IEEE Sri Lanka Section Report - 2023

A.1 Executive Summary – (Please follow the format given below)

- Section Executive Committee Member List

Position	Name
Chair	Prof Buddhika Jayasekara
Secretary	Chamika Sudusinghe
Treasurer	Peshan Sampath
Vice Chair (Chair-elect)	Dhammika Marasinghe
Immediate Past Chair	Prof Pradeep Kumara Abeygunawardhana
Assistant Secretary/ Chapter Subsection Coordinator	Sewwandie Nanyakkara
Assistant Treasurer/ Industry Relations	Dilini Ekanayaka
Editor	Chamodhi Withana Gamage
Committee Member/ Awards & Recognition	Dr Lochandaka Ranathunga
Committee Member/ Membership Development	Dr Isuru Dasanayake
Committee Member/ Professional Activities	Dr Anuradha Jayakody
Committee Member/ Educational Activities	Dr Logeeshan Velmanickam
Committee Member/ Student Activities	Lakshan Madhushanka
Student Representative	Kulunu Weerasoory

- Section Highlights
  - IEEE Sri Lanka Section celebrated the 20th anniversary of it's establishment
  - Supported the formation of 1 Student Branch, 7 Student Branch Chapters, and 1 Section-Level Technical Society Chapter(Petition in progress).
- Major Events (International, National)
  - Section Student/ YP/ WIE Congress, Get-together/ 20th Celebration for member engagement
  - Education Week Celebration (globally biggest physical event as mentioned by the EA global team)
  - Electronic Design Competition, Robotics Competition, SPS Undergraduate Project Competition, PES Undergraduate Project Competition
  - 8 Technically Co-Sponsored Conferences and Conference Quality Management workshops (hybrid)
- Major Chapter Activities
  - Refer to B.2 Chapter Activities
- Major Student and Affinity Group Activities
  - Refer to B.4 Students Activities and B.5 Affinity Group Activities
- Awards
  - IEEE Sri Lanka Section Awards were conducted for 9 Organizational Unit Awards, 9 Special Activities Awards, 7 Individual Awards, and 1 External Recognition. (Awadee's details are below mentioned under B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities)

A.2 Financial Report – (Please follow the format given below)

● Summary (as per submitted on NetSuite)

	Type	Currency	Account Number	Opening Balance as of 2023-01-01	Closing Balance as of 2023-12-31
70297 - Commercial Bank of CEYLON SRI LANKA	Current	LKR	1100022595	10,621,406.48	7,495,414.93
74284 - Commercial Bank SRI LANKA 2	Current	USD	8770020705	19,657.31	19,617.74
70298 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050690	149,898.29	149,898.29
70299 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050691	149,898.29	149,898.29
70300 - Commercial Bank Non-IEEE Inv (CD) SRI LANKA	CD	LKR	3100050692	149,898.29	149,898.29

● Any other financial activities - N/A

PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership Development Activities

● Total number of active members in the past 3 years.

YEAR	F	SM	M	GSM	AM	StM	TOTAL
2021	2	77	814	131	19	2314	3357
2022	2	84	714	103	15	1734	2652
2023	2	88	568	129	41	2141	2969

● Summary and evidence of work done to improve the value of membership, which leads to retention and growth of members
  ■ Senior Member Elevation Workshop
  ■ Section Family Get-together to promote senior membership retention
  ■ Student to Young Professionals Transition
  ■ Student Membership Promotions through the Student Activities Committee

B.2 Chapter Activities

● Total number of Chapters in the Section: 10
● Number of Chapters formed in the current year: 0
  o IEEE GRSS & EDS chapter formation petition in progress
● Number of active Chapters: 10
● Summary of Chapter activities (Chapter wise with attachment table/information)

