



CONCEPT NOTE

International Forum on **PARTNERING IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE**

23 November, 2023

Hyatt Regency, Kathmandu, Nepal

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ORGANIZER AND THE EVENT

Federation of Contractors' Association of Nepal (FCAN) is the umbrella organization of contractors operating throughout the country. It is represented by seventy-seven district associations and five province federations with a membership base of over twenty-two thousand four hundred organizations. FCAN is the current Chair of the international Federation of Asian and Western Pacific Contractor's Association (IFAWPCA) represented by eighteen member countries in the region.

The upcoming 46th IFAWPCA Convention with the overall theme 'Partnering in Sustainable Infrastructure' will be held in Nepal from 21-23 November 2023. It is expected to attract over 1000 international and national delegates, including government officials, policy makers, academics, and industry experts.

As a precursor to this event FCAN and IFAWPCA organized a forum entitled 'Financing Sustainable Infrastructure' on 23 March 2023 in Kathmandu. Similarly, IFAWPCA organized an international forum entitled 'Sustainable Building Era' on 15 June 2023 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The third in the series will be organized on 10 November 2023 in the Philippines with the theme "Implementing Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure".

BACKGROUND

In an era defined by environmental challenges and the imperative for global sustainability, the role of infrastructure takes center stage as a pivotal driver for positive change. Sustainable infrastructure stands as a linchpin of progress, offering opportunities to create a lasting impact on societies, economies, and the environment. To meet the demands of an ever-growing population, estimated to reach 9.7 billion by 2050, and to address the challenges of rapid urbanization and climate change, the need for sustainable infrastructure has become both urgent and paramount. It is estimated that USD 9.2 trillion in infrastructure spending will be needed globally each year until 2050. The Asia-Pacific region alone will need USD 1.7 trillion annually for infrastructure until 2030 to support economic growth, reduce poverty, and mitigate the risks of climate change.

The built environment contributes to approximately 40% of global carbon emissions. This substantial carbon footprint is attributed to both buildings and infrastructure. Notably, a significant portion of these emissions occurs prior to the utilization of the asset. This pre-utilization phase encompasses the production of building materials, accounting for roughly 15-20% in the case of buildings and a more substantial 50-60% for infrastructure.



The remaining emissions occur during the asset's operational phase, including energy consumption, maintenance, and eventual end-of-life scenarios, such as demolition and waste management.

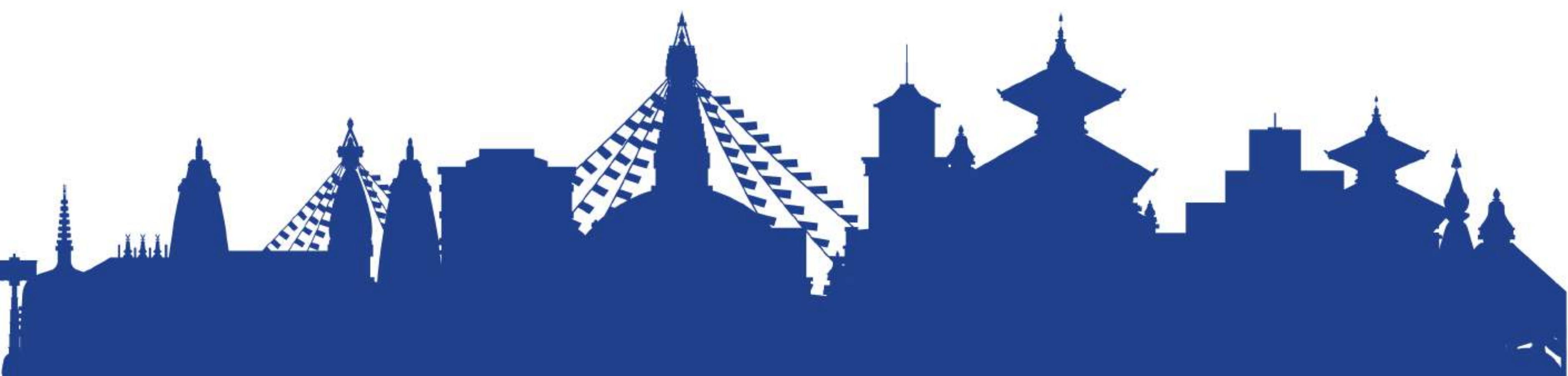
The call for sustainable infrastructure is underpinned by a series of pivotal factors. Globally, the adoption of a circular economy approach has the potential to generate economic benefits of up to USD 4.5 trillion by 2030, with projections indicating this figure could surge to USD 25 trillion by 2050. To put this in perspective, the global economy stood at USD 80 trillion in 2017. Embracing the circular economy not only creates new avenues for business growth but also serves to curtail material expenses, mitigates price fluctuations, diminishes reliance on imports, and bolsters resource security.

