



# ECOSF NEWSLETTER



## ECOSF participated in the 17th ECO Summit hosted by Republic of Azerbaijan

The Republic of Azerbaijan, under the Chairmanship of H.E. President Ilham Aliyev, successfully hosted the 17th ECO Summit on July 3 and 4, 2025, in Khankendi, demonstrating its commitment to promoting regional cooperation and sustainable development. Held under the overarching theme "New ECO Vision for a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Future," the Summit concluded a dynamic and inclusive ECO Week, held from July 1 to 4, 2025, across different cities of the Karabakh region.



The Summit brought together ECO Heads of State and Government, as well as Ministers from the ten ECO Member States. Also in attendance were representatives from ECO Observers, including the Turkish Cypriot State and the Organization of Turkic States, Special Guests from Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates, and heads of international organizations, including the Secretaries General of D8, CICA, UNESCAP, TRACECA, ITF, and the Deputy Secretary General of the United Nations. ECO's Specialized Agencies and Subsidiary Bodies, including the ECO Trade and Development Bank, ECO Cultural Institute, ECO Educational Institute, ECO Science Foundation, ECO Seed Association, and Parliamentary Assembly of ECO Member States (PAECO) also participated at the Summit. On behalf of ECO Science Foundation, the President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated in the Summit.

ECO leaders expressed their unified resolve to enhance regional cooperation, with particular emphasis on trade, connectivity and green transformation, while underscoring the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. They also highlighted the need to deepen collaboration in key areas such as tourism, energy, science, education and cultural exchange as core pillars of the ECO framework, recognizing their vital role in fostering mutual understanding, innovation, and inclusive development across the region.



Within the Summit's framework, series of multi-stakeholder forums were held. The ECO Youth Forum, themed "Enhancing the Role of Youth for Building a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Future," was held in Aghdam on July 1. Following this, the ECO Women Forum, focused on "Enhancing the Role of Women for Building a Sustainable and Climate Resilient Future," convened in Lachin on July 2. On the same day, the 6th ECO Business Forum brought together business leaders and investors in Fuzuli under the theme "Investment and Trade Promotion as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development in the ECO Region." The substantive discussions and insights from the Youth, Women, and Business forums during ECO Week I contributed to shaping the Organization's new vision document: Strategic Objectives of Economic Cooperation – 2035.

*News – Courtesy of ECO Secretariat*

#### **ECOSF contributed the First ECO Youth Forum as part of the ECO WEEK and 17th ECO Summit in Azerbaijan.**

**Aghdam, July 1, 2025** – The Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) in partnership with Republic of Azerbaijan successfully hosted the First ECO Youth Forum in Aghdam under the theme "Enhancing the Role of Youth for Building a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future." The event brought together young leaders, policymakers, and experts from across the ECO Member States to foster inclusive dialogue and shape future-oriented policy recommendations in line with the ECO Vision 2035.



The ECO Youth Forum was hosted by Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs of Azerbaijan, focused on raising awareness among young leaders about regional development challenges and opportunities, promoting collaboration, and formulating actionable recommendations. Delegates engaged in in-depth discussions across three thematic areas: Economic and Trade Cooperation, Sustainability and Technology, and Human Development and People-to-People Connectivity. H.E. Mr. Farid Gayibov,



Minister of Youth and Sports delivered a welcome note, where he underlined the critical role youth in economic development of Azerbaijan and the wider ECO region. Representing the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager – Energy & Climate, played active roles in the Forum.



President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi participated in the high-level Plenary Panel on *“The Role of Youth in Regional Development,”* where he emphasized the transformative potential of youth and expressed appreciation to the Government of Azerbaijan and ECO Secretariat, particularly H.E. Dr. Asad Majeed Khan, Secretary General of ECO. Prof. Tayebi stressed the need to equip youth with skills in STEM, foster collaborative research, and create supportive innovation ecosystems as key drivers of sustainable prosperity.



Meanwhile, Mr. Khalil Raza led the Working Group on Sustainability and Technology, steering meaningful discussions on climate-resilient development, digital transformation, and the role of AI in accelerating regional sustainability goals. The working group's outcomes contributed directly to shaping strategic inputs for the ECO Vision 2035.

