

Message from ASCE INSPIRE 2023 Chair

Dear colleagues, friends, and soon-to-be-friends—


The past three years (with COVID) have taught us individually and as a community that we can find our path through uncertainty and start emerging on the other side stronger. Our theme for ASCE INSPIRE 2023 is *Infrastructure Innovation & Adaptation for a Sustainable & Resilient World*.

The art of adaptivity for an uncertain future is the essence of INSPIRE. We have to be like water in nature, flexible with a purpose and resilient, and to adapt to face any obstacles in our way, per Greek and Chinese philosophers. As the pace of change increases, the future also becomes more and more difficult to predict with the potential for turbulences, disruptions, deep uncertainty, and complexity. We may be able to project some developments and long-term states with some confidence, however what's to come can be highly variable and unpredictable.

ASCE INSPIRE 2023 is designed to bring together planners, engineers, researchers, technologists, infrastructure owners and operators, government agencies, financial entities, and other stakeholders to create conversations and educational opportunities to risks such as changes in the earth's temperature, increasing frequency of natural hazards, energy/water challenges, and the impact of sea level rise. The event will focus on innovative ideas for equitable, smart, hazard-resilient, people-centric infrastructure.

I am honored to be the ASCE INSPIRE 2023 chair and work closely with most distinguished colleagues and leaders, and excited that I get to participate in shaping it. If you too want to be part of it, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or the organizers. Whether a veteran or a new member, we need your input and collaboration. We have something special here with ASCE INSPIRE 2023—we can all feel it. So, let's define the future of our conference together and help set the course for our future World!

See you in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area at Crystal City, Virginia, November 16-18, 2023.


Bilal M. Ayyub, Ph.D., P.E., F.SEI, Dist.M.ASCE
ASCE INSPIRE 2023 Chair