



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



ECOSF hosted the International Conference on Science, Technology & Innovation (STI): Catalysts for Regional Connectivity and Sustainable Development in the ECO Region (ECONEX) 2025

ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) hosted the International Conference on Science, Technology & Innovation (STI): Catalysts for Regional Connectivity and Sustainable Development in the ECO Region (ECONEX) 2025 on April 17-18, 2025, in Islamabad, Pakistan, alongside co-organizers such as the Higher Education Commission (HEC) and the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and many other esteemed partners. The conference aimed to leverage Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) for sustainable development and regional connectivity in the ECO region. With 30 international delegates from countries including Türkiye, Iran, and China, and over 250 local participants, the event highlighted the transformative role of STI in addressing challenges like climate change, energy security, and economic disparities.



Key speakers included:

- Chief Guest: **H.E. Mr. Khalid Hussain Magsi, Federal Minister for Science and Technology, Pakistan**
- Guest of Honor: **H.E. Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, Secretary General, Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Iran**
- Guest of Honor: **Prof. Abolfazl Vahedi, Vice Minister for Education, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, Iran**

- Co-organizer Representative: **Prof. Zia ul-Qayyum, Executive Director, Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan**
- Speaker: **Prof. Mehmet Akif Kireççi, President, ECO Educational Institute, Ankara, Türkiye**
- Host: **Prof. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, President, ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)**
- Host: **Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director, ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)**



The distinguished speakers from the region and beyond emphasized the need for unified regional efforts in education, research, and innovation to empower youth and foster socio-economic growth. The conference featured discussions on topics such as energy sustainability, healthcare innovation, and groundwater management.

The ECONEX 2025 hosted six plenary sessions on following thematic topics:

1. Enhancing Regional Trade and Connectivity in the ECO Region
2. Human Capital Development in the ECO Region
3. Building a Sustainable and Resilient Energy Future for ECO Member Countries
4. Groundwater Management in the ECO region
5. Fostering Regional Collaboration on Healthcare Innovation and Biotech in the ECO Region
6. Regional Collaboration on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Ecosystem

The two-day event underscored STI's potential to build resilience and strengthen collaboration across member states, with speakers advocating for policy harmonization, joint research, and capacity-building initiatives. ECONEX 2025 served as a platform for actionable outcomes and partnerships aimed at ensuring a prosperous ECO region driven by scientific progress and regional solidarity.

Complete report and highlights of ECONEX 2025 is available at <https://ecosf.org/report-econex-2025/>

President ECOSF contributed to the 1st ECO Forum on Sustainable Development co-organized by the ECO Secretariat and Ministry of Finance & Economy of Turkmenistan

The 1st ECO Forum on Sustainable Development was jointly organized by the ECO Secretariat and the Ministry of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan, successfully held on April 28-29, 2025 in Arkadag, Turkmenistan. The forum

brought together high-level delegations and experts to discuss critical issues concerning sustainable development in the ECO region.



The event was preceded by the High-Level Sustainable Development Working Group Meeting, and the opening session featured remarks from distinguished figures, including H.E. Mr. Mammetguly Astanagulov, Minister of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan, and H.E. Dr. Asad M. Khan, ECO Secretary General. Guests also included representatives from the United Nations, ECO Member Countries, and prominent institutions. President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated and contributed the Forum on behalf of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF).

The forum's agenda was divided into four thematic panels, covering diverse topics such as climate change, sustainable finance, family institutions, and strategic deliberations on the ECO Vision 2026–2035. Panel discussions highlighted innovative approaches—including artificial intelligence and green financing mechanisms—for achieving SDGs while fostering regional collaboration.

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECO Science Foundation, emphasized the importance of science, technology, and innovation (STI) as vital tools for sustainable development. He outlined ECOSF's Vision 2026–2035, which included key strategic pillars such as building human capital, accelerating digital transformation, and fostering indigenous knowledge integration.

President ECOSF contributed as panelist to one of the crucial segment of the ECO Forum, focusing on the development of ECO Vision 2026–2035. This panel was moderated by Dr. Seyed Jalaeddin Alavi Sabzevari, Director General for International and Multilateral Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the discussions provided strategic insights into the region's sustainable goals.



