



2017 SIGHT Projects Request for Proposals

The Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) program is a network of IEEE volunteers around the globe that partner with underserved communities and local organizations to leverage technology for sustainable development.

The SIGHT Steering Committee is currently soliciting proposals for SIGHT group project funding. The committee will review proposals during three periods in 2017 and will grant awards between US\$500 and US\$19,999. **Project activities to be funded by the grant must be completed by the end of calendar year 2017 to be considered.**

Deadlines:

- Submission deadline for period I is March 15, 2017.
- Submission deadline for period II is May 15, 2017.
- Submission deadline for period III is Aug 15, 2017.

Eligibility to apply:

- SIGHT groups in good standing are eligible to submit proposals.
- An IEEE OU must act as a fiscal agent for each SIGHT group. Funds will not be disbursed to an individual.

Projects considered:

For all projects, there must be evidence of the underserved community's involvement in the project.

- Local projects involving technology deployment in an underserved community
 - “Local” is defined by the fact that key leaders of the project are citizens and/or permanent residents of the geographical area in which the project is to take place
- Humanitarian technology development
- Technology-related policy project(s)

Attributes of projects considered:

- Projects must benefit an underserved group.

- Projects must have some technology component, leveraging IEEE's core competencies; however, they can be in any focus area (i.e. energy, water, ICT, and so on).
- Projects may involve multiple activities, e.g. community building, technology adaptation, deployment, assessment, and so on
- Sustainability of project results is a key focus

Projects NOT considered:

- Projects providing immediate disaster relief (such as distributing life necessities to survivors).
- Projects that solely provide education for a particular group without having broader applications for extension and sustainability.
- Projects more than US\$19,999. For larger projects, please apply through the IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee (HAC).
- Projects with no plan for sustainable results.

If you have questions on eligibility, please contact sight@ieee.org before developing and submitting your proposal.

Proposal evaluation criteria:

1. **Alignment with SIGHT funding requirements** in one or more of the three areas described above
2. **Proposed community**
 1. Clear identification of a need and an underserved community
 2. Evidence of the underserved community's engagement in and support for the project
 3. Clear description of expected long-term outcomes for the community
 4. Expected number of people impacted by the project
3. **Project framework**
 1. Clear project outputs with credible project plan to attain those outputs
 2. Clear description of technology to be used and its application to the local physical and cultural environment
 3. Understanding of similar initiatives (to avoid needless re-invention)
4. **Project budget and timeline**
 1. Clearly defined timeline, with at least some milestones to be attained in 2017 and planned milestones for future years, if any
 2. Clear and reasonable budget with breakouts for major items
5. **Project Risk Analysis**
 1. What risks are there to project completion?
 2. What steps are being taken to mitigate these risks?
6. **Sustainability of project outcomes**
 1. Which project components will continue after funding from SIGHT is finished?

2. What are the plans for the continuation of project components?
3. Description of how the project outputs will contribute to the long-term outcomes, including empowerment of community
4. Plan for measuring project outcomes (future proposals by the same team will require a report on previous project outcomes)

7. Project team and partners

1. Project team's relevant experience
2. How well the project involves volunteers, both IEEE and other
3. Established and/or proposed partnerships with clear indication of whether they are established or proposed

SIGHT Policies:

1) Travel: while we encourage local work, there may be need for travel depending on nature of the work. However, travel cannot be the major component of project proposal.

As part of project funding, we do not support student exchange programs, study abroad grants, invited speaker/lecture trips, conference participation, study visits, or consulting visits.

We do have a conference participation support program, which has separate application requirements, to share SIGHT stories and help networking.

2) Salaries and Gifts: SIGHT projects are to be driven mainly by volunteers without any monetary compensation for their work, time, or skills contributed. In certain cases, professional and technical services need to be sought in order to execute the project. Fees for such services can be a minor component of the proposal.

Salaries, stipends, scholarships, fellowships, gifts, endowments, donations, sponsorships, goodies, cash prizes and awards, internship wages, hourly wages, part time or full time monetary compensation, and so on cannot be funded through SIGHT project funding.

Special requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

How to submit:

- Please submit via online portal at
<https://www.grantinterface.com/Common/LogOn.aspx?eqs=bXMxigcoqxzOlakYVG0ZUIMI-U0KQoya0>

Acceptable time frame of funded activity completion:

- Funds must be expended in the current fiscal year.
- Report must be submitted with evaluation metrics by January 31, 2018.

Questions:

- Do you have any questions you wish to ask about the IEEE SIGHT Projects - 2017 Call for Proposals? <http://ieee-sight-toolkit.org/operate/projects/funding/>
- Please contact SIGHT at sight@ieee.org for more information before developing and submitting your proposal.