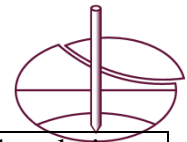


**ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE**

Your Name: Hrushikesh Namdev Kedar	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: The 9ICEG conference was a valuable experience for me, enhancing my understanding of Environmental Geotechnics. I attended enlightening talks on various subjects, including the environmental impact of climate change, Geosynthetics in waste containment, contaminant transportation, and soil and water remediation methods. The ISSMGE president's speech on reusing building waste was particularly informative. Engaging in casual conversations about these fascinating topics was an added bonus. The panel talks and lectures by professors from global universities were equally captivating, showcasing how scientists contribute to solving environmental challenges and improving our world.		
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. G L Sivakumar Babu, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, India Dr. Madhavi Iatha G, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, India		
Main features of conference: The 9th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics focused on highlighting the significance of Environmental Geotechnics in addressing global challenges. The main topic of discussion during the congress revolved around the crucial role of this field in finding solutions to pressing environmental issues. The technical presentations were organized into six parallel sessions, each dedicated to a different geo-environmental topic, ensuring a comprehensive exploration of the subject matter. Additionally, the congress featured seven special sessions that disseminated the latest advances in specific research subfields, fostering the exchange of ideas and facilitating dialogue among participants. Two discussion sessions were also included, providing a platform for in-depth conversations on key aspects of environmental geotechnics. To promote active engagement and vibrant discussions, an e-poster session was organized, creating an interactive environment for participants to share their ideas and research findings. On the first day of the congress, the conference chair and the president of ISSMGE (International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering) delivered their opening remarks, setting the stage for the event. These esteemed individuals highlighted the importance of Environmental Geotechnics in addressing global problems and emphasized		



the need for collaboration between academia and industry to achieve sustainable solutions. Following the opening ceremony, a reception was held, officially marking the beginning of the congress. Distinguished speakers from both academia and industry were invited to share their expertise and insights on various Geoenvironmental topics, further enriching the discussions and creating a dynamic atmosphere of knowledge exchange.

Your comments on the conference:

The conference was a well-executed and seamlessly organized event. The conference committee ensured that participants had an enjoyable and enriching experience throughout. The carefully structured schedule included not only engaging main lectures and parallel sessions but also delightful coffee and lunch breaks, allowing attendees to rejuvenate and connect with fellow professionals. Attending the 9th International Conference on Environmental Geotechnics proved highly advantageous on multiple fronts.

Firstly, it provided a platform for forging new connections within the industry. Networking opportunities were abundant, enabling fruitful discussions and the establishment of valuable relationships with experts and peers. These connections have the potential to open doors for collaboration, future research endeavours, and professional growth.

Secondly, the conference served as a knowledge hub, offering a plethora of learning opportunities. Attendees were exposed to the latest advancements and innovations in the field of Environmental Geotechnics, gaining insights from esteemed speakers and researchers. The diverse range of topics covered during the lectures and parallel sessions expanded attendees' knowledge base and sparked new ideas that can be applied to their own work.

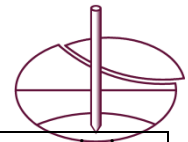
Moreover, the conference presented an avenue for showcasing research and potentially getting published. Presenting research findings to a knowledgeable and receptive audience provided valuable feedback and exposure. This experience not only bolsters professional credibility but also contributes to the collective knowledge of the field, advancing Environmental Geotechnics as a whole.

Overall, attending the 9th International Conference on Environmental Geotechnics proved to be a significant milestone in professional development. It provided a platform for personal growth, exposure to new ideas and advancements, and the opportunity to network with like-minded individuals. The conference was a valuable investment in expanding knowledge, broadening horizons, and advancing one's career in the field of Environmental Geotechnics

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

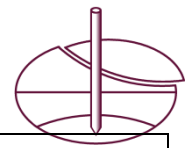
The 9th International Congress on Environmental Geotechnics was held in Chania, Greece, from June 25 to June 28, 2023. The conference, organized by ISSMGE Technical Committee 215, focused on Geoenvironmental Engineering and received support from the Hellenic Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering. Attendees from Europe, the United States, China, Japan, and India gathered at this esteemed event.

The conference primarily centered on various Geoenvironmental topics, including the environmental impact of climate change, the role of Geosynthetics in waste containment, contaminant transportation, soil and water remediation methods, waste management, and climate adaptation. The event commenced with an introduction session led by Professor Dimitris Zekkos and Kristin Sample-Lord, establishing the overall tone and objectives for the upcoming days. The guest lectures provided valuable practical insights into Geoenvironmental Engineering, emphasizing its importance in addressing pressing



environmental issues. Marc Ballouz delivered a impactful lecture on reusing existing construction, while C. Mulligan's lecture on Application of bio surfactants as sustainable environmental remediation. I had presented my work in Advances in Testing and Material characterization theme. I had the privilege of presenting my research related to Activation of low calcium fly ash with cementitious materials for utilization in subbase layer of flexible pavement and received valuable feedback from international experts in the field. Networking opportunities with industry professionals and researchers further enhanced the experience, enabling fruitful exchanges of ideas and establishing valuable connections. Meeting renowned academics such as Dr. Hemanta Hazarika, Dr. G. L. Sivakumar Babu, and Dr. Pradeep Kumar Dammala was particularly memorable.

Attending the 9ICEG conference was a transformative experience, providing me with valuable knowledge and connections that will contribute significantly to my future success. I would like to express my gratitude to the organizers for hosting an informative and well-rounded geotechnical engineering conference. Additionally, I extend my appreciation to the ISSMGE Foundation for their financial support, which made my participation in this exceptional event possible.



Photographs from Conference:



Welcome address by Prof. Dimitrios Zekkos



Lecture by Prof. Marc Ballouz

