Section Vitality

The last Section elections was organized in November 2021, the date of next elections is expected to be November 2023. We do not have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair. Elections may result in this or not. Section ExCom meetings were done face to face mainly. Virtual meetings are done for urgent decisions during the last months since October 2022. Many meetings were done to organize the Egyptian Student and Young Professional Congress which was hosted in both new Alamin and Alexandria during September. Other meetings were organized to plan for the hosting of region 8 North Africa Student and Young Professional Congress. This result was achieved by the efforts exerted to extend the idea of organizing a student and young professional summit for four countries (Egypt, Tanzania, Sudan and Libya). The Congress is expected to be held in August 2023. It is expected to have more meetings in the future before signing MoUs with Industrial Partners and before important scientific conference approvals and to support events that needs the section financial support like IEEE day, Volunteer Empowerment Program. These activities are used to retain and recruit members and they resulted in a good retention and recruitment values.

Students

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

- No. of Student Branches that have submitted 2023 Annual Report: 41
- No. of Student Branches in the Section: 66
- No. of NEW Student Branches: 6
- No. of Potential Student Branches: 6

NEW SBs: Egypt University of Informatics - Damietta University - University of Hertfordshire-GAF - Egyptian Academy for Engineering and Advanced Tech - Horus University-Egypt - Luxor University

Other Student Branches are listed below, color coded as follows: Submitted 2023 Annual Plan in green—SB who did not submit 2023 Annual Plan in blue

- Benha University – Benha - Arab Academy for Science and Technology – Cairo - Arab Academy for Science Tech & Maritime Transport - Alexandria University - Ain Shams University - Future University in Egypt (FUE) - Port Said University - Zagazig University - Al-Azhar University - Egypt-Japan University of Science and Technology - Helwan University - Knowledge Hub Universities - Nahda University - El Shorouk Academy - Zewail City of Science and Technology - German University in Cairo - Mansoura University - Kafrelsheikh University - Arab Academy for Sci Tech & Maritime Trans-Aswan - Misr University for Science & Technology - Badr University in Cairo - Beni-Suef University - Higher Technological Institute - Nile University - Suez Canal University - Al-Azhar University - Faculty of Engineering - Aswan University - Higher Institute of Engineering and Technology - Egyptian Chinese University - American University in Cairo - Canadian International College (CIC) - Menoufia University - Cairo University - October 6 University - Assiut University - Benha University - British University in Egypt - Fayoum University - Minia University - Tanta University - Ahram Canadian University - Arab Academy for Sci Tech & Maritime-Smart Village - Misr International University - Modern Academy for Engineering and Technology - South Valley University - Helwan University – Mataria - Helwan University Faculty of Computer & AI - October University for Modern Sciences and Arts - Pharos University in Alexandria - Sohag University - Akhbar El-Yom Academy - Al-Safa High Institute of Engineering - Alexandria Higher Institute of Engineering & Tech - El-Gazeera Higher Institute of Engineering & Tech - Heliopolis University, Cairo - Higher Technological Institute-6th of October City - Institute of Aviation Engineering and Technology - Newgiza University - October High Institute for Engineering &Technology - Suez University.

IEEE Egypt Section Closing Ceremony: It gathered SB Volunteers and Officers from all around the Section with the executive team of the Section, SAC, and YP, where a summary of the year was presented and recognition to award-winning SBs were held. The day was held in the Nile University. Following is a list of the Student Branches that have been recognized for their award achievements:

- Regional Student Branch Awards won in the IEEE Egypt Section:
- IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award: AAST Alex, Benha University, Cairo University
- Darrel Chong Student Activity Award: AAST Alex (Twice. Two Darrel Chong Awards in 2022 for two different activities)
- Outstanding Branch Counselor and Branch Chapter Advisor Award: Cairo University - Prof. Ahmed Khattab
- IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Website Award: Nile University - 2nd place
IEEE Day Photo & Video Contest Awards:
- Egypt Section - 2nd place Social Category
- Cairo University - 1st place Social Category
- AUC - 2nd place Short Video
- Helwan University - 2nd place Long Video

A total of 11 Regional and Global IEEE Student Branch Awards gained within the IEEE Egypt Section in 2022.

Affinity Groups
Affinity groups are very active in Egypt. Some activities and photos are listed below:

1. The NASA International Space Apps Challenge (Space Apps Cairo) is an international hackathon that will take place over 48 hours in cities. NASA is leading this global collaboration along with some additional government collaborators local partner organizations; during the two-day challenge, teams of technologists, scientists, designers, artists, educators, developers and, entrepreneurs and students across the globe collaborate and engage with publicly available data to design innovative solutions for global challenges. The challenge exemplifies the principle of collaboration by utilizing openly available data supplied through NASA missions and technology and the talent and skill of passionate volunteers from around the planet to advance space exploration and improve the quality of life on Earth. Hackathons are technology development marathons focused on developing real solutions to global challenges by the end of the event.
3. **The 1st IEEE CAS Agriculture 4.0 Hackathon (Agrihackathon)**, At the 1st IEEE CAS Agriculture 4.0 Hackathon, we discussed how to make agriculture more efficient and prevent unconscious agriculture from meeting the needs of the increasing human population with smart agricultural practices. Also, we have several
environmental challenges which face in Egypt and make a competition to propose innovative solutions and prototypes from the Egyptian students and young professionals. The first IEEE CAS Agriculture 4.0 Hackathon is aimed at students and young professionals from all universities in Egypt. This Agriculture 4.0 hackathon objective is for participants to form multidisciplinary teams that can cover different areas of technology development in the Agriculture 4.0 Egyptian challenges. There are 2 challenges:

a. Plants detection/classification using computer vision
b. Smart irrigation system management
IEEE Young Professionals Egypt Closing 2022, it’s a journey, a journey with much effort and time thorough out the whole year, trying and aiming to do the best, to make volunteering and our attendees experience a unique and special opportunities. And as it came to an end, we are wishing the best to our heroes this year, and on the next year too.
The 120th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting

http://march-2023.ieeer8.org/
Bucharest, Romania, 25–26 March 2023
Chapters

In addition to more than ten active chapters, A new vehicle technology (VT) Chapter has been created with code {CH08913}. The chapter organized many activities:

- "Southern Valley University 5G/6G Seminar"
- Workshop on "Vehicular Technology Research Trends" during the “Fifth International Conference on Engineering Science and Technology (ICEST2023)"
**Industry**

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

   a. **Tech Roundtable: “Vehicular Technology Advancements in Egypt”**, supported by the R8 Action for Industry Committee, with the attendance of representatives of IEEE; R8 Action for Industry Committee, Egypt Section, Industry Engagement Committee, Vehicular Technology Society Egypt Chapter, Industry; Brightskies, Quectel, Nokia, ISFP, Academia; National Telecommunications Institute, The American University in Cairo, British University in Egypt, Alexandria University.
B. Supported Industry Forum Activities in the IEEE International Conference on Smart Mobility, 19-21 Mar, 2023, KAUST, Saudi Arabia (Organized by IEEE TEMS Society):
   b. Tech Roundtable: “Vehicular Technology Advancements in the MENA Region”.
   c. Panel Discussion: “Impact of Smart Mobility on Smart Cities”, moderated by Mohamed Amin, IEEE Industry Engagement and Nokia, with panelists from Jeddah Central Development, STC, and AlUla.
C. Newly established/activated relations with several industry stakeholders including Dell Technologies, Open Valley, Vodafone, Etisalat, Brightskies, ST Micro, among others, with active engagement/attendance in the organized industry events.

D. Digital presence and industry engagement channels: A new LinkedIn page for IEEE Industry Engagement Egypt, webpage on section website, contact email address through which several industry partners reached out.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The section is diverse in both membership and leadership with respect to gender, age, religion, geographical, employment, etc.). New initiatives and best practices and progress around diversity and inclusion included the assignment of more female and industry side members as vice chairs.

