

Professional and Educational Activities Committee

Dalius Navakauskas

2025 team



Dalius Navakauskas
(Lithuania) Chair



Natalia Piaseczna
(Poland) Member



Dora Fourou
(Greece) Member



Andrejs Romanovs
(Latvia) Past-Chair



Jenipher Ogara
(Kenya) Cor. Member



Mohamed Ali Zormati
(Tunisia) Cor. Member



Rabih Rammal
(Lebanon) Cor. Member



Igor Matias
(Switzerland) Cor. Member



Stamatis Dragoumanos
(Greece) Cor. Member

Mission

- Promote public awareness of engineering, technology, and other topics within IEEE Fields of Interest.
- Coordinate educational activities programs in Region 8 on three levels: pre-university, university-level and post-university/continuing education.
- Educate and support local volunteers to develop and execute professional and educational seminars and workshops in Region 8.
- Develop programs that provide additional value to members.

Goals

1. Encourage and advise the appointment of local PEA officers and Educational Activities Committees, and the establishment of PEA activities in all Region 8 Sections.
KPI: number of PEA officers in Sections
2. Support IEEE Professional and Educational Activities Programs by promoting, and whenever possible, funding them.
 - a. Pre-University Education Programs, such as IEEE TryEngineering Month, IEEE TryEngineering Summer Institute, TryEngineering Together, and STEM Grants.
KPI: number of events held
 - b. University Education Programs, such as EPICS (Engineering Projects in Community Service), IEEE-Eta Kappa Nu, Teaching Excellence Hub, and accreditation with ABET.
KPI: number of events held
 - c. Continuing Professional Education Programs, such as IEEE Learning Network (ILN), IEEE eLearning Library, IEEE Credentialing Program, IEEE Innovation at Work
KPI: number of events held
3. Promote and support the Region 8 Acceleration Program that aims to provide an opportunity for Region 8 members to initiate programs in Educational Activities (for Pre-University Education, University Education, and Continuing Education), showcase the innovation and drive of Region 8 members, to an international audience, and find creative programs which provide value to IEEE membership and the general public.
KPI: number of completed activities
4. Promote and support the Region 8 Local Language Program that is intended to promote activities (online or in person) and online content in different countries, aside from English, in Region 8.
KPI: number of completed activities



5. Promote and support the Region 8 RoboSTEMpathy Program (previously called the Robot Championship).
 - a. Engage Sections in STEM activities and programs
KPI: number of Sections and teams participating in the STEM activities
 - b. Engage Sections to organize local teams (each team shall include pre-university and university students) that will use robots to solve humanitarian challenges, targeting a specific UN SDG.
KPI: number of robot teams involved
6. Deliver the Region 8 PEA Flash-talks that in a very short and concentrated way present PEA programs and resources, application procedures, funding, value to the members, etc.
KPI: number of sessions

Progress against goals since the last report

1. The appointment of local PEA officers and Educational Activities Committees in Region 8 Sections:
 - Active Professional Activities Chairs in Sections: 30 (–1 since October 2024)
 - Active Educational Activities Chairs in Sections: 29 (–3 since October 2024)
2. Promotion and support of Region 8 Professional and Educational Activities programs*:
 - The number of Pre-University events held: 927 (+127 since October 2024)
 - The number of STEM program events held: 109 (–25 since October 2024)
 - The number of Continuing Education events held: 701 (+593 since October 2024)
 - The number of Professional Development events held: 701 (+92 since October 2024)

* EAB/SOEC level promotion of IEEE-HKN’s Pathways to Industry (12 February 2025) and IEEE EAB Awards (15 March 2025).
Section level promotion in Kenya Section AGM (14 March 2025).
3. Promotion and support of the Region 8 Acceleration Program (lead: Natalia, Igor)*:
 - The number of Acceleration Program completed activities: 2 (of 6 approved in 2024)

* Call for Acceleration Program application (April).
4. Promotion and support of the Region 8 Local Language Program (lead: Rabih, Jenipher)*:
 - The number of Local Language Program completed activities: 6 (of 15 approved in 2024)

* Call for Local Language Program application (April).
5. Promotion and support of the Region 8 RoboSTEMpathy Program (lead: Dora, Mohamed)*:
 - The number of completed STEM activities: 11 (year 2024)
 - The number of robot teams involved: 12 (year 2024)

* The Robot Championship was held in Malta (23/24 November 2024): 11 countries of Region 8 had representatives; 5 webinars were organized with over 80 participants; 14 awards categories for this championship were assigned. Call for RoboSTEMpathy Program application (April).
6. The delivery of the Region 8 PEA Flash-talks*:
 - The number of Flash-talk sessions organized: 2 (since October 2024)

* There were 23 attendees on November 27 and 28 attendees on December 12.

Other Issues to report

Together with Regions 3, 4, 6 and 10 the joint proposal entitled “STEM for Sustainable Development: Empowering Communities in Underserved Areas through Innovation” was submitted for consideration for 2025 MGA surplus funding. Project Lead Names from Region 8: Dalius Navakauskas and Jenipher Ogara. In the proposal, two new localized programs are envisioned to be implemented:

- Tech Ignite STEM Summer Camp (Kenya).
- Bridging the Gap: Pre-University STEM Outreach for Tanzania’s Industrial Growth (Tanzania).

Long-term impact. These events can raise awareness about the importance of technology and engineering and their societal impact, attracting the attention of local governments, schools, and industries to IEEE. Based on our experience, these parties are interested in collaborating to organize STEM events and grow the STEM community in the long term. Eventually, the project could catalyze a supportive ecosystem for technology innovation in underserved areas and contribute to the growth of their tech sectors. Additionally, experiences from different Sections can be shared through shared activities among project members to develop more impactful IEEE projects. For example, Kenya and Tanzania can share experiences on sustainable technologies for mining industries, while the Southeastern US, Sri Lanka and Indonesia focus on AI-driven entrepreneurship.