

# IEEE SIGHT

Special Interest Group on  
Humanitarian Technology

## NEWSLETTER

December 2018



### Note from the Chair

As 2018 draws to a close, I want to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who served on the Steering Committee for your dedication to furthering the mission of IEEE SIGHT. There were many of you, including the team on the Interim Committee early in 2018 as well as the 2018 Committee members. Many Steering Committee members received valuable support from members of their own Subcommittees.

Through the leadership of the Steering Committee, SIGHT was able to approve 24 new group petitions from 14 countries, welcome 3,985 new members, review 50 project proposals from 24 countries, and fund 10 sustainable development projects to impact underserved communities around the world. Each group, member, proposal, and project represent numerous hours of work for our Steering Committee, and their efforts have empowered many others to achieve success. On behalf of IEEE staff, volunteers, and individuals whose lives have been changed through SIGHT - thank you!

Most of you know that the team members I thanked relied on IEEE staff in essential ways. Our work would not have been possible without the support of the IEEE SIGHT staff lead and the team that works with her. I thank each and every one of you as well!

I invite you to read and enjoy this last Newsletter of 2018. You'll learn about the first call for proposals for 2019 projects and events; a newly funded project addressing needs in an urban setting in Chile; an HAC-supported SIGHT workshop in Ecuador; HAC Chair Paul Cunningham's participation in the Humanitarian Technology Conference held in Sri Lanka by Region 10; Alfredo Herrera's workshop on Leadership in SIGHT in Montreal; a video produced by a team in Hyderabad thanks to a collaboration between SIGHT and the IEEE Industrial Applications Society as well as pictures and videos from several SIGHT groups worldwide.

I have written a **blog post** to include some of the lessons learned in 2018, as I did not have the space to include all that I might have liked to in this note. And together, we can look forward to SIGHT's continued expansion and progress in 2019!

**Daniel Lottis**  
*Chair, IEEE SIGHT Steering Committee*

## Featured Stories

### IEEE HAC & SIGHT First Call for Proposals 2019 Notice

The IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC) provides multiple opportunities for

IEEE individuals and organizational units (OUs) to apply for and receive funding for projects, events, and conference participation support.

HAC will be updating its Calls for Proposals process in the first quarter (January - March) of 2019. Recognizing, however, that many activities take place early in the year and cannot wait for a later deadline, HAC will hold one call per program in January 2019 that utilizes the same format as the 2018 Call for Proposals.

#### Deadlines:

- Submission deadline for **HAC Projects Call 1** is 21 January 2019
- Submission deadline for **HAC Events Call 1** is 24 January 2019
- Submission deadline for **IEEE SIGHT Projects Call 1** is 28 January 2019
- Submission deadline for **HAC Conference Participation Call 1** is 31 January 2019

Eligibility requirements and full details may be found at the [HAC website](#).

Please note, later in Q1 2019 HAC will be releasing a revised call with further deadlines for 2019. Information will be posted on [hac.ieee.org](http://hac.ieee.org).

## IEEE SIGHT group project underway in Valparaíso, Chile

The SIGHT group of students from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso, Chile have come together to illuminate "Park 36" with sustainable solar energy. The space, which before was only an empty plot of land, was converted by the neighborhood into a children's playground and community garden as an attempt to discourage local delinquency. The only thing that was missing was the lighting.



The team conducted an electrical and financial study, and then began the first installation efforts on 1 December. Read about the group's progress on the SIGHT blog [here](#), or the featured story published on the PUCV's Electrical Engineering School's website [here](#) (note: article in Spanish).

## First IEEE SIGHT Workshop in Ecuador



IEEE SIGHT Ecuador organized its first workshop on 16 - 17 November in Quito on Management of Technological Projects with Social Impact. It was attended by 20 IEEE members and non-members from all over the country. Participants learned from invited speaker Santiago Cartagena, MBA, PMP, how to transform project proposals into concrete realities, achieving their goals with

the time and available resources provided. The event also included training on implementing sustainable humanitarian projects within working communities through concepts, case studies, tools and standards. IEEE SIGHT Ecuador would like to thank the IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee its sponsorship, and the Universidad Politécnica Salesiana - Quito, IEEE Young Professionals Ecuador and the IEEE UPS Quito Student Branch for their collaboration.

## IEEE HAC Workshop at R10 HTC 2018

From 6 - 8 December 2018, the Region 10 Humanitarian Technology Conference took place in Sri Lanka. The three-day conference's theme was "Sustainability for Humanity," and delegates from all over the Asia-Pacific area from Japan to Pakistan to New Zealand were in attendance. During the event, **IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC)** Chair Paul Cunningham led a workshop on Technology and Innovation for the UN SDG, focusing on the role of engineering in development and providing examples of initiatives that contribute to various Sustainable Development Goals.



For more details and pictures from the conference, see our recently published blog [here](#).

## IEEE SIGHT Leadership Workshop in Montreal



On 30 November, IEEE SIGHT volunteer Alfredo Herrera presented at the **3rd IEEE Young Professionals Multi-Generation Event** in Montreal. The event, organized to foster collaboration between students, young professionals, and post-doctoral fellows from various disciplinary fields, was attended by 40 individuals focused on growing their leadership abilities.

Alfredo Herrera, IEEE SIGHT Montreal member, shared his experience and advice as an IEEE leader on humanitarian projects. He presented on "The

Changing Seasons of Leadership," drawing on his past experience as an HAC member and active SIGHT contributor.

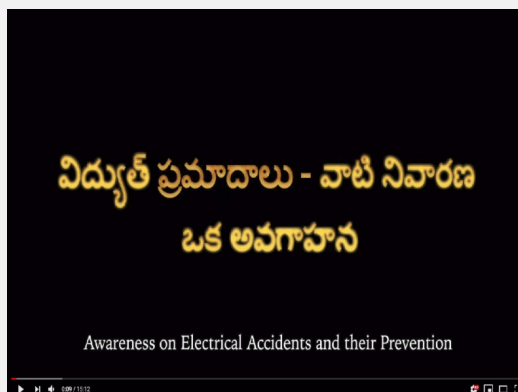
Currently, Alfredo strives to increase the visibility of the IEEE SIGHT groups in Montreal and Ottawa, especially among young professionals. If you live in the area and are interested in how you can get involved, please let us know at [sight@ieee.org](mailto:sight@ieee.org).

## Electrical Safety and Accident Prevention video

In 2016, IEEE SIGHT and IEEE Industry Applications Society (IAS) partnered to fund an **electrical safety and accident prevention video** made by a SIGHT group in Hyderabad, India. The team, led by Satish Chaparala, created the video to increase overhead power line safety awareness for government entities, electric utilities companies, and the general public.

Electrical safety awareness continues to be a pressing need in developing countries, so the IAS featured the project in their **Society December newsletter**. They will be including a short article on the topic in the March/April 2019 issue of IEEE IAS Magazine, and conducting an electrical safety awareness program at the upcoming PowerAfrica2019 conference.

If you believe that electrical safety is something that needs to be taught or reinforced in your community, we highly recommend **this video**. For more information please feel free to contact John Nelson at [jnelson@neiengineering.com](mailto:jnelson@neiengineering.com).



## 2018 Year-End IEEE SIGHT Group survey

As some of the experienced IEEE SIGHT Group members and leaders may remember, each SIGHT group must submit an annual report of their activities to remain in good standing. In order to improve ease of use, the report has been converted into a survey that allows you to report your group's activities and provide feedback about the program.

If you are a SIGHT group Chair, please monitor your email early next year for the survey link. We will also provide tips, suggestions, and resources for those who may have questions on how to conduct the assessment requested.

Responses will be used to streamline processes, strengthen communication, and expand IEEE SIGHT in 2019 - your participation is greatly appreciated!

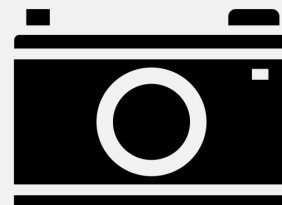
## 2018 Webinars and Videos



IEEE SIGHT Committee members and volunteers have hosted and shared a number of valuable video resources in 2018. Webinar topics included Improving Energy Access in Rural Areas, Lean Data Approaches to Social Impact, Human-Centered Design, and Effective Low-Cost Prototyping among others. Please visit the SIGHT website [Digital Classroom](#) to see these and other SIGHT-related videos.

## Call for Pictures - Feature Your Group on the Newsletter or IEEE SIGHT website!

Would you like to introduce your IEEE SIGHT group to the global SIGHT network? We would love to meet you! Please send a video or pictures of your group to include in the newsletter, on the [IEEE SIGHT Facebook group](#), or on our website as a blog post. Send a picture and a brief description of your group and project(s) to either [sight@ieee.org](mailto:sight@ieee.org), or [Julianna Pichardo](#) via Facebook message! Feel free to include a story from your group's experience, or web links for people to find more information.



## Want More? Visit SIGHT's Site!

IEEE SIGHT's web site is the place to find case studies, an interactive map of SIGHTs worldwide, testimonials, our blog, learning resources, calendar and more. For more stories, see our [Blog](#), or learn about current

SIGHT events [In The News](#). If you are looking for career development resources and new ideas, visit our [Digital Classroom](#) for webinars and more.

[sight.ieee.org](http://sight.ieee.org)

## Get Involved - Find Resources

[Become a SIGHT Member](#)

[Find a SIGHT](#)

Membership is free and open to all individuals who want to engage in sustainable development. Your membership benefits include the monthly SIGHT newsletter, as well as SIGHT announcements.

### **SIGHT Membership**

## **Become a Community Partner**

We are in search of committed community partners with a distinct technology challenge who want to access engineering and technical resources. Requests from prospective community partners are reviewed monthly and paired with local SIGHT groups if appropriate.

### **Submit request**

Professional and University SIGHT groups around the globe are partnering with communities and local organizations to work together on for sustainable development projects.

### **Find a Group**

## **Start a SIGHT**

If a SIGHT group does not exist in your area, click below to access the SIGHT Toolkit, a custom resource for those who wish to create a new SIGHT for their community or understand the process.

### **Start a SIGHT**

## **Connect With Us**

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

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