

# ENGINEERING FOR PEOPLE

## Shaping tomorrow's engineers



Engineers are increasingly required to work at the forefront of social and environmental challenges. Despite this, 76% of UK engineering firms acknowledge a skills gap in sustainable practices (IET, 2023). The **Engineering for People Design Challenge**, a flagship initiative by Engineers Without Borders UK and South Africa, addresses this gap by empowering the next generation of engineers with the skills and insights needed for globally responsible engineering.

## Our impact in numbers

Since its inception in 2011, the Design Challenge has reached over **87,000 students across 47 universities in five countries**. The programme's benefits are profound:

**91%** of participants have broadened their understanding of globally responsible engineering

**76%** of participants report that the Design Challenge contributed to their academic success

**83%** feel confident addressing the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in their work

**85%** feel they have increased their skills in team-working, decision-making and project management

## A crucial approach

### Real-world challenges

The Design Challenge provides a safe environment that replicates real-world engineering challenges. Students work collaboratively to propose sustainable solutions addressing crucial engineering issues, including sanitation, energy and infrastructure.



The Design Challenge culminates in a prestigious Grand Finals event, where teams present their solutions, showcasing the ability to balance technical prowess with societal and environmental considerations.

### Project-based learning

Aligned with UNESCO's call for greater complexity in engineering education, the Design Challenge uses project-based learning to immerse students in real-world contexts, with a focus this year on Makers Valley, Johannesburg. This approach fosters key skills, including collaborative problem-solving, ethical decision-making, cultural sensitivity, and community engagement.

These skills prepare students for successful careers, equipping them to tackle the complex challenges they will face in industry.

## Start your journey

For a comprehensive overview, explore our **website** and **Impact Report**.

With ready-made materials and a powerful learning community, the Design Challenge is highly valued by educators for its ease of implementation. Get started today to enhance your teaching practices.