Other panelists included:

- Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Planning and Development and Special Initiatives of Pakistan
- Dr. Asad M. Khan, ECO Secretary General
- Ms. Taganova Halbibbi Tachjanova, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of Turkmenistan
- Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)
- Dr. Abdolkarim Sadeghdooost, Executive Director of ECO Educational Institute

The discussions highlighted the association between SDGs, ECO Vision, and the role of youth and emerging researchers. The importance of engaging the private sector, the business community, and women's participation in economic development was underscored.

President ECOSF delivered a speech at the forum, emphasizing the transformative role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in achieving SDGs. He outlined how advancements in renewable energy, precision agriculture, and digital healthcare could foster inclusive and resilient societies while addressing challenges like climate change and resource scarcity.

The forum culminated with a shared commitment to transforming the ECO region into a hub of scientific excellence and sustainable technological solutions by 2035, ensuring inclusive growth and enhanced quality of life for the region's people. This landmark event set the stage for collaborative efforts to tackle the region's most pressing development challenges.

President ECOSF Holds High-Level Meetings during the 1st ECO Forum on Sustainable Development in Turkmenistan

April 28, 2025: During the sidelines of the 1st ECO Forum on Sustainable Development held in Arkadag, Turkmenistan, President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, engaged in pivotal high-level discussions with Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Minister for Planning and Development and Special Initiatives of Pakistan, Dr. Asad M. Khan, ECO Secretary General, and Dr. Nadeem Javaid, Vice Chancellor of PIDE. The meetings underscored the critical role of scientific collaboration, education, and multilateral trade in fostering regional development. Joint investment opportunities and enhanced cooperative frameworks were explored, spotlighting the transformative potential of partnerships within the ECO region to address sustainable goals effectively.



On April 28, 2025, President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, held a meeting with Prof. Allaberdi Ashyrov, President of the Academy of Sciences of Turkmenistan. The discussion revolved around enhancing scientific collaboration through joint programs, active participation of Turkmenistan's scientists and researchers in ECOSF activities, and the nomination of a team for the upcoming 9th Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp in Chengdu, China. Both leaders explored avenues to strengthen the partnership, including organizing joint events such as webinars, workshops, and potentially an IBSE workshop, aiming to foster innovation and educational excellence in the ECO region.



On April 28, 2025, President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, met with H.E. Mr. Mammetyuly Astanagulov, the Minister of Finance and Economy of Turkmenistan, during the 1st ECO Forum on Sustainable Development in Arkadag. The meeting focused on enhancing collaboration between Turkmenistan and ECOSF through initiatives such as nominating a focal point for ECOSF and encouraging active participation of Turkmenistan's scientists and students in ECOSF activities. Additionally, plans for joint events, including webinars, workshops, and an IBSE workshop, were discussed to strengthen scientific and educational ties. President Tayebi also presented the ECOSF shield to the minister as a token of appreciation for Turkmenistan's engagement.



April 29, 2025: During a meeting between Ms. M. Byashimova, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan, and Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, both sides emphasized the importance of strengthening scientific collaboration to advance regional integration and economic growth. Discussions focused on priority areas such as renewable energy, ecological research, agricultural innovation, water resource management, and digitalization. Additionally, they explored joint initiatives, including webinars, workshops, and the active engagement of Turkmen scientists and students in ECOSF events. The meeting underscored the shared commitment to leveraging science and technology for sustainable development goals.



On April 28 and 29, 2025, President ECOSF, Prof. Tayebi, met with the representatives of the other ECO members such as Türkiye, Iran, Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan and Kazakhstan. He also visited the SDGs Vision Exhibition in Turkmenistan at the Forum venue during April 28 and 29, 2025.



President ECOSF called upon the Ambassador of Türkiye in Islamabad



A delegation of ECOSF headed by President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi along with Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director and Mr. Ghulam Abbas Rahar, Manager (Administration) visited the Embassy of Türkiye in Islamabad and called upon the Ambassador H.E. Dr. Irfan Neziroglu on May 21, 2025. Mr. Cemal Pekemir, Political Officer of the Embassy was also present in the Meeting.

During the meeting, Prof. Tayebi made a brief introduction of ECOSF and said that the main objective of the Foundation is to promote and support scientific activities and scientific communities in ECO region leading to economic development. Prof. Tayebi also said that Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) play significant role for the development of any country. In this context, the role of ECOSF being a specialized agency on science becomes pivotal for the region. He also shared the ongoing and future activities of ECOSF.

Prof. Tayebi shared updates on ECOSF’s current and upcoming initiatives. He noted that while Türkiye has signed the ECOSF Charter, it has yet to ratify it. He respectfully urged His Excellency Dr. Neziroğlu to encourage the Turkish Government to expedite the ratification of the Charter and its Additional Protocol. Ratification, he explained, would enable Türkiye to actively participate in decision-making processes, staffing, and the Foundation’s various programs.

He also highlighted the successful organization of ECONEX, a major event held on 17–18 April 2025 in Islamabad, where Türkiye’s active participation was greatly appreciated—thanks in large part to the efforts of the Turkish Embassy. Prof. Tayebi extended his gratitude to the Ambassador for this valuable support.

Read more: <https://ecosf.org/ambassador-of-turkiye-in-islamabad/>

Regional Collaboration Highlighted at CAREC Institute’s 5th Annual Research Conference



The CAREC Institute hosted its 5th Annual Research Conference on May 29–30 under the theme “CAREC Connectivity: Promoting Trade and Trade Facilitation.” The prestigious event brought together leading policymakers, academics, and industry experts to discuss avenues for deepening cooperation across the Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) region.

Prof. Ahsan Iqbal, Pakistan’s Minister for Planning Development and Reforms, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest, emphasizing the importance of regional collaboration for sustainable development. Co-organized with a diverse range of partners including the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Pakistan Single Window (PSW), and the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), the conference served as a flagship knowledge-sharing platform in the region.

Representing ECOSF, President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Programs Manager for Energy & Climate Mr. Khalil Raza actively contributed to the discussions. The President ECOSF was interviewed by the CAREC media explaining the effectiveness of the conference on development process of member countries. The conference aimed to synthesize regional knowledge efforts and attract global partnerships to support high-quality research collaborations. Its key objectives included promoting green and resilient infrastructure, facilitating trade and transit between South Asia and Central Asia, and advancing data-driven policy solutions. During the conference, Mr. Khalil Raza Programs Manager ECOSF delivered his presentation on Decarbonizing Road Transport Sector with focus on promoting the Electric Mobility in the CAREC region.

The two-day event featured thematic sessions, engaging panel discussions, and comprehensive opening and closing ceremonies. Participants delved into pressing regional priorities such as climate resilience, institutional collaboration, and trade facilitation strategies. The conference underscored the critical role of connectivity in fostering both economic growth and sustainability within the CAREC region.

As stakeholders left the conference inspired and equipped with actionable insights, the annual event reaffirmed its reputation as a cornerstone for fostering regional partnerships and paving the way for a more integrated future.

ECOSF and CAREC Institute Strengthen Regional Collaboration

April 30, 2025: During the CAREC Institute’s 5th Annual Research Conference, a sideline meeting took place between the leadership of the ECOSF and the CAREC Institute. The meeting focused on fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing to address regional challenges in the ECO and CAREC Region.



Representing ECOSF were Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President, and Mr. Khalil Raza, Programs Manager. From the CAREC Institute, Director Mr. Charymuhammet Shallyyev, Chief of Strategic Policy Division Mr. Turdakun Tashbolotov, and Chief of Research Division Dr. Ghulam Samad participated in the discussions.

The meeting highlighted shared goals, including advancing sustainable development and economic cooperation. Leaders explored joint initiatives such as collaborative research and training programs in climate resilience, renewable energy, and digital infrastructure. Knowledge exchange through joint conferences and training sessions was also discussed as a way to foster cross-institutional learning.

The participants emphasized the importance of strengthening collaboration and establishing a framework to address shared challenges effectively. This sideline meeting underscored the commitment of both organizations to building a more connected and resilient future for the CAREC region.



ECOSF participated in the 1st Expert Group Meeting on the Internationalization of Higher Education held in Islamabad.



The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in collaboration with the ECO Educational Institute Türkiye, convened the 1st Expert Group Meeting on the Internationalization of Higher Education in Islamabad. Hosted by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The event brought together representatives from ECO Member States, including Azerbaijan, Iran, Pakistan, Türkiye and Turkmenistan. On behalf of ECO Science Foundation, its President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated in the meeting.

The meeting commenced with an overview of the current status of higher education, sharing best practices related to its internationalization across the ECO region. Notably, representatives from international organizations such as the British Council and the European Union Commission participated, offering insights and showcasing ongoing projects aligned with the theme.

A significant focus was placed on discussing the Draft Action Plan for the Internationalization of Higher Education. Participants contributed their perspectives and proposed enhancements to ensure the plan addresses the diverse needs of ECO Member States.

During the closing ceremony, Secretary General of ECO Dr. Asad M. Khan delivered remarks emphasizing the essential role of education—especially for youth—in fostering sustainable development within the ECO region. He highlighted the necessity of a multi-stakeholder dialogue to create a conducive educational environment and reaffirmed ECO’s commitment to supporting education-related initiatives in line with Member States’ priorities, particularly in light of the development of a new ECO Vision Document in 2025.

President ECOSF contributed as the Chief Guest at the International Workshop Addresses Climate and Water Safety Effects along CPEC

The International Training Workshop on Climate Change and Water Safety Effects along the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) was concluded here at the Auditorium of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Islamabad on 14 April, 2025. The event was jointly organized by the China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) and PAS, with honorable support from the Alliance of National and International Science Organizations (ANSO). The five-day event not only aims to promote the applications of relevant research findings and technologies, which will be beneficial for enhancing the overall capacity of water security, disaster prevention and mitigation in the CPEC region, but will also strengthen the regional cooperation on climate resilience and sustainable governance.



During the training, 11 prominent scholars engaged in cryosphere, water resources and disaster researches from the Northwest Institute of Eco-Environment and Resources, and the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences which are partner and host institutes of CPJRC, as well as from Quaid-i-Azam University, and PMAS Arid Agriculture University-Rawalpindi were invited to present lectures relating on Climate and Cryospheric Changes, Cryospheric Database, Cryospheric disasters, Indus River Basin Water Resources. The workshop brought together over 120 professors, academicians and young talents from Pakistan, and 20 delegates from Hindu Kush Himalaya region including China, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Afghanistan.

At the concluding ceremony of this International Training Workshop, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECO Science Foundation, Mr. Tanveer Piracha (Executive Director of National Institute of Disaster Management, NDMA) were invited. They gave positive valuation to this event and they also mentioned that it was a great opportunity for all the participants. They could not only benefit from the lectures but also establish friendships and connections with the lecturers. They should also continuously deepen the scientific and technological cooperation between Chinese and Pakistani scientists in the field of climate change and cryospheric disaster prevention and mitigation. Together with Prof. Aslam Baig and Prof. Hong Tianhua (Executive Director, CPJRC) presented graduation certificates to all the participants of the training program.

ECOSF's Delegation Visits the National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at the NDMA

Islamabad, 24 April – A two-member delegation from ECOSF, led by President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Mr. Khalil Raza visited the National Emergencies Operation Center (NEOC) at the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA). The visit conducted at the invitation of Chairman NDMA, Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik, for the demonstration of the state-of-the-art NEOC, the facility established by NDMA with a strategic vision to transition from reactive to proactive disaster management.

During this exposition visit, President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi expressed keen interest in the Center's operations, which focus on innovative preparedness for climate-induced disasters in Pakistan. The delegation was introduced to the latest tools and technologies at NEOC, including real-time satellite feeds and the use of GIS, remote sensing, climatology, meteorology, seismology, hydrology, and data sciences. These systems enable NEOC to monitor and analyze hazards globally and locally, and anticipate disasters up to three months in advance – a crucial capability for a climate-vulnerable country like Pakistan. President ECOSF appreciated the NDMA's vision, concept, and operational framework and urged for collaboration within the ECO region.

ECOSF participated in the 2nd Edition of Pakistan’s 2nd Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR 2025) hosted by NDMA



The 2nd Pakistan Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR 2025) hosted by National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), themed "Pakistan’s Resilience Vision 2030," was launched as a forum to enhance disaster preparedness and foster collaboration. The three-day event showcased innovative solutions with strategic debates, green talks, AI technologies, and artistic displays. It featured over 52 capacity-support showcases by humanitarian organizations, government departments, academia, and industry professionals, alongside demonstrations by armed forces.

Inaugurated at NDMA Headquarters, the event was officiated by Federal Minister for Climate Change Dr. Musadik Malik, NDMA Chairman Lt. Gen. Inam Haider Malik, and Acting UN Resident Coordinator Ms. Coco Ushiyama. Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director of ECOSF, and Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager for Energy and Climate at ECOSF participated and gained insights from the discussions on resilience and innovative disaster management initiatives. PEDRR 2025 presented Pakistan's commitment to a sustainable and secure future through meaningful partnerships and collective progress in disaster risk reduction.

