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## **WFEO Co-Plenary - Engineering Programs in Lebanese Universities: Are they meeting the challenges of the 21st century?**

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## **Engineering Programs in Lebanese Universities: Are they meeting the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century?**

Globalization has tremendously influenced higher education all over the world. Engineering education is a field that has witnessed rapid changes because of new technology, mobility and the expanding markets in Asia and Africa. Lebanon has marked a significant growth in the number of engineering schools (the number of new programs tripled in the last decade) but there has not been any attempt to meet the needs of the market. The purpose of this paper is to stress on the general orientation of engineering programs in Lebanon and to explore to what extent they qualify the engineering graduates with the ability to face and solve problems and challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By reviewing the engineering curricula of 5 leading Lebanese universities, the study will demonstrate to what extent engineering competences and standards are met. In addition, a review of programs will assist in identifying the kind of training that students need to go through in order to internationally compete with graduates of universities worldwide.