### ECOSF Contributes to ECO Women's Forum 2025 in Lachin, Azerbaijan

**Lachin, July 2, 2025** – As part of the ECO Week celebrations leading up to the 17th ECO Summit, the ECO Women's Forum was held in Lachin under the theme *“Enhancing the Role of Women for Building a Sustainable and Climate-Resilient Future.”* Organized by the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Forum brought together regional leaders, experts, and advocates to deliberate on advancing gender equality in the context of sustainable development and climate resilience.



Key topics included empowering women through education and skills development, increasing their role in climate action, and ensuring equitable participation in the economic and social spheres. In her opening keynote, Ms. Bahar Muradova, Chairwoman of the State Committee, underscored the Forum's importance as a springboard for systematic regional cooperation. She stressed that women's economic participation and social well-being are crucial indicators of a society's overall progress. "Without economic independence, women's social and political empowerment cannot be fully realized," she noted.



ECO Secretary General Dr. Asad M. Khan highlighted the critical role of women in sustainable development, climate resilience, and economic growth, while also calling for integrating women's voices into policy-making and enhancing their leadership to address global challenges. He further noted the importance of women's perspectives in shaping the Strategic Objectives of ECO Vision 2035, which will serve as a roadmap for inclusive and sustainable development for the ECO region.

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) was represented by President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, who served as a panellist in Panel III: The Role of Women in Sustainable Development. In his remarks, President Tayebi highlighted the indispensable role of women in science, agriculture, education, and entrepreneurship. "Excluding women from economic activity means forfeiting milestones in innovation, resilience, and growth. Their inclusion is not just equitable—it is essential for sustainable progress," he said.



President Tayebi also emphasized the importance of digital inclusion and innovation through cross-regional exchange and knowledge sharing. He called for leveraging the experiences of diverse stakeholders to build local capacity, enhance access to digital tools, and promote homegrown solutions that empower women—especially in underserved and rural communities.



#### 4th Hands-on Islamabad STEM Camp Successfully Organized

4th Hands-on Islamabad STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Camp was successfully held from 19-23 July 2025. The Camp was jointly organized by ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), Pakistan Science Club (PSC) and Allama Iqbal Open University (AIU) at AIU Main Campus. A digital campaign was launched for the registration of the students from Islamabad, Rawalpindi and surrounding areas. More than 250 students registered but 130 participants confirmed and attended the Camp. 30 volunteers also took part and facilitated the students.



This year, the students were divided into two groups i.e. aged from 7-10 called “Young Explorers” and 11-16 years called “Future Innovators”. Accordingly, the projects were designed keeping in view the age bracket. The projects such as Bunny Bot, Chemical-powered Rocket, Elastic Coaster and Bug Catcher were assigned to young explorers whereas the future innovators were assigned projects such as hydraulic motion energy, solar lamps, wind energy cars, and fuel-powered cannons. The parallel training sessions were conducted separately for both the groups in three shifts of two hours each. The projects/assignments covered daily life problems using physics, chemistry, engineering, math and biology. The students brought very innovative ideas to solve those problems. The enthusiasm of the students was impressive and encouraging.



On final day of the Camp (23 July 2025), a closing ceremony was held wherein, the participating students and their parents and relatives were invited to attend. The Ceremony was graced by the President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi as Chief Guest.

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF in his address expressed his sincere gratitude of the camp organizers, AIU, ECOSF and PSC, and congratulated the success of this year science camp to the students, parents and the organizers. He specially

appreciated hard working done by Mr. Abdul Rauf, Dr. Muhammad Tanveer Afzal, Dr. Mubeshera Tufail, Mr. Abbas Rahar, and the volunteers. He also paid tribute to Prof. Manzoor H. Soomro, the ex-president of ECO Science Foundation, and added that he initiated the Science Camp in Pakistan as he was the founder of this camp.

President ECOSF pointed out the achievements of the event, which remain for students, their parents and the organizers. The camp teaches the students how to recognize the importance of science in their life and how to solve their own problems as well as the problems of their society. He added that students learned communication and experienced the networking. The students learned how to search and how to research of different scientific subjects.

Prof. Tayebi also raised some recommendations for parents and teachers to encourage their children's interest and success in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education. The recommendations were to foster curiosity and exploration, integrate STEM into everyday life, provision of access to STEM tools and resources, encourage creativity alongside STEM, develop problem-solving and critical thinking skills, promote teamwork and collaboration and provide equal opportunities (especially for girls), etc.

Earlier, on behalf of the Organizers, Dr. Tanveer Afzal of AIOU welcomed all the distinguished participants, parents, young leaders/students for attending the Camp and the ceremony. He also highlighted how the preparation of the camp was made. He added that S&T is the key to development and progress of any country thus, the children need to be trained as future scientists to play their role. Therefore, keeping in view the importance of S&T, AIOU joined hands with ECOSF and PSC to train the children as they have to be the leaders and scientists of Pakistan.

Mr. Abdul Rauf CEO of PSC talked about the Camp and its activities in detail. He also highlighted outcome of the event. He thanked ECOSF and AIOU for organizing and hosting the amazing event in the main campus of AIOU. Abdul Rauf and his team came from Karachi to conduct this camp. He also said that there are a lot of contributions of PSC towards promotion of scientific activities among the people especially children and students. Mr. Rauf also presented a "Science Fun Show" during the ceremony and performed live scientific magical activities.

Following are some glimpses of the activities of the participants:



At the end, the certificates were distributed among the students, volunteers and the organizers.



## ECOSF President Prof. Tayebi Inaugurates International Conference on Cyber Threat Intelligence 2025



On July 12, 2025, in Islamabad, the Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF) joined the Pakistan Information Security Association (PISA) and Security Experts (Pvt.) Ltd. as key hosts of the International Conference on Cyber Threat Intelligence (CTI) 2025. This significant two-day event brought together cybersecurity professionals, policymakers, and industry leaders to tackle rapidly evolving cyber threats and share strategies for creating a secure digital ecosystem.

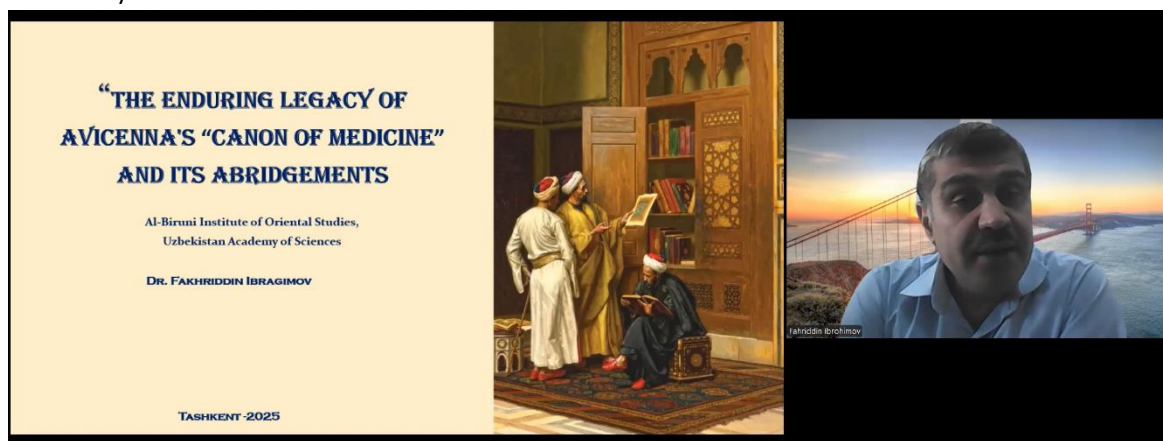
Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, graced the conference as Guest of Honor, delivering a compelling opening address. He emphasized the urgent need for regional capacity building in cybersecurity and innovation. Prof. Tayebi urged young professionals to transition from technology consumption to creation, advocating for stronger investment in education and research. He underlined that a robust, collaborative innovation ecosystem—rooted in education, collaboration, and determination—is crucial to safeguarding digital infrastructure and ensuring national resilience.

President Tayebi expressed his gratitude to Mr. Ammar Hussain Jaffri, President of the Pakistan Information Security Association (PISA) for his leadership in continued efforts in strengthening Pakistan's cybersecurity ecosystem.

ECOSF reaffirmed its commitment to support regional cybersecurity initiatives and foster partnerships that bridge the cyber-education gap across the ECO member states.

## ECOSF & IPKI Webinar Explores “Legacy of Canon Ibn-e-Sina” with Central Asian Insights

On **July 24, 2025**, the *Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF)*, in partnership with the *Imran Pervez Khan Institute (IPKI)* and the *Children and Youth Science Center (CYSC)* under the *Belt and Road International Science Education Consortium (BRISec)*, hosted a compelling webinar titled “Legacy of Canon Ibn-e-Sina” as part of its *Science Chronicles* series. Dr. Fakhridin Ibragimov, a distinguished researcher at Uzbekistan's Institute of Oriental Studies, presented an engaging discourse on how *Avicenna's Canon of Medicine* (Al-Qānūn fī ṭ-ṭibb, 1025) shaped medical education across the Islamic world and Europe well into the 17th century.



He traced the evolution of abridged editions—from early editions by Ibn Ilāqī and Ibn al-Nāfīs to Central Asian adaptations by scholars like Chaghmaynī and Khojandī—and highlighted the first full Uzbek and Russian translations produced during 1954–1960. Dr. Ibragimov emphasized the long-standing scholarly ties between Uzbek and Iranian scholars, noting how these cultural and academic exchanges have enriched regional scholarship and expressing hope for enhanced future collaboration between Uzbekistan, Pakistan, and Iran. He underscored the Canon’s role as a bridge between diverse medical traditions, arguing that such shared heritage underpins the intellectual connectivity across the ECO region.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, lauded the discussion as a testament to the enduring value of cultural and academic exchange in science and humanities. He emphasized the need to deepen institutional links among Iran, Uzbekistan, and Pakistan, affirming ECOSF’s support for such initiatives. Expressing personal interest, Prof. Tayebi spoke of his desire to visit the historic cities of Bukhara and Samarkand, UNESCO World Heritage sites celebrated as “*most complete examples of medieval cities in Central Asia*” and “*crossroads of world cultures*”. He concluded by calling on regional partners to build on this shared legacy, asserting that collaborative stewardship of common intellectual and cultural traditions can catalyse future scientific innovation in the ECO region.

### President ECOSF Engages in High-Level Meetings During ECO Week 2025 in Azerbaijan

#### President ECOSF Meets Minister of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan in Aghdam

**Aghdam, Azerbaijan July 1, 2025** – On the sidelines of the ECO Youth Forum, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF held a meeting with H.E. Mr. Farid Gayibov, Minister of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan. The discussion focused on enhancing collaboration between ECOSF and Azerbaijani institutions, seeking support of the honorable Minister for the ratification of the ECOSF Charter, and exploring opportunities for Azerbaijan to host an IBSE Workshop. Both sides also considered joint programs in sports science to promote youth engagement and research-based sports development.



#### President ECOSF met with Chairperson of State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs, Azerbaijan

**Khankendi, Azerbaijan July 3, 2025** – During the 17th ECO Summit, President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi met with Ms. Bahar Muradova, Chairperson of the State Committee for Family, Women and Children Affairs of Azerbaijan. Discussions focused on promoting gender equality through science, education, and innovation, as well as supporting women’s leadership in climate resilience and sustainable development initiatives across the ECO region.





## President ECOSF met with Rector of Karabakh University

**Khankendi, July 3, 2025** – In a productive meeting with Prof. Shahin Bayramov, Rector of Karabakh University, President ECOSF discussed opportunities for joint programs, academic exchanges, and hosting scientific events under the ECO framework. Both sides agreed to explore collaborative research and educational initiatives aligned with regional development priorities.



