1st Announcement

PIANC – COPEDEC XI

Eleventh International Conference on Coastal and Port Engineering in Developing Countries

IIT Madras, Chennai, India
22-26 February 2027

"Adapting coastal, port and waterway infrastructure to the changing climate"

ABOUT PIANC COPEDEC

The success of the First International Conference on Coastal and Port Engineering in Developing Countries (COPEDEC), held in Colombo, Sri Lanka, in March 1983, led to the creation of a Permanent Secretariat (PS) to organize this special conference once every four years in a developing country. During the COPEDEC VI Conference in Colombo in 2003, a merger agreement was signed between PIANC, the International Association for Waterborne Transport Infrastructure, and COPEDEC. Following the resounding success of PIANC COPEDEC 2012 at IIT Madras, the International Organizing Committee (IOC) of PIANC - COPEDEC has once again entrusted IIT Madras with the privilege of hosting the event in 2027.A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) formalizing this decision was signed between IIT Madras and PIANC on December 10, 2024.

The conference will feature technical tours and social events throughout the week, with English as the official language.

OBJECTIVES

The active mission of the PIANC - COPEDEC Conferences is:

1. To serve as an international platform for coastal and port engineers from developing countries to exchange knowledge and experiences amongst themselves and experts from industrialized Nations

2. To support the development of a sustainable human resource pool of coastal and port Engineering professionals.

The overall theme for PIANC-COPEDEC XI is

"Adapting Coastal, Port and Waterway infrastructure to the Changing Climate"

As with previous conferences, the emphasis on technical subjects will remain. Papers will focus on practical applications, planning, management and environmental aspects of coastal and port engineering in developing and industrialized countries, including case study documentation and discussions.

REGISTRATION

The Registration fee for the Conference is fixed as: Participant: 650 € - presenting author: 600 € - full time student: 350 € - accompanying person: 350 € If a workshop is planned, the registration fee will be different and will not be included in the aforementioned conference registration fee.
For participants, the Registration fee includes participation in all conference technical sessions; a set of proceedings; transportation between designated hotel(s) and the conference venue, reception and banquet as well as guided tours arranged on the third day, 24 Feb. 2027, and other special tours offered for the accompanying persons. Firm details, registration and hotel booking forms will be available on the **conference website**.

FELLOWSHIPS

Fellowships will be offered to selected participants with priority given to authors from developing countries. To be eligible, applicants must have their submitted abstract accepted, the detailed procedures for application for fellowships will be available on the conference website and the fellowship applications must be submitted along with the abstracts before the prescribed deadline.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

It should be noted that a digital copy of a two-page abstract (e-mail Word document) shall be forwarded to the PSC (Paper Selection Committee) Secretary (Email: copedec2027@doe.iitm.ac.in) before **15 December 2025.**

The abstracts should be formatted in accordance with the instructions that can be downloaded from the **conference website**. The abstracts will be notified of the acceptance/rejection of papers for presentation by the end of **March 2026**. Authors, whose abstracts are accepted for presentation will be required to submit the final digital paper before **31 October 2026**. Instructions regarding approved software, format, layout, typing and submission of papers will be forwarded to authors whose papers are selected for the presentation. This information will also be posted on the **conference website**. The accepted abstracts and full papers will be published in digital form on a memory stick.

First IOC / LOC meeting (partly online) in Chennai to decide upon date, venue, theme and topics	December 2024
Distribution first announcement, call for abstracts & fellowship applications	May 2025
Deadline for submission of abstracts and fellowship applications	15 December 2025
Distribution of brochure on Sponsorship and Exhibition Opportunities	February 2026
PSC/IOC-LOC/FAC meetings (partly online) in Chennai	March 2026
Notification about the acceptance of the abstracts	31 March 2026
Deadline for submission of revised abstract	August 2026
Deadline for paper submission and early registration	31 October 2026
Distribution of second and final announcement	November 2026
International PIANC – COPEDEC XI Conference	21-26 February 2027

Papers must be presented at the Conference by one of the authors, with the main author ensuring the presentation. Presenting authors will be entitled to a reduced Registration Fee. Selected papers will be featured in a maximum of four parallel sessions with each presentation of allocated 20 minutes, followed by 5- minutes for discussion.

IIT MADRAS, CHENNAI, INDIA

The Conference will be held in the sprawling campus of the Indian Institute of Technology Madras. Set in verdant wooded surroundings, the campus of IIT Madras offers an ideal environment for the most stimulating technical deliberations. The IITM campus is self-contained with all the facilities of a modern university, and is situated in an environment rich in flora and fauna. The Institute campus extends over an area of 2.5 square km in Chennai (formerly known as Madras) the political and cultural capital of Tamil Nadu. The city of Chennai is situated on the South-east coast of India and is India's fourth largest metropolitan city. The 368-year-old city is the 36th largest metropolitan area in the world. The city is also a large commercial and industrial centre, and is known for its cultural heritage and temple architecture. The city, which has its own International airport, is well connected to many other countries by a number of leading airlines.

PROVISIONAL CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The conference aims to foster deliberations, discussions, and peer interactions and will cover, but not be limited to, the following themes. Aspects related to the main conference theme **"Adapting coastal, port and waterway infrastructure to the changing climate"** are widely welcomed.

a) **Port Engineering**: Coastal and inland port (infra)structures / Physical and numerical modelling / Maintenance, Inspection and Repair of Port Structures / New Equipment and Materials for Construction of Port Structures
b) **Port Planning and Management**: Port, harbour and marina planning and layout / Nautical aspects / Operations and Maintenance / Cruise terminals
c) **Coastal Engineering**: Coastal infrastructures / Coastal stabilisation / Intake and outfall systems / Coastal protection / Tidal inlets / Materials for use in the marine environment / Coastal processes / Coastal sediments and hydrodynamics
d) **Coastal Zone and Coastal Risk Management**: Waterfront Development / Coastal vegetation and forests / Tourism and recreation / Marine Pollution / Numerical techniques / Extreme wave events and analysis / Tsunamis / Crisis Management of Marine Hazards
e) **Short Sea Shipping, Ferries, RORO, Fishing Ports, Coastal and Inland Navigation**: Planning and design / Infrastructures / Management / Operations and maintenance / Logistical, economical and environmental advantages
f) **Climate Change and Port & Coastal environmental issues**: International Conventions, Rules and Regulations / Pollution and Environmental Impacts of Structures and Marine Transportation / Coastal and Marine Ecosystems / Climate Change / Marine Renewable Energy
g) **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML)** applications in ports and coasts
h) Dredging and Disposal Management issues

CORRESPONDENCE

Details regarding registration, participation and Conference organization may be obtained from:

International Organising Committee
PIANC-COPEDEC XI
C/o. PIANC General Secretariat
Koning Albert II-Laan 15, box 466
1210 Brussels (Belgium)
Tel +32 2 553 71 61
Email info@pianc-aipcn.org

Local Organising Committee
PIANC-COPEDEC XI
Department of Ocean Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology Madras
Chennai 600 036 (India)
Tel +91 44 2257 5824
Email copedec2027@doe.iitm.ac.in

ALL information Pertaining to PIANC-COPEDEC XI are available in the conference website: http://www.pianc-copedec2027.in