

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations? How are you going to continue to foster Industry Relations?

Oman Section has taken several initiatives in order to come closer to Industry. First of all, the Section has appointed an Ambassador for Industry (Afi) to maintain a link with Industry. The Afi officer is currently developing initiatives that should bring IEEE Oman closer to industry. Second of all, the industry was either involved in organizing events or invited to attend events. For example, members from industry were invited to attend seminars and tutorials on Big Data and IoT. In addition, members from industry are serving as officers in the Section. Third of all, the Section started a new initiative where the Section's Executive Committee meetings are hosted at Industry headquarters. Having these meetings at industry premises helps in prompting IEEE and disseminate awareness about its voluntary efforts.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Attracting and Supporting Future Members? How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?

From our experience, students and young professionals are attracted to technical events (e.g. Workshops and Tutorials), Competitions (e.g. Robotics), and student societies. Therefore, the Section has organized a number of technical events in very hot topics that are attractive to students and young professionals. In addition, the Section has organized and sponsored a number of national, regional, and International Robotic Competitions, since we find that students are very attracted to this field. In addition, the Section maintained and expanded its support to Student Branches at universities. The number of student branches is now 9, and we are expecting to create two new branches by the end of this year. In fact members of the student branches have organized a number of technical workshops that helped in promoting IEEE to students. Additionally, the membership development officers has made a number of visits to universities to promote IEEE to students.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?

The Section, Society chapters, and student branches have organized several events (Seminars and Workshops). The registration priority in these events were to IEEE members. This helps members to recognize the value of the membership. Also, reminders that sent annually to all members to renew their memberships.

What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Area Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa? How does your Section support IEEE Activities in Africa?

Currently, the Section does not have any programs for supporting in Africa.

What services and which kind of support would you expect for Region 8 and/or your section out of the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria? How has the existence of this office influenced your section since its inauguration last year?

The office can help in facilitating speakers from Europe to delivers talks and workshops in Oman. However, last year the office has not influenced the Section.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

With the encouragement of the Section, the Communication Society Chapter was created in Oman. Additionally, Women in Engineering Affinity Group was created last year.