



engineers
without borders
australia

EWB Challenge

“ The EWB Challenge as a whole has opened our eyes to humanitarian engineering and the positive impacts it can have on communities. We have been challenged to step outside our own culture and create a design solution that would be viable in a different community to our own. ”



What is the EWB Challenge?

The EWB Challenge is a design program for primary year university students delivered in partnership with universities.

The Challenge provides students with the opportunity to learn about design, sustainable community development, teamwork and communication in a real world context, while supporting our community-based partner organisations with ideas to feed back into their work.

The EWB Challenge supports universities to develop graduates who are communicative and culturally aware, able to work across disciplines and methods and equipped to address global social and environmental challenges.



9,000+ students
participating in 2017/18



28 universities
in Australia and New Zealand



94 student design reports



4 pre-semester academic workshops



The EWB Challenge brings value to our university partners in a variety of ways including:

Real world design context

The EWB Challenge team works with a different community-based partner organisation each year to prepare a design brief and comprehensive resources focused on one community. Students are provided a rich context and set of constraints to explore in the design process as well as the engagement of working on a real-world challenge, unique from theoretical classroom study.

Project resources and academic support

The design brief and supporting photos, videos, data and other resources provided through the EWB Challenge program support our busy academic partners to engage students in inspiring, project based learning aligned with course outcomes.

Annual Showcase and awards

Each year, top performing student teams are invited to an EWB Challenge Showcase to present their work to a panel of judges from industry and the community-partner organisation. Students connect with their peers, network with the EWB community, and celebrate their achievements.

Platforms to develop professional skills

The flexibility of the EWB Challenge empowers academics to use the program as a vehicle for developing a variety of professional skills in their students, including teamwork, report writing, communication, the design process, ethics and cultural awareness.

Sourced from 2014-2015 EWB Challenge external evaluation by Strategic Partnerships

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Program Details

The EWB Challenge team is pleased to announce Wateraid Timor Leste as the community-based partner organisation for 2019. The design brief and web-based resources are expected to be available in January.

Program Registration: \$9,450 + GST per university per year

This registration fee will provide:

- The EWB Challenge Program Outline
- The EWB Challenge Design Brief – an outline of the priority areas and projects identified by community representatives and local organisations
- Supporting resources, including written content, interviews, data, photos and videos
- Introductory workshop for academics – Option to attend a pre-semester workshop for course coordinators and tutors covering the context for this year, appropriate technology and the human-centred design process and opportunity for academics to share ideas around the EWB Challenge in the classroom. Generally delivered by region and can be customised for participants.
- Introductory presentation or workshop for students – delivered by an EWB member and/or slides provided to the course coordinator upon request
- Student access to EWB Challenge discussion forum – monitored by EWB staff to support student questions through the semester
- External review of top student reports – up to four reports may be submitted to the EWB Challenge for external review by professionals in the engineering industry
- Opportunities for attendance at the EWB Challenge Showcase – the top student team from each region for semester one and the top student team from each region for semester two will be invited to represent their university at the EWB Challenge Showcase

In addition to the above components of the EWB Challenge, note that registration fees support the administration and staff costs associated with the program and on-going engagement with our community-based partners to ensure student ideas are shared back appropriately.