



# ECOSF NEWSLETTER



## New Year Message by President ECOSF: Advancing STI Cooperation for a Resilient ECO Region

I extend warm greetings to the ECOSF community and our valued partners across ECO Member States for the New Year. ECOSF remains firmly committed to strengthening regional collaboration in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)—because our shared prosperity, competitiveness and resilience depend on how effectively we cooperate, exchange knowledge and develop solutions.

In 2026, we will continue to place STEM education at the heart of our mission. Empowering youth, teachers, and institutions through hands-on learning, science camps, webinars and capacity-building programs is essential for helping our societies move from technology consumption to technology creation.

Guided by the region's most urgent needs, ECOSF will prioritize partnerships and initiatives in clean energy and the energy transition, climate resilience and disaster risk reduction, sustainable transport and e-mobility, health and climate, and digital transformation and AI. These priorities reflect both the challenges we face and the opportunities we can harness through innovation-driven development.

Equally important, we will do our best efforts to link science with the economy by promoting innovation ecosystems, research–industry collaboration, technology commercialization, and entrepreneurship—so that scientific knowledge translates into jobs, productivity, and inclusive growth across the ECO region.

I convey sincere gratitude to ECO Member Countries, ECO Secretariat, partner institutions, researchers, and the scientific community for their continued engagement. I would also like to thank the Government of Pakistan in particular as a host country, for its sustained support and patronage. I hope and pray that this New Year brings peace and prosperity to the ECO region and beyond!



**Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi**  
President ECO Science Foundation

## President ECOSF participated in the 30<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee and 20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of ECO-CCI in Karachi

On the special invitation of Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, President of the Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) and President of the Economic Cooperation Organization Chamber of Commerce & Industry (ECO-CCI), Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF participated in the 30<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee and **20<sup>th</sup> General Assembly meetings of the 10-Country ECO-CCI held on January 22, 2026 in Karachi, Pakistan**. The high-level gatherings were hosted by FPCCI on the sidelines of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sustainable Tourism Forum & Expo 2026.

The proceedings were inaugurated and presided over by Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh, who delivered the welcome address and presented a comprehensive overview of ECO-CCI's activities, underscoring the role of regional cooperation in strengthening economic

integration and private-sector engagement across the ECO region. Representatives from eight ECO Member States attended, alongside senior leaders from the ECO Secretariat and the ECO Trade and Development Bank (ETDB).



In his remarks, President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi expressed gratitude to ECO-CCI and FPCCI for the invitation and opportunity to address business leaders and policymakers. He highlighted how science, technology and innovation are critical drivers of competitiveness, productivity, and inclusive economic growth in today's rapidly evolving global economy. Prof. Tayebi outlined ECOSF's mandate and regional initiatives — including strengthening scientific and technical cooperation, supporting research and innovation, promoting capacity building of scientists and professionals, and facilitating networks between academia, industry and policymakers — and emphasized how these efforts complement ECO-CCI's goals of fostering private-sector growth and enhancing intra-regional trade. Drawing attention to the ECO region's rich human capital and strategic resources, he emphasized that aligning scientific collaboration with economic priorities can accelerate progress toward diversified economies, increased intra-regional trade and shared prosperity.

The meeting also featured discussions on operationalizing regional connectivity and development initiatives. A highlight was the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between ECO-CCI and the Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Development (ICCD) by Mr. Atif Ikram Sheikh and ICCD Secretary General H.E. Sheikh Yousef Hassan Khalawi, institutionalizing future cooperation.



During his stay in Karachi, Prof. Tayebi also engaged with participants and exploring strategic partnerships that interlink sustainable tourism, economic development and regional cooperation. He also participated in discussions on ethical investment and policies promoting people- and planet-centered travel, and joined a reception hosted by Mr. Sheikh Khalid Tawab, highlighting continued synergy between ECOSF and Pakistan's business and innovation communities.



### Pakistan Hosts 10<sup>th</sup> ECO Ministerial Meeting on Disaster Risk Reduction in Islamabad

The National Disaster Management Authority, on behalf of the Government of Pakistan, hosted the 10<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) at NDMA Headquarters in Islamabad. The two-day event opened with a High-Level Working Group Meeting, bringing together ministers and senior officials from ECO Member States— including Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan — alongside representatives of the ECO Secretariat and regional/international partners to strengthen collective resilience against transboundary and climate-induced hazards.



