

**International symposium shrink-swell processes in soils –  
Climate and Construction – June 18 & 19<sup>th</sup> 2015 – MARNE LA VALLEE**

**On June 18th and 19th, CEREMA, IFSTTAR and Ponts Formation Conseil organized in Marne la Vallée (France) the International Conference SEC2015 devoted to the problem of shrinkage and of soils and its impacts on buildings.**

The SEC2015 symposium brought together about one hundred participants, some of them coming from foreign countries as diverse as Australia, Cameroon, India and USA... SEC2015 is an accredited COP21 event that is to say, it is associated with the global climate conference to be held in Paris in 2015.

This Symposium was a privileged place, where researchers and engineers from various countries could present their works and share their knowledge and expertise. Discussions focused on the problem of shrinkage and swelling of clayey soils due to climate variations. This phenomenon causes considerable damages on buildings (single houses and infrastructures). Some appropriate construction techniques were shown in order to protect constructions from the effects of climate on water content variations in clayey soils.

36 interventions took place, organized on the three topics of the symposium :

- behavior of clayey soils ;
- design, behavior and repair of buildings and transport infrastructures ;
- influence of climate, hazard's characterization and national experiences.



Proceedings and posters of the conference will soon be available on our website ([www.sec2015.info](http://www.sec2015.info)).

Nota : on June 17th afternoon, a conference (in French) concerning the stakes in the construction of individual houses on sensitive soils to shrink-swell processes was jointly organized by the Agency Quality of Construction ( AQC ) and IFSTTAR. Various aspects were approached : description of shrink-swell process, the loss ratio, the insurance, the rules of construction, etc.