IEEE HAC Second Quarter Report 2022

The IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC) Inspires, Connects, and Empowers IEEE Volunteers

IEEE

Humanitarian Activities
Committee

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Sustainably Speaking: A Note from the IEEE HAC Chair

Celebrating IEEE HAC Accomplishments from April – June 2022

Dear IEEE Colleagues,

It's my pleasure to share the latest version of the IEEE HAC quarterly report with you. HAC has dedicated a lot of time over the past months to the collection and evaluation of project proposals for various calls for proposals (CfPs), including the first HAC/SIGHT Projects CfP of the year, and three collaborative CfPs with the IEEE Antennas & Propagation Society (AP-S), the IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS), and IEEE Region 8. These CfPs demonstrate that HAC offers solutions to support organizational vitality and member engagement for its partners. We continually strive to engage IEEE entities to create opportunities for members to leverage their skills by conducting humanitarian technology projects that will address local sustainable development challenges.

HAC/SIGHT celebrated the third annual SIGHT Day on April 28. I'm thankful to the organizers, volunteers, speakers, and participants who took part in the celebration, and especially IEEE President Ray Liu, who joined the opening session. As the founding chair of SIGHT Day, it is rewarding to see how it has grown. I encourage you to visit the SIGHT website to access recordings of the sessions.

Earlier this year, the IEEE Foundation Board approved HAC to receive US$175K from a bequest from the Estate of Jon C. Taenzer to the IEEE Foundation. HAC is using this to establish a small grants program over the next three years focused on breakthroughs in aids for persons with disabilities or supporting engineers in under-developed countries. As part of the initial discovery work for the program, I attended the United Nations Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP15) and hosted a side event to the conference. There I met representatives from all over the world and shared possibilities of scaling their existing programs, piloting activities, and developing new approaches through collaboration with IEEE.

After a long time of virtual meetings, HAC had an in-person meeting in June to identify actionable plans to deliver enriching experiences for IEEE members contributing to humanitarian technology activities at a grassroot level. Another highlight from June was attending the IEEE Meeting Series, where I enjoyed conversations with senior IEEE leaders. I shared details on HAC's global strategy, its recent record-breaking growth, and the process improvements to maximize HAC/SIGHT project impact. I was encouraged by their support for humanitarian technology activities at IEEE and motivated to continue our important work together.

Stay safe and healthy,
Sampathkumar Veeraraghavan, 2021 - 2022 HAC Chair

IEEE HAC Mission, Strategic Areas of Focus, & Unique Value

What is IEEE HAC?

The IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC) provides leadership as well as a suite of resources that inspire and enable IEEE volunteers around the world to carry out and support impactful humanitarian technology and sustainable development activities at the local level.

IEEE HAC Strategic Areas of Focus

Raising Awareness

HAC increases understanding of the role of engineering and technology in sustainable development.

Providing Training

HAC provides educational resources and opportunities so that humanitarian technology participants can have a greater positive impact.

Supporting Humanitarian Technology and Sustainable Development Activities

HAC awards funding for grassroots IEEE member projects that utilize technology to address local challenges.

Building a Sustainable Development Community

HAC collaborates across and beyond IEEE to foster opportunities in sustainable development.

hac.ieee.org

Unique Value Proposition of HAC Provides Solutions to Challenges

What does IEEE HAC offer IEEE members and organizational units (OUs)?

1. **Organizational Vitality:** HAC offerings can help engage existing and potential members, including the aspect of succession planning for IEEE OUs by nurturing the IEEE leaders of the future.

2. **Learning Opportunities:** HAC/SIGHT training and educational content enrich the member experience by providing life-long learning opportunities for academic and professional development.

3. **Community:** HAC/SIGHT can facilitate connection with like-minded IEEE members around the world; a global, grassroots network of technologists contributing to sustainable development.

4. **Access to Ecosystem:** HAC plays a role in inspiring members to continue in the larger IEEE ecosystem. As IEEE is a large, multifaceted organization, there are many opportunities to create relationships and bi-directional pipelines between programs, funding opportunities, projects, and more. HAC/SIGHT activities, especially projects, can serve as a next step, entry point, or steppingstone to other opportunities within IEEE.

5. **Increased Impact:** HAC's experience and expertise in managing grassroots member projects, collecting impact data, and innovating program development can aid IEEE members and OUs increase the impact of their humanitarian technology activities, effectively contributing to the overall IEEE mission.

Benefits to Engaging in Humanitarian Technology Activities with IEEE HAC/SIGHT

Training and Awareness	Professional Development	Greater Purpose
Project Funding	Connection to a Global Network (IEEE SIGHT)	Sustainable Development Community

IEEE HAC Second Quarter 2022 Highlights

Collaboration

HAC collaborates across and beyond IEEE to increase sustainable development innovation

IEEE HAC Collaboration Efforts 2022 YTD

IEEE HAC & IEEE MGA Entity Collaborations

HAC engages with IEEE Regions and other Member & Geographic Activities (MGA) entities to strategically nurture grassroots humanitarian technology and sustainable development volunteer efforts in their respective areas.

- IEEE Region 8 (R8) and IEEE HAC hosted a collaborative call for proposals to support SIGHT Groups in R8 that will implement community intervention projects to address local community challenges. With this call, R8 and HAC aim to support great initiatives and creative ideas on how to address challenges using technology in the local, underserved communities of R8 SIGHT Groups. Proposed projects have a sustainability plan, demonstrate community buy-in, and be cost-effective, environmentally sustainable, trust-enhancing, relevant to users and the community, and accessible.

Call for Proposals for Community Intervention Projects

IEEE Region 8 and IEEE HAC

Submission Deadline 30 June 2022

IEEE Region 8

IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee

Learn More

IEEE HAC & IEEE Society Collaborations

HAC fosters stronger collaboration with IEEE Societies to build complementary avenues to engage with Society members and utilize best-in-class technology to address sustainable development challenges.

- The IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS) and IEEE HAC are holding a collaborative call for proposals to support SPS Chapter projects that utilize signal processing technologies to address local community challenges. Awards of US$1,000 to US$2,000 will be made to selected projects that present a convincing plan to a) understand the real needs of a local community or local stakeholder organization and b) complete in no more than six months' time a project utilizing signal processing technologies to address those local community challenges. The submission deadline was 14 July; more details can be found on the HAC website.

- The IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (AP-S) contributed **US$25,000** to the IEEE SIGHT Fund of the Foundation in 2021 and another **US$25,000** in May to collaborate with HAC by conducting a special Call for Proposals. The call solicited proposals from AP-S Chapters that utilize AP-S-relevant technology to address local community challenges.
    - Fourteen proposals were received from applicants in five different countries.
    - Ten projects were selected to receive funding (nearly US$37,000 awarded in total) and are now underway.

IEEE SPS & IEEE HAC Projects
Call for Proposals on Signal Processing Technologies for Local Community Challenges

IEEE SPS and IEEE HAC Projects

Submission Deadline 14 July 2022

IEEE HAC & IEEE Entity Collaborations

- This year's IEEE SIGHT Day celebration included three sessions held in collaboration with other IEEE Programs – IEEE Women in Engineering (also as part of their 25th anniversary program), IEEE Young Professionals, and the IEEE STEM Portal (TryEngineering). If you couldn't attend the events, you can find the recordings on the HAC/SIGHT youtube channel.

- The IEEE Standards Association (SA) launched a new season of the "Re-Think Health" podcast titled "AI for Good Medicine," and the HAC Chair Sampathkumar Veeraraghavan was the first guest speaker of the season. The episode, "The Balance: AI's Healthcare Goodness for Marginalized Patients" focused on the idea of whether artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) support fairness, personalization, and inclusiveness to chip away at healthcare inequity, or if they will further inequity in the healthcare system.

- HAC continues to develop the new HAC Taenzer program thanks to the US$175K from a bequest from the Estate of Jon C. Taenzer to the IEEE Foundation.
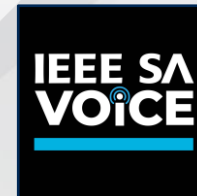
Collaboration Highlights in Pictures

2022 SIGHT Day Opening Session with 2022 IEEE President Dr. K J Ray Liu, HAC Chair, SIGHT Chair, and HAC/SIGHT staff support

The HAC Chair attends the United Nations Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP15)

HAC members gather for the in-person meeting in June

Collaboration Highlights in Pictures

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: HAC Chair with IEEE President Dr. K J Ray Liu