## President ECOSF had Courtesy Meeting with Nigeria's Minister of Budget and Economic Planning

**Khankendi, July 3, 2025** – President ECOSF met Sen. Abubakar Atiku Bagudu (CON), Honourable Minister of Nigeria's Federal Ministry of Budget and Economic Planning. The discussion focused on sharing best practices in science-driven economic planning and strengthening South-South cooperation.

## President ECOSF engaged with Prime Minister's Youth Programme Focal Person for Pakistan

**Khankendi, July 3, 2025** – During the ECO Youth Forum and 17th ECO Summit, Prof. Tayebi met with Ms. Syeda Amnah Batool, Member of Pakistan's National Assembly and Focal Person for the Prime Minister's Youth Programme. They discussed leveraging ECOSF's programs to enhance youth participation in Science, Technology and Innovation across ECO member states, including Pakistan. In this meeting, Prof. Mehmet Akif Kirecce, President of ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI) also attended and discussed collaborations in promoting education in the region.



## President ECOSF met with Kyrgyz Republic's First Deputy Minister of Culture, Information and Youth Policy

**Khankendi, July 3, 2025** – Prof. Tayebi met Mr. Soluzbek Nadyrbekov, First Deputy Minister of Culture, Information and Youth Policy of the Kyrgyz Republic. The engagement focused on opportunities for regional youth initiatives, capacity-building programs, and joint STI-driven projects to empower youth in Kyrgyzstan and across the ECO region.

## ECOSF Engagements during ECO Week 2025 in Azerbaijan

### Strengthening Ties with Azerbaijan's Institute of Physics

**Baku, July 3, 2025** – Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager ECOSF held a productive meeting with the leadership of the Institute of Physics, Ministry of Science and Education of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Prof. Dr. Huseyn Ibrahimov, Executive Director of the Institute, Prof. Rustam B. Rustamov, Head of the Department, Prof. Afat Karimova and other senior scientists represented the



Institute. The discussion centered on introducing ECOSF's mission, strengthening institutional collaboration, and encouraging Azerbaijan's ratification of the ECOSF Charter. Both sides explored the opportunities for joint scientific research and participation in ECOSF programs.

#### ECOSF Discusses Climate Issues with Institute of Geography

**Baku, July 3, 2025** – In a one-on-one meeting with Mr. Elnur Safarov, Senior Scientific Researcher at the Institute of Geography, Mr. Khalil Raza discussed key environmental concerns such as climate change, plastic pollution, and the environmental challenges facing the Caspian Sea. Both sides agreed on the importance of transboundary collaboration and the potential for joint research initiatives under ECOSF's climate action programs.



#### Building Scientific Collaboration with Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences





**Baku, July 4, 2025** – ECOSF's Program Manager Mr. Khalil Raza met with Academician Arif Hashimov and senior officials from the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences (ANAS), including Prof. Esmira Alirzayeva and Ms. Gunay Djafarova. The discussion covered ECOSF's regional initiatives, priority research areas, and mechanisms to enhance bilateral collaboration. The importance of Azerbaijan's ratification of the ECOSF Charter was also underlined to pave the way for deeper scientific cooperation.

## Engaging Youth Through Science Literacy with ICYF-Eurasia

**Baku, July 4, 2025** – Mr. Khalil Raza visited the Islamic Cooperation Youth Forum – Eurasian Regional Center (ICYF-ERC) and met with Mr. Rafiq Ismayilov, Director General. The two sides explored opportunities for joint initiatives to promote science literacy, youth engagement in innovation, and science-based leadership across the ECO region.



## Opportunities for Graduate Studies Discussed at Baku Higher Oil School

**Baku, July 4, 2025** – ECOSF met with Dr. Sevda Zargarova, Vice Rector (Education) of Baku Higher Oil School (BHOS), a premier institution under SOCAR, Azerbaijan's state oil and gas company. Discussions focused on graduate-level education and exchange programs for students from ECO Member Countries in key disciplines such as oil and gas, chemical engineering, and mechanical engineering, highlighting prospects for regional academic integration.

