The 118th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held in Warsaw

The 118th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting was held in Warsaw, Poland, during 1-3 April 2022. Caught with war in Ukraine, and with another COVID-19 wave after the meeting in Frankfurt during November 2021, the volunteering spirit was re-ignited again in our 59 Sections and 11 Subsections of Europe, Middle East and Africa. Again, over 100 Region 8 Committee members met in person, greeted with the great hospitality of IEEE Poland Section and local volunteers. The meeting was again held in hybrid format for those who could not attend in person. The public sessions of the Meeting were live-streamed, and the recordings are available at:
https://ieeer8.org/category/committee/meetings/2022-april-warsaw.

Under the Hood—IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professionals Congress, Tunis, Tunisia, August 3–7, 2022

Every two years, the IEEE R8 Student and Young Professional Congress (SYP Congress) gathers over 400 Student and Young Professional members from the whole IEEE Region 8. The congress involves a series of plenary sessions, workshops, competitions, social activities, and many more – through separate Student and Young Professional tracks. It follows a good practice of conferences, summits, and other business events, while striving to imbue the tailored focus for our students and young

Message from the Editors

In Early April 2022, the 118th Region 8 Committee Meeting was held in Warsaw, Poland in an hybrid format. I only managed to join virtually, but the face to face component was certainly fruitful to engage more IEEE members, form new connections, and to also spread the word about Regional and Section activities in Region 8 News and other Publications and Communications channels. You will find that this June 2022 issue has a plethora of different articles from across the region and hopefully it inspires you to share best practices with other OUs in the Region, and further organize hybrid events.

Cátia Bandeiras,
Region 8 News Past Editor-in-Chief

Volunteering for IEEE, as you may experience, is something that helps us contribute to a greater mission and vision in our involvement as Engineering Students and Professionals. Beyond learning best practices and the current trends in technology development in our Societies of interest, it helps develop leadership, time management, teamwork, and communication skills. It is also a great way to widen your professional network all over the world. I am very grateful for having accepted the challenge of first volunteering for IEEE in 2018 and, since then, multiple roles at the Section, Regional and Publications level arose. I will take those learnings with me forever. However, sometimes, the personal and professional life circumstances do not allow for remaining as active as a volunteer and we need to prioritize our health and work-life balance. As I realized that I would no longer have the time and resources capacity to be Editor In Chief for Region 8 News, I handed this over and I leave you in the very capable hands of Vinko Lešić as new EiC and the editorial team. This is the last edition that I have contributed to as a Past Editor-in-Chief and member of the editorial board, but I hope to keep on reading Region 8 News and learning from all of you. Please continue contributing to editors@ieeer8.org and the content submission form, I am curious! And, if you want to remain connected, feel free to email me at catiafmb@ieee.org or add me on LinkedIn, as I'll be happy to give back to IEEE in any way I can at the time.
All the best,
Cátia

Looking back, it has been a hard period behind us. In a long time, we finally started to smile to each other in person during much-expected R8 meeting in Frankfurt, in November 2021. After that, we were all caught with another COVID-19 wave, stealing our thoughts and time from anything else. Then, the war in Ukraine was thrown at us... All these have put a heavy toll on our volunteering capabilities, with all of us having too many opportunities of more direct form of help to those around us. During such period, the Region 8 News

Vinko Lešić,
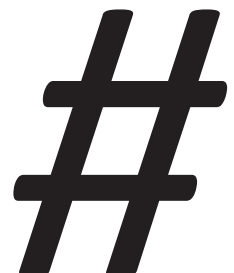*Region 8 News Editor-in-Chief*

benefited excellent and tremendous job of Cátia's team who renewed foundations of the newsletter and brought to us the four editions. We witnessed great activities and programs happening all around the Region in such difficult times.
Looking forward, R8 Warsaw meeting in April 2022 re-ignited our spirit and set many plans in motion. With it, I am pleased to follow Cátia's path as the new Editor-In-Chief and carry on the newsletter. Our goal is four editions annually, fulfilling the joint mission of being the voice of the Region. For June 2022, this voice is young. Events and initiatives are contributed by our student branches across the Region, with the spotlight on the upcoming IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress in early August, in Tunisia. Announced conferences are filled with innovative topics and content to make science and technology more available and interactive. It is all pointing clearly that our diverse and dynamic Region is striving to advance education, knowledge exchange and our wide network of professionals.
With the era of screenshots falling behind us, we are proud to bring you photographs yet again. Above everything else, our thanks go to the contributors! Write us at editors@ieeer8.org and we will publish your story.
We will be writing to you as well!
Vinko

region8news

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Region 8 Committee

IEEE
Advancing Technology for Humanity

Tunisia GeoAI Hack 2022: Satellite Images for Crop-Type Mapping

Imen Mahdi, IEEE Sup'Com Student Branch, Tunisia

Credits: Hichem Chekir

IEEE Sup'Com Student Branch Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Chapter of IEEE Tunisia Section have collaborated with the African Association for Geospatial Development in the organization of Tunisia GeoAI Hack.

Tunisia GeoAI Hack is a 2-day event centered around Geoscience and Geospatial Technologies. The event kicked off with a 15-hour Hackathon hosted on the ZINDI platform on 22 April 2022. We challenged participants to apply their Machine Learning and Deep Learning knowledge to solve a problem in Geoscience. We provided them with Geodata collected from Sentinel1-2 Satellite Images for Crop-Type Mapping. The AGEOS Tunisian crop dataset comprises 1500 observed fields in central Tunisia - Kairouan. It was captured in the field by AGEOS Team in April 2021 and was processed in a structured format by IEEE Sup'Com GRSS Chapter Members. The competition gathered 50 participants on site and 130 registrations. We also welcomed Mrs. Nesrine Chehata Laroui, Chairwoman of AGEOS, Mr. Bilel Khlaifia as a mentor from AGEOS, and Mr. Mohamed Djedidi as a mentor from InstaDeep.

On the second day, we hosted a 2-hour conference featuring keynote speakers. Mr. Bilel Khlaifia discussed "Multi-GPU and Distributed Training using Horovod for Geospatial Data" followed by presentation "An Enhanced Deep Learning Approach for Tectonic Fault and Fracture Extraction in Very High Resolution Optical Images". The Live broadcast reached more than 300 viewers.

2021 International Humanitarian Technology Conference (IHTC)

Miriam Cunningham and Paul Cunningham, UK and Ireland SSIT Chapter and IST-Africa SSIT SIGHT

Credits: UK and Ireland SSIT Chapter and IST-Africa SSIT SIGHT

Originally established in Canada, IEEE International Humanitarian Technology Conference (IHTC) now rotates between Region 7 (Canada), 8 (Europe, Middle East and Africa) and 9 (Latin America and the Caribbean), focusing on sharing insights, experiences and lessons learnt from ICT for Development (ICT4D) as well as supporting achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with a particular focus on sharing results related to ethical use of appropriate technologies in low resource environments.

