

THEMATIC AREAS

- Geological and Geotechnical Modelling
- Case Histories
- Design for Earthquakes and Dynamic Loads
- Earth Retaining Structures
- Environmental Geotechnics
- Experimental Investigations
- Foundations
- Sustainable Geotechnical Practices for Infrastructure Developments
- Use of AI, Robotics, Deep Learning and Machine Learning in Geotechnical Engineering
- Advances in Ground Improvement
- Geotechniques for Natural Disaster Resilience
- Engineering Geology, Rock Engineering and Tunnelling
- Advances In Site Investigation and Characterization
- Geotechnical Risk Assessment and Management
- Transportation Geotechnics
- Energy Geotechnics
- Offshore and Harbour Geotechnics
- Problematic Soils
- Deep Excavations
- Geosynthetics

KEY DATES

Abstract Submission

September 15, 2025

Full Paper Submission

February 15, 2026

Camera-ready Paper Submission

June 15, 2026

Registration Information

Early Bird Registration Fee for Foreign Participants : \$ 500*
 Regular Registration Fee for Foreign Participants : \$ 550*
 Registration Fee for Local participants : LKR 25,000

*Conference dinner is included in the registration fee

Early Bird Registration Deadline April 30, 2026

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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Contact Details

Dr J S M Fowze : jsmfowze@gmail.com
Dr K H S M Sampath : khsmsampath@gmail.com

 +94 70 170 6017

 <https://icgecolombo2026.org/>

 Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society (SLGS)
National Building Research Organisation,
99/1, Jawatta Road, Colombo 00500, Sri Lanka.



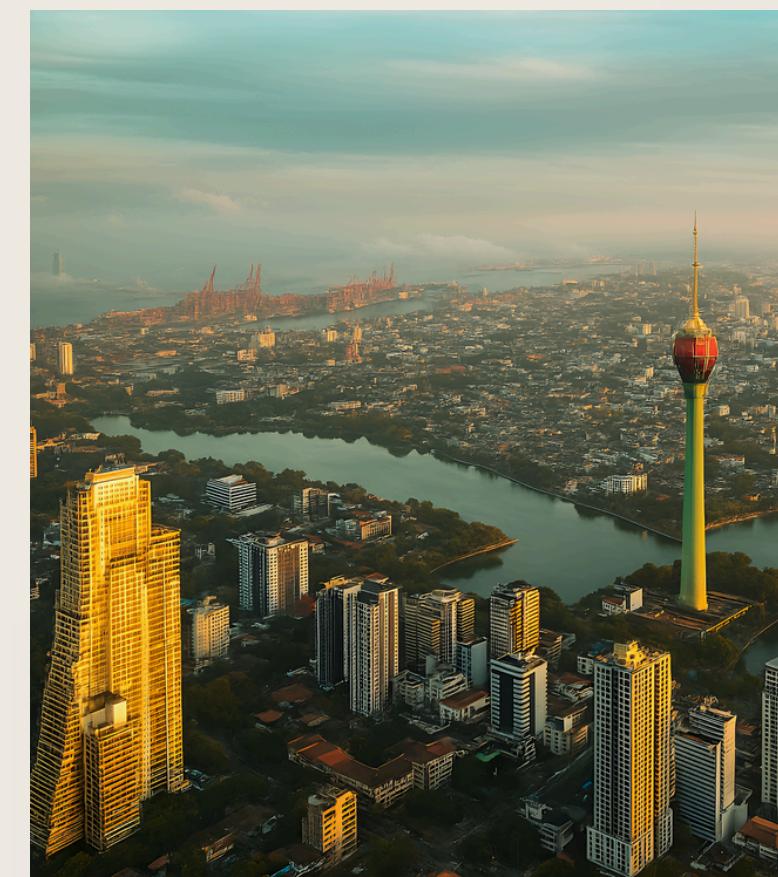
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING

ICGE - Colombo - 2026

24 & 25 August 2026
Cinnamon Grand Colombo, Sri Lanka

RESILIENT GEOTECHNICS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Organized by
Sri Lankan Geotechnical Society (SLGS)
CELEBRATING 40TH ANNIVERSARY





