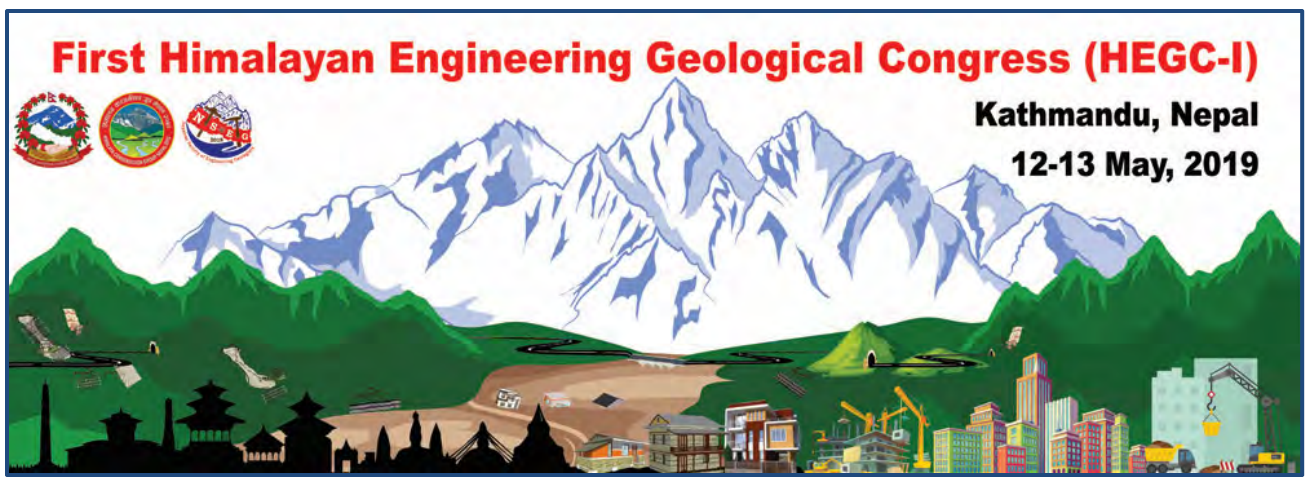
12-13 May 2019 // HEGC-I // Second Circular

First Himalayan Engineering Geological Congress (HEGC-I)

"Engineering Geology and Geotechniques for Developing Countries"



Background

Himalaya is one of the most active and fragile mountain chains in the world but it is also the youngest and the highest mountain range on the Earth, which extends over a length of about 2400 km. It is the home to millions of people of Nepal, India, Pakistan, Bhutan and other South Asian countries. Every year, especially during the summer monsoon period, landslides and related natural disaster events claim many lives and destroy property, infrastructure and the environment of the Himalayas. The gap in practices of engineering geological and geotechnical studies between developed and developing nations are immeasurable. Many developing countries do not adequately consider proper engineering geological and geotechnical issues in infrastructure developments. Himalayan region also lacks proper engineering geological study guidelines for infrastructure development despite having established various national level organizations as well as producing engineering geologists through a university graduate course.

Terai Plain (Plain Area), Kathmandu Valley and Dun Valleys have been characterized with huge thickness of mountain fed deposits carried by river/wind at high gradient and formed at low lying area which have reflected similar to Lowland Problems. Furthermore, Kathmandu Valley is subject to rapid, unplanned city and urban planning on huge thickness of more than 600 m thick lacustrine deposit, forming a typical characteristic of lowland despite of existing at 1300 m above mean sea level.

It is high time for developing countries to understand the role of the engineering geologists and geotechnical engineers when considering construction and planning of engineering projects.

