



Institute for
Sustainable
Infrastructure

ZOFNASS RESEARCH PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE ZOFNASS RESEARCH PROGRAM?

The Zofnass Research Program conducts research that examines sustainable infrastructure topics and supports development and use of the Envision® Sustainable Infrastructure Framework. The program was originally developed in 2007 at the Harvard University Graduate School of Design, where it was called the Zofnass Program for Sustainable Infrastructure, named after its benefactors Paul and Joan Zofnass.

After its founding in 2010, ISI worked closely with the Zofnass program to integrate the best of industry experience with cutting-edge academic research to develop and release Envision in 2012. This achievement responded directly to the need for a comprehensive sustainability framework and rating system suitable for use in civil infrastructure development. In 2022, the program moved from Harvard to ISI, where it is now called the Zofnass Research Program, so that it could more readily engage with the private sector and evolve to serve the diverse needs of the AEC industry.

RESEARCH & EVENTS

The Zofnass Research Program leads research designed to better understand and facilitate the adoption of more sustainable solutions for civil infrastructure projects. Program efforts have included researching the influence of implementing Envision credits on project costs and benefits throughout the project lifecycle, assisting the Envision framework in adapting and contributing to the ongoing global discourse and research on climate change, and recognizing the nexus of Envision with environmental review processes; as well as case studies and related publications on a range of infrastructure projects around the world.

The program also hosts in-person workshops to engage insightful discussions with experienced Envision users on the latest research findings and trends in sustainable infrastructure. Recent workshops like those held in New York City (2024) and Washington, D.C. (2023) have also offered a more in-depth analysis of select Envision-verified projects.



WHAT IS THE SIAB?

The Sustainable Infrastructure Advisory Board (SIAB) is a dedicated group of AEC firms that support the Zofnass Research Program. Their financial assistance, expert feedback, and guidance are integral to the development, promotion, and continued improvement of the Envision framework. Representatives from these firms, which are involved in the planning, designing, and engineering of infrastructure projects, engage with researchers to provide guidance and insight from the infrastructure industry. We are grateful for the SIAB's commitment to sustainable infrastructure and ongoing advocacy of Envision.

WHY JOIN THE SIAB?

The SIAB plays a vital role in shaping the future of sustainable infrastructure by providing strategic input, financial support, and thought leadership. In an era where public discourse centers on combatting climate change, meeting sustainability and resiliency goals is paramount for governments, corporations, and AEC firms alike. As a member, you will be at the forefront of innovative research and developments in sustainable infrastructure, enabling your organization to lead in this critical field.

SIAB OPPORTUNITIES:

- participate in **targeted research** that helps to shape the future of sustainable infrastructure
- expand your **professional network**
- engage in unique **speaking opportunities**
- receive **early access** to case studies and strategic insights
- gain **competitive advantage** as a leader



CONTACT US:

If you're interested in becoming an SIAB member, please email **Judith Rodriguez, Senior Research Associate**, at rodriguez@sustainableinfrastructure.org.