The meeting provided a vital platform for Member States to exchange best practices, identify shared challenges, and explore innovative solutions aimed at enhancing regional collaboration in mitigating disaster risks. Through these collective efforts, participants sought to bolster the ECO region's capacity to effectively respond to disasters and foster resilience against future threats.

During the meeting, the Islamabad Declaration was adopted, reaffirming the commitment of ECO Member States to strengthen regional cooperation and update the ECO Regional Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction (ECORFDRR) for the period 2025–2030. The Declaration emphasizes the importance of enhancing disaster risk reduction through targeted capacity-building initiatives and innovative approaches. Furthermore, the meeting emphasized the promotion of collaboration with international organizations to implement joint programs that enhance resilience against disasters.

In conclusion, this Ministerial Meeting marks a significant milestone in advancing disaster risk reduction efforts across the ECO region. By fostering collaboration among member states and engaging with international partners, the meeting has laid the foundation for a cohesive strategy to mitigate the impacts of disasters. The commitments made and strategies discussed will play a crucial role in addressing the urgent challenges posed by disaster risks, ultimately paving the way for a safer and more resilient future for the region.



On behalf of ECOSF, ECO Science Foundation was represented by Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon (Executive Director), who participated in the deliberations, reinforcing ECOSF's support for regional resilience through science, technology, and innovation.

*Courtesy of ECO Secretariat*

### ECOSF Participates in PSF Popular Science Lectures on Biodiversity Conservation and Climate Opportunities

**Islamabad, 20 January 2026** — The Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) hosted Popular Science Lectures at its PSF, convening researchers, students, and science enthusiasts to promote evidence-based dialogue on biodiversity and climate action. In his welcome remarks, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akmal Chairman PSF highlighted how science and technology can help address Pakistan's key socio-economic and environmental challenges, and briefly outlined PSF's active programmes supporting research, innovation, and science popularization.



The first lecture on "Research-Based Management for the Conservation of Biodiversity," was delivered by Mr. Ashiq Ahmed Khan, who is a leading wildlife management and biodiversity of expert. Mr. Khan emphasized practical conservation approaches grounded in field research—highlighting the need to protect habitats, strengthen protected-area management, and improve community-led stewardship to reduce biodiversity loss.

The second lecture on "Pakistan's Climate Changes and Opportunities," was delivered by Arjumand Nizami of Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation Pakistan, where she discussed the accelerating climate risks facing communities while also pointing to actionable opportunities—such as climate-resilient livelihoods, nature-based solutions, and stronger partnerships—to translate climate action into local development gains.



Representing the ECO Science Foundation, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi (President, ECOSF) and Engr. Khalil Raza (Programs Manager – Energy & Climate, ECOSF) participated in the session and engaged with speakers and participants.

