

IEEE R8 VC, Member Activities

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The VC Member Activities coordinates the activities of 7 committees:

- Membership Development (MD)
- Young Professionals (YP)
- Women In Engineering (WIE)
- Humanitarian Technology Activities (HTA)
- Entrepreneurship
- History Activities (HA)
- Life Members (LM)



Goals

The Region 8 Member Activities focus on the following goals:

- Effective experience sharing with previous Vice-Chairs and Region leaders
- Encourage new ideas
- Effective information flows to/from Section representatives
- Increased cooperation between MA's committees
- Increased cooperation with current TA and SA Region 8 vice-chairs

Specific goals and KPIs of the committees can be found in their corresponding reports.

Status

Coordination among subcommittees is achieved through different means, one of which is periodic online calls with MA committee chairs. This helps foster the common MA goal of engaging members with non-technical activities. The last call took place on 10 March 2025.

Activities reports of the committees can be found in their corresponding reports.

Face-to-face committees' meetings will be organized on Friday 4 April 2025.

The current number of the IEEE R8 members:

- 60 sections
- 13 subsections
- 112 affinity groups
- 220 student affinity groups

Outlook

IEEE Region 8 have reached historic peaks of ~91,500 members. The momentum of new members and numbers of activities is now here, and the outlook is to improve quality of the existing programs and increase the benefits provided to the members. The focus is to increase motivation of the volunteers and to establish collaboration and coordination on all levels: cross-committee, cross-sectional, cross-regional, interdisciplinarity in technical aspect, interdisciplinary in non-technical aspect.

Points of Concern

- Low retention rate (only 20% renewal after 1st year membership)
- About 28,000 members didn't renew
- Low % of female member (18% compared to 67% male)
- Most of the sections didn't reach their retention and recruitment goals
- Expensive membership for members in low-income countries, impacting on the retention of students after their graduation
- Improving the visibility of R8 activities
- Increasing the benefits for R8 members, encouraging them to renew their membership
- Implementing new programs and initiatives

Other Issues to report

The MA committees have some challenges related to the large geographical area covered by region 8, engaging in a diverse membership base, dealing with different development levels of countries, multiple languages, diverse cultures and frameworks. Dedicated benefits should be developed to members in underdeveloped countries, which are different from the needs of members in well developed countries.

The MA committees are looking to promote diversity and inclusion, develop tailored initiatives, and facilitate knowledge exchange and best practices.