



Region 8 Women in Engineering

IEEE R8 Autumn Committee Meeting

Ana Cigarán Romero

Chair IEEE R8 WIE Subcommittee



R8 WIE Committee



Chair
Ana Cigarán Romero
Germany



Past Chair
Youmna El Bitar
Lebanon



Member
Maria-Alexandra Paun
Switzerland



Member
Hzar Oqlah
Jordan

R8 WIE Committee



Member
Ilhem Kallel
Tunisia



Member
Philippa Ngaju Makobore
Uganda



Corresponding Member
Almedin Kavas
Bosnia and Herzegovina



Corresponding Member
Wafa Ben Hmida
Tunisia

Our main drivers for WIE in R8

- VITALITY
- AWARENESS & PRESENCE
- ENGAGEMENT
- ACTIVE PARTICIPATION
- DIRECT & CONTINUOUS CONTACT
- COOPERATION & SYNERGIES



Achievements during the period March–October 2019

VITALITY:

- Update of the roster of WIE AGs
- Verification of the vitality of existing WIE AGs, including the contact to sections with no WIE AGs.
- NEW AGs: **3 WIE Section AGs and 6 SB AGs formed**

AWARENESS, PRESENCE, ACTIVE PARTICIPATION:
Participation in R8 flagship events with an active role

ENGAGEMENT: Encouraging IEEE Conferences in R8 to have women in a relevant role



Achievements during the period March–October 2019

DIRECT & CONTINUOUS CONTACT TO MEMBERS:

- **Support to WIE R8 ILS hosts**
- Definition of clear and transparent selection criteria of the R8 WIE Awards and of the Clementina Saduwa Award.

COOPERATION AND SYNERGIES:

- Cooperation with R8 YPs, R8 AFI and R8 HuA SCs using the model of corresponding membership
- Successful pilot project of combined sessions of IEEE R8 WIE and YPs (in EUROCON and IEEE R8 CEuSYP)
- Stronger collaboration with MGA WIE and with Societies (specially ComSoc)

WIE statistics report

IEEE Region 8 Women in Engineering Statistics, Year 2019



WIE AGs in
Region 8

163



WIE Section AGs

42



WIE Student AGs

121



WIE Section AGs
Formed in 2019

3



WIE Student AGs
Formed in 2019

6

WIE activities/initiatives planned (I)

- **Help with the organization of upcoming WIE ILS and R8 SYP, stimulating attendance and making sure that the attendees will spread the word about WIE**
- **Combined sessions in IEEE flagship conferences/ events between IEEE R8 WIE and YPs in 2020**
- Common **initiative with the IEEE R8 HuAc SC to identify the reasons of lack of leadership opportunities of women engineers in the Middle East and Africa** and, by this, set a program to support women engineers

WIE activities/initiatives planned (II)

- **Revitalize dormant AGs**, find out what our members expectations and needs are, create programs that better serve the needs of our members
- **Identify women leaders in STEM** and create a new program and award to encourage leaders in Technology, and rank them as experts or models to other IEEE Women in technology

WIE activities/initiatives planned (III)

- Establish an **efficient communication platform** to support existing WIE AGs and guide the people who would like to create a new WIE AG.
- How? Via:
 - Regular webinars to reach out members/chairs of WIE AGs
 - A survey to establish communication channels and find out about expectations of members
- Propose a **new program to develop in young girls**, during their first education life, the mind of engineer and guide their tendencies towards engineering passion and studies

Proposals for improvements

- WIE ILS R8:
 - Ensure a higher number of participants for next year and more variety in the provenance of speakers.
 - Involve WIE R8 since the very beginning in the ILS process (currently fully centralized by MGA WIE)
- Establish a guide including criteria for the nomination of awards to increase the clarify for IEEE members wanting to apply
- Increase the number of women participating in conferences (e.g. in this years IEEE 5G World Forum, women accounted for less than 5% of the participants!)

Participation of IEEE WIE R8 in events 2019 and forecast for 2020

List of events for 2019

Date	Event	Place	Status
16.-17.03.2019	IEEE R8 Committee Meeting	La Valleta, Malta	<i>Event already took place and WIE R8 participated personally in the event)</i>
23.- 24. 03.2019	MGA WIE Face to Face Meeting	Lissabon	
15.- 18. 04.2019	IEEE 5th World Forum IoT	Limerick, Ireland	
20.- 22.04.2019	Women Forum (10th IEEE GCC)	Kuwait	
01.- 04.07.2019	EUROCON 2019 + CEuSYP	Novi Sad	
25.- 27.07.2019	IEEE WIE ILS Portugal	Porto	
20.-23.08.2019	IEEE PowerAfrica Conference	Abuja, Nigeria	
18.-19.09.2019	IEEE WESYP	Glasgow	
30.09.- 02.10.2019	IEEE 5G World Forum	Dresden	<i>Planned participation of WIE R8</i>
12.-13.10.2019	IEEE R8 Committee Meeting	Valencia	
25.-27.10.2019	IEEE Nordic SYP	Stockholm/ Helsinki	
08.-10.11.2019	IEEE Hellenic SYP	Xanthi, Greece	

Forecast of events for 2020

Date	Event	Place
TBC	MELECON 2020	Palermo, Italy
13-16 April 2020	ENERGYCON 2020	Gammarth, Tunisia
25-28 Oct 2020	2020 IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies Europe (ISGT Europe)	Delft, The Netherlands
21-23 August	IEEE R8 SYP	Goeteborg, Sweden
9 - 11 March 2020	2020 German Microwave Conference (GeMiC)	Cottbus
13-18September	23rd European Microwave week	Utrecht, The Netherlands
7- 9 September	2020 International Conference on Smart Energy Systems and Technologies (SEST)	Istanbul, Turkey

Questions?

Back-up

WIE statistics report

Total Number of R8 WIE Affinity Groups: 163

- **WIE Section Affinity Groups: 42**
 - **Three WIE Section AGs were formed in 2019:**
 - Denmark, Greece and Uganda
- **WIE Student Affinity Groups: 121.**
 - **Six Student AGs were formed in 2019:**
 1. Al-Huson University College
 2. Alexandrio TEI of Thessaloniki
 3. Jomo Kenyatta Univ of Agriculture & Tech
 4. Beykent University
 5. Lebanese American Univ
 6. Enugu State University of Science & Technology

Points of concern

- Due to the large number of WIE Section and Student AGs, effective ways of establishing connection and most importantly keeping the exchange going regularly is a challenge for the limited number of WIE Subcommittee members
- WIE AGs do not have sources for funding within Region 8. The only funding is an amount of 300 USD that should be requested from MGA 3 months prior to the event
- There is no support for WIE AG representatives to attend events such as the SYP or other conferences
- Means of involving WIE officers in various trainings, especially with the lack of funding
- While exchanging views with people from industry in this year's events, whereas men seem to be indifferent, women are generally very enthusiastic about supporting other women.