### ECOSF and MSTF Explore Potential Areas for Future Collaboration

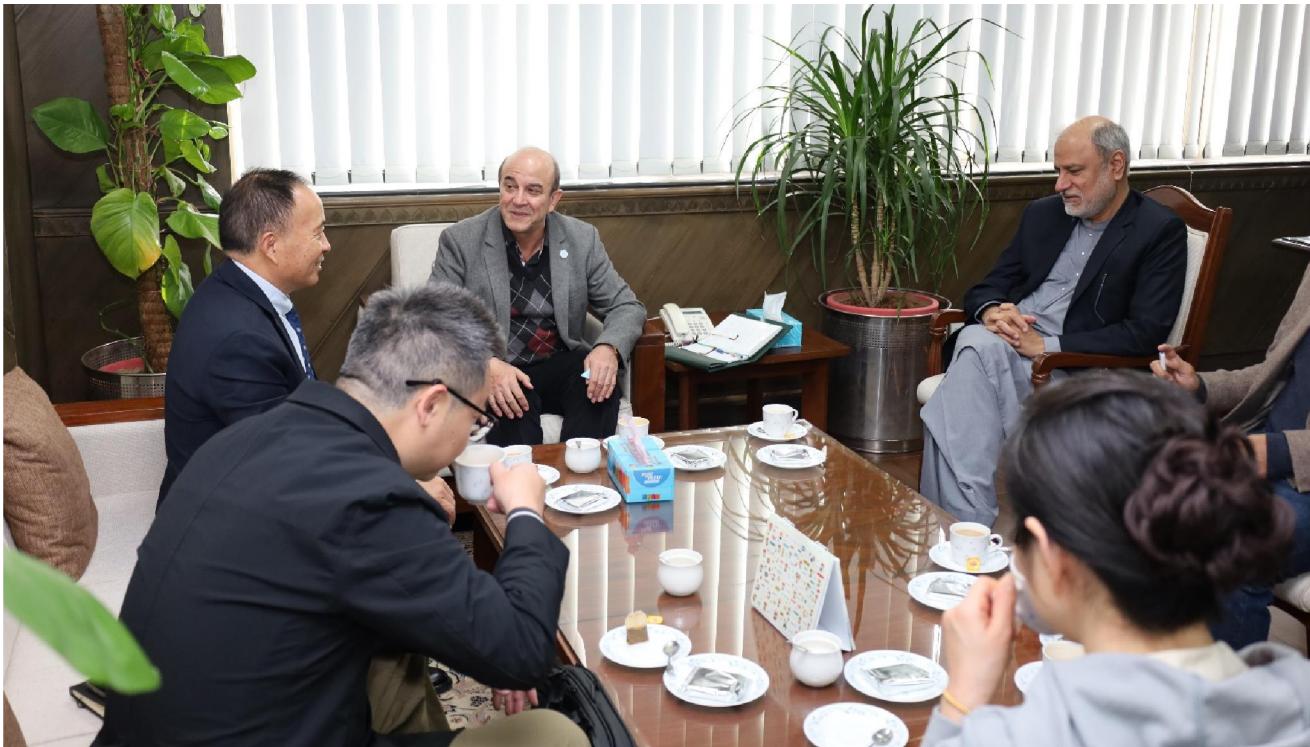
**Islamabad, 6 January 2025** — The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) hosted Mr. Mahdi Amini, Director of the International Cooperation Department of the Mustafa (pbuh) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF), Iran, for a consultative meeting with ECOSF leadership, including Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi - President, ECOSF and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon - Executive Director, ECOSF along with other ECOSF colleagues. The visit served as an introductory engagement to better understand each organization's mandate and to explore possible avenues of cooperation in areas of mutual interest.



Mr. Amini presented an overview of MSTF's mission, flagship programmes, and regional and international outreach, followed by a discussion on areas where ECOSF and MSTF could potentially align. In his remarks, President Prof. Tayebi welcomed Mr. Amini and noted that ECOSF highly values partnerships with MSTF. There is significant potential for collaboration in the areas of ECO-region youth, strengthen scientific capacity, and promote science diplomacy through practical platforms such as camps, competitions, and regional exchanges.

Among the ideas discussed was the possibility of linking a future ECOSF Science Camp with the Paradis Science Festival, enabling ECO-region participants to benefit from a wider scientific and cultural ecosystem. The meeting also explored encouraging greater participation of ECO-member students in MSTF's Noor School Student Competition. Additionally, both sides also considered allocating ECOSF a dedicated space at the Paradis Science Festival—and potentially country-specific booths for ECO member states—to support science diplomacy by showcasing both scientific capabilities and national identities. The discussion concluded with shared interest in further exploring collaboration through joint webinars and training workshops, with both sides agreeing to review practical next steps in due course.

### ECOSF Updates CPJRC on Uzbekistan Engagement for Proposed 3rd International Climate Conference



**Islamabad, 24 December 2025** — A delegation of China–Pakistan Joint Research Centre on Earth Sciences (CPJRC) led by Prof. Hong Tianhua visited ECOSF and met with the leadership of ECOSF. Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi President ECOSF shared updates on the way forward and next steps regarding the potential hosting of the 3rd International Conference on Climate Change in Uzbekistan. During the meeting, Prof. Tayebi outlined ECOSF's ongoing efforts to mobilize ECO Member States for collective climate action and to secure broad regional participation for the planned high-level event, emphasizing the importance of inclusive scientific and policy dialogue across the ECO region. Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director ECOSF, also participated in the discussion. As an agreed next step, ECOSF will prepare a conference concept note for CPJRC's review before it is shared with relevant Uzbek counterparts for consideration. Prof. Hong Tianhua appreciated ECOSF's proactive outreach and coordination, and reaffirmed CPJRC's willingness to support the process as discussions with Uzbekistan continue.

**Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page**

**Call of Nominations for 7th Mustafa Prize (pbuh)**

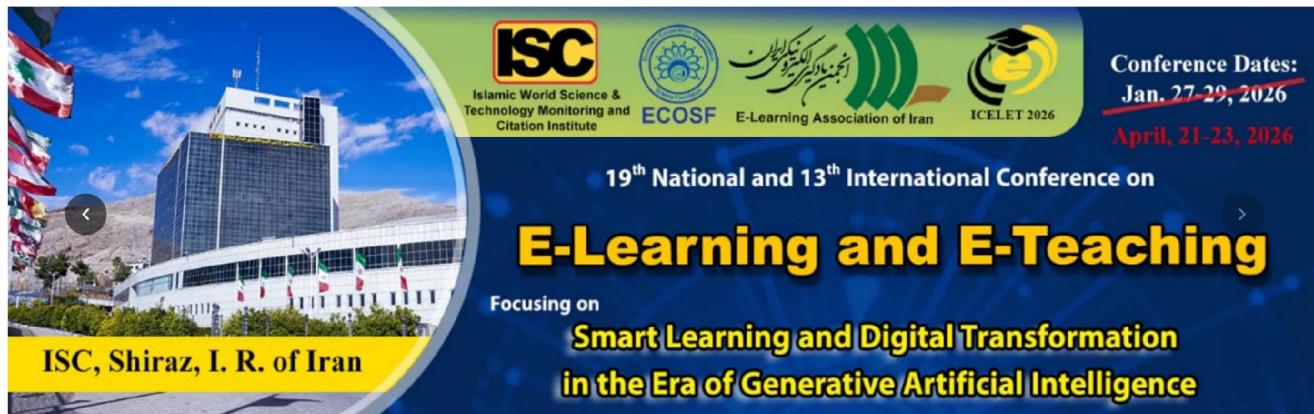
It is shared that the Call of Nominations for 7th Mustafa Prize (pbuh) has been announced by Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF), Tehran-Iran.

The Mustafa Prize is a top science and technology award granted to the top and distinguished researchers and scientists of the Muslim Countries biennially. The Mustafa Prize seeks to encourage education and research and is set to play the pioneering role in developing regional relations between science and technology institutions working in the OIC member countries. In order to support the development and advancement of science in the Muslim States, it also seeks to strengthen the scientific relationship between researchers and academics.

The eligible scientists and scholars can be nominated by the Universities, Research Centers, S&T Associations, Center of Excellences, Academies of Sciences and Science and Technology Parks of Muslim Countries, using the following link: <http://www.mustafaprize.org>. The last date for the submission of the nominations is February 20, 2026.



**Update and Change of Schedule for the 2026 International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching (ICeLeT 2026)**



**IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM ICELET 2026 SECRETARIAT:**

Dear Esteemed Participants of the 2026 International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching (ICeLeT 2026),

We would like to extend our sincere greetings and appreciation to all participants of this year's conference. Unfortunately, and with our sincere apologies, due to the current disruptions and instability in internet and network services, it has not been possible to hold the conference on the previously scheduled dates, namely January 27-29, 2026.

After careful review of the situation in the coming weeks and considering the ongoing uncertainty regarding the continuation or resolution of these network disruptions, the Conference Organizing Committee has decided to exceptionally reschedule the conference for this edition to be held on April 21-23, 2026.

All subsequent announcements and updates will be published on the official conference website at: [icelet.ir](http://icelet.ir)

Should you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact us via email at [icelet@isc.ac](mailto:icelet@isc.ac). Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

Sincerely,  
Conference Chair  
ICeLeT 2026