

Tunisia Section

Reporting Officers' Names:

Ilhem Kallel: Tunisia Section Chair
Aicha Maalej: Section Secretary
Kayoum Djedidi: Section Community Manager

Section Vitality

Please provide information about the date of last Section elections, date of next elections, and do you have the practice of the Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair. Section ExCom meetings (list them and provide brief summary if appropriate). List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained.

Elections:

The last Section elections were conducted through IEEE vTools platform from 01/09/2020 to 31/09/2020. Starting from 01/01/2021, the elected Section officers are:

- Chair: Ilhem Kallel
- Chair Elect: Habib M. Kammoun
- Past Chair: Adel M. Alimi
- Secretary: Aicha Maalej
- Treasurer: Ali Wali

This committee will serve until 31/12/2022.

We have been adopting the practice of Vice-Chair being Chair-Elect. Waiting for the IEEE full election process managing platform, we have postponed the election process to October. So, the section's next elections for the mandate of 2023-2024 will be held according to this apriori plan:

Tunisia section officers:

- Call: 15/10/2022
- Nominations: 30/10/2022
- Announcement of candidates: 15/11/2022
- Nominations by petition: 30/11/2022
- Announcement final candidates: 10/11/2022
- Voting period: 10/11 - 10/12 2022
- Announcement of officers: 23/12/2022

Tunisia section chapters:

- Call: 15/10/2022
- Nominations: 30/10/2022
- Announcement of candidates: 15/11/2022
- Announcement final candidates: 10/11/2022
- Voting period: 10/11 - 10/12 2022
- Announcement of officers: 23/12/2022

Appointed volunteers:

- Call: 15/10/2022
- Nominations: .30/10/2022
- Announcement of appointed volunteers: 23/12/2022

Section ExCom meetings:

The section holds two ExCom meetings a year:

Spring meeting; held on the 12th of May 2022. It discussed strategic planning, new recommendations, a draft todo list for each committee and each unit, and the election planning with the N&A committee.

A vtools training session was held for new section volunteers, followed by a presentation about SIGHT and its vision in Tunisia, then an overview of the section statistics and overall performance in accordance with MD goals, and finally each section chapter gave an overview of activities and plans.

The next ExCom meeting will be held in December .

Activities, member retention & recruitment:

Member retention and recruitment is a global goal of the Tunisia Section, executed by all of its subunits, within a unified vision. The section supports its OU's by providing the necessary resources, such as mentoring, funding, speakers, access to information and best approaches.

When it comes to Graduate students and professional members, Section chapters indulge in interesting activities and include industry and academia in a multitude of fruitful collaborations.

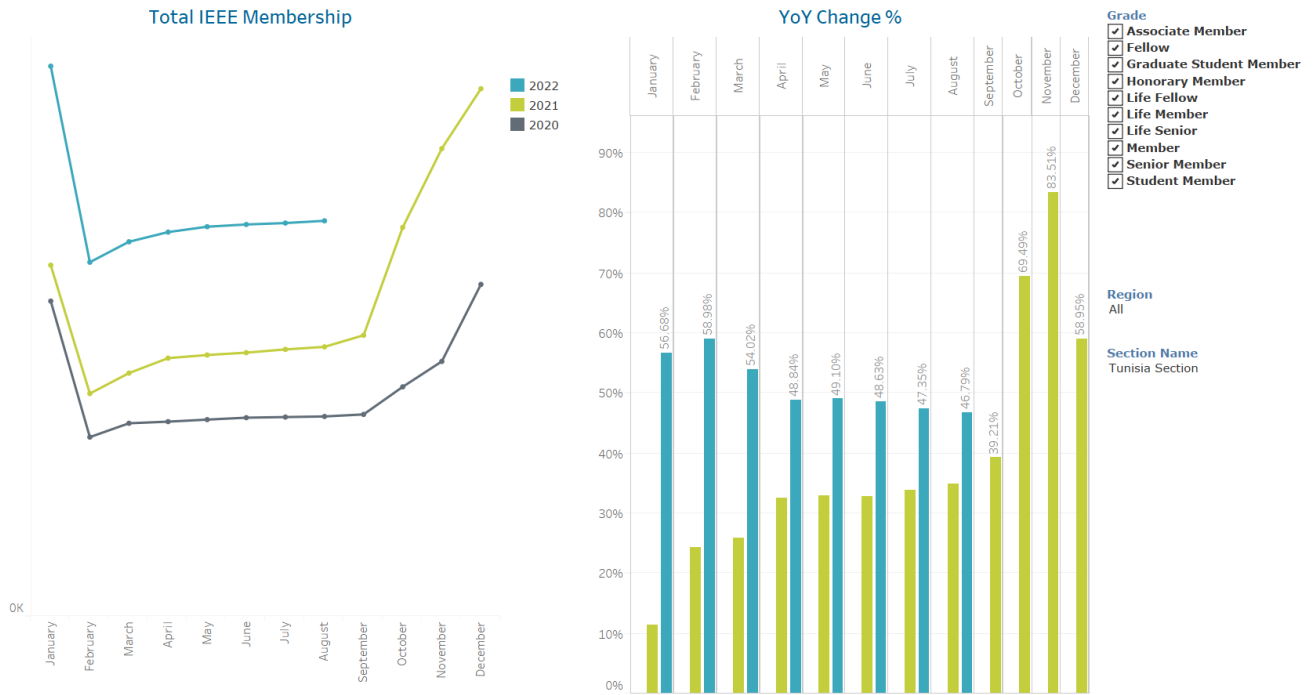
Each student branch works on attracting and recruiting members during their events and activities, whether technical or non technical. Efforts retaining members are ensured by each volunteer in the unit.

Some highlights of efforts carried out to retain and recruit members include:

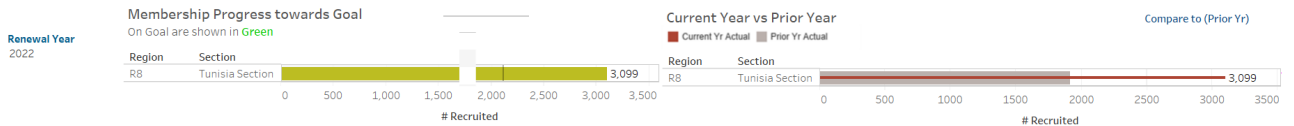
- Humanitarian and SIGHT projects;
- Entrepreneurship and Professional activities;
- Developing the participation of young professionals and graduate students;
- Organizing booths dedicated to membership during all sponsored events;
- info-sessions about opportunities within IEEE;
- Educational and Technical activities;
- Congresses and meet up events such as the 8th Tunisian students and young professionals "TSYP" congress held on 14-16 March 2021, with the 9th edition held on 19-21 December 2021. were more than 800 participants, and the R8 Students & young professionals congress "SYP" held on 3-7 August 2022.
- International conferences such as: IEEE Education society conference EDUCON 2022, held on march 2022,

As of the date this report was written (08/22), we have 3 887 total active members; of which 85% are student members (3330). This number was 2 648 last year (08/21), and 1 964 in 08/21.

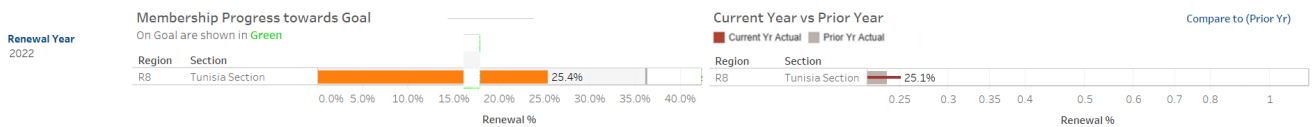
Our section reached a record high of 5 407 active members for the month of January 2022.



	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
2022	5,407	3,480	3,681	3,776	3,829	3,851	3,865	3,887				
2021	3,451	2,189	2,390	2,537	2,568	2,591	2,623	2,648	2,762	3,822	4,597	5,185
2020	3,098	1,761	1,897	1,913	1,933	1,952	1,958	1,964	1,984	2,255	2,505	3,262



For retention, we are seeing improvements compared to the previous year, and we are expecting to meet the quota by November of this year, since most renewal recruitment & renewal campaigns occur between September and October.



**All stats are acquired from thanalytics. as per(08/22).*

Students:

List of Student Branches (SB) in your Section, the newly formed or dissolved SBs, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). List the student meetings held and Section activities addressed to Students and Young Professionals.

Tunisia section has 42 registered student branches. 33 of them have been active, the remaining have been dormant for some time now, with efforts to re-initiate some of them.

Active student branches:

ESPRIT	National Engineering School of Gabes (ENIG)
Nat'l Inst of Applied Sci & Tech (INSAT)	National School of Computer Science ENSI
National Engineering School of Sfax (ENIS)	H. I. Computer Science Multimedia Sfax (ISIMS)
H S Sciences & Technologies H Sousse	Polytech Sfax
National Engineering School of Carthage	Int. Multidisciplinary School EPI Sousse

