



IEEE Region 8 Humanitarian Technologies Activities Committee

It has been a very busy summer and autumn for the Region 8 Humanitarian Technologies Activities Committee (HTAC). Several initiatives have been going on in parallel, besides participation in several Region 8 events.

IEEE Region 8 and Tech4Good Call for Proposals: The HTA Committee, with support from HTB ran the 2025 edition of the T4G call for proposals. Having letter of intents submitted, and reviewed, leading to the full proposal submission and evaluations with support from independent judges/evaluators – the program got its five finalists at the end of September. This quantifies to about 30000 USD given to humanitarian projects within region 8. Kudos to the committee members, staff and the independent evaluators who spent time and efforts working on this program. Now it's only about time before we start seeing communities impacted with our support.

Humanitarian Student Ambassadors Program: also, the 2025 edition of the student ambassadors' program is running now, in collaboration with Region 8 SAC. This year we had a historic number of applications from volunteers within region 8, and about half of them have made it to phase 2 (running now until end of the year). The students get to earn a badge for every task they finish, and this leads to them qualifying to the next phase and ultimately becoming true ambassadors of humanitarian activities.

We are also running the **Connecting Humanitarian Experts Webinar** series in parallel, which will end in December. It's a series of four webinars that are aimed to increasing awareness on technologies available in the humanitarian space.

The **SIGHT Groups Accelerator Program Applications** are open now, and we are looking at supporting as many SIGHT groups as possible who qualify the requirements (vTools event reporting, officer reporting, self-assessment reporting).

The committee also assisted in the marketing and evaluation of **R8 SIGHT awards**, which are run by IEEE Region 8 Awards committee. While we did not get as many applications as we had anticipated, we still believe we got very strong applications and candidates.

We also, proudly, ran the **Region 8 YP Humanitarian Innovation Hub** in collaboration with Region 8 Young Professionals Committee, where the HTAC and YP committee came together to host a series of five webinars in quick successions on subjects related to humanitarian efforts, innovation and entrepreneurship. We also invited **EPICS in IEEE** committee for one of these sessions to tell us more about the program and the available fundings.

Lastly, we participated in a number of events – virtual and physically within Region 8. To begin with, the Chair (Samarth Deo) participated in the WIE ILS in Gliwice, Poland in June. This was followed by RTSI and MENASYP in Tunisia where committee members Kai Godall and Nour Sbaoulji participated (supported by Amira Ouerfelli from Tunisia Section SIGHT). Further, WESYP in Hamburg was attended by Lucia Brezočnik and Samarth Deo (together with Mohamed Saeed Darwesh); followed by Nordic SYP where Lucia Brezočnik, George Papadimitriou and Samarth Deo attended. At all these events, the committee ran 90-minute interactive workshop to bring energy in to the room and get everyone start thinking about the possibilities of humanitarian activities in their local societies/communities. A huge thanks to all the organizers of these events and congratulations on their successes.



IEEE MENASYP 2025



At WIE ILS in Gliwice, Poland