President ECOSF Meeting with Prof. Hong from China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC)

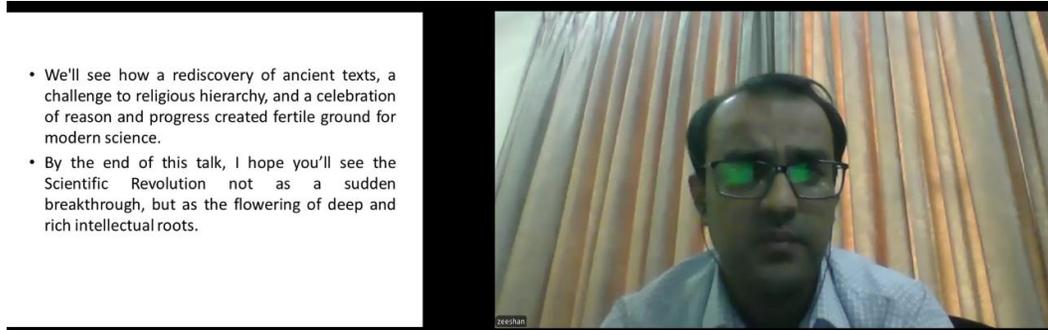
April 11, 2025: Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), held a meeting with Prof. Hong Tianhua, Executive Director of the China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) Both leaders explored avenues for joint efforts in planning and organizing the conference, emphasizing the importance of fostering scientific research, knowledge exchange, and coordinated strategies in the fields of climate resilience and disaster management. They also discussed collaboration on the upcoming international conference focused on climate change and disaster risk reduction, which is being planned to take place in Beijing in October which is being hosted



by CPJRC. During this international conference, ECOSF will collaborate with CPJRC in organizing a dedicated session on Leveraging Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) for Sustainable Development and Climate Resilience in the ECO Region and beyond. The meeting concluded with mutual affirmation of their commitment to addressing global climate challenges and working together to make the conference a success.

ECOSF and IPKI Host Webinar on Europe's Intellectual Transformation

The Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF) and the Imran Parvez Khan Institute (IPKI) jointly hosted a webinar titled **Science Chronicles: From Faith to Reason** on April 30th. The webinar featured Mr. Zeeshan Fida as the speaker, who explored the intellectual evolution of Europe between the 14th and 18th centuries.



The talk focused on three transformative movements—the Renaissance, the Reformation, and the Enlightenment—that paved the way for the Scientific Revolution. Mr. Fida discussed the revival of classical knowledge, challenges to religious authority, and the rise of individual inquiry, demonstrating how these developments collectively fostered an environment ripe for scientific discovery.

The webinar provided valuable insights into the interconnected cultural, philosophical, and societal changes that shaped modern science, offering participants a deeper understanding of this pivotal historical transformation.

ECOSF facilitated a high-level delegation visit from Iran to NUST

April 16, 2025- Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF facilitated the visit of high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran to National University for Science and Technology (NUST) in Islamabad on 16th April 2025. The delegation was headed by Prof. Abolfazl Vahedi, Vice Minister for Education, MSRT. They met with Prof. Osman Hassan, Pro-rector of NUST and other NUST officials. The Iranian delegation included Prof. Abolfazl Vahedi Vice Minister for Education, Ministry of Science, Research and



Technology, Iran, Dr. Mohammad Gavidel, Advisor International, Technology and Innovation, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT), Iran, Prof. Ali Akbar Moosavi-Movahedi, Head of Institute of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of Tehran, Iran, and Dr. Maryam Tajabadi Ebrahimi Founder & Managing Director - Takgene Zist Group, Tehran, Iran.

Prof. Osman Hassan provided an insightful introduction to NUST, its achievements and its future goals. Prof. Vahedi and Prof. Tayebi expressed their sincere appreciation for the hospitality and efforts made by NUST and ECOSF towards fostering academic and scientific collaboration. The meeting emphasized multilateral collaborations between Iranian and Pakistani universities, exploring avenues for joint research and educational exchanges to strengthen bilateral ties.

The delegates also discussed the potential for mobilizing the ECO Universities Consortium aimed at establishing collaboration amongst the universities from ECO member states to promote academic excellence and cooperation. The delegation also deliberated on advancing cooperation in technology parks to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in the region.

