hard work behind the scenes ensures that our collective goals move forward smoothly and seamlessly every single day.

ACECC's true strength has always been its ability to translate shared knowledge into real-world progress. As engineers, we face growing challenges from climate change, rapid urbanization, and natural disasters. Now more than ever, our region relies on our shared expertise to build safer, smarter, and more resilient infrastructure.



In the term ahead, I want to focus heavily on strengthening our internal operations and improving how we connect. I want to make sure our member societies have closer communication, clearer channels for collaboration, and better ways to showcase their amazing local work. I am fully committed to regular updates and open dialogue so that every member society—regardless of size or distance—feels actively connected and heard. To achieve this, I look forward to working hand-in-hand with our Second Deputy Secretary General, Dr. Prasanti Widyasih Sarli, and all of our esteemed member societies.

By supporting one another, we can make our committees more active and our shared knowledge more accessible to young engineers across the region.

Thank you all so much for your continued trust, support, and dedication to our shared mission. Let us move forward together with energy and purpose, working hand-in-hand to build a safer, stronger, and more sustainable future for the generations to come.

*Engr. Win Mon Mon Lwin*

*First Deputy Secretary General, ACECC*



## Message from the Second Deputy Secretary General

**Prasanti Widyasih Sarli**

**Second Deputy Secretary General, ACECC**

*Indonesian Society of Civil & Structural Engineers (HAKI)*



My journey with ACECC began in 2021, when I had the privilege of serving as the inaugural Chair of the Future Leaders Committee. At the time, I joined as a young engineer eager to learn from others across the region. I did not realize then how much that experience would shape my professional growth.

Through ACECC, I have had the opportunity to work closely with and learn from many senior engineers, particularly Engr. Shalendra Ram of Engineers Australia and Engr. Sohail Bashir of the Institution of Engineers Pakistan, whose guidance and encouragement have been invaluable. Later, I was entrusted by HAKI President Prof. Iswandi Imran to represent the Indonesian Society of Civil and Structural Engineers (HAKI) within ACECC. Since then, working alongside Dr. Udai Singh and many colleagues from across our member organizations has broadened my understanding of both the challenges and opportunities facing engineers throughout Asia and the Pacific.

What makes ACECC unique is the opportunity it provides to connect with engineers from diverse countries, cultures, and professional backgrounds. Through these interactions, we not only learn about different engineering practices and technical challenges, but also gain a deeper appreciation of the strengths, aspirations, and resilience of our neighboring societies. In a rapidly changing world, such connections are more important than ever.

It is therefore a great honor for me to serve as the Second Deputy Secretary General of ACECC. I look forward to contributing to the organization that has so generously invested in my development, while working together with fellow members to strengthen collaboration, support future generations of engineers, and advance our shared vision for the region.

Thank you for your trust, and I look forward to serving alongside all of you in the years ahead.

*Prasanti Widyasih Sarli*

*Second Deputy Secretary General, ACECC*



## Message from the Planning Committee (PC) Chair

**Prof. Yuan-Lung Lo**  
 Chair, Planning Committee (PC), ACECC  
 Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE)



It is a profound honor and a privilege for me to serve as the Chair of the Planning Committee (PC) of ACECC. As I step into this role, I am deeply inspired by the legacy of excellence established by my predecessors and the collective expertise within this esteemed Council. I look forward to this invaluable opportunity to learn from the distinguished experts of our member societies. My primary goal is to ensure the seamless execution of our upcoming Planning Committee Meetings (PCM) and to foster an environment where every member country finds their participation both rewarding and impactful.

I am especially honored that the upcoming CECAR 11 will be hosted in my home country. We are fully committed to upholding the high standards set by previous conferences. Our team is working tirelessly to ensure that CECAR 11 not only facilitates the exchange of cutting-edge engineering knowledge but also provides a memorable experience that meets the expectations of all our international delegates.

As we approach the conclusion of the current ACECC Strategic Plan, we stand at a pivotal juncture. The 50th and upcoming 51st Executive Committee Meetings (ECM) are critical platforms for us to reflect on our achievements and identify future challenges. I earnestly invite all member societies to contribute your visionary insights during these sessions. Your feedback will be the cornerstone in shaping the core missions and tasks of our next Strategic Plan, ensuring that ACECC remains a leading force in the sustainable development of the Asian region.

Finally, I look forward to working closely with the ACECC Secretariat, the Executive Committee, and all administrative representatives. Through our collaborative efforts, I am confident that we will successfully drive our various initiatives forward and continue to enhance the quality of life through civil engineering excellence.



*Prof. Yuan-Lung Lo*  
 Chair, Planning Committee (PC), ACECC



## Message from Chair of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC)

Assoc. Prof. Shieh-Kung Huang  
Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE)



I am honored to serve as the new Chair of the Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC) of ACECC. It is my pleasure to provide an update on the recent activities of ACECC’s Technical Committees (TCs). We currently have 13 active TCs through international cooperation, and I would like to announce the addition of four new committees: a) Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, proposed by -

- Dr. Gregory De Costa (ENZ) and Prof. Bithin Datta (EA)
- Seismic Resilient Infrastructures for Sustainable Development, proposed by Dr. Md. Shafiul Islam (IEB)
- Cascading and compound Risk Assessment for Resilient Engineering, proposed by Engr. Suraj Gautam (NEA)
- Hydropower Knowledge & Innovation Network, proposed by Er. Subash Chandra Baral (NEA)

These new committees will play a vital role in strengthening technical capacity for sustainable and resilient infrastructure across Asia.

I am also pleased to note the successful completion of activities by TC-22, TC-26, and TC-28. These are all critical areas, and I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the chairs— Dr. Sarosh Lodi (IEP), Ms. April Lander (ASCE), and Prof. Eiki Yamaguchi (JSCE)—as well as to all members for their hard work and dedication. In addition, I would like to acknowledge the excellent TC seminars organized during 49<sup>th</sup> ECM by TC-25 (Prof. Brian O’Donnell, EA), TC-27 (Dr. Benito Pacheco, PICE), TC-30 (Dr. Sung-min Cho, KSCE), and TC-35 (Prof. Yuan-Lung Lo, CICHE). These seminars were highly informative and offered valuable insights into the latest developments in our field.

At the end of this message, I would like to thank all TC chairs and members for their leadership and active participation in advancing and disseminating infrastructure technologies among ACECC member societies. I am confident that, through the continued efforts of our TCs, we can collaboratively address the challenges and critical issues facing Asia.



Assoc. Prof. Shieh-Kung Huang  
Chair,

Technical Coordinating Committee (TCC), ACECC



## Message from the CECAR 11 Local Organizing Committee (LOC) Chair

Kerwin H.C. Ni  
*Chinese Institute of Civil and Hydraulic Engineering (CICHE)*



I am delighted to serve as the Chair of the Local Organizing Committee for the 11th Civil Engineering Conference in the Asian Region (CECAR11), to be held in Taiwan in 2028.

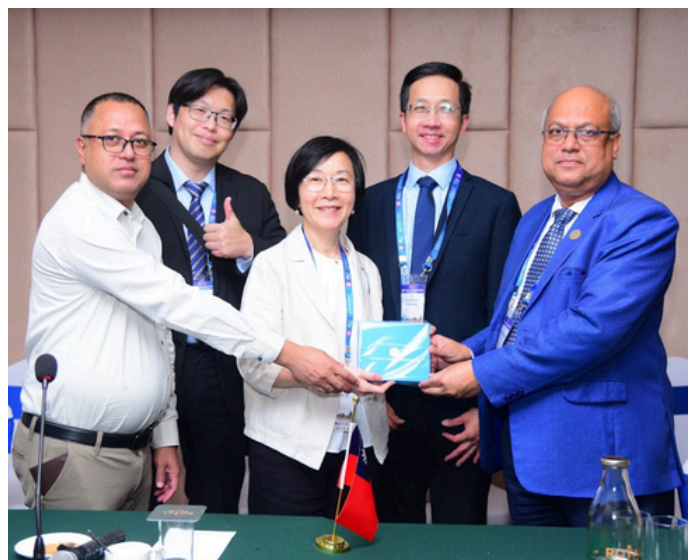
It is my great pleasure to warmly invite you to join us in Taiwan for this important gathering of the civil engineering community in Asia. CECAR11 will present a comprehensive and forward-looking technical program, covering a wide spectrum of topics—from resilient infrastructure and climate adaptation to smart engineering, digital innovation, and sustainable development. We aim to create a dynamic platform that encourages knowledge exchange, interdisciplinary dialogue, and meaningful international collaboration.

CECAR11 in Taiwan has received strong and enthusiastic support from the national government, local authorities, relevant public agencies, private enterprises, and academic institutions across the country. With this solid backing, we have assembled an outstanding and dedicated team committed to serving you and delivering a truly high-quality and impactful conference.

In addition to the technical programs, we are also planning a variety of local activities, giving you the opportunity to explore Taiwan’s unique culture, cuisine, and hospitality.

CECAR11 will be more than just a conference—it will be a memorable journey of connection, learning, and shared vision. We sincerely look forward to welcoming you to Taiwan and to shaping together a more resilient and sustainable future for civil engineering in Asia.

See you in Taiwan in 2028!



Kerwin H.C. Ni  
 Chair, CECAR11 Local Organizing  
 Committee (LOC)



## PHOTO GALLERY OF 50<sup>th</sup> ECM Kathmandu



## PHOTO GALLERY OF 50<sup>th</sup> ECM Kathmandu





# REGIONAL EXPERTISE FOR SEISMIC RESILIENCE

## Mandalay Earthquake One Year On

*Engr. Win Mon Mon Lwin*

**First Deputy Secretary General, ACECC**

**Vice President, Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies (Fed. MES)**

*"I heard the Ava Bridge broke down."*

*"I heard the Dokhtawaddy Bridge collapsed."*

*"Even in Mandalay, so many buildings collapsed that almost the whole city is hit."*

*"The expressway is ruined too, and it's completely impassable for cars."*

As I looked at the photos flooding the internet, a wave of profound shock came over me. In my entire life—spanning more than forty years in my home country—I had never witnessed destruction and collapse of this magnitude.

**That unforgettable day was March 28, 2025.**

At exactly 12:51:54 PM, a powerful earthquake struck near Mandalay. In my role as the General Secretary of the Federation of Myanmar Engineering Societies (Fed. MES) at the time, our team immediately sprang into action. From March 29—the day after the quake—through April 13, on the eve of the Thingyan Water Festival, we consistently issued public safety alerts. From Advisory No. 1 through No. 4, we kept citizens informed in real-time via the official Fed. MES and Myanmar Earthquake Committee websites.



### The Journey into the Impact Zone

Following an invitation from the Ministry of Construction, our delegation—consisting of the Fed. MES President, Vice Presidents, myself as General Secretary, and Executive Committee members—departed Yangon on April 1st, bound for Nay Pyi Taw to inspect and assess the heavily damaged structures.

As we traveled, the Yangon–Mandalay Expressway showed no major visible signs of failure up to the 115-mile marker near Phyu. Beyond that point, however, the sheer scale of the damage left us stunned and terrified—a vivid memory that still haunts me today. In some sections, the asphalt had buckled violently upward; in others, it had sunken into massive craters. Severe fissures ripped through the pavement. Upon arriving in Nay Pyi Taw, there was no time to rest, nor did anyone wish to. We dropped our bags at the Shwe Ei Thal (Golden Guest) Hotel, settled into our rooms, and immediately set out for the disaster zones.

### A Stark Engineering Lesson: Ground Floor Soft-Story Failures

*"Oh my God..."*

*"How could this have happened to such an extent?"*

Gasps of horror and disbelief erupted from our team as we approached a staff housing apartment complex. The entire ground floor had completely pancaked. Strikingly, the upper three stories remained largely intact, sitting upright on top of the rubble like a squatting figure. The surrounding apartment blocks suffered identical structural failures.

Driven by professional curiosity, my feet naturally led me into the debris to inspect where, how, and why this specific failure mechanism occurred. Suddenly, an overwhelming stench of decomposition hit me, forcing me back a step. One of the lady officers from Nay Pyi Taw quickly handed me a face mask, which I scrambled to put on.



Yet, my drive to understand overrode my discomfort. Questions raced through my mind: Why did it fail this way? What went wrong?

