



Kancheepuram N. Gunalan (Guna), Ph.D., P.E., BC.GE, NAC
Past President (2020) American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
Co-Chair UN Science & Technology Major Group of Stakeholders and UN
Multistakeholder Advocacy Task Group
Chair WFEO UN Relations Committee
VP| Senior Project Director HNTB Corporation
President Atlas Initiative
2025 WFEO President Elect Nominee Message

Introduction

I am humbled and honored to submit my nomination for the position of President Elect of the World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO). I have engaged with the global engineering community and collaborated with key WFEO leaders since the early 2000's. I've attended WFEO general Assemblies since 2011 enabling me to actively contribute to Executive Council and Standing Technical Committee / Working Group discussions.

Background

I have been Chair of the WFEO UN Relations Committee (WURC) since 2020 and have increased the visibility and engagement of the WFEO at the UN, especially with the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) and the UN Economic and Social Committee (UN ECOSOC). I worked directly with the Ambassadors from member states (Belgium, South Africa, Grenada, Canada, Zimbabwe, Morocco, Finland, India, and Poland to name a few) that Chair these Committees and organize the UN High Level Political Forum (HLPF) and the UN Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) forums, held annually. I co-chair the UN Multistakeholder Group's Advocacy Task Group, representing more than twenty one diverse stakeholders, a position never previously held by a member of the WFEO, and I Co-Chair the Scientific and Technological Community Stakeholder Group (UN STC MG). A number of member

states now recognize and appreciate the important work engineers do. I have been successful in organizing side events from 2022-2024 and Africa Day in 2023. In organizing these events, I have engaged WFEO leaders including Past President Jose Viera and President Mustafa Shehu with the Asian Development Bank, World Bank and Africa Coalition, and I am contributing to two chapters of the second edition of UN DESA's STI4SDGs Roadmap.

I was President of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) in 2020, which is the oldest civil engineering society in the United States (est. 1852) with 160,000 members, making it the largest civil engineering association in the world with governance responsibility for \$60 million USD annually. I successfully brought ASCE and other US professional engineering institutions together to form Engineering Societies of America (ESA), the new National Member of WFEO, commencing 2025, by personally raising the funds to pay the €22500 annual membership dues and other expenses.

I have led numerous other international engineering initiatives including the Indian-US Conference focused on resilient, sustainable, and critical infrastructure. My policy paper on infrastructure was adopted at the G20 Summit in New Delhi, India. I was the Vice Chair of International Coalition for Sustainable Infrastructure (ICSI) and coordinated the MOU between ICSI and WFEO. I am President of the Atlas Initiative that advocates for our profession and engineers to not only have a seat at the table but to have a voice.

All these experiences have reinforced my desire and determination to not only continue to advocate for our profession but to ensure that our views are respected, voices heard, our suggestions heeded, and our recommendations implemented to the benefit of all.

Strengths

I have extensive business management experience with more than thirty years as an engineering consultant and have been senior vice president / vice president of some of the largest engineering companies in the world including HNTB, AECOM, PB (WSP) and Maxim (Tetra Tech). I am currently leading a \$2 billion + project and have led major engineering projects with budgets over \$3 billion USD (totaling over \$10 billion USD) in the US and internationally.

My business and engineering experience and my successful track record in promoting WFEO internationally, especially at the UN at levels not previously seen, places me in a strong position to advocate for the WFEO.

Vision for the future

My vision is to strengthen the WFEO's international, regional, and national organizations; strengthen the WFEO Secretariat to be nimble and be able provide more support to our members; launch a fundraising campaign to ensure the financial sustainability of WFEO; help our committees and their work products to be more globally recognized; offer more state of the art resources through our academy and support capacity development projects in Africa and in other emerging economies; and

continue to work with the UN and UNESCO and other UN organizations for greater visibility.

Despite current divisions and polarizations in the world today, I believe the thirty million engineers under the WFEO umbrella can unite as builders of civilization and spark a global engineering renaissance as a positive force in shaping our future.

I have long been a lead advocate to develop more educational opportunities for young people to become engineers, especially those in developing countries inclusive of all races, genders, and religions and intend to expand this goal to more programs through the WFEO.

Call for Your Consideration and Support

Thank you for your consideration, support, and vote. I look forward to collaborating with you to enhance our profession globally.

KANCHEEPURAM GUNALAN (GUNA), PH.D., PE, BC.GE, NAC

VP|Senior Project Director

Gunalan (Guna) is a VP|Senior Project Director bringing over 38 years of experience in civil and construction industry, serving in multiple capacities in small, medium and large multi-national consulting firms. He has managed operations and was responsible for P & L of groups ranging from 35 to over 200 employees. Guna's experience and capabilities range from developing a business plan for business lines; successfully establishing new business lines; managing the operations of the business lines including marketing, developing a client base, maintaining client relations; and developing an innovative framework for delivery of design on mega projects. Guna also has the experience and skill sets to manage large complex infrastructure projects both for owners and contractors. His collaborative approach for result oriented outcomes supported by his demeanor and strong communication capabilities have contributed to successful programs and projects ranging in size from a few thousand dollars to over \$3 Billion dollars. He has provided technical advice on civil, structural, geotechnical, pavement and materials issues on a variety of projects around the country and overseas. He has the leadership skills to not only lead multidiscipline teams, but also mentor professionals at various stages of their career. Guna served as the President of the American Society of Civil Engineers, an organization with 150,000 members in over 177 countries with an annual budget of about \$65 Million per year.

Representative Project Experience

Representative Project Prior Experience to HNTB

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), Bay Park Conveyance Project, Long Island, NY– Program Manager.
Kancheepuram serves as the Program Manager supporting the client deliver a sustainable and resilient DB Project for Nassau County in Long Island, NY.
Project Cost: \$459 Million
(Design Build: 03/2021-02/23; Construction: 08/21-Present)
Reference: Andy Fera , Project Director , NYSDEC , (518) 419-0058
Duration on Project: (08/2021- 01/2025)

New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT), BQE, NY – Procurement Lead. Kancheepuram served as the Procurement Lead and coordinated development of procurement strategy, process and conducted industry outreach.
Project Cost: \$2.5 Billion
(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)
Reference: Tanvi Pandya, ED, DB & Emergency Contracts, New York City Department of Transportation

Maryland State Highway Administration (SHA), I-270/I-495 Congestion Relief Program, Baltimore, Maryland –Lead Program Manager.
Kancheepuram served as the Lead Program Manager assisting MDOT's

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Firm
HNTB Corporation

Education
PhD/1986/ Civil Engineering,
Texas Tech University,
Lubbock
ME/1981/ Soil Mechanics and
Foundation Engineering, Anna
University, Guindy, India
BE/1979 Civil Engineering,
College of Engineering, Madras
University, Guindy, India

Professional Registrations
1994/PE, UT #94-270604-2202
1990 / PE, NM #11264
2025/ PE, TX #153056
2010 /BC.GE, ASCE

Affiliations
UN STG MG, Co-Chair of
Scientific and Technological
Community Major Group, 2021
WFEO, Chair of World
Federation of Engineering
Organizations) ,
WURC, UN Relations
Committee, 2021
ASCE, President, 2020
ASCE, President Elect, 2019
ASCE, Annual Convention
Chair, Panama, 2014
ASCE, Annual Convention
Organization/Sponsorship Sub
Committee, 2014-2017
ASCE, Geo Institute Board of
Governors, 2014-2017

Hire Date with HNTB
01 2025

Years of Experience with
other Firms: 38
Entered the profession in 1987

SHA with preliminary development of procurement policies for I-270/I-495
Congestion Relief program.
Project Cost: \$9 Billion
(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)
Duration on Project: 12/2017-05/2018
Reference: N/A

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Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Central 70 P3 Project, City,
CO – Capture Manager and Deputy Design Manager. Kancheepuram served
for the pursuit CDOT's Central 70 P3 project. During the pursuit phase Guna
supported the Design Manager coordinate, manage proposal phase strategy,
design, fee estimation etc.

Project Cost: \$1.2 Billion
(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)
Duration on Project: (04/2016-03/2017).
Reference: N/A

Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MDOT), Design Build Manual
and RFP Templates, Boston MA –Technical Lead. Kancheepuram served as
the key author rewriting of Mass DOT's Design Build Manual and RFP
Templates.

Project Cost: N/A
(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)
Reference: N/A
Duration on project (2015-2016).

