

C.P.R. ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTRE, CHENNAI

ECO EUREKA – YOUTH ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOPS ON NATURE AND LABS

C.P.R. Environmental Education Centre (CPREEC) implemented a project titled **Eco Eureka – Youth Engagement Workshops on Nature and Labs** sanctioned by the National Council for Science & Technology Commission (NCSTC), Department of Science & Technology, Government of India.

Eco Eureka, a youth engagement workshop, is about instilling scientific temperament among the young minds by adopting experiential learning methodology. Students tend to learn by experiencing the nature and related activities, this in turn enhance their understanding on nature and as well create a positive impact towards nature conservation.



A group of 25 college students of 18-25 years were engaged in the five day workshop cum residential camp. They were involved in a series of nature-based outdoor activities designed to enhance their consciousness and in-depth understanding about nature and natural systems. The participants were trained on environmental quality monitoring procedures i.e. analyzing the pollution level on air, water, noise and soil. They were also trained on usage of instrumentation, handling the chemicals, followed by education and public awareness on the pollution level. Training on laboratory procedures, nature conservation, renewable resources for sustainable futures and ecological restoration were also conducted in the indoor setting with appropriate illustrations.

Objectives of the workshop

- To highlight the concepts of environment and ecology
- To identify and trace out the problem areas in environmental degradation
- To highlight and discuss the recent trends in environmental pollution
- To document and to disseminate the effective science communication measures in popularizing environmental conservation
- To highlight the critical role of print and electronic medium in popularization of science and environmental ecology
- To bring out pro-environmental behaviour and attitude

Project outcomes

- Understand and appreciate nature and its resources.
- Learn the nitty-gritty of environmental studies and its significance to human.
- Environmental degradation and its impact on living organisms
- Learn to investigate environmental quality monitoring methods to analyze pollutants in the environment especially in air, water and soil.

CPREEC organized **five** workshops of five days duration (one each) in the states of Karnataka (Bandipur Tiger Reserve), Tamil Nadu (Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve), Odisha (Chilika Lagoon) and Union Territories of Puducherry (Auroville Botanical Garden) and Andaman & Nicobar Islands (Forest Training Institute, Wimberlygunj) during 2017-18.