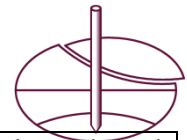


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Bhoomi Kamdar	Your Organization: Sardar Vallabhbhai National Institute of Technology (SVNIT), Surat, Gujarat, India	Date of report: 06 July 2023
Conference Title: 9 th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics (9ICEG)	Location of Conference: Minoa Palace Resort & Spa, Chania, Crete, Greece	Dates of Conference: 25-28 June 2023
What you learned: I have a deeper understanding of Environmental Geotechnics as a result of the insights I acquired at the 9ICEG conference. There were many engaging lectures on a variety of topics, including the use of geosynthetics in waste containment, the transport of contaminants, the various remediation methods for contaminated soil and water, the use of various wastes in construction, and the environmental impact of climate change. The ISSMGE president's lecture on the reuse of construction waste was extremely enlightening. This experience taught me a lot, and the chance to talk about interesting things in casual conversations was a nice bonus. Equally fascinating were the panel discussions and special lectures delivered by professors from universities around the world. It was inspiring to learn about the scientists' contributions to resolving environmental problems and making the planet more habitable.		
People you met: Dr. Marc Ballouz, ISSMGE president Dr. Dimitrios Zekkos, Associate Professor, University of California at Berkeley, USA Dr. Kristin Sample-Lord, Assistant Professor, Villanova University, USA Dr. Hemanta Hazarika, Kyushu University, Fukuoka, Japan Dr. M. Hesham El Naggat, Western University, Canada Dr. D. N. Singh, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay, India Dr. G L Sivakumar Babu, Indian Institute of Science (IISC), Bangalore, India Dr. Madhavi latha G, Indian Institute of Science (IISC), Bangalore, India		
Main features of conference: The focus of the 9 th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics was on the role of Environmental Geotechnics in addressing global issues. The main features included the introduction and welcome address by the conference chair and ISSMGE president, followed by a welcome reception on the first day of the conference. Attending Prof. Abdelmalek's R.K. Rowe lecture on the second day of the conference and gathering insight from the various invited lectures and special sessions on all days of the conference was one of the highlights for me. Attending the bright spark lecture award presentations by four eminent researchers was an additional highlight of the conference.		
Your comments on the conference: All four days of the conference were well-managed and organized. The conference committee ensured that the event maintained a high level of engagement and provided value		



to all attendees. The main lectures and parallel sessions were incredibly well-balanced, and there were also lovely coffee and lunch breaks throughout the program. Overall, attending the 9th International Conference on Environmental Geotechnics offered numerous advantages, including networking opportunities, knowledge expansion, research presentation possibilities, staying updated with industry developments, and potential publication opportunities. It is an event that enhanced my professional growth and provided valuable experiences that may positively impact my career in Environmental Geotechnics.

Please attach short report (maximum 400 words) suitable for publication in the ISSMGE Bulletin:

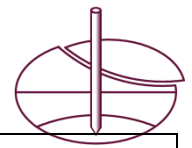
The 9th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics was hosted in Chania, Greece, from June 25 to June 28, 2023. This preeminent Geoenvironmental Engineering event was organized by ISSMGE Technical Committee 215. Under the auspices of the Hellenic Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering, the conference was conducted. There were many participants from Europe, the United States, China, Japan, and India.

On the first day of the conference, Dimitrios Zekkos and Kristin sample-Lord's introduction session made us all enthusiastic about the next few days. I gained a broader understanding of the practical applications of Geoenvironmental Engineering from the engaging and enlightening guest lectures I heard at the conference. After learning about these applications, I realized how important Environmental Geotechnics is in finding practical solutions to pressing issues. Marc Ballouz's lecture on "Preserving the Environment by Reusing the Existing Construction Footprint" had a significant impact on me. It was incredible to read all the details and the results of the investigation. In addition, the R.K. Rowe lecture on "untangling the mysteries of geosynthetic clay liners behavior in aggressive and challenging environments" by Abdelmalek Bouazza was extremely helpful in comprehending the significance of geosynthetics in addressing environmental challenges.

The parallel session presentations reflected cutting-edge research and practical applications in a variety of geotechnical engineering disciplines. In addition, I was fortunate to be able to present my research on the "Influence of Mesquite Biochar on the Geotechnical Properties of Highly Plastic Clay" as part of the "Advances in testing and material characterization" theme of the conference. It was a wonderful opportunity to present my work and receive feedback from international experts in the same discipline. Furthermore, attending this conference allowed me to network with experts and researchers in the field. I had the opportunity to engage in discussions, exchange ideas, and establish connections with like-minded individuals. I was delighted to meet renowned professors like Hemanta Hazarika, M. Hesham El Naggar, D. N Singh, G L Sivakumar Babu and Pradeep Kumar Dammala during the conference.

Overall, attending the 9ICEG conference was a transformative experience. The knowledge and connections I acquired through this conference will undoubtedly have a significant impact on my future endeavors. I am extremely grateful to the organizers for hosting such a rich and educational event, and I look forward to attending future geotechnical engineering conferences.

I would like to thank ISSMGE Foundation for the financial assistance that allowed me to attend this incredible and crucial conference.



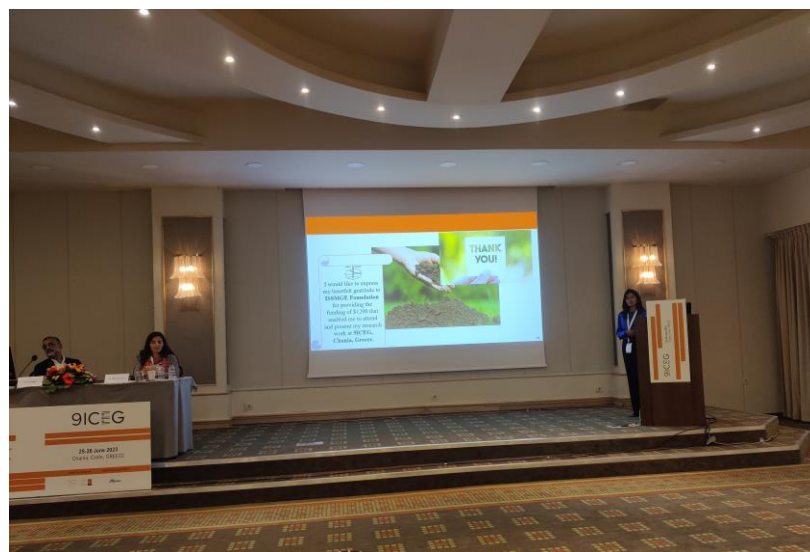
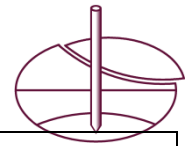
Photographs from Conference:



Day 1- Welcome address by Prof. Dimitrios Zekkos



Day 2- Lecture by Prof. Marc Ballouz



Photos taken during my oral presentation