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.

i. **IEEE Day Egypt Section:** Gathered 600 Volunteers from over 40 Student Branches in the American University in Cairo. The day then won the 1st and 2nd place in Social Category IEEE Day Photo Contest as well as 2nd place in the Short Video.
ii. **IEEEXtreme Egypt Local Contest**: Held in AAST Cairo, a local site for the global IEEEXtreme Coding Competition, where over 200 contestants managed to participate, with the volunteers helping provide them with a comfy environment.

iii. **IEEE R8 Entrepreneurship Week – Egypt**: Held in the UH-GAF university, the first IEEE R8 Entrepreneurship Week camp, named OPET, where some of the best Entrepreneurs in Egypt have given valuable workshops to Students and Young Professionals.
1. Planned activities

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

A. Industry Engagement Newsletter: a monthly newsletter in coordination with our industry partners to collect all relevant news regarding open industry positions, internships, and training, in addition to organized events that bridge the industry/academia gap.

B. The inauguration of the IEEE R8 Tech Tours Program, as a cooperative planning effort by the Section’s Membership Development Officer and the Industry Engagement Committee, and the logistic support of other Region 8 Sections and Society Chapters/OUs. The inaugural episode is planned to be hosted by Poland Section under the theme of “IEEE R8 Tech Tours: Copernicus 2023” in conjunction with their 50th anniversary celebration, and the participation of IEEE members/student members from Egypt and Germany sections.
Reinforce industry engagement in the annually organized section activities.

Conferences:
- 2023 4th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence, Robotics and Control (AIRC) | 9 - 11 May 2023 | Cairo, Egypt
- 2023 40th National Radio Science Conference (NRSC) | 30 May - 1 June 2023 | Giza, Egypt
- 2023 Intelligent Methods, Systems, and Applications (IMSA) | 15 - 16 July 2023, Giza, Egypt
- 2023 International Telecommunications Conference (ITC-Egypt) | 18 - 20 July 2023 | Alexandria, Egypt
- 3rd International Conference On Emerging Trends In Networks And Computer Communications (ETNCC) | 16 - 18 August 2023 | Windhoek, Namibia
- 2023 3rd International Conference on Electronic Engineering (ICEEM) | 7 - 8 October 2023 | Menouf, Egypt
- 2023 Eleventh International Conference on Intelligent Computing and Information Systems (ICICIS) | 21 - 23 November 2023 | Cairo, Egypt

Professional Activities:
- Leadership and Soft Skills Training in order to provide additional value to members, in particular to young engineers and students | 24-25 May 2023, Giza, Egypt
- Workshop in Digital Transformation to help members master the pillars of emerging technologies as they prepare to serve their communities and the world | 2 - 3 September 2023 | Giza, Egypt

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 the Region 8. Please, also, give us your suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting.

- To leverage already signed, and to support to further establish, Global and Regional MoUs with global industry partners with local presence, including ST Micro, Siemens, among others.
- The two main issues that all Student Branches in Egypt currently face are:

1. The USD Exchange Rate effect on the Student Membership Cost

   The USD Exchange Rate has recently doubled, causing everything to be expensive, especially things that are paid in USD, such as the IEEE Student Membership. This issue is not new, as the USD Exchange Rate has been continuously rising the past few years in Egypt, making it harder and harder every year for Students to become active IEEE Student Members.

2. The SB Membership Development Kit (MD Kit) Taxes

   For almost a year now, the SB MD Kits arrive at expensive customs tax rates, even more expensive than the worth of the items within the box. This resulted that SBs reject to receive the package or to avoid ordering the MD Kit. The problem started occurring when the delivery agency became the “Egyptian Post”. However, before, when “FedEx” used to be the agency delivering the package, they did not charge anything, not a single pound. We ask that the MD Kit Staff contact the right parties to change the delivery agency for Egypt back to “FedEx”.

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