World Infrastructure Forum's International Advisory Committee meets at MIT to advance preparations for its inaugural summit in Madrid

The World Infrastructure Forum will bring together more than 350 leaders from over 30 countries in Madrid and has already confirmed more than 50 speakers

- WIF has confirmed more than 50 speakers whose expertise spans the construction, financing, regulation, digitalization, and management of infrastructure worldwide.
- The WIF International Advisory Committee brings together leading organizations from across the infrastructure value chain, with representation from business, finance, technology, academia, and multilateral institutions.
- The inaugural summit will address the most pressing challenges facing the future of infrastructure, with a focus on water, energy, sustainability, resilience, financing, digitalization, artificial intelligence, and urban transformation.

Madrid, October 20, 2026.- The International Advisory Committee of the World Infrastructure Forum (WIF) held a working meeting at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston as part of preparations for the inaugural World Infrastructure Forum summit, which will take place in Madrid on October 28–29.

The Committee is made up of leading organizations from across the infrastructure value chain, including ACS, Ferrovial, ACCIONA, Bechtel, VINCI, Webuild, AECOM, Arup, Nippon Koei, Macquarie, Allianz Global Investors, Meridiam, Swiss Re, Liberty Mutual, Siemens, Bentley Systems, CEMEX, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank, as well as academic institutions and international organizations.

Its members represent different areas of the global infrastructure ecosystem and help shape the Forum's agenda, identify priorities, and foster dialogue across sectors and regions.

WIF is a joint initiative of the MIT Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, the School of Civil Engineering at the Polytechnic University of Madrid (UPM), the World Bank Group, and The University of Texas at Austin. It was created precisely to connect these diverse communities and provide an international platform for dialogue and collaboration on infrastructure challenges.

More than 50 confirmed speakers to take part in WIF

With the summit fast approaching, WIF has already confirmed more than 50 speakers, who will join more than 350 leaders from over 30 countries in Madrid. The speakers represent every continent and include professionals with direct responsibility for building, financing, regulating, and managing strategic infrastructure worldwide.

This diversity of profiles reflects the very nature of WIF, which seeks to bring together the perspectives of those who design, finance, build, operate, and regulate infrastructure, at a time when decisions about these systems carry increasingly far-reaching implications for economies and societies.

An agenda focused on the challenges facing infrastructure

The first day of WIF will focus on the new pressures on energy, water, and resource systems, with sessions on the evolution of power grids, flexibility, and the new energy demand driven by digitalization, solutions for more resilient water infrastructure, and the impact of data centers on infrastructure needs.

The agenda will also examine the nexus between energy, water, and resources, the infrastructure that will need to be mobilized by 2035, and the pathways to scaling more climate-resilient infrastructure in the face of new climate scenarios.

The second day will focus on the factors that can accelerate infrastructure transformation, from the impact of artificial intelligence on engineering, construction, and operations to the cybersecurity of critical infrastructure, new financing models, and strategies to close the global infrastructure gap.

Other topics will include the mobility of people and goods, the development of more livable and inclusive cities, and the application of AI, robotics, and emerging technologies to the design, construction, and operation of infrastructure.

The event will feature expert dialogues, plenary sessions, and panel discussions, encouraging exchange among companies, financial institutions, public agencies, universities, and other players in the infrastructure ecosystem.

With this inaugural summit, the World Infrastructure Forum aims to establish itself as a leading international platform for dialogue among the many stakeholders involved in infrastructure development, and to promote the exchange of knowledge, experience, and perspectives on the challenges posed by its transformation.

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