ECOSF facilitated a High-Level Iranian Delegation visit to COMSATS Secretariat



Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, visited the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) at its Secretariat in Islamabad on 18th April 2025, accompanied by a high-level delegation from the Islamic Republic of Iran. The visit coincided with the presence of the Iranian delegation in Pakistan for the prestigious International Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation (ST&I), jointly convened by the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) and the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan.

The Executive Director of COMSATS, extended a warm and cordial welcome to the President ECOSF and the visiting dignitaries and presented a comprehensive overview of the organization's overarching mandate, governance framework, flagship initiatives, and collaborative programmes aimed at promoting South-South cooperation in science and technology. Senior officers from COMSATS' Programmes and CCCS/IPOs departments also participated in the deliberations. Prof. Tayebi also appreciated warm welcoming from the Executive Director of COMSATS and his colleagues to the Iranian delegates and highlighted the tight collaboration between ECOSF and COMSATS.

Read more: <https://ecosf.org/iranian-delegation-visit-to-comsats/>

ECOSF and IPKI hosted a Webinar Exploring the Role of Science Museums in Public Engagement

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) and the Imran Pervez Khan Institute (IPKI) hosted an exciting webinar in their ongoing Science Chronicles Webinar Series on May 22, 2025. The webinar featured Dr. Ganigar Chen, Vice President of the National Science Museum (NSM) Thailand, as the keynote speaker.

The image is a composite graphic. On the left is a portrait of Dr. Ganigar Chen, a woman with short dark hair wearing a black blazer over a red and white patterned top. Below the portrait is a colorful molecular model with spheres in red, blue, green, and purple connected by thin rods. On the right is a presentation slide with a blue header box containing the text 'Why Science Communication Matters'. Below the header is a list of bullet points enclosed in a dashed-line box:

- Democracy & Informed Citizens
- Public decision-making on science-based issues (climate, health, tech).
- Fighting Misinformation
- Critical thinking
- Science Literacy
- Empowering the public to understand and value science.
- Career Opportunities

Dr. Ganigar Chen discussed the transformative role of science museums in fostering public engagement with science during the webinar. The event highlighted innovative initiatives such as science film festivals, FameLab, and Science Idol, which were aimed at enhancing civic science literacy and adapting to societal needs. The webinar provided an excellent platform for educators, researchers, and science enthusiasts to explore informal learning and science communication strategies.

Dr. Chen’s extensive experience in spearheading public outreach initiatives at NSM Thailand and contributing to national and international educational projects offered valuable perspectives on the intersection of science, education, and public engagement. Her insights enriched the discussion and provided actionable ideas for the participants.

President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated in the webinar and delivered concluding remarks that praised Dr. Chen for her excellent contribution to the webinar. He emphasized the importance of such knowledge-sharing initiatives in enabling the ECO region to learn and replicate relevant strategies across ECO Member Countries.

The webinar marked a meaningful step in advancing global science communication and collaboration, leaving participants inspired to implement innovative approaches to public engagement with science.

ECOSF and PIDE leadership commit to advancing research and collaboration on regional economic cooperation

On May 20, 2025, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECOSF met with Dr. Nadeem Javaid, Vice Chancellor of the Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), to discuss strategies for strengthening economic cooperation within the ECO region. The high-level meeting explored collaborative efforts to align research and policy expertise, with a particular focus on enhancing trade ties among ECO member states. Both leaders emphasized the significant potential for intra-regional trade and committed to addressing non-tariff barriers through joint studies on economic and trade policies.



Plans were outlined to co-host high-level forums aimed at connecting business and trade leaders across ECO countries to foster dialogue and catalyze initiatives. The discussion also highlighted opportunities for joint research projects and the exchange of researchers, aiming to deepen knowledge-sharing and build institutional capacity.

ECOSF participated in the International Congress of Applied Microbiology Held in Isfahan

The University of Isfahan, in cooperation with the Association of Microbial Sciences and Technologies of Iran, organized the first international congress and the fourth national congress of Applied Microbiology on May 14-15, 2025. The Congress took a special approach to producing bioactive compounds. Domestic and international professors, students, experts in related industries attended the event. Prof. Tayebi, President ECOSF as chief guest, attended online the inaugural session the Congress.

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), delivered his speech online during the inaugural session, emphasizing the powerful role of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in addressing global challenges. Prof. Tayebi highlighted the significance of collaboration and knowledge exchange in applied microbiology for advancing medicine, agriculture, and industry.



