

**Conference 2019**

**Second Circular (Updated on 03 October 2019)**

**Third International Conference**

**Organized by the Society of Consulting Architectural and Engineering Firms (SCAEF), Kathmandu, Nepal**

**In celebration of 29th Anniversary of the SCAEF**

**18-20 November 2019**

Kathmandu, Nepal

**Conference Title:**

**Resilient Infrastructure for Better Tomorrow**

**Introduction**

The Society of Consulting Architectural and Engineering Firms (SCAEF) is organizing an International Conference on the title **Resilient Infrastructure for Better Tomorrow** jointly with the Government of Nepal and other partner institutions with an objective of boosting Nepal’s economy towards prosperity through the development of resilient and sustainable infrastructures. In this initiative, the SCAEF is inspired by the Government agencies such as Ministry of Physical Infrastructure and Transport (MoPIT), Ministry of Urban Development (MoUD), National Reconstruction Authority (NRA), Investment Bureau of Nepal (IBN) etc.

This **Third International Conference** organized by the SCAEF is founded on its experience of successful hosting of First International Conference in 1998 (on title **Consultancy in the New Millennium**) and Second International Conference in 2009 (on title **Making Globalization: Role of Consultant**). This third international conference relates to broad arena of resilient infrastructural development initiatives in the context of Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change adaptation initiatives inclusive of relevant aspects of the engineering and consulting profession, sharing knowledge and experience between its member firms and international delegates, this conference is expected to be instrumental to provide valuable feedbacks to the government, political leaders, policy makers and multitude of project actors and stakeholders in the infrastructural development for resilient nation building.

The international conference provides a forum for building effective networking and fostering cooperation with international societies like earlier TCDPAP, national societies of consulting firms and Asia-Pacific community (FIDIC/ASPAC) of The International Federation of Consulting Engineers (**Fédération Internationaledes Ingénieurs-Conseils, FIDIC)**.The conference also aims to develop a platform for Nepalese consulting firms to seek opportunities in international consulting market through business networking with international firms, partner organizations in ASPAC region, FIDIC members, International Financing Institutions and friendly countries.

The timing of the International Conference is purposely chosen towards the beginning of **Visit Nepal Year 2020**, an initiative of the Government of Nepal to attract more than two million international tourists. The Conference will also deliberate on tourism infrastructures particularly on appealing natural and cultural heritage conservation. Nepal is among one of the most attractive destinations for international tourists.

The conference also intends to introduce international firms on the business environment in Nepal. At a time when the government is seeking more investments in infrastructure sector, the gap in technical knowledge and experiences between the Nepalese and international consultants must be minimized by creating an enabling environment for sharing of knowledge. Therefore, to initiate dialogue between international partners, Nepalese consulting sector and government bodies for creating an enabling environment, this conference will also deliberate an outlook of the business environment in the country and henceforth initiate reforms and changes required for attracting international investments and business opportunities to international firms.

The upcoming Third International Conference is being held on the opportune moment of the 29th Anniversary of the SCAEF from 18 to 20 November 2019. The conference will be hosted in the capital city Kathmandu which will be followed by ***optional*** field excursions to nearby projects outside Kathmandu Valley.

**Conference Venue**

The conference will be organized at **Hotel Radisson** in Kathmandu, Nepal.

**Themes and Sub Themes**

The title of the conference **Enhancing Capacity of Project Stakeholders for Resilient Infrastructure Development**.

The Themes and Sub-Themes include the following

**1. Challenges in Infrastructure Development Sector in Nepal**

* Overcoming Development Hurdles in Post State Reconstruction
* Enhancement of Project Performance
* Enhancement of Performance of Project Stakeholders (Client, Consultant, Contractor and Community
* Improvement in Governance of Infrastructure Development
* Capacity Building of Stakeholders for Resilient Infrastructures

**2. Business Networking**

* Capacity Enhancement of Local Governments in Handling of Construction/ Consulting Practice
* Empowerment of Engineering and Professional Societies
* Enhancement of Best Practices in the Consulting Services
* Improvement of Business Relationship between National and International Consulting Firms

**3. Indigenous / Innovative Technologies and Heritage Conservation**

* Knowledge Sharing for Resilient Infrastructure Development
* Conservation of Indigenous Knowledge and skill
* Promotion of Green and Innovative Technologies
* Heritage Conservation (Natural and Cultural)
* Infrastructure for Tourism Development Based on Indigenous Natural and Cultural Heritage

**4. Investment Requirement for Resilient Infrastructure**

* Resilient Infrastructure for Post 2015 Reconstruction in Nepal
* Challenges and Opportunities in Resilient Infrastructures
* Investment Potentials in Resilient Infrastructures
* International Best Practices and Cases in Resilient Infrastructure Design and Development of Infrastructure for Resilient Cities

Depending on receipt of abstracts, the sub-themes may need adjustment to fit to the available papers.

**Call for Papers**

All the participants of the conference willing to present their papers (oral presentation or through posters) are kindly requested to send the abstract of their paper in the prescribed template format. The call for papers is also published in the National Newspapers. The accepted abstracts will be published in the ***Pre-Conference Abstract Volume.***

The template formats for abstracts and full papers are available for download from the website [www.scaef.org.np/](http://www.scaef.org.np/)conference 2019.

**Publication of the Proceeding**

Abstract of all the accepted papers will be published in a ***Pre-Conference*** ***Abstract Volume*** and distributed to the participants along with detailed conference schedule in a conference kit during the registration. All full papers presented in the conference will be peer-reviewed and published in the ***Post-Conference Proceeding Volume***.

**Field Excursion**

There will be a field excursion to project sites outside Kathmandu. Depending on the number of interested international participants, the field excursion will be arranged to one or both of the two potential sites: ***Trishuli 3A Hydroelectric Project*** (one night) or ***Upper Tamakoshi Hydroelectric Project*** (two nights). Minimum number of international participants shall not be less than 10 for each of the excursions. The field excursions will provide opportunity to get familiarized with the physical, touristic, disaster-prone areas and socio-economic profile of the country apart from the resilient infrastructure development perspective.

Means of transport and lodging in local hotels will be determined after pre-registration. The cost for the excursion will be determined on actual expenses basis and shall be in the range of USD 200 to USD 300 depending on excursion site. The details of the field excursion will be given in an ***Excursion Leaflet*** which will be provided in the welcome kit.

**Accommodation**

Accommodation in Kathmandu is available in good five star Hotels to budget non-star hotels. The room rents vary from USD 300 to USD 100 per night. However, as November is the tourist season, we advise the participants to book the rooms in advance. Hotel room will be booked by the organizers only on formal request and advance payment,

**Weather**

The weather of Kathmandu during the month of November remains pleasant to slightly cool between 6oC to 23oC. It is advised to have warm woolen clothes that may be required at night and early in the morning.

**Passport and Visa**

All foreigners must have valid passport and visa to enter into Nepal. Delegates/ participants are advised to contact the Nepalese Embassy or Consulate to get visa for entering into Nepal. Tourist visa for 30 days is available on arrival at Tribhuwan International Airport. Indian nationals should possess a valid ID but do not require VISA.

**Currency**

Most of the international currencies are accepted by Nepalese Banks. The exchange rate of USD 1 equal to NPR 112.00 is fixed for the conference. (For current exchange rates, you may refer to <https://www.nrb.org.np/fxmexchangerate.php>).

**Important Dates:**

* Submission of Abstracts: 20 October 2019
* Acceptance of Abstracts: 22 October 2019
* Submission of final Presentation Slides: 10 November 2019
* Submission of Full Papers: 15 November 2019
* Publication of **Pre-Conference Abstract Volume**: 15 November 2019
* Pre-Conference Excursion: Afternoon, 18 November 2019
* **Third International Conference: 18-20 November 2019**
* Post-Conference Excursion: 21-22 November 2019
* Publication of **Post-Conference Proceeding**: 31 December 2019.

**Incentive for Paper Writers**

The registration fee will be waived to the paper presenters.

N.B.:

1. As an option on-the-spot registration may be made at the conference venue upon payment of full fee in equivalent NPR.
2. Field excursion will be made either to Trishuli 3A HEP (with one-night stay) or to Upper Tamakoshi HEP (with two-night stay). The night-stay will be arranged in local budget hotels in nearby townships.
3. The ***Post-Conference Proceeding Volume*** will be published online on 31 December 2019. The hard copy may be availed on request.