Chapter	2023 Chapter Chair	Officers Reported on vTools	Technical Events	Total Events
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, COM19	Dr. Tharaka Samarasinghe	Yes	2	4
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, EMB18	Dr. Vidura Jayasooriya	Yes	6	10
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, IA34	Dilini Ekanayake	Yes	6	9
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, MTT17	Eng. Valluvan Ragupathyraj	Yes	2	2
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, PE31	Dr. Darshana Prasad Wadduwage	Yes	6	13
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, RA24	Prof. Chandima Pathirana	Yes	8	9
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, C16	Dr. Lochandaka Ranathunga	Yes	4	17
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, IE13	Prof. Pradeep Abeygunawardhana	Yes	2	3
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, PEL35	Prof. Pradeep Abeygunawardhana	Yes	2	2
Sri Lanka Section Chapter, SP01	Dr. Chamira Edussooriya	Yes	5	5

- All the 10 chapters fulfilled the criteria to be eligible for rebates with the guidance from Section Chapter/Subsection Coordinator. 4 of those (40%) is eligible for the activity bonus also by completing 6 Technical Events

B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

Summary of Continuing Educational activities including conferences, technical activities, training courses, and distinguished lecture programs with attachment table/information

1. **Conducted a "Conference Quality Management Workshop" in November to support the conference organizers.**
   This is a three-day workshop which was held on 23rd - 25th November 2023. This workshop was designed to equip potential conference organizers with comprehensive knowledge of IEEE guidelines. The workshop covered various aspects, including the conference application process, timelines, sponsorships, technical program development (addressing plagiarism issues), financial planning, publication of proceedings, and post-conference processing.

2. **Technically Co-Sponsored 8 Conferences in 2023**

- SCSE: 6th International Conference in Smart Computing & Systems Engineering
  Held on 4th April 2022 at Faculty of Science - University of Kelaniya (Conference website: https://conf.kln.ac.lk/scse/)
- ICAC: 5th International Conference on Advancements in Computing
  Held on 7th and 8th December 2023 at the Waters Edge Hotel, (Conference website: https://icac.lk/)
- SLAAI: 7th International Conference on Artificial Intelligence
  Held on 24th November 2023 at the University of Wayamba, Sri Lanka (Conference website: https://slaai.lk/icai/2023/)
- MERCON: 9th Moratuwa Engineering Research Conference
  Held on 9th -11th November 2023 at the University of Moratuwa (Conference website: https://mercon.uom.lk/)
- ICITR: 8th International Conference on Information Technology Research
  Held on 7th - 8th December 2023 at University of Moratuwa · Sri Lanka (Conference website:https://icitr.uom.lk/)

- ICARC: 4th International Conference on Advanced Research in Computing
  Held in hybrid mode on 23rd- 24th Februray,(Conference Website: http://www.icarc.sab.ac.lk/archive/icarc-2023/index.php)
- ICIPRoB: 3rd International Conference on Image Processing and Robotics
  (Conference Website: https://www.iciprob.com/2024/)
- SCSE: 7th International Conference in Smart Computing & Systems Engineering
  Will be held on 4TH APRIL 2024 | Faculty of Science - University of Kelaniya (Conference Website: https://conf.kln.ac.lk/scse/)

B.4 Student Activities

- Total number of Student Branches in the Section: 22
- Number of Student Branches formed in the current year: 1
- Section-level student activities (student congress, paper, and other contests, awards, etc)
  - Sri Lanka Section Student/YP/WIE Congress
  - Electronic Design Competition
  - R10 Robotics Competition - Local Round
  - PES SL Undergraduate Project Competition
  - SPS SL Undergraduate Project Competition
  - YP SL Innovation Nation Sri Lanka Competition
- Number of active Student Branches (Student Branches who have reported the required number of meetings during the year)
  - 19/22
- Summary of Student Branch activities (Student Branch wise with attachment table/information)

Student Branch	Administrative	Humanitarian	Nontechnical	Pre-U STEM Program	Professional	Technical	Total
University of Moratuwa-Sri Lanka	3		7	7	13	32	**62**
University of Jaffna	5		4	1	6	23	**39**
Sri Lanka Technological Campus			8		8	23	**39**
General Sir John Kotelawal Def Univ	3		8		11	12	**34**
Informatics Institute of Technology	5		2	2	4	15	**28**
University of Peradeniya	1		2		2	19	**24**
Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology	2	1	2		4	11	**20**
University of Ruhuna	5		2		2	8	**17**
University of Colombo School of Computing	2		4			11	**17**
Univ Of Kelaniya	4	2	3		2	5	**16**
Uva Wellassa University			3		4	5	**12**
Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka			5	1	2	2	**10**
University of Vavuniya	1	1	3		1	3	**9**
Wayamba University of Sri Lanka			3	3	1	1	**8**
South Eastern University of Sri Lanka SEUSL					4	4	**8**
National School of Business Management NSBM					1	6	**7**
CINEC - Colombo Intl Nautical & Engr. College	2				4	1	**7**
University of Sri Jayawardenepura					5	1	**6**

Rajarata University of Sri Lanka	1		2			1	**4**
University of Vocational Technology	1		1				**2**
National Inst of Business Management-Sri Lanka							**0**
Open University of Sri Lanka							**0**
Grand Total	**35**	**4**	**59**	**14**	**74**	**183**	**369**

B.5 Affinity Group Activities

- Young Professional (YP)

IEEE Sri Lanka Young Professionals have conducted a total of 98 events during the reporting period. The number of events categorized according to the YP SL project is as follows.

IEEE YP SL Project	Number of events conducted
StudPro	12
Y2NPRO	11
Admin & Other	5
SLInspire	11
LETs talk	16
INSL	32
AI-Driven	11

All the events are reported to vTools, please check YP00002 OU for more information.

Event	Source of Funding	Funding Amount
2023		
IEEE NextStep	IEEE YP Local Activity Fund	$724.5
IEEE SYW Congress	YP Global: Meetup Fund	$1500
UpSkill	IEEE Young Professionals- Region 10	$400
INSL	IEEE YP Local Activity Fund(GEW)	$750
Y2NPro	IEEE YP Local Activity Fund	$750

IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka has several projects dedicated to uplifting the leadership and interpersonal skills of its members as well as the public as most of the sessions are open to a public audience.

LETs Talk is one such effort to expose the audience, especially the fresh graduates and undergraduates to the newest trends and expectations in the industry to produce skilled undergraduates/graduates. Spark Your Inner Self is one such series of sessions that focuses on improving leadership skills and interpersonal skills. This session covered many timely topics such as

- Communicraft - a session series focused on improving communication skills,

- Mindset of a CEO,

- Road to Ignite - a session series conducted with a focus on leadership development.,

StudPro comprises various workshops to prepare the participants to put their best foot forward in their future interviews, followed by a career fair to help them get interviewed by industry giants. The sessions conducted were based around topics such as

- How to Brand Yourself,

- Explore the world of Workplace Ethics,

- Interview Mastery, and Mock interview sessions,

which are essential skills for engineering undergraduates that aid in landing a job.

The projects under IEEE YP Sri Lanka such as Y2NPro closely worked with the technical chapters that are inactive (i.e. EMBS SL) and one that needs further assistance in enhancing their community (i.e. PES).

Another attempt was the preparation of a proposal for a fund to support the organizational units that required financial assistance. This initiative is currently in the process of execution with the plan of supporting at least 4 organizational units in Sri Lanka.

