The Abdus Salam International Centre for Theoretical Physics is organizing a Joint ICTP-TWAS Workshop on Science Communication in Developing Countries: Bridging the Gap between Science, Policy and the General Public to be held at ICTP, Trieste, Italy from 17 to 21 October 2011.

Good communication skills—both in writing and speech—are vital for researchers. From attracting crucial funding to building public and political awareness of their work, researchers should be able to communicate with audiences that have little to no science background. Communication skills are particularly important for scientists in developing countries, where the infrastructure for science is weak and where science education needs more support at all educational levels. By improving their communication skills, scientists can play an important role in the development of science in their countries.

Topics to be discussed at the workshop include:

- Modern communication methods
- Presentation skills
- Communicating to policymakers
- How journalists cover science

The workshop will offer a combination of lectures and hands-on training, providing theoretical and practical knowledge in science communication. The workshop structure has been adapted from the European Union’s European Science Communication Network’s (ESConet) workshops for science communication training.

Participation

Applicants from all countries that are members of the United Nations, UNESCO or IAEA may attend. As the Workshop will be conducted in English, participants should have an adequate working knowledge of this language. Although the main purpose of the Centre is to help research workers from developing countries through a programme of training activities within a framework of international cooperation, a limited number of students and post-doctoral scientists from developed countries are also welcome to attend.

As a rule, travel and subsistence expenses of the participants should be borne by their home institutions. Every effort should be made by candidates to secure support for their fare (or at least half-fare). However, limited funds are available for some participants, who are nationals of, and working in, a developing country, and who are not more than 45 years old. Such support is available only to those attending the entire activity. There is no registration fee.

HOW TO APPLY FOR PARTICIPATION

The Online Application can be accessed at the activity website: http://agenda.ictp.it/smr.php?2293. Comprehensive instructions will guide you step-by-step on how to fill out and submit the application form. Kindly send all file attachments in Word or Acrobat format.

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