



Consulting Engineers South Africa

INFRASTRUCTURE

Indaba

2025

**Engineering the Future We Want:
Mobilising for Sustainable
Development**

18-19

MARCH 2025

**Indaba Hotel,
Fourways,
Johannesburg**

CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Presented By

David Leukes, CESA President



Priority Actions

Engineering the Future We Want: Mobilising for Sustainable Development

- **Enhance Collaboration in Infrastructure Development** – Lobby for breaking down of silos by fostering collaboration between engineers, planners, policymakers, and communities.
- **Establish Continuous Feedback Loops** – Advocate for the implementation of mechanisms for ongoing engagement across all phases of infrastructure development.
- **Strengthen Industry Participation** – Encourage engineering practitioners to actively participate in CESA's Committees and Branches to influence policy and practice
- **Retain and Attract Engineering Talent** – Advocate member firms and government to create attractive professional environment where South African engineers can thrive locally while encouraging skilled professionals and engineers abroad to return to South Africa.

Sustainable Development

- **Prioritise Sustainable Infrastructure** – Encourage member firms to design and implement infrastructure solutions that are sustainable and climate-resilient throughout their entire life cycle, from conception to maintenance and renewal, ensuring integration into an interconnected ecosystem.
- **Boost Infrastructure Investment** – Advocate for increased funding to drive economic growth, create jobs, reduce unemployment, as well as rebuilding and maintaining existing infrastructure rather than solely creating new projects.
- **Promote Resilience** – Lobby for the development of future-ready infrastructure.

Transformation and Capacity Building

- **Strengthen Education** – Lobby for improvements in basic education at grass roots level
- **Investing in Engineering Talent** – Call on the public and private sectors to continue to invest in STEM education and digital innovation to ensure technical excellence in building a competent future workforce.
- **Enhance Workforce Competency** – Advocate members to invest in younger generation skills and mentorship to address current infrastructure demands and future industry shifts.

Transformation and Capacity Building

- **Drive Industry Transformation** – Encourage member firms to lead transformation by showcasing successful initiatives, sharing best practices, and fostering collaboration.
- **Support Start Up Firms** – Encourage larger member firms to partner with small and developing firms to enhance skills development, transformation and business growth opportunities.

Professionalising the Industry

- **Accelerate Infrastructure Development** – Advocate for addressing delays in project execution to improve conditions for engineers and industry growth
- **Recognise Engineering Excellence** – Elevate the status of engineers by highlighting their contributions to national development – public and private sector must drive initiatives to promote the engineering industry
- **Improve Credentialing Standards** – Establish a streamlined and internationally benchmarked credentialing system such as the partnership with FIDIC Credentialling and our School of Consulting Engineering.

Ethical Leadership

- **Strengthen Governance Frameworks**
 - Advocate for robust governance in both public and private sector infrastructure projects.
 - Work with the Auditor General to improve auditing outcomes.
- **Ensure Transparent Procurement** – Advocate for fair, ethical, and corruption-free procurement processes.
- **Enhance Project Oversight** – Encourage members to implement stringent quality assurance and accountability measures. Launch investigations into failed projects and implement blacklisting policies for unethical contractors.

Technology and Innovation

- **Adoption of New Technologies** – Encourage member firms to adopt technologies, such as Building Information Modeling, as a standard practice for design, construction, and management of infrastructure projects.
- **Investment in Digital Skills** – Lobby for the continued training and development in new technologies to improve efficiency in the industry.

Transport: Infrastructure Development

- **Climate Change in Infrastructure Planning** – Advocate for the development of climate-resilient transport infrastructure to ensure sustainability and reduced environmental impact.
- **Overcome funding gaps** - Encourage PPPs to address funding gaps in transport infrastructure.
- **Protecting our Infrastructure** – Collaborate with the public sector in its fight against vandalism, theft, site disruptions, extortion and the illegal occupation of land.