## Advancing Sports Science Cooperation with Azerbaijan's Ministry of Youth and Sports

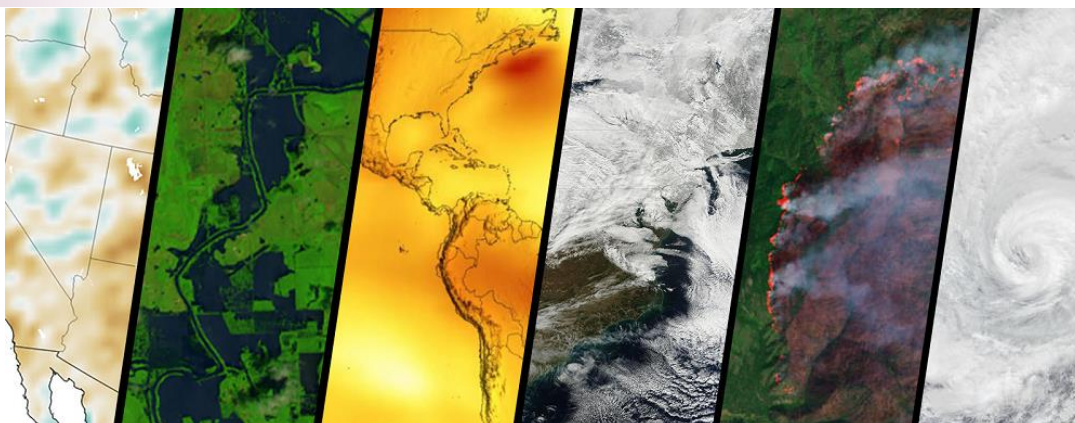
**Baku, July 5, 2025** – President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Mr. Khalil Raza met with Dr. Elnur Mammadov, Head of the Sports Department, Ministry of Youth and Sports of Azerbaijan. The dialogue emphasized the potential for collaboration in the field of sports science, youth development, and capacity-building programs across the ECO region, with a focus on science-driven approaches to sports education and health.



## Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

### Call for Participation: 2nd International Conference on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction

As climate change accelerates, the frequency and severity of extreme weather events and natural disasters continue to rise. Large-scale, compound and cascading disasters pose serious threats to human society, particularly to the safety of people's lives and properties. Research on climate change and disaster risks has emerged as a critical issue of global concern. In this backdrop, the 2nd International Conference on Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction is being organized by the China-Pakistan Joint Research Center on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) in collaboration with the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) and other esteemed partners in Beijing, China on October 19-20. The conference will bring together experts, policymakers, scientists, and educators to address the pressing challenges of climate change and disaster risks.



Read more: <https://ecosf.org/conference-on-climate-change-and-disaster-risk-reduction/>

### Call for Papers – International Conference on iNCLUSION in the Heritage Sector

The Turkish Academy of Sciences (TÜBA) is pleased to invite you to submit paper and panel proposals for the International Conference on iNCLUSION in the Heritage Sector. The conference will take place on January 10, 2026, at Boğaziçi University, Istanbul.

This conference is part of the Erasmus+ KA220 HED project “iNCLUSION” (funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Türkiye, the European Union Presidency, and the Turkish National Agency, and coordinated by TÜBA) and aims to bring together individuals from diverse fields to explore how we can make cultural heritage more accessible and inclusive for everyone. Despite progress, significant barriers remain: 30% of heritage sites, 25% of cultural venues, and 40% of cultural websites in the EU are still inaccessible. The rapid pace of digital transformation offers exciting opportunities to reimagine accessibility, from AI and immersive technologies to digital storytelling and interactive learning.

Read more: <https://ecosf.org/international-conference-on-inclusion/>



### Call for Proposals: The 2nd International Symposium of Science Communication and Public Science Literacy 2025

National Science Museum, Thailand has announced the Call for Proposal for the 2nd International Symposium of Science Communication and Public Science Literacy 2025, “COMMUNICATING FRONTIER SCIENCE IN THE CHALLENGING ERA.” It will be held on November 12, 2025, at Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok, Thailand, as a part of the 51st International Congress on Science, Technology, and Technology-Based Innovation: STT51

Read more: <https://ecosf.org/science-communication-and-public-science-literacy-2025/>

