



2013 Finalist's Case Study

Engineers without Borders & ANU

Social Responsibility

Humanitarian Engineering Research Programme – Sustainable Solutions Transforming Lives

Section 1: About the project

Summary

The Engineers Without Borders Australia (EWB) Research Program is an innovative education and research program that engages students from Australia's major universities in humanitarian based, engineering research projects that aim to develop real-world, sustainable technological solutions to support disadvantaged communities in Australia and across Asia.

It has been established to support the organisation's long standing community partnerships, supporting local partner organisations in Aboriginal communities in Australia, as well as Sri Lanka, India, Nepal, Cambodia, Vietnam and Timor Leste. This EWB research program has been well received, drawing national media attention and recognition for engineering excellence.

Project partners

University of Sydney, University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, RMIT University, Australian National University, University of Western Australia and University of Melbourne

Section 2: The results

The problem

By working collaboratively with community partners, universities and research institutions, the EWB Undergraduate Research Program provide students with the opportunity to tackle serious environmental issues, including climate change, water quality and deforestation, and determine their impact on developing communities through a final year or honours research project, or thesis.

Our goals

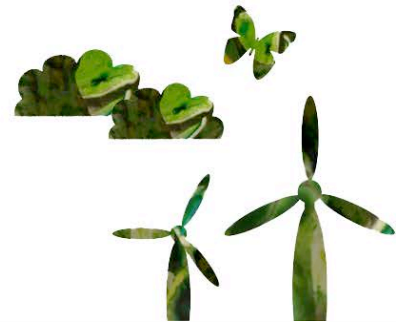
The EWB Research Program engages students to develop sustainable technological solutions to support disadvantaged communities in Australia and across Asia. This program aims to create leaders and professionals with strong values and a commitment for creating change.



engineers
without borders
australia

Institutional Profile

- Engineers Without Borders Australia (EWB) is a not-for-profit international development organisation Currently working in India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Vietnam, Cambodia, Timor Leste and Australia.



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Performance and results

Examples of the projects completed by students include designing a low-smoke, dung burning stove for deforested areas of Nepal; to a bio-digester to convert waste into energy for the floating village communities on the Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia.

Section 3: The future

Lessons learned

Through the many various projects run through this program and number of students that partake, our format of the program and the way in which we cater for the student's needs change every year.

Sharing your project

The Humanitarian Engineering Research Programme has evolved in recent years with the opportunity for the student's research to be shared through the Engineers Without Borders Journal for Humanitarian Engineering, an open access publication which aims to create impact through information dissemination and shared learning.

What has it meant to your institution to be a Green Gown Award Australasia finalist?

To be a Green Gown Award Australasia finalist has helped reaffirm our belief in the program and it's benefits. It gives us a boost of confidence as we head into the new year with a new format for the program.

Further information

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Creating Change through
Humanitarian Engineering