IEEE Humanitarian Technology Activities

Mission

"IEEE Humanitarian Activities" are defined as activities by IEEE volunteers and staff members geared toward improving the quality of life for underserved populations through…

* Supporting the development, testing and dissemination of appropriate technology for the benefit of the target populations;

* Development of technology policy and business models that support affordable, scalable, sustainable and long term application of such appropriate technology solutions;

* Increasing awareness of professionals in engineering, technology and computing of the potential of their work to improve the standard of living of under-privileged populations, and encouraging them to increase efforts in this direction;

* Cooperating with all responsible organizations to develop and implement long term pertinent plans

* Participating in fundraising efforts for humanitarian activities.

Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT)

Objectives

To promote the mission of IEEE regarding humanitarian technology activities, particularly:

➢ To bring together members/IEEE OUs working in or wishing to work in humanitarian fields and to encourage and promote them in activities that use humanitarian technologies by giving them an opportunity for participation.
Increasing awareness of IEEE members and engineers of the potential of their work to improve the standard of living of underserved populations, and encouraging them to increase efforts in this direction.

To engage with NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, UN Organizations, Corporates, and other similar bodies to synergize efforts in delivering useful and sustainable technologies in their operations.

To work with other bodies in the global engineering community who have similar goals and help each other in delivering to the ideals and participate in joint activities like Engineering for Change (E4C).

Benefits of forming SIGHT

SIGHTs offer a new way of collaboration in IEEE to initiate and/or contribute to the humanitarian projects with a vision to sustain and scale them. The online nature and presence of the SIGHTs will enable better visibility thus fostering new members across the world. Unlike current IEEE OUs, SIGHTs support members from multiple geographic locations which can enable scaling of the projects. Also, since a SIGHT follows the annual volunteer leadership cycle like the current IEEE OUs, the projects of the SIGHT will be sustained.

Requirements to form an IEEE SIGHT

A SIGHT shall be a group formed by an IEEE Organizational Unit or Affinity Group by petition to the Humanitarian Ad-Hoc Committee - SIGHT office.

The following OUs / Affinity Groups may have SIGHT units: Regions, Councils, Sections, MGA Affinity Groups, Technical Societies, Technical Councils and Chapters
The petition to establish a SIGHT shall contain the following:

- Name of the Parent OU (Region, Section, Council, Affinity Group, Society, Chapter).
- Name of the organizer (who will serve as interim Chair pending election of a regular Chair at a later organization meeting). The organizer shall be of an IEEE Graduate Student Member or of higher-grade status and must be an IEEE member.
- Signatures of at least six (6) IEEE voting Members who are Members of the Section(s) involved, and who indicate they will join the SIGHT if established.
- The mission/goals and proposed activities for first year.
- Signature of the Chair of the Parent OU

HAHC staff will review the petition and work with the organizer to improve the petition and remove any discrepancies. The SIGHT will be considered established after the IEEE HAHC approves the formation of the SIGHT. The IEEE HAHC Chair shall notify the Member and parent OU of the formation.

**Seed Grants**

To help set IEEE SIGHT Group activities in motion, the Humanitarian Ad Hoc Committee has decided to award initial seed grants of US$250 to each of the first 50 SIGHT Groups formed.

If you are interested in forming a SIGHT Group, complete the petition as soon as possible to qualify for US$250 that will aid in kicking off your SIGHT Group's ideas and activities.

**Reporting of SIGHT activities**
Each SIGHT group will report in a specified format of each six month’s activities in the format supplied. The reports of the first six months of the year (January - June) will be submitted no later than September 31, and that of the second six months (July - December) will be submitted no later than March 31st of the next year.

Any change in the contact details and organizer / chair of the Sight Group must be intimated to the HAHC - SIGHT.

In case of non-reporting for two consecutive six month periods, the SIGHT group will be considered as suspended.

**2013 Region 10 Humanitarian Technology Activities Committee**

Chair: Deepak Mathur

Members: Amarnath Raja (India), Takako Hashimoto (Japan), Arjun R Pillai (India)

**Objectives**

- Formation of SIGHT in Sections/Student Branches
- Awareness of Humanitarian Technology Activities
- Collaboration with HQ HT
- Identification of HT project and implementation

**Projects / Tasks for 2013**

1. New SIGHTs  15% of  R10 sections
2. HT Tracks in major conferences of the Region.
3. Information about HTA on R10 website
4. Planning of next Humanitarian Conference in 2014
5. HTA projects – 8 Projects
6. Joint Congress with GOLD/WiE

**Project 1: objective:** to start and establish sustainable Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology in Region 10.

The formation of SIGHT will give a start to HTA in the Section and the Region. This SIG will work in their geographical area to implement technology for the benefit of humanity – a new thrust area of IEEE.

**Project 2: objective:** Being a new concept at Section level, awareness on Humanitarian Technology Activities are required to be propagated all across the section to create interest of members to form sustainable SIGHT. It is being proposed to keep HT track in the major conferences of Region 10 including TENCONS.

HT track will give visibility and importance to the HT activities. Presentation/exhibition stall in 1 or 2 conferences will give an opportunity to interact on the subject.

**Project 3: objective:** An exclusive webpage on Region 10 to share information on HT activities.

The website will provide updated information on Humanitarian Technology Activities in Region 10. Details about the formation of SIGHT and various announcements related to HT across the IEEE will also be available.

**Project 4: objective:** A conference on Humanitarian Technology in 2014.

The conference will invite researchers, academician and industries to discuss the developments in the fields of Humanitarian Technology and its implementation for the betterment of humanity.

**Project 5: objective:** To do real life projects or workshops for the
visibility of IEEE and for the Humanitarian cause in the sections of Region 10. There is a plan to do minimum 8 HTA projects in 2013 as we did in 2012.

These projects will discuss and implement technology in the geographical areas of the sections of Region 10 by their respective SIGHT.

**Project 6: objective:** Being a new concept at Section level, awareness on Humanitarian Technology Activities are required to be propagated all across the members in the R10 to make them aware of the concept. It is being proposed to organize a joint congress with GOLD/WiE.

**Useful links**

http://ieeehtag.net/

http://www.ieee.org/special_interest_group_on_humanitarian_technology.html

**Current active SIGHT’s**

- SIGHT for Low Cost Remote Virtual Educational Platform (Kolkata)
- IEEE Teacher in Service Program, India - TISP India SIGHT(R10EAC)
- IEEE Bangalore Section R-10, India
- IEEE Sahaaya (Kerala Section)
- SIGHT Region 9
- IEEE - RAS SIGHT
- DISHA(Gujarat)
- SIGHT Colombia
- NITK SIGHT- Assistive Technology for Orthopedic Applications (Bangalore Section)
- SIGHT Bolivia
- IEEE HK SIGHT(Hong Kong)
- IEEE Madras Section SIGHT
- IEEE SIGHT Chile Section

Deepak Mathur
deepakmathur@ieee.org
Region 10 Humanitarian Technology Activities Coordinator