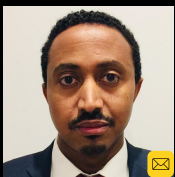


THEMED SESSION

Nature-Positive Engineering for Mitigating Multi-Hazard Coastal Risks

29 June – 2 July 2026 | Chania, Greece

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

30 November 2025

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION DEADLINE

1 March 2026

DESCRIPTION



Coastal regions face intensifying, combined risks of flooding, erosion, saltwater intrusion, and extreme temperatures, driven by climate change and human pressures. Nature-based Solutions/NbS have emerged as promising strategies to buffer communities and infrastructure, while supporting biodiversity and livelihoods. Yet, key scientific questions remain about their efficacy, scalability, and long-term viability when addressing multiple, interacting, and cascading risks. Critical uncertainties include: the ecological thresholds required for sustaining different NbS types (e.g., saltmarshes, mangroves); the socio-economic trade-offs and co-benefits; and the governance mechanisms enabling equitable implementation in diverse contexts across the Global North and Global South.

By bridging perspectives from traditional coastal engineering and emerging interdisciplinary aspects of NbS, the session will showcase cutting-edge research, covering topics including, but not limited to, modelling advances in coastal hazards, compound & cascading risks, and practical experiences in coastal adaptation and nature-positive engineering. The session aims to bring together interdisciplinary experts such as coastal engineers, geomorphologists, ecologists, geographers, environmental economists, coastal managers, and risk analysts. We welcome contributions from professionals across these and related fields to foster a diverse and engaging discussion. The session will highlight persistent knowledge gaps, fostering dialogue on how NbS can be integrated into risk governance, infrastructure planning, and climate adaptation pathways.