

PEI 2017 Workshop Report

Anant Pande

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Purpose of the visit:

I participated in the 3rd International Polar Educators International Workshop held in Rovereto, Italy from 11-14 April 2017. I was scheduled to present the work done by Indian Polar Research Network (IPRN, APECS-India) to popularize and promote polar sciences in India in the SNAP-TALK session on 13th April. In my presentation titled *Highlighting the role of communication in Polar Sciences: lessons from ICECAPS Workshop 2016*, I talked about the science communication workshop organized by us at Dehradun, India. I also explained to the audience the learnings from the workshop and our attempts to re-organize the event with more focus on school teachers and college/university professors.

Benefits derived from the workshop:

1. This workshop was a unique gathering of scientists and teachers in a very interactive environment. I had the chance to discuss my work with many polar educators participating in the workshop from different countries of the world. I have also developed close contacts with some of the participants with whom I would be linking our activities in the future.
2. The sessions like Edu-lab and Share-a-ton were very informative which gave ideas on how to reach out to students more effectively. The outreach methods were immensely helpful to design own activities in Indian context with a focus on training the teachers themselves.

Future plan of work:

I plan to implement the lessons from this workshop in India through a series of activities which are planned under the umbrella of IPRN (APECS-India). Some of these activities include a teacher training workshop on Polar Science with the involvement of teachers across India and ICECAPS2 workshop. Through our strong network of over a 1000 people, I intend to create a network of teachers/educators who would be willing to be a member of PEI-India. Initial efforts would begin in July this year where we would be targeting existing members to attend our ICECAPS2 workshop first and later connect with more teachers.

Acknowledgement:

I thank SCAR for giving me this unique opportunity to be a part of PEI2017. As the only participating Asian member, I express my commitment to help promote Polar Science in the region and also help PEI, APECS and SCAR in achieving their goals in capacity building.