

Voice of Architects (VOA) – Participation Guide

What is the objective of this activity?

Highlight cutting-edge innovations in Enterprise Architecture (EA) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) through the **Voice of Architect** segment, complemented by visually engaging **poster showcases**. This session aims to translate real-world EA + AI applications into compelling narratives that align with Conclave's strategic themes.

Who can participate?

Any participant who is registered for the **3rd AEA India Conclave 2025**.

Is there a process related to this activity?

Yes, this is a **group activity**. Please follow these steps:

- After onsite registration, visit the **VOA Helpdesk** at the venue.
- Prior to the event, each participant will be randomly assigned to a group and topic, ensuring balanced distribution and preventing oversaturation of any single topic. **Group and topic assignments will be disclosed during the VOA registration process**
- Please confirm your **registered name and email ID** to enable the VOA Helpdesk to share your assigned group and topic. Topics will be assigned from a predefined list.

- **Topic 1: Redefining the Core – Enterprise Architecture in the Age of AI**

- **Focus:** Exploring how Enterprise Architecture (EA) is transforming into an AI-empowered discipline that drives agility, resilience, and innovation across organizations.
- **Context for Participants:**
 - In today's rapidly evolving digital landscape, traditional Enterprise Architecture is being reimaged. With the rise of Artificial Intelligence, EA is no longer just about structure and governance—it's becoming a strategic enabler of intelligent decision-making, adaptive systems, and future-ready business models.

- **Participants are encouraged to consider:**
 - How AI tools and techniques (e.g., machine learning, predictive analytics, generative AI) are being integrated into EA practices.
 - The role of EA in fostering **agility**—helping organizations respond quickly to change.
 - How EA contributes to **resilience**—building systems that can withstand disruptions and recover swiftly.
 - Ways EA can spark **innovation**—by enabling smarter planning, automation, and cross-functional collaboration.
- **Submissions** under this topic should showcase how EA frameworks, tools, or strategies are evolving to embrace AI, and how this shift is creating tangible value for businesses.

○ **Topic 2: Enterprise Architecture Foundations for AI-Driven Enterprises**

- **Focus:** Uncover how robust Enterprise Architecture frameworks and governance practices enable secure, ethical, and scalable AI adoption—laying the foundation for trusted AI-driven enterprises.
- **Context for Participants:**
 - As organizations increasingly embrace AI, the role of Enterprise Architecture (EA) becomes critical in ensuring that adoption is not only innovative but also responsible and sustainable. This topic explores how foundational EA elements—such as governance, data architecture, compliance, and risk management—support the deployment of AI technologies in a way that is secure, ethical, and scalable.
- **Participants are encouraged to consider:**
 - How EA frameworks guide the integration of AI into business and IT ecosystems.
 - The importance of governance in maintaining ethical standards, data privacy, and regulatory compliance.

- Strategies for building scalable AI systems that can grow with organizational needs.
- Real-world examples of EA enabling trustworthy AI adoption across industries.
- **Submissions** should highlight how strong architectural foundations and governance models pave the way for AI to be used confidently and responsibly within enterprises.

○ **Topic 3: Beyond Automation – Architecting Self-Optimizing Enterprises**

- **Focus:** How Enterprise Architecture, automation, and analytics create adaptive, continuously improving systems with minimal human intervention.
- **Context for Participants:**
 - This topic explores the evolution from basic automation to intelligent, self-optimizing enterprises—where systems not only execute tasks but also learn, adapt, and refine themselves in real time. Enterprise Architecture (EA) plays a central role in designing these ecosystems by integrating advanced technologies and governance models.
- **Participants are encouraged to consider:**
 - **Real-time refinement using Digital Twins:** How virtual replicas of systems or processes can simulate, monitor, and optimize performance continuously.
 - **AI-driven decision loops within EA frameworks:** How feedback mechanisms powered by AI enable systems to make informed adjustments without manual input.
 - **Balancing autonomy with governance:** How EA ensures that self-operating systems remain aligned with business goals, compliance standards, and ethical boundaries.
 - **Upskilling the workforce for intelligent transformation:** How organizations prepare their teams to collaborate with and manage increasingly autonomous systems.
- **Submissions** should showcase how EA enables the creation of intelligent, adaptive systems that evolve over time—driving operational excellence, innovation, and strategic advantage with minimal human intervention.

- Each group will have **5–10 members**. Once a group reaches 10 members, another group can be formed on the same topic.
- **A maximum of four groups may be formed for each topic.**

How will responses be captured?

Responses will be captured through an **online Google Form** (Participant Input Template), designed with a standardized structure to ensure consistency and clarity. While the form is mobile-friendly, participants are **encouraged—but not required**—to carry a laptop or tablet for enhanced readability and ease of input during the activity.

For each topic, structure your response using this template:

1. **Introduction / Abstract** – Outline your perspective or context.
2. **Objectives** – Define the expected outcomes of EA in this area.
3. **Methods / Frameworks** – Mention EA tools, models, or governance approaches.
4. **Findings & Discussion** – Share challenges, examples, or lessons.
5. **Conclusion / Future Scope** – Suggest future opportunities or innovations.

What are the evaluation criteria for submissions?

Submissions will be assessed based on the following weighted criteria:

Criterion	Weight	Description
Relevance & Alignment	30%	Assesses how well the submission aligns with the session topic and Conclave themes.
Innovation & Originality	25%	Evaluates the novelty of the idea or approach presented.
Practical Impact	25%	Measures the potential for tangible business, societal, or industry value.
Clarity & Presentation	10%	Reviews the structure and articulation of the submission from introduction to conclusion.
Engagement Factor	10%	Considers the ability to inspire, spark dialogue, and resonate with peers.

What is the process for voting and judging?

The voting and judging process will follow these steps:

Step 1: Once participants receive their assigned topic and group number, they may begin collaborating with their group members. As a first step, each group is expected to mutually agree upon and designate a **group leader** to facilitate coordination and submission.

Step 2: Once a group leader is selected, they may begin updating the designated Google Form on behalf of their team. QR codes and form links will be shared during the VOA registration process on the day of the Conclave. All submissions will be recorded digitally and compiled into a unified slide deck for presentation.

Step 3: All participants will have the opportunity to review the complete set of submissions compiled in a shared slide deck. A QR code or link to access the deck will be provided during the VOA registration process. This includes submissions from their own group as well as other groups, enabling participants to gain a comprehensive understanding before casting their votes.

Step 4: Voting will commence following the review of the compiled slide deck. Participants with successful submissions will cast their votes for other groups—excluding their own—based on the defined evaluation criteria. A separate digital voting link, accessible via QR code, will be shared during the activity session: *Insight by Design: Voice of Architect & Poster Showcase*.

Voting Guidelines

- Each participant can cast **only one vote** for each of the 3 topics. Since each group is linked to a specific topic, you'll be rating one group per topic.
- **Self-voting is not allowed.** Votes for your own assigned group will be rejected.
- **Each vote must be unique.**
- Valid votes will be scored using a **5-point scale** based on the criteria shared above.
- Final scores will be **automatically calculated** using the assigned weightages for each scoring category.

Step 5: Based on voting results, the **Jury (topic moderators + AEA leadership)** will apply the evaluation criteria to identify the **VOA Winner** for each topic.