

Call for proposals: SMAR 2026

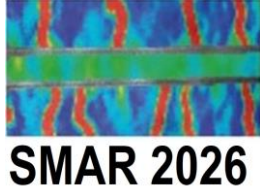
Dear Colleagues,

The SMAR (International Conference on Smart Monitoring, Assessment, and Rehabilitation of Civil Structures) series, initiated with SMAR 2011 in Dubai, UAE, has evolved across various global locations, including Istanbul (Turkey) in 2013, Antalya (Turkey) in 2015, Zurich (Switzerland) in 2017, Potsdam (Germany) in 2019, and Shanghai (China) in 2020. With a record of more than 350 abstract submissions, SMAR 2024, the 7th conference, is scheduled for 4-6 September 2024 in **Salerno, Italy**.

We invite proposals from interested organizations to host and organize SMAR in 2026, the 8th International Conference on Smart Monitoring, Assessment, and Rehabilitation of Civil Structures (**SMAR 2026**). Proposals should include the following details:

- 1) Proposed Chair of the Local Organizing Committee;
- 2) Tentative composition of the Local Organizing Committee;
- 3) Tentative dates of the conference and justification for the choice of dates (identify any conflicting conferences scheduled for 2026);
- 4) Type of conference venue (e.g., hotel, campus);
- 5) Publication plan for proceedings (hardcopy, CD, USB Flash Drive, etc.);
- 6) Tentative registration fee (with an expectation that fees should align reasonably with the proposed bid);
- 7) Availability of affordable accommodation, including types and approximate costs per night;
- 8) Attractiveness of the conference city, considering technical, geographical, and social aspects;
- 9) Financial support from your organization, including underwriting the conference;
- 10) Any additional features enhance your proposal's appeal (e.g., paper publication in journal special issues, pre- or post-conference short courses).

The SMAR ExCom will assess all proposals. Shortlisted proposals will be submitted to the SMAR Council for a decision at its next meeting in April/May 2024 (online). Proposers of shortlisted proposals will be invited to deliver a brief presentation at the Council meeting. The winning team will be informed before mid-June 2024. It is expected that one person from the winning team will present the preliminary plan during the closing ceremony of SMAR 2024. The SMAR ExCom will collaborate closely with the winning team to ensure the success of the conference.



The Local Organizing Committee will receive support from the SMAR Executive Committee (SMAR ExCom) in forming the International Scientific Committee and publicizing the event. Keynote Speaker recommendations may be made by the Local Organizing Committee, with final decisions resting with the SMAR ExCom. The Chair of the Local Organizing Committee will become a member of the SMAR Executive Committee from SMAR 2026 for one term as the SMAR Conference Coordinator.

The SMAR will present its Best Paper Awards to papers featured in the conference proceedings. If you're not interested in hosting but wish to nominate an institution or location for SMAR 2026, please email your suggestions for consideration by the SMAR ExCom.

It's important to note that the ownership of the conference rests with the SMAR ExCom. In the unlikely event of disputes between the Local Organizing Committee and the SMAR ExCom, the SMAR ExCom reserves the right to withdraw the conference award and assign it to an alternative team. The winning team will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the SMAR ExCom to ensure the smooth execution of the conference.

We look forward to receiving your proposals. **Please submit your proposal by email by 31 March 2024** to moslem.shahverdi@empa.ch.

Best regards,
Moslem Shahverdi
On behalf of the SMAR ExCom