IEEE IHTC 2021 took place from December 2–4, 2021, as a virtual event hosted by the IEEE UK and Ireland Section. The conference shared insight into the application of technological innovation to address societal challenges in fields as diverse as Agriculture, Disaster Mitigation, Energy, Education, Healthcare, Supporting Integration of Refugees, and Water and Sanitation (WASH). The Scientific Program incorporates full papers, short papers and oral presentations sharing insights and results from 22 countries around the world. Workshops on Ethical Considerations in Technology Implementation and Artificial Intelligence and Rural Electrification brought together experts from a range of countries sharing experiences on these topics.

Susan Kathy Land, 2021 IEEE President & CEO; Antonio Luque, IEEE Region 8 Director (2021 - 2022); Jason Gu, IEEE Region 7 Director (2020 - 2021); Alberto Sánchez, IEEE Region 9 Director (2020 – 2021) and Maike Luiken, 2021 IEEE Vice President - Member & Geographic Activities, shared insights into how IEEE volunteers and activities are supporting ICT4Development and Humanitarian Technology engagement with communities in different regions of the world.

This inter-disciplinary conference facilitated engagement and knowledge sharing by stakeholders from the public, private, education and research and societal sectors in 25 countries and raised awareness of the ethical use of technological innovation to improve quality of life and access to opportunity in local communities around the world.

IEEE IHTC 2021 was organised by volunteers from UK and Ireland Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) and the IST-Africa Society on the Societal Implications of Technology SIGHT in cooperation with Region 8. It was technical co-sponsored by IEEE Africa Council, and the UK and Ireland Chapters of the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT), IEEE Systems Council and IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society.

More information are available at: conference program, proceedings in IEEE Xplore and video recordings of IEEE Societal Implications of Technology Channel on IEEE.tv.

IEEE Algeria Section Activities January–April 2022

Kouzou Abdallah, Algeria Section Chair

Credits: IEEE Algeria Section

A new breath has been brought to the IEEE Algeria Section by the new office in 2022 where many activities have been launched for the promotion and the enlargement of the membership within the whole country.

The Section is technically co-sponsoring many international conferences, locally and abroad, with many IEEE members involved. Among the more active chapters is the IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Chapter, which organized many workshops along the year in 2021, and scheduled a summer school for next July.

IEEE Student Branch of University of Boumerdes is the first IEEE student branch in Algeria, founded in 2016 and located at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of University of Boumerdes. The Student Branch organized many activities throughout the year including: 1. webinars: "Let's Talk Mars" with Pr. Noureddine Melikshi discussing Curiosity and Perseverance missions; "Techknowledge" a series of technical webinars aimed to introduce student to new technologies including quantum computing and Cisco systems, 2. trainings: "Deep learning training" where participants learned basics of programming techniques and practicing them through a set of exercises to help them get started with deep learning; "PCB Design" as series of workshops targeting beginners in circuit design, modeling and PCB design; "Graphic Day" graphic design training for beginners, finishing with a challenge where winners were chosen to volunteer with our SB; "Machine Learning Bootcamp" aimed to develop skills in machine learning, followed by a 30 days of programming challenges to put our student skills into action 3. IEEE programs: "IEEE PES DAY 2022" with three ambassadors from our SB that organized REMENA gathering to talk about energy situation in MENA region, as well as webinars in smart grids and grid protection training; "IEEE Smart Cities Week 2022" in collaboration with Tipasa Smart Cities we organized a week of conferences, webinars and challenges in different smart cities topics, and 4. competitions: "She's in Tech" entrepreneurship challenge where 4 of our members won in Fintech category; "Innovate FPGA" competition organized by INETEL with one of our members as the finalist.

IEEE MELECON 2024 - Porto – Portugal - 25–27 June 2024

Catarina Reis, Portugal Section Vice-Chair

IEEE MELECON is one of the flagship conferences of IEEE Region 8 and will be held in Portugal, Porto on 25-27 June of 2024, supported by the IEEE Portugal Section. IEEE MELECON 2024 will be a major international forum presenting design methodologies, techniques, and experimental results in emerging electro-technologies. Researchers and practitioners from different technological fields of Electrical Engineering, including Control Systems, Communication and Information Technology, Mechatronics, Nano- & Micro-Electronics, Electrical Power Systems, and Signal & Image Processing will be welcomed.

Save the date and join us at the School of Engineering of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto (ISEP/P.PORTO)!

More information at https://www.ieee-pt.org/

Metaverse Tunisian Summit: First steps towards the Metaverse

Mahdi Hadj Kacem, IEEE Sup'Com Student Branch, Tunisia

With Meta's announcement to invest in the Metaverse, the world's interest has shifted toward AR/VR technologies. IEEE Sup'Com Student Branch, in collaboration with IEEE SMU Student Branch, Vsober and Talan decided to join in on this movement. We are currently planning a first-of-its-kind event: The Metaverse Tunisian Summit. The 3-day conference will take place from September 30 to October 2, 2022 and will tackle an emerging technology: Augmented Reality and XR technologies.

We are targeting 300 participants from Tunisia and the MENA Region. The event is intended for students and engineers passionate about AR/VR technologies. The explorers and the less experienced will participate in virtual webinars before the start of the Summit and attend panels, workshops, and exhibitions during the Summit. The exhibition will feature the solutions provided by startups and companies, offering a chance for a first experience to get in touch with this technology's applications. The passionate and the experienced participants will participate in a Hackathon to implement their knowledge and come up with cutting-edge technology solutions.

The hackathon will start virtually before the Summit and will continue face to face. The winners may have the chance to attend and present their ideas during the Francophonie, held this year by Tunisia to gather people from French-speaking countries and allow them to expose different accomplishments.

PhD Summer School SSIE 2022 (July 11–15)

SSIE Co-organizers: Matteo Meneghini, Gaudenzio Meneghesso, Sergio Rapuano, Michele Rossi, Tiziana Tambosso, Italy Section; article submitted to R8 News by Federica Battisti, Chair of Young Professionals Italy

We warmly invite you to the PhD Summer School of Information Engineering - SSIE 2022, which will be held in Brixen this year too, continuing the decades-long tradition.

SSIE will take place in Brixen, Italy, during July 11-15, 2022. This year, we are grateful to have the possibility to plan our school in person. We will go back to our traditional venue to take part in technical talks and lectures on cutting-edge ICT technology, while having the possibility to enjoy fellows' company. This year, the School features 26 reputable speakers, and two Tracks: Track 1 - Machine Learning, Sustainable Edge Computing and Networking; Track 2 - Gallium Nitride and Semiconductors for Power Conversion: Present and Future of Materials for Energy Efficiency.

Registration is now open, with June 30, 2022, as the deadline for enrolling. SSIE will also feature a half-day student workshop, where students will present their research activity. The best presentation will receive an award, jointly presented by the IEEE Italy Section and the Department of Information Engineering (DEI) at the University of Padova. Moreover, PhD Students participating in the School will be awarded five credits from their doctoral school (further instructions will be given during the School).

We dearly hope many of you will join in, to enjoy the wide range of interesting and stimulating lessons and the natural beauty of our School venue in Brixen and its surroundings. Thanking you for your attention, and in the hope to see you all in July in Brixen.

Find more information at https://ssie.dei.unipd.it.

Region 8 Conference Coordination Committee helps to promote, support, and ensure good quality of conferences

R8 Conference Coordination Committee

Conferences are of major interest for IEEE members and can help in membership development, improve vitality of and bring income to participating Sections and technical Chapters. Running a conference can also help in sharpening the technical skills of students, researchers, and professionals.
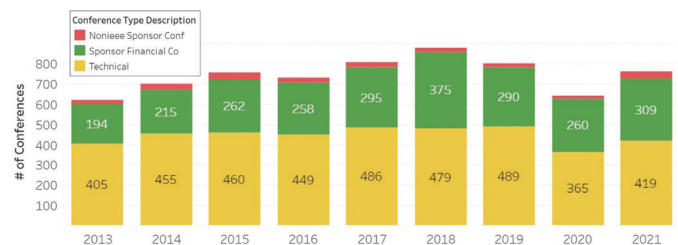
Number of conferences organised within Region 8 (credits: R8 Conference Coordination)

Organising and running a conference may be complex, and IEEE Region 8 (R8) Conference Coordination Committee (CoCC) is here to assist. The CoCC is run by volunteers experienced with running conferences. As per R8 Operations Manual, the CoCC's mission is to facilitate the planning, development, implementation, coordination, and to monitor and provide oversight for R8 conferences, conventions and technical shows sponsored or cosponsored by R8, and liaise with and advise Societies and Technical Councils planning conferences in R8.

Typically, CoCC directly supports more than 30 conferences per year, including R8's four bi-annual flagship conferences:

EUROCON, AFRICON, ENERGYCON, and MELECON, and two portfolio conferences: HISTELCON and RTSI. The 2022 R8 flagship and portfolio conferences are:

● May 9-12, 2022: IEEE 7th International Energy Conference (ENERGYCON), in Riga, Latvia: ieee-energycon2022.org

● June 14-16, 2022: IEEE 21st Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference (MELECON), in Palermo, Italy: melecon2022.org

● August 24-26, 2022: 7th IEEE Forum on Research and Technologies for Society and Industry Innovation (RTSI), Paris, France: www.ieee-rtsi.org

● May 1-4, 2023: 14th IEEE Global Engineering Education Conference (EDUCON), Kuwait: www.educon-conference.org

● July 6-8, 2023: 20th EUROCON, Torino, Italy

● September 7-9, 2023: 8th HISTELCON, Florence, Italy

● September 11-13, 2023: 16th AFRICON, Nairobi, Kenya

How does the process work?

For any of our IEEE R8 Flagship conferences, it starts by simply contacting the CoCC to express your interest before submitting all necessary details. This should follow on the agreement that your Section is willing run this particular/flagship conference. Another opportunity is that prospective conference organisers can respond to the call for hosting one of the IEEE conferences. Sections and Chapters may also initiate their own conference.

The IEEE conferences should follow the detailed guidelines available at IEEE Meetings, Conferences, Events (MCE). The IEEE MCE (www.ieeemce.org) will support the conference organisers in the major steps of IEEE Xplore publication, copyrights, plagiarism check, contracts, etc.

The CoCC supports the conference organisers in submitting the IEEE conference application. The R8 helps its sponsored conferences in promoting the call for papers to over 75,000 members. These conferences should normally be sponsored by the local section/subsection and at least one technical unit (Society, Chapter). The committee assists R8 Sections and subsections in attracting and participating in the organisation of IEEE Society or Technical Council Conferences in their territory.

Each year, the committee organises training workshops for sections' officers and for conferences' organisers. Members interested in starting, hosting, or asking for the R8 technical sponsorship of a conference are welcome to approach the CoCC team by email at conferences.officer@ieeer8.org. Further details are available on the R8 website: http://conferences.ieeer8.org

Habib M. Kammoun
(Tunisia)
Chair

Ljupco Karadzinov
(North Macedonia)
Past Chair

Nadezda Kunicina
(Latvia)
Member

Robert Bierwolf
(Benelux)
Member

Margaretha Eriksson
(Sweden)
Finance AdHoc
Committee Liaison

Tiziana Tambosso
(Italy)
Corresponding member

Eric Kuada
(Ghana)
Corresponding member

Albert Lysko
(South Africa)
Corresponding member

Marios Antoniou
(Cyprus)
Corresponding member

Ridha Hamila
(Qatar)
Corresponding member

2022 R8 Conference Coordination Committee

Research Activity video presentation @ IEEE MELECON

Federica Battisti, Chair of Young Professionals Italy

Research Activity video presentation at IEEE MELECON 2022 is a call devoted to student and young professionals to present their innovative research ideas in the field of interest of IEEE. The competitors are invited to prepare a 5-minute video: "My research idea in 5 minutes" in which they will present their research idea and activity using slides, pictures, photos, graphics, lab demo, etc., to describe in the most convincing and attractive way their innovative idea, achievements and field of application.

The audience present at the IEEE MELECON competition for the Research Activity Video Presentation will be able to vote for their favorite video (instructions on the voting procedure will be provided on site). The competition will take place during IEEE MELECON 2022 on June 16, 2022 and the participation of competitors is free. The competition will be a hybrid event, and competitors can participate in person or remotely to answer the questions of the audience.

All competitors (max. 10) selected for presenting at the competition will receive a participation certificate. The best research idea will be awarded with a customized IEEE certificate.

More info at: https://melecon2022.org/research-activity-video-presentation

WIE International Leadership Summit Tunisia 2022

Mohamed Foued Ayedi, IEEE Sup'Com WIE Affinity Group

IEEE Sup'Com WIE Affinity Group is glad to announce that the second edition of WIE International Leadership Summit in Tunisia will be held on September 10-11, 2022.

The IEEE WIE International Leadership Summits are small- to medium-scale events held locally worldwide and focused on Empowerment, Entrepreneurship, Leadership, and Emerging/Disruptive Technology. WIE Summits provide regional opportunities for networking, mentorship, training, and collaboration. ILS aims to provide a forum for women in technology to network with peers and gain insights from industry, entrepreneurship, academia, and government leaders. Attendees share their unique points of view through real-life projects and experiences, discuss lessons learned, identify challenges and limitations, and collaborate on critical skills for leadership development in projects in teams. Up to ten WIE Summits will be conducted globally in 2022 in different countries.

ILS Tunisia 2022 will include panels with international speakers, team building activities, workshops, mentoring sessions, and a competition. The event will focus in all its parts on "The empowerment of women in rural areas". ILS Tunisia 2022 is a two-day catalytic experience of rich learning, new ideas, fresh perspective, and inspiring stories from leading experts spanning a wide range of fields and backgrounds.

Join us to learn more invaluable leadership insights, further your professional development, and create evergreen strategies for tomorrow's challenges.

