

May 2024





**Lwanga Herbert,  
2023 - 2024 IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board Chair**

Hello Esteemed Colleagues,

It is yet another exciting month for us to connect through this newsletter. In May, HTB diligently continued to implement its goals and objectives established for the year. Of course these achievements are credited to the valuable efforts of all the volunteers committed to impacting the living conditions of humanity in the most sustainable way possible.

This month, HTB participated in the UN Forum on Science, Technology and Innovation Forum for the Sustainable Development Goals (STI Forum) through a side event organized by HTB and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The event, “Bridging the Global AI Gap: Navigating Generative AI in Developing Regions,” focused on the disparities in access to AI tools between the developed and developing world.



**Sampathkumar Veeraraghavan,  
IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board Past Chair**

Dear IEEE Colleagues,

I’m delighted to share key partnership updates this month. Recently, HTB hosted a side event together with the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) at the [UN Science, Technology, and Innovation Forum](#) in New York, which received a tremendous response. This demonstrates how HTB creates opportunities to showcase the impactful work of IEEE members in the humanitarian space.

HTB is glad to announce two important external collaborations at events: the [AI for Good Global Summit](#) organized by ITU in partnership with 40 UN Sister Agencies, and [GITEX Africa](#), the largest tech & startup show in Africa. HTB representatives will speak on the partnership opportunities, program offerings, and how the IEEE Humanitarian Technologies consortium works to apply technology to solve the world's most pressing problems.

Continue Reading the Notes from the HTB Chair and Past Chair on  
the HTB Website

## Visit the new IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Landing Page on [iee.org](https://iee.org)

IEEE Humanitarian Technologies (HT) is a consortium of programs and initiatives—supported by a global network of volunteers and technical professionals—working together to apply technology to solve the world's most pressing problems.

Learn more about the important work of each of the consortium programs on the [new landing page available on iee.org](#).

## IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc) and Tech4Good: 2024 Internet for All Now Open



The IEEE Tech4Good program offers funding opportunities to support grassroots technological projects, led by IEEE members, that address local connectivity gaps to solve pressing social and environmental challenges. The [Internet for All Call for Proposals](#) presents a unique opportunity for ComSoc members to bring together their unique skills to bring the Internet to those who need it most.

The local connectivity projects should include specific social impact goals to enhance and improve gender inequalities, education, climate action, and food systems. Applicants must select a focus area for their connectivity project to be considered:

- Agricultural Technology ([SDG 2: Zero Hunger](#))
  - Technology to Improve Education ([SDG 4: Quality Education](#))
  - Technology to promote Gender Equality ([SDG 5: Gender Equality](#))
  - Technology to Support Climate Action ([SDG 13: Climate Action](#))
- Projects must have a connection to the local ComSoc chapter and engage a significant number of IEEE ComSoc members.

[Submissions will be accepted](#) from 27 May - 30 June 2024.



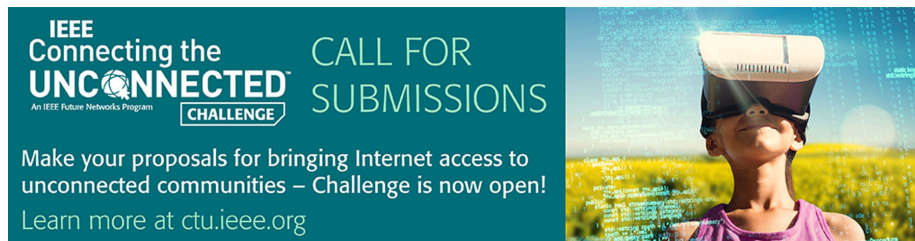
## IEEE International Humanitarian Technologies Conference (IHTC) Call for Papers

The IEEE IHTC will take place from 27 - 30 November in Bari, Italy, and the conference has recently issued its call for papers. Stakeholders from the public, private, education and research, and societal sectors around the world are invited to submit their contributions focused on showcasing challenges, lessons learned, case studies, and technological innovation related to achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), ICT4D (ICT for Development), and the application of Humanitarian Technologies. The main themes of the conference are:

- CLEAN AND AFFORDABLE ENERGY
- CRITICAL EVENTS AND ADVERSE LIVING CONDITIONS
- LIFE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT

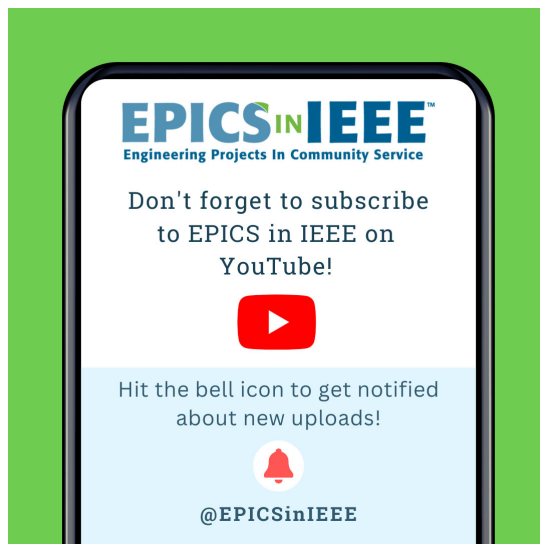
The deadline for paper submission is 15 July 2024. More information is available on [their website](#).

## Submit Your 500-word Abstract for the IEEE CTU Challenge by 05 June 2024



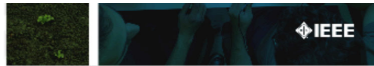
Calling all innovators to enter the 2024 IEEE Connecting the Unconnected (CTU) Challenge! Help IEEE contribute to worldwide digital inclusion by submitting a novel, early-stage project (proof-of-concept) or concept that offers unique ways to increase internet access and usage for the 2.9 billion unconnected people around the world. The global 2024 CTU Challenge is now open for submissions of unique solutions to bridge the digital divide. The submission deadline is 05 June 2024.

## Explore New EPICS in IEEE Project Videos & Annual Report



Ready to explore the intersection of engineering education and community impact? Dive into captivating interviews and inspiring student project videos on the EPICS in IEEE YouTube channel! Subscribe to be a part of this journey towards a sustainable future, and start watching the latest uploads.





Check out the [EPICS in IEEE 2023 Annual Report](#). The Annual Report shares stories and highlights from 2023 made possible by generous contributions of EPICS in IEEE donors as well as our strategic partnerships.

## 2024 IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) Climate Tech Big Idea Pitch Competition - Call for Initial Proposals Now Open!

**IEEE WIE CLIMATE TECH  
BIG IDEA PITCH  
COMPETITION**  
*To promote the growth of women-led startups in technical fields*

**Call for proposals:**

**15 May, 2024**  
12:01 am EST

**24 June, 2024**  
11:59 pm EST

**5 first-place winners will win \$500 each!**

**With a team, develop a business pitch devised to mitigate one impact of climate change!**

**Selected finalists will virtually deliver their pitches LIVE to the judges panel on 29-30 July, 2024!**

<https://wie.ieee.org/ieee-wie-climate-tech-big-idea-pitch-competition-2//>

**Pitch your idea to mitigate climate change** by 24 June! The vision behind this global competition is to promote the growth of women-led startups in technical fields by motivating female students and young researchers to develop entrepreneurial and business mindsets based on their research and development endeavors. Teams of 3 - 5 individuals will submit an initial written proposal that describes one impact of climate change and a business idea to mitigate it.

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ENGAGE IN IEEE HUMANITARIAN TECHNOLOGIES

## Important Dates & Upcoming Events

- 27 May - Submissions open for the [2024 IEEE Connecting the Unconnected Challenge](#)
- 05 June - Submission deadline for the [2024 IEEE Connecting the Unconnected Challenge](#)
- 30 June - [IEEE ComSoc & Tech4Good Internet for All](#) submission deadline (*ComSoc members only*)
- 15 July - [Paper submission deadline](#) for the IEEE International Humanitarian Technologies Conference (IEEE IHTC 2024)
- 01 - 03 October - [2024 Region 10 Humanitarian Technology Conference](#) (R10 HTC)
- 23 - 26 October - [2024 IEEE Global Humanitarian Technology Conference](#) (GHTC)
- 27 - 30 November - [IEEE International Humanitarian Technologies Conference \(IHTC\) 2024](#)

Visit the HTB/SIGHT [calendar](#) for more humanitarian technology events and activities.

Please let us know what you would like to read about in upcoming newsletters. Send your suggestions and ideas to [htb-office@ieee.org](mailto:htb-office@ieee.org).

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