A brief history of COCI Safety Training Program - A Global Project

The IUPAC COCI Safety Training Program (STP) was established in 1993 as a collaboration with UNESCO and UNIDO. UNIDO provided funding, IUPAC/COCI and UNESCO identified trainee candidates and IUPAC/COCI arranged for Company Associates to act as Host Companies.

Early records are incomplete, but there were 16 *STP Fellows* trained from countries throughout the developing world. They received training at 16 Host Companies in 9 countries (Belgium, Denmark, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the UK and the USA).

By 1997, new trainees and funding from UNIDO became scarce, and a proposed joint IUPAC/UNESCO/UNIDO program was apparently not finalized.

**IUPAC - UNESCO - UNIDO Safety Training Fellowship Program**

Dr. Mark Cesa became the new IUPAC/COCI STP Coordinator in 1998. In 1999 he re-established and re-invigorated the organization of the Safety Training Program; summarized all applicants and Host companies; defined the requirements and responsibilities for STP Fellowship applicants; developed an application process and form and defined the STP Fellowship trainee report requirements. By July 1999 16 *STP Fellows* had already been trained and 12 applicants were awaiting training.
At the August 2003 bi-annual IUPAC Congress in Ottawa, Canada, Mark established the Safety Training Program Workshop which is on-going to this day. By this time 5 additional STP Fellows had been trained.

IUPAC COCI STP Fellowships - A Global Project

By the 2007 STP Workshop in Turin, Italy there were an additional 6 STP Fellows.
An additional STP Fellow was trained by the 2009 *STP Workshop* in Glasgow, Scotland.

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The 2011 *STP Workshop* in San Juan, Puerto Rico saw a total of 12 STP Fellows trained since 1999 under Mark’s leadership and 12 applicants were awaiting training.
Dr. Bernard West became the STP Coordinator in 2012. He reported at the Istanbul, Turkey 2013 STP Workshop that an additional 2 STP Fellows had been trained.

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By the 2015 STP Workshop in Bushan, Korea there were an additional 3 STP Fellows.

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At the 2017 STP Workshop in Sao Paulo, Brazil, Bernard reported 2 additional STP Fellows for a total of 7 STP Fellows trained under his leadership. A further 17 applicants were awaiting training.

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Dr. Robert Audette became the STP Coordinator in 2018. He reported at the 2019 STP Workshop “Celebrating 20 Years of IUPAC COCI Safety Training” in Paris, France that an additional STP Fellowship applicant was undergoing training and would shortly become an STP Fellow.

This will bring the total to 36 STP Fellows trained from Argentina, Bulgaria, China (2), Egypt (7), Ghana, India (3), Indonesia, Kenya (4), Mexico (2), Nigeria (6), Poland, Romania, Thailand (2), Turkey, Uruguay (2), Vietnam.

They have been trained at Host Companies from Belgium (2), Canada (2), Denmark (2), France, Germany (2), Japan (2), South Africa, Sweden (2), Switzerland (3), The Netherlands (2), the U.K. (3), U.S.A. (9).

There are now 4 approved candidates awaiting Host Company training (Ghana, Libya, Nigeria, Nepal).
While proposed at the 2009 STP Workshop by Prof. Fabian Benzo, it wasn’t until 2016 that the Safety Training Program expanded with its first regional training program. The *STP-Latin America* (STP-LA) project in the local Spanish language was conducted by Prof. Fabian Benzo and occurred in October in Uruguay.

A second STP-LA program was conducted in October 2018. Robert designated all the STP-LA trainees as *STP Associate Fellows* that fall. The nine STP Associate Fellows trained were from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Panama, Venezuela.

Currently, there are 36 *STP Fellows* and 9 *STP Associate Fellows* in the Safety Training Program.

**STP Fellows & Associate Fellows – A Global Project**

Visit the Safety Training Program website and its’ related websites for more detailed information.

https://iupac.org/who-we-are/committees/coci-safety-training-program/