All About the IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board & Partnership Opportunities

August 2023

Speaker Introductions: HTB Chair & Past Chair

Mr. Lwanga Herbert, Inaugural IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board (HTB) Chair

- 2021 – 2022 IEEE SIGHT Chair

- IEEE Senior Member, Uganda Section

- Co-founder of M/S Log`el Group LTD, an IT company, and the Log`el Science Foundation, which conducts research and development in science and technology

Mr. Sampathkumar Veeraraghavan, IEEE HTB Past Chair

- 2021 – 2022 IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee Chair (HTB's predecessor) and 2019 – 2020 IEEE SIGHT Chair

- IEEE Senior Member, Boston Section

- Founder and president of "The Brahmam," a humanitarian program delivering next-generation social innovations to achieve sustainable development goals and benefit marginalized communities

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Overview of IEEE HTB

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**Humanitarian
Technologies**
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What is IEEE HTB?

▶ **Vision:** IEEE volunteers around the world carrying out and supporting impactful humanitarian technology activities at the local level.

▶ **Mission:** To support impactful and ethically informed volunteer-led initiatives, programs and projects, and mutually beneficial partnerships, as well as to inform policy formulation that harness technology and innovation to address societal challenges (including disaster recovery) in a responsive, effective, and sustainable way.

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IEEE HTB Strategic Areas of Focus

Raising Awareness

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

Providing Training

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

Supporting Humanitarian Technology and Sustainable Development Activities

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

Building a Sustainable Development Community

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

htb.ieee.org

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One Voice – HTB's Role

- IEEE is committed to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity. Through IEEE's diverse humanitarian and philanthropic programs, there are many opportunities to contribute to improving the human condition worldwide.

- The HTB mission encompasses support and oversight of humanitarian technology projects across IEEE. Closely working with the six major programs that were highlighted during the creation of HTB:

  - IEEE Smart Village
  - EPICS
  - REACH
  - Empower a Billion Lives
  - SIGHT
  - MOVE

- HTB is working to collect and share meaningful insight into effective humanitarian technology practices to provide better support for IEEE members and organizational units to continue this type of work even more successfully.

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IEEE Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT)

IEEE SIGHT is a popular feet-on-the-ground program of HTB. SIGHT's global network of volunteers partner with underserved communities and local organizations to leverage technology for sustainable development.

- There are over **42,700 individual SIGHT members in 131 countries;** 59% are students or graduate students. Membership grew by over 50% in 2022 and is on track to do the same in 2023.

- SIGHT encourages members to form groups to **learn** about sustainable development, **build** relationships within their local communities, and **implement** projects that utilize technology to tackle key challenges the community is facing.

- Since SIGHT's inception in 2011, **221 SIGHT Groups** have been established in **50+ countries.**

sight.ieee.org

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IEEE HTB & SIGHT are Crucial for *Advancing Technology for the Benefit of Humanity*

Historical Context & Highlights

- Since 2013, IEEE HTB and SIGHT have awarded **over US$3.29M** to **507 humanitarian technology projects and events** so that IEEE Members can implement them in their local communities.

- In 2021 alone, over **600 volunteers** participated in funded project teams. Nearly **20,000 people** benefited in communities all over the world. And almost **120 volunteers** involved became members of IEEE as a direct result of participating.

- IEEE HTB/SIGHT Calls for Project Proposals receive hundreds of submissions each year. So far in 2023: 203 proposals from 23 countries

- IEEE HAC|SIGHT Projects Program received American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) "Power of A" Summit Award in its Global Development category in 2022.

- HTB Events Committee facilitates humanitarian technology training & professional development at IEEE conferences and events

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Opportunities to Collaborate &
Get Involved with
IEEE HTB & SIGHT

Benefits for Individual IEEE Members

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

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Unique Value Proposition of HTB Provides Solutions for Organizational Units – A Win-Win Model

1. **Organizational Vitality:** HTB 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:** HTB/SIGHT training and educational content enrich the member experience by providing life-long learning opportunities for academic and professional development.

3. **Community:** HTB/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:** HTB 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. HTB/SIGHT activities, especially projects, can serve as a next step, entry point, or steppingstone to other opportunities within IEEE.

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

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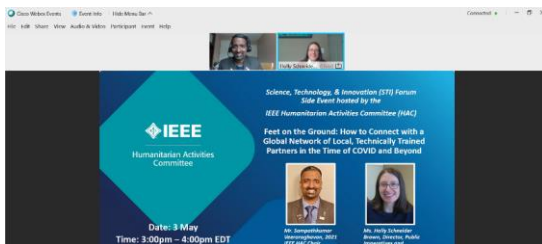# HAC/HTB Collaboration Journey 2021 - 2023

Engagement with UN Agencies & Global Players

HAC joined IEEE TechEthics' event with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA)

HAC joined the official launch event of the WSIS Stocktaking Repository of Women in Technology

HAC hosted a side event at the Science, Technology, & Innovation (STI) Forum organized by the United Nations

HAC participated in the Science Summit at UNGA76, a major contribution to advancing science for the SDGs

Example: Collaborative Calls for Proposals

HTB & IEEE Entities (Regions, Societies, etc) can join forces to maximize impact and opportunities for IEEE Members through collaborative calls for proposals.

- **Communications Society (ComSoc)**: 24 proposals received; decisions underway

- **Region 8**: 3 projects awarded funding in 2022 *and a second call is open right now through 31 August*

- **Signal Processing Society (SPS)**: 6 projects awarded funding

- **Antennas & Propagation Society (AP-S)**: 10 projects awarded funding

- **Electron Devices Society (EDS)**: 6 projects awarded funding

- **Region 10**: 27 prototypes awarded funding

IEEE Communications Society &
IEEE Humanitarian Technologies Board

ComSoc Internet for All
Call for Proposals

Submission Timeline
13 March 2023 - 12 April 2023

IEEE ComSoc
IEEE Communications Society

IEEE
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Learn More

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Opportunities with IEEE HTB/SIGHT

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

- **Submit** a project to a call for proposals

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

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

- **Read** the Annual Report and Success Story Portfolio – your story may be published!

- **Take part** in the free, online courses on humanitarian technology and sustainable development topics on the IEEE Learning Network (ILN)

- **Donate** to the IEEE SIGHT Fund of the IEEE Foundation. Your contribution of any amount helps HTB/SIGHT transform the lives of individuals and communities around the world

IEEE ORGANIZATIONAL UNITS

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

- **Publicize** HTB|SIGHT opportunities, and encourage your members to get involved

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Thank You!

Questions? Write to
htb-office@ieee.org

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