



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



China-Central Asia Chapter of 9th Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop Held in Urumqi, China

The Central Asia Chapter of the 9th Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop was successfully held from August 19–24, 2025 in Urumqi, the capital city of Xinjiang Autonomous Region, China. This Camp was part of the 2025 Annual Plan of the Belt and Road International Science Education Consortium (BRISec).

The event was hosted by Xinjiang Association of Science and Technology (XAST) and organized by the Children and Youth Science Center (CYSC) of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), with the support of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) and several local institutions.



The Camp was formally inaugurated by Mr. Deng Mingjiang, Chairman of XAST, in a modest yet impressive ceremony. High officials and leaders from CAST, CYSC, XAST, along with dignitaries from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and representatives of local organizations attended the opening.

ECOSF was represented by Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director, and Mr. Ghulam Abbas Rahar, Manager.



Around 50 teachers and students from China and ECO countries—including Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan—participated in the Camp. It is noteworthy that the participation of teams from ECO member countries was facilitated and coordinated by ECOSF.

It is worth mentioning that over the past nine years, the Maker Camps have become a leading platform for science, technology, and cultural exchange, attracting nearly 70 million participants from more than 120 countries, regions, and international organizations. Through innovative practices and institutionalized exploration, the Camps have established themselves as a vital channel for advancing international cooperation in science, technology, and culture.

During the five-day Camp, the participants—guided by technology mentors —visited:

- Xinjiang Software Park
- Xinjiang Engineering College Aviation Industry College
- Xinjiang Geology and Mineral Museum
- Xinjiang Science and Technology Museum

They also engaged in hands-on courses such as:

- “Innovation and Exploration under the Digital Silk Road”
- “Walking Geology Classroom”
- “Bright Light – Making Solar Cars”

Through these experiences, students explored emerging technologies including low-altitude economy, drone flight, and smart agriculture. To emphasize the integration of science with culture, the Camp also featured Peking Opera face painting and pottery making, offering participants a unique opportunity to experience traditional Chinese art and culture.

Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director of ECOSF, actively participated in various activities of the Camp. He underlined that the event served as a valuable learning platform for both students and teachers, enabling them to benefit from the diverse experiences of different countries—particularly China’s remarkable progress in science and technology.

During visits to leading research facilities and laboratories, Dr. Memon expressed great appreciation for China's state-of-the-art infrastructure. He remarked that over the next two decades, artificial intelligence, data science, and space technology will shape the course of global development, and China is already at the forefront of these fields.

He further emphasized that building a China–Central Asia community with a shared future requires sustained commitment to scientific collaboration and cultural exchanges among the youth.



The Maker Camps, with their “small but beautiful” format, serve as a powerful mechanism for:

- Cultivating young scientific and technological talent
- Promoting innovative solutions
- Strengthening regional trust and cooperation under the Belt and Road Initiative



By planting the seeds of science, technology, and humanity in the hearts of young people, these Camps foster friendships beyond geography and economics and create new opportunities for shared growth and prosperity.

On August 24, 2025, the Camp was concluded with a closing ceremony featuring award of certificates of participation to Team leaders, and presentation of vibrant cultural performances by each delegation, showcasing the rich and diverse traditions of their respective countries through music, dance and traditional attire.

Following are some glimpses of the Camp:



The event ended on a high note, strengthening bonds of friendship, cultural understanding, and cooperation between China and Central Asian nations, while inspiring youth to embrace science, technology, and innovation for a brighter future.

ECOSF Contributed to the International Science Symposium on Science Festivals in Bangkok

The 9th International Symposium on Science Festival, themed "Empowering Collaboration in Science for Youth in the Belt and Road Network," convened leading science educators and institutional representatives at Bangkok's Queen Sirikit National Convention Center on August 16, 2025. The prominent event was held in conjunction with Thailand's National Science and Technology Fair 2025, brought together international delegates to discuss strategies for advancing science education and climate change awareness among youth.



The symposium opened by Mr. Suwarong Wongsiri, Acting President of the National Science Museum (NSM) of Thailand, followed by a detailed overview of the NST Fair 2025 from Dr. Ganigar Chen, NSM's Vice President. Professor Wu Xiangping, President of the China Association of Children's Science Instructors and Chair of the Belt and Road International Science Education Consortium (BRISEC), delivered the keynote, highlighting ongoing initiatives to engage young people across the Belt and Road countries in scientific exploration and collaboration. Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi President ECOSF and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director ECOSF participated in the symposium.



Professor Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), presented on "Climate Change Education based on Inquiry-Based Science Education (IBSE) pedagogy for Capacity Development of Science Teachers." He emphasized that ECO member states are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, with the region facing increasing threats from extreme weather events such as monsoon variability, glacial retreat, heatwaves, floods, and drought.

The symposium also featured presentations from delegates representing Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, and Kazakhstan, who shared resources and experiences from their own national science festivals and educational initiatives tied to the Belt and Road Network.

Following the morning's discussions, participants—including senior leaders from ECOSF, BRISEC, NSM, and other international bodies—toured the National Science and Technology Fair 2025. The event showcased a vast array of exhibitions and interactive activities contributed by organizations under Thailand's Ministry of Higher Education, Science, Research, and Innovation, as well as government agencies, associations, museums, private sector groups, and international partners.



During the international symposium, the President ECOSF and Executive Director ECOSF Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon played important roles, strengthening ties between participating nations and advancing the shared agenda of science literacy and innovation. Their leadership and insights were instrumental in steering key discussions, promoting regional collaboration, and inspiring future initiatives.

Symposium participants also visited various parts of Fair and Museums, including FUTURIUM, the Information Technology Museum, and the Rama 9 Museum. These visits provided participants with hands-on opportunities to engage with cutting-edge exhibits and deepen their understanding of scientific and technological progress.



ECOSF and Thailand's NSM Forge Strategic Partnership with MoU to Advance Science Education and Collaboration

On August 19, ECOSF and the Thailand National Science Museum (NSM) officially signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen their collaboration and foster greater partnership between the institutions. The signing ceremony, held at the Sirikit Convention Center, was attended by distinguished representatives from both organizations, including Mr. Suwaron, NSM Acting President; Dr. Ganigar, NSM Vice President; Professor Tayebi, ECOSF President; Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, ECOSF Executive Director; Mrs. Sedigheh Tayebi; and Ms. Chanika Kongsawat, Director of Division of Partnership and International Relations, NSM.



This MoU paves the way for enhanced academic exchanges, joint research initiatives, and the sharing of scientific knowledge and best practices. Both ECOSF and NSM are committed to promoting public awareness of science, exchanging educational and exhibition resources, and providing training opportunities for staff across multiple disciplines. Through this strengthened partnership, the institutions aim to contribute meaningfully to scientific advancement and social development in their respective countries.



NDMA in partnership with CPJRC Hosts Bilateral Symposium to Boost Preparedness for Disasters and Early Warning Management Systems

Islamabad, August 29, 2025 — Leading experts from Pakistan and China gathered in Islamabad for a landmark symposium on Early Warning Systems for Hydrological and Geological Disasters aimed at enhancing early warning systems for hydrological and geological disasters. Hosted by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) at its headquarters, the two-day event saw over 35 Chinese specialists join forces with their Pakistani counterparts to share expertise and foster cooperation.



The symposium, organized with support from the China-Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences (CPJRC), UNESCO, the International Centre on Space Technologies for Natural and Cultural Heritage (HIST), the Institute of Mountain Hazards and Environment (IMHE), and Quaid-i-Azam University, focused on strengthening disaster risk management in the region through modern technology and collaboration.



Ms. Romina Khurshid Alam, Coordinator to the Prime Minister of Pakistan on Climate Change, served as Chief Guest, while representatives from ECOSF, including President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Programs Manager Mr. Khalil Raza, also participated. The event drew policymakers, academics, and organizations such as AI Geo Navigators, which provided expertise in geospatial AI and GIS. Experts emphasized that the collaboration marks a significant step forward in the development of robust early warning systems to mitigate the impact of natural disasters in Pakistan and China and beyond.

President ECOSF Participates as Guest of Honor in One-Day Workshop on Enhancing Science-Policy Integration in Waste Management, 13 August 2025 at Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Islamabad



A one-day workshop on Enhancing Science-Policy Integration in Waste Management was held on 13 August 2025 at the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Islamabad. The event was organized in collaboration with the International Network for Governmental Science Advice (INGSA), the International Science Council, the Australian Academy of Science, the National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS), Pakistan, and the Global Young Academy. The workshop brought together scientists, policymakers, environmental experts, academicians, and practitioners with the aim of bridging the gap between research and policymaking for sustainable waste management in Pakistan.

The workshop opened with welcoming remarks by Dr. Aftab Ahmad (Founder, NAYS) and an introduction of PAS by Dr. Riffat Qureshi (Director Administration, PAS). The Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig (Secretary General, PAS), stressed the urgent need for science-based strategies in managing waste. The keynote lecture, “The Role of Science in Urban Waste Governance”, was delivered by Dr. Zeeshan Sheikh (NUST).

Session I: focused on science-based solutions. Presentations included circular economy and plastic waste (Dr. Zainab Naeem, SDPI), composting and bio-waste (Dr. Mazhar Rafique, University of Haripur), and waste-to-energy options (Mr. Asghar Bukhari, NUST). These talks highlighted innovative approaches for turning waste into resources.

Session II: addressed policy issues. Dr. Sara Qaiser (PAS) outlined gaps in solid waste management policies, pointing out weak implementation and limited coordination between science and governance. A panel discussion, moderated by Dr. Aftab Ahmad, brought together experts including Dr. Muhammad Irfan Khan, Dr. Zainab Naeem, Dr. Mazhar Rafique, Mr. Asghar Bukhari, and Ms. Zile e Huma, who emphasized institutional collaboration, technology adoption, community engagement, and stronger policies.

At the closing session, Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, participated as the Guest of Honor. He congratulated PAS, NAYS, and INGSA for organizing the timely event and underlined the importance of Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) in addressing environmental challenges. He encouraged turning waste into valuable resources through recycling, energy recovery, and innovation. He also shared recommendations such as building stronger science–policy interfaces, improving data and evidence systems, promoting participatory policymaking, enhancing capacity building for scientists and policymakers, and fostering international and cross-sector collaboration. He reaffirmed ECO Science Foundation’s support for such initiatives across Pakistan and the ECO region.



The workshop concluded with appreciation for all speakers, participants, and partners, and a strong commitment to continue working towards sustainable and science-driven waste management practices in Pakistan.

President ECOSF participated in the Seminar on Cyber Security: Pakistan Vision 2047



The Centre for Aerospace & Security Studies (CASS), Islamabad, and the Pakistan Information Security Association (PISA) hosted a seminar titled "Cyber Security: Pakistan Vision 2047" on August 12, 2025. The event gathered defence and technology experts, policymakers, industry, and academic leaders to discuss Pakistan's long-term cybersecurity strategy. Speakers highlighted cyberspace as the fifth domain of warfare and stressed the need for robust policy, indigenous capabilities, and collaborative efforts among government, industry, and academia to secure Pakistan's digital infrastructure and ensure resilience in a rapidly evolving cyber landscape. Air Marshal Javaid (Retd), President CASS, emphasized cybersecurity as vital for national defence and economic transformation, calling for a unified, forward-thinking approach to safeguard Pakistan's digital future. On behalf of ECOSF, President Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated in the event.

ECOSF in partnership with IPKI hosted Webinar on New Avenues for Aerospace Industry in Pakistan, as part of its Science Chronicles Series.

The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), in collaboration with the Imran Pervaz Khan Institute (IPKI), hosted an engaging webinar on August 28, 2025, as part of its Science Chronicles series. The session, titled "New Avenues for Aerospace Industry in Pakistan", featured Mr. Iftikhar Yezdani, an accomplished public speaker, and founder of RaheQamar.



Mr. Yezdani delivered a forward-looking presentation centered on the global transformation of the aerospace industry, with emphasis on, Sustainability and Digitalization in aerospace technologies, The emergence of the New Space Economy and its commercial implications and Pakistan's unique position in the aerospace sector, particularly its strong potential in Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) services and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) technologies. He underlined the strategic importance of leveraging Pakistan's core competencies to position the country as a competitive player in high-value global aerospace niches.

Mr. Yezdani underlined the practical application of space technologies to address challenges on Earth. He stressed the need for a foresight-driven approach, linking innovation in space systems with pressing societal and economic needs. A notable aspect of the talk was Mr. Yezdani's emphasis on the practical application of space technologies to address challenges on Earth. He stressed the need for a foresight-driven approach, linking innovation in space systems with pressing societal and economic needs.

He identified satellite technology, remote sensing, and commercial space ventures as critical sectors where Pakistan can emerge as a regional leader if nurtured through education, policy, and innovation ecosystems particularly for youth. The webinar are followed by Q&A session. ECOSF and IPKI extended their appreciation to Mr. Iftekhhar Yezdani for his brilliant webinar and all participants for their enthusiastic engagement.

DOPASI Foundation Delegates Visit ECOSF to Explore Global Health and Climate-Health Initiatives



Islamabad, August 8, 2025: The ECOSF hosted delegates from the Dopasi Foundation, including Master in Global Health (MGH) students from the University of Milan, Italy, for a formal visit today.

The meeting provided a platform to discuss global health policies, Pakistan's healthcare landscape, and innovative interventions to strengthen health equity in the country. A special focus was given to the impact of climate change on healthcare, exploring challenges such as rising health risks from extreme weather, waterborne diseases, and food insecurity.

During the interaction, the MGH students shared insights from their academic research and field experiences in Pakistan, enhancing their understanding of the country's health priorities and practical challenges. ECOSF and Dopasi Foundation also

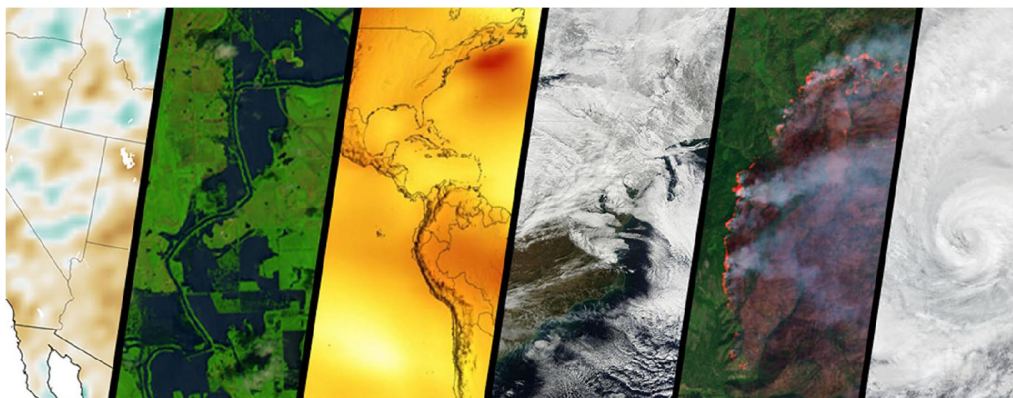
explored potential areas of collaboration, particularly in integrating climate resilience into healthcare strategies and promoting sustainable community health initiatives.

President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi and Executive Director ECOSF Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon expressed their enthusiasm for future partnerships, emphasizing the importance of regional cooperation to address pressing health challenges in the ECO Member Countries.

Announcement

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/>