Region of Waterloo, Waterloo LRT P3 Project, Kitchner, Ontario, Canada –
Pursuit Champion Kancheepuram developed and provided oversight of the
Waterloo LRT P3 Quality System. 19 km of tracks, 16 stations, 13 traction
power stations, maintenance facility and associated civil works.

Project Cost: \$ 583 Million
(Design: 05/2014 -2016; Construction: 06/2019)
Reference: Steve Shive (retired) , Senior Vice President, Kiewit
Duration on Project: (11/2014-06/2016).

New York State Thruway (NYSTA), Tappan Zee Bridge Project, Tarrytown,
NY – Deputy Project Director, Kancheepuram assisted with the procurement
and development of oversight procedures and processes. Three mile long
twin span cable stayed bridge across the widest section of the Hudson river
connecting Rockland and Westchester Counties.

Project Cost: \$3.2 Billion
(Design Build: (07/2012-03/2013).
Reference: N/A
Duration on Project (05/2012 - 04/2013) Completed: 2017

Denver Transit Authority (RTA) , I-225 LRT DB Project, Denver, CO –
Capture Manager. Coordinated pursuit phase strategy, design, fee estimate
etc. Role and duties. Approximately 10.5 mile light rail line including eight
light rail stations, eight structures including a prefabricated pedestrian
structure, right of way appraisals and acquisitions.

Project Cost: \$350 Million
Design: 2012; Construction: 12/2017)
Reference: N/A

Duration on Project: (04/2012-06/2012).

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Caltrans, Presidio Parkway P3 Project, San Francisco, CA – Technical Lead.
Kancheepuram was responsible for development of the technical specifications for this first of its kind in public private partnership in CA.

Project Cost: 1 Billion

(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)

Reference: N/A

Duration on Project: N/A

St. Louis County , Page-Olive Connector DB Project, St. Louis County, MO –
Procurement Lead . Kancheepuram was responsible for the development of
the performance specifications for the County's design build project.

Project Cost: N/A

(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)

Reference: N/A

Duration on Project: N/A

Michigan Department of Transportation (Michigan DOT), ARRA Program,
Lansing, MI - Procurement Lead. Responsible for development of
procurement strategy for two projects (Bike Path and ITS for Mackinac
Bridge) under the ARRA schedule.

Project Cost: N/A

(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)

Reference: N/A

Duration on Project: N/A

Texas Department of Transportation, DFW Connector DB Project, Dallas-
Fort Worth, TX – Principal in Charge. Kancheepuram was responsible for
leading contract negotiations: guiding designer's PM and the design team in
setup, coordination and execution of design and duties.

Project Cost: \$900+ Million

(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)

Reference: Jerry Porter, Senior Vice President, Kiewit

Duration on Project: N/A

(Design: N/A; Construction: N/A)

Reference: N/A

Continued Professional Affiliations:

WFEO UN Relations Committee Chair 2020- present

ASCE Foundation Chair 2023- present

President Atlas Initiative for Disaster Resilient Earth 2021- present

ASCE, Global Strategy Council Corresponding Member, 2016- 2017

NIEE, Board Member, 2015- Present

ASCE, Indian Initiative Advisory Committee, 2015-2017

WFEO Anti-Corruption Committee Vice Chair Americas, 2014-2018

ASCE, Key Contact Committee and Advocacy Captain, 2015-present

Conference, Panama City, Panama Conference Chair, 2014

ASCE Committee on Ethical Practice, Chair, 2012-2015 WFEO Anti-Corruption Committee, 2013-2015

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ASCE Annual Conference, Montreal, Canada Program Chair, 2012

ASCE, Task Committee on International Strategy, 2012- 2014

ASCE, Chair Sub Committee on Global Principles for Professional Conduct, 2009-2012

ASCE, Region 8 Governor, 2005-2007

ASCE, Task Force on Global Principles for Professional Conduct, 2005-2006

ASCE, Geo Institute Task Force on MSE Wall Chair, 2005-2007

ASCE, Technical Committee on Embankments Dams and Slopes, 2005-2008

ACEC, Utah UDOT Liaison Committee/DFCM QBS Selection Committee Chair, 1993-1995

Chi Epsilon Honor Society, ACEC Utah Chapter, 1993- 1996

Awards and Recognition:

Texas Tech University College of Engineering, Distinguished Engineer, 2019

Utah Engineers Council, Engineer of the Year Nominee, 2018

ASCE Region 8, Engineer of the Year, 2017-2018

ASCE Utah Section, Engineer of the Year, 2017-2018

ASCE Professional Practice Ethics and Leadership Award, 2016

Texas Tech University Civil Engineering Academy, Inductee, 1997

Presentations and Publications

Patron/ moderator, ASCE IS International Conference on Climate and Disaster Resilient, Sustainable, Equitable and Inclusive Infrastructure, ahead of G20 with the support of World Federation of Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and Asian Development Bank (ADB), September 8, 2023

Keynote, "Geotechnical Aspects of Mega Transportation Projects in the Future", CIC2020, Doha, Qatar, February 2-5, 2020.

Keynote Address, "Future of Engineering", at various ASCE Events in the USA, Egypt, Qatar, Lebanon and India.

Keynote, "Understanding and Developing Geotechnical Performance Criteria", GeoMEast 2019, Cairo, Egypt, November 10-14, 2019.

Keynote Speaker, "Development of Reliable, Sustainable and Resilient Infrastructure", Global Engineering Congress, ICE, London October 22-26, 2018.

Keynote Speaker, "A Blueprint for Successful Delivery of P3 Project", ASCE Conference on Urbanization Challenges in Emerging Economies", New Delhi, India, December 12-14, 2017.

Moderated Panel discussions on a variety of topics including topics on Ethical Challenges at various ASCE Annual Convention/Conferences.

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Presentations on various topics of ethics – at ASCE MRLC, AECOM.

Keynote Speaker, “Understanding Performance and Developing Global Geotechnical Standards”, Indian Geotechnical Conference 2016 Geotechnology Towards Global Standards, IIT, Madras, India, December 2016.

Invited Lecture, “Risks and Challenges of Deep Excavations in Urban Settings”, Deep Foundations IGC Pre Conference Workshop, IIT Madras, India, December 2016.

Expert Panelist, DBIA Transportation Conference, Grapevine, Texas, April 2010.

Invited Lecture, “Geotechnical Challenges on Transportation Projects”, Geotechnical Engineering – Indian Experience GEOINDEX, Indian Geotechnical Conference 2006, Chennai, India, December 14-16, 2006.

Principal Author, “Chapter 14 – Highway Construction, the Handbook of Highway Engineering”, CRC Publication 2006.

Patrick Drennon, Nancy Smith, Charlie T, K. N. Gunalan, Workshop on “Design Build, Warranties and Performance Speciation” for FHWA Field Engineers, Washington DC, December 2004.

Principal Author, “Accelerating Construction of Bridge abutments and Embankments, Legacy Parkway DB Project, Salt Lake/Davis Counties, Utah”, Geo Trans 2004, Los Angeles, California, May 26-28, 2004.

“Developing Pavement Performance Speciation’s for Interstate 15 Reconstruction Project, Salt Lake County, Utah,” 4th International Conference on Road and Airfield Pavement Technology, Kunming, Yunnan Province, P. R. China, April 23-25, 2002.

“Beneficial Use of Ground Improvement on a Major Design Build Transportation Project in Salt Lake Valley, Utah, USA,” 4th International Conference on Ground Improvement Techniques, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, March 26-28, 2002.

“Ground Modifications on I-15 Reconstruction Project, Salt Lake County, Utah,” Symposium on Recent Developments of Ground Improvement, Osaka, Japan, May 22, 2001.

Coauthor, “Accelerated Reconstruction of I-15 through Salt Lake County, Utah,” International Conference on Soft Ground Technology, Netherlands, May 28-June 2, 2000.

“Keynote Address - I-15 Project,” Rocky Mountain Concrete Pavement Conference, Salt Lake City, Utah, February 1-2, 2000.

Employment History:

VP| Senior Project Director, HNTB, January 2025 to Present
Senior Vice President, AECOM, July 2019 to January 2025
Vice President, AECOM, April 2012 to July 2019
Vice President, Parsons Brinckerhoff, May 1996 to April 2012
Area Manager, Maxim, July 1993 to May 1996
VP/ General Manager Terra Engineers, 1986-1993

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