

R8 Entrepreneurship Committee

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Goals

Committee Goals and objectives:

- **Building a community and growing local entrepreneurship activities:** Create, encourage and support local (country and regional) entrepreneurship communities within IEEE and entrepreneurship activities
- **Strengthen entrepreneurship knowledge and skills:** create learning opportunities for aspiring or early stage entrepreneurs within the IEEE community to learn about entrepreneurship and build the skills required to pursue entrepreneurship
- **Provide mentorship opportunities:** connect aspiring or early stage entrepreneurs within the IEEE community to IEEE and non-IEEE mentors in the entrepreneurship space
- **Create and grow the network:** create a local (country and regional) entrepreneurship and investment network that the committee can tap into and extend to aspiring or early stage entrepreneurs within the IEEE community
- **Push to action through competition:** create a regional competition platform / pitching competition to identify and encourage new startups from the IEEE community

Committee KPIs

- **Building a community and growing local entrepreneurship activities:**
 - # of total entrepreneurship week events in 2024
 - # of total entrepreneurship week ambassadors in 2024
 - % share of entrepreneurship week events across Europe, ME, and Africa in 2024
 - # of entrepreneurship events supported in region 8
- **Strengthen entrepreneurship knowledge and skills**
 - # of entrepreneurship workshops hosted / facilitated within IEEE conferences
- **Provide mentorship opportunities:**
 - # of startups mentored
- **Create and grow the network**
 - # of external non-IEEE conferences attended
 - Size and scale of partnerships created
 - Amount of external sponsorship secured
 - Value of in kind support secured
- **Push to action through competition**
 - # of startups competing in regional pitch competition

Progress against goals since the last report

R8 Ambassador Program - Results and Next Steps

- Entrepreneurship Week 2023/2024
 - 12 reported events, from Spain, Tunisia, Jordan, UK, Egypt, Zambia, Kenya
 - 4 selected best entrepreneurship week events from UK, Spain, Egypt, Jordan - each received 400 USD in grants
 - ~2000 USD in event reimbursements provided - from Global Entrepreneurship
 - Best Ambassador Grant recipient participated at R8 SYP 2024
- Pitch Competition 2024
 - 33 startups sourced for quarterfinals. 8 shortlisted with offline judging
 - Semi-finals held virtually on May 18th. Top 4 startups selected for Finals. Startups from UK, Egypt, Jordan, and Italy.
 - Finals Took place at R8 SYP, on July 18th, with judges from IEEE leadership
 - Winning team selected (MoveCritic), focused on AI in HealthTech) - award is sponsorship to attend GITEX Global for one team member
- Entrepreneurship Week 2024/2025 - Call for Ambassadors Open

IEEE Conference Participation

- East Africa Entrepreneurship Summit: provided funding support
- Malta Robot Championship – Budgeting and Sponsorship Workshop
- R8 SYP 2024: 1000 USD sponsorship provided, Hosting R8 Pitch Final, Participating in Plenary session on Entrepreneurship
- 8TH RTSI: Entrepreneurship Workshop, support in organizing Entrepreneurship Week Event

- TSYP 2024: Funding support committed to cover entrepreneurship challenge, providing mentors and trainers for entrepreneurship sessions on Entrepreneurship 101, Business Model, Know your customer, Pitching best practices, Product development

External Conference Participation

- Viva Tech 2024: secured 2 free attendee tickets, 4 free startup tickets and 30% discount on all tickets. Attended by IEEE member and founder (Dessap, Co-founder of RobotSave)
- GITEX Africa 2024: secured 30 free visitor passes, and 25% discount on all passes. ~25 passes shared with IEEE R8 Members
- GITEX Global 2024: secured 50 conference passes, 300 visitor passes, 1000 50% discounted passes, and 5 investor passes, as well as infrastructure to run the following content in partnership with IEEE Entrepreneurship Global, IEEE Region 8, IEEE EMBS, and IEEE TEMS
 - o 1 hour of content on AI and Deep Tech, on Oct 14, on the GITEX Dubai Harbour, North Star stage (startup ecosystem)
 - o 1 hour of content on Health Tech, on Oct 15, on the GITEX Global Orange Stage
 - o 3-4 hours of content on AI Research Hub, on Oct 18, on the main AI Stage - Hall 25

New program - R8 Entrepreneurship Journey Course

- Collaboration with R8 SAC New Initiatives Committee on “IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship Journey”
- Support provided in securing trainers and speakers across 13 sessions
- Participation in opening panel for course (Dos and Don’ts of Entrepreneurship), and running workshop on “Building a Business Plan”

Overall KPI status

- Building a community and growing local entrepreneurship activities:
 - o # of total entrepreneurship week events in 2024: **12 events**
 - o # of total entrepreneurship week ambassadors in 2024: **65 applied, 50 organized events.**
 - o % share of entrepreneurship week events across Europe, ME, and Africa in 2024: **Africa (66%), Europe (16%), Middle East (16%)**
 - o # of entrepreneurship events supported in region 8: **4 events**
- Strengthen entrepreneurship knowledge and skills
 - o # of entrepreneurship workshops hosted / facilitated within IEEE conferences: **30 workshops, including entrepreneurship journey course, and online workshops provided as part of TSYP 2024**
- Provide mentorship opportunities:
 - o # of startups mentored: **8 startups**
- Create and grow the network
 - o # of external non-IEEE conferences attended: **3 conferences** (VivaTech, GITEX Africa, GITEX Global)
 - o Amount of external sponsorship secured: **~ 15,000 USD from global entrepreneurship**
 - o Value of in kind support secured:
 - **~300 USD in free tickets from VivaTech**
 - **~1500 USD in free tickets from GITEX Africa**
 - **~150,000 USD in stage, speaker travel, and free tickets from GITEX Global**
 - **Speaker travel: ~13,000 USD**
 - **Free visitor tickets: ~32,000 USD**
 - **Delegate tickets: ~55,000 USD**
 - **Stage setup: ~50,000 USD**
- Push to action through competition
 - o # of startups competing in regional pitch competition: **33 startups**