

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, Technical Associate (Sustainability), 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 that 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... Through a series of case study-led presentations, our speakers will demonstrate how structural engineers are contributing to more sustainable outcomes across real projects.
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 – a hierarchy for today and tomorrow Emma Francois, Associate Director, WSP• Reuse and retrofit – Key Quarter Tower (3XN / BG&E / Multiplex) Kye Taylor, Director - International Buildings Group, BG&E
10:15	Designing for resilience <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Designing for extreme coastal hazards under intensifying climate change Stanley Liu, Executive Director, Ports & Marine, Transportation, AECOM (Hong Kong)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rising water levels and the challenges and solutions being implemented in the UAE <p>Ahmed Lebleb, Service Lead - Coastal Engineering, WSP Middle East (UAE)</p>
10:35	<p>Enabling collaboration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early engagement, better outcomes: what CCBP's ECI research tells us <p>Conor Neild-Crabb, Head of Centre, CCBP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration and project delivery: SCR in action <p>Cameron Millar, Designer - Structures, SOM</p> <p>Phil Obayda Principal - Technical Design, SOM</p>
10:55	<p>Natural materials in structural design</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Natural materials in contemporary design <p>Antonio Moll, Director, Moll Architects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Structural design considerations for rammed earth <p>María José Ruiz, Team Leader, SOCOTEC Spain</p>
11:15	Q&A
11:35	Break
Session 3	<p>Panel discussion</p> <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>
11:45	<p>Panel speakers</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 Wood Penny Gowler, Senior Engineer & Sustainability Consultant, Cooper Withycombe
12:30	Q&A
12:50	Chair's closing remarks and summary

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	Diego Padilla Philipps, Director, Decarbonisation and Innovation for Building Structures, WSP
13:00	Conference close

This programme is subject to change.