A detailed and precise knowledge of engineering geology and geotechniques is an essential part of construction projects and geohazard analyses. In the Himalaya as well as developing countries, geologists and engineering geologists are still limited to mine and rock sciences. It is hard to convince governmental agencies that the engineering geologist and geotechnical engineers have vital role in managing geohazards along with civil engineering designs such as dams, bridges, roads, mines, quarry sites, high rise buildings together with residential developments and urban planning, water resources management and water related disasters as well as waste disposal and waste water treatment. Besides, Gorkha-Earthquake in April 2015 has also released very serious issues on social and disaster risk management sector. With these understandings, Himalaya Conservation Group Nepal (HCG) and Ministry of Home Affairs (Government of Nepal) have planned to organize First Himalayan Engineering Geological Congress (HEGC -I) on the major theme: "Engineering Geology and Geotechniques for Developing Countries" in association with Nepalese Society of Engineering Geologists (NSEG). The main aim of this congress is to unite all Geoengineers, Civil Engineers, City/Urban Planners, Engineering Geologists, Geoscientists, Disaster Experts, Social Welfare Researchers and Professionals in a single platform to share and give exact solutions to the global society through transferring knowledge and skills from the from highland/mountain to lowland/low lying areas and vice versa.

This kind of international congress always provides wide range of advancement in the Engineering Geology and Geotechiques for disaster risk management in developing countries. Engineering geologists, geoscientists, geotechnical engineers, civil engineers, structural engineers, architects/urban planners, disaster experts from various disciplines around the globe can contribute and can be benefited from each other during the HEGC-I. The forthcoming event is going to enhance the geo-engineering knowledge, its mitigation and countermeasures for the disaster management in developing countries. Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Himalaya Conservation Group and Nepalese Society of Engineering Geologists has received an overwhelming response from geoscientists and geo-engineers around the world. So, this event will be another milestone in the history of Himalayan Engineering Geological and Geotechnical studies, disaster risk management and discussion forums. This second circular issue will provide important information about the First Himalayan Engineering Geological Congress (HEGC-I).

Registration is now open through the congress website, all the geoscientists, engineers working in the field of engineering geology, geotechniques, geodisasters, urban planners, disaster risk management, and related integrated disciplines are kindly requested to submit their registration and presentation abstract within the stated deadline. Your kind cooperation in this regard will greatly help the organizers to plan and execute this important event successfully. ONLY online registration will be acceptable.

Organized by

Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA), Government of Nepal

Himalaya Conservation Group Nepal (HCG)

Nepalese Society of Engineering Geologists (NSEG)

Congress Format

Following the international congress formats, thematic oral and poster sessions have been planned within a single venue. Besides, booths for exhibiting advanced technologies and R and D methodologies are highly encouraged inside the premises of the congress venue. Congress full papers will be published in the ***Lowland Technology International Journal*** after peer review process and will be available sequentially 1 January 2020 onwards on the basis of acceptance in chronological orders. Abstract (max.500 words) can only be submitted through online https://nseg.org.np/hegc-i/online-registration/.

Congress Excursions

The congress has been planned to include two field programs as follows.

Pre-congress tour

2019.05.11

Ex-1: A full day Kathmandu Valley tour to explore ground response and related damages during the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake
2019/05/11, 8:00 AM – Departure from Hotel
2019/05/11, 9:00 AM – Arrival at Changunarayan Hills, Observation of Geomorphological settings of The Chagunarayan Hill and Kathmandu valley.
2019/05/11, 11:00 AM - Arrival at Bhaktapur City. Observation of ongoing earthquake reconstruction works in heritage site. Evaluation of Nyatapol Temple which was survived in the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake.
2019/05/11, 12:00 AM - Typical Nepali style lunch at Bhaktapur Darbar Square area.
2019/05/11, 2:15 PM – Arrival at Swayambhu Hill. Observation of earthquake reconstruction works and effects of creep landslide in and around Swayambhu Hill. Evaluation of engineering geological settings of World Heritage site.
2019/05/11, 4:00 PM – Arrival at Bagdol, Lalitpur and observation of liquefaction area during the 2015 Gorkha Earthquake.
2019/05/11, 6:30 PM – Arrival at Hotel Radisson.

Excursion coordinator:
Dr. Suman Manandhar

The 2015 Gorkha Earthquake damage in Bhaktapur city.

Registration fee

All interested participants are requested to fill registration form available in the congress website to send abstract and personal details. The details of registration fee are enlisted below. The congress organizing committee accept both online payment and bank transfer system.

Category	Timeline	
	15 Dec 2018 - 01 March 2019, "Early Bird" Fee	02 March 2019 – 10 May 15, 2019
Foreign participants	US$ 400	US$ 450
Accompanying persons of foreign participants	US$ 200	US$ 250
Foreign students	US$ 175	US$ 200
Participants from SAARC nations	US$ 250	US$ 300
Accompanying persons of participants from SAARC nations	US$ 150	US$ 200
Students from SAARC nations	US$ 125	US$ 150
Nepalese Participant (NSEG non-member)	NRs. 10,000	NRs. 10,000
Nepalese Participant (NSEG	NRs. 6,000	NRs. 6,000
Pre-Congress Excursion, Ex -1	US$ 150	US$ 150
Post-Conference Excursion, Ex- 2	US$ 400	US$ 400

Registration fee will cover access to all presentation sessions, a copy of abstract volume, one dinner, congress lunches, and tea/coffee during the breaks. It does not cover the cost of other dinners and hotel accommodations. Excursion fee covers travel costs, all dinners, all lunches and hotel accommodations in Pokhara. All interested participant can pay registration fee by Bank Transfer or Online Payment System. For Online Payment, visit www.nseg.org.np.

Bank Transfer detail for Payment:
Account name: Nepalese Society of Engineering Geologists
Account Type: CURRENT
Account No: 1901017501449
SWIFT: NARBNPKA
Bank Name and Address: Nabil Bank Limited Pulchowk, Lalipur, Nepal

Please send email to rkdahal@gmail.com for Invoice.

Congress Plan

11 May 2019 (Sat)
Pre-congress excursion
12 May 2019 (Sun)
Inaugural program followed by technical sessions and Welcome Reception
13 May 2019 (Mon)
Technical Sessions
14-16 May 2019
Post-congress Excursion

Important Dates

15 December 2018
"Early Bird" registrations and payment of registration fees begins.
01 March 2019
End of "Early Bird" registration.
15 April 2019
End of abstract submission.
07 May 2019
Congress final circular.
10 May 2019
Congress onsite registration.

Post-congress tour

2019.05.14-16

Ex-2: Engineering Geology and Geotechnical Characteristics of Kathmandu-Pokhara area (three days)
Excursion two (Ex-2) is basically a field excursion tour on the first day and partly on second day. Kathmandu-Pokhara roadway is about 200 km, but in Nepal it takes about six hours to travel this distance at an average speed of 40 km/h. So, on the first day, we will see a few landslide sites on the way to Pokhara, and on the second day, we will go to an area in Pokhara valley and observe geology of the Pokhara valley. In Pokhara, especially in the morning time, we can see marvelous panoramic view of the Annapurna Range of the Himalaya, and also take a pleasure flight on an ultralight plane for 30 minutes to one hour. You may stay longer in Pokhara if you wish, but you will have to notify us of your plan so that we can book your return air ticket to Kathmandu appropriately. The schedule basically is as follows.

Day 1
2019/05/14, 08:00 AM: Depart from the symposium venue hotel at Kathmandu (Hotel Radisson), we will see few landslide sites in a stretch of about 60 km, after about 40 km west of Kathmandu
2019/05/14, 1:00 PM: Lunch (Riverside Spring Resort, Kurintar, about 90 km from Kathmandu)
2019/05/14, 2:00 PM: Head towards Pokhara and observations of few sites of mitigation
2019/05/14, 5:30 PM: Arrive at Pokhara, Hotel at lakeside, free time at evening.

Day 2
2019/05/15, 7:00AM to 09:00 AM: Free time and breakfast in the Hotel.
2019/05/15, 09:30 AM Depart to observe engineering geology of Pokhara valley; in and around Pokhara valley. Four to six sites will be visited. Nepali Style Lunch will be served at nearby restaurant.
2019/05/15, 05:30 PM Arrival back to Hotel and free time.

