How to Change the World
A unique professional training programme
WHAT IS HOW TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

How to Change the World (HtCtW) is a unique professional training programme, which equips rising engineering talent with the skills to develop creative and technically robust solutions to today’s global challenges and make positive social change.

The programme is run by UCL’s Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STEaPP). Since it was launched 2014, HtCtW has had over 2,000 participants, with high-profile global partners including UN Habitat; the World Bank; the Red Cross Climate Centre; the UK Department of Energy and Climate Change; Practical Action; the UK Department for Transport; Buffalo Grid; Pump Aid; and the Overseas Development Institute.

How is the programme structured?

Teams of participants are presented with a broad, open-ended societal challenge and then narrow their scope to produce a focused brief that engineering expertise can effectively address. Through interdisciplinary approaches and creative problem solving, they develop a range of ideas before presenting a final concept to a panel of expert practitioners.

Along the way, participants benefit from feedback and input from mentors from the international development community, policy makers and the private sector.

Tailored to your needs

HtCtW can be tailored to suit your organisation’s needs. UCL STEaPP offers programmes designed for a range of experience levels, from undergraduates through to early or mid-career engineers.

“Lots of great interaction with insightful leaders, putting us to the test to solve tough challenges, engaging beyond the technical side of engineering.”

Annelies Tjebbes, Community Impact Director, Engineers Without Borders
OUR OFFERING

There are three ways HtCtW can benefit your organisation. Please get in touch to discuss how we can provide a bespoke programme for you.

**Commission a programme**
HtCtW can be tailored to fit your students’ employees’ or members’ needs and skill levels – from a one-day workshop through to a two-week intensive programme.

We can help you develop a focused challenge, relevant to your own organisation’s interests and aims or provide a grand challenge to push participants to broaden their horizons.

**Run your own HtCtW programme**

We offer ‘train the trainer’ programmes, providing you with the programme content, presentations and templates to run your own HtCtW programme, with guidance and ongoing support from UCL STEaPP throughout the process.

**Become a challenge partner**

Pitch your business problem to us and find out how UCL engineering students would solve it, as part of our 2-week undergraduate version of ‘How to Change the World’.

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**Key skills and benefits**

Participants learn how to:

- Use their technical expertise to help solve grand societal challenges in a way that takes into account the complex social, economic and political context.
- Apply the tools and frameworks they learn to challenges they face ‘on the ground’, whether in public, private or third sectors.
- Develop skills to benefit their future job prospects, employers and society as a whole.
- Work with global industry and academic experts and benefit from direct feedback.
- Collaborate with a broad range of cross sectoral expertise.

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"The workshop provided an excellent illustration of why diversity in teams delivers better results – the ingenuity and creativity displayed by these international and interdisciplinary teams was outstanding."

Dr Hayaatun Sillem, Deputy CEO and Director of Strategy, Royal Academy of Engineering
UCL Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STEaPP)

The Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STEaPP) at UCL explores how scientific and engineering expertise can meaningfully engage with public decision-making and policy processes to tackle pressing global issues and improve public wellbeing.

STEaPP is a uniquely policy-oriented department which sits across three UCL faculties: the world class Faculty of Engineering, the Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment and the Faculty of Mathematical and Physical Sciences.

"The programme provides engineers with essential training in how to define the question at the heart of a brief and work on multidisciplinary projects. This approach to education is where the industry needs to go."

Keith Clarke CBE, Former CEO, Atkins

CONTACT US

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