ISSMGE FOUNDATION
REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Your Name: Hamida Diab	***Your Organization:*** University Badji Mokhtar Annaba – Algeria	***Date of report:*** 31/08/2026
Conference Title: International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering 2026	***Location of Conference:*** Delft, Netherlands	***Dates of Conference:*** 24-08-2026

What you learned:

Participation in the International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering 2026 was a valuable opportunity to deepen my understanding of the relationship between geological processes, soft soil behaviour and engineering stability.
My contribution to the conference, entitled "Tectonic Influences on Soft Soil Formations in the Saharan Atlas: Implications for Iron Mineralization and Engineering Stability in Northeast Algeria," was accepted for presentation by the conference committee.
The conference provided an opportunity to discuss the importance of geological and tectonic controls in understanding the formation and behaviour of soft soils. The scientific programme covered advanced laboratory and in-situ testing, constitutive and numerical modelling, monitoring, soil improvement, climate resilience, and machine learning and data analysis.
These topics were particularly relevant to my research interests in geology and iron mineralization in Northeast Algeria. The discussions helped me develop a broader perspective on how geological structures and soil properties can influence engineering conditions and stability.
I also gained a better understanding of the importance of combining geological interpretation with modern geotechnical approaches when assessing complex ground conditions.

People you met:

During the conference, I had the opportunity to attend presentations and scientific contributions by several researchers, like Sebastian Mendez, Alireza Azizi, Yang Yu, Maryam Hallaj, Stefano Muraro, Shunichi Ohyama, Federico Montali, Ayu Prativi, Yu-Chiao Wang, Zahra Khodaverdlou, Yizhang Xu, and Lucio Carvalho.

Their presentations covered a wide range of topics related to soil formation and geological controls, geotechnical characterization, engineering stability, numerical modelling, soil behaviour, and innovative approaches to problematic and soft soils. Attending these presentations allowed me to gain new perspectives on current research developments,

methodologies, and practical challenges in the field of soft soils and geotechnical engineering.

The scientific contributions presented during the conference were particularly valuable for improving my understanding of the links between geological processes, soil properties, and practical geotechnical engineering applications. The international range of researchers and topics also provided valuable exposure to current approaches and developments in soft-soil research, which can contribute to my own scientific work and future research activities.

Main features of conference:

The International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering 2026 was organized under the auspices of ISSMGE Technical Committee 214 – Foundation Engineering for Difficult Soft Soil Conditions, with Delft University of Technology and KIVI.

The principal scientific themes included:

Design, construction, performance and monitoring on soft soils;
Developments in laboratory and in-situ testing;
Behaviour of soft soils, including coupled processes;
Constitutive and numerical modelling;
Onshore, near-shore and offshore soft soil engineering;
Climate impact and resilience;
Vegetation and its influence on soft soil environments;
Machine learning and data analysis;
Soft soils in geo-engineering education.

A particularly important feature was the integration of fundamental research with practical engineering applications and innovative technologies for understanding and managing difficult ground conditions.

Your comments on the conference:

The conference was a highly valuable scientific experience. It provided an excellent platform for exchanging knowledge between researchers and engineering professionals working on difficult soft soil conditions.

I particularly appreciated the multidisciplinary nature of the conference and the opportunity to connect geological processes with geotechnical engineering challenges. This was especially relevant to my contribution concerning the influence of tectonic processes on soft soil formations in the Saharan Atlas and their implications for iron mineralization and engineering stability in Northeast Algeria.

The conference also demonstrated the importance of advanced testing, modelling, monitoring and data analysis in addressing complex ground conditions.

Participation in this international scientific event allowed me to broaden my scientific perspective, strengthen my professional network and gain knowledge that can be valuable for my future research activities in geology, mining and geotechnical and environmental applications.

Overall, the conference was very informative and professionally beneficial, and I am grateful for the opportunity to participate and present my research.

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

The International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering 2026 (ICAISSE 2026) was held from 24 to 26 August 2026 at Delft University of Technology in Delft, the Netherlands. The conference was organized under the auspices of ISSMGE Technical Committee 214 on Foundation Engineering for Difficult Soft Soil Conditions, together with Delft University of Technology and KIVI.

The conference addressed current challenges related to soft and difficult soils and presented recent developments in testing, modelling, monitoring, construction and soil improvement techniques. Major topics included laboratory and in-situ testing, soft soil behaviour and coupled processes, constitutive and numerical modelling, onshore and offshore engineering, climate impact and resilience, machine learning and data analysis, and geotechnical education.

I participated in the conference with my research contribution entitled “Tectonic Influences on Soft Soil Formations in the Saharan Atlas: Implications for Iron Mineralization and Engineering Stability in Northeast Algeria,” which was accepted for presentation by the conference committee.

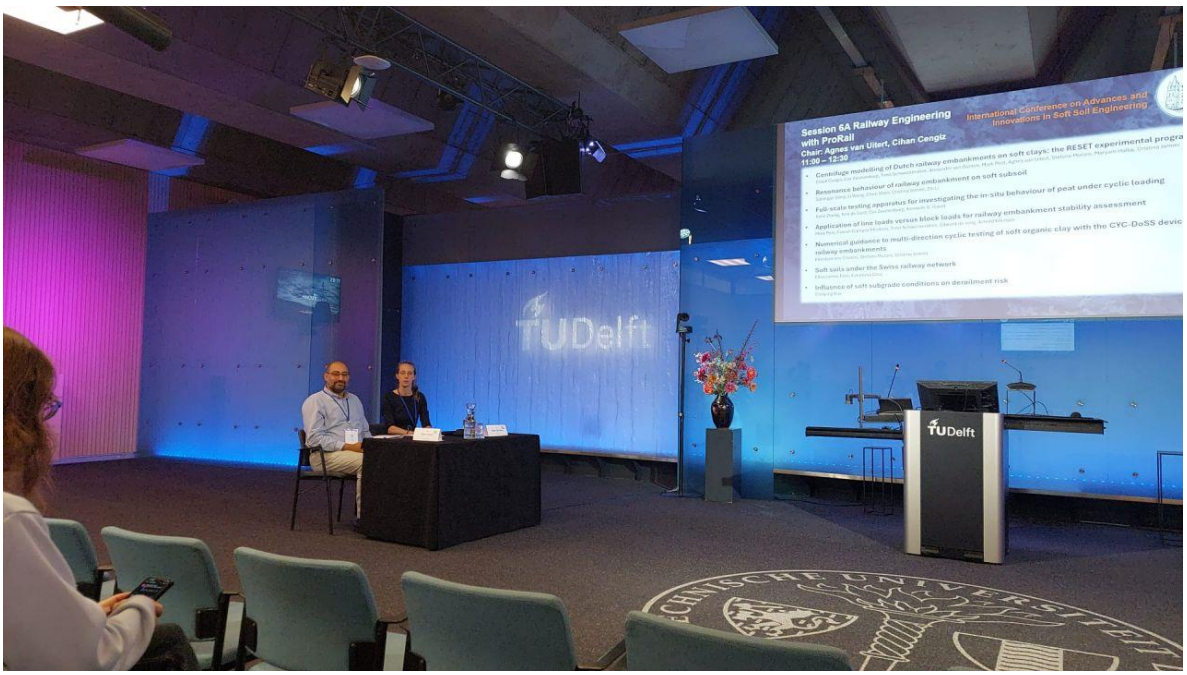
My participation was particularly relevant to my research interests in geology and iron mineralization in Northeast Algeria. The conference provided an opportunity to examine soft soil engineering from a broader perspective and to consider the importance of geological and tectonic processes in understanding ground conditions and engineering stability.

The scientific discussions highlighted the importance of integrating geological knowledge with advanced geotechnical characterization, modelling and monitoring. This multidisciplinary approach is particularly valuable in regions where complex geological structures and problematic soils may influence engineering behaviour and resource-related activities.

