

Morocco Section

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Getting Closer to Industry

- Smart City Expo activities Casablanca 2016
- Smart City Workshop, animated in December 2015 in Rabat, Morocco by a group of industry professionals
- Seminar animated by Dr. Anass Benjebour, from NTT DOCOMO, Japan Feb 2016, FST, Fez, Morocco
- Industrial tracks in conferences co-organized by IEEE Morocco Section; see conferences below.
- Some more initiatives could be undertaken to encourage industry actors in Morocco to be involved in Research & Development projects, especially with Morocco embarking in a national program to strengthen the regions. We should take advantage by getting involved in regional partnerships with Universities and industry to foster industry relations. Several members of IEEE Morocco section are involved in a regional network of Big Data researchers and teachers from the Universities of the region of Fes/Meknes/Ifrane in partnership with SAS and IBM Morocco. A regional Master in Big Data was launched and should start this year. IEEE Morocco Section should be involved more in this initiative and others.

Students and Young Professionals

- IEEE Awareness Caravan through Morocco, April-Mai 2016: Ifrane, Fes, Tetouan, Tangier, Rabat, Casablanca
- Section was involved in Innovation Week, ENSIAS, Rabat, May 9-14, 2016, including Training and Entrepreneurship Workshops
- E-week
- IEEE Xtreme Programming
- Morocco Section has benefited from the IEEE DL Program by inviting several IEEE Distinguished Lecturers to give talks in Moroccan universities:
- Prof. Fabrizio Granelli, Oct 2015: ENSEM, ENSIAS, Marrakech
- Prof. Tarik Taleb, Mar 2016: Casablanca, Rabat, Oujda
- Prof. Jalel Ben Othman ...
- Scientific Cafe, weekly meetings series were organized in 2015/16 by SB Tetouan
- Ongoing initiative on setting women's affinity group in Morocco
- Co-sponsoring of upcoming International Competition - Robotics and Computer Vision Challenge, for September 29-30, 2016, Marrakech
- Training / Certification planning for October 2016 in Tangier:
- BI & Big Data
- Generating Innovative Business Models
- Seminar by Dr. Abdellatif Kobbane in May 2016, ENSEM
- Co-organization/sponsoring of conferences; see conferences below.
- It is important for our section to continue the development of Student Branches in Moroccan universities by developing an awareness program throughout Morocco, introducing IEEE, membership advantages, events and competitions that can support students and young professionals.

Section Vitality

- A new Executive Committee of the Section was elected in January 2016
- Several meetings were held by the Executive Committee since then to decide on a few issues like sponsoring conferences, awareness and development of Student Branches, the status of the Section with respect to the Moroccan regulations.
- Creation of IEEE chapter/committees in Ibn Toufail University in Kenitra and Hassan II University in Casablanca. Student Branches are being set as well there and in Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane.
- Sponsoring and/or co-organization of several international conferences in Morocco:
- 2nd Int. Conf. Cloud Computing Technologies and Applications (CLOUDTECH'16), May 24-26, 2016, Marrakesh, Morocco
- Int. Conf. Wireless Networks and Mobile Communications (WINCOM'15), Oct 20-23, 2015, Marrakech, Morocco
- 10th Int. Conf. Intelligent Systems: Theories and Applications (SITA'15), Oct 20-21, 2015, ENSIAS, Rabat Morocco.
- 3rd Int. Renewable and Sustainable Energy Conf. (IRSEC'15), Dec 10-13, 2015, Ouarzazate, Morocco
- Several upcoming conferences are also sponsored: ICMCS'16, CiSt'16, WINCOM'16, SysCo'16, APEL'16, SITA'16, IRSEC'16...
- It is very important that IEEE Morocco Section gets involved and technically sponsors local conferences for more visibility and networking with researchers, professionals and students. That can help foster section vitality.

Miscellaneous / Recommendations / Feedback

- Planning of the 10th IEEE Morocco Section Founding Anniversary Celebration for October 23, 2016 (in conjunction with CiSt'16 in Asilah, Morocco)
- Launching of the first IEEE Morocco Section Awards Program on the occasion of its 10th anniversary.
- More avenues and possibilities, adapted to the Moroccan environment, need to be explored to encourage researchers and professionals' involvement in IEEE Morocco section, and to support students.