

Serbia & Montenegro 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?

Attracting more interest from the Industry towards the activities of IEEE has been in the focus of the Section in the recent years. In order to encourage the partners from the Industry to assume more prominent role in the IEEE, their benefits need to be reconsidered and novel services need to be established and offered to Industry partner. The global IEEE community (including Regions and Sections) needs to utilize and promote concept of knowledge-based production offering accumulated knowledge and experiences to the Industry partners. The modern Industry is facing with numerous challenges such as: innovative projects (product, service or process), projects with many uncertainties, complex projects, multidisciplinary teams, multicultural, multi-site etc., and it is very demanding to increase (or even just keep) productivity. Agile methodology and concepts, (developed by IEEE in close cooperation with Industry partner) can answer these industrial challenges and should be offered to all industry sectors - from innovative services to heavy industries.

Section supported and will continue to support projects with the topic of Industry (particularly Industry 4.0) and digitalization, trying to bridge the gap between the technical knowledge and applicable solutions. In that regard, the Section has supported numerous activities organized at the national and international conferences that have included a significant number of representatives from the leading companies within the region. In 2019 one of the key event for Section is EUROCON 2019 conference, which will be organized from 1st to 4th July in Novi Sad. In order to make conference more attractive and to improve cooperation with Industry - during the conference Industry Panel Session and Exhibition will be organized with prominent companies (such as Continental AG, Schneider Electric DMS NS, Typhoon HIL, IGB Automotive?). This event will offer the opportunity for the Companies to voice their needs and requirements, among the other benefits (recognition, new products and services presentation, attracting new employees?).

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?

Different activities and events aimed at promoting IEEE membership benefits are constantly organizing in the Section. As for example, the Section is always organizing joint membership renewal process (constantly keeping track of the statistics and encouraging the individual institutions to improve membership development activities), campaign for new members (organized at main University centers in a duration of several weeks), presenting benefits of IEEE membership at all conference/events where the Section is involved. As the result of these activities the Serbia and Montenegro Section has been awarded with Gold medal for 2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance.

To better attract and support future members, new services should be established offering an additional value to the current and future IEEE members. Currently, one of the most attractive service of the IEEE is the IEEEExplore, which is usually unavailable to the student and young professional members. Additionally, following the new trends more interactive content should be made available on all IEEE related websites. However, increased availability and clarity of the information is necessary within the Section especially for the Section Chapters.

The Section will continue to support Student Branches within their activities as well as YP Affinity Group with all necessary logistic and financial support. The Section (and IEEE in general) should recognize and make use of the potential in student and young professional members, helping them transition into future Industry leaders, while simultaneously facilitating their interest for IEEE activities.

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?

In order to drive the vitality and sustainability of the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section special attention is given to definition and adoption of the plan and budget for the yearly Section activities. The Section has a formal process for these activities.

Section officers maintain good relationship with organizing committees for different national and international conferences, organizing IEEE section presentations and various events at the respective conference venues.

IEEE S&M Section web page (<http://www.ieee.uns.ac.rs?r>) is updating regularly and contains all the necessary information required by the perspective members or other visitors. The information regarding every event sponsored or supported by IEEE S&M Section is available online at the Section website.

The Section has recognized that the recruitment of the membership is one of the most important condition for the section vitality. In that regard, the Section officers maintain extraordinary efforts in attracting new members and offering interesting new activities for all interested parties.

For running the Section activities vTools are regularly used (reporting, nominations for leadership roles, officer's election). Additionally, the Section nominated the Chapter Coordinator whose (in cooperation with Sections officers) continuously review meeting reporting on vTools and contact volunteers to update if necessary.

Additionally, the Section has very active base of 'regular' members, vigorously operating through a number of different chapters in order to organize different technical meetings, events and distinguished lectures with the aim to provide the additional value to the members for professional development. Since the last Region 8 meeting, the Section was organized workshop entitled 'Tools and techniques for Cost and Time Management in Project Management?', lectured by Amith Khandakar.

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?

IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section together with Section officers are more than willing to take part in any activities created by the Region 8 and aimed at fostering the IEEE in Africa.

The Section can offer the experience in membership development within the low income economies, as well as a good practice example for professional cooperation among the territories and countries with difficult and demanding political and ethnical situation.

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 Section members are firmly convinced that IEEE Office in Vienna is beneficial to all IEEE Region 8 members, however more information?s about offered services and achieved results needs to be easy available to all members. Additionally, the information and the dissemination of the Office activities so far are not easily found online and in those available, there are so many general claims without clear indications of the achieved results (for example: Vienna Office: ?help shape public policy in Europe for the benefit of the profession and humanity?. This general claim must be accomplished with concrete activities and result.)

Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

The most important recent event for the IEEE Serbia & Montenegro Section was the 111th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting, which was held successfully in Belgrade, on October 19-21, 2018. The Section hosted this meeting and was in charge of the local organization of the event.