

ARC2018: 9th & 10th October

Achieving Resilient Cities & Communities

Keynote Speaker Bios



Joan Garcia

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya · BarcelonaTech (UPC)

Joan Garcia is **Professor of Environmental Engineering** at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering of the **Technical University of Catalonia-BarcelonaTech (UPC)**. Joan holds a degree in Biology from the University of Barcelona (UB), where he presented his doctoral dissertation on **wastewater treatment engineering**. He has been a postdoc research visitor at University of California at Berkeley (2001), and University of Ghent, Belgium (2005). He was recognised by the **Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation** for the Intensification of Research Activity for his contributions to water resources research and wastewater engineering, and has also received an award by the **Fulbright Commission** to take a sabbatical in Florida Gulf Coast University, USA (2018). He has written over 250 articles in scientific as well as technical journals and proceedings.

Joan carries out interdisciplinary research on the development and improvement of environmental biotechnologies that mimicking nature and maximizing eco-efficiency allow treatment of wastewaters and other kinds of wastes. His research is currently conducted on systems for wastewater treatment along with materials and energy recovery, like **constructed wetlands and microalgae photobioreactors**. Joan has conducted research on constructed wetlands in a wide perspective including topics such as: hydraulic and hydrodynamic aspects, design parameters, remote control systems, pollutant removal mechanisms, nutrients and emerging pollutants removal, greenhouse gas emissions, life cycle analysis and economic evaluation. Moreover he has participated in the design and construction of numerous full-scale systems.



Development
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Water Innovation
Consulting

Albert Jansen

Water Innovation Consulting

Albert Jansen has dedicated his professional life to **membrane technologies** with water as most important application. He is currently affiliated with Wetsus to set up European projects and is the Chair of the Dutch membrane Association. His career started at TNO as a scientist and project leader to develop gas separation and filtration type of membranes.

During a period of 15 years he was the **TNO department leader for chemical engineering** focusing on innovations with separation technologies. The last fifteen years Albert is focusing on water issues as a business developer. He is one of the founding fathers of **EWP and WssTP**, where he was the vice-chair for some time and currently the leader of the working group Water and Industry. In EIP Water he is leading the action group on industrial water reuse. Next to this Albert is a democratic elected board member for a **Dutch Water district (HDSR)**.



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Keynote Speaker Bios



Victor Beumer

Deltares

Dr. Victor Beumer is a **Senior Landscape Ecologist** working at **Deltares** in The Netherlands. Deltares is a large, independent knowledge institute focusing on the topics of water, subsurface and infrastructure. Victor is working on **Nature-based Solutions and Green Infrastructure**, meaning: the application of natural solutions for multiple benefits like increased water safety, enhanced water storage and improved water quality, but also recreation, liveability and heat reduction.

In the last 6 years Victor is fully focusing his work on cities and urban areas. Since 2017 he is also the cluster leader '**Hybrid Grey and Green Infrastructure**' within the EU Water Platform (WssTP). Within Deltares he is responsible for the knowledge programme '**Eco-Infrastructure**' where he combines the ecological principles with civil and hydraulic engineering solutions.



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Keynote Speaker Bios



Declan Alcock

Director, Engineers Without Borders (EWB) Ireland

Project Director, Varming Consulting Engineers

Declan Alcock is a **Chartered Engineer** with 18 years' experience in **Building Services Consultancy** and Sustainable Building Design on a wide range of educational, healthcare, commercial and residential projects from initial site optimisation through all stages of the design process. He is Project Director for Sustainability with Varming Consulting Engineers.

Declan's qualifications include MSc **Energy & Sustainable Building Design**, BREEAM Accredited Professional (BREEAM AP), BREEAM International New-Construction Assessor and Certified **Passive House** Designer (CPHD). He has also lectured at MSc level in "Sustainable BIM Design and Construction".

He is a Director of the **Irish Green Building Council (IGBC)** and Director of **Engineers Without Borders (EWB)** Ireland where he is involved in building critical understanding and active engagement for UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 11 through the EU DEAR "**Build Solid Ground**" project.



ARC2018: 9th & 10th October

Achieving Resilient Cities & Communities

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Dr. Sean O'Hogain

Lecturer at Dublin Institute of Technology

Water Innovation Research Centre (WIRC)

Environmental Sustainability and Health Institute (ESHI)

Dr. O'Hogain has been lecturing on the **Engineering degree course** in DIT for 30 years, specialising in water and wastewater analysis. Recent teaching innovations have included courses in sustainability and climate change. Research topics have included **Reed beds** (design, construction and monitoring) and **Rainwater Harvesting** (design, construction and monitoring). Research projects included TECSPAR, an EU funded collaboration between three European Institutions and three Latin American Institutions.



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Technology in the
Community (DTC)
Research Group



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Achieving Resilient Cities & Communities

Keynote Speaker Bios



Liam McCarton

Dublin Institute of Technology, DTC, ESAI, EWB-Ireland

Liam McCarton is a **Chartered Civil Engineer**, with over 25 years' experience in International Development. Liam has project managed major infrastructure projects in Ireland, Asia, Africa and South America. Liam leads the **Development Technology in the Community (DTC)** Research Group within the Water Innovation Research Centre (WIRC) at DIT.

Liam is a board member of the Environmental Science Association of Ireland (ESAI), and is also a director of **Engineers Without Borders (EWB)** Ireland.



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Achieving Resilient Cities & Communities

Keynote Speaker Bios



Pat Kennedy

eTownz

Pat is the CEO and head of digital strategy at **eTownz** based in Dublin. eTownz specialise in developing online tools for the community development sector and have also undertaken a number of research projects in this area also in collaboration with Dr. Maura Farrell of NUIG, Dr. Vincent Carragher of NUIG.

eTownz recently launched the eTownz community development dashboard which is a online tool which helps communities compile and maintain multi category community plans.

For more information visit www.eTownz.com



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