Humanitarian Activities Committee   Theodoros Panagiotis Chatzinikolaou

Composition

- Theodoros Panagiotis Chatzinikolaou (Greece) *(Chair)*
- Abdullateef Aliyu (Nigeria) *(Past-Chair)*
- George Papadimitriou (Switzerland)
- Lavender Ndunya (Kenya)
- Lucija Brezočnik (Slovenia)
- Omar Salameh (Jordan)
- Miriam Cunningham (UK&Ireland)
- Neemat Awadelkarim (Sudan)
- Nour Sbaoulji (Tunisia)
- Lwanga Herbert (Uganda) *(Ex-officio from HTB)*
- Magdalena Salazar-Palma (Spain) *(Ex-officio from HTB)*
- Maxwell Addison (Ghana) *(Ex-officio from HTB)*
- Mohamed Essaaidi (Morocco) *(Ex-officio from HTB)*
- Simay Akar (Turkey) *(Ex-officio from HTB)*

Goals

Our Committee's mission is to inspire and empower IEEE volunteers in the Region carrying out and supporting impactful humanitarian technology and sustainable development activities at the local level. In particular, our goals include:

- Supports SIGHT groups activities and encourage them to participate in Regional humanitarian technology activities,
- Develops programs and initiatives to enable volunteer engagement in humanitarian technology activities,
- Reviews and evaluates of the overall effectiveness of humanitarian programs,
- Recommends best practices as they relate to programs and projects,
- Evaluates of funding proposals for projects to be carried out at the local level,
- Connects with humanitarian volunteers and builds the optimal humanitarian team in the Region,
- Mentors existing SIGHT groups and prospective groups,
- Increases visibility of humanitarian technology activities within the Region,
- Encourages reporting of activities via vTools by monitoring and reaching out,
- Raises awareness of ongoing HTB/SIGHT activities,
- Encourages submission of HTB/SIGHT project proposals and proposals for funding of activities,
- Encourages celebration of SIGHT Week/Day across the Region,
- Encourages students and young professionals involvement in humanitarian technology activities,
- Organizes R8 Humanitarian Activities Congress when budget allows and collaborates in organizing humanitarian conferences,
- Recognizes exceptional SIGHT groups and volunteers,
- Collaborates and establishes partnerships with other IEEE OUs, with external organizations and other entities with similar goals on humanitarian projects.

Our KPIs focuses on the following areas:

- Increasing the number of SIGHT groups in the Region by at least 20%.
  - ✓ *Progress: 9 new SIGHT groups have been formed in 2023 (YoY +29%).*
- Increasing SIGHT groups events reporting on vTools by at least 30%.
  - ✓ *Progress: 239 events have been reported on vTools by R8 SIGHT groups in 2023 (YoY +110%).*
- Continuing at least 3 of the Humanitarian Programs and Initiatives 2021-22.
  - ✓ *Progress: All programs have been smoothly integrated to Committee's plan and structure.*
- Launching at least 3 new Humanitarian Programs and Initiatives in the Region.
  - ✓ *Progress: 2 new programs have been launched, 2 new programs are underway, 1 initiative has been successfully concluded, and 2 initiatives are underway.*
- Coordinating and getting aligned with the newly established IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board.
  - ✓ *Progress: Already collaborated in 4 programs, and communication is on an ongoing basis.*

Progress and Plans

Towards achieving our goals and KPIs, the Committee has established the following programs and initiatives:

- Community Support Program
- Connecting Humanitarian Experts Webinars
- Humanitarian Student Ambassadors Program
- Projects Monitoring and Visibility Program
- R8 Humanitarian Activities Congress
- R8 Humanitarian Awards
- R8 Humanitarian Technologies Hackathon
- SIGHT Groups Accelerator Program
- SIGHT Groups Coordination Workshops
- SIGHT Groups Monitoring and Support Program
- Humanitarian Partnerships Initiative
- SIGHT Groups Leadership Support Initiative

The Committee worked towards executing 2023 plans for programs and initiatives, monitoring their progress, receiving feedback for improvements, as well as concluding them. The Committee has established its 2024 plans, and currently works on their implementation. Detailed description and status of each program and initiative is also included in this report.

