



IFME 2026

Future Livable Cities

June 9-11 2026, Helsinki

WORLD CONGRESS ON MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING

JUNE 8

Registration opens
Get together

JUNE 9

Congress day 1
Helsinki City Reception

JUNE 10

Congress day 2
Networking Evening
with Live Music

JUNE 11

Excursions in **Helsinki**

JUNE 12

Excursion in **Tallinn**

JUNE 13-17

Excursion in **Stockholm**
and **Bergen**

JUNE 18

Excursions in **Reykjavik**

PLATINUM PARTNERS



PARTNERS



ORGANIZERS



Tuesday, June 9

FINLANDIA HALL

HELSINKI HALL

RESTAURANT HALL 3

RESTAURANT HALL 2

8:00 Registration opens

OPENING SESSION

Chair:

Opening words from FAME and IFME

8:45 TBA

9:00 Helsinki - Developing Capital City

Eveliina Heinäläoma, Chairman of the Helsinki city council

9:15 Gold and platinum partners

KEYNOTE 1

Soft Urban Future

David Sim, Partner, Architect SAR/MSA FRIAS, Softer**DAVID SIM**Partner, Architect SAR/MSA
FRIAS, Softer

10:15 COFFEE AND EXHIBITION

Session 1
Leadership in Transition

Chair:

10:45 Discussion session: Leadership in Transition – Green Transition, Competence, and Collaboration in the Infrastructure Sector

Johanna Nyberg, WSP, Finland

11:15 Transforming Organizational Culture for Sustainable Infrastructure: A Holistic Framework for Successful Change

Kia Aksela, WISE Environment, Finland

11:45 World's most advanced trash collecting system in nearly 1000-year-old city center

Terje Strøm, Bergen, NorwaySession 2
Resilience: aspects from different parts of the world

Chair:

Smart, sustainable, and resilient: a new paradigm for urban reconstruction in conflict-affected zones

Sergios-Aristoteles Mitoulis, University College London, United Kingdom

Making Unplanned Settlements Liveable: 'Remediation Plans' in Serbian Urban Planning System and Practice

Branislav Antonic, University of Belgrade, Serbia

Investigating the trends in the magnitude and frequency of extreme short-duration rainfall depths across South Africa

Kobus Du Plessis, University of Stellenbosch, South AfricaSession 3
Public Works & Infrastructure Asset Management

Chair:

Renewable Energy Communities for Sustainability. The Municipality of Rome's pilot project for the energy transition

Fabiana Cambiaso, Rome, Italy

Panel

Funding the Future: The Role of Government in Creating Livable Cities

Moderated by **Scott D. Grayson**, CAE, (American & Canadian Public Works Association & Sec Gen - IFME)Session 4
Smart Cities & Digital Transformation

Chair:

AI-Assisted Quality Improvement System for the Register of Public Areas

Esko Laiho and **Ritva Keko**, City of Helsinki, Finland

Embedding AI to Smart Cities: Exploring the value promise of AI in Smart City operations

Jenna-Riia Oldenburg, Sitewise, Finland

AI-Driven Data Standardization for Sustainable Urban Infrastructure: Leveraging 3D Models and Material Insights

Joshua van Reij, Arcadis, The Netherlands

12:15 LUNCH & EXHIBITION

Session 5
Resilient Urban Planning & Climate Adaptation

Chair:

13:15 Reporting from the China Municipal Engineering - Sectors through best practices selections

Lu Yingfang, CMEA, China

13:45 Green transition as a catalyst for new infrastructure development models

Joonas Söderholm, City of Oulu, Finland

14:15 Different Aspects of Resilience – Scandinavian Best Practices for Adaptive and Multifunctional Urban Infrastructure

Elina Kalliala, Ramboll, FinlandSession 6
Resilience: aspects from different parts of the world

Chair:

Reconfiguring Urban Interstices: Adaptive Strategies for Resilient and Inclusive Cities

Heide Imai, Senshu University Tokyo, Japan

Panel

Different Aspects of Resilience – Scandinavian Best Practices for Adaptive and Multifunctional Urban Infrastructure

Session 7
Predictive Analytics & Data-Driven Decision-Making

Chair:

Areal development projects logistics operator

Joonas Hakkila, City of Helsinki, Finland

Capacity building for executives of the Community of Douala, Cameroon for urban flood risk management

Maurice Barth, IFME, AITF & GESCOD, France

Developing a Benchmarking Framework for Climate-Resilient Infrastructure Across Victorian Councils

Nima Zorriatayen, City of Port Phillip, AustraliaSession 8
Smart Cities & Digital Transformation

Chair:

Data that moves us: Rethinking urban mobility through inclusive, sustainable innovation

Anders Benqtsen, EIT, Denmark

Technological diversity increasing for shared micromobility systems in the cities worldwide

Merja Kajava, Aalto University, Finland

Inhabiting Infrastructure: A Visible Science

Christopher Domin, University of Arizona, USA

14:45 COFFEE AND EXHIBITION

Session 9
Sustainable Infrastructure & Decarbonization

Chair:

15:15 Kruunusillat: The Influence of Infrastructure

Tom Osborne, Knight Architects, United Kingdom

15:45 Advancing Sustainable Urban Environments Through Transport and Infrastructure Projects

Pia Salmi, Olivia Mahlio and **Annukka Larsen**, WSP, FinlandSession 10
Resilience: protecting urban biodiversity

Chair:

New habitat types for built environment – strategic green infrastructure for resilient cities

Maija Bengström, City of Helsinki, Finland**Elisa Lähde**, Aalto University, Finland

Biodiversity in practice: From loss to gain

Piia Pessala, Sweco, FinlandSession 11
Resilient Urban Planning & Climate Adaptation

