ISSMGE FOUNDATION

REPORT ON CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE

Your Name: Siya Paul Rimoy	***Your Organization:*** University of Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania	***Date of report:*** 6th July 2026
Conference Title: 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE)	***Location of Conference:*** Vienna, Austria	***Dates of Conference:*** 14th to 19th June 2026

What you learned:

This conference enabled me to attend presentations that collated recent advancements in various areas of my research and practice interest including transportation geotechnics, energy geotechnics, observational methods, emerging sensing and monitoring technologies in geotechnical engineering. It had been 13 years since my last in-person participation at an ICSMGE in Paris 2013.

People you met:

Prof. Andy Fourie (University of Western Australia)
Prof. Dave Potts (Imperial College)
Dr. David Taborda (Imperial College)
Dr. Katherina Tsiampousi (Imperial College)
Prof. Catherine O'Sullivan (Imperial College)
Dr. Stavroula Kontoe (University of Patras)
Prof. Satoshi Nishimura (Hokkaido University)
Dr. Wenji Cui (Beihang University)
Dr. Erwin Mmbando (Klohn Crippen Berger)
Prof. Ashraf Osman (Durham University)
Dr. Esdras Ngezahayo (Birmingham University)
Prof. Dennis Mwamba (University of Cape Town)
Richard Amba (PhD student France)
Marine Knaptou (PhD student France)
Yimer Degu Ayicheh (Phd Student University of Kassel)

Main features of conference:

The conference had a very comprehensive program with plenary lectures, parallel thematic and technical workshop sessions with exhibitions running continuously through the conference days. Further, there were industry workshops on the first day of the conference, an opening reception, a classical music event, conference banquet and technical visits at the last day of the conference.

Your comments on the conference:

The conference was very well organised.

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

The 21st International Conference on Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (ICSMGE), held in Vienna, Austria, from 14–19 June 2026, provided me with a platform to exchange knowledge, attend presentations of cutting-edge research and discuss emerging opportunities and challenges facing the profession with researchers, practitioners, industry leaders, and young professionals from across the world.

The conference featured an impressive technical programme covering a wide spectrum of topics. Particularly insightful were the discussions on adapting geotechnical practice to climate change, the application of machine learning in site characterization, and innovative ground improvement technologies that support resilient and sustainable infrastructure development.

A key highlight for me was the opportunity to present and discuss research undertaken at the University of Dar es Salaam, receiving valuable feedback from internationally renowned experts. These interactions fostered new perspectives on addressing geotechnical challenges in developing countries and reinforced the importance of translating research into practical engineering solutions.

The 21st ICSMGE reaffirmed the critical role international collaboration plays in advancing geotechnical engineering. The knowledge gained, professional connections established, and exposure to emerging technologies will significantly contribute to my teaching, research, and engineering practice at the University of Dar es Salaam. I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate in this prestigious event and look forward to applying the lessons learned to support sustainable infrastructure development and capacity building within Tanzania and beyond.

Photographs from Conference: Insert here or attach to email



Dr. Erwin Mbando (left), Prof Andy Fourie (centre) and Dr. Siya Rimoy (right).