



Prof. Sherif Mohamed

**Prof. Sherif Mohamed** is an educator and experienced researcher with a strong blend of technical and management skills and formal qualifications gained through an international background in industry, government and university environments. At the industry level, he is a chartered professional civil engineer with over 25 years sound experience in construction and project management. He has gained international experience through application of these skills in the Middle East, United Kingdom, South-East Asia and Australia. He holds a Master as well as Doctorate degrees from the University of Southampton, the U.K. Prof. Mohamed is the Founding Director of the Research Center for Infrastructure Engineering and Management at Griffith University, Australia. He is currently serving as Head of School in School of Engineering and Built Environment at Griffith University, Australia.

## **BUILDING FLEXIBILITY IN PROCEDURES OF CONSTRUCTION SITE: BUDGING FROM DEFENSIVE SAFETY TO PRODUCTIVE SAFETY**

**Abstract:** This demonstration exhibits a strong argument for moving past compliance and simultaneously it challenges the customary way of thinking about Safety of Construction. Globally, construction institutes adopt a system of safety management that is grounded on 4E's (Environment: *hazard identification*, Engineering: *risk reduction*, Education: *awareness*; and Enforcement: *regulations and policies*). Without much contest, this well-tested system has endured for many years. Nevertheless, recent works on organizational sense-making, complexity theory and adaptive systems have delivered a fresh theoretical lens through which, we can inspect construction safety. Systematizing the ways of doing things to avoid failure, Safety Management Systems focus on guarding people from failure. This presentation identifies that circumstances on site vary each time, so the attention should be on how people regulate their performance under different state of affairs to make sure they do the right thing. In other words, directing to build flexibility in site operations of construction in order to react to the frequently changing conditions would eventually lead to effective safety outcomes. People would need to be authorized to actively observe and select indications in a changing situation and narrate them to a wider frame of reference (and not a standard procedure) to create a practical and harmless environment for everyone, to enable building flexibility. The presentation highlights on how an alliance of sense-making and adaptive systems had the capability to mitigate unnoticeable risks on construction sites