

# Accord accreditation: Quality assurance and innovation in engineering education

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**ABSTRACT:** The basis of the International Engineering Alliance Accords is mutual recognition of substantial equivalence. This is validated through engagement with the accreditation systems of each Accord signatory, and their constituent institutional engineering programs. All signatories share a commitment to finding common ground for stakeholders to share engineering standards and practice through dialogues and exchange of views and to work together collaboratively. Our capacity to collaborate and maintain standards is being severely tested by the COVID pandemic.

This presentation will detail the quality assurance system of the Accords and analyze the way in which the signatories are now working together to identify new ways to collaborate and continue to share best practices and so continually improve international engineering accreditation standards, education and practice.

## **ABOUT THE SPEAKER:**

Elizabeth is Chair, Washington Accord, and Deputy Chair, Governing Group of the International Engineering Alliance. Her background is civil engineering and she has also completed a law degree. She spent 10 years in design and construction management before moving into academe, finishing her academic career as Pro Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean, Faculty of Sciences, Engineering and Health, CQ University. She is a consultant in asset management and education and Chair of SmartCrete (Concrete) Collaborative Research Centre.

Elizabeth has always engaged in diverse pro-bono work, particularly within Engineers Australia. Currently she is Chair of the Cambodian Children's Trust Australia and recently retired as Chair RedR Australia. She continues as Chair of RedR International.

In 2004 she was appointed an Officer of the Order of Australia. In 2018 she was UNSW Engineering Alumni of the Year and her work recognized with an Honorary Doctorate in Engineering. In 2019 she received the Pakistan Engineering Council Gold Medal for Engineering Excellence. Elizabeth is an Honorary Fellow of Engineers Australia, Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, Fellow, Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and recognized as one of Australia 100 most influential engineers.