Read More: <https://ecosf.org/1st-int-and-4th-national-applied-microbiology-congress/>

President ECOSF visited the Innovation Center of University of Isfahan, Iran

May 04, 2025: Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, visited the Innovation Center located at the Campus, University of Isfahan on May 04 2025. During this visit, the Innovation Center of Quantum Sciences and Technologies, the Humanities Growth Center of Soft and Creative Industries, and the SNOWA-Tech Innovation corporation were visited. In this visit, Dr Reza Taheri, the Deputy Director of the cenetr accompanied Professor Tayebi and presented a short report about the innovation area of the university. In addition, the relevant officials presented a short report on the activities of their sections. Durin the visit,



Prof. Tayebi also met with Prof. Rasoul Roknizadeh, President University of Isfahan. The UI President welcomed President ECOSF warmly and explained the role of the Innovation Center in local and national industries. Prof. Tayebi pointed out the center can play an important role in the ECO region, cooperating with the similar institutions in promoting the relationship between university and industries.



President ECOSF visited Takgene Zist Group, a knowledge-based Company in Tehran

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, visited the Takgene Zist Group, a knowledge-based company in Tehran, on May 5, 2025. During his visit, he was welcomed by Dr. Maryam Tajabadi Ebrahimi, the Managing Director and Founder of Takgene Zist Group. Dr. Tajabadi Ebrahimi presented an overview of Takgene’s initiatives, particularly its focus on probiotic products and its vision for enhancing regional health and food security through sustainable supply chains. Prof. Tayebi highlighted the company’s pivotal role in the ECO region, emphasizing its potential to serve as a hub for technical advice and regional collaboration in biotechnology and advanced research. He also recognized Takgene’s innovative contributions as a driving force for scientific and technological development among ECO member nations.



Established in 2004, Takgene Zist Group is the only company in Iran dedicated to producing functional microorganisms for the food industry. It operates under international standards like ISO 9001 and GMP, manufacturing probiotic products in clean rooms compliant with guidelines from the Ministry of Health and Food and Drug Administration. With approvals from various regulatory bodies, Takgene has built a robust knowledge-based ecosystem, setting itself apart as a leader in biotechnology and high-tech entrepreneurship in the ECO region. Prof. Tayebi underscored the importance of such enterprises in fostering sustainable growth and regional cooperation among ECO member nations.

President ECOSF Meets with Young Scientists Festival Officials in Tehran

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF visited the Young Scientists Festival (YSF) Office in Tehran on May 6, 2025. He met with key officials, including Dr. Shadi Jamili, Director of YSF Office, Dr. Fatemeh Mohammadipanah, Head of YSF International Committee, and Dr. Soroush Moaddab, YSF Executive Manager.

The discussions centered around strengthening cooperation between ECOSF and YSF. The meeting emphasized ECOSF’s dedicated efforts to foster innovation and collaboration within the scientific community. It also underscored the significance of engaging youth in science and technology to drive progress across the ECO region.



President ECOSF Highlights ECO Region's Strategic Potential at the ICCIMA

On May 8, 2025, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF), delivered a compelling speech at the Isfahan Chamber of Commerce, Industries, Mines and Agriculture (ICCIMA). His address focused on the vast investment capacities and strategic importance of the ECO region, emphasizing its role in fostering regional and global economic growth.

Prof. Tayebi outlined key areas of opportunity within the ECO region, including its geostrategic location, abundant natural resources such as oil, gas, and minerals, and its youthful human capital of over 500 million people. He also highlighted the region’s agricultural and industrial potential, with countries like Iran, Türkiye, and Pakistan leading in diverse manufacturing industries and agro-export capabilities.



Additionally, Prof. Tayebi drew attention to the region’s transportation infrastructure, energy transit projects, and emerging advancements in digital and technological ecosystems. He underscored the importance of connecting ECO member states through initiatives like the Digital Silk Road and fostering partnerships in cultural tourism and eco-tourism.

The speech resonated with ICCIMA officials, industry leaders, and entrepreneurs, presenting a vision for harnessing the ECO region's assets to drive sustainable development and investment opportunities. Prof. Tayebi's insights reinforced the importance of collaboration and innovation in achieving regional economic prosperity.

Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

Invitation to Science Chronicles | Webinar Series – “Public Science Engagement in Thailand: The Role of Science Museums” with Dr. Ganigar Chen | May 22, 2025

ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) in collaboration with IMRAN PARVEZ KHAN INSTITUTE (IPKI) cordially invite you to participate in the Webinar.

PUBLIC SCIENCE ENGAGEMENT IN THAILAND : THE ROLE OF SCIENCE MUSEUMS

SPEAKER: DR. GANIGAR CHEN

Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/yck5wspu>
 Zoom ID: 867 1285 8179
 Password: 455996

May 22, 2025
 02:00 PM (GMT+5)

Dr. Ganigar Chen

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) in collaboration with the Imran Pervez Khan Institute (IPKI) warmly invites you to our upcoming webinar, part of our Science Chronicles Webinar Series, exploring the dynamic role of science museums in public engagement.

Webinar Title: Public Science Engagement in Thailand: The Role of Science Museums

Speaker: Dr. Ganigar Chen, Vice President of National Science Museum, Thailand

Date: May 22, 2025

About the Webinar:

Science museums play a vital role in fostering public understanding and enthusiasm for science. In this webinar, Dr. Ganigar Chen will share insights into how Thailand’s National Science Museum (NSM) engages communities through innovative educational programs, exhibitions, and media initiatives. From science film festivals to programs like FameLab and Science Idol, she will discuss strategies for enhancing civic science literacy, promoting science communication, and adapting to societal needs. This session is perfect for educators, researchers, and science enthusiasts interested in the intersection of informal learning, public outreach, and science communication.

Announcement: Online Training Workshop: University-Business Collaboration for Innovation and Growth



Training Workshop (online)

Enhancing University-Business and R&D-SME Collaboration for Innovation and Growth



27th May 2025



14:00 - 17:00 PST | 09:00 - 12:00 GMT

The COMSATS Secretariat is hosting an online training workshop titled “Enhancing University-Business and R&D-SME Collaboration for Innovation and Growth,” scheduled to take place on 27th May 2025.

This interactive session will be an excellent opportunity for participants to learn and develop essential skills for bridging the gap between academic research and industry needs. The workshop is designed to empower researchers, scientists, and R&D officials by equipping them with tools for effectively pitching their innovative ideas, fostering strategic collaborations with businesses, and navigating funding mechanisms to achieve successful commercialization of research outputs.

Invitation: Webinar on STI policy and policy instruments for Africa 19, 21 and 26 May

On-line Training on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Policy and Policy Instruments for SDGs for Africa is taking place on 19, 21 and 26 May 2025, 10:00-13:00 Central Africa Time (e.g. Kigali).

This training is being organized by the UN Interagency Task Team on STI for SDGs- Work Stream 6 on Capacity Building (UN-IATT WS6), including UNESCO, UNCTAD, UNU-MERIT, UNIDO, UNEP, and UN Regional Commissions, with collaboration from CISTRAT and EU-JRC.

The webinar targets STI policymakers and analysts, and officials responsible for STI policy and programmes, from African countries. Representatives of academia, the private sector and civil society, from Africa and internationally are encouraged to participate. The training will be held online, in English.

The registration link is: <https://tinyurl.com/ws64Africa2025>

Please register before 15 May 2025 to receive the Zoom link.

The three online sessions, each lasting three hours, are scheduled as follows:

- Session 1: Current approaches to STI policymaking in the context of SDGs (May 19)
- Session 2: STI policy instruments design and implementation (May 21)
- Session 3: STI policy monitoring and evaluation (May 26)

Announcement: The 5th CAREC Institute Annual Research Conference



5th CAREC Institute Annual Research Conference

CAREC Connectivity: Promoting Trade and Trade Facilitation

29-30 MAY | ISLAMABAD, PAKISTAN

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) is thrilled to partner with the CAREC Institute China and leading institutions, including the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB), Pakistan Single Window (PSW), University of Sargodha, Allama Iqbal Open University, International Road Transport Union (IRU), Pakistan Institute of Development Economics (PIDE), Manzil Pakistan, Development Alternatives, Inc. (DAI), Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI), and Pakistan International Freight Forwarders Association (PIFFA), to host this flagship research conference.

Policymakers, researchers, and development professionals from the CAREC region and beyond will join us for engaging themes on:

- Regional trade and transit
- Green infrastructure
- Cross-border collaboration

Join us to be part of shaping the future of regional connectivity! Learn more: <https://carecinstitute.org/5th-annual-research-conference>