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: HAC Chair with IEEE president-elect Dr. Saifur Rahman

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: HAC Chair with Region 8 and IEEE TAB Leadership team

Collaboration Highlights in Pictures

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: : HAC Chair and Marc Beebe, staff lead with Dr. Robin Podmore, IEEE Smart Village

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: : HAC team with IEEE MGA SAC and YP chair

IEEE Board of Directors June Meeting Series: : HAC Chair with IEEE Executive Director and COO, Steve Welby

Achieving Shared Goals Through Collaboration

Working groups with representatives from IEEE HAC and IEEE Societies, Regions, IEEE programs and organizational units (OUs), and external organizations continue to define plans for collaborative engagement. These collaboration efforts will be coming to fruition in the coming months, and news of further developments will be shared in the next quarterly report.

If you have an idea for how your Region, Society, or other IEEE OU can partner with IEEE HAC, write to **hac-office@ieee.org**.
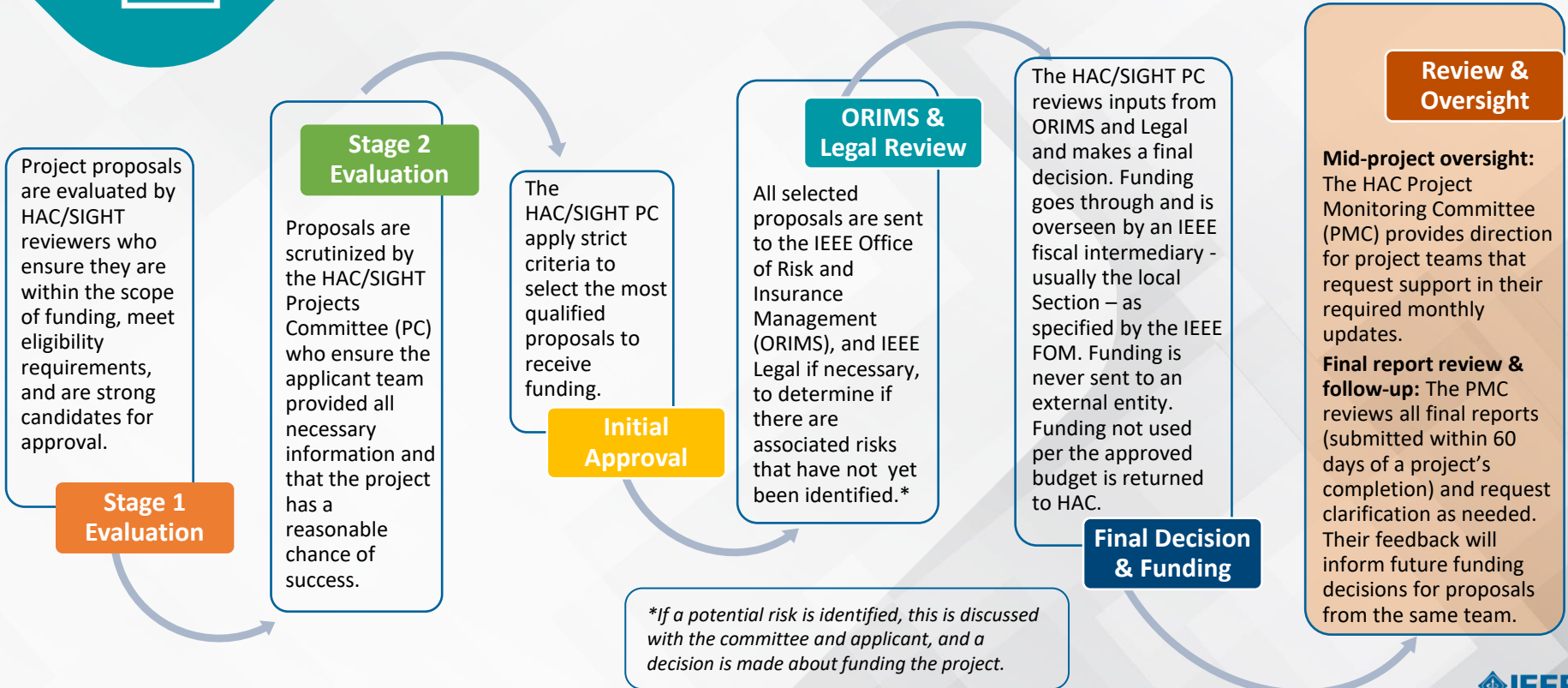
Projects

HAC fosters opportunities for hands-on, career-relevant experience through projects

HAC/SIGHT Project Management Process

A systematic process to reduce risk and increase impact

IEEE

Humanitarian Activities Committee

Review & Oversight

Project proposals are evaluated by HAC/SIGHT reviewers who ensure they are within the scope of funding, meet eligibility requirements, and are strong candidates for approval.