Event	Description	Focus Group
IEEE Next Step	An event targeted at enhancing the leadership qualities of the volunteers and retaining their membership, especially after their graduation. This was designed to be executed as a physical event where different leadership development activities and sessions were conducted.	Student and YP volunteers in IEEE Sri Lanka Section
Personal Development Plan	A plan for each volunteer is created to set goals and ensure personal development both in the volunteering journey as well as their academic/ industrial journey which is closely monitored and assisted by individuals who are experts in both volunteering and in their career.	IEEE Young Professionals in Sri Lanka Section

IEEE Young Protege	An initiative launched to assist undergraduates in enhancing their professional abilities before entering the workforce as professionals. The main goal of this program is to meet with selected mentors and mentees virtually to help with their higher studies, and industrial expectations and to uplift their future needs in the industry.	IEEE Young professionals in Sri Lanka Section
INSL Volunteer Training	An internal training session for the organizing committee of IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka to enhance and uplift their task-based skills and knowledge	Volunteers attached to IEEE Innovation Nation Sri Lanka

- IEEE YPSL has trained 200+ volunteers through the above programs.
- Furthermore, the IEEE YPSL committees work towards providing weekly updates on local and global training programs and sessions to all the volunteers via instant messaging services (i.e. WhatsApp), social media, and other communication channels.
- Moreover, IEEE YPSL partners with other institutes and organizations to allow volunteers to improve themselves. - TRACE, IFS

- Women In Engineering (WIE)
  - IEEE Women in Engineering Sri Lanka Affinity Group conducted 21 events during the reporting year of 2023 and 2 additional which were within the term.

Professional	5
Technical	6
Non-technical	4
Administrative	7
Humanitarian	0
Pre-U STEM Program	1

These 23 events were initiated and organized around the categories as mentioned in the above table. Namely, they were,

Event	Description	Focus Group
The Power Hour Saga	Stepped into the realm of inspiration and innovation with 'Power Hour,' a transformative session designed to empower aspiring engineering and STEM minds. This included a series of sessions where inspiring women shared their experience.	Undergraduates
Code with WIE	the CWW 2023 was organized to promote diversity and inclusion by creating innovative solutions that enhance technology enabled access to information and communication for underprivileged communities, including differently able individuals. In this competition, participants are challenged to design and develop software applications, electronics devices	Undergraduates

	or other technology enabled solutions that empower underprivileged communities to access and communicate information more easily and effectively.	
WIE Empower	This is a collaborative effort launched under the R10 WIE Champions Initiative between the WIE Sri Lanka Section and the WIE SB AG of M.H.Saboo Siddik College of Engineering from Bombay Section. The event was aimed at raising awareness of WIE, the common procedures of WIE, and the membership benefits of a WIE member.	Professionals and undergraduates
Women in Engineering Day Celebrations	Women engineers can be identified as a set of individuals who carry out a significant number of responsibilities in different areas such as the workplace, family, society, etc. They follow a busy schedule, and most engineers barely find a balanced life. Hence, it is worthwhile to organize a discussion forum under the title of "Work-Life Balance for Women Engineers" by selecting a few leading women personalities in the engineering field who can also consider role models. Also, a plan to give them an idea about WIE and its activities while doing some outbound activities to increase the relationship among WIE members from all the universities across Sri Lanka.	Undergraduates/Graduates
Tech Talks	Series of technical talks which were hot topics in the world.	Professionals
WIE Awareness Session	This impactful awareness program was meticulously crafted to enhance the understanding of the IEEE WIE Affinity Group among undergraduates from various universities across Sri Lanka. Our primary objectives were to shed light on the process of enrolling with WIE, explain the significance of volunteering with us, and unveil the array of awards, funds, and grants available.	Undergraduates

- Life Member (LM)
  - o Sri Lanka Section doesn't have LM AG

B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities

- Award constituted by the Section

Organizational Unit Awards	Emerging Student Branch Award	Not awarded this year
	Emerging Chapter Award (SB Category)	IEEE Computational Intelligence Society Student Branch Chapter of University of Jaffna
	Emerging Affinity Group (SB Category)	IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University
	Outstanding Student Branch Award	IEEE Student Branch of the University of

