Humanitarian Activities Subcommittee   **Alexandros Osana**

Goals

The Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee is responsible for raising awareness of the IEEE SIGHT program, overseeing and fostering the development of local SIGHT groups and providing development opportunities to members; Success within this operational unit is indicated by the formation of local SIGHT groups and the successful submission of project proposals to the steering committee (primary indicator); . A second metric of success is the impact of Humanitarian Technology projects to the local community in which they take place. That is also the reason why HuAC?s activity must receive continuous attention also from other IEEE units; In order to serve its purpose (according to the primary indicator) the Committee is dealing with 3 Sub Missions: The outreach of the SIGHT program, the communication with the existing groups and the internal committee operations. Specific goals were assigned to three unit leaders so as to achieve a wider range of activities, measurable by the deliverables of each task.

Status

The committee leadership has prioritized three axis of activity: Outreach, Communication with existing groups and Operations and Strategic planning. Outreach Group:

- The outreach team has invested a tremendous effort is formulating a strategy to increase awareness of the SIGHT program within R8.
- The team has developed a concise Market Approach Plan, examining the opportunities within the region and proposing a strategy for exploitation.
- A special communication channel has been developed for the collaboration with the SIGHT steering committee Outreach officers, to increase effectiveness of the outreach effort globally.
- A new collaboration with the Young Professionals Committee has been agreed and the two committees are currently in he process of establishing an implementation strategy on how to engage YPs in SIGHT activities.
- The LinkedIn and Facebook Groups of HuAC are now fully Operational, with weekly posts and activities involving existing SIGHT group members and other IEEE volunteers. In the same context, new digital promotional material has been developed.
- A new social media record was achieved with more than 2000 likes reached. Delivered many presentations about SIGHT R8, in Tunisia by Alex, Jordan by Ruba and Nigeria by John.

Communication with existing SIGHT groups: The communications team is establishing contact with the existing groups, to monitor their activities and assist them with their operational or other problems

- New groups in R8 are offered guidance through an introductory email upon establishment. A new R8 SIGHT activity document has been developed as a database to monitor group activity updates.

Operations group: The operations team has been tasked to provide the documentation and material required for the operation of the other two groups, as well as the management of shared documentation, TelCo management and preparation and minutes.

- The team has been planning the Committees strategy and presence in regional events, such as central European SYP, the Middle East SYP, the Jordan SYP, the Tunisian SYP and the Africa SYP. A presentation has been given to all those events.
- A unit of the operations group is dedicated to examine SIGHT project proposals and assist groups in their preparation. This unit operates in close collaboration with the Steering committee.
- Many new groups were established and many are waiting for the approval (the groups are attached in the excel sheet).
- The team is also examining/trying to develop special humanitarian programs for areas with low memberships such as Africa.

Notes: SIGHT is a program that can contribute significantly in IEEE membership development, since SIGHT groups are consisted from both IEEE members and non-members. Thus, IEEE?s name and culture is promoted through these activities as well as the community impact there is.

Outlook

Our development Model is:

1) Increase awareness of the SIGHT program and the funding opportunities and thus increase the number of groups and project within Region 8. To that direction, we aim to:
   - Work on developing the recently established collaboration with the Young Professionals and aim for collaborations with other IEEE Committees, such as SAC.
   - Seek a collaboration with the the Society SIGHT Groups.? Examine the evolution of existing and successful EPICS-in-IEEE programs to SIGHT initiatives in order to qualify for funding to complete more ambitious tasks. Establish a network of SIGHT ambassador?s in every country, to promote the humanitarian activity in the section.
   - Participate in IEEE summits in the region and to conduct workshops on how to form and run a SIGHT group Increase awareness of the SIGHT program within industry, by means of close collaboration with section, chapter and affinity group partnerships and Young Professionals who work in industry.

2) Actively support the existing groups to reach their goals and accomplish their projects
   - On a group basis, we plan to decide a semester report of the group to monitor the progress of their work. Having in mind that experienced SIGHT groups can mentor newly established groups, the HuAC is willing to foster the necessary environment for to make this mentoring effective.
   - Have a group or a platform for the R8 SIGHT groups to interact and share experiences on.
   - Initiate a competition for the best SIGHT Group in Region 8.

Points of Concern

In order for HuAC to achieve the above goals and implement the given plan, it is required:

- Financial Support to HuAC members to participate in a limited number of events within the region in order to establish healthy SIGHT groups and spread awareness of the nature of this noble IEEE program;
- Collaboration for Promotion of the SIGHT initiative via publicity channels and section chapter chairs, in order to raise awareness of potential programs to pursue;
- A monitoring system of regional SIGHT activity is examined, since until today all the groups report only to the Steering Committee.
- The participation in the Global SIGHT chairs meeting in San Jose must be partially supported by each Region.
- The length of the approval process for the new SIGHT groups.

Other Issues to report

The flexibility to change team members who aren't active/responsive