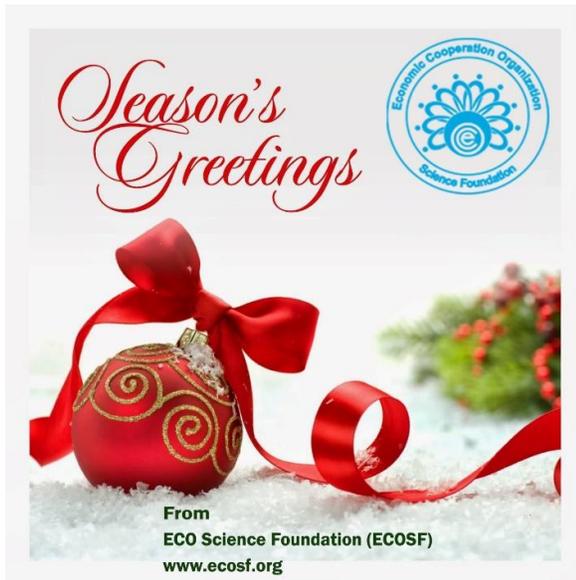




ECOSF NEWSLETTER



President ECOSF and entire ECOSF's Team wishing you the Season's Greetings & Happy New Year 2023



KIEP and CEIE in collaboration with ECOSF hosted 10th Korea Iran Cooperation Forum in Dubai, UAE

Korea Institute for International Economic Policy (KIEP) and Center of Excellence for International Economics (CEIE), University of Isfahan in collaboration with ECO Science Foundation hosted 10th Korea Iran Cooperation Forum on December 15, 2022 in Dubai, UAE. The 10th Forum on Korea and Iran Cooperation was held under the theme of 'Industrial Policies and Business Opportunities between Korea and Iran in the Era of Green and Digital Transformation'. A league of imminent Korean, Iranian and Pakistani experts contributed to the proceedings of the Forum.

Prof. Dr. Jung Sung-Chun, Vice President KIEP said in his opening address that Iran and South Korea have a long history of economic cooperation. South Korea has been a major export destination for Iranian oil and gas, and has also been a significant source of investment and technology for Iran's industrial and infrastructure development. The economic relationship between Iran and South Korea is multifaceted and has the potential to contribute significantly to the development and prosperity of both countries.

H.E. Mr. Yun Kanghyeon, the Ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Iran was the Keynote Speaker in the Forum. Mr. Kanghyeon underlined that since the establishment of diplomatic relations, Korea and Iran have maintained cooperative relations in various sectors such as economy, technology, infrastructure and culture. In particular, the two countries have established close economic partnership as trading partners. He added that he hopes this year Forum will be a new opportunity for cooperation to further bilateral ties and promote mutual understanding.



Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF led the delegation from Iranian side virtually and delivered his opening remarks and presented a detailed overview of rich cultural exchange and economic cooperation between Iran and Korea over the years. Prof. Tayebi emphasized that as the members of the global community, it is our collective responsibility to ensure that our actions do not harm the environment and contribute to climate change. In recent years, both Korea and Iran have made significant progress in implementing sustainable practices in their industries, he further added.



Prof. Tayebi said, however, there is still much work to be done in both countries to fully transition to a sustainable model of industrial production. For example, there is still a high reliance on fossil fuels, particularly in the transportation and industrial sector in both these countries. To achieve a true green transformation in industries in Korea and Iran, it will require the cooperation and commitment of all stakeholders, including governments, businesses, and individuals, President ECOSF concluded.



The forum was divided into three main sessions on the respective topic of “Current Issues in the Middle East and Sixty Years of Cooperation between Korea and Iran” and “Green Transformation of Industries”, and “Digital Transformation Opportunities between Korea and Iran”. The experts during the sessions discussed opportunities and challenges of green and digital transformations in industries of both these countries and suggested policy proposals to expand bilateral investment and economic cooperation between Korea and Iran.

In the Forum, **Engr. Khalil Raza, Scientific Officer** was also invited on behalf of ECOSF to present his talk on Best Practices of Green Transformation in the Industries: Lessons for Korea and Iran Cooperation. Mr. Raza in his talk suggested several strategies to mitigate the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from industries using clean technologies, such as energy efficiency, renewables, hydrogen and carbon capture, utilization, and storage (CCUS). It is important to mention that Former President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro also joined and contributed to the Forum as an observer. During discussion session, Prof. Soomro appreciated both sides Korea and Iran on hosting this important dialogue and emphasized on utilizing Korean expertise in the industrial competitiveness for boosting sustainable development in Iran.



The Forum concluded with following key takeaways:

- **Korea and Iran to expand green and digital trade:** Both countries Increase economic cooperation between the two countries to expand the volume and variety of green goods and digital services traded between them.
- **Both Countries need to promote mutual investments:** Both countries strengthen economic cooperation and encouraging investment from Korean companies in the Iranian market and vice versa on digital, green, clean, and renewable energy technologies in the industrial sectors. It is necessary to encourage and provide financial incentives or assistance to green businesses and industries looking to invest in the other country.
- **Develop green and digital infrastructure:** Korea and Iran could work together to develop green and digital infrastructure projects that would benefit both countries.
- **Encourage tourism:** Both countries promote tourism between the two countries could also boost economic cooperation. This could involve marketing the two countries' cultural and natural attractions to each other's citizens, as well as making it easier for tourists to travel between the two countries.
- **Promote cultural exchange between the two countries:** Both countries encourage cultural exchange between the two countries, such as through educational and cultural exchange programs, to strengthen economic ties by increasing understanding and goodwill between the two countries.
- **11th Korea -Iran Cooperation Forum on tourism:** The 11th Korea-Iran Cooperation Forum on tourism and the related subjects will be held in Kish Island, Iran, in May 2023.

The Sixth of “Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop” was held in Hybrid Mode from September – November 2022

After start in 2017, the Sixth “Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop” was held from September – November 2022 in hybrid mode. The Cam was formally opened in on **15 November 2022** in online and offline mode at Chongqing, China. The event was jointly organized by China Association for Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China, Chongqing Municipal People's Government and People's Government of Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region from September to November 2022. ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) has been supporting the event since its inception in 2017. Other supporters from the world were InterAcademy Partnership Science Education Program (IAP SEP), and Network of African Science Academies (NASAC).



During the opening ceremony, Mr. Meng Qinghai, Vice Chairman of the CAST, Huang Ribo, Vice Chairman of the CPPCC Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Chairman of the Autonomous Region Association for Science and Technology, Skalli Wafa, Chairman of the Science Education Program of the International Academy of Sciences, Executive Director of the African Academy of Sciences Jackie Olang and Mohamed Jemni, Director of UNESCO Science and Technology Exchange Center of the Arab League, attended the event online and offline and delivered speeches.



Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of Science Foundation of the Economic Cooperation Organization also spoke through his audio message during the opening ceremony. He talked about collaboration with CAST, CYSC and other Chinese institutes/organization and hoped that the collaboration would be further strengthened. He wished all the participants (students & teachers) to give their best and take opportunity to develop the networking among the peers. cement

Closing Ceremony: An impressive ceremony was held to close the event formally on 3 December 2022. In the closing event "Dialogue with Scientists", Jiang Jianxin, academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, and Lv Xiaoge, former director of the News Center of China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation, gave online science reports and interacted with young people at home and abroad. At the closing event, the winners of the three themes of sustainable transportation, green campus, and smart cars were announced, including the winners of the Best Maker Award, the Best Display Award, and the Best Team Award. Excellent volunteer certificate.



Leaders and guests from the Consulate Generals of Vietnam, Myanmar and other countries in Nanning, Guangxi Science and Technology Department, Guangxi Education Department, Guangxi Culture and Tourism Department, and Nanning Municipal People's Government attended the event.

The Camp was a free international exchange event open to students and science teachers from both junior and senior high schools. The grand event included a series of exciting online activities including but not limited to Online Science Course, Scientist Lectures, VR Online Visit, Traditional Chinese Culture Exchange and Experience, "Dance to the Music" and "Youth and Bridge". Online volunteers were in touch with every registered participant to offer help through the whole event. Online Science Course covers 3 themes including Sustainable Transportation, Intelligent Vehicle and Green Campus. Under each theme, there are interesting final tasks for students to explore with their peers while online guidance will also be provided by Chinese experts.

The Camp attracted over **7000 participants** from **74 countries and regions**, covering Asia, Europe, Africa, the Americas and Oceania. With the efforts of ECOSF, a good number (**195**) of students and teachers from ECO countries such as Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey also attended the Camp.

1st Secretary S&T, Embassy of China called upon President ECOSF

Mr. Cao Zhouhua, 1st Secretary S&T, Embassy of People's Republic of China called upon President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi at his office on 29 December 2022. Prof. Tayebi cordially welcomed Mr. Cao and briefly introduced him about the ECOSF. Prof. Tayebi underlined that ECOSF has strong collaboration and partnership with leading Chinese S&T Institutions. He also highlighted some of the ongoing strategic and scientific initiatives with China.

Mr. Cao was apprised that ECOSF has been collaborating with different organizations and institutes of China such as China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), Children and Youth Science Center of CAST (CYSCC), Beijing Technology and Business University (BTBU), Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Chinese Academy of Science, Technology for Development (CASTED) and others under the Belt and Road Initiatives.



Mr. Cao was pleased to know that ECOSF is the Founding Member of Belt and Road International Science Education Consortium (BRISEC) under CAST/CYSCC. Additionally, a number of scientific and educational activities are undertaken by BRISEC. One of the biggest annual activities which is held by BRISEC is Belt and Road Teenager Makers Camp and Teachers Workshop where thousands of students and teachers from all over the world participate. A large number of participants from ECO countries also attend.

During the meeting, Engr. Khalil Reza, the ECOSF Scientific Officer also briefed the BTBU-ECOSF Joint Training Center for Scientific, Technological and Economic Cooperation under Belt and Road Initiative was established in 2021. So far, six training programmes on different themes have been organized wherein, about 600 people from the countries along belt and road including ECO region attended/trained.



Mr. Cao appreciated the role of ECOSF for promotion of STI in the countries along belt and road. He expressed that practical steps should be taken to promote the STI in ECO Member Countries, especially Pakistan with prudent policy mechanisms to incentivize applied research to create meaningful impact on society as well as sustainable economic growth. He appreciated the collaboration with Chinese organizations, institutes and universities. Mr. Cao also assured his possible support to strengthen the ongoing collaboration and expand it to other organizations and institutes.

At the end, Professor Tayebi emphasized on strengthening the scientific and technological relationship between China and the ECO member countries in new year 2023.

ECOSF held a meeting with E-Learning Association of Iran to promote Technology Enhanced Learning in the ECO region.

President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi held a virtual meeting with Chairman of E-Learning Association of Iran (YADA), Prof. Dr. Ali Akbar Safavi on December 7, 2022 to underline the common interest and explore opportunities for knowledge exchange and capacity building of ECO Member Countries towards development and strengthening of Technology Enhanced Learning in the ECO region.



Prof. Safavi presented the fundamental concepts and methods of Technology enhanced learning (TEL), or e-learning, which refers to the use of technology to support and enhance the learning process. Prof. Safavi underscored that the TEL can be used to support various forms of learning, including traditional face-to-face instruction, distance learning, and self-directed learning. While highlighting the experience of the UNITEL project, Prof. Safavi also outlined the potential benefits of TEL and e-learning applications include the ability to reach a wider audience, provide flexible learning options, and improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the learning process.

Prof. Tayebi appreciated the contributions of Prof. Safavi and his leadership in promoting the TEL in the region. Prof. Tayebi emphasized the integration of technology for inclusive growth and promotion of e-Learning as a strategic step, which is essential for the ECO Member Countries. Hence, it is imperative to undertake research on emerging technology for learning and educational purposes with a goal to support the respective institutions in the ECO region with right tools and devices to promote the e-Learning in the Member Countries, Prof. Tayebi added. During the meeting, Engr. Khalil Raza also contributed to the discussions and presented a way forward for enhancing TEL in the ECO region.

One of the major outcomes of this meeting was formalizing the partnership in the form of Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ECOSF and YADA. In follow up to this meeting, ECOSF and YADA signed an MoU on December 22, 2022, which aims to bring the right people together to create the technologies of the future and share best practices with the next generation on all aspects of e-Learning and TEL. Both sides assured to work together to bridge the existing gap to build the capacity of ECO Member Countries in enhancing their technical expertise, skills, knowledge creation and research in TEL framework.

Yalda Night Celebrated in Islamabad

The Embassy of Islamic Republic of Iran celebrated the “Yalda Night” in Islamabad on 21 December 2022. The celebration was hosted by the Ambassador of Iran to Pakistan H.E. Mohammad Ali Hosseini and attended by the large number of Iranian diplomats and officials living in Islamabad. President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi also attended the celebration.



Yalda Night is an ancient festival and celebrated in Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Azerbaijan and Turkey on the longest night of the year. This corresponds to the night of December 20/21 in the Gregorian Calendar. The friends and family gather together to eat, drink and read poetry (especially Hafez) and the Shahnameh until well after midnight. Fruits and nuts are eaten and pomegranates and watermelons are particularly significant. The red color in these fruits symbolizes the crimson hues of dawn and glow of life. The poems of Divan-e Hafez, which can be found in the bookcases of most Iranian families, are read or recited on various occasions.

Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

6th National Conference and 10th International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching

ECOSF is pleased to partner with e-Learning Association of Iran to host the 16th National Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching (ICeLeT 2023) will be held in early 2023 with a joint collaboration with the Iranian Association of e-Learning (YADA). This conference provides the premier interdisciplinary forum for researchers, practitioners and educators to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns, practical challenges encountered, and the solutions adopted in the field of e-Learning and e-Teaching.

The ICeLeT 2023 will bring together leading academic scientists, researchers and scholars in the domain of interest from around the world. Topics of interest for submission include, but are not limited to:

- Teaching/Learning Models, Methodologies, and Design for Blended Self-navigating, Gamifical Learning
- The Role of Social Networks and Other Virtual Environments in E-learning

- Quality Assurance, Assessment, Accreditation, and Evaluation Policies in E-learning
- Creative and Interactive Content in E-Design
- Social, Cultural and Ethical Aspects in E-learning Systems
- Policies, Strategies and Programs in E-learning

The Paper Submission deadline is **January 10th, 2023**. For more information, please visit: <https://icelet.ir>

Call for Papers: 1st International Conference on Transboundary Diseases & Public Health

Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (SBBUVAS), Sakrand is organizing an international conference on Transboundary Diseases & Public Health on 16-17 February 2023.

Last Date for Abstract/paper submissions **30 January 2023**.

For queries, please contact: hidayat.soomro@faculty.sbbuvas.edu.pk

For more information, please visit: <https://sbbuvas.edu.pk>



500 SCHOLARSHIPS BY PAKISTAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION STFS 2023

Pakistan Science Foundation an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Science and Technology invites applications for the selection of the 6th batch of 500 young students under the Development Project Science Talent Farming Scheme (STFS). The talented students passionate towards science education who wish to adopt a scientific career will be selected and trained/groomed to become future eminent scientists.

Pakistan Science Foundation is not only offering PKR: 15,000/- month to the selected students. The last date to apply for Science Talent Farming Scheme is December 23, 2022.

<http://ecosf.org/STFS-2023>