Breaking the bias for Women in Engineering

Ferheen Ayaz, UK and Ireland Women in Engineering

Credits: Ferheen Ayaz

This Women in Engineering Day, on June 23, 2022, the IEEE Women in Engineering UK & Ireland (WIE UKI) Affinity Group is proud to share its activities, events and efforts in recognising the remarkable contributions of women engineers, who make such an impact throughout the world and change lives. Dr Annabel Latham, Chair of WIE UKI and Senior Lecturer at Manchester Metropolitan University, said, "IEEE WIE UKI is actively promoting careers in engineering and technology to women, and demanding that a culture of diversity and inclusion is seen as the norm rather than the exception." The Group's aim is to create a vibrant community of IEEE women and men who collectively use their diverse talents to innovate for the benefit of humanity. Apart from its main goal of global diversity in science, technology, mathematics, computing and engineering, its events also aim to expose the audience to novel areas and aspects of engineering and computing that solve real world problems, establish links for industrial collaboration, networking and mentorship, and create connections for future research opportunities.

On March 8, 2022, the first anniversary of the IEEE WIE UKI Ambassadors Scheme was celebrated alongside International Women's Day. The Scheme was launched to support career development, networking and mentoring. Dr Nagham Saeed, IEEE WIE UK Steering Committee member and Ambassadors Lead said "The restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic made it very challenging to work towards our goals. However, our motivated team still managed to bring together various webinars for both young and senior professionals." Dr Nagham Saeed works as a Senior Lecturer at the University of West London.

Early Career Talks events of IEEE WIE UKI occur quarterly, providing opportunities to recent PhD graduates and postdoctoral researchers, both from industry and academia to share their work. Ms Ferheen Ayaz, a Research Associate at the University of Glasgow and a speaker at the fourth Early Career Talks event, noted, "It was an enlightening experience to share my research and get constructive feedback during Early Career Talks. It really boosted my confidence and provided networking opportunities."

Two additional inspirational events organised by the IEEE WIE UKI Ambassadors Scheme last year promoted diverse industry-academia collaboration. The events were entitled 'Challenges and Opportunities: Towards a Better WIE Future' and 'Empowering Women in the Triple Helix Model'. Both events encompassed a variety of topics and speakers representing men and women from academia and industry. Prof Amir Alani, one of the speakers at the 'Challenges and Opportunities: Towards a Better WIE Future' said, "Diversity and

equality is significantly important in engineering, as they broaden our vision and pave the way to innovation and creativity. I appreciate the efforts of IEEE WIE UKI for promoting women and diversity and wish them every success in this area of immense importance." Prof. Amir Alani is Executive Dean of the School of Computing and Engineering at the University of West London.

Credits: Ferheen Ayaz

Women are considered an under-represented group in engineering. Indeed, statistics indicate that just 11% of engineers in the UK are female. IEEE WIE UKI regularly organises activities such as school outreach programmes, student events, talks, panels at conferences, joint technical events and creates inspirational posters to encourage girls to study Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects. Last year, they launched WIE UKI Awards, with four awards made to recognise four amazing women who volunteered their time and contributed significantly to supporting women in engineering. IEEE WIE UKI are passionate about their continuing work to break the bias and promote diversity and gender balance in engineering and technology. Recordings of the events can be accessed on their YouTube channel.

Credits: Joseph Kirillos

Meetings and panels

The meeting followed the regular Spring meeting tradition with a single day dedicated for new volunteers and subcommittee meetings, followed by two more days of the official meeting itself. With the welcome words of IEEE Region 8 Director Antonio Luque, the meeting started with enthusiastic spirit of time to come and pandemic hopefully finally behind. Parallel meetings followed for various committees, brainstorming the gathered data and feedback, and setting new goals, plans and programs for 2022. The New Volunteer Orientation session was led by IEEE Region 8 Director-Elect Vincenzo Piuri, joined by Antonio Luque and IEEE Region 8 Past Director Magdalena Salazar-Palma who brought to fore the vision of IEEE to inspire a global community of technical professionals through high quality publications, conferences, technology standards and professional and educational activities, all leading to the mission of dedication to advance technology for the benefit of humanity. Supported by other subcommittee members, the

training of new volunteers was conducted hands-on while explaining the task of the IEEE volunteers and officers to facilitate access to cutting-edge information, networking opportunities and technical innovation. Various administrative tools were presented to keep healthy structure of IEEE through elected and appointed officers, from local organizational units all the way to the IEEE central, and to enable easily accessible volunteering options to serve our technical community, in every corner of our Region.

As we are hopefully getting to post-pandemic routines, an Open session for Section Chairs on R8 programs and initiatives was initiated. A great focus is put back to IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional (SYP) Congress 2022, which will be held in Tunis, Tunisia, during 3-7 August 2022. Young generations are recognized once again as the main drive for IEEE volunteering spirit, where the SYP Congress stems as the greatest opportunity for volunteers to meet in person. With our Region in such need on various unfortunate occasions, another

discussion was initiated, focused on Special Humanitarian Initiatives. in current conflicts, gathering thoughts on how we can provide technical, scientific and educational forms of exemplary support to our community members in need, from local to global initiatives.

The day was completed with the IEEE Poland Section presentation about their activities and achievements, presented by current Section Chair Adam Dąbrowski, followed by commemoration of 50 years of Poland Section history that marked the path from technical pioneers, awarded with IEEE Milestones, towards the current highlights of the overall technical community that entwines industry and academia through local IEEE chapters, affinity groups, and volunteering efforts in general.

Day 1

Antonio Luque welcomed the attendees and, after the usual procedural elements, started the Day 1 of the Meeting with a thank you note to "all OpCom members, Section Chairs, Subcommittee Chairs and members, and all volunteers in general, for their outstanding efforts and dedication during the unprecedented challenges we faced in 2021". He continued with latest updates in the Region, presenting positive trends in memberships, events and awards, and new Ad Hoc committees, emphasizing that in 2022 we have marked 60 years of IEEE Region 8. He concluded with a critical overview of the hard times and present issues that we face, and the ones we expect to appear, giving the outlook to the overall two days meeting agenda.

The welcome message of IEEE President K. J. Ray Liu was played, marking the initiative of "IEEE – Your Professional Home". The Executive Director & COO Stephen Welby presented the latest updates and thorough overview of the current IEEE trends. The Meeting carried on with recognition of anniversaries of Poland, Finland, and North Macedonia Sections, followed by debate presentations of Region 8

Credits: Mohammad Hossein Babaee

Director-Elect Candidates Adeel Sultan and Michael G. Hinchey, listed in random chronological order of their presentations, and led by Marko Delimar as former R8 Director (2011-2012). Region 8 finance update was presented by Adam Jastrzebski, IEEE Region 8 Treasurer. The announcement of IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress 2022 was presented by Khaldoun Taktak, Congress Chairman, and Mohamed Zormati, Congress Administrative Affairs Coordinator, who were introduced by Theodoros Panagiotis Chatzinikolaou from R8 Congress Coordination Committee. David Koehler, MGA Vice President and Managing Director, further addressed the R8 Committee and announced the 2022 MGA Region Realignment, introducing two zones in Region 8 and Region 10 with corresponding zone representatives as two additional attendees at MGA Board meetings this June and November. He also presented new projects of MGA, offered deeper insight into membership statistics and announced the IEEE Sections Congress as an in-person event scheduled in Ottawa, Canada, taking place during 11-13 August 2023. An initiative for National Societies Agreements was then presented by Peter Nagy, Vice-Chair of R8 Technical Activities, followed by presentation of Conrad Attard, Chair of R8 Professional and Educational Activities Subcommittee, about R8 Robot Competition.

