

## **Feet on the Ground: How to Connect with a Global Network of Local, Technically Trained Partners in the Time of COVID and Beyond**

**3 May, 3-4 pm New York time**

In 2020, the IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee enabled over 100 grassroots sustainable development projects that utilized technology to address the COVID-19 situation in 29 countries. These projects included an auto irrigation and soil monitoring system for COVID-19 migrant engagement in India, a digital nutrition guide and recipe repository for family resilience in COVID-19 in Indonesia, a distance education program adapted to COVID-19 in Guatemala, engineers assisting ventilator maintenance in Brazil, and 3D printed personal protection equipment for frontline workers in Uganda, to name just a few. Many times, the projects engaged youth who gained new skills and confidence, cementing their desire to pursue a future in technology, as well as to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals for their country.

Through the example of the COVID-19 pandemic response, this workshop will illustrate how stakeholders can leverage the resources and breadth of IEEE, the world's largest technical professional association dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity, to address local sustainable development challenges around the world.

This workshop will provide an overview of IEEE's global network of engineers and technically trained professionals and IEEE programs that specifically address SDGs in local contexts in the era of COVID and beyond. Attendees will be able to identify contacts and build their networks to potentially help scale their existing programs, pilot new activities, and develop new approaches by partnering with IEEE.

### **Speakers:**

- Sampath Veeraraghavan, Global Chair, IEEE Humanitarian Activities Committee
- Holly Schneider Brown, Director, Public Imperatives and Corporate Development, IEEE