

Sigma: **the IEEE magazine for Region 8**

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Matibabu wins the 2018 Africa Prize

A 24-year-old Ugandan software engineer has won the Africa Prize for Engineering Innovation. Brian Gitta is the first Ugandan to win the prestigious Africa Prize, and the youngest winner to date.

Gitta and his team developed **Matibabu**, a device which tests for malaria without drawing blood. Matibabu, which means 'medical centre' in Swahili, is a low-cost, reusable device that clips onto a patient's finger, requiring no specialist expertise to operate. The results are available within one minute on a mobile phone that is linked to the device.

The team win the first prize of £25,000. At an awards ceremony in Nairobi, Kenya on 13 June 2018, four finalists from across sub-Saharan Africa delivered presentations, before Africa Prize judges and a live audience voted for the most promising engineering innovation.

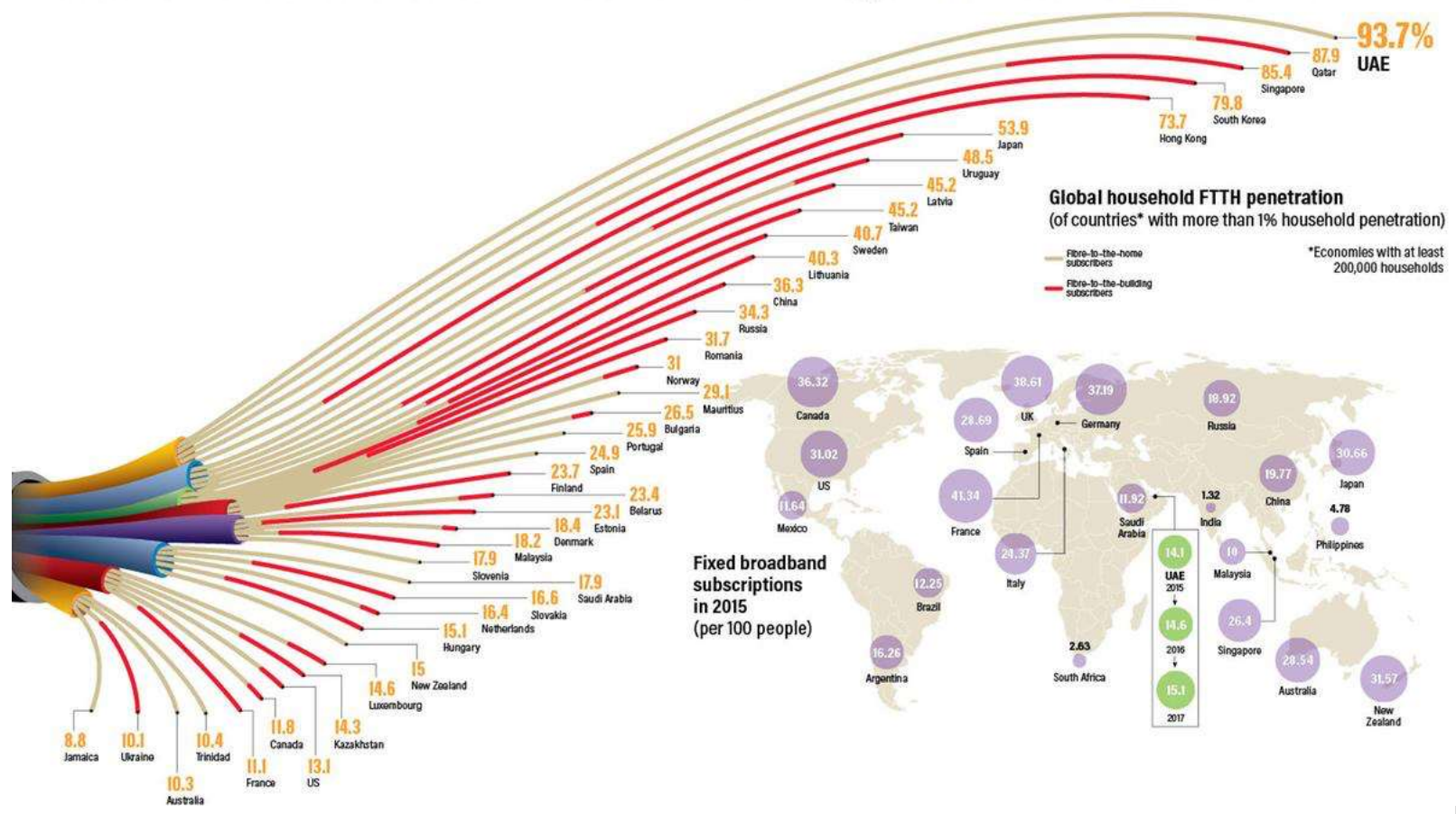


Africa Prize judge Rebecca Enonchong presents Ugandan Brian Gitta of Matibabu with the Africa Prize winner's medal

The Royal Academy of Engineering

How the UAE leads the world in high-speed broadband

Broadband internet is seen as critical to the transition to knowledge-intensive economies across the world



The National

Where are all the female engineers?

Almost as many girls as boys now take GCSE physics but at A-level nearly half of all classes are 100 per cent male



Britain has the lowest percentage of female engineers in Europe: a truly shocking 8.5 per cent. In Sweden, that figure is 25 per cent, in Italy, France and Norway, it's 20 per cent. Still not good enough, but on the right track.

Last week, Crossrail – Europe's largest engineering project – hosted Engineer Your Future, a programme designed to promote engineering as a career for girls. Crossrail pointed out that with mammoth projects like HS2 and Thames Tideway underway, there is a chronic shortage of engineers.

Britain needs to double the number of engineering graduates to 87,000 a year to meet future demand. However, half of all state schools do not currently send a single girl on to university to study maths or sciences. Crossrail itself has worked with more than 100 schools to try to do something about this gaping skills shortage.



The Independent

World's biggest floating solar farm powers up outside London



▲ Construction of Europe's largest floating solar panel array is underway on London's Queen Elizabeth II reservoir.
Photograph: Martin Godwin for the Guardian

Five years in planning and due to be finished in early March, more than 23,000 solar panels will be floated on the Queen Elizabeth II reservoir near Heathrow and used to generate power for local water treatment plants

The Guardian

Objective

*To create a technical publication that is a **celebration** of the **people, technology, projects** and **achievements** within IEEE Region 8*

Content

- ❖ In-depth interviews with technological innovators/ leaders
- ❖ Reporting on big/ important technological projects
- ❖ Opinion pieces on topical issues
- ❖ Innovations in countries or sub-regions within R8
- ❖ Reporting on achievements by individuals or groups
- ❖ Students and YP voice

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Uganda Healthcare
Technology Award

FLOATING SOLAR ENERGY
Europe's largest

region 8
IEEE



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Σ igma

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UAE LEADS THE WAY
Fastest broadband on the planet

FEMALE MINORITY?
Calling all female engineers

region 8
IEEE



Next steps

- ❖ Initial conversations with IEEE Pubs
- ❖ Establishing initial editorial board
- ❖ Preparing Sigma as an IEEE publication
- ❖ Costings/ budget
- ❖ Sponsorship possibilities
- ❖ Preliminary timeline/ content
- ❖ Format (paper/online) & Frequency
- ❖ R8 communications = R8 News + R8 Today (online) + Sigma + R8 Web