Higher School of Communication of Tunis (Sup'Com)	South Mediterranean Univ
Faculty of Science of Tunis - FST	ISGI Sfax
Higher Institute of Informatics Mahdia ISIMa	H I Informatics & Mathematics of Monastir (ISIMM)
Higher I A Sciences & Technologies (ISSAT Sousse)	Higher Institute of Computer Science (ISI)
National School of Elect & Telecom	Private University of Tunis ULT
International Institute of Technology (IIT)	SESAME University
Higher National Engineering School of Tunis	ISET Rades
Faculty of Sciences of Sfax (FSS)	Nat. Eng School of Monastir (ENIM)
ISET Bizerte	H.I. Info & Com Technologies (ISTIC)
National Agronomic Inst of Tunisia	Nat Sch Sciences & Advanced Tech (ENSTAB)
Ecole Nationale D'Ingénieurs De Tunis	Nat Eng School of Bizerte (ENIB)
Higher Inst App Sciences & Tech (ISSATM)	ISET Kairouan
Nat'l School of Engineering of Sousse (ENISo)	Faculty of Sciences of Bizerte (FSB)

Affinity groups:

List of Affinity Groups (YP:426 , LM ,WiE,etc..).

list of SB AGs, newly formed or dissolved AGs/SB AGs, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). List the activities intended to support affinity groups.

The following are active Tunisia Section Affinity Group and number of members:

WIE:1770 members, SIGHT, YP:426 members. CN:249 members.

The Tunisia Section intends to support its affinity groups and their vitality through a Strategic Action Plan (SAP) :

- Monitoring of the Key Performance Indicators for the Tunisia Section AG's
- Execution of evaluation activities of both the Section & Student affinity groups
- Organizing annual congresses for each Affinity group, such as the Wie annual congress of Tunisia, the Tunisian students and young professionals congress, and a to be announced SIGHT congress to be organized by SIGHT Tunisia & SIGHT Student affinity groups.
- Participate in integrating Section AGs with Student AGs by proposing both technical & non technical challenges within student events, and granting prizes to winners.

Chapters:

List of Chapters and SB Chapters in your Section, the newly formed or dissolved Chapters, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). Indicate how many have reported on time and received rebates. Highlight some of the activities. .

There are a total of 134 chapters in the Tunisia section. of which 30 are Section chapters listed below:

IEEE Biometrics Council	IEEE Industrial Electronics Society
IEEE Council on RFID	IEEE Circuits and Systems Society
IEEE Council on Electronic Design Automation	IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society
IEEE Intelligent Transportation Systems Society	IEEE Power Electronics Society
IEEE Systems Council	IEEE Microwave Theory and Technology Society
IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society	IEEE Signal Processing Society

IEEE Sensors Council	IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society
IEEE Vehicular Technology Society	IEEE Communications Society
IEEE Nanotechnology Council	IEEE Industry Applications Society
IEEE Education Society	IEEE Robotics and Automation Society
IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society	IEEE Power & Energy Society
IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society	IEEE Computer Society
IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society	IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology
IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society	IEEE Computational Intelligence Society
IEEE Control Systems Society	IEEE Technology and Engineering Management Society
IEEE Tunisia Section JT Chapter, SIT/TEM	

Among 30 IEEE Tunisia Society chapters and one Joint chapter:

- 2 newly created chapters in 2022
- 25 chapters/JTC reported in time and received their rebates, including 2 (IA & SSC) who received an extra rebate thanks to their great number of reported activities.
- 4 chapters (RFID, SP, VT, PE) didn't receive their rebates

Student branch chapters:

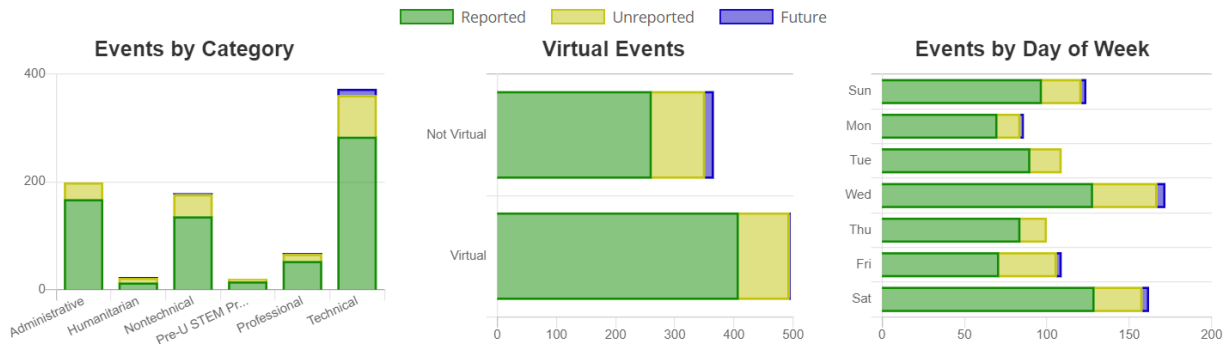
IEEE Council on Electronic Design Automation	IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society
IEEE Oceanic Engineering Society	IEEE Sensors Council
IEEE Education Society	IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society
IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society	IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society
IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society	IEEE Control Systems Society
IEEE Computational Intelligence Society	IEEE Industrial Electronics Society
IEEE Circuits and Systems Society	IEEE Power Electronics Society
IEEE Microwave Theory and Technology Society	IEEE Signal Processing Society
IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society	IEEE Industry Applications Society
IEEE Robotics and Automation Society	IEEE Power & Energy Society
IEEE Computer Society	

The chapters continue to be very active in organizing professional, technical, and non-technical events often collaborating with their mother Societies, and in supporting the Section initiatives.

