

## Finland 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?**

Today academic members of IEEE gain a lot from their IEEE membership but IEEE, as a whole, should be able to serve its industrial members better by creating higher value for them especially. The Finland Section has chosen two focus themes for the year 2019 and 'value for industry' is one of them. Firstly, we are closely engaged with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative and through our Section Industry Ambassadors. Secondly, we require a 'value for industry' plan from all activities (conferences, seminars etc.) that we provide support for. For conferences especially, we require a technical exhibition, invited keynote speakers from industry, or other means of concrete involvement of industrial members. Over the past two years the number of industrial contacts has increased substantially within the Finland Section.

**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?**

Even though we have been actively looking for new ways to provide value to our membership base, meetings, seminars and conferences seem to be the most effective way to do that. Finland Section actively engages and supports events that are of high quality and in the field relevant to our current and future members. Promotion of IEEE membership and value of becoming a member works relatively well especially for regular members. As for increasing the number of student and young professionals members, we have revitalized our local activities in the section and managed to engage dozens of new young professionals, in particular, through the active engagement with them. We also encourage our technical chapters to level up their activities. Over the past year, these activities have been particularly worthwhile.

**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?**

Finland Section is seeking to engage in collaborative relations with other societies with similar focus. One example of such activity is the collaboration with the local branch of the Institute of Physics (IOP) with whom we organized two joint seminars in 2018 and plan to continue our successful collaboration also in the future. Finland Section is also supporting its Technical Chapters to collaborate with their counterparts in other Section in the Nordics. For instance, in 2017, Chapters of the IEEE/EPS society merged together to form a Nordics-wide joint chapter and now they organize together a technical conference exhibition NordPac that is traveling from one destination to another within the Nordic states. The IEEE/Educational Society followed the same model of establishing a pad-Nordic chapter in 2018.

Finland Section also seeks to engage new members by inviting them to events and to participate in volunteering activities. We support our less active technical chapters to initiate new activities and encourage the more active ones to expand their activities and make them visible beyond the current members in the hopes to engage new people and new members. We have been quite successful in engaging new members but this activity should be made continuous.

**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?**

The existing activities among the different Sections in Region 8 are a good benchmark. Similar models/ideas that work in Europe and Middle-East may work in Africa as well.

**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?**

Finland Section has so far not been engaged with the Vienna ofce. We would need to understand better how Vienna ofce can support our local activities.

**Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.**

Revitalization of YP activities in Finland should be considered as a Special Achievement.