I observed that every single reinforced concrete (RC) column on the ground floor had sheared and snapped. Conversely, the RC beams showed minimal damage. Moving from one building to the next, the failure pattern was eerily identical.

To put it in engineering terms, when the lateral seismic forces struck the buildings, plastic hinges formed at the weakest zones—specifically right below the column heads where the ground-floor columns intersect with the first-floor beams.



The column tops had completely ruptured, causing them to tilt precariously and protrude outward at jagged, terrifying angles.

Then, I noticed something deeply troubling at the beam-column joints. Looking closely, I found foreign debris—resembling sawdust and wood scraps—embedded in the concrete. It was definitive proof that the column heads had never been properly cleaned before the concrete pour. I thought bitterly to myself: How could they have poured concrete over piles of construction debris at the exact zone most vulnerable to high structural stress?

Unable to contain my concern, I pushed further to inspect the reinforcement details. The real catastrophe lay in a cumulative vulnerability: the overall building layout, its spatial orientation, the direction of seismic wave propagation, the column positioning, and the exact detailing and arrangement of the rebar. Heartbreakingly, all these factors combined to create a textbook recipe for total structural collapse.



It raised serious questions: What was the actual concrete compressive strength and the tensile strength of the rebar used during construction? Was there any proper quality control or an independent inspection agency involved? More importantly, given how close this major city sits to an active fault line, was a seismic-resistant structural design ever incorporated into these buildings in the first place?

### **Mobilizing the Engineering Community: PDRA Training**

On the following day, April 2nd, the Myanmar Earthquake Committee led an intensive half-day training session for engineers representing 11 ministries. The subject was Post-Disaster Rapid Assessment (PDRA)—a methodology for rapid visual structural evaluations following a natural disaster. The earthquake had caused widespread destruction across Sagaing, Mandalay, Nay Pyi Taw, and their surrounding towns and villages. Because the affected zones were vast and the -

number of active civil engineers in Myanmar is limited, training ministerial engineers to properly assess their own offices and residential quarters was the fastest way to gather critical safety data.



**From Emergency Response to Long-Term Recovery**

Over the past year, our focus at Fed. MES has shifted from emergency response to long-term recovery and seismic safety. We have been studying exactly why buildings failed in Mandalay and Sagaing, focusing closely on high-rises, heritage sites, and residential homes. By pushing for stricter enforcement of our local code, the Myanmar National Building Code (MNBC 2025) which was published in June 2025, we want to ensure that as we rebuild, we do not repeat old mistakes, but actually construct a safer future.

In this journey, the solidarity and swift support of our regional partners proved invaluable. Just after the earthquake struck, ACECC and Fed. MES collaboratively arranged a comprehensive series of five critical knowledge exchange sessions to guide our recovery and technical assessment efforts. On behalf of Fed. MES, we would like to express our deepest gratitude and acknowledgment to ACECC for organizing these five sessions. This timely intervention allowed our local engineers to quickly connect with leading international experts, gaining immediate technical guidance and specialized knowledge when we needed it most.

This immediate response is precisely where the mission of the Asian Civil Engineering Coordinating Council (ACECC) becomes vital. In my role as First Deputy Secretary General, I want to use this experience as a blueprint to build an even stronger bridge between local challenges and regional expertise. ACECC’s real strength is its ability to bring different countries together to share knowledge. Through our Technical Committees on disaster risk reduction, we can continue to introduce advanced seismic design practices from experienced nations into rapidly developing economies.



**Rebuilding a Resilient Asia**

Our goal now is to turn the painful lessons of the 2025 Mandalay Earthquake into practical, resilient engineering solutions. By combining the hands-on insights of national societies like Fed. MES with the regional reach of ACECC, we can promote smart, affordable, and resilient design. Moving forward, we must focus on sharing resilient technology, training local structural engineers, and aligning our engineering perspectives to handle modern seismic realities. Let us honor the memory of those affected by the Mandalay earthquake by renewing our commitment to public safety, working together through ACECC and our national societies to build a safer, more resilient Asia.

*Engr. Win Mon Mon Lwin*

*First Deputy Secretary General, ACECC*



# THE ASIAN CIVIL ENGINEERING COORDINATING COUNCIL

Chairman

**Prof. Yu-Chi Sung**

Secretary General

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RSCE

