



# 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 world 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	
12.-13.10.2019	IEEE R8 Committee Meeting	Valencia	<i>Planned participation of WIE R8</i>
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.