



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



Vice Minister of Research of Iran Paid a Visit to ECOSF Secretariat and held Meeting with President ECOSF

Vice Minister of Research, Ministry of Research, Science and Technology of Islamic Republic of Iran, Prof. Dr. Peyman Salehi paid a maiden visit to the Secretariat of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) on 1st December 2022 at Islamabad. He was warmly welcomed by President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi. After welcoming, President ECOSF briefly made an introduction of ECOSF and talked about the ongoing and future programmes of the Foundation. He further told that the ECOSF has developed collaboration relations with national, regional and international organizations, scientific communities to promote and support science, technology and innovation (STI) based activities leading to economic development. The budgetary contributions by Iran to ECOSF and many others aspects also came under discussion.



Dr. Salehi thanked President ECOSF for the cordial receiving and said that he believes that ECOSF is important organization of ECO who can play a diverse role in STI in the region. There are plenty of research potentials in the ECO region, thus, Foundation can facilitate to develop the working relations among the research organizations of ECO countries, he added. There are also huge potentials of S&T Parks in ECO region specially in Iran, Pakistan and Turkey to collaborate and develop new technologies. He emphasized that ECO region has huge potential which must be tapped, he said. Dr. Salehi also assured the support of MSRT to ECOSF for various aspects including the budget.

Vice Minister of Research of Iran met with the Secretary to the Ministry of Science and Technology of Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Peyman Salehi, Vice Minister of Research, Ministry of Research, Science and Technology of Islamic Republic of Iran met with Mr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, the Secretary to Ministry of Science and Technology of Pakistan on 2 Dec 2022 at his office. President ECOSF Prof. Komail Tayebi was also accompanied with the Vice Minister. The Secretary cordially welcomed the Vice Minister for visit of the Ministry and Pakistan. Mr. Memon also briefed about the functions and programmes of the Ministry. He also shared that there are a lot of initiatives in the field of science and technology being collaborated with Iran. He further said that Iran is neighbouring country of Pakistan so it is logical partner of Pakistan.



The Vice Minister of Iran Prof. Salehi thanked the Secretary for warm welcome. He further said that although it is his first visit to Pakistan but feeling at home. Pakistan and Iran share many things together such as culture, tradition, history, borders, etc. thus, there is a lot of potential to further the collaboration in every field specially in S&T, Prof. Salehi added. The Vice Minister further added that Iran is rich in Energy (Oil/Gas) and Pakistan can take advantage of it which can be cheaper from all other sources being the neighbor.

It is pertinent to mention that the visit was arranged and facilitated by the ECOSF.

President ECOSF called upon the Ambassador of Azerbaijan in Islamabad

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF called upon the Ambassador of Azerbaijan in Islamabad H.E. Mr. Khazar Farhadov at the Embassy. The Ambassador cordially welcomed President ECOSF for his maiden visit to the Embassy.

Prof. Tayebi introduced himself and said that he joined the ECOSF as its 2nd President in August 2022. He also introduced ECOSF and said that it is a specialized agency of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and an intergovernmental organization of 10 countries including Azerbaijan. The main objective of the Foundation is to promote and support scientific/technological activities and scientific communities in ECO region leading to economic development. Prof. Tayebi further shared that so far Azerbaijan had signed the Chart of ECOSF but not ratified it and requested that Government of Azerbaijan may ratify the Charter and its Additional Protocol which will benefit Azerbaijan to actively participate in decision making and other programmes of the Foundation. Prof. Tayebi further said that Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) play significant role for the development of any country. Thus, the role of ECOSF, as the specialized agency on science and technology, becomes pivotal for the region. He also shared the ongoing and future activities of ECOSF. He further shared that ECOSF also provides support to develop networking and collaboration among the institutes/organizations of



ECO countries in STI. The Foundation has diverse programmes such as IBSE, Capacity Development, Climate Change, Engineering Qualification, Green Campuses and many others.

Excellency Mr. Farhadov thanked President ECOSF for the briefing about ECOSF and its programmes. He agreed that without STI achieving sustainable development is impossible. He appreciated the role of ECOSF in the field of STI.

He also highlighted the situation of Azerbaijan with reference to the tension with Armenia. H.E. Mr. Farhadov assured his maximum support for the ratification and realization of other programmes of the Foundation.

