

Climate emergency conference 2026

Influence in practice: delivering sustainable, resilient and collaborative outcomes

Tuesday 7 July, 09:00 – 13:00 BST

Time BST	Programme
09:00	Chair's welcome and introduction Niamh McCloskey, Sustainability Coordinator, Curtins
Session 1	Keynote presentation
09:10	Structural engineers - the power of our influence Dame Jo da Silva, Global Sustainable Development Leader and Arup Fellow <p>This presentation will focus on the role structural engineers play in shaping the built environment, and the responsibility that comes with that influence. Dame Jo will highlight how design decisions, material choices and collaboration across project teams contribute to more sustainable, resilient and collaborative outcomes.</p>
09:35	Q&A
Session 2	The future is... <p>Through a series of case study-led presentations, our speakers will demonstrate how structural engineers are contributing to more sustainable outcomes across real projects.</p>
09:45	Regenerative design in practice Nathan Shelley, Associate Director, AECOM
09:55	Circular economy in practice <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circular economy approaches for ageing tall buildings Emma Francois, Associate Director, WSP• Reuse and retrofit – Key Quarter Tower (3XN / BG&E / Multiplex) Kye Taylor, Head of Engineering and Preconstruction, Multiplex
10:15	Designing for resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing for storms, flooding and extreme temperatures Stanley Liu, Executive Director, Ports & Marine, Transportation, AECOM (Hong Kong)• Designing for sandstorms and changing water levels

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	Speaker TBC
10:35	<p>Enabling collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early contractor engagement and design coordination Conor Neild-Crabb, Head of Centre, CCBP • Collaboration and project delivery: SCR in action Cameron Millar, Designer - Structures, SOM • Phil Obayda Principal - Technical Design, SOM
10:55	<p>Natural materials in structural design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rammed earth construction – a three-storey case study Antonio Moll, Director, Moll Architects • Structural design considerations for rammed earth María José Ruiz, Team Leader, SOCOTEC Spain
11:15	Q&A
11:35	Break
Session 3	Panel discussion
11:45	<p>Our panel will discuss how buildings can be both sustainable and architecturally ambitious, considering the relationship between sustainability, efficiency and design quality. Drawing on their different perspectives, they will consider how collaboration between developers, architects and engineers can support the delivery of lower-carbon, high-quality built outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ross Boulton, Interim Sustainability Director Landsec • Shingi Tarirah, Director, Seek Atelier Ltd • Gary Elliott, Founder and Chief Executive, Elliott Woods • Penny Gowler, Senior Engineer & Sustainability Consultant, Cooper Withycombe
12:30	Q&A
12:45	<p>Chair's closing remarks and summary</p> <p>Diego Padilla Philipps, Director, Decarbonisation and Innovation for Building Structures, WSP</p>
13:00	Conference close

This programme is subject to change.
