

ICAR-CIFE & NAHEP-CAAST

Online Training Program SciCom for Smart Scholars

SciCom for Smart Scholars is a tailor-made online short course designed primarily for practicing scientists/faculty and research scholars working in NARS (ICAR/SAU/CAU/DUs) to enable them become smart practitioners and communicators of science. This one-of-its-kind, flexible and free two weeks online course was conducted, due to overwhelming response, in 4 batches of 160-190 participants each between 5th May and 8th June 2020.

Title of Training Program: Science Communication for Smart Scholars

Learning Mode/Delivery: Online Mode using Google Classroom/Meet & Zoom

Participants Details

Batch	Date	Completed (No.)	Enrolled (No.)
First Batch	5-18 May	122 (64%)	190
Second Batch	12-25 May	115* (70%)	165
Third Batch	26 May-8 June	145* (76%)	190
Fourth Batch	26 May-8 June	120* (74%)	163
	Total	502* (71%)	708

*this number might change slightly after final verification

Of the 708, nearly 40% are females, 14% belong to SC/ST communities; nearly half of them are students (Masters & PhD) while close to 25% are scientists in ICAR, 15% are faculty from fisheries colleges and SAUs; nearly two third have fisheries specialisation, while others are with agriculture and allied subject background.

The online program consisted of 15 sessions including the pre-training and post-training assessments and feedback survey. The session plan followed during 2 weeks online course is given in the Annexure 1 below. Lectures / lecture demos were conducted live online while the recorded lectures videos were shared to reinforce learning and help those who could not attend some sessions to catch up. Each session had a quiz and an individual assignment while follow-up sessions were conducted to clear the doubts / queries. Informal but professional discussions were held 24x7 in both Google Classroom and the WhatsApp groups encouraging peer learning. Assessment was done based on a rigorous criteria (Annexure 2) with due weightage to attendance, quiz, assignment and active participation/contribution in discussions.