

IEEE Region 8 Technical Activities

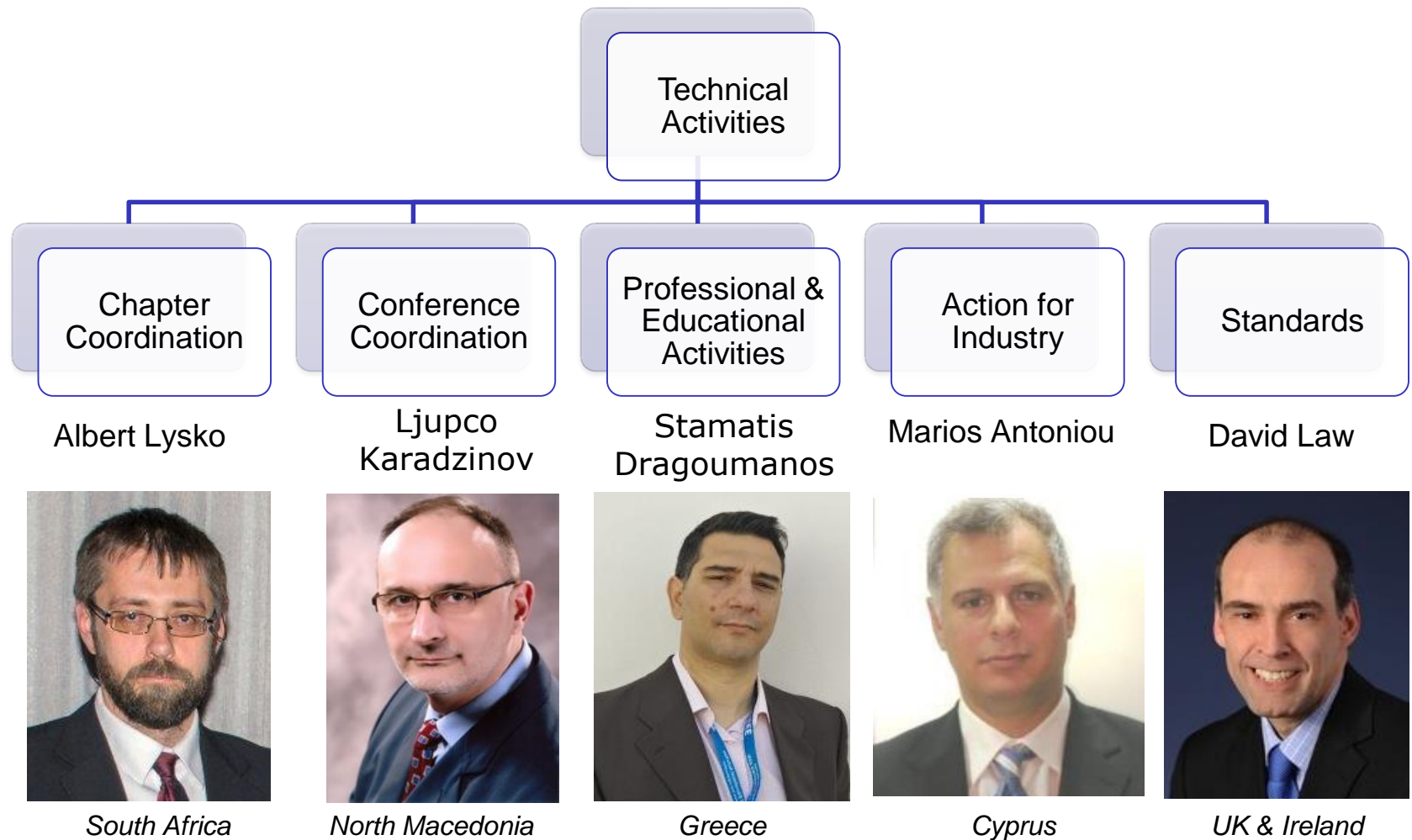
Valencia, 12-13 October 2019



Sohaib Sheikh

R8 Vice Chair Technical Activities

sohaibqamer@ieee.org



Technical Activities – 2019 Focus

Focus on **benefits** for our members

Efficient and coordinated management

Revitalization of Inactive programs/sub-committee

Increased Collaboration between SCs, with Boards and with Sections

Opportunities for Sections

PEASC Speakers Program

- Personal Skills
 - Influence Skills
 - Relationship Skills
 - Product Skills
 - Program and Project Management Skills
 - Writing Skills
 - Oral Skills
 - Employment
 - Entrepreneurship
 - Disruptive technology
- Website: <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/professional-and-educational-activities/programs-professional-and-educational-activities/pea-speakers-program/>



IEEE **region8** WEEK

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The Call got **100+** applications to be Ambassadors about 10% were not members

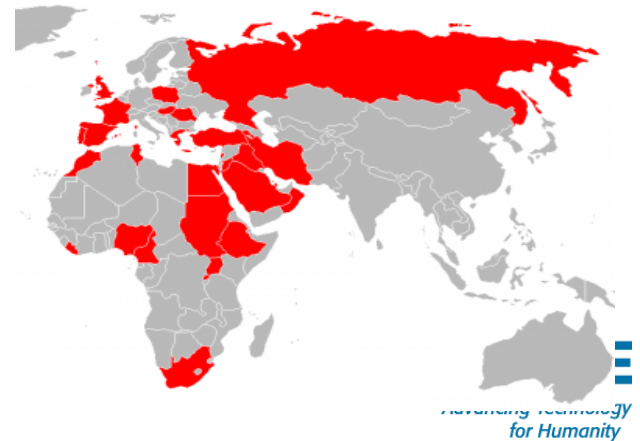
(which indicate the potentiality of this programs to explore new segment also supporting 90% which are already members)

56 Ambassadors from **35** Sections selected

Support your Ambassadors! This November

Waiting for **more sections** to engage on **2020**

Website: <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/professional-and-educational-activities/programs-professional-and-educational-activities/entrepreneurship-week/>



Region 8 Internships



CALL FOR INTERNSHIP

ACTION FOR INDUSTRY

NOKIA

Position: Innovation Hub Associate

Location: Morocco

Apply: mohamed.amin@ieee.org

Internship Duration: -

Financial Support: Paid

region 8 IEEE

- <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/action-for-industry/internships-offered/>

Standards Speakers and Events

- Speakers for:
 - Section Events
 - Conferences
 - Student Branch Events
- Complete standards track for:
 - Conference
 - Student and YP Congresses
- Website: <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/standards-coordination/>

Diverse Conference Programs



IEEE GCIoT 2019, Dubai, UAE, 4–7 December 2019

<https://gciot.org>

Academic Track

Government Track

Industry Track

Industry Summit (1 day)

Business and Networking
Forum (1 day)

Industry Track
programme (3 days)

Industry Exhibition (3
days)

Leaders and
Practitioners

Leaders, Practitioners,
Entrepreneurs, YPs and
Researchers

Researchers, Students

Entrepreneurs

Chapter Coordination Sub-Committee

Chapter Coordination subcommittee (ChCsC) - Team Members (1)



Albert Lysko

(South Africa)
Chair



Matej Zajc

(Slovenia)
Member



Sarra Ben Rabii

(Tunisia)
**Student Chapters
coordinator & liaison to R8
SAC**

PLUS

Corresponding members: All Division Directors and
Society/Council Presidents from Region 8

Chapter Coordination subcommittee (ChCsC) - Team Members (2)

All Division Directors and Society/Council Presidents from Region 8 have been invited to be **Corresponding members** in ChCsC:

Division Directors

Division III: **Sergio Benedetto**

Division VI: **Manuel Castro**

Division VII: **Bruno Meyer**

Society / Council Presidents

IEEE Computer Society: **Cecilia Metra**

IEEE Dielectrics and Electrical Insulation Society: **Reimund Gerhard**

IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society: **Paolo Gamba**

IEEE Industry Applications Society: **Georges Zissis**

IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society: **Miguel Angel Sotelo Vazquez**

IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society: **Dominique Schreurs**

IEEE Power Electronics Society: **Frede Blaabjerg**

IEEE Robotics and Automation Society: **Wolfram Burgard**

IEEE Signal Processing Society: **Ali H Sayed**

IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society: **Bram Nauta**

IEEE Council on Electronic Design Automation: **David Atienza**

Chapter Coordination subcommittee (ChCsC)- KPIs

Goals	Progress
1. Getting identity and creating better relationships with Societies / Councils for two-way transfer of information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Got participation & information • Workshop with MD • Ongoing
2. Getting identity with, understanding current state of, and helping R8 Sections, Chapters and Student Chapters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about current status of Chapters in R8 is collected and analyzed, incl. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 x questionnaires, OU Analytics, vTools • Good web presence incl. FAQ answered • Chapter awards
3. Collecting, sharing and promoting best practices and information relevant to starting, revitalising and running successful Chapters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best practices guide is being prepared • eNotices with portions of the information have been drafted and are being scheduled for distribution to Chapter and Section Chairs

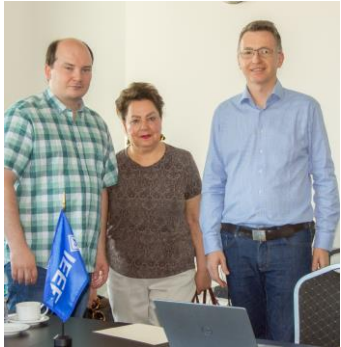
Plan for the rest of 2019 and for 2020

- Continue addressing our Goals through existing activities, e.g.
 - Co-work with Societies on supporting Chapters
 - Support Chapter **election** process
 - Share information on **potential** Chapters
 - Share information on **inactive** Chapters
 - **Share** other important information with Chapters and Section Chairs and Society representatives
 - Complete **Best Practices Guide**
 - Run a wider ChCsC **workshop** in the next R8 meeting
 - Learn from the best Societies their **recipes for success**
- Seek more possibilities for improvements

1st IEEE Region8 Volunteer Training workshop Vilnius, 21-22 June 2019

Highlights from *Chapter Chair training*

- Organized together with IEEE R8 MD subcommittee
- 15 participants: Ukraine, Lithuania, Latvia, and Hungary
- Trainers: Matej Zajc (ChCsC) & Ievgen Pichkalov (MD)
- Questionnaire
- Very positive feedback from the participants!



More (updated) info on our web pages

<https://ieeer8.org/> → Technical Activities → Chapter Coordination

The image displays three overlapping browser windows, each showing a different platform related to IEEE Region 8. The top-left window shows the IEEE Region 8 website (<https://ieeer8.org/>), which lists the Chair Albert Lysko and various members. The middle window shows the IEEE Region 8 Chapters Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/IEEERegion8Chapters>), featuring a profile picture with the IEEE Region 8 logo and a post about the 2019 IEEE Region 8 Chapter Coordination Subcommittee. The right window shows the IEEE Region 8 Chapters Twitter profile (<https://twitter.com/ieeer8chapters>), which includes a bio, a profile picture with the IEEE Region 8 logo, and a tweet about the 2019 EAB Awards and Recognition Committee. Green arrows point from the text above to the respective sections of each window.



<https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/chapter-coordination/>
<https://www.facebook.com/IEEERegion8Chapters>
<https://twitter.com/ieeer8chapters>



Chapter leadership election time?

A reminder to the Section Chairs that the Chapter leadership elections may need to be held (depending on necessity)

More information/templates will be provided by email in the coming week

Basic stats on R8 Chapters now

	WorldWide	R 8
IEEE members	394351	70744
Society members	206570	41753
Sections	340	59
SubSections	77	10
Chapters	2510	601
SBC	2514	378

Current potential:

246 new chapters / 295 new joint chapters

New Chapters & SBCs already formed in 2019: 46 i.e. **16 Chapters + 30 SBCs**

Prognosis for 2019:

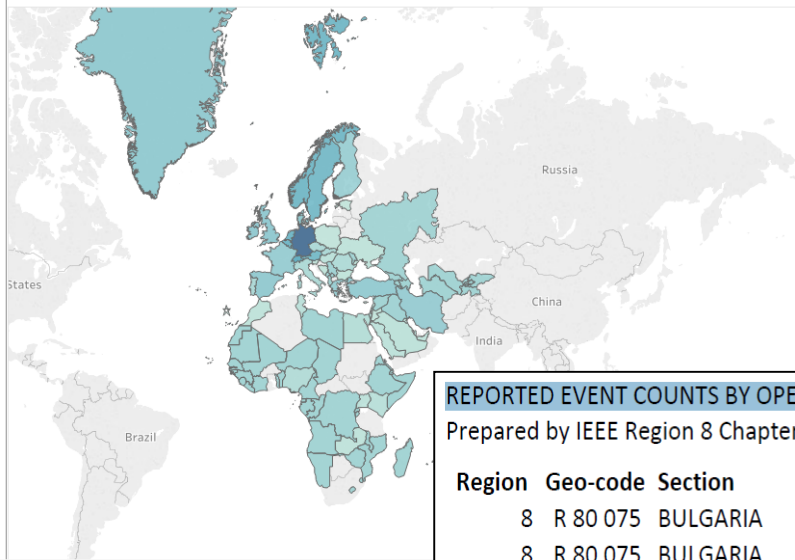
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NB! 10 chapters are slated for **dissolution this November** (in MGA Board meeting), unless action is taken (11 more were slated but already took action).

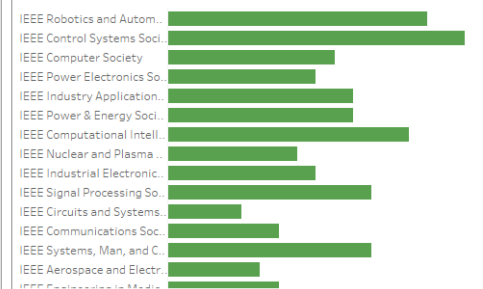
NB! More than half of these 10 chapters do not have leadership in vTools

Report 1: Potential new Chapters in R8 now: 246+ new Chapters possible

Analysis by Section



Chapter Opportunities by Society



Members by Section/Grade



Report 2: Reported Event Counts by Operating Units Each Year (2015 – 2019) for IEEE Region 8

REPORTED EVENT COUNTS BY OPERATING UNITS EACH YEAR FOR IEEE R8

12/10/2019

Prepared by IEEE Region 8 Chapter Coordination subcommittee (ChCsC). Contact email: chapters.officer@ieee8.org

Region	Geo-code	Section	SPOID	Name	Type	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	YP80075	YOUNG PROFESSIONALS	AFFINITY	0	3	6	11	7
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08200	AP03/ED15/MTT17/EP	CHAPTER	0	2	2	3	3
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08271	C16	CHAPTER	0	2	3	3	7
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08266	CAS04/SSC37	CHAPTER	0	2	4	4	2
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08451	CIS11	CHAPTER	0	2	5	24	11
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08298	COM19	CHAPTER	0	2	2	2	2
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08363	ED15/SSC37 (VARNA)	CHAPTER	0	3	3	4	3
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08292	IM09/CS23/SMC28	CHAPTER	0	2	2	5	2
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08438	RA24	CHAPTER	0	2	2	2	2
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	CH08254	SP01	CHAPTER	1	5	4	4	3
8	R 80 075	BULGARIA	R 80 075	(section)	SECTION	0	5	0	5	6

The reports for your Section were delivered to your desks.

Conference Coordination Sub-Committee

Conference Coordination SC Team Members



Ljupco Karadzinov
(North Macedonia)
Chair



Peter Nagy
(Hungary)
Past Chair



Tomislav Capuder
(Croatia)
Member



Khaled Mokhtar
(United Arab Emirates)
Member



Vikass Monebhurrun
(France)
Corresponding Member

Conference Coordination SC

Goals and KPIs

Goals	KPIs
Handling of the TCS and FCS requirements	Approved 24 R8 TCS and 5 R8 FCS (according to IEEE Conference Analytics for Volunteers; R8 TCS/FCS in 2019-2020; 15 Sep 2019)
Good candidates for R8 flagship conferences	2 bids per conference, selected new EUROCON 2021 and AFRICON 2021
Relation with MGA, MCE, and other conference coordinators	Monthly R8 CoCSC conf calls, MGA and MCE WebEx meetings, CONVENE 2019
Industry-focused events	1. Industry Summit, 2019 IEEE GCIoT Dubai, 5 Dec 2019 2. IEEE ICTE 2020, Bologna, Italy
Options for new R8 flagship conferences	3. ICHT 2021 - International Humanitarian Technologies Conf.

Progress against goals

5 Financially Co-Sponsored Conferences (FCS)

1. **IEEE EUROCON 2019**, 18th International Conference on Smart Technologies, Novi Sad, Serbia, 01-Jul-2019 to 4-Jul-2019, **15% FCS**
2. **IEEE AFRICON 2019**, 13th African Continent Electrotechnical Conference, Accra, Ghana, 25-Sep-2019 to 27-Sep-2019, **15% FCS**
3. **IEEE MELECON 2020**, 20th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference, Palermo, Italy, 16-Jun-2020 to 18-Jun-2020, **15% FCS**
4. **IEEE ENERGYCon 2020**, 6th IEEE International Energy Conference, Gammarth, Tunis, Tunisia, 13-Apr-2020 to 16-Apr-2020, **15% FCS**
5. **IEEE ICTE 2020**, International Conference on Technology and Entrepreneurship, Bologna, Italy, 19-Apr-2020 to 22-Apr-2020, **5% FCS**
 - a. TEMS flagship event, partnership to improve R8 portfolio in industry-focused events.
 - b. R8 representatives: TPC Co-chair Marios Antoniou, Co-Treasurer Peter Nagy

Rest of the year and next year

IEEE R8 FLAGSHIP CONFERENCES 2022

Call for host Sections

1. IEEE ENERGYCON 2022

2. IEEE MELECON 2022

3. IEEE IHTC 2021 - International Humanitarian Technologies Conference. Will rotate in a 3 years cycle between Regions 7, 8 and 9. The next IHTC 2020 will be held in R9. OpCom initiative, call next week.

The timeline for proposals:

- Letter of intent: 1 December 2019
- Initial bid: 15 January 2019
- Final bid: 28 February 2020
- Results: after the next R8 OpCom meeting

Sample proposals from previous organizers can be provided.

<https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination/>

Other relevant information

MGA TCS fee increase (proposal)

- Starts after 1 January 2021
- Covers copyright, plagiarism checks, IEEEExplore and MCE overhead
- Proposed options for increase of the MGA TCS Fee (**current**, **new** fee):
 - Option 1: **\$1,000/conf + \$27/paper** => Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (28% : 72%).
Example: TCS conference with 100 papers \$1,000 + \$27 X 100 = **\$3,700**
 - Option 2: **\$2,100/conf + \$15/paper** => Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (59% : 41%)
Example: TCS conference with 100 papers \$2,100 + \$15 X 100 = **\$3,600**
 - Option 3: **\$1,500/conf + \$21/paper** => Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (43% : 57%)
Example: A TCS Conference with 100 papers \$1,500 + \$21 X 100 = **\$3,600**
- Allocation options for geo units:
 - Charge the TCS cost to MGA OU
 - Charge to conference
 - Hybrid charge to OU and conference (charge the conference fee to the OU and charge the paper fees to Conference)

Points of Concern

1. Improve the **R8 flagship conferences outlook**, especially the MELECON (lowest number of attendees)
2. **Low number of financial co-sponsorship (FCS)** by R8 Sections and Chapters
3. **Low quality** of some IEEE R8 FCS and TCS sponsored events (pay-to-publish, paper stuffing, plagiarism) => **ruins IEEE reputation and ability papers to be indexed.**
4. Several cases of requests for TCS with **for-profit co-sponsors, conflict of interest** of the conference chair having relations with the service providers, detected possible **violation of the IEEE policies 10.1.6** about no payment of conf volunteers.

Professional & Educational Activities Sub-Committee

Educational Activities Sub-Committee Team Members



Chair
Stamatis Dragoumanos



Member – University Activities
Christopher James



Member – Continuing Education
Mohamed El Dallal



Corresponding Member
Continuing Education
Reinhardt Rading



Corresponding Member
University Activities
Amith Khandakar



Corresponding Member
Pre-University Activities
Iulia Motoc

Professional and Educational Activities subcommittee (PEAsC)- Progress on goals

Goals	Progress
Merge of Educational Activities and Professional Activities	Professional activities flavour added in all Educational Activities programs (e.g continuing education category in acceleration contest) Speakers program refurbished – 2 non members are willing to become members if they become speakers.
Re-Branding of new Committee	New logo for committee and all programs created, Marketing strategy deployed and running
Acceleration Contest 2019	Deadline 15 th of October, (to be extended) Submission for judges is open

PEA
IEEE REGION8
PROFESSIONAL AND
EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES



PRE-UNIVERSITY . UNIVERSITY . CONTINUING ED.



ACCELERATION PROGRAM
IEEE REGION 8



ALPHA ENGINEERS CONTEST
IEEE REGION 8

IEEE region8
ENTREPRENEURSHIP WEEK

SPEAKERS
IEEE region8



region8
IEEE

IEEE
Advancing Technology
for Humanity

Professional and Educational Activities subcommittee (PEAsC)- Progress on goals

Goals	Progress
Present in SYPs and Flagship conferences	Present in GCC SYP, CESYP WESYP, JSYP, HSYP
Organize Webinars with Section Educational Activities Officers	Held at the 15 th of July
Increase Engagement in Continuing Education	Speakers program, Engagement in Entrepreneurship Initiative, Acceleration contest
Promote University level Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussing with Education Society to organize a webinar for Faculty Development - Instead of Developing a peer-aided engineering study group manual we are creating a Success stories book.
-Organize a Pre-Universities contest that includes TISP week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Alpha Contest running 6 Sections Participate Tunisia, Morocco, Uganda, Turkey, Algeria, Bahrain - TISP Week 2019 Region8, Region 9, Region 10

