Humanitarian Activities Committee   Abdullateef Aliyu

Goals

Our goal in HuAC is to work closely with the respective Sections, Affinity groups and various OU in the Region on trusted Humanitarian interventions and IEEE Humanitarian initiatives by collaborating within and Outside IEEE. Our plans are:

1. Connect with the team and build the optimal humanitarian team in the Region
2. Mentor existing HAC/SIGHT groups and prospective groups
3. Increase visibility of Humanitarian Activities within the Region
4. Encourage reporting of activities via Vtools by monitoring and reaching out
5. Raise awareness of ongoing SIGHT/HAC activities
6. Increasing the number of proposal submissions
7. Encourage celebration of SIGHT Week across the Region
8. Encourage Students and Young professional involvement in Humanitarian Activities
9. Collaboration in organizing humanitarian conferences in R8
10. Collaborate with other OU in the Region and outside
11. Collaborate with external organizations on Humanitarian projects
12. Recognise exceptional SIGHT Groups

KPI

- Increase the number of SIGHT groups in the Region by at least 25% by Q3
- Develop HAC/SIGHT Operation manual that will guide volunteers on Humanitarian roles and resources available by Q2.
- Increase reporting on Vtools by 50% by Q3
- Launch min of 2 Humanitarian Initiative in the Region by Q1 and Q2
- Launch first flagship Humanitarian project in the Region

Progress against goals since the last report

1. **Increase the Number of SIGHT groups**:

7 new sight groups were added in our region to date bringing the new total number of SIGHT Groups formed to 32. This is a 39% increase in the number of SIGHT Groups in our region. Mentors were assigned to respective SIGHT groups to provide guidance and clarification on issues/concerns to increase their participation. The committee is currently mentoring 3 prospective groups in Norway, Italy, and Israel.

2. **Develop HAC/SIGHT Op Manual**: Operation Manual is developed and circulated to the respective SIGHT Groups to serve as a guide on SIGHT/HAC resources. A Committee Operational Manual was also prepared to document activities and methodologies. .

3. **Increase reporting on Vtools:** The Committee launched a campaign actively encouraging respective SIGHT Groups to report ongoing activities on Vtools. About 47 reports were submitted using Vtools from March 2022-September 2022, reporting has improved with the SIGHT Groups and it is expected to double when projects and events are being carried out by respective SIGHT Groups in the Region.

4. **Launch min of 2 Humanitarian Initiative**:

a. **Humanitarian Voices**: The first Humanitarian initiative tagged "**Humanitarian Voices**" was launched on 22.02.2022. Social Media posts about the effort of SIGHT Groups are posted. A number of articles highlighting SIGHT and Humanitarian related activities and achievements in the Region were authored and published in the Region 8 publications to raise visibility. We encourage respective SIGHT groups to share their success stories with us using the link: https://forms.gle/KAPhTuEFgmHCBbaZ6

b. **Community Intervention Project for R8**: The R8 HuAC collaborated with IEEE HAC to launch a Joint community Intervention project call. This joint Call was focused on submissions from R8 SIGHTs. The Committee aims to support SIGHT groups in the region with great initiative and creative ideas on how to support underserved communities using

technology with an appropriate sustainability plan that is aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). Proposal received, review completed, award to be carried out in October.

c. **Awards:** In order to motivate the volunteers and AG and section groups, the Region 8 Awards for Affinity groups on SIGHT/HAC activities was launched with submissions reviewed. The 2022 Winner will be announced at the Cairo meeting.

d. **R8 HAC Congress**: The first Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Congress was organised and took place in Tunisia immediately before the R8 Student and Young Professionals Congress.

A wide consultation was undertaken during April and May inviting all R8 based SIGHTs to share insights into results, future plans their SIGHT could present as well as some of the current challenges being faced operationalising plans. There was a good level of response, which informed program development for the R8 Congress. The program incorporated experiences and results from SIGHT Groups in **Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Germany, Jordan, Kenya, Nigeria, Spain, Tunisia** (Section SIGHT, ESPRIT SB SIGHT, ESSTHS SIGHT), **Western Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, UK and Ireland** and two Society SIGHTs (**IST-Africa SSIT SIGHT, Indian Ocean SIGHT (APS)**).

The Congress was organised as a hybrid meeting over 2 days to facilitate SIGHTs to attend who were unable to secure travel funding at Section level. There was very good participation with 85 representatives from 16 countries (20 in person participants and 65 Virtual attendees). All in person R8 SIGHT participants actively presented in the program sharing results and experiences.

5. **Visibility:**

a. **Social Media Handles**

Facebook Insights: 3,163 page followers

Instagram Insights : 1101 followers

b. **Website Update:** Website updated ongoing.

c. **SYP Participation :** Capacity building workshop organised within the program of R8 SYP Congress in Tunis, which was very well attended with over 30 participants from 15 Countries. This workshop facilitated awareness raising of IEEE HAC Support mechanisms, SIGHT Activities in Region 8 and encouraged participants to consider how they can use technology appropriately to support local Community challenges in the future.

6. **Collaboration with Organization:**

Collaborated with IEEE HAC to launch R8 Community Intervention Project (CIP) call.
Partnership with Technical Societies are ongoing - currently there are two Society SIGHTs active in R8 (**IST-Africa SSIT SIGHT, Indian Ocean SIGHT (APS)**).

Subcommittee Specific Issues

1. Many AG, SB would like to organize events but they do not have funding support for such activities as SIGHT/HAC do not have funding to support meet-ups and local activities.

2. Some SIGHTs experience delay in accessing project funds via the Section

3. Lack of Succession planning in the leadership of chairs of SIGHT Groups

Points of Concern

1. Increase awareness of IEEE HAC/SIGHT program, funding opportunities and type of activities that can receive funding support to help increase the level of impactful activities using technology appropriately to support local Community needs. Important to have funds to support R8 Calls on a regular basis.

2. Request access to a license for customized Online/webinar tools such as Zoom for virtual events

3. Face 2 Face meeting for the committee to increase team performance

4. Some R8 SIGHT Groups were unable to secure travel support at Section level to participate in person to share results during R8 HAC Congress. It would be helpful to have a mechanism to support travel for presenters whose Sections are unable to provide travel support at OU level.

Proposals for improvements/Other Issues to report

1. Need for more funding opportunities: IEEE Humanitarian CFPs from Region 8 and other sources.

2. Nomination of the passionate team members to the committee

3. Team now exceeded the norming stage and gradually into the performing stage. An opportunity to meet would improve delivery.