

Karolj SKALA*

MIPRO AS A HUB FOR REGIONAL COOPERATION AND INTEGRATION OF THE DIASPORA

*Lampadem tradere — Innovative
promotion of partnership!*

INTRODUCTION

MIPRO is an international meeting and cooperation platform (hub) for experts from the fields of science, education, business and governments. MIPRO is a scientific, technological, professional and business meeting place, collaboration interface and acceleration platform. MIPRO dates back to 1978 and started with tutorials for lifelong learning of engineers in the field of microprocessor architecture and applications. Over the last decades, MIPRO has become one of the largest and most important congresses in Central and Eastern Europe, based on innovation and new technologies such as ICT. The core of the congress is formed by conferences covering a large part of ICT (such as microelectronics, electronics, data science, biomedicine, telecommunications, smart and security systems, digital economy, smart cities and environment, robotics and many others). Other indispensable segments include panels, workshops, tutorials, keynote speeches, plenary sessions, project meetings and the exhibition of EU projects, technical solutions and services. The annual MIPRO Congresses are regularly attended by more than a thousand participants from thirty to forty countries from all over the

* Karolj Skala, General Chair of MIPRO Convention, Member of Hungarian Academy of Science, Member of Croatian Academy of Technical Sciences

world. In the 46 years of its existence, more than 8900 scientific and technical papers have been published (regularly indexed in IEEE Xplore Digital Library). In addition, more than 200 panel discussions, 150 workshops and 120 tutorials were held and more than 600 exhibitors participated in the exhibitions. The mission of MIPRO is *Lampadem tradere*, to create, share and disseminate knowledge. It follows this mission by adapting to the demands of the world market and national interests in times of digital transformation, by networking and contributing strategies that follow EU technology policies and development directions. MIPRO aims to become a hub and a major dissemination point STEM by joining forces with other ICT associations in Europe to provide a well-developed infrastructure for the promotion of knowledge and cutting-edge technologies.

DESCRIPTION OF THE ORGANISATION

MIPRO is a public professional association with an office in Rijeka and a staff. It has a large number of industry members (65) and individual members (160) with a current base of 12,500 members. MIPRO relies on an already established network of direct collaborators at various faculties, institutions, government agencies and public administrations. More than 100 experts with different profiles have relevant expertise and experience. They are members and collaborators of MIPRO in ICT and in all other fields, including social sciences, humanities and technical design arts. Experience in logistics and expertise in organising large events with more than 1,000 participants. MIPRO has an extensive network of staff in HR, SE and the EU, technical support and service from professionals and stakeholders. With a tradition of 46 years, MIPRO has become a respected organisation for the promotion and knowledge transfer of new innovative visions, ideas and technologies in the field of ICT and technological-social innovation. MIPRO has 18 friends in 12 European countries (Austria, Croatia, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Norway, Germany, Hungary, Macedonia, Slovenia, Serbia and Ukraine). They are national activists, ambassadors of MIPRO and participate in the activity through experience and implementation of tasks. MIPRO is equipped with adequate multimedia communication and ICT infrastructure and will further develop and adapt platforms, tools and methods to fulfil its mission.

Organisational development activities

— Campaigns to raise public awareness of ICT and advocacy initiatives and models of good vision and best practise.

- Campaigns to promote efficiency, reliability and transparency in accountability and good governance of innovative technological solutions and services.

- Activities that directly and spontaneously strengthen civic influence and engagement in public advocacy and decision-making.

- Initiatives that influence distributed and parallel interaction of awareness based on information and communication processes.

- Public awareness and capacity building activities related to the protection of digital, social and natural ecosystems to enhance sustainability.

Added value of the activity

An integration approach will enable local communities and the hierarchical and wider society to significantly increase efficiency in a socio-economic sense and significantly increase awareness, need and opportunity for direct participation of all people in science, technology and society activities at all levels. Innovativeness In particular, the innovative use of cyber principles, information and communication technologies and informatics based on the hierarchy of Dew-Fog cloud computing services in line with the latest trends (e. g. smart product/service, smart city, smart island...), refined by integrating the basic needs of future exchange of goods and services after a pandemic, civil society proposals and joint decision-making, and permanent educational activities. In addition, Dew Computing solutions can significantly contribute to reducing the burden on the natural environment (intelligent management of processes and services). The basis of the planned system is an automated, intelligent organisation to optimise communication and cooperation (timely detection of problems and their joint solution).

CAPACITY AND POTENTIAL

MIPRO has been active since 1978, initially as an organisation for the lifelong training of engineers in the field of microprocessor architecture and applications. Over the last decades, the annual MIPRO Congress has become one of the largest and most important congresses in this part of Europe dealing with innovations and new technologies in ICT (Information and Communication Technology). The congress offers conferences covering a wide spectrum of ICT (such as microelectronics, electronics, data science, biomedicine, telecommunications, smart and security systems, digital economy, smart cities and environment, robotics and many others). Other indispensable parts of the programme are panels, round tables, workshops, tutorials, outstanding lectures, plenary sessions, project meetings and an exhibition of EU projects, technical solutions and business services. MIPRO has become an international meeting place for experts from the fields of

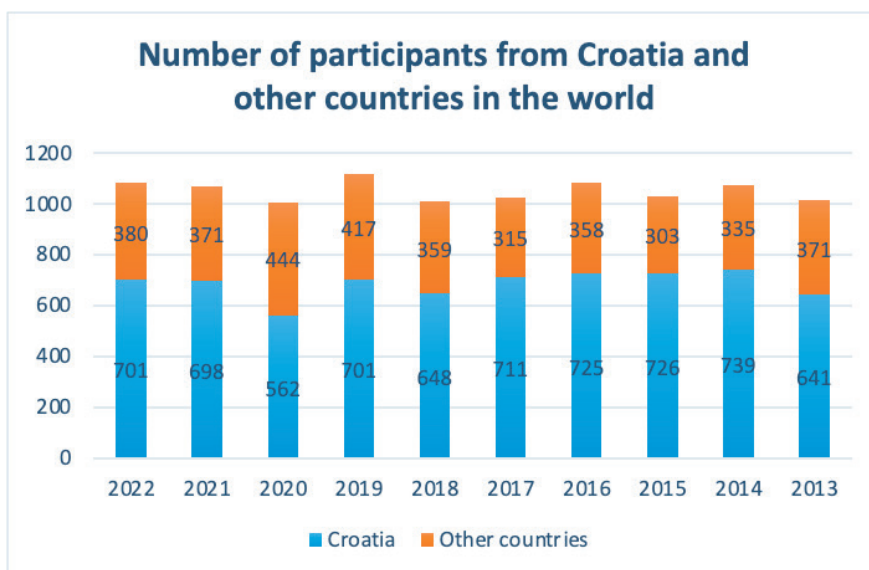
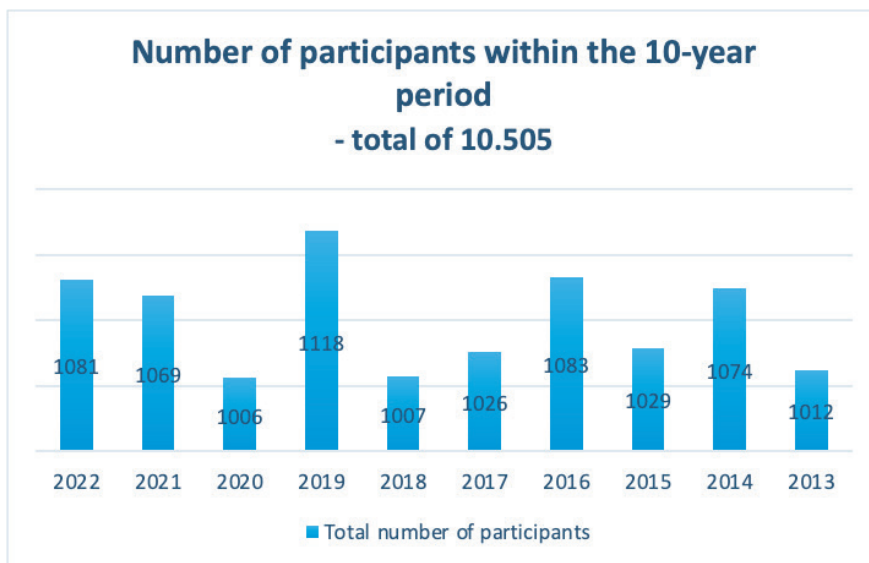
science, education, business, banking, government and local government. MIPRO is simultaneously a scientific, technological, professional and business communication and cooperation platform. Experience and expertise MIPRO's mission is to develop innovative solutions, share and disseminate knowledge. In this time of digital transformation, we follow this mission by adapting to global market demands and national interests, by networking and contributing to strategies that follow EU and HR technology policies and development guidelines. MIPRO aims to become a centre and focal point for communication and cooperation by joining forces with other ICT associations in the EU. MIPRO will be the coordinator for all aspects of project implementation in terms of leadership, collaboration, communication and dissemination of research results as an integral part of the project. This includes applying an innovative vision, increasing the visibility of research results and public engagement with science, technology and innovation in society. The aim is to ensure that the project carried out has a social, political and economic impact. MIPRO ensures the transfer of knowledge and the use of technical solutions, results and initiatives to relevant decision-makers at local, regional, national and European level. MIPRO takes care of the implementation of policy dissemination activities within these project initiatives, focusing on dissemination in the public press and social media.

STATISTICS WITHIN THE LAST 10 YEARS (2013–2022)

Number of participants

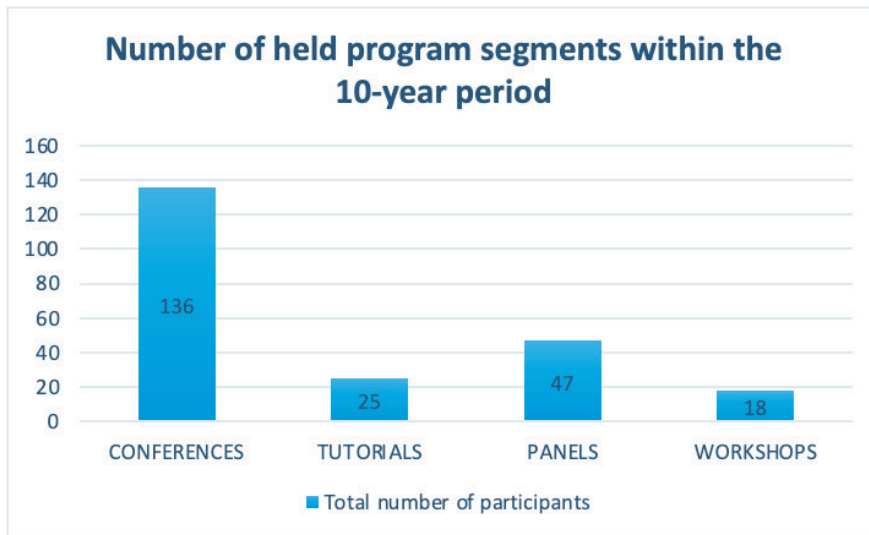
		2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	TOTAL
Total number of participants		1081	1069	1006	1118	1007	1026	1083	1029	1074	1012	10.505
From Croatia	NUMBER	701	698	562	701	648	711	725	726	739	641	6.852
	%	64,88	65,32	55,82	62,74	64,31	69,26	66,90	70,58	68,85	63,38	65,23
* From other countries	NUMBER	380	371	444	417	359	315	358	303	335	371	3.653
	%	35,12	34,68	44,18	37,26	35,69	30,74	33,10	29,42	31,15	36,62	34,77
From the former Yugoslavia (except Croatia)	NUMBER	121	149	140	107	103	124	126	119	129	155	1.273
	%	11,19	13,98	13,96	9,56	10,23	12,09	11,67	11,54	12,05	15,33	12,12

* Participants from other countries include participants from the ex Yugoslavia



Number of program segments that were held within MIPRO conventions

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	TOTAL
Conferences	15	15	16	14	13	13	13	12	13	12	136
Tutorials	2	1	0	3	3	3	3	3	3	4	25
Panels	1	1	1	6	4	8	7	7	6	6	47
Workshops	5	3	0	4	0	1	0	3	1	1	18
TOTAL	23	20	17	27	20	25	23	25	23	23	226



Exhibition demonstrations and appearances

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	TOTAL
Number of exhibitors	8	8	1	14	11	17	20	26	31	25	161

CONCLUSION

In 46 years of continuous work, from microprocessors to grid and cloud systems, MIPRO has participated in knowledge and technology transfer in the region and beyond. It provides an integration and development platform in the field of ICT. As an interface for collaboration and communication, it creates a symbiosis of professions and accelerates the development and application of advanced technical solutions to develop smart digital ecosystems for the future industrial revolution.

With its tradition and best practises, MIPRO can be an integrating factor in the region and beyond. It works to reintegrate intellectual capital through networking and building collaborations with the scientific diaspora.

REFERENCE AND INVITATION

For more information, please visit the website <http://www.mipro.hr> or direct mail contact mipro@mipro.hr

We invite all interested parties to register for the 46th MIPRO 2023, which will be held in Opatija from 22 to 26 May 2023 under the theme: ICT for a smart and green present and future.