At the end, President ECOSF presented a Five Year Report of ECOSF to the Ambassador.



President ECOSF participated in UNITEL Project Activity funded by EU

President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi as one of the programs leads of UNI-TEL project along with other reputable scholars and representatives on e-learning from Iran as well as some European countries participated in the UNI-TEL project activity hosted by Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi on 14-18 November 2022 at Rome, Italy.

The UNI-TEL project aims to support modernization, internationalization and accessibility of the Higher Education System between Iranian and European Universities through the development of innovative pedagogical approaches based on collaborative technology enhanced learning methodologies.

During the visit, Prof. Tayebi presented his role and interventions for the further advance the goals of the UNI-TEL project. Prof. Tayebi also held strategic meetings with partnering universities to strengthen further the collaboration between EU and Iranian universities on technology enhanced learning. In his meeting with Università degli Studi Guglielmo Marconi, he emphasized on sharing outcomes of the project in the ECO region.



It is important to note that this project started with the participation of some European Union universities from Italy, Greece, Portugal and Finland, and several leading universities in Iran with the financing of the Erasmus program in 2021.



ECOSF in collaboration with UNESCO, COMSTECH, COMSATS, PAS, and PSF commemorated the World Science Day



Islamabad, 16th November, 2022; In connection with commemoration of World Science Day (WSD) for Peace and Development, a joint event was organized by the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Standing Committee for Scientific and Technological Cooperation (COMSTECH), the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS), Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), and Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) on the theme of importance of Basic Sciences for Sustainable Development. The theme of the WSD - 2022 has been decided by UNESCO within the celebrations of the year 2022 as "International Year of Basic Sciences" kicked off on July 8, 2022.

In the event, Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General, COMSTECH, Engr. Khalil Raza on behalf of President ECOSF - Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, Prof. Dr. Shahid Mahmood Baig, Chairman, PSF, Prof. Dr. Tasawar Hayat, Secretary General, PAS, Ambassador Dr. Mohammad Nafees Zakaria, Executive Director, COMSATS, and Dr. Youssef Filali-Meknassi, Director, UNESCO Islamabad shared their views with the mixed gathering of scientists, students, science managers and general public.

Prof. Iqbal welcomed the participants and panellists and gave a brief talk on the importance of Basic Science and shared his personal experiences. He highlighted the role of COMSTECH for promotion of basic sciences among the Islamic world including scholarships for science students and a number of other programs.





ECOSF was represented by Engr. Khalil Raza who read out the message of President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi which highlighted unprecedented high economic growth in many industrialized nations, which is mainly linked to their supportive policies and investments in Science and Technology sectors, which have enabled them to establish competitive edge among the top world economies. Hence, Science and Technology have an even bigger role to play in developing nations such as our respective ECO and OIC Member Countries. Prof. Tayebi's message underlined that world faces enormous challenges, and it will be extremely difficult for us to improve our lives, feed our growing populations, protect our children and environment, if we do not create opportunities for all to benefit from science. Thus, one must invest in our young scientists to find efficient, cheaper, and smarter ways of manufacturing goods and commercialization to respond to the global challenges.

Read More: <http://ecosf.org/World-Science-Day-22>



The 6th "Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop" was formally opened in Hybrid Mode

After start in 2017, the Sixth Installment of "Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop" was formally opened in Hybrid Mode on 15 November 2022 at Chongqing, China. The event is 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 supports from the world are Inter Academy Partnership Science Education Program (IAP SEP), and Network of African Science Academies (NASAC).



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 further cemented. He wished all the participants (students & teachers) to give their best and tape opportunity to develop the networking among the peers.



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 is a free international exchange event open to students and science teachers from both junior and senior high schools. The grand event includes 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 will be 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. Participants who finish the final tasks will get certificates of Best Maker, Best Presentation and Best Teamwork.

With the efforts of ECOSF, the students and teachers from ECO countries are also attending the event.

Mountain Regional and Municipal Climate Education Global Seminar

As part of the 6th Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp & Teacher Workshop is jointly held by China Association for Science and Technology, Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China and ECO Science Foundation, a Global Seminar on Mountain Regional and Municipal Climate Education was organized in partnership with ECO Science Foundation on November 19, 2022.

