

Activity & Progress Reporting

SIGHT Group – UK & Ireland Section April 2023 Report

1. Chapter/Affinity Group:	Special Interest Group in Humanitarian Technologies – SIGHT
2. Committee Members	Ali Hessami, Aneesh Rajeev, Mufti Mahmud, Eduardo Audiche, Keeley Crockett, Brian Harrington
3. Reporting Officer:	Prof Ali Hessami, Chair
4. Overview of plan and activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. New focus on what technological innovations can do for the plight of refugees and displaced people ii. Have liaised with the organisers of IHTC2022 and transfer of experience and collateral from holding this in the section in December 2021 iii. A draft System Requirements Specification has been developed in 2022, focused on an online information exchange for the displaced and refugee people
5. Key Achievements and member value/services to date:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completion and reporting of a proposal on “Inclusive multi-sensor platform for autistic kids that encourage social interaction”. This project was administered by Eduardo and completed in July 2021 and reported to IEEE SIGHT • Focus on a new proposal on developing a Humanitarian Information Portal. A draft specification developed currently undergoing a final review by committee
6. Key Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need to pursue industry collaboration and sponsorship for the forthcoming events since the requested budget won’t suffice for the realisation of ideas • Refocusing of the IEEE funds on Covid related initiatives during 2021 and 2022 have frustrated some of our humanitarian proposals
7. Deficits/Required Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seeking some funding or resource support from the HuAC and IEEE SIGHT for a couple of new proposals in 2023
8. Actions/Support requested from the Section:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possibility of some section funds for humanitarian initiatives in the section should proposals made for funding not achieve IEEE SIGHT support. We have also ring fenced some of the IHTC2021 profits claimed for the section for 2023 activities
9. Action Plan:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are two outstanding proposals that need revisiting and launching in 2023 • The Ukrainian crisis has promoted the group to rethink application of technology for relief to the displaced and refugees. Two meetings were planned in 2022 to explore options and come up with a proposal. The draft SRS is being finalised for development of a prototype to test drive the initial concepts and consolidate the SRS in 2023



United Kingdom and Ireland Section