		Moratuwa
	Outstanding Chapter Award (SB Category)	IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society of the University of Moratuwa
	Outstanding Affinity Group (SB Category)	IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of the University of Peradeniya
	Outstanding Chapter Award (Sectional Category)	IEEE Power and Energy Society Sri Lanka Chapter
	Outstanding Affinity Group (Sectional Category)	IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of Sri Lanka
	Special Recognition for Membership Recruitment & Retention	IEEE Student Branch of Informatics Institute of Technology
Special Activities Awards	Best Sectional Project Award	IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka 2023
	Best Student Branch Project Award	MoraForesight 1.0 IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa
	Best Affinity Group Project Award (Section AG Category)	Power Hour: Saga to Inspire and Connect IEEE Women in Engineering Sri Lanka
	Best Affinity Group Project Award (Student AG Category)	Cypher - CTF and Hackathon Competition IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group of General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University
	Best Technical Chapter Project Award (Section Chapter)	Not awarded this year
	Best Technical Chapter Project Award (Student Chapter)	Brainstorm 2023 IEEE EMBS of University of Moratuwa
	Best Industry Collaborative Project Award (Section OU Category)	Not awarded this year
	Best Industry Collaborative Project Award (SB OU Category)	Rise Up Mora 2023 IEEE Student Branch of University of Moratuwa
	Special Recognition for the Best Humanitarian Project	Walking Together IEEE Computer Society of University of Kelaniya
Individual Awards	Outstanding Branch Counselor or Advisor Award	Dr. M. Thanihaichelvan - IEEE Electron Devices Society, and Nanotechnology Council Student Branch Chapter of the University of Jaffna(IEEE-EDS/NTC-SBC-UoJ)
	Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Member Category)	Ms. Umaya Bhashini Balagalla
	Outstanding WIE Volunteer Award (Student Category)	Ms. Mishel Perera

	Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Academician)	Dr. Akila Wijethunga
	Outstanding Young Professionals Volunteer Award (Industry Practitioner)	Mr. Mahsoom Raseen
	Section Outstanding Volunteer (Member Category)	Not awarded this year
	Section Outstanding Volunteer (Student Category)	Mr. Heshan Mallawaarachchi
External Recognition	Outstanding Industry Partner Award	Creative Software Zone 24x7

- Please list all Awards and Recognitions received by the Section, and members in the Section, from R 10 and IEEE HQ during the year

IEEE MGA Awards
- Friend of IEEE MGA: LSEG Sri Lanka

IEEE Region 10 Awards
- R10 Educational Activities Outstanding Group: IEEE Education Week Sri Lanka
- R10 SAC Outstanding Volunteer: Chamika Sudusinghe
- R10 EAAC Ethics Super Power Challenge - Top 10

IEEE Computer Society
- 2 awardees for 20 in their 20s award: Lihini Rajapaksha & Sewwandie Nanayakkara

IEEE VoLT
- 4 VoLT Graduates in 2022 Program: Sewwandie Nanayakkara, Lakshan Madhushanka, Tharaka Munasinghe, Dimuthu Anuraj
- 3 Following VoLT 2023 Program: Chamika Sudusinghe, Sheril Nilanka, Vidura Bandara

Representation in IEEE Global and Regional Committees
- 5 Members in Global Committees: Prof. Maheshi Dissanayake (EPICS), Dr. Subodha Charles (SAC), Nuwini Dulanga (T&D), Warunika Hippola (SAC), Chamika Sudusinghe (YP)
- 2 Members in R10 Excom: Dr. Akila Wijethunga (Newsletter), Warunika Hippola (RSR)
- 18 Members in R10 Subcommittees

B.7 Communication Activities (Newsletter, Home Page, E-mail etc.)

- Newsletter (name and number of issues in the year)
  - ✧ IEEE Sri Lanka Section Newsletter, I Issue, August 2023.
  - ✧ IEEE Sri Lanka Section Newsletter, II Issue, December 2023
- Home Page of the Section (give the URL and how often it is updated)
  https://ieee.lk/ - Updated every quarter.

- Other means of contact with Section members including social media
- **Spotlight | Monthly news bulletin** was shared as an eNotice with the membership each month. This was launched in 2023, to provide a concise version of events that happen each month to the membership.
- Weekly Updates by IEEE Young Professionals Sri Lanka, which includes highlights from the previous week and the section and international events coming in the next week

  Social Media
  - Facebook Page
  - Instagram Page
  - Linkedin Account
  - Facebook Group

Event Calendars
Event calendar in the Section website
Weekly Event Calendars shared through social media by YP

B.8 Industry Relations

- Membership growth and retention
  StudPro Career Fair
  StudPro career fair is annually organized by IEEE YPSL in collaboration with many industry entities, to provide opportunities to undergraduate students. This event has been a major attraction for student members within the Sections

- Activities for/with industrial members

  Young to Niche Professional (Y2NPro) Project
  Y2NPro aims to inspire, guide, and accelerate niche communities, enabling them to become experts in their specialized fields and transition into successful professionals in demanding technical sector. In 2023, a Ham Radio Communication Workshop Series was conducted targeting a niche professional community,

  ○ Many projects done under the Section and YPSL AG were supported by industry.

Partner	Project/Event	Type of partnership
TRACE	YPSL	EcoSystem Partner
Skill Surf	YPSL	Knowledge Partner
Synopsys	Y2NPro - EDA workshop Series	Knowledge Partner
Zone 24x7	Y2NPro - EDA workshop Series AI-Driven Sri Lanka	Knowledge Partner AI Expertise Partner
Acceler	Y2NPro - EDA workshop Series	Silver Partner
IFS	AI-Driven Sri Lanka	LKR 300 000
IFS Foundation	SLI, IEEE Education Week, IEEE SIGHT	Title Partner (LKR 1.85 Mn)

B.9 Humanitarian Technology Activities

- Humanitarian Technology-related activities supported by the Section including collaboration with other OUs.
  Career Compass Physical Seminars
  IEEE YPSL in collaboration with other OUs, conducted this series which consisted of 10 sessions. The intention was to provide advice, knowledge, guidance, and motivation for students specially in underserved areas to make a proper selection when moving toward higher education.

SIGHT Activities

  Filter of Hope
  This project provides access to clean, safe water to underserved communities in Sri Lanka. Water samples were collected from selected areas that contain impurities in water and have high rates of

Chronic Kidney Disease. These water samples were subjected to rigorous testing at the Water Testing and Environmental Laboratory within the Faculty of Engineering, University of Peradeniya, covering a comprehensive analysis of 31 key parameters, including Nitrates, Nitrites, Chlorides, Arsenic, and Bacteriological assessments.

With these obtained results IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT has installed customized RO water filtration systems in several villages, which has helped to reduce the incidence of waterborne diseases, especially CKDu. The overall impact of this project is huge; over 1000 residents will have access to clean drinking water under this initiative.

STEM Education and Career Guidance:

Another notable initiative undertaken by IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT was the provision of STEM education and career guidance to students in underserved schools. This was conducted under the program IEEE Nenasa. Through a series of engaging workshops conducted in collaboration with local teachers, university graduates, and industry professionals, the organization facilitated learning opportunities and inspired students to pursue careers in STEM fields. 5 awareness sessions were organized.

Participation in R10 Impact Congress:

IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT actively participated in the R10 Impact Congress, which was held as part of the IEEE R10 HTC 2023 conference in Gujarat, India. This participation provided a platform for global networking and professional development in humanitarian technology, emphasizing collaboration and innovation under the Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT).

Empowering Communities Through Humanitarian Innovation Workshops:

Throughout the year, IEEE Sri Lanka Section SIGHT organized a series of workshops under the theme "Empowering Communities Through Humanitarian Innovation." These workshops covered various topics, including project design, transforming ideas into action, educational empowerment, healthcare, sanitation, sustainability, and renewable energy. Distinguished speakers shared insights, and interactive sessions encouraged participant engagement and collaboration.

B.10 Community Activities

- IEEE Social activities (Family day, IEEE day, Engineers Week)"

IEEE Sri Lanka Section Annual Family Get Together
This event brought together the families of the senior IEEE members as well as the Young Professionals and members from the student body, for a full day of fun games, team events and many more activities to enjoy. This was held on the 9th of December 2023, as a physical event. Around 100 IEEE and family members participated in this event.

IEEE WIE Day
IEEE WIE Sri Lanka Section organized the International WIE Day celebration 2023 on 24th June aligning with International Women in Engineering Day to honor and empower women engineers who have made remarkable contributions to STEM.
The theme of the event was "Empowering Work-Life Balance for Women Engineers," focusing on the importance of creating a supportive and inclusive work environment for women in engineering.

PART C - OTHERS

C.1   Special Events

- Please briefly describe the importance of special events and the outcomes achieved
- Funding secured from the IEEE and external sources including sponsorships

C.2 Relationship with National and International Societies and Non-Government Organizations (NGO)

- Nature of relationship and details of any formal agreement signed
    1. **Memorandum of Understanding with the National Innovation Agency (NIA) Sri Lanka**
       To support entrepreneurial and innovation-focused activities
    2. **IET Sri Lanka & BCS Sri Lanka Section**
       Conducted discussions with the
          - Institute of Engineering Technology (IET) Sri Lanka.
          - Chartered Institute for IT (BCS) Sri Lanka Section
          to establish formal agreements to progress our collaborative efforts. The letter of engagement is drafted and to be signed in 2024.
    3. **Memorandum of Understanding with TRACE Sri Lanka,**
       paving the way for collaborative efforts and benefits.
       TRACE – Technologically Re-Awakening Culture of Excellence, is an organization that promotes collaboration, creativity, and entrepreneurship through technology and innovation across disciplines. It owns a commercial office complex in Colombo.

    4. **Collaborated with LEO Multiple District 306 Sri Lanka and Maldives for the FusionV 2023**, gathered the vibrant youth organizations in Sri Lanka to discuss and suggest impactful solutions for the prevailing issues of our country to the policy-making parties

- Details of joint activities
  IET Sri Lanka & Chartered Institute for IT (BCS) Sri Lanka Section
  2 National Society Agreements (NSA) have been drafted and shared with the above entities for review.

- Benefit to IEEE members (for example discounts, access to technical information etc.)
    1. **IET Sri Lanka & Chartered Institute for IT (BCS) Sri Lanka Section**
       Access to events conducted by these entities.
    2. **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TRACE organization**

       IEEE YPSL provides their volunteers and equipment to support TRACE initiatives focused on promoting science, technology, and innovation

- Benefit to Section (for example help in membership development, venue facilities, cost saving etc.)

  Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with TRACE organization
    - IEEE YPSL is to be part of the TRACE community and recognize TRACE as an ecosystem partner in all initiatives of IEEE YPSL
    - TRACE provides a virtual office address for IEEE YPSL operations and handles mail and parcels on behalf of IEEE YPSL.
    - TRACE to provide relevant services to IEEE YPSL with discounted rates to build the virtual accelerator space to promote science, technology, and innovation

C3. Collaboration with other IEEE Sections

- Support extended to neighboring Sections

  Mentoring M.H.Saboo Siddik College of Engineering STB60771 of IEEE Bombay Section
  Under the R10 WIE Champions program, WIE Sri Lanka Section AG offered mentorship to the newly formed WIE AG of M.H.Saboo Siddik College of Engineering of IEEE Bombay Section. The Mentee

AG was given knowledge of IEEE vTools, new OU formation, governance-related knowledge & opportunities within IEEE. The mentees were supported to conduct a virtual event.

- Joint activities with any other Section
    - o   YP Connect with Singapore Section

C.4   Support extended to Sub-sections & Society Chapters within the Section

- Support extended for organizing technical, educational and professional activities
  Bi-monthly OU Sync-up meetings (Chapters, Subsection, AGs) (Meeting Schedule**)**
  Starting in 2023, the Chapter/Sub-section coordination committee of the Section ExCom initiated a bi-monthly OU sync-up meeting to enhance the collaboration entities and make sure Chapters and subsections are receiving the support they require. Joint activities for membership development.
  5 meetings were held for 2023 and 6 collaborations were initiated among the section-level entities.

