



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



Ambassador of Tajikistan Appreciated the Role of ECOSF in the field of STI during his Visit to ECOSF Secretariat

Thursday, February 26, 2026- H.E. Mr. Sharifzoda Yousuf Toir, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan to Pakistan, visited the Secretariat of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) on the invitation of the President ECOSF, Professor Seyed Komail Tayebi, on February 26, 2026. The Ambassador was warmly received by the President and officials of the Foundation.



During the visit, a comprehensive presentation was delivered highlighting the Foundation's mandate, strategic vision, and ongoing initiatives aimed at promoting scientific cooperation, innovation, and sustainable development across the ECO region.

The briefing also covered ECOSF's key programmes in science, technology and innovation (STI), human resource development, institutional capacity building, and regional research collaboration. The emphasis was placed on Tajikistan's participation in ECOSF-supported initiatives, including high-level policy forums, international conferences held in Dushanbe, regional training workshops, and youth engagement programmes such as the Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camps in China.

The Ambassador was also apprised of ECOSF's recent regional activities, including international conferences, science diplomacy engagements, technical training programmes, and collaborative initiatives under multilateral frameworks.



Matters relating to ECOSF’s annual budget and mandatory contributions by ratified Member States were discussed in a constructive manner. The President ECOSF highlighted the importance of timely financial contributions to ensure the effective implementation of approved programmes and expansion of regional scientific cooperation.

H.E Mr. Toir thanked the President ECOSF for the invitation. He appreciated the role of ECOSF in promoting Science, Technology, Innovation (STI) based activities in the region. He also shared that the Government of Tajikistan is prioritizing STI as a central focus in its national development agenda. A new Science Agency has been formed to achieve the sustainable development in the field of science and technology, he added. The Ambassador shared that Tajikistan has the world’s cheapest electricity due to abundant water resources. Taking this comparative advantage and the favourable environment, the Government of Tajikistan is building multiple large scale Data Centres. This will be a game changer, he affirmed.



Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening collaboration between ECOSF and the Republic of Tajikistan in the fields of science, technology, innovation, education, and sustainable development.

The visit reflects the shared resolve of ECOSF and Tajikistan to deepen institutional engagement and promote regional connectivity through science and innovation.

The President of the ECO Science Foundation participated in the book launch ceremony of the valuable work Iqbal’s Letters to Atiya Begum, a collection of correspondence between Allama Iqbal and Atiya Begum Faizi.

Thursday, February 12, 2026 - The ceremony was hosted by the Cultural Consulate of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Islamabad in collaboration with the ECO Cultural Institute.

This cultural event, aimed at deepening literary ties among regional nations and revisiting the intellectual heritage of Allama Iqbal Lahori, marked an important step toward strengthening regional cultural integration.



According to the ECO Cultural Institute’s Public Relations Office, a video message from Dr. Mohammad Hassan, President of the ECO Cultural Institute, was broadcast during the opening session. Emphasizing Allama Iqbal’s transnational significance, he stated:

“The collection of Iqbal’s letters is not merely a literary work but a strategic document for a deeper understanding of intellectual currents and human bonds across the ECO cultural landscape. Publishing such works in various regional languages is our primary mission in the path toward unified identity-building and cultural cohesion.”



The session continued in the presence of other senior ECO officials and distinguished academic figures, including Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation, and Mr. Majeed Meshki, Cultural Counselor of the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Islamabad.

In his address, Prof. Tayebi stated that Allama Iqbal regarded science as a sacred pursuit that complements faith and strengthens the human self (*Khudi*). He explained that Iqbal considered the study of nature a form of worship and believed that humanity, as God's vicegerent, must utilize knowledge and technology to understand, master, and transform the world responsibly.

He further elaborated that scientific observation reveals the signs of God, with science providing material power while religion offers moral and ethical guidance. He cautioned that science without spirituality leads to materialism and potential destruction, emphasizing the necessity of harmony between reason and revelation.



In the field of political economy, Prof. Tayebi noted that Iqbal linked economic justice with spiritual growth, rejecting both capitalism and atheistic communism and advocated for an Islamic economic system grounded in social justice, aimed at enabling the full development of the human self.

Speakers highlighted the unique role of personal correspondence in understanding the human dimensions of great personalities and stressed the importance of coordination between scientific and cultural institutions for the preservation and publication of such valuable works.

In the technical segment of the literary gathering, Dr. Muzaffar Ali Kashmiri (Book Translator) and Dr. Hakimeh Dastranji (Editor) discussed the research challenges and distinctive features of this edition. Renowned scholars, including Dr. Mehr Noor Mohammad Khan, Dr. Talib Hussain Sial, and Dr. Mohammad Qamar Iqbal, analyzed the content of the letters, describing the work as a new window into the private thoughts and lesser-known aspects of the Persian-speaking poet's personality.

The ceremony concