


SEOAS Events: Webinar on “Chronicling Climate”

Goa University
School of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences
In association with DIQA
Organizes a webinar on

Chronicling Climate



Speaker:
Dr. Atreyee Bhattacharya
Research Faculty
University of Colorado,
Boulder, USA

This talk will highlight how high-resolution indirect observations (i.e. proxy observations) are obtained from natural and human archives to reconstruct climate variability and its impacts, especially over the late Holocene, focusing mostly on the last millennium.

Webinar Link: <https://meet.google.com/hna-cjyj-pai>

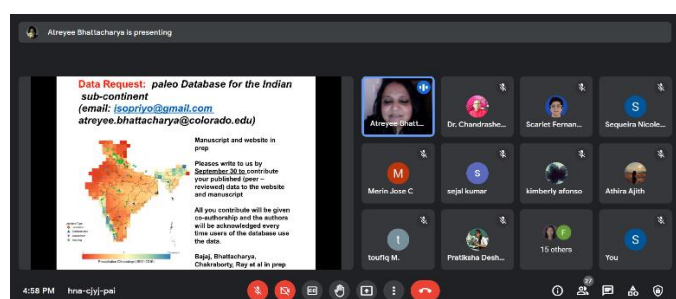
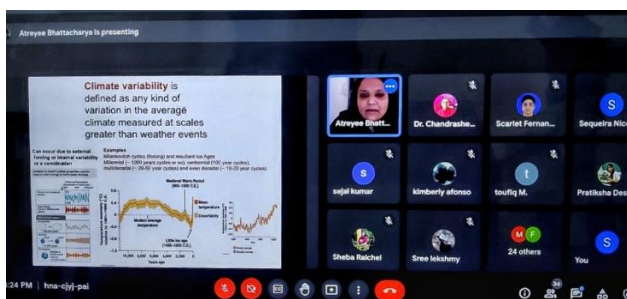
4.00 p.m., Friday, 25th February 2022

Prof. C.U. Rivonker
Senior Professor
Dean, SEOAS

Dr. Nicole Sequeira
Assistant Professor
Co-ordinator

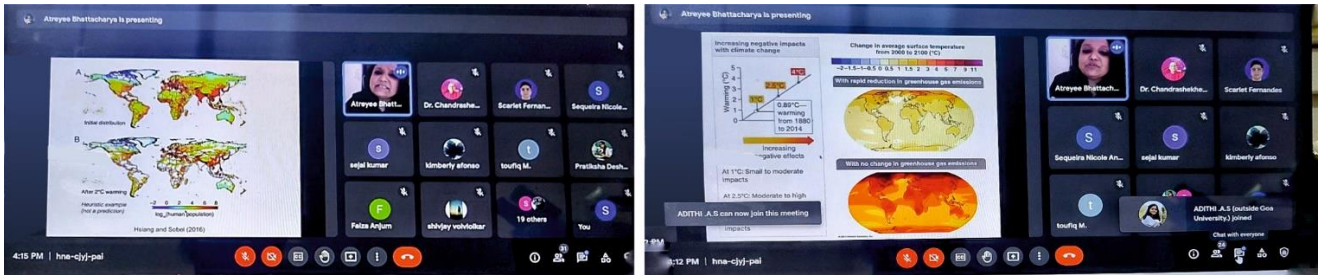
The School of Earth, Ocean and Atmospheric Sciences, in association with DIQA, Goa University organized a webinar titled “Chronicling Climate” on the Friday, 25th of February 2022, at 4 p.m. on the Google Meet platform. Dr. N. Sequeira, Assistant Professor, SEOAS, was the coordinator for the session. The invited speaker for the session was a well renowned climatologist and science writer, Dr. Atreyee Bhattacharya, Research Faculty, University of Boulder, Colorado, USA. Dr. Bhattacharya has been working on integrating climate studies with community-engaged scholarship ever since she completed her doctoral studies in climatology at the Department of Earth and Planetary Studies, Harvard University in 2012. The objective of the webinar was to create an understanding of how decadal and multidecadal scale climate variability is measured and to assess its impact on environmental resource availability.

At the webinar, Prof. C. Rivonker, Dean, SEOAS, welcomed the speaker and the audience and Dr. N. Sequeira, introduced Dr. Bhattacharya. The talk began with Dr. Bhattacharya explaining the meaning of climate variability, the various scales on which it can be measured and the importance of studying long term variability as opposed to hazardous natural events that occur instantaneously. Several graphs and field photographs were used to demonstrate how lake sediment coring, storage and analysis is carried out.



Dr. Bhattacharya then went on to discuss the impacts of climate variability on communities, especially highlighting the plight of small-holding farmers in semi-arid regions. She threw light on how different climate proxies matched with colonial records of drought periods and rainfall failure. In the end she

stressed that it does not need hazardous events to cause socio-economic collapses, it can take place even at three standard deviations from the mean of the climate variability curve.



The Webinar was attended by faculty and students from Goa University as well as from several Undergraduate Colleges across Goa, such as Dhempe College of Arts and Science, Miramar, DMC College, Mapusa and Government College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Sanquelim. The speaker elaborated on the questions asked after the session, and the session ended with the vote of thanks given by Dr. Anthony Viegas, Vice-Dean (Academic), SEOAS. Overall, the session was very enlightening, provoking the audience to relook at the close link between between the cross-disciplinary subjects of climate change, environment, policy and societal impacts.

-Report by Dr. Nicole Sequeira