

Cyprus Section

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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?

The IEEE Cyprus Section supports the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8 in order to rejuvenate IEEE's involvement with the industry and develop strong working partnerships between IEEE and industry. The IEEE Cyprus Section in 2018 has implemented the MOU agreements for internship programs with 10 big companies from the telecom, energy and computer sectors and has secured 50 internship positions for our student and YP members. The IEEE Cyprus Section participated in the following industry events:

- Co-organizer of the "Smart City - Opportunities and Prospects" workshop (Feb. 2018) that saw the participation of major industrial partners and local authorities
- Participation in the CYTA Smart City CrowdHackathon (Feb. 2018).
- Co-organizer of the "Innovation in the era of digital economy" workshop (Oct. 2018).

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?

The IEEE Cyprus Section will continue sponsoring events, activities, competitions and seminars, related to new technologies and other issues that are for the interest of the students, organized by the student branches in cooperation with their universities. The implementation of internship and mentoring programs through the Action for Industry Initiative will provide value to students and young professionals. Through the internships they will be able to acquire working experience and opportunities for future employment. We have appointed the outgoing Chair of our very successful University of Cyprus Student Branch as the Student Branches coordinator to stimulate all Student Branches to further upgrade their activities. The seminars organized frequently by the University of Cyprus Student Branch are especially successful for student recruitment.

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?

Since vitality is one of the three focus areas of Region 8, it is also of high priority for the IEEE Cyprus Section. For the next period we are planning the following activities:

- Finalize the Legal Registration of the IEEE Cyprus Section
- Update our website <http://ieee.org.cy/>
- Keep metrics related to membership development. Contact deactivated members and ask them to renew.
- Motivate members to apply for Senior Membership.
- Further enhance the collaboration between SBs
- Organize seminars and workshops for our members.
- Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) : organize workshops in high schools
- Continue supporting the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative.
- Encourage the chapters that are not so active to organize more activities : a Chapters Coordinator has been appointed.

Note that the IEEE Cyprus Section has been recognized in July 2018 that it has met its recruitment and retention goals for 2018.

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

There are several conferences on electrical and electronic engineering and information technology organized in Europe. The IEEE R8 could sponsor the participation of students and young professionals from Africa to these events. The IEEE R8 could also provide support and training to volunteers from Africa in order to coordinate activities and organize events in Africa. Furthermore, professors and industry experts from other areas can be encouraged and sponsored to participate in IEEE events that will be organized in Africa. Due to its proximity, the IEEE Cyprus Section is willing to help the activities of African sections.

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 staff of IEEE Office in Vienna could implement regional activities and strategic initiatives and objectives of the R8. For example, it will be very useful for the whole IEEE R8 if the IEEE Office in Vienna could provide professional support for the organization of conferences and other events in the region.

Outstanding new initiatives

2018 marked the 25th anniversary of the IEEE Cyprus Section which was celebrated through a special event.