Some highlights include: Info-sessions done by IEEE Computer society about IEEEExtreme.

The total number of events held from January to date is 862 according to Vtools Events.

Name	Prof	Tech	Non-Tech	Admin	Hum	Pre-U	Total
Tunisia Section	68	373	179	199	23	20	862



Industry:

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained.

The Tunisia section with all units usually collaborate with industry when organizing activities (sponsorships, internships, training sessions, technical talks, competitions/hackathon, onsite technical visits, etc).

Recently, and during the R8 SYP 2022 in Tunisia, the Tunisia section initiated and concluded two signed partnerships between IEEE global, represented by Pr. KJ Ray Liu, the current IEEE president, and 2 Tunisian industrial companies: **Novation city** and **Clevory training**.



Diversity, Equity and Inclusion:

Highlight any diversity metrics (gender, age, religion, geographical, employment, etc.), new initiatives, best practices and progress around diversity and inclusion happening in your Section. Link to IEEE DEI statement <link>

The leadership positions in any GU or TU respond to diversities, this can participate to create an added value and dynamicity in Tunisia section activities.

Activities since the last report:

Highlight some of the activities in your Section, with special attention to the things that work well, and things that don't, so that your acquired know-how can be used by other Sections.

Planned activities:

Highlight some of the future activities and initiatives in your Section.

- Each section position has to be published on LinkedIn for more Publicity
- IEEE Tunisia section volunteering initiative for students using IEEE volunteering platform
- Having a unified database for all officers to facilitate tasks and access to information.
- Proposing a congress for student branch chairs
- More media content in Tunisian language to break language barriers.
- Create a Whatsapp group for all officers to facilitate communication.
- Create more CIS Student chapters, and encourage membership by helping students for the first two years
- Suggesting a day for young professionals: a special session for YP only, YP day event
- Finding out all potential YP members and assisting them with joining YP AG
- Student branches have to organize at least one information session about YP per year.

How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities:

List any challenges your Section is facing and what support is required from Region 8. Please, also, give us your suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting.

Some of the challenges we're facing include:

-Insufficient funding: Even though the section has received some amounts of funding for this year, we believe that in order to be able to continue with our current vision, one of growth and exploration, we require a lot more financial support. According to our predictions we will have more than 6000 members by the end of 2020, and in order to meet our MD goals and satisfy all the curious members and newcomers, we will need to be ready to encourage any activity that serves our vision, especially when it comes to student activities, as we have noticed that the volunteers that are well supported within their OUs always end up tackling great responsibilities within the Section and even with IEEE globally. With more funding we can improve the quality of our events, and elevate our brand identity within our community.

- Lack of Travel grant support: We are proud to have many members and volunteers be selected within international competitions and programs, and have them represent our Section and country worldwide, but there's always the insufferable challenge of securing enough funds to cover travel and accommodation, for this year alone we have had more than 15 students as proud ambassadors, of which many simply let the opportunity slide because we weren't able to cover everyone. The whole community would really appreciate it if there was a specific budget allowed to us every year for travel and support within international competitions.

-Suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting

- Adding Technical activity option for WIE affinity groups in Vtools

We would like to explore the topic of shifting more focus towards technical activities within IEEE WIE Affinity groups both for members, student & graduate members. Lately, our section granted the Best WIE Technical activities award to the most active OU's with special focus towards the technical aspect of WIE's mission, as we believe that the real added value is through real implication of women within engineering, by presenting more opportunities & programs to young women and applying change starting from children. This can be done by providing more opportunities and having an emphasis on the direct impact on women, helpful metrics can be the number of women attendees, the ratio of women volunteers and members in technical challenges, competitions and executive committees.

- Add the option for the same student membership price for the first year of being a graduate student/ member/ young professional

Retention rates are one of the most important metrics when it comes to any OU's performance, it's not as big of a problem for student branches, but when it comes to many sections worldwide, we notice a dramatic drop in renewal rates for members that graduate and are switching from Students/Graduate students. Even though we have some really exceptional programs and communities specifically for these age groups, they don't really get to truly experience it. That's why such an initiative could help fill in the gap and facilitate the work of YP affinity groups and Section chapters worldwide.

Any other issues of interest: