IEEE SIGHT

Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology

NEWSLETTER

MAY 2017

Note from the Chair

This month I'm pleased to announce the first round of funding for SIGHT projects. Six groups around the world, from Honduras, Nicaragua, Tunisia, Uganda and India, won grants to carry out their work. I urge you to read about their projects below. And please keep the proposals coming.

A few other announcements: the Community of Practice is focusing on Internet Inclusion, SIGHT Engagement and Education plans are being deployed, and we've begun to lay plans for SIGHT's presence at Sections Congress this year.

Read on for news about your fellow SIGHTs around the world. And thank you for everything that you do!

Timothy Lee
Chair, IEEE SIGHT Steering Committee

Featured Stories

2017 SIGHT Projects Proposal Deadlines

The SIGHT Steering Committee is soliciting proposals for project funding. The committee will review proposals during three periods in 2017 and will grant awards of US$500 - $19,999.

Submission deadlines:

- ~~Period I, March 15, 2017~~
- ~~Period II, May 15, 2017~~
- Period III, August 15, 2017

Request for Proposals

First Cycle SIGHT Projects Are Approved and Funded

Congratulations to six SIGHTs who won grants for their projects in the first cycle of funding.

- Tunisia SIGHT "TAWASOL" is connecting schools to the Internet.
- Uganda SIGHT is reducing newborn mortality rates in Uganda through the use of a novel vital signs monitor.
- Nicaragua SIGHT is developing a hybrid wireless *ad hoc* network implementation (testbed) for facing seismic catastrophes
- The TKM College of Engineering SIGHT in Kerala, India, is helping provide a sustainable solar power supply for a rural village called Edamulackal.
- Karachi SIGHT's "Empowering Umerkot" project supports local entrepreneurs as they develop sustainable businesses based on reliable energy supplies.
- The Student Branch UNAH of the Honduras Section SIGHT is providing solar power systems, water purifiers, computers and audio/visual hardware to two rural schools.

Please see SIGHT's website for more information on these projects.

Humanitarian Activities Committee Nominations Are Open

Get more deeply involved with humanitarian technology at IEEE! Nominate yourself or someone you know for the 2018 Humanitarian Activities Committee. The deadline is June 15.

Find out more here: **Nominations & Appointments for IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee**

Karen Bartleson has an inspiring message for WIE members involved in SIGHT

IEEE's President Karen Bartleson spoke with Celia Shahnaz, SIGHT's Communications Chair during the Women in Engineering International Leadership Conference this month.

SIGHT Nicaragua Builds a Telecenter in a Miskito Indigenous Community

SIGHT volunteers built a telecenter for the indigenous Miskito community in Santa Marta, in Nicaragua's northern Caribbean. The hardware installed included six laptop computer stations, audio / visual gear and sets of Arduino micro-controllers.

Twenty-five local students took technical workshops on the operation of laptop computers, micro-controllers, career development, coding and video games, says Mario Alemán, SIGHT Nicaragua founder and member of IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee.

SIGHT Paraguay Built a Sustainable Kitchen

SIGHT Paraguay volunteers and members of the Toba Qom community built a sustainable

kitchen.

"This project was carried out with the help and active participation of the community inhabitants allowing them to have a sense of belonging and efficient use of resources," says José Benítez, a member of SIGHT Paraguay.

Seminar: Monitoring road traffic to prevent accidents

IEEE Madras Section SIGHT organized a seminar to inform students of road safety measures they can take to prevent accidents.

Report: How students can monitor road traffic to prevent accidents

Three University Teams Won the Humanitarian Idea Contest in Bangladesh

A formalin sensor that clips onto smart phones, a vibration feedback device for the hearing impaired, and a "Nursing Bot" for combat zones ranked among the finalists of the Humanitarian Ideas Competition this month in Bangladesh. The IEEE Bangladesh Section, FLASH-SIGHT and IEEE Daffodil University Student Branch organized the event that attracted 80 submissions from university teams around the country.

Food, hearing and combat support won the Humanitarian Idea Contest in Bangladesh

IEEE Bombay SIGHT VIDUSHI's Computer Literacy Program Instructs Rural Women

More than 200 tribal and rural women benefited from the program in the tribal belt of Maharashtra in Western India.

IEEE Bombay SIGHT VIDUSHI - Computer Literacy Program

Submissions Sought for the Global Humanitarian Technology Solutions Challenge

IEEE Region 6 and the Global Humanitarian Technology Conference (GHTC) are seeking
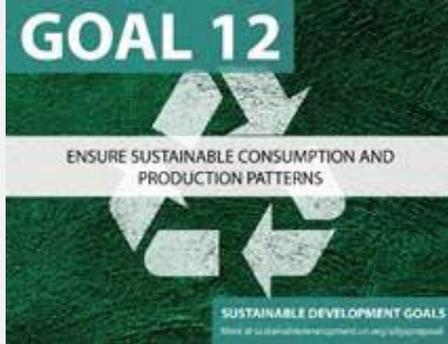
submissions for the Global Humanitarian Technology Solutions Challenge.