Studies have indicated that a substantial reduction in environmental effects can be achieved by transitioning to recycled materials during the construction phase and adopting recycling instead of landfill disposal. Notably, the utilization of recycled construction materials, including recycled cement, metal, concrete, and glass, as well as the shift toward recycling for disposal, can collectively result in an impressive reduction of up to 65% in overall environmental impact.

According to data from the World Watch Institute, buildings account for 40% of the world's annual energy consumption. Considerable reductions in energy use can be achieved throughout all phases of a building's life cycle with an energy efficient design. In order to achieve the goal of achieving net zero emissions by 2050, there is a pressing need to increase global annual investments in clean energy. Specifically, these investments must surpass USD 4 trillion by the year 2030, which represents a more than threefold increase compared to current levels.

Carbon emissions are generated not just during the operational phase but also throughout the entire life cycle of built assets, encompassing manufacturing, transportation, construction, and end-of-life stages for both buildings and infrastructure. These emissions, often referred to as embodied carbon, have historically received limited attention but nonetheless constitute approximately 11% of the total global carbon emissions.

A study commissioned by the Asian Development Bank on its developing member countries revealed that between 2006 and 2015 alone, direct physical losses as a consequence of extreme weather events and geophysical hazards averaged USD 46 billion per annum. The failure of insufficiently resilient infrastructure also contributed to over 337,000 disaster-related fatalities over the same period.



The "Partnering in Sustainable Infrastructure" forum recognizes the interconnectedness of these challenges and opportunities within the context of sustainable infrastructure development. It will serve as a platform for stakeholders to delve into these critical issues, exchange insights, and collaborate to drive innovation, all with the ultimate goal of building a sustainable and resilient infrastructure. Together, we can pave the way for a brighter and more sustainable tomorrow.

OBJECTIVES

Facilitate Knowledge Exchange: The forum aims to provide a platform for sharing knowledge, experiences, and best practices related to sustainable infrastructure development. By fostering dialogue and collaboration, participants can learn from each other and leverage their collective expertise.

Promote Collaboration: Collaboration is key to tackling the complex challenges associated with sustainable infrastructure. The forum will encourage partnerships between governments, private sector entities, non-governmental organizations, and academia to pool resources and expertise.

Drive Innovation: Through focused discussions and presentations, the forum will explore innovative approaches in financing, technology, and design that can enhance the sustainability and resilience of infrastructure projects.

PROGRAM

The "Partnering in Sustainable Infrastructure Forum" will consist of two main sessions:

1. Keynote Address: The keynote address will be given by a renowned expert in sustainable infrastructure, who will share valuable perspectives on the challenges and opportunities in sustainable infrastructure partnerships.

2. Panel Discussion: Panelists will represent diverse perspectives, including that of Government, Private Sector, Development Partners, Expert on Financing and Climate Change Funds, Expert on Resource Mobilization and Stakeholders from various sectors.

The panel discussion will explore collaborative approaches to address the challenges of sustainable infrastructure development. The forum will serve as a platform for knowledge exchange, collaboration, and the formulation of actionable strategies to advance sustainable infrastructure in the Asia-Pacific region and globally.



By coming together and harnessing the expertise of our panelists, we aim to drive the necessary changes toward a more sustainable, resilient, and environmentally responsible infrastructure landscape for a better future.

AUDIENCE

The forum is targeted at professionals and practitioners from the public and private sectors, including government officials, project developers, investors, and financial institutions.

FINAL WORDS

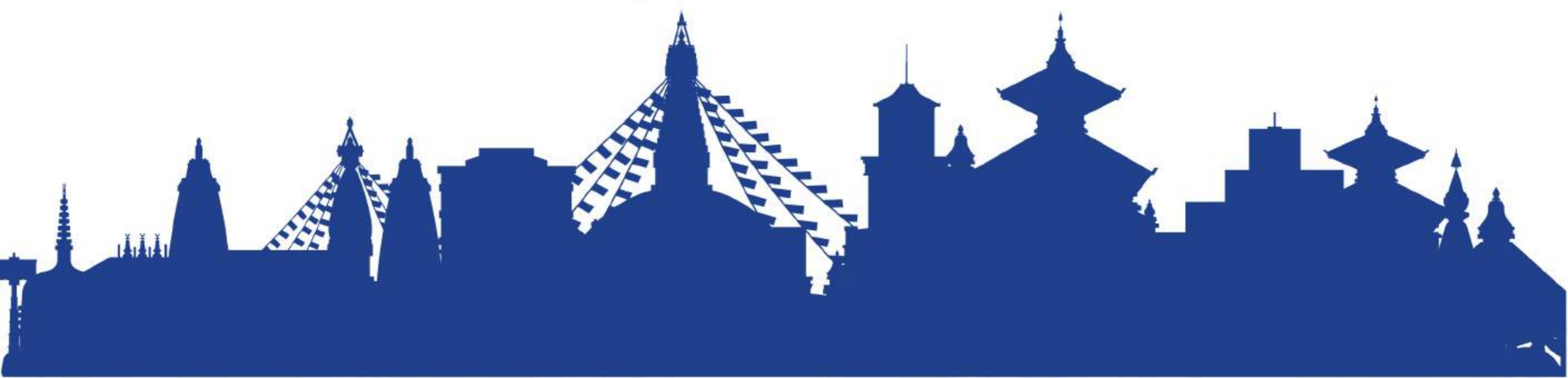
The forum on "Partnering in Sustainable Infrastructure" aims to catalyze meaningful partnerships, foster innovation, and inspire actionable solutions that contribute to a more resilient and sustainable future.

Together, let us seek innovative solutions, forge partnerships, and break barriers hindering the path towards sustainable infrastructure development. By leveraging our collective expertise and determination, we can foster a paradigm shift in infrastructure financing and construction practices, leading us towards a greener, more equitable, and prosperous future for all.

Let us embark on this journey of knowledge exchange and collaboration, committed to leaving a legacy of sustainable infrastructure for generations to come. Welcome to the International Forum on "Partnering in Sustainable Infrastructure".

REFERENCES

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INTERNATIONAL FORUM ON “PARTNERING IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE”

Hyatt Regency, Kathmandu, Nepal
23 November, 2023

8:00 AM - 8:45 AM	Registration and Breakfast
8:45 AM - 8:55 AM	National Anthem, Opening Preliminaries and House Rules
8:55 AM - 9:00 AM	Welcome Remarks By MR. RABI SINGH President of IFAWPCA & FCAN
9:00 AM - 9:10 AM	Brief Message from Partner Organization By MR. LEVY V. ESPIRITU Executive Director of IFAWPCA
9:10 AM - 9:25 AM	Reflection on Past Forums held in Nepal, Mongolia and Philippines By MR. BIRENDRA RAJ PANDEY IFAWPCA Secretary General
9:25 AM - 9:55 AM	Keynote Address
9:55 AM - 10:05 AM	Remarks from the Chief Guest
10:05 AM- 10:15 AM	TEA BREAK
10:15 AM- 11:30 AM	Panel Discussion
11:30 AM- 11:50 AM	Open Forum/ Q&A
11:50 AM- 12:00 NOON	Presentation of Token
12:00 NOON	Lunch



46th

IFAWPCA

CONVENTION

NEPAL 2023





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