Stage 1 Evaluation

Stage 2 Evaluation

Proposals are scrutinized by the HAC/SIGHT Projects Committee (PC) who ensure the applicant team provided all necessary information and that the project has a reasonable chance of success.

The HAC/SIGHT PC apply strict criteria to select the most qualified proposals to receive funding.

Initial Approval

ORIMS & Legal Review

All selected proposals are sent to the IEEE Office of Risk and Insurance Management (ORIMS), and IEEE Legal if necessary, to determine if there are associated risks that have not yet been identified.*

The HAC/SIGHT PC reviews inputs from ORIMS and Legal and makes a final decision. Funding goes through and is overseen by an IEEE fiscal intermediary - usually the local Section – as specified by the IEEE FOM. Funding is never sent to an external entity. Funding not used per the approved budget is returned to HAC.

Final Decision & Funding

If a potential risk is identified, this is discussed with the committee and applicant, and a decision is made about funding the project.

Mid-project oversight: The HAC Project Monitoring Committee (PMC) provides direction for project teams that request support in their required monthly updates.

Final report review & follow-up: The PMC reviews all final reports (submitted within 60 days of a project's completion) and request clarification as needed. Their feedback will inform future funding decisions for proposals from the same team.

IEEE

Through its global network, HAC creates impact in underserved communities around the world

IEEE SIGHT – A Look Back at SIGHT Day 2022
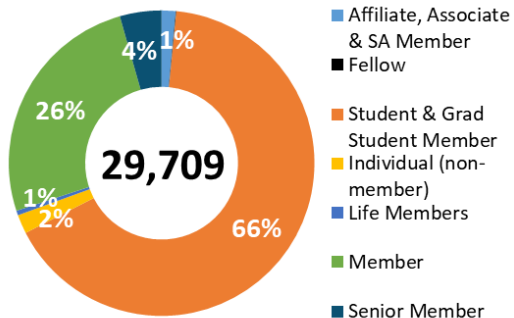

- IEEE SIGHT Mission – A global network of IEEE volunteers partnering with underserved communities & local organizations to leverage technology for sustainable development

- IEEE SIGHT continues to set new records for the program with over **29,700 individual members** in 129 countries and all 10 IEEE Regions as of 30 June 2022.

- SIGHT currently has 209 SIGHT Groups that have been established in 54 countries. IEEE Sections and Student Branches that are interested in forming SIGHT Groups are encouraged to submit a petition to the IEEE SIGHT Operations Subcommittee.

- IEEE SIGHT celebrated SIGHT Day on 28 April as an intentional time to foster a spirit of community for the global SIGHT network, increase awareness of IEEE SIGHT within IEEE, promote the opportunity to support SIGHT financially, and celebrate the impact SIGHT volunteers and Groups are making. SIGHT organized a number of virtual events, some in collaboration with other IEEE programs, including the first-ever SIGHT Awards Ceremony to recognize the 2021 SIGHT Volunteer and Group of the Year. SIGHT Groups around the world also held activities to celebrate. There were participants in all ten IEEE Regions.

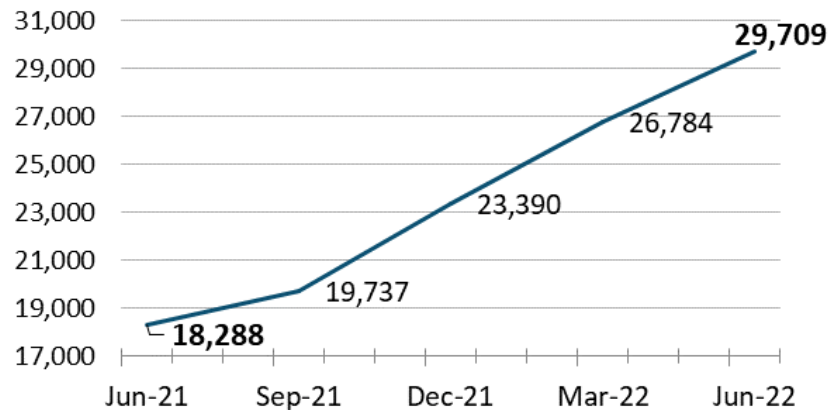# SIGHT Membership – Indicators of Engagement and Growth

New SIGHT Members by Year

Year	New Members
2016	1,131
2017	3,789
2018	4,352
2019	6,112
2020	7,108
2021	10,726
2022 YTD	6,416
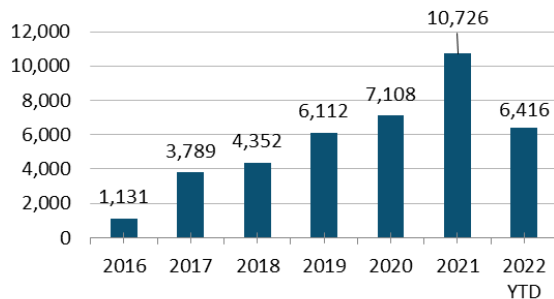
SIGHT Members by IEEE Grade

29,709

- 1% Affiliate, Associate & SA Member
- Fellow
- 66% Student & Grad Student Member
- 2% Individual (non-member)
- 1% Life Members
- 26% Member
- 4% Senior Member

SIGHT Membership Growth Year over Year (2021-2022)

Date	Members
Jun-21	18,288
Sep-21	19,737
Dec-21	23,390
Mar-22	26,784
Jun-22	29,709

Public Visibility, Upcoming Events, & Opportunities

HAC/SIGHT Public Visibility

■ In June, IEEE HAC hosted its first-ever side event to the [United Nations Conference of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (COSP15)](). This is a major milestone in our continued external collaboration efforts. The session, "Leveraging a Global Network of Technologists to Advance Assistive Technologies/Innovations in Serving Local Communities," included learnings and best practices on how to engage technologists in developing assistive technologies that are relevant in addressing the challenges faced by local communities of persons with disabilities.

Upcoming HAC/SIGHT Events

- 29 July – HAC keynote session at the IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Summit 2022 (Kerala Section)

- 1 – 2 August – HAC presentation at the Region 8 Humanitarian Activities Committee Congress

- 2 – 8 August – HAC capacity-building workshop at the Region 8 Students and Young Professional Congress (SYP 2022)

- 12 August – HAC capacity-building workshop at the Region 10 Student | Young Professional | Women in Engineering | Life Member (SYWL) Congress 2022

- 22 – 26 August – HAC presentation at the IEEE PES/IAS PowerAfrica Conference

- 27 August – HAC keynote session at the 2022 IEEE Women in Engineering International Leadership Summit (Hyderabad Section)

- 8 – 11 September – HAC keynote and panel session at the 2022 Global Humanitarian Technology Conference

- 1 – 30 September – SIGHT Awards nomination period

- 4 October – IEEE Day

- November – second IEEE HAC Global Summit

Opportunities with HAC/SIGHT

MEMBERS

- **Add** free SIGHT membership to your IEEE membership

- **Take part** in the free, online courses on the IEEE Learning Network (ILN) that equip participants with a basic understanding of humanitarian technology and sustainable development topics

- **Form** a SIGHT Group and establish a team to assess needs in your local community, apply for financial resources, and implement a sustainable technological solution

- **Donate** to the IEEE SIGHT Fund of the IEEE Foundation; your contribution of any amount helps HAC/SIGHT transform the lives of individuals and communities around the world

- **Read and share** this report and the other HAC Quarterly Reports

OUs

- **Identify** opportunities for collaboration and joint programs

- **Publicize** HAC/SIGHT opportunities and events

- **Sponsor or Present** at the 2022 IEEE HAC Global Summit

◆IEEE
Humanitarian Activities Committee

IEEE SIGHT
Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology

Write to us with your ideas at

hac-office@ieee.org

◆IEEE

Thank You

2022 HAC Committee members and HAC/SIGHT Staff attend the in-person meeting