

Saudi Arabia (East) 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 section appointed an industrial relation officer that is required to provide leadership necessary to build relationships between the section and local employers of electrical or computer engineers. He will also work with industry to establish an understanding of their needs and demonstrates that the IEEE can help address their needs. Identifies ways to recognize industry for technical or professional achievements relevant to the IEEE. The section is also in the process of preparing sponsorship packages for the industry to engage them to the section's activities. Many speakers are also invited from the industry to deliver technical seminars and presentations.

We will keep working to improve the level of collaboration through the following actions,

- Inviting industry representatives to IEEE meetings;
- Visiting industrial organizations and promoting IEEE;
- Collaborating with industry in organizing technical seminars;
- Contacting industrial organizations to sponsor technical dinner meetings.

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 main goal in 2018 was to increase the number of activities within the section on both levels, students and professionals. The increase in activities will naturally increase the number of memberships. The section organized more than 50 events last year attended by more than 2000 members and guests. A Student Coordinator was appointed to coordinate activities of various student branches within the Kingdom. The section is also planning to keep organizing high quality events and big initiatives within the section in 2019.

The section will also keep implementing the following tasks,

- The section organized the 1st SYP GCC in the region with the help of student branches and YPs in the region.
- Officers will visit several universities and introduce IEEE benefits.
- Several events will be sponsored at different student branches around the kingdom.

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 is planning to create a long term plan for all activities and conferences and create a step-by-step planning criteria to be followed by all society chapters and student branches.

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?

More collaboration between the sections in Africa and Middle East is needed in terms of competitions and joint workshops.

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?

We need legal services and support from the office of Vienna.

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

More than 50 events were organized in 2018 attended by more than 2000 members and guests. 4 technical sponsored conferences will be organized within the section in 2019. New initiatives will be also planned for YP and WIE within the section.