The theme of this seminar was climate and environment education in primary and secondary schools promotes sustainable development in mountainous areas. On behalf of ECO Science Foundation, Mr. Khalil Raza Scientific Officer ECOSF delivered his expert lecture on **Capacity Building of Science Teachers to Deliver Effective Climate Change Education** at Schools. Besides representatives of UNICEF, ICIMOD, Chongqing Renewable Energy Society, various schools and government agencies of Pakistan, Nepal and China also delivered their technical talks.



Capacity Building of Science Teachers to Deliver Effective Climate Change Education at Schools

Mountain Regional and Municipal Climate Education Global Seminar

KHALIL RAZA | ECO SCIENCE FOUNDATION

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November 19, 2022

The seminar focused on climate and environmental education in mountain cities. It utilizes Chongqing's development experience as a mountain city to discuss how to carry out climate education in primary and secondary schools, and the cooperation opportunities between schools and social organizations on environmental education. This seminar also explored how to combine Chinese experience with sustainable development in mountainous countries.

Mr. Khalil Raza underlined that one of the important aspects of Paris Agreement and UN Framework Convention on Climate Change is to promote, develop and implement educational, training, and public awareness programmes on climate change and its effects. Recognizing this fact, the ECOSF has partnered with IAP SEP, where Mr. Raza has led a team of consultants to develop teachers training module and guide for science teachers to help equip and build their capacity towards delivery of climate science education at schools.

The 99th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Türkiye celebrated in Islamabad - President ECOSF attended

The Turkish Embassy in Islamabad celebrated the 99th anniversary of the founding of the Republic of Türkiye through organizing a grand ceremony in Islamabad on 31st October 2022. The reception during the event was hosted by the Ambassador of Türkiye to Pakistan H.E. Dr. Mehmet Pacaci and Mrs. Meryem Pacaci. The Minister for Defence H.E. Mr. Khawaja Muhammad Asif was the Chief Guest. The celebration ceremony was attended by People hailing from all walks of life such as parliamentarians, politicians, representatives of the armed forces, members of civil society, diplomats, intellectuals, officers of the MoFA, scholars, students and religious leaders. On behalf of ECOSF, its President Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi attended.

During the ceremony, the Ambassador said that 99 years ago, on October 29, 1923, the Republic of Türkiye was established under the leadership of Gazi Mustafa Kemal, after a victorious war of independence. He also read a message from President Recep Tayyip Erdogan for Republic Day, which stated, “we altogether feel the pride and the enthusiasm of celebrating the 99th anniversary of the foundation of Türkiye. We pursue our uninterrupted struggle to elevate the Republic of Türkiye, which we founded by paying heavy sacrifices under very difficult conditions.

We transformed Türkiye into a country with an exemplary democracy, an impressive economy, whose diplomacy is followed with interest, and which preserves its national unity and brotherhood in the strongest way possible, despite all attempts of sabotage. We compete with ourselves in every field, from agriculture to tourism, transport to education and health, and we constantly raise the bar for success”.



Speaking on the occasion, Minister for Defence H.E. Mr. Asif congratulated the Ambassador and said that Pakistan and Türkiye enjoyed exemplary fraternal relations based on common faith, culture, values, civilization and historical linkages, mutual trust, and support. He added that Türkiye had developed as a regional, economic, strategic, and military power. The minister also appreciated the defense engagement between Pakistan and Türkiye focused on building forces’ capabilities through defense industrial collaboration and regular exchange of training, delegations, courses, and joint exercises.

ICCIP and ECOSF sign Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Iran National Creative and Cultural Industries Park (ICCIP) and ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) on November 6, 2022 in Tehran, Iran. The MoU was signed during the visit of President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi to ICCIP.

This memorandum deals with issues such as joint cooperation in the field of creative and cultural industries - carrying out scientific exchanges in specialized fields - joint cooperation regarding holding meetings, workshops, conferences and other scientific activities with the aim of promoting the interests of the parties - joint cooperation in the field of Research and training in the specialized field of creative and cultural industries - Examining the opportunities for the transfer of science and technology and

innovation among ECO member countries - Providing and facilitating specialized centers for creative and cultural industries among ECO member countries - Providing fields for the commercialization of creative and cultural products.