Keynote Speaker

Sustainable Transport Infrastructure
Development Embracing a Circular Economy

Distinguished Professor Buddhima Indraratna

Distinguished Professor Buddhima Indraratna is a world leader in geotechnical & railway engineering. For his stellar contributions, he was inducted as Member of the Order of Australia, Fellow of the Royal Society of New South Wales, Fellow of the Australian Academy of Engineering, and a Life Member of the Australian Geomechanics Society. His notable accolades include Sir John Holland Civil Engineer of the Year in 2024 in Australia, and the esteem honour of being the 6th International Civil Engineer bestowed on him in Madrid, Spain in 2023. He has authored over 1000 publications, including 14 books and more than 500 journal papers, and has delivered 90+ keynote lectures worldwide. As the founding Director of the National Training Centre for Rail Infrastructure, he has led projects exceeding AUD 40 million in the past 2 decades. With an H-index approaching 100 and over 35,000 citations, Prof. Indraratna is one of the most highly cited civil engineers globally. To date, he has supervised over 90 PhD students and 40 postdoctoral fellows. He is a Chartered Engineer of Australia, UK and Sri Lanka, and a Fellow of the Institution of Engineers Australia (FIEAust), the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), the Institute of Engineers Sri Lanka (FIESL), and the Geological Society of UK (FGS).

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, Professor Buddhima will present a keynote on the reuse of industrial waste materials—coal wash, steel slag, recycled rubber—in transport infrastructure. Drawing from field trials in Port Kembla and the Chullora Rail Precinct, his lecture will demonstrate how engineered recycled materials can outperform conventional aggregates, promoting sustainability and circular economy practices in infrastructure. This talk will highlight practical pathways for building resilient, eco-friendly, and technically sound transportation systems.



Keynote Speaker

On the Landslide Resilience under
Climate Change

Professor Keh-Jian Shou

Professor Keh-Jian (Albert) Shou is Vice President for Asia of the International Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering (2022–2026), Chairman of the International Society for Trenchless Technology (2022–2025), Honorary Chairman of the Chinese Taipei Society for Trenchless Technology, and a leading academic at the Department of Civil Engineering, National Chung-Hsing University, Taiwan. He is internationally recognised for his contributions to rock mechanics, engineering geology, and trenchless technology, with over 200 published papers. Prof. Shou serves as Editor of Tunnelling and Underground Space Technology and Associate Editor of ASCE's Journal of Pipeline Systems Engineering and Practice. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota (1993) and has held senior academic and industry roles across the U.S., Japan, Italy, and South Africa.

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, Prof. Shou will present on "Landslide Resilience under Climate Change." Focusing on Taiwan's mountain regions, where extreme rainfall events increasingly trigger landslides, he will demonstrate the use of machine learning—particularly logistic regression—to analyse and predict landslide susceptibility. By integrating rainfall prediction models with resilience frameworks, his lecture will address uncertainty in hazard forecasts and present practical strategies for managing and mitigating landslide risks under a changing climate.



For more ICGE information
Please scan QR Code



State of Practice Presenter

Advances in Settlement Prediction
for Soft Soils

Dr. Richard Kelly

Dr. Richard Kelly is Chief Technical Principal at SMEC, with over 25 years of experience in geotechnical engineering, specializing in soft soils and ground improvement. He obtained his BE in Civil Engineering from the University of Sydney in 1993, before commencing his career with Golder Associates. He returned to the University of Sydney to complete his PhD in 2001 and subsequently worked as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Oxford (2002–2004). Upon returning to Australia, he worked with Coffey from 2005 to 2014, during which he also undertook a sabbatical to establish a soft soil field testing research facility for the University of Newcastle (2012–2013). Since 2014, Dr. Kelly has been with SMEC, providing leadership in technical excellence and innovation. His recent contributions include the application of machine learning techniques for embankment settlement prediction.