Statistics

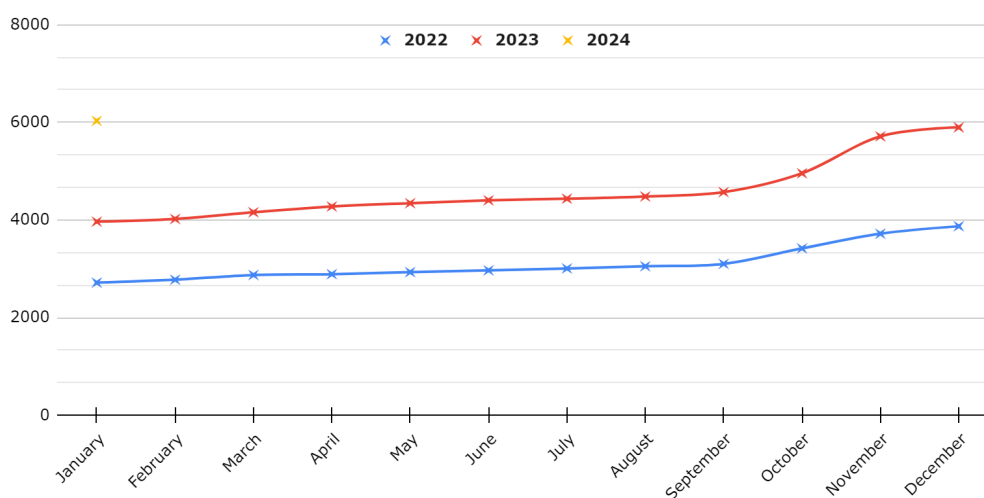➤ <u>SIGHT Groups Status:</u>

- 41 groups in total:
  - 22 professional groups on Sections and Subsections
  - 19 student groups on Student Branches
- 8 new groups since last report:
  - Higher Inst of Computer Science, SIGHT
  - Egypt University of Informatics SB SIGHT
  - Nnamdi Azikiwe University SB SIGHT
  - Ecole Nationale D'Ingenieurs De Tunis SB SIGHT
  - Federal University of Technology Owerri SB SIGHT
  - H.I. Info & Com Technologies SB SIGHT
  - H I Informatics & Mathematics of Monastir SB SIGHT
  - Tanzania Subsection SIGHT
- 3 Sections have appointed Humanitarian Activities Chairs *(potential transformation to SIGHT groups)*

➤ <u>SIGHT Membership:</u>

- 6,032 active members as of January 2024
- YoY change: +2,065 members *(+52%)*
- *Note: SIGHT membership is free and does not require IEEE membership –* <u>*Become SIGHT member here*</u>

➤ Detailed statistics for each Section are presented at the end of this report.

SIGHT Membership

Points of Concern

- Some programs require handover during a crucial timing for the program execution.
- Social media and publicity coordination of the Committee to establish solid marketing plans and raise awareness of potential opportunities.
- In some cases, SIGHT projects closing should be completed under newly elected officers, which require a proper handover.
- Participation in programs such as Humanitarian Voices and Humanitarian Student Ambassadors Programs is important in order to increase awareness of humanitarian activities in the Region.
- Committee's activity growth has led to higher budget requirements in order to be able to provide high-level support.

Proposals for Improvements

- It would be beneficial for Sections to closely cooperate and monitor SIGHT groups projects progress as they are the financial responsible OU.
- Increase awareness of IEEE HTB/SIGHT and R8 HuAC programs and funding opportunities to help increase the level of impactful activities using technology appropriately to support local community needs.
- Sections without SIGHT groups could form one and start working on implementing SIGHT projects.
- Need for funding opportunities in two levels: (a) collaboration with other IEEE and non-IEEE entities for joint activities and sponsorships and (b) Sections support to SIGHT volunteers for traveling purposes whenever possible.

Appendix I. Programs and Initiatives

➤ Community Support Program

Description: IEEE R8 and HTB are partnering to conduct a collaborative call for proposals to support SIGHT Groups (and prospective SIGHT Groups) in Region 8 who would like to address local community challenges.

Status: 34 proposals submitted in total, 8 projects were approved, and about $47,600 was distributed.

➤ Connecting Humanitarian Experts Webinars

Description: Periodic online webinars on humanitarian topics presented by experts in the field focusing on a specific UN SDG each time.

Status: These sessions are organized in collaboration with R8 YPs. 3 webinars were organized in 2023. SIGHT Week/Day celebrations will be included under this program.

➤ Humanitarian Student Ambassadors Program

Description: Supports and trains student volunteers to increase awareness and knowledge about IEEE humanitarian opportunities across our Region and impact the local communities.

Status: Preparations have been completed, selected to focus solely on students. To be launched soon.

➤ Projects Monitoring and Visibility Program

Description: Monitors the current status of active projects in the Region, ensure its successful closing and implement a visibility plan to publicize IEEE Region 8 impact on local communities.

Status: This is a new program and currently Committee is working on finalizing desired outcomes.

➤ R8 Humanitarian Activities Congress

Description: It includes humanitarian presentations, operational workshops, and networking opportunities, while attendees are expected to interact, discuss, and promote community development initiatives.

Status: Hosted virtually in 2023 with 85 participants from 23 sections with about 89% satisfaction rate.

➤ R8 Humanitarian Awards

Description: Part of R8 Awards with the Region 8 Outstanding Section / Student Branch SIGHT Group Awards in cooperation with the R8 A&R and R8 SAC (for the student award) Committees.

Status: Successfully completed for 2023. Improvements on eligibility documents has been proposed.

➤ R8 Humanitarian Technologies Hackathon

Description: Fosters competition amongst IEEE and SIGHT members, through their solutions to specific humanitarian challenges and targets tech proposals around specific UN SDGs.

Status: Hosted virtually in 2023 with 149 attendees and participants and 18 tech proposals. Finalists were able to submit their ideas on a special CFP and 1 proposal received $3,000 to be implemented locally.

➤ SIGHT Groups Accelerator Program

Description: Provides existing SIGHT groups seed funding for the new year's activities based on their humanitarian efforts and activities of the past year.

Status: 10 SIGHT groups submitted application and received seed funding in 2023 out of 16 eligible.

➤ SIGHT Groups Coordination Workshops

Description: Periodic online workshops with R8 SIGHT group leaders and volunteers on topics based on their reported problems and obstacles they face.

Status: 3 webinars were organized in 2023. First workshop in 2024 was organized in February 24.

➤ SIGHT Groups Monitoring and Support Program

Description: Gathers statistical and leadership information for R8 SIGHT groups to identify actions needed for each case and communicate them to their leaders, while encouraging them to share their news through Humanitarian Voices.

Status: This program has integrated monitoring process, humanitarian voices, and regional self-assessment report in order to provide a holistic set of support to SIGHT groups.

➤ Humanitarian Partnerships Initiative

Description: This initiative is expected to provide a report about how we could collaborate both with IEEE entities, but also with external partners to enhance, support and participate on our activities.

Status: The expected outcome is expected to be a white paper on collaboration and funding opportunities.

► SIGHT Groups Leadership Support Initiative

Description: This initiative is expected to provide a web info hub for new SIGHT group leaders to help them on their duties.

Status: The expected outcome is expected to be a "SIGHT Groups Leadership Support Hub" on the R8 HuAC website.

Appendix II. Publicity and Outreach

- Facebook: IEEE Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee *(@ieeer8humanitarian)*
- Instagram: @ieeer8humanitarian *(IEEE Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee)*
- LinkedIn: IEEE Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee
- Website: huac.ieeer8.org *(new structure)*
  - *"Humanitarian Meets STEM Hub" is included under "Education" category.*

Appendix III. SIGHT Statistics by Section *(as of January 2024)*

Section	SIGHT Membership				SIGHT Group Status	
	Professionals	Students	Other	Total	2023 events reported	Elections schedule
Algeria Section	11	11	3	25	0	H2 2024
Austria Section	12	2	0	14	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Bahrain Section	33	19	3	55	8	H1 2024
Belarus Section	0	0	1	1	*No SIGHT group*	
Benelux Section	28	11	0	39	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Bosnia and Herzegovina Section	2	1	0	3	*No SIGHT group*	
Bulgaria Section	3	1	0	4	*No SIGHT group*	
Croatia Section	8	1	0	9	0	H1 2024
Cyprus Section	4	1	0	5	*No SIGHT group*	
Czechoslovakia Section	1	0	1	2	*No SIGHT group*	
Denmark Section	5	5	0	10	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Egypt Section	149	206	17	372	15	H2 2024
Egypt University of Informatics ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	22	-	H2 2024
Estonia Section	4	2	0	6	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Finland Section	6	6	0	12	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
France Section	38	8	5	51	0	H1 2024
Germany Section	86	52	8	146	12	H2 2024
Ghana Section	19	6	3	28	4	2025
Greece Section	34	31	4	69	0	H1 2024
Hungary Section	3	1	0	4	*No SIGHT group*	
Iceland Section	1	0	0	1	*No SIGHT group*	
Iran Section	32	10	8	50	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Iraq Section	9	2	4	15	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Israel Section	5	0	1	6	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Italy Section	104	38	3	145	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Jordan Section	120	166	4	290	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Al-Balqa Applied University ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	66	18	H2 2024
Al-Huson University College ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	5	0	H1 2024
Kenya Section	93	143	21	257	14	H2 2024
Jomo Kenyatta Univ of Agriculture & Tech ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	15	3	H1 2024
Kuwait Section	16	7	0	23	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Latvia Section	35	21	1	57	*No SIGHT group – **Petition possible***	
Lebanon Section	16	6	1	23	12	H2 2024
American University of Beirut ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	0	0	H1 2024
Lithuania Section	1	0	0	1	*No SIGHT group*	
Malta Section	1	0	0	1	*No SIGHT group*	

Mauritius Section	9	1	0	10	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Morocco Section	18	28	9	55	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Nigeria Section	150	76	7	233	2	H2 2024
Enugu State University of Science & Tech ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	31	2	2025
Federal University of Technology Owerri ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	1	-	H2 2024
Nnamdi Azikiwe University ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	2	-	H2 2024
North Macedonia Section	4	1	0	5	*No SIGHT group*	
Norway Section	10	4	0	14	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Oman Section	5	6	3	14	2	H2 2024
Poland Section	13	3	2	18	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Portugal Section	25	15	0	40	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Qatar Section	9	1	1	11	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Romania Section	11	4	0	15	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Russia Section	4	0	1	5	*No SIGHT group*	
Russia (Northwest) Section	1	0	1	2	*No SIGHT group*	
Russia (Siberia) Section	4	0	0	4	*No SIGHT group*	
Saudi Arabia (East) Section	32	10	5	47	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Saudi Arabia (West) Section	22	4	7	33	12	2026
Serbia and Montenegro Section	15	5	1	21	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Slovenia Section	1	1	0	2	*No SIGHT group*	
South Africa Section	23	2	0	25	0	H1 2024
Spain Section	47	15	2	64	0	H1 2024
Sweden Section	16	7	0	23	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
Switzerland Section	16	6	0	22	0	H1 2024
Tunisia Section	289	2,184	155	2,628	14	H2 2024
ESPRIT ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	902	63	H2 2024
Ecole Nationale D'Ingenieurs De Tunis ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	15	-	H2 2024
H I Informatics & Mathematics of Monastir ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	30	4	H2 2024
H.I. Info & Com Technologies ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	-	H2 2024
Higher I A Sciences & Technologies (ISSAT Sousse) ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	3	H1 2024
Higher Inst of Applied Sci & Tech of Sousse ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	65	11	H2 2024
Higher Inst of Computer Science ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	47	9	H2 2024
Higher School of Sciences &Tech of H Sousse ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	155	28	H1 2024
Turkiye Section	86	107	42	235	1	H1 2024
Uganda Section	115	126	1	242	0	H1 2024
Kyambogo University ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	33	1	H1 2024
UK and Ireland Section	183	49	10	242	0	H1 2024
Ukraine Section	17	2	1	20	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
United Arab Emirates Section	36	14	14	64	*No SIGHT group –* ***Petition possible***	
American Univ of Sharjah ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	1	0	H1 2024
Zambia Section	4	2	2	8	1	H1 2024
R8 - Without Section	114	79	13	206	-	
Tanzania Subsection ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	-	H2 2024
Bule Hora University ↵	*N/A*	*N/A*	*N/A*	6	0	H1 2024
R8 - TOTAL	**2,158**	**3,509**	**365**	**6,032**	**239**	**-**

Notes:

- Sections without SIGHT Group and more than 6 SIGHT members are eligible to form one.
- SIGHT groups should report at least 2 activities per year in vTools events; please encourage your groups to report.
- SIGHT groups flagged as "H1 2024" for elections should hold them as soon as possible as their officers term is ending soon.