Call for Applications

2nd edition of the South East European (SEE)* Science Journalism Workshop

19-22 September 2014 – Podgorica, Montenegro
Venue: One UN Building
Deadline: 18 AUGUST 2014

Rationale and Objectives

The relationship between science and society can be challenging. Linking science to society, improving public understanding of science and encouraging and attracting the participation of citizens (of all ages) to science are essential in creating societies where people have the necessary knowledge to make professional, personal and political choices, as well as being a part of the stimulating world of discovery. UNESCO believes that Science for a Sustainable Future is fundamental.

In order to better understand how to manage our planet and our lives, scientific knowledge and how it is communicated should be facilitated by developing a qualitative science journalism culture.

Last year the specialized SEE regional training workshop on science journalism organized on 3-5 October 2013 in Belgrade (Serbia) was very well received by the 16 journalists and communicators from South East Europe who attended. The realization of this type of a specialized regional capacity-building workshop was the first tangible result to discussions held during a parallel session organized by the Venice Office at the PCST 2012 (April 2012 in Florence, Italy) and as a follow up to the recommendations endorsed during the SEE Ministerial Round Table on Science, Technology and Innovation convened on 22-23 November 2012 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The UNESCO Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe, Venice (Italy), is pleased to announce that the 2nd edition of the specialized SEE regional workshop on science journalism will be conducted from 19 to 22 September 2014 in Podgorica, Montenegro, during the Open Science Festival.

This regional training workshop will remain politically independent and objective, building the capacity to critically reflect on scientific activities and results as well as science programmes and policies.
Activities

The regional training course will focus on developing participants’ skills in:

- Critically reflecting and reporting on scientific results
- Understanding the related media mechanisms
- Communicating with non-scientific public

The workshop will cover the following topics:

- How to improve the quality of science reporting and avoid pseudo-science?
- How to build (and maintain) trust between science and journalism.
- The watchdog role of journalism. Rebuilding public trust in science.
- Dealing with uncertainty and risk
- Understanding the interdependence of the Media and the public - Who influences whom? Empirical facts and figures

Target Audience

- Science journalists and media communicators from the SEE Region
- Press officers and communication officers of international organizations, agencies and institutions active in science communication
- Scientists and researchers

Call for Applications

To participate in the workshop, please submit your brief CV (1-2 pages maximum), a motivation letter (1 page maximum) in English with your photo before and no later than 18 August 2014 to: Rosanna Santesso, UNESCO Venice Office, Email: r.santesso@unesco.org.

No registration fees for the workshop will be requested.

The UNESCO Venice Office will offer 10 participation grants to selected applicants coming from the SEE countries. The selection of the UNESCO Venice Office sponsored participants will be based on the information provided and will be reviewed by an international selection committee.
All applicants will be notified of acceptance or rejection by email by the end of August 2014.

Travel costs should be personally ensured by all other workshop participants.

Further detailed information about the invited speakers, venue and the preliminary program of the workshop will be updated on http://www.unesco.org/venice, and the http://balkanscijc.wordpress.com/

**Workshop Partners:**

Ministry of Science of Montenegro
National Commission of Montenegro for UNESCO

**The official working language of the workshop is English.**

*This event will be a closed workshop with a maximum number of 25 participants.*

Note: SEE countries (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Cyprus, Kosovo* (*UN Security Council Resolution 1244), Montenegro, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey)