

SS12 Asia – Sri Lanka Competition

Organized by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section

SS12 Competition Overview

SS12 is a Code-A-Thon and Make-A-Thon Challenge organized by Project Possibility and local student organizations, such as Association for Computing Machinery (ACM), IEEE Computer Society and IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology chapters. It is hosted in partnership with IEEE and leading technology industry companies.

This event provides an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate software developers to make a profound difference by developing innovative, empowering software projects for disabled persons and win prizes for their work. The purpose of SS12 is to increase awareness of issues in accessible computing and be educational and fun for all participants.

The main organizing party of SS12, [**Project Possibility**](#), is an open source project led by individuals of diverse backgrounds and skillsets who share a common goal: to make a powerful difference in the lives of disabled persons and software developers through open source software development.

The roots of SS12 competition was based in USA, where the USA based competition holds a history of about 9 years. Universities like California State University, Northridge, University of California, Los Angeles and University of Southern California took part in last year's event. So far, SS12 has been hosted at universities in 13 countries. This competition is spread across Europe and Asia continents as well. It was in 2013, where Asia hosted the first ever SS12 Asia competition and this year it will be held for the second time.

Corporate Partners of SS12 are;



SS12 is recognized by the following institutions;



The New York Times

SS12 Asia 2016

This year, five countries will take part in the SS12 Asia Competition. The countries are India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. Before the final competition, first round of the competition will take place in each country where a national level winning team will be chosen by the locally appointed panel of judges. The winning teams will be called for the final round at Kumaraguru College of Technology, Coimbatore (zip code: 641049), Tamilnadu, India. Industry mentors will be assigned to each team to enhance the project by providing guidance and constructive feedback during the final round. The winners will be awarded attractive cash prizes (amounting up to 1000 USD). The finals will be held in September 2016 (dates to be decided).

The challenge is conducted to recognize the best social innovation application which will **ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE THROUGH INNOVATION.**

The Sri Lankan Leg for the SS12 Asia 2016 will be hosted by the IEEE Sri Lanka Section.

Theme for SS12 Asia 2016 – Sri Lanka

Accessible IoT: Making IoT accessible for differently abled community

The Internet of Things (IoT) could have immeasurable impact on people with disabilities and help create dramatic improvements in quality of life. As connected devices become even more pervasive, the potential on people with disabilities becomes even greater.

While the Internet of Things has spawned technology that is aimed at keeping us healthy and simplifying our lives at home and in the office, this same tech can easily be applied to empowering those with disabilities.

According to the M-Enabling Global Summit in Washington, D.C. earlier this year, there are more than a billion people (or about 15% of the world's population), including children, who are considered to be living with a disability. The lack of assistance services can make them overly dependent on their families, which prevents both sides from being economically active and socially included. The Internet of Things can offer people with disabilities the services and support they need to achieve an improved quality of life and a greater independence in and out of the home.

The precise form and function of how IoT can break the accessibility barriers are not known yet. What is known is that inclusive design needs to be a fundamental element in the creation of IoT-enabled smart environments adopting a philosophy of creating an enabling environment through IoT, which embodies inclusiveness rather than just a smart environment, will go a long way towards ensuring inclusion in our technological futures.

Competition Details

The Sri Lanka local level competition will be open to all the undergraduates from any university in Sri Lanka. This is a team based competition and the team size is restricted to 2-4 members per team.

The participating teams are welcomed to come up with their own project ideas for the competition. Generally, it is advisable to use Open source software that would benefit a specific end user group and also, the project title to be exciting and engaging for the students while it can be extended after the competition as well.

The competition will span for about 6 weeks starting from mid-June. Starting from registration of teams, this competition will be conducted in several phases.

Each team should have a mentor to continuously guide them throughout the project duration. The teams are given the flexibility to choose their own mentor, whereas IEEE Sri Lanka Section will help the teams to find a mentor, if they need assistance. The mentor could either be a Faculty member or an industry professional who is willing to guide the students until the end of the competition.

During the registration process, teams as well as the mentors should be registered. An initial introductory session will be conducted with the participation of all the teams, mentors and invited speakers who could enlighten the audience about the issues faced by the differently abled community. It is expected that this session will help the teams to brainstorm for more effective technological solutions related to the given theme, by understanding the criticalities.

Until the final day of the local level competition, the local organizing committee of SS12 Asia – Sri Lanka competition will keep continuous touch with all the teams to ensure they are working towards the successful completion of the project ideas.

At the end of the project duration, the teams will present their solutions to the panel of judges. The winning team is selected based on the following criteria: Challenge, Innovation, Usability, Extendibility/Documentation and Presentation. IEEE Sri Lanka Section will guide the students to prepare for the local level finals and more information will be given throughout.

Tentative Timeline

Registration of Teams and Mentors: 3rd June 2016 – 10th June 2016

Introductory Session: before the end of 3rd week of June 2016

Submission of Proposals: within the 4th week of June 2016

Teams will be selected based on the proposals to continue to the coding and implementation round.

Teams are allowed to develop their solutions and applications until the final presentation and competition session.

Mid Reviews and meetings may be scheduled.

Final Presentations and Competition: one/two day session during the 4th week of July 2016

Exact dates for each stage of the competition will be announced in due course.

If there are changes in the above mentioned timeline during the course of the competition, all the relevant parties will be informed beforehand.

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