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, Dr. Richard Kelly will deliver a State of Practice (SOP) lecture on "Settlement Prediction in Soft Soils." His talk will explore the challenges of predicting settlement, such as sample disturbance, non-linear behaviour, and parameter uncertainty, and how these affect reliability in design. He will demonstrate how probabilistic methods—including Monte Carlo simulation and reliability analyses—can be applied to better capture variability and improve confidence in predictions. Building on this, Dr. Kelly will emphasise the importance of the observational method and back-analysis, showing how their Bayesian parallels support early decision-making and effective risk management. The SOP presentation will conclude with applications of reliability analysis to selected real-life case studies from Australia.



Keynote Speaker

Geotechnical Resilience: Engineering for
Recovery, Adaptation, and Longevity

Professor Jayantha Kodikara

Professor Jayantha Kodikara is a leading geotechnical and pavement engineering researcher, serving as Director of the ARC SPARC Hub at Monash University and head of the Monash Pipeline Research Group. With over 500 publications and 50+ PhD completions, his work has advanced both fundamental and applied geotechnics. He is best known for developing the MPK Framework, which links traditional compaction curves with unsaturated soil modelling. His applied research on buried pipeline deterioration has transformed asset management practices globally. Prof. Kodikara is a Chartered Engineer, Fellow of Engineers Australia, and recipient of the B/HERT Award (2016), ARRB Impact Award (2019), and several innovation awards at Monash.

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, his keynote will explore how to build geotechnical infrastructure that is adaptable, recoverable, and long-lasting amidst climate extremes and resource constraints. Using examples from roads, pipelines, and foundations, he will demonstrate how tools like AI, digital twins, and satellite sensing can be integrated into resilient infrastructure design. His lecture will provide a vision for geotechnical engineering that balances innovation with long-term sustainability.



Keynote Speaker

Geotechnical Marriage between Theory and
Practice for a Sustainable Future

Dr. Marc Ballouz

Dr. Marc Ballouz, President of ISSMGE and President of the International Institute for Geotechnics and Materials (IGM), is a globally respected engineer with over 30 years of international design-build experience. He has led over 150 major projects across Lebanon, Nigeria, and numerous countries in the Middle East, Africa, and Central Asia. His expertise includes deep excavations, foundations, micropiling, landslide stabilization, and forensic geotechnics. Dr. Ballouz holds a Ph.D. and M.Sc. from Texas A&M University and a B.Sc. from the American University of Beirut. He is a Chartered Engineer, active member of ASCE's Geo-Institute, and recipient of several awards, including the ISSMGE PRC Award (2013) and recognition from Harris County emergency services.

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, Dr. Ballouz will present a keynote titled "Geotechnical Marriage between Theory and Practice for a Sustainable Future." He will introduce the SoLoGeH approach, which stresses rigorous data collection and practical application of theoretical principles. Through real-world case studies, he will show how a balanced integration of theory, site observation, and innovation leads to safe, cost-effective, and sustainable engineering solutions in today's high-pressure project environments.



Keynote Speaker

Role of Advanced Geotechnical Modelling
in Solving Complex Problems

Professor Gopal Madabhushi

Professor Gopal Madabhushi is a renowned expert in soil dynamics and earthquake engineering at the University of Cambridge, where he leads the Geotechnical and Geo-Environmental Group and directs the Schofield Centre. With over 35 years of experience, his expertise spans dynamic centrifuge modelling, finite element analysis, soil liquefaction, and geotechnical resilience. He has also applied his research to biomechanics in hip surgeries. Prof. Madabhushi has developed key experimental tools like the SAM earthquake actuator, servo-hydraulic shakers, and dynamic PIV systems. He has led earthquake reconnaissance missions in Taiwan, India, and beyond, and chaired the Earthquake Engineering Field Investigation Team (EEFIT). He is a Fellow of the ICE (2022) and the Royal Academy of Engineering (2024), and has received multiple awards including the TK Hsieh Award and BGA Medal.

At ICGE – Colombo 2026, he will discuss how centrifuge modelling enhances our understanding of complex geotechnical problems such as offshore monopiles, tunnelling, pile-soil interaction, and climate impacts on infrastructure. His keynote will emphasise the importance of physical modelling in validating numerical simulations, offering critical insights for the reliable design of modern infrastructure systems.