Day 3
2019/05/16, 6:00 AM Arrival at World Peace Pagoda and observation of Annapurna Range
2019/05/16, 8:00 AM Arrival at Hotel and breakfast
2019/05/16, 10:00 AM Return to Kathmandu.

Excursion coordinator:
Dr. Ranjan Kumar Dahal

Abstract submission deadline: 15 April 2019

For abstract submission, visit:
https://nseg.org.np/hegc-i/online-registration/

Climate

Climate in Kathmandu at the beginning of May is pleasant. Mornings and evenings are rarely cold and the day time is warm. It is advised that the participants bring summer clothes.

Invitation Letters

The congress secretariat will be very happy to send Invitation letter if you need for your official use and VISA application. Please send email to rkdahal@gmail.com for Invitation Letter.

Passport and Visa Requirement

All the foreign participants are advised to contact the Nepalese Embassy or Consulate in their respective countries to get visa for entering into Nepal. They must have valid passport and Visa to enter into Nepal. Visa can also be obtained in the Tribhuvan International Airport (Kathmandu) on arrival. For those of you planning to acquire a visa upon arrival at the airport, please bring with you one passport-sized photograph and US$ 25 cash for the visa fee. Gratis Visa is available for SAARC nationals visiting Nepal since 2014. We request you to claim Gratis Visa if it is applicable to you.

For the visa application, the following information and items are necessary.
Passport valid at least for six months
• A pp-size photograph
• Visa application fee of 25 US dollars (for 15 days)
• Permanent residence address
• Address while staying in Nepal (Hotel name and telephone number)
Nationals of Nigeria, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Swaziland, Cameroon, Somalia, Liberia, Ethiopia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Palestine are not entitled to get visa on arrival, so they may apply for the visa at the nearest Nepalese diplomatic mission in their countries. For further details, please visit website of Department of Immigration, Nepal.

Congress Themes

The organizing team has planned for the main theme of the congress as "Engineering Geology and Geotechniques for Developing Countries". Sub- themes of the congress include:

- **Engineering Geology for Sustainable Development**

Engineering Geological Modeling
Case Studies for Engineering Geological Investigation
New Technology and Equipment for Engineering Geology
Geoparks and Disaster Museums for Sustainable Development

- **Neotectonics**

Active Fault and associated Earthquakes
Himalayan Tectonics
Crustal Dynamics and Recent Earthquake Sources

- **Landslides**

Landslides, Debris Flows, and Rock Fall
Landslide Hazard and Risk Evaluation
Landslide Risk Reduction
Slope Stability
Urbanization on Mountain Slopes
Rock Slope Failure
Snow and Debris Avalanche

- **Geohazards in Developing Countries**

Flood Hazards
Volcanic Hazards
Tsunami Hazards
Glacial Lake Outburst Floods (GLOFs)

- **Geotechnical and Geo-Environmental Engineering**

Foundation Engineering
Ground Improvement Techniques
Soft Ground Treatments
Transportation Geotechniques
Earth Retaining Structures
Stability Analyses
Physical Properties of Soils
Physico-chemical Environment of Soils
Geotechnical Modeling
Uses of Geopolymers in Geotech and Geo-Environment
Geo-Environmental Issues
Waste Disposal Issues

- **Water and Environmental Engineering**

Water Resources and Watershed Management
Wastewater Treatment and Water Purification
Water Pollution in River, Lake and Coastal Area

- **Tunneling and Role of Rock Mechanics in Developing Countries**

Hard rock tunneling Issues and Development
Soft ground Tunneling Issues and Development
Rock Mechanics and Behaviors of Discontinuities in Hard Terrain

- **Urban Geology, Urban Planning and Management**

Environmental Assessment for Urban Development
Urban Design and Development Planning
Transportation Planning for Sustainable Development
Solid Waste Management for Urban Areas

- **Engineering Hydrogeology and Management**

Groundwater Management
Groundwater and Land Subsidence
Groundwater Monitoring and Restoration
Fractured Rock Hydrology

- **Remote Sensing and Geodesy**

Remote Sensing and Geodesy in Geological Applications
Remote Sensing and Geodesy in Geotech/Geo-Environment
Remote Sensing and Geodesy in Water/Coastal Management
Remote Sensing and Geodesy in Urban Planning and Waste Management

- **Seismic Hazards, Earthquake Engineering and Structural Analysis**

Engineering Geological and Geotechnical Consequences
Earthquake Engineering and Ground Response
Geotechnical Earthquake Engineering and Soil Dynamics
Retrofitting Structures
Structural Damages and Fatigues in Structures
Future of Himalayan Earthquake
Earthquake-Induced Landslide
Seismic hazard analysis
Earthquake Safe Buildings in Developing Countries

- **Consequences of Geo-Disasters and Disaster Risk Management**

Seismic consequences in infrastructure
Seismic consequences in Social Welfare and Mental Trauma
Effects of Flooding/Tsunami/Storm in Infrastructures
Effects of Flooding/Tsunami/Storm in Social Welfare and Mental Trauma
Volcanic Disasters and Management
Landslide Risk Management
Policy and Implementation for Disaster Preparedness, Response, Shelter and Recovery
Disaster Risk Reduction, Risk Resilience and Disaster Management

- **Dimension Stones and Quarry Sites**

Reserves and Utilization of Dimension Stones
Construction materials and aggregates for developing countries
Disposal of Mine Wastes and Mine Tail

- **Climate Change and Related Geopolitics**
- **Landfill Engineering and Solid Waste Management**
- **Geoethics in Engineering Geology: Doing the right thing while managing the geological environment**
- **The 2015 Gorkha Earthquake**

Currency

US Dollar, Canadian Dollar, British Pound, Euro, Australian Dollar, Japanese Yen, Singapore Dollar, Indian Rupee and Chinese Yuan can be exchanged in the banks, star hotels, and authorized money changer.

For abstract submission: https://nseg.org.np/hegc-i/online-registration/

IAPG Special Session

Geoethics in engineering geology: doing the right thing while managing the geological environment

IAEG defines "Engineering Geology" as "the science devoted to the investigation, study and solution of the engineering and environmental problems which may arise as the result of the interaction between geology and the works and activities of man as well as to the prediction and of the development of measures for prevention or remediation of geological hazards". This definition implies evident ethical and social implications in geo-engineering research and practice. In fact, the interaction man-Earth system produces surely modifications in natural dynamics and equilibria, so managing the natural/geological environment requires great responsibilities by scientists, practitioners and industry in order to minimize the impact on ecosystems, to use geo-resources prudently, to protect the geoheritage and geodiversity, to respect local populations and their cultures. In addition, engineering geology is a fundamental discipline to help society to face natural hazards, to reduce geo-risks and to improve the societal resilience, through accurate scientific studies and effective geoengineering design. Geo-education campaigns and communication to population should be considered as fundamental collateral activities and a real social duty of every scientific activity. This session will collect abstracts discussing ethical and social aspects in engineering geology, from theoretical to practical issues, including case-studies. This session is co-sponsored by IAPG – International Association for Promoting Geoethics (http://www.geoethics.org).

Congress Venue

The HEGC-I will take place in Kathmandu, an important historic city and the capital of Nepal. With an estimated population of about four million, Kathmandu is the largest metropolis in Nepal. Lalitpur and Bhaktapur are neighboring cities of Kathmandu, and all of them are located within the Kathmandu Valley. The Kathmandu Valley has historically important cultural monuments that attract millions of international and domestic tourists every year. At an average altitude of 1300 m, the Kathmandu Valley is filled up with ancient lake sediments that at their deepest point are about 550 m thick. All the major events of HEGC-I will be held in Kathmandu, while the field excursions will be held in various parts of the Nepal. The two days congress will be held in Hotel Radisson, Lazimpat Kathmandu, Nepal. For detail about venue hotel, visit https://www.radisson.com/kathmandu-hotel-np/nepkathm.

Keynote Speakers

Following **Honorary NSEG Keynote Lectures** are already confirmed in HEGC-I.

Prof. Dr. Dennes Taganajan Bergado

Professor Emeritus and Retired Professor of Geotechnical Engineering, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

Keynote 1: Successful Applications of Mechanically Stabilized Earth (MSE) with Metallic and Polymer Reinforcements for Mitigations of Landslides and Soil Erosion.

Prof. Dr. Jinchun Chai

Professor (Geotechnical Engineering) Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Saga University, Japan

Keynote 2: Estimating Engineering Properties of Soil from Piezocone Test Results.

Prof. Dr. Shuichi Hasegawa

Professor and Dean, Faculty of Engineering and Design, Kagawa University, Takamatsu, Kagawa, Japan

Keynote 3: Engineering Geology of the Himalaya

Prof. Dr. Suksun Horpibulsuk

Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand

Keynote 4: Stabilization of Marginal Lateritic Soil Using Melamine Debris for Sustainable Geotechnical Applications

Prof. Dr. Hemanta Hazarika

Kyushu University, Japan

Keynote 5: Earthquake Induced Landslides in Gentle Slopes - Lessons Learned from the 2016 Kumamoto Earthquake

Prof. Dr. Takenori Hino

Saga University, Japan

Keynote 6: Effects of recent climate change and earthquake disaster on the soil structure of the ground

Prof. Dr. Nobuo Mishima

Department of Civil Engineering and Architecture, Saga University, Japan

Keynote 7: ICT-based study for community development in a historic town

Dr. Som Nath Sapkota

Director General, Department of Mines and Geology, Ministry of Industry, Government of Nepal, Lainchaur, Kathmandu, Nepal

Keynote 8: Seismotectonics of the Himalayan Region – recent understanding and research progress

Dr. Suttisak Soralump

Kaestsart University, Thailand

Keynote 9: Innovative Strategy for Landslide and Earthquake Mitigation

Dr. Nguyen Cao Don

Water Resources Institute, Vietnam

Keynote 10: Land subsidence in the Lower Mekong River Delta

Abstract submission deadline: 15 April 2019

Organizing Committee

Organizers:

Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Nepal (MoHA)

Himalaya Conservation Group Nepal (HCG)

Nepalese Society of Engineering Geologists (NSEG)

Supporting National Partners:

Nepal Academy of Science and Technology

Nepal Geotechnical Society

Himalayan Landslide Society

Nepal Landslide Society

Nepal Society for Rock Mechanics

Global Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies

Organizing Committee:

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Co-convener: Dr. Kumud Raj Kafle

Co-convener: Dr. Suman Manandhar

Congress Secretariat: Ms. Chandani Bhandari

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Japan Society of Engineering Geology
International Consortium on Geodisaster Reduction (ICGdR)
Indian Society of Engineering Geology
International Association of Lowland Technology (IALT)
AECOM, USA, UK
Kasetsart University, Thailand
Suranaree University of Technology, Thailand
Association of Soft Ground Technology (ASGT), Japan
Mod Chana Phai Foundation, Thailand

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Congress Web:
www.nseg.org.np

Abstract submission deadline: 15 April 2019

First Himalayan Engineering Geological Congress (HEGC-I)

Hotel reservation

Hotel Radisson is providing special discount in reservation for congress participants. Please contact sales manager for detail.

Ms. Shital Baniya

Associate Director of Sales

Hotel Radisson

Conference title: HEGC

Cell: + 977 9851063968

Email: sbaniya@radkat.com.np
For another hotel reservation, please contact:
rkdahal@gmail.com and
geosuman27@gmail.com

The venue, Hotel Radisson, Lazimpat, Kathmandu, Nepal

Contact

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Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of Nepal (MoHA)

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