After the lunch break, Margaretha Eriksson, as former R8 Director (2017-2018), discussed IEEE Constitution and Amendment Processes. Regional best practices were presented by Region 2 Director Barry C. Tilton and Region 9 Past Director Alberto Sanchez. Antonio Luque further marked the 60th anniversary of IEEE Region 8, together with a presentation of Jozef Modelski, former R8 Director (2009-2010), about the Region's past. New Ad Hoc Committee "IEEE Your Professional Home" was introduced by Barry C. Tilton, as the Ad Hoc Chair. Clara Neppel, Senior Director European Business Operations, continued with the latest updates of Public Policy in IEEE. Day 1 joint part of the Meeting was concluded with a group photo and followed by breakout sessions about emerging topics of interest in Region 8. This concluded the official part of Day 1 of the Meeting, which was followed by the social program including a Warsaw tour and the gala dinner.

Day 2

After the call to order, Antonio Luque introduced Day 2 of the Meeting, and Peter Nagy's Technical Activities team continued their individual reports: John Matogo (Chair, R8 Action for Industry), Andrejs Romanovs (Chair, R8 Chapter Coordination), Habib Kammoun (Chair, R8 Conference Coordination), Tuncer Baykas (Chair, R8 Standard coordination) and Conrad Attard (Chair, R8 Professional and Educational Activities). The R8 Vice-Chair for Student Activities, Simay Akar, then presented her committee overview, student awards and programs, followed by presentation about student membership insights and statistics, as well as the new programs by Theodoros Chatzinikolaou (R8 Student Representative), further continued by Student Paper Contest presentation by Vera Markovic (R8 SAC Student Paper Contest Coordinator) and concluded by Simay's motions of "Student Branch of the Year Award proposal" and "Continuation of the IEEE Student Branch Website contest at R8". Sara Pena Barros, Vice-Chair of Membership Activities, welcomed the audience and announced her committee, followed by individual presentations of Mike Hinchey (Chair, R8 Membership Development), Vinko Lešić (Past Chair, R8 Young Professionals), Peter Magyar (Chair, R8 Life Members Subcommittee), Maria-Alexandra Paun (Chair, R8 Women in Engineering Subcommittee), Abdullateef Aliyu (Chair, R8 Humanitarian Activities Committee), Martin Bastiaans (Chair, R8 History Activities), and Mohamed Amin (Chair, R8 Career Services). The initiative for a new Ad Hoc Committee of IEEE R8 Entrepreneurship was presented by Rawan El Jamal, emerging R8 Young Professionals and IEEE Foundation supported program spin-off. Ethiopia Subsection formation was further approved.

After a short break, Magdalena Salazar-Palma, as former R8 Director (2019-2020), presented a proposal for changes to Bylaws and Operations Manual that was endorsed by the Committee, followed by her presentation announcement of call for Nominations and appointments in R8. The new Region realignment pilot program was presented by Antonio Luque, followed by the election process of a new zone representative, in which Habib Kammoun was selected by section chairs as the representative of the Middle East and Africa zone. Antonio Luque further announced the 119th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting to be held in Cairo, Egypt, in Autumn 2022, and finally concluded the meeting.

Vinko Lešić, R8 News

Check our website: http://r8syp.ieee.tn

Under the Hood ...

professionals. This implies learning from experts, learning from each other, learning both about the technology and cultures, strong networking, getting feedback from our volunteers to steer Region 8 and the whole IEEE, and of course, doing it all while having fun along the way!

This year, the tradition is passed to Tunisia to hold the latest edition.

A spotlight on Tunisia

Tunisia is located in North Africa and is near Europe and the Middle East. It is a country of great history, influenced by migratory movements and with preserved monuments from various cultures, which are considered as a great opportunity for intercultural discovery and mutual tolerance. There are the Roman El Jem Amphitheatre, Dougga, Byrsa Hill, Carthage Ruins and many more. Tunisia is a captivating destination unlike any other, one that will surprise and delight you in so many memorable ways, especially with charming sand beaches during warm summer days. We speak three different languages: Arabic, French and English, which enables us to easily host international guests.

SYP 2022 logo

Our logo consists of SYP written in Arabic-looking typography with "checheya", a Tunisian traditional hat in the foreground, and national aqueducts representing our ancient history in the background. This concept is the perfect combination we were looking for as we started by illustrating different national monuments and traditional symbols to showcase the Tunisian identity and rich history.

Sketching the SYP 2022 logo (credits: SYP 2022 team)

Program

The program contains large variety of different entertainment and technical activities such as a multicultural evening to enhance multicultural exchange between participants all around the region, a series of workshops, keynote and plenary sessions covering a large variety of up-to-date subjects, different themed dinners and without forgetting to mention the tours and visits where we are going to discover one of the most charming places in Tunisia.

Venues

The central venue of SYP 2022 will be National Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology (INSAT), a Tunisian institute affiliated with the University of Carthage, in Tunis, the capital city. This college of ours is vast, holding many classrooms and spaces for entertainment. Besides the official program, we will bring you to the City of Culture in the capital, which is the everlasting dream of Tunisian intellectuals and artists. It hosts many shows such as orchestra, movie festivals and concerts. We will also take you to Gammarth, a town at the Mediterranean coast, located 20 km north of Tunis and adjacent to La Marsa. It is an upmarket seaside resort, notable for luxury tourism.

Slot Time	Tue 2/8	Wed 3/8	Thu 4/8	Fri 5/8	Sat 6/8	Sun 7/8
7AM	Arrivals & Check-in	Arrivals & Check-in	Breakfast & Preparations			
8AM			Transport			
9AM			Keynote			Closing Ceremony
10AM			Plenary Session			
11AM						
12PM			1 Workshop Session	2 Workshop Sessions	1 Workshop Session	
1PM			Lunch		Food Court	Congress Check-out
2PM		Congress Check-in		Lunch		
3PM			Transport	Transport	2 Workshop Sessions	
4PM		Transport	Tours & Group Photo	Career Fair		
5PM		Opening Ceremony			Transport	
6PM				Poster Session	Preparation for GALA Dinner	
7PM		Transport	Preparations for Dinner		Transport	
8PM		Dinner		Transport		
9PM			Transport	Preparations for Multicultural Evening	GALA Dinner	
10PM		Beach Party	Tunisian Dinner	Multicultural Evening		

SYP 2022 program (credits: SYP 2022 team)

Yet Another Day in Congress Preparations

The committee members have taken the organizing of this edition of SYP Congress as a personal mission, which transmutes everything we do. Since our first meeting, there has been a strong team chemistry. We talked about ourselves, our interests and most importantly our vision for the SYP 2022 congress. There was consensus that this edition should be exceptional and reflect the best in all of us. We strive to support each other by going together to reach out to sponsors and to check out potential venues for our events. We all mobilize to make sure this event reaches its full potential.

Discussing the preparation for the SYP never ends. Even apart from the official meetings, we meet in cafés or play board games while discussing our plans and exchange ideas. We support each other in the hope of reaching our goal. Our team building has been a great way to ensure team harmony. We got

to share a Ramadan Iftar, our religious period, all together as friends. Our team is very large and parted to sub-teams where each manager is meeting with his staff devising new strategies and planning our next actions to make sure this congress goes smoothly. Overall, the committee has been working at a steady pace and we can't wait for you to see what we come up with.

One of our committee meetings (credits: SYP 2022 team)

During 118th IEEE Region 8 Meeting in Warsaw

The SYP 2022 was announced and presented by Khaldoun Taktak, Congress Chairman, and Mohamed Zormati, Congress Administrative Affairs Coordinator, who met the R8 Congress Coordination Team (R8CCT), R8 Student Activities Committee (R8SAC) and R8 Young Professionals (R8YP) at the 118th IEEE Region 8 Meeting, held in Marriott hotel in snowy Warsaw, during April 1-3, 2022. A great focus was given to the congress during the meeting, with a dedicated brainstorming session with R8CCT, R8SAC and R8YP, joined by other R8 officers, during the subcommittees meeting day, followed by a dedicated discussion in front of a broader R8 Committee including section chairs, and finally with a dedicated presentation announcing the congress. Khaldoun and Mohamed met the "veterans" that organized and coordinated previous SYPs and XS SYPs (cross-sectional congresses), dating back to 2008, advising about all the aspects to consider stemming from the fact of R8 great cultural diversity, about health and safety previous experience, administrative and legal backbone for the organization financials, program schedule dos and don'ts, and, above all, encouraging that the central point of SYP Congress is young people infinite energy and technical passion, which is enough on its own to ensure the great event, where the Tunisian team is traditionally on top. Khaldoun and Mohamed enabled the R8 Meeting attendees to experience a sweet and unique touch of Tunisia by distributing them local traditional artisan cookies, distributed by R8 volunteers while Khaldoun, Mohamed and Theodoros Panagiotis (from R8CCT) held SYP 2022 presentation in front of R8 Committee.

Meet the Organizers – INSAT Student Branch

Our Student Branch is one of the largest IEEE student communities in Region 8, founded in 2013 at the Institute of Applied Sciences and Technologies and currently counting more than 500 active members. We have 6 technical chapters and one affinity group and have successfully organized more than 160 events (congresses, conferences, 24h challenges, workshops, competitions...) in various domains.

Apart from being the largest, we are also one of the most decorated student branches in Region 8, with multiple IEEE awards and prizes under its belt. This, coupled with our student branch's extensive experience in organizing major events, be it at the local or international level, most notably the Middle East SYP Congress in 2017, goes to show our qualifications for the organization of the Region 8 SYP Congress.

History of SYP Congresses

IEEE Region 8 SYP congresses have a long history, from large meetings, over Student Branch Congresses (SBCs) to SYP congresses from 2014 after the change of "IEEE GOLD" (Graduates of the Last Decade) into "IEEE Young Professionals". The full list is here:

2022 | Tunis, Tunisia, 3–7 August 2022
2020 | Gothenburg, Sweden, 14–26 September 2020 (Virtual)
2018 | Porto, Portugal, 22–25 July 2018
2016 | Regensburg, Germany, 17–21 August 2016
2014 | Kraków, Poland, 6–10 August 2014
2012 | Madrid, Spain, 25–29 July 2012
2010 | Leuven, Belgium, 4–8 August 2010
2008 | London, United Kingdom, 28–31 August 2008
2006 | Paris, France, 30 August – 3 September 2006
2004 | Passau, Germany, 4–7 September 2004
2002 | Cairo, Egypt, 1–5 May 2002
2000 | Eindhoven, Netherlands, 14–19 May 2000
1998 | Istanbul, Turkey, 10–13 August 1998

Prior to the Student Branch (and GOLD) Congresses, there were annual Transnational Student Meetings organized with representatives from Region 8 student branches. For instance,

SYP 2022 Congress Organizing Committee (credits: SYP 2022 team)

such were held in the Netherlands (1985), Finland (1986), Switzerland (1987), Belgium (1988: over 40 students from Benelux, Denmark, UK, Finland, Germany, Greece, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland and the USA), Portugal (1989), the Netherlands (1991: 76 students from 12 countries) and Turkey (1992: over 45 students from 16 countries).

This August, the tradition is continued in Tunis, Tunisia, held during August 3-7, 2022, so reserve your calendar slots and meet us there!

SYP 2022 Congress Organization Team, R8 Congress Coordination Team and Vinko Lešić (R8 News)

Congratulations to the 2021 IEEE PES HPSBCP Winners!

Muhammad Al-Barham, R8 Student Branch Chapters Coordinator

Credits: IEEE Power and Energy Society

The IEEE Power and Energy Society (PES) provides annual recognition and funding to the IEEE PES Student Branch Chapters (SBCs) to carry out activities supporting the local members through the flagship program of High Performing Student Branch Chapter Program (HPSBCP).

More specifically the HPSBCP award recognizes the success of SBC, provides funding to organize more activities, helps to evaluate the health of the SBC and provides a channel for the SBC leaders to communicate with the IEEE PES leadership.

For the 2021 IEEE PES HPSBCP edition, the winners for IEEE Region 8 were:

1st position: University of Jordan PES SB chapter (IEEE Jordan Section)

2nd position: Nat'l Inst of Applied Sci & Tech (INSAT) PES SB chapter (IEEE Tunisia Section)

3rd position: Tafila Technical University PES SB chapter (IEEE Jordan Section)

Every IEEE PES SBC that completes the basic application and satisfies the minimum requirements is eligible for basic funding of $150. For more information about the award, eligibility requirements and details, you can refer to the official program website at https://www.ieee-pes.org/student-branch-hpsbcp.

IEEE R8 SAC 2021 Funded Events and Initiatives

Theodoros Chatzinikolaou, R8 Student Representative

IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee (R8 SAC) offered various funding opportunities for Student Branches and Section Student Activities during 2021! Cross-Sectional Student Initiatives Booster Program along with the Sectional Student Branch Officers Meeting and Leadership Camp Programs funded more than 6 events during 2021. Let's find out more about these initiatives.