Plans for the rest of the year and going to next year

- Promote PEA Speakers program Nominations and create youtube channel
- Discuss organizational structure and Retrospective
- Finalize this year's projects and promote awards
- Finalize peer-aided engineering study group success stories
- Hold a webinar for Faculty Development together with Education Society

Action for Industry Sub- Committee

Action for Industry (AfI) Committee Members

Marios Antoniou (Cyprus Section), AfI Chair



John Matogo (Kenya Section), R8 Africa Area IA



Mohamed Amin (Egypt Section), R8 Middle-East Area IA



Matej Pacha (Czechoslovakia Section), R8 Europe North Area IA



Danilo Pau (Italy Section), R8 Europe South Area IA



Frederique Valle (France Section), Corresponding member



Tiziana Tamboso (Italy Section), Corresponding member



Afl Goals for 2019

- **Expand Afl in more Sections.**
- **Expand to new companies.**
- **Secure new internships.**
- **Mentoring.**
- **Organize and participate in industry and entrepreneurship events.**

Action for Industry subcommittee (AfIsC)- Progress on goals

Goals	KPIs / Targets	Progress (use numbers and concise information where possible)
Expand Afl in more Sections.	Number of IAs in each Section and budget for Afl.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of 4 SIA in 2019. • At least one IA appointed in 34 Sections in 2019. At least one IA appointed in 32 Sections in 2018.
Expand to new companies.	New companies and organizations that have signed MoU agreements.	<p><u>MoUs in Africa</u> Kenya Power, Safaricom Schneider Electric, Centurion Systems Kenya Power Phase 3 Telecom STL Group Brand One Blue CAMEL Energy</p> <p><u>MoUs in MENA</u> 1. Radio Amateurs Lebanon 2. MoU signed between YP Jordan & Center of Innovation and Entrepreneurial Excellence - AL Hussein Technical University.</p>

Action for Industry subcommittee (AfIsC)- Progress on goals

Goals	KPIs / Targets	Progress (use numbers and concise information where possible)
Expand to new companies.	New companies and organizations that have signed MoU agreements.	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. New MoU with British University Egypt for Summer school program about Law in IT in July 2019 <p><u>MoUs in Europe</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. NXP2. Four MoUs between Bulgaria Section and Bulgarian National organizations.

Action for Industry subcommittee (AfIsC)- Progress on goals

Goals	KPIs / Targets	Progress (use numbers and concise information where possible)
Secure new internships.	Number of new internships per Section.	Total number of internships – 64 Cyprus Section -39, Italy Section – 3 Nigeria Section – 4, Kenya Section – 15 Czechoslovakia - 3
Mentoring.	Number of mentees.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 Mentors in Region 8. No mentees yet. • Open call for mentors in Kenya and Nigeria.
Organize and participate in industry and entrepreneurship events	Number of events organized or being part of.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTSI 2019 in Firense Italy. • Industry visits and SIA workshop in Nairobi Kenya. • Participation in Startup Ole Spain. • STMicroelectronics Workshops at Neapolis Innovation évent Italy and at CentraleSupélec Event France. • 2 Academia Meets Industry (AMI) events. – Uganda • Industry visit of 33 students to Alfa Telecom Lebanon.

Afl Plans for 2019 and 2020

2019

Industry events. 2019 IEEE Global Conference on Internet of Things (GCloT).

2020

1. Expand Afl in more Sections.
2. Expand to new companies.
3. Participation in industry, entrepreneurship and SYP events. (RTSI 2020, ICTE 2020).
4. Focus in Mentoring.
5. Industry conferences.

Standards Coordination

Standards Coordination Subcommittee Team Members



Chair
David Law (UK and Ireland)



Almir Badnjević (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
Corresponding Member



Vikass Monebhurrun (France)
Corresponding Member

Standards Coordination Subcommittee 2019 Goals

Build structured program

Provide expansion of standards-related offerings

Program offerings

Standards speakers for events and conferences

Whole standards tracks at events and conferences

Section and student branch events

Standards events

Standards Coordination Progress

Standards speakers for events and conferences

Keynote speaker on standards, presentation such as demystifying standards, tutorial on a specific standard or standardization area

Whole standards tracks at events and conferences

Multiple speakers, presentations and/or tutorials

Section and student branch events

Keynote speaker on standards, presentation such as demystifying standards, tutorials, added potential to run the Standards Game

Standards events

Local Section work with IEEE-SA to build a standards event

Interested?