Another important aspect of the conference was the opportunity to meet researchers and professionals from different backgrounds and exchange scientific ideas concerning difficult ground conditions and innovative engineering approaches. These interactions contributed to expanding my professional network and may support future scientific collaborations.

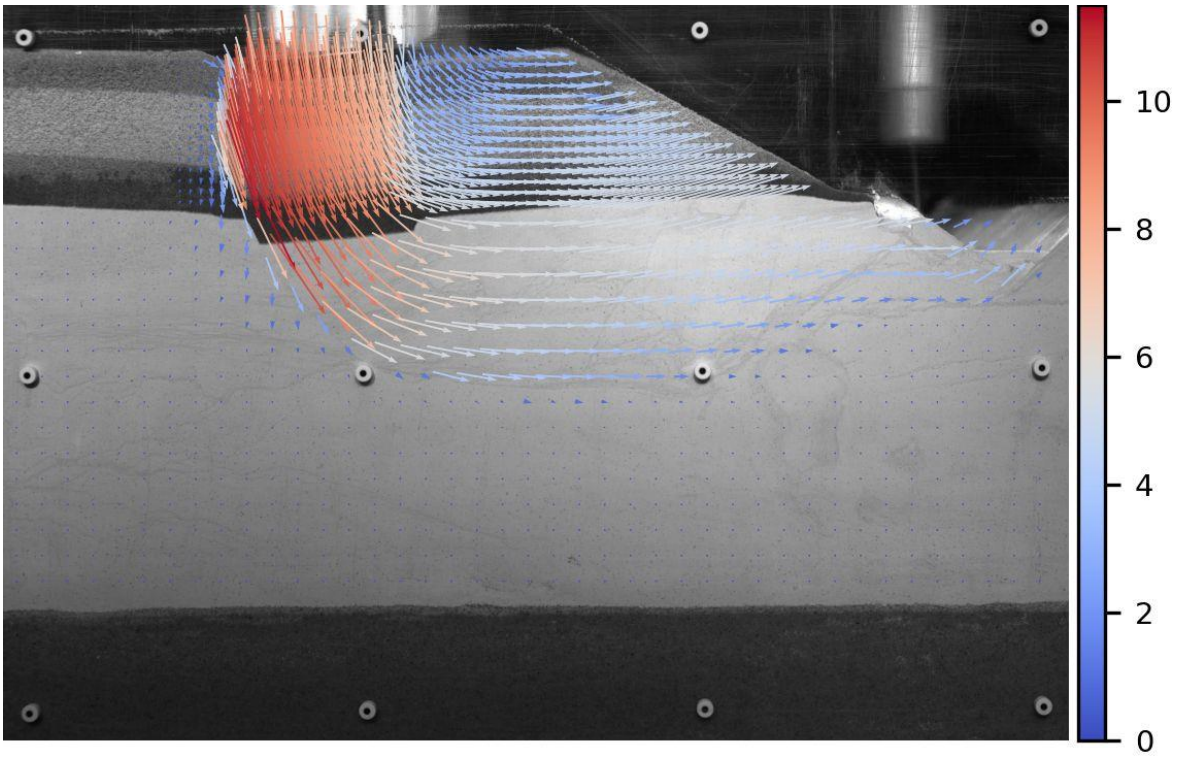
Overall, participation in ICAISSE 2026 was a highly valuable scientific and professional experience. It broadened my understanding of recent developments in soft soil engineering and strengthened the connection between my geological research and contemporary geotechnical engineering approaches.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email






Site-specific consolidation analysis for
Newtown (Kolkata) using the Soft Soil
Model calibrated with Flat
Dilatometer (DMT) test results
TUDelft


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8
6
4
2
0


SMARTEC
Flat Dilatometer
Seismic Dilatometer
Vs measurements
Main Features
(S)DMT QUIZ


International Conference on Advances and Innovations in Soft Soil Engineering 2026
Delft, NL, 24 – 26 August, 2026
Effectiveness of an advanced fully automated in-situ test for the characterization of very soft soils
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