Back to the Future by IEEE INSAT Student Branch

"Back to the Future" was a bootcamp including many presentations and workshops hosted by the 6 technical chapters and the affinity group of the IEEE INSAT Student Branch. Presentations included topics such as "Advancing IoT through AI", "Metrology in Medicine", and "Solar-wind Hybrid System". After the seminar day, the pitch day included teams preparing their project and pitching their brilliant ideas in front of qualified jury members. Four teams made it to the pitching phase, one from Tunisia, two from Uganda and one from Mauritius.

Basics and Beyond by IEEE Uganda Section

A successful "Basics and Beyond" Officers Meeting was held by IEEE Uganda Section on Sunday, December 5, 2021, at Noma House, Kyambogo University. The meeting attracted over 25 students from IEEE Uganda Section Student Branches. During the meeting, a Student Branch Past-Chair shared his experiences and skills for effective leadership along with so many other activities, such as presentations about the roles of the IEEE Student Branch, sharing of ideas and plans for future activities, cake cutting and awarding of certificates.

Credits: R8 SAC

Develop your Skills Robotic Workshop Uganda by IEEE Uganda Section

"Develop Your Robotic Skills Workshop Uganda" took place at Noma House Kyambogo University on Saturday November 20th, 2021. The event attracted over 35 students from various student branches and courses. The IEEE and non-IEEE members learned how to use the LEGO Education Core Set to build robots and the EV3 software that is used to program the robotics. Many activities took place, including presentations about robotics and IEEE, a robotic challenge, and awards ceremony. It was the first time IEEE volunteers met physically in almost 2 years.

Credits: R8 SAC

IEEE Portugal Leadership Camp by IEEE Portugal Section

Leadership Camp is an activity of the IEEE Portugal Section that gathers 2 students per each national student branch to give them training about IEEE procedures, in order to improve the students' activities. Moreover, they have the opportunity to improve soft skills, such as leadership, team building, public speaking, among others. This year's edition embraced a hybrid version, enabling members to network face-to-face for the first time since 2019. This year's program had multiple training sessions that discussed IEEE specific subjects, such as organization and opportunities, raising funds and GDPR. Other sessions promoted initiatives to foster collaboration among Student Branches, organize events and develop leadership skills. The last session counted with Student Branches Past-Chairs, who discussed and shared valuable advice concerning challenges that ExComs face.

Credits: R8 SAC

Students Leadership Summit by IEEE Nigeria Section

The IEEE Students Leadership Summit of the IEEE Nigeria Section gave the student representatives the opportunity to learn about their roles, key leadership skills and how to coordinate their Student Branch in the best way. It also allowed them to share ideas and meet their fellow students from other universities. Finally, it offered a better understanding of IEEE, how to manage their Student Branch and work together in their various schools.

The Future of Robotics in Africa: Human-Machine Collaboration by IEEE Uganda Section

"The Future of Robotics in Africa: Human-Machine Collaboration" took place on Friday 26th October 2021 virtually. A panel discussion was held in which experts from Kenya, Uganda and Nigeria were invited to discuss the future of robotics in Africa and how they can help the students improve their robotic skills.

IEEE R8 SAC 2022 Programs for Student Branches and Section Student Activities

IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee

IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee (R8 SAC) has renewed the 2022 offered opportunities for Student Branches and Section Student Activities! Leverage our 5 programs specially designed for students and take advantage of these funding opportunities. There are various available application deadlines including June 20th, July 20th, August 20th, September 20th, and October 20th. You can find more information for each program on the IEEE R8 SAC website at sac. ieeer8.org.

Local Student Paper Contest Events Program calls for Student Branch and Section Student Activities leaders to submit their own version of a local student paper contest and get the chance to showcase their papers on the Regional Student Paper Contest.

Student Networking Days Program calls for Student Branch leaders to submit proposals for collaborative social and networking activities between many student branches that mix fun with professional development in order to enhance the student members' bonding and to establish collaboration with Young Professionals.

Collaborative Student Initiatives Booster Program calls for Student Branch and Section Student Activities leaders to submit proposals for collaborative initiatives or project ideas in the domain of Student Activities. There are different tracks that you can apply for your initiative including Section Student Initiatives Track, Student Branch Initiatives Track, Student Branch Technical Chapter Initiatives Track, Student Branch Women in Engineering Initiatives Track, and New Engineers Track.

Sectional Student Branch Officers Meeting Program calls for Section Student Activities leaders to submit proposals for Student Branch officers gatherings in a Congress format. This program aims to allow sharing ideas, practices and different realities of each Student Branch, and provides networking opportunities and contacts, ideas and motivation to Student Branch officers.

Sectional Student Branch Leadership Camp Program calls for Section Student Activities leaders to submit proposals for training sessions for the Executive Committee members of the Student Branches. This program aims to accelerate student volunteers' knowledge of the IEEE's organization, student services and resources, create a succession tool that develops and prepares future IEEE volunteer leaders, and encourage student branch officers to transfer knowledge to their student members.

IEEE R8 SAC Section Student Activities Officers Training Camp

Simay Akar, R8 Vice-Chair Student Activities, and Theodoros Chatzinikolaou, R8 Student Representative

Credits: R8 SAC

The Section Student Activities Training Program focuses on providing guidance to section officers related to student activities, as well as the necessary training resources to deliver their duties as successfully as possible. During 2021, a successful 5-session virtual training took place with distinguished guests from every aspect of the IEEE activities.

Moving forward to in-person events, IEEE R8 SAC hosted an in-person Section Student Activities Officers Training Camp in Antalya, Turkey on February 4-6, 2022. There were more than 10 participants from different sections, and they were trained on student branch program, student awards and contests, technical activities, women in engineering, publicity, membership development, available tools and resources, required reporting, as well as their own section student activities role and action plan.

The next in-person version of the IEEE R8 SAC Section Student Activities Officers Training Camp will be held in Greece in early November.

IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest 2022: 1st Phase Results

Vera Markovic, R8 Student Paper Contest Coordinator

IEEE MELECON 2022
Palermo, Italy • June 14 - 16, 2022

IEEE REGION 8 STUDENT PAPER CONTEST

2022 ORAL FINALS

Credits: Theodoros Chatzinikolaou

The Student Paper Contest (SPC) is one of the main technical activities in Region 8. It was established in 1967 and since then it is an excellent opportunity for personal leadership and involvement of student members in a prospective IEEE scientific/technical activity and to increase the visibility of the student branch.

In this edition there are 13 accepted submissions from: University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, University of Maribor, Slovenia, Ecole Mohammadia d'Ingenieurs, Morocco, Politecnico di Torino, Italy, Qatar University, Qatar, University of Niš, Serbia, Bogazici University, Turkey, Moi University, Kenya, Imperial College London, UK, University of Technology and Applied Sciences-Ibra, Oman, Onaizah Colleges, Saudi Arabia, and Linkoping University, Sweden.