Contact email address: <standards.coordinator@ieee8.org>

<https://ieee8.org/category/technical-activities/standards-coordination/>

Standards Coordination Plans

Continue to progress current opportunities

Continue to look for new opportunities

Standards speakers for events and conferences

Whole standards tracks at events and conferences

Section and student branch events

Standards events

Thank you

Q&A

Appendix

Progress against goals

24 Technically Co-Sponsored Conferences (TSC)

1. 2019 IEEE International Conference on Design & Test of Integrated Micro & Nano-Systems (DTS), Gammarth-Tunis, Tunisia, 28-Apr-2019 to 1-May-2019
2. 2019 IEEE International Conference on Microwaves, Antennas, Communications and Electronic Systems (COMCAS), Tel-Aviv, Israel, 04-Nov-2019 to 6-Nov-2019
3. 2019 1st Global Power, Energy and Communication Conference (GPECOM), Nevsehir, Turkey, 12-Jun-2019 to 15-Jun-2019
4. 2019 IEEE Jordan International Joint Conference on Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (JEEIT), Amman, Jordan, 09-Apr-2019 to 11-Apr-2019
5. 2019 Federated Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems (FedCSIS), Leipzig, Germany, 01-Sep-2019 to 4-Sep-2019
6. 2019 42nd International Convention on Information and Communication Technology, Electronics and Microelectronics (MIPRO), Opatija, Croatia, 20-May-2019 to 24-May-2019
7. 2019 International Workshop on Fiber Optics in Access Networks (FOAN), Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 02-Sep-2019 to 4-Sep-2019
8. 2019 2nd International Conference on Computer Applications & Information Security (ICCAIS), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 01-May-2019 to 3-May-2019
9. 2019 International Conference on Cyber Security for Emerging Technologies (CSET), Doha, Qatar, 27-Oct-2019 to 29-Oct-2019
10. 2019 42nd International Conference on Telecommunications and Signal Processing (TSP), Budapest, Hungary, 01-Jul-2019 to 3-Jul-2019
11. 2019 IST-Africa Week Conference (IST-Africa), Nairobi, Kenya, 08-May-2019 to 10-May-2019
12. 2019 14th International Conference on Advanced Technologies, Systems and Services in Telecommunications (TELSIKS) Nis Serbia 23-Oct-2019 25-Oct-2019

Progress against goals

24 Technically Co-Sponsored Conferences (TSC)

13. 2019 22nd International Conference on Distributed Computer and Communication Networks: Control, Computation, Communications (DCCN), Moscow, Russia, 23-Sep-2019 to 27-Sep-2019
14. 2019 International Symposium ELMAR, Zadar, Croatia, 23-Sep-2019 to 25-Sep-2019
15. **2019 IEEE 5th International forum on Research and Technology for Society and Industry (RTSI), Florence, Italy, 09-Sep-2019 to 12-Sep-2019**
16. 2019 IEEE 13th International Conference on Application of Information and Communication Technologies (AICT) Baku Azerbaijan 23-Oct-2019 25-Oct-2019
17. **2019 IEEE Global Conference on Internet of Things (GCIoT), Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 04-Dec-2019 to 7-Dec-2019**
18. 2019 27th Telecommunications Forum (TELFOR), Belgrade, Serbia, 26-Nov-2019 to 27-Nov-2019

1. [2020](#) International Workshop on Antenna Technology (iWAT), Bucharest, Romania, 25-Feb-2020 to 28-Feb-2020
2. [2020](#) 6th Conference on Data Science and Machine Learning Applications (CDMA), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 04-Mar-2020 to 5-Mar-2020
3. [2020](#) IEEE International Workshop on Metrology for Industry 4.0 & IoT (MetroInd4.0&IoT), Roma, Italy, 03-Jun-2020 to 5-Jun-2020
4. [2020](#) 3rd International Colloquium on Intelligent Grid Metrology (SMAGRIMET), Cavtat, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 20-Oct-2020 to 23-Oct-2020
5. [2020](#) 3rd International Conference on Computer Applications & Information Security (ICCAIS), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 19-Mar-2020 to 21-Mar-2020
6. [2020](#) 43rd International Convention on Information, Communication and Electronic Technology (MIPRO), Opatija, Croatia, 25-May-2020 to 29-May-2020

Proposals for improvements

(1.1) Improving flagship conferences outlook:

- **Diverse and hybrid topics/programs** such as industry tracks, entrepreneurship sessions, humanitarian sessions, etc. so that the conference program becomes more attractive.
- **Involvement of other R8 subcommittees** and incorporating their activities, like Professional and Educational Activities (PEA) and Action for Industry (AfI), as well as Students and Young Professionals (SYP), Standards and Women in Engineering (WiE)
- Inviting some of the **big IEEE Societies to co-sponsor** the flagship conference (ENERGYCON example)

Proposals for improvements

(1.2) Improving flagship conferences outlook: (continued)

- Next **MELECON** conferences can become more **ICT focused** (having the ENERGYCON as a PES topic specific conference)
- Inviting some of the **big IEEE Societies to co-sponsor**:
 - IEEE ComSoc
 - IEEE Computers Society
 - etc.
- Initial contacts at CONVENT 2019 with Prof. Stefano Bregni, ComSoc VP for Conferences, to jointly organize **MELECON** with **MedCom** (Athens, July 2020). Too late for 2020, the contacts will continue for the next edition of MELECON 2022.

Proposals for improvements

(2) Increase of financial co-sponsorship (FCS) of conferences by R8 Sections and Chapters CoCSC

- **Informative sessions** for Section Chairs during the R8 Committee meetings to increase the awareness of the benefits from FCS
- R8 can support struggling sections providing **seed funds** for FCS conferences
- New **increased MGA TSC fees** will make conference organizers themselves to opt for FCS instead of TCS

Proposals for improvements

(3.1) Section Chairs awareness on **R8 TCS/FCS Requirements**:

<https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination/>

- The TCS indicates direct and **substantial involvement** of the IEEE Region 8 in the technical program of the conference.
- At the minimum, **one R8 Section and one local Chapter** as technical co-sponsor.
- At the minimum, one technical program co-chair is a **known IEEE society member** who have access to all reviews, participate in the papers acceptance process, and participate in developing the conference program.
- At least **2 current or previous R8 committee members** should be involved in the review process.
- Registration fees must include **reduced fees for IEEE members**: a minimum of 10%.

Proposals for improvements

(3.2) Section Chairs awareness on **R8 TCS/FCS Requirements** (cont):

<https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination/>

- The conference organizers should offer **free registration** fees for at least **two IEEE student members**. These two students could help in the local arrangement issues.
- An **IEEE booth** should be organized in the conference venue.
- **Plagiarism check** of all submitted papers (first and final versions) using crosscheck.ieee.org
- Section should not "**just click Approve button**" but have direct and substantial involvement in the technical program of the conference, and help organizers find and contact current or previous R8 committee members from the near region and motivate them to be involved.
- Several examples of requests for TCS from **low quality conference** organizers, **approval was not given**.

Proposals for improvements

(4.1) TCS/FCS **not approved** if detected for-profit co-sponsors, conflict of interest and violation of the IEEE policies 10.1.6

- Because the IEEE is a non-profit organization that is subject to USA tax and postal regulation, **no for-profit entity can be listed as a Technical Co-Sponsor, Co-Sponsor, or Sponsor of a IEEE sponsored conference.** "For Profit" organizations can, however, provide donations, (i.e. contributions in the form of personnel, materials, or funds) as indicated in IEEE Policy and Procedures.
- IEEE Principles of Business Conduct Example #3: **A volunteer serves in a decision-making capacity for an IEEE conference and also has a direct or indirect interest in a potential supplier** of goods and/or services to the conference (e.g., **registration services**). This potential conflict should be reported in response to question #s 1, 2 & 3, included in the questionnaire.
- IEEE POLICIES 2016 - 10.1.6 Conference Budgets: It is the general policy of the IEEE that **no member of a Conference Board/Committee or his/her immediate family shall receive monetary payment** for services. This does not include awards or other honoraria that may be granted under IEEE Awards provisions as defined in IEEE Policies, Section 4.0. Immediate family is defined as spouse, domestic partner, brother, sister, children, mother, father, and in-laws.

Proposals for improvements

(4.2) TCS/FCS **not approved** if detected for-profit co-sponsors, conflict of interest and violation of the IEEE policies 10.1.6

- **Violation of IEEE copyrights** if selected papers (including non-show) are post-conference published in a local or any other non-IEEE journal.
- **Conference Organizer Roles and Responsibilities** should be clearly assigned and declared in the conference application. Conference Chair himself, or his wife/immediate family member, holding all other roles (Technical Program Chair, Conference Treasurer, Publication Chair, Information Contact) does not provide transparency, oversight and control of conference expenses and conduct, and is not acceptable. (www.ieee.org/conferences/organizers/roles-responsibilities.html)