

## R8 Entrepreneurship Committee

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### Goals

Goal description.

1. **Building a community and growing local entrepreneurship activities:** Create, encourage and support local (country and regional) entrepreneurship communities within IEEE and entrepreneurship activities
2. **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
3. **Provide mentorship opportunities:** connect aspiring or early stage entrepreneurs within the IEEE community to IEEE and non-IEEE mentors in the entrepreneurship space
4. **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
5. **Push to action through competition:** create a regional competition platform / pitching competition to identify and encourage new startups from the IEEE community

Key performance indicators.

1. # of new Entrepreneurship Coordinator positions created in sections across Region 8
2. # of Entrepreneurship workshops hosted at IEEE conferences
3. # of mentorship sessions provided to IEEE members
4. # of Entrepreneurship Week Ambassadors in 2024 / 2025 edition
5. # of Entrepreneurship Week events completed in 2024 / 2025 edition
6. # of Startups put through R8 Pitch Competition
7. # of external events / partnerships established
8. \$ value of external partnerships, assessed through in kind contributions

### Progress against goals since the last report

#### R8 Ambassador Program & Entrepreneurship Week 2024/2025

- Selected top 4 Entrepreneurship Week events:
  - Healthtech for Tomorrow Entrepreneurs - Nigeria
  - Gen-Start vol.2 - IEEE Egypt Section
  - IEEE Pitchinno – Jordan
  - AI/IoT Cameroon'25 - Unlocking the Power of AI and IoT: A Game-Changer for Sustainable Entrepreneurship in Cameroon and Developing Nations.- Cameroon
- Selected Best Ambassador Award Recipient: Sama Fahmy – Gen Start Vol.2 – Egypt

#### Pitch Competition 2025

- Online semi-finals completed
  - Completed on June 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Judges: Samar Hamdy, Dr. Sergii Grybinak, Dina Shoman, Ayat Amr
  - Semi-finalist startups below – Finalists and winners highlighted in green

Startup Name	Section
Alertix	Egypt
MTT	Jordan
The Wujood Project	Jordan
OORB Open Organic Robotics	Tunisia
vidanomi	Finland
KameleonAI	Lebanon
Blutechnova	Egypt
GenAIus Technologies	Turkey
myzelion	Germany
Umeme Sense	Kenya
Mainlogix Technology	Nigeria

- In Person Pitch Final Scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup>, at Gitex Global Dubai, as part of IEEE Quantum R&D symposium
  - Judges include:
    - Maximilian Walz, VP Technology Transformation & Incubation at T-mobile Germany
    - Michele Zorzi, Professor of Telecommunications at the School of Engineering of the University of Padova
    - Petar Popovski, Professor at Aalborg University
    - Pauline Jordan, Chief of Staff at Microsoft Quantum
    - Michael Baczyk, VP Business Intelligence at Global Quantum Intelligence
  - All three finalist startups received up to 1200 USD in funding support to attend GITEX and final. The top one startup will be recognized on stage on October 17<sup>th</sup>

#### R8 Ambassador Program & Entrepreneurship Week 2025/2026

- Launched Entrepreneurship Week 2025 / 2026 Edition. 49 events submitted.

Country Assignment	Count of Events
Other	8
Algeria	1
Azerbaijan	1
Egypt	8
Ethiopia	1
Germany	1
Ghana	1
Kenya	2
Nigeria	5
UAE	2
Tunisia	6
Uganda	3

Jordan	2
Morocco	1
Palestine	1
Spain	1
Switzerland	1
Turkey	3
UKI	1
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>49</b>

IEEE Conference Participation and workshops

Event	Status	IEEE / External	Dates	Location	Involvement
IEEE Entrepreneurship Summit East Africa	Completed	IEEE	May 22 to 23	Kigali (Rwanda)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
CEUSYP	Pending	IEEE	TBD	Istanbul (Turkey)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
VivaTech	Completed	External	June 11 to 14	Paris (France)	Ambassador, free passes, potential speaking slot
Africa SYP	Completed	IEEE	August 22 to 25	Accra (Ghana)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
8th RTSI	Completed	IEEE	August 24 to 26	Gammarth (Tunisia)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
MENA SYP	Completed	IEEE	August 27 to 31	Tunis (Tunisia)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
WESYP	Completed	IEEE	September 11 to 13	Hamburg (Germany)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
Nordic SYP	Completed	IEEE	September 18 to 20	Vilnius (Lithuania)	Mentorship, judging, adv, <b>workshop</b>
GITEX Global	In Progress	External	October 13 to 17	Dubai (UAE)	Speaking slot, Pitch Final
WIE International Leadership Summit	In Progress	IEEE	November 28 2025	London	Panel

From Volunteer to Visionary – Step into R8 Entrepreneurship	Completed	IEEE	August 9 2025	Online	Internal webinar on entrepreneurship week and entrepreneurship coordinator role
R8 YP LEAD Program - Entrepreneurship Session	Completed	IEEE	July 5 2025	Online	Internal webinar on entrepreneurship with YP team

#### Entrepreneurship Affinity Group Coordinator Position

Section	EC Position Exist ?	EC Name
Croatia	Yes	Tena Žganec
Italy	Yes	Marco giordani
Malta	Yes	Micheal Azzopardii
Tunisia	Yes	Tasnim Chiboub
Jordan	Yes	Jude Haddad
Slovenia	Yes	Mark Umberger
Tanzania	Yes	Ibrahim Mwammenywa
Egypt	Yes	Iraqi Ali
Iran	Yes	Hossein Riazi Isfahani
Germany	Yes	Sevda Abadpour

#### KPI performance to date

# of new Entrepreneurship Coordinator positions created in sections across Region 8	10 coordinators
# of Entrepreneurship workshops hosted at IEEE conferences	6 workshops
# of mentorship sessions provided to IEEE members	4 (3 IEEE events and 1 webinar in IEEE R8 YP LEAD program)
# of Entrepreneurship Week Ambassadors in 2024 / 2025 edition	31 events submitted, 18 events took place and reports, ~ 30 ambassadors
# of Entrepreneurship Week events completed in 2024 / 2025 edition	49 events submitted to date – pending reporting
# of Startups put through R8 Pitch Competition	53 startups submitted
# of external events / partnerships established	2 (GITEX and VivaTech)

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\$ value of external partnerships, assessed through in kind contributions	NA
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