The jury has anonymously selected the following five papers (listed in alphabetical order) for the Regional Oral Finals: Emilija Ćojbašić, University of Niš, Serbia, "Machine learning as an aid to predicting clinical outcome after stroke", Kristjan Cuznar, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia, "Optimization of cold rolling process recipes based on historical data", Lorenzo Lagostina, Politecnico di Torino, Italy, "Design of Low-power Arithmetic Logic Circuits for 45 nm CMOS Technology", Matthieu Brabant, Université catholique de Louvain, Belgium, "Homomorphic Encryption for Privacy-Friendly Augmented Democracy", and Zixuan Huang, Imperial College London, UK, "Beam-switching Circularly Polarized Antenna Array for Cold-chain Tracking RFID Applications".

Congratulations to the authors and the student branches of the top five papers! The oral finals will take place at the 21st IEEE Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference (IEEE MELECON 2022) in Palermo, Italy on June 14th - 16th, 2022.

IEEEDuino Contest 2021–22: Build Phase Finalists

Lee Crudgington, R8 New Student Contests Initiative Coordinator

The year 2021 marked the launch of the IEEEDuino contest for IEEE student members in Region 8. IEEEDuino is a student-focused hardware contest to inspire student members in Europe, Middle East, and Africa to design, build, test, and demonstrate an innovative project on an Arduino microcontroller, compete against others in the Region and win great prizes for both winning and participating. This year's theme is the solutions to help in tackling and recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, and contestants were encouraged to come up with the most creative design they could think of!

As a pilot programme, the contest was opened to 17 sections in IEEE Region 8 and received an overwhelming response. A comprehensive and diverse team of volunteer judges and ambassadors took part, spreading the word of the new contest and helping to create our beautiful graphics and online presence. Once the contest was unveiled, we had over 40 teams interested in participating and requesting to learn more.

The first stage of the contest requires teams to submit a short report document, illustrating how they intend to build their project and what the design is intended to achieve. A key focus on creativity, collaboration, learning, and inventiveness was suggested, while practical, realistic designs that stood a good chance of being completed in the time allotted were ultimately successful.

The lucky finalists who progressed to the final evaluation stage are sponsored by Arduino Nano microcontroller and development kits, delivered to their address to complete their current projects, and will hopefully serve their new owners in many more innovative projects.
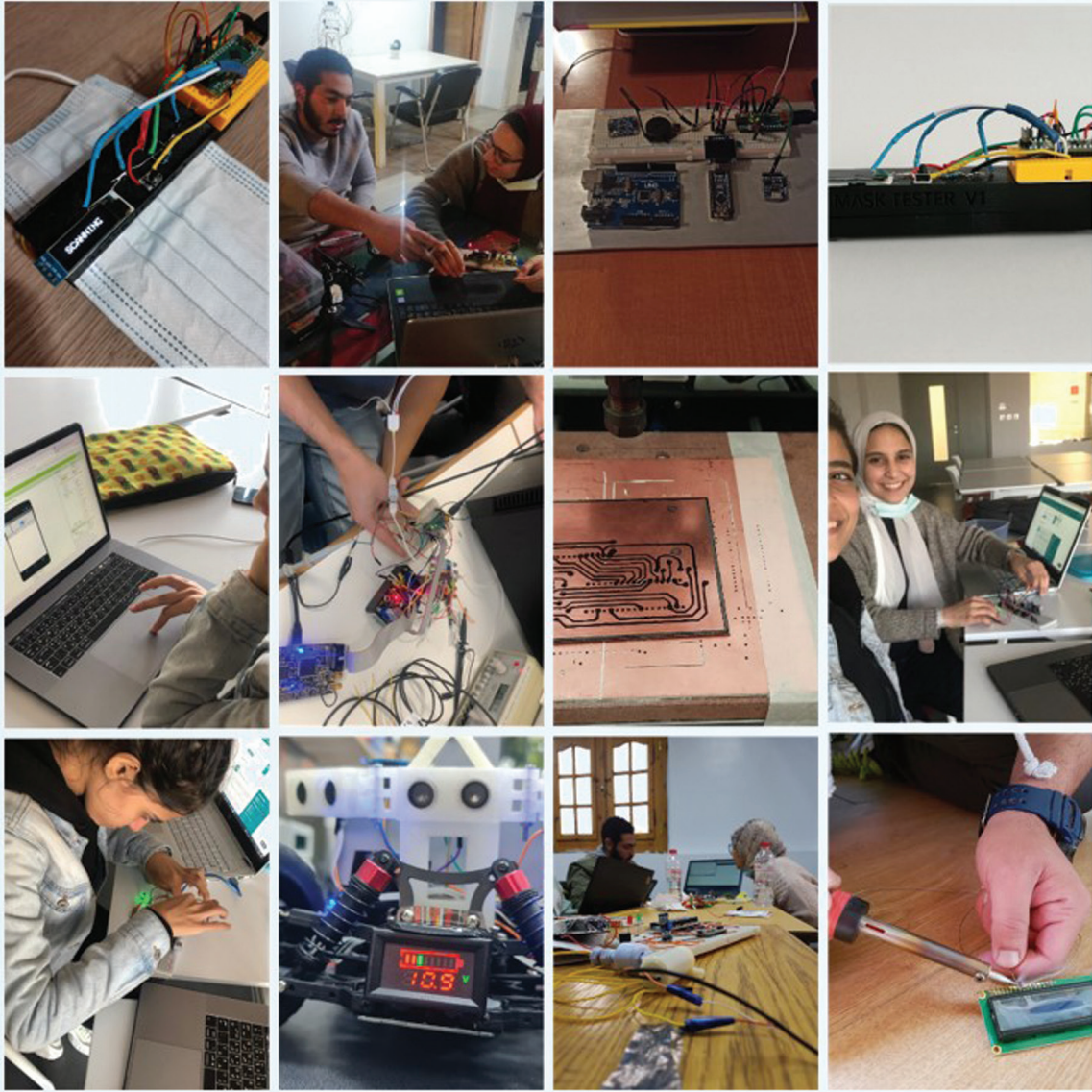
The final phase of the contest saw the teams complete a demonstrative video of the project, showing off its capabilities and illustrating the detailed steps and the experience of building it. We would also like to learn how the experience helped with the finalists' personal development, specifically which new skills did they learn while working on this project, what else they would like to learn on the topic, how their work and actions contributed to their team's success, the hardest part of about working in their team, and which new skills they learned.

For the 2021-22, the finalists are (alphabetically): BitDuino - Spain Section, ChrysRob - Romania Section, Covarduino - Egypt Section, crowdSOS - Germany Section , Invicta - Romania Section, SheffielDuino - UK and Ireland Section, SystemsGenesis - Greece Section, Tech Health - Egypt Section, Tech Irrigation - Egypt Section, and Tech Sight - Egypt Section.

We are now finalising the contest winners and will soon be able to share all of the remarkable designs which featured in this year's edition. The top three winning teams will receive $300, $200 and $100 prizes respectively, will be able to collect their prizes at the upcoming IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress in Tunisia, and will be immortalised in the history of this new IEEE initiative. Stay tuned for the announcement and follow our social media pages for the announcements on entering the next iteration of the contest later in 2022!

IEEEDuino Contest around R8 (credits: R8 SAC)