During the visit, President ECOSF met Prof. Mohammad Hossein Imani Khoshkhoo President of ICCIP and Members of the Board of Directories and Faculties. Dr Hassan Taghizadeh Ansari, the member of the ECOSF Advisory Board, and the Chairman of the Iranian e-tourism Association also accompanied the President ECOSF.

Earlier, President of the Park Prof. Khoshkhoo warmly welcomed the President ECOSF and other distinguished guests at the Park. Prof. Khoshkhoo introduced the ICCIP and shared that the main policy of the ICCIP is to be active at the international level. Currently, nearly 140 companies in various fields of art, tourism, handicrafts, animation, National Music Foundation, fashion and clothing are located in the park, all of which rely on technology. He further shared that the products at ICCIP consists of culture, animation, handicrafts, films and music which are all attractive to foreigners, and all these are arranged in a technological package.



Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi thanked the President of ICCIP for his warm welcome and hospitality. He also made an introduction of ECOSF and said that the objectives of ECOSF are to work in the field of scientific exchanges, supporting scientific and technological activities, basic sciences and engineering, and entrepreneurial fields. He added that ECOSF has had good relations with various scientific and cultural institutes/centers in the Iran and other countries of ECO region. He hoped that the Park can play exclusive role in issues of knowledge exchange in arts, culture, humanities, tourism, entrepreneurship, etc. at the ECO region, thus, it is unique in this respect. He commented that the products of the Park, in terms of services, are exportable and can be commercialized at the ECO region.

Dr Hassan Taghizadeh Ansari also participated in the discussion and said that with the capacities that exist in the ICCIP and the ECOSF, a fruitful networking can be created in ECO region for marketing and promotion of scientific products of the Park. He added that holding joint events can be a good opportunity for various institutions to benefit from the neglected capacities of science and technology.

At the end, President ICCIP called that the communication with ECO member countries is very important for the commercialization of cultural industries. He added that the beginning of communication and activities with the ECO nations is a basis for the development of activities.

Outgoing Deputy Head of Mission of Embassy of Iran called upon the President ECOSF

Outgoing Deputy of Head of Mission (DHM) of Embassy of Iran Mr. Mohammad Surkhabi called upon the President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi at his office on 1 November 2022. He was accompanied by Mr. Nabi Shirazi who will replace Mr. Surkhabi as DHM.

President ECOSF warmly welcomed the distinguished guests and shared thoughts pertaining to the ongoing programmes of ECOSF. President ECOSF lauded the contributions of Mr. Surkhabi as DHM of Iran between Pakistan and Iran.

Mr. Surkhabi thanked ECOSF for the support provided to Iranian institutes in the field of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI). He acknowledged that the role of ECOSF is very diverse and pivotal in STI to bring scientific institutes and community of ECO region more closure and cooperative.

Mr. Surkhabi introduced Mr. Nabi Shirazi and said that Mr. Shirazi will replace him with effect from 4 Nov 2022. Prof. Tayebi welcomed Mr. Shirazi and wished him very good luck for the new assignment in Pakistan. Prof. Tayebi hoped that Mr. Shirazi will play aggressive role for strengthening the ties of two countries as his predecessor did. President Tayebi assured the possible support of ECOSF to Mr. Shirazi during his stay in Pakistan.



Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

16th National Conference and 10th International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching

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.



e-Learning Association of Iran (YADA)



16th National Conference and 10th International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching

Focusing on e-Learning and Future University⁺

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, Accrediation, 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
- Virtual and Remote Laboratories, Metaverse and AR/VR for Teaching and Learning
- Learning Analytics

For more information, please visit: <https://icelet.ir>

4th International Conference on Tourism and Spirituality

We are pleased to invite you to contribute to the 4th International Conference on Tourism and Spirituality that will be held mid-March 2023.

Conference Topics:

Tourism and Spirituality, Family's Spiritual Health
 Tourism and Spirituality, Spiritual Health of The Youth's
 Tourism and Spirituality, Society's Spiritual Health
 Tourism and Spirituality with A Focus on Future Studies of Spiritual Health
 The Role of Tourism and Spirituality in Spiritual Health Management

Abstract Submission Deadline: **December 21, 2022**

Full text submission: **January 30, 2023**

Please send your articles to: iccip@usc.ac.ir

For more information, please visit <http://ecosf.org/Tourism-and-Spirituality>