  Collaborative Fund (Guidelines**)**
  A fund was established to promote the activities of Section-level OUs that would support 75% of the total cost of up to 30,000 LKR on a reimbursed basis upon the submission of reports.

  Section OU Tracker (Tracker Link**)**
  Created "IEEE Sri Lanka Section OU Tracker" to monitor Chapter/Subsection/AG membership, events, collaborations, and officer information. This was also shared with OUs to review their entity's status by themselves.

- Support extended for Sub-section.
  Supported Central Region Subsection (CRSS) activities financially through the newly formed "OU Collaborative Fund". Also, all the Section ExCom members visited CRSS to hold a joint meeting with them.

C.5   Best Practices of your Section (which you would like to share with other Sections for the benefit of members)

Support to AGMs of OUs.

Bi-monthly OU Sync Ups
OU officers were previously working in silos, and this made the OUs miss the chance to deliver more effective initiatives through collaborations.
To maintain communications and enhance collaborations among chapters, we introduced bi-monthly meetings. During the meetings, the OU leadership engages in meaningful discussions on improving the quality of initiatives.

OU Trackers
The OU Tracker is a mechanism we used to visualize the overview of Chapters, Subsections, and AGs, during our OU sync-up meetings. The information regarding membership stats, collaborations, number of events, rebates & bonus eligibility were shown in the trackers to make those easily accessible by OU leaders. This enhanced the motivation among OU officers to improve their respective OUs.

Funding Release Tracker
Created a funding release tracker for efficient fund tracking across all OUs, chapters, and affinity groups.

C.6   Problems anticipated and suggestions for solutions, if any

OU functioning in silos

Most OUs function in silos, which hinders the effectiveness of the results. To minimize this regular meetings can be arranged with the participation of all OUs within a Section.

Reduced performance of volunteers
We recognized a significant drop in the performance of volunteers after the pandemic period. Due to many activities being conducted online students lacked the opportunity to get involved with initiatives that mold their skills. Specific training programs were launched to improve the skills of volunteers

PART D - GOALS AND PLANS

D.1 Continuation of project/activity in progress and their implementation plans

9 primary national projects of IEEE Sri Lanka Section is to continue with respective OUs participation.

D.2 Goals and Future Plans

We are focusing primarily on 3 main objectives to achieve the below key results.
Objective 1: Strengthening Transparency & Governance
   KR1: Open & Accountable ExCom
   KR2: Develop Local Operating Procedures
   KR3: Increase Financial Transparency
   KR4: Fulfill compliance requirements
   KR5: Regular updates to the membership and involve them in the process
Objective 2: Boosting Visibility and Collaborations
   KR1: Updated website and social channels
   KR2: A better relationship with all Section level OUs
   KR3: Collaborations with local industry and other associations
   KR4: Regional & Global collaborations and visibility through collab initiatives and awards
Objective 3: Enhancing Member Benefits & Impact
   KR1: Focused engagement strategy for Students in different disciplines, Early Career Professionals in Industry/ Academia (ie: YPs/ Graduate Students), Experienced Professionals in Industry/ Academia (ie: Senior Members), and Other (Pre-University, Retiree)
   KR2: Local Membership Benefits Portal
   KR3: Showcase Member Impact

A Full detailed 2024 plan of the IEEE Sri Lanka Section and it's standing committee are available here.

D.3 Any innovative ideas to make IEEE more creative and value-added for sustaining the membership retention and recruitment goals.

More initiatives should be introduced to ensure student-to-YP transitions, including training, mentoring, and career support.

D.4 Business Plan for Sustainable Growth and Financial Stability.

We have been able to secure financial stability, within the Section as many activities were able to get the support of sponsorships and IEEE grants. Following the R10 guidance, we are considering approaches to build conference technical and financial co-sponsorship-related income.