



CIB NEWS ARTICLE

International Council for Research and Innovation
in Building and Construction

Providing a global network for international exchange and cooperation in research and innovation in building and construction, in support of an improved building process and of improved performance of the built environment.

February 2007

Forthcoming Meeting



CIB Building Education and Research International Conference 2008

10 – 15 February 2008, Kandalama, Sri Lanka

by

Dilanthi Amaratunga

Introduction

The BEAR 2008 Conference will be a landmark gathering for international academics, practitioners, professionals and policy makers concerned with the future of Built Environment Education and Research. The theme is to promote built environment related education and research towards a more expansive view of the life cycle of infrastructure projects, one that extends beyond the traditional cycle of feasibility analysis, planning, design, construction, operation, maintenance and divestiture.

BEAR 2008 will be organised by the school of the Built Environment and the Research Institute for the Built and Human Environment, University of Salford, UK, in association with the University of Moratuwa and University of Ruhuna Sri Lanka, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia and Vilnius Gediminas Technical University, Lithuania.

Conference Themes

BEAR 2008 aims to promote built environment related education and research with particular emphasis is placed upon education and research towards preparing for, responding to, and recovering from disasters, such as the Indian Ocean Tsunami of December 2004, and

other natural, man-made and environmental disasters. It will also provide a major occasion to investigate key issues around the globe on built environment education and research such as:

- Environmental Sustainability
- Education
- Disaster Management
- Research, Training & Capacity Building
- Building & Construction
- Law & Regulatory Systems
- Information and Communication Technologies
- Real Estate & Property
- Construction in Developing Countries
- Construction Management
- Civil Engineering

Conference Venue

BEAR2008 will be held at the award winning Kandalama hotel in Sri Lanka. Occupying a most unique site in the cultural triangle's heartland the Geoffrey Bawa designed Kandalama Hotel is flanked by two UNESCO world heritage sites - the 1st Century BC Dambulla rock temple and the 5th Century AD Sigiriya rock fortress. The hotel is surrounded by rocky outcrops, lakes and forests, and is home to a variety of indigenous birds and wildlife. Kandalama Hotel offers a unique experience to its guests and stands as the



remarkable achievement of modern Sri Lankan architecture. All keynote speeches, parallel sessions, meetings and meals will be held at the hotel. Accommodation includes 162 rooms, each fully air conditioned with private balcony and a spectacular view of the forest or lake.

Further details and images can be found at www.aitkenspencehotels.com/kandalama/

Special Conference Features

The perspective of the conference is to link the achievements of building education and research to the actual business and accordingly, the conference is expected to gain considerable interest amongst industry representatives. Being the first CIB co-sponsored conference to be held in Sri Lanka, BEAR2008 will provide new knowledge from leading experts worldwide gathering in Sri Lanka on different aspects of building education and research.

As a special feature, keynote speakers will be invited to contribute to the debate on how the built environment community can assist society in developing resilience to disruptive challenges, including natural and man-made disasters. The host country, Sri Lanka, will provide a rich source of relevant speakers, who can place the work of the built environment community in the context of the post-Tsunami recovery efforts.

CIB Working Commissions and Other Committees

During the conference, several CIB Working Commissions and Task groups will be holding sessions:

- CIB W089 – Building Education and Research
- CIB W107 - Construction in Developing Countries
- CIB W113 - Law and Dispute Resolution
- CIB TG53 - Postgraduate research training in Building Construction
- CIB TG63 - Disasters and the Built Environment
- CIB TG55 - Smart and Sustainable Built Environment
- CIB TG58 - Client Driving Innovation

BEAR 2008 will also hold a special session on capability building on managing disasters organised by the EU Asia Link funded EURASIA research project.

In addition, a special forum organised by the CIB student chapters will provide the postgraduate students to share their ideas, and to have effective discussions with leading academics in their areas. Full-time postgraduate students will be granted a discount on the registration fee.



Call for Papers

Researchers are invited to submit papers reflecting state-of-the-art research and practice for the Conference. Abstracts (of not more than 300 words) related to the conference themes should be submitted in Word or PDF format. Abstracts will be reviewed by the members of the Scientific Committee according to their relevance to the themes and objectives of the conference, originality and academic rigor, and likely contribution to knowledge or practical relevance, and authors of all accepted abstracts will be notified accordingly. All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Template for abstract submission is available for downloading from the BEAR2008 web site.

Important Dates

Please note the following important dates:

Deadline for submission of abstracts	31 March 2007
Notification of abstract acceptance	31 May 2007
Deadline for submission of full papers	15 September 2007
Notification of acceptance with comments	31 October 2007
Deadline for submission of camera ready paper	30 November 2007

Additional Information

Conference web site: for further information on the conference, please visit the conference website at www.bear2008.org. You can also download the abstract template from the web site.

Conference Secretariat

If you have any queries or need more information, please contact the conference Co-chairs:

Dr Richard Haigh
r.p.haigh@salford.ac.uk

&
Dr Dilanthi Amaratunga
r.d.g.amaratunga@salford.ac.uk



School of the Built environment
Research Institute for the Built and Human Environment
Maxwell Building – 4th Floor
The University of Salford
The Crescent
Salford M5 4WT, UK
Tel: +44 161 295 4471 / +44 161 295 7306
E-mail: eurasia@salford.ac.uk