Chair:

Cycle paths as carbon sinks, preliminary study on promoting low-carbon construction

Samuli Huusko, City of Vaasa, Finland

Sustainable, climate resilient transport recovery in Marlborough Sounds

Courtney McCrostie, Stantec, New ZealandSession 12
Smart Cities & Digital Transformation

Chair:

Wiser mobility by design: Exploring features in smartphone applications that foster wiser travel behaviour

Laura Kankaanpää, Aalto University, Finland

Ethereal Intelligence for Earthly Cities, AI at the Heart of Digital Transformation

Senthil Kumar, Slat Technologies, USA

16:15 BREAK

16:30 KEYNOTE 2
Livability from Ecosystems – the City as a Service Platform**Jarmo Suominen**, Vice Dean, Shanghai International Institute of Design and Innovation

17:15 End of the Congress day 1

19:00-20:30 Helsinki City Reception

Location: Helsinki City Hall

Announcing the IFME Awards. Centenary speech

JARMO SUOMINENVice Dean, Shanghai
International Institute of Design
and Innovation

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SKTY**ril**

DAVID JENKINS

CEO, Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA)



FINLANDIA HALL

HELSINKI HALL

RESTAURANT HALL 3

RESTAURANT HALL 2

8:00	Registration opens		
	Keynote Session 13 International Awards Chair:	Session 14 Tools for future urban planning Chair:	Session 15 Asset management Chair:
8:30	KEYNOTE 3 Valuing Green Infrastructure - taking a Traditional Asset Management Approach David Jenkins , CEO, Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia (IPWEA)		Session 16 Smarter maintenance and snow logistics Chair:
09:30	IFME Construction Project Gold Award Presentation	SimulSoil 2.0: Integrating Biodiversity, Climate Resilience, and Predictive Analytics into Municipal Urban Planning Carolina Giaimo, Giulio Gabriele Pantaloni, Andrea Nino, Federico Farina Dist-Politecnico di Torino, Italy	Asset Management Maturity Analysis - Experiences from Finland Jyrki Paavilainen , FAME, Finland
10:00	IFME Construction Project Silver Award Presentation	From Groundwork to Livability: Life-Cycle Insights on Public Works from Early-Stage Urban Planning Eero Puurunen , Sitewise, Finland	Smart quality control in maintenance contracts Aaron Koskela , Protieto, Finland
10:30	IFME China Award Winner	Economic Management in Urban planning - Tool for Supporting Helsinki's Strategic and Sustainable Urban Growth Kirsi Lilja , City of Helsinki, Finland	Winter Maintenance Contract Experiences for the Main Cycling Routes in the Oulu Region Keijo Pulkkinen , Autori, Finland
			Smart Snow Management: Solutions for Sustainable and Resilient Cities Tiina Ketolainen and Teemu Usikappila , Ramboll, Finland
11:00	LUNCH AND EXHIBITION		
	Session 17 International Awards Chair:	Session 18 Aspects for novel practices in urban planning Chair:	Session 19 Sustainable transport solutions Chair:
12:00	IFME Development Project Gold Award Presentation	Defining regulations in master plans for drone delivery Jakub Takács , University of Technology in Bratislava, Slovakia	From Rising Star to Champion - Transforming Helsinki into a World Class Cycling City Laura Poskiparta , WSP, Finland Oskari Kaupinmäki , City of Helsinki, Finland
12:30	IFME Development Project Silver Award Presentation	Small Modular Nuclear Reactors in Land Use Planning Roope Ruhanen , City of Kuopio, Finland	The Significance of Regional Sustainable transport system planning in Finland Tapani Touru , Sitewise, Finland
13:00	Thesis Award Presentation	Monitoring Park Use in Helsinki - Science for Green Governance Maria Jaakkola , City of Helsinki, Finland	Research on Deep Coal Seam Fracturing Effect Evaluation Method Based on Machine Learning Wenjie Yao , University of Petroleum, Beijing, China
			Digital Twins Applied to Risk Management in Anthropogenic Contexts. Case Tuscany Iacopo Costoli , Government of Tuscany, Italy
13:30	COFFEE AND EXHIBITION		
14:00	Solar active design for smart cities, Voltaic on-site and off-site effects on plants Søren Dietz , Bjerk architects, Denmark	Learning through Urban Design: Mapping Conceptual Gaps Between Children's Civic Literacy and Urban Design Haneen AlAmirah and Iman AlAmirah , UAE's University, United Arab Emirates	Reducing Environmental Emissions as a Basis for Contract Competition Jari Kaukonen , Kaukotek, Finland
14:30	The potential for grid tied microgrids to be a sustainable suburban energy system Chris Allen , Nelson Mandela Uni, South Africa	The City Through the Eyes of a Child - Child friendly landscape architecture and urban design Varpu Mikola , Nomaji Landscape Architects, Finland	Circular Innovation in Waste-to-Energy: Utilizing Bottom Ash for Sustainable Urban Infrastructure Antti Rusko , Erityisjäte, Finland
			Deploying the situational picture from the alliance management monitoring tool to the construction site Laura Jyväkorp , AFRY, Finland
	Closing Session Chair:		Global Best and Next Practices in Carbon Management – Turning Data into Design Decisions Andreas Linnet , Ramboll, Denmark
15:10	KEYNOTE 4 Urban green spaces tackling climate change Ranja Hautamäki , Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, Aalto University		
16:00 -16:15	Closing remarks of IFME 2026		
19:00	Networking Evening with Live Music Location: Restaurant Botta		

RANJA HAUTAMÄKI

Associate Professor of Landscape Architecture, Aalto University



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