



EDITORIAL

Launching Cornerstone Civil Engineering Journal: Building a Foundation for Civil Engineering Research and Practice

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It is with great pleasure that we present the inaugural issue of the Cornerstone Civil Engineering Journal (CCEJ), Volume 1, Number 1, August 2026. The publication of this first issue marks an important milestone in establishing a scholarly platform dedicated to the development, dissemination, and exchange of knowledge in civil engineering and its related disciplines.

The name Cornerstone reflects the fundamental role of sound scientific knowledge in engineering. Just as a cornerstone provides a stable reference for the construction of a structure, rigorous research provides a foundation for technological development, infrastructure improvement, professional practice, and evidence-based decision-making. Through CCEJ, we seek to provide a scholarly space where researchers, lecturers, practitioners, engineers, students, and other stakeholders can contribute to the advancement of civil engineering knowledge.

The establishment of CCEJ is also driven by the increasing need for research that responds not only to theoretical questions but also to practical engineering challenges. Infrastructure development, sustainable construction, transportation systems, structural safety, construction materials, water resources, environmental resilience, occupational safety, and disaster mitigation continue to require scientific solutions that are technically sound and relevant to local and regional contexts.

This inaugural issue brings together ten scholarly articles representing a broad range of topics within civil engineering. The contributions address areas including pavement condition and maintenance strategies, construction materials and alternative aggregates, occupational safety and health in infrastructure projects, sustainable concrete and mortar materials, the engineering properties of locally available rock materials, bridge load assessment, as well as rainwater harvesting and artificial groundwater recharge.

The diversity of topics represented in this first issue demonstrates an important principle underlying CCEJ: civil engineering research must connect scientific inquiry with the realities encountered in the planning, construction, operation, maintenance, and sustainability of infrastructure.

Several contributions in this issue also highlight the importance of utilizing local materials and local environmental conditions as subjects of scientific investigation. This perspective is particularly significant for regions such as East Nusa Tenggara and other developing areas, where geographical characteristics, material availability, water scarcity, climatic conditions, and infrastructure needs can differ substantially from those of other regions. Research rooted in local challenges can therefore generate knowledge with both regional relevance and broader scientific value.

At the same time, sustainable engineering has become increasingly important. The utilization of alternative construction materials, evaluation of existing infrastructure, efficient management of water resources, improvement of occupational safety, and development of resilient infrastructure are no longer



peripheral issues. They are integral components of contemporary civil engineering. We hope that CCEJ will become a platform through which such issues can be examined systematically, critically, and constructively.

As a scientific journal, CCEJ is committed to maintaining academic integrity and the quality of scholarly publication. Manuscripts submitted to the journal are expected to demonstrate originality, methodological clarity, appropriate scientific analysis, and meaningful contributions to their respective fields. The editorial process is designed to ensure that published works meet appropriate scholarly standards through editorial assessment and peer review.

We also recognize that establishing a credible scientific journal is a continuing process. The publication of this inaugural issue is therefore not an endpoint, but the beginning of a longer academic journey. Future development will require sustained improvements in editorial governance, peer-review quality, publication ethics, international visibility, indexing, digital accessibility, and collaboration with researchers and institutions beyond our immediate academic community.

CCEJ welcomes contributions from researchers, academics, professionals, and practitioners from Indonesia and the international community. In addition to original research articles, the journal encourages high-quality systematic reviews and other scholarly contributions that provide meaningful insight into developments in civil engineering.

On behalf of the Editorial Board, I extend our sincere appreciation to the authors who have entrusted their work to CCEJ, to the reviewers who have contributed their expertise to the evaluation of manuscripts, and to the editorial team whose dedication has made the publication of this first issue possible. We also acknowledge the support of Akademi Teknik Kupang in providing an institutional foundation for the development of this journal.

We hope that the Cornerstone Civil Engineering Journal will continue to grow into a credible and accessible scholarly publication, strengthening connections between research, engineering education, professional practice, and the infrastructure needs of society.

May this inaugural issue serve as the first cornerstone upon which a strong and sustainable tradition of scientific publication can be built.

Welcome to the Cornerstone Civil Engineering Journal.

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