The challenge will focus on UN Sustainable Development Goal 12, to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

The deadline for statements of intent is July 15.

Details and apliication information

Join TAWASOL, an initiative by SIGHT Tunisia

TAWASOL in Tunisia seeks members to provide Internet access to elementary schools. The work includes coordinating training events and workshops at elementary schools.

Interested? Please send this form by January 15

Humans of SIGHT: Mario Alejandro Alemán, Nicaragua SIGHT Chair

Humans of IEEE SIGHT profiles volunteers working to improve the quality of life in underserved communities around the world. This month we are pleased to introduce Mario Alejandro Alemán.

"I believe change is possible and everyone has the potential to become a change maker, positive influencer and a leader for society."

See the interview here: **Humans of IEEE SIGHT: Mario Alejandro Alemán**

We enjoyed seeing you at Sections Congress in 2014 and look forward to connecting again this year!

Introduction to Engineering for Global Development Online Course
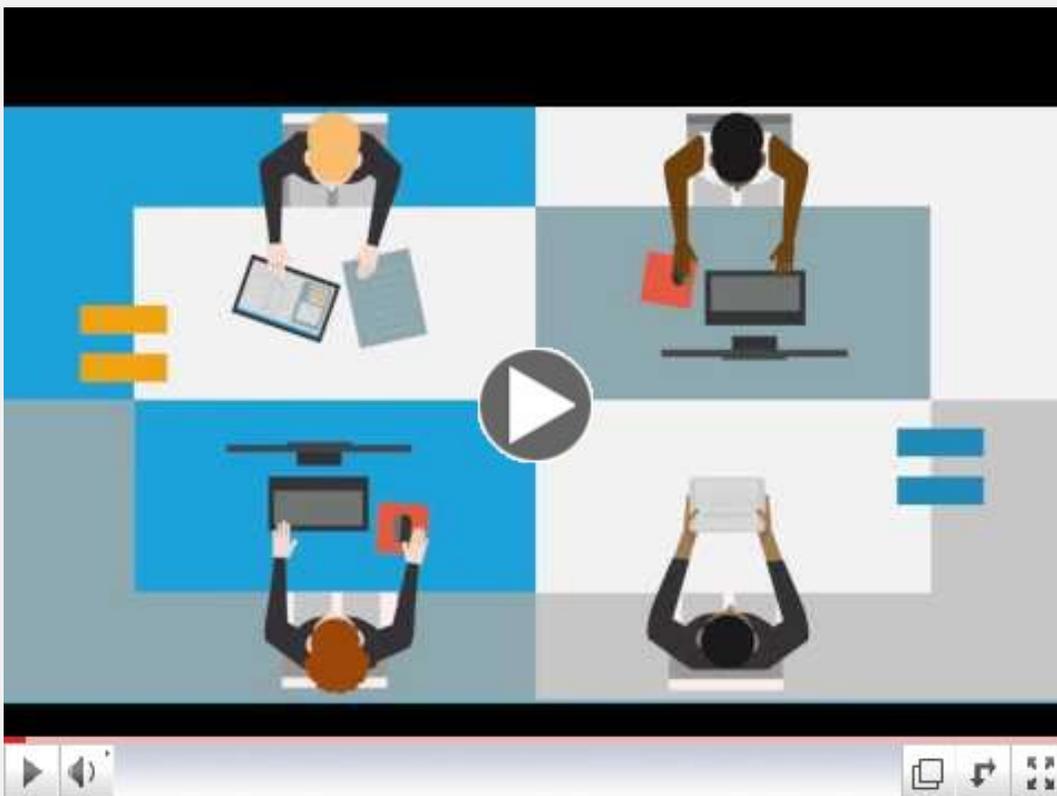
Engineering for Global Development (EGD) is an interdisciplinary practice that aims to improve the quality of life of underserved communities worldwide. To work effectively, practitioners must integrate their technical training with an understanding of economics and business, social science and politics to benefit people living in poverty. **Engineering for Change** has developed a learning framework and courses for those new to the field.

Earn 10 Professional Development Hours awarded by IEEE upon completion.

Want More? Visit SIGHT's Site!

IEEE SIGHT's Web site is live. Visit to find case studies, an interactive map of SIGHTs worldwide, testimonials, a blog, calendar and more. To read more stories, see our **Blog**. And see SIGHT **In The News.**

sight.ieee.org

Get Involved - Find Resources

Become a SIGHT Member

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

Find a SIGHT

Professional and University SIGHT groups around the globe are partnering with communities and local organizations to leverage for sustainable development.

Find a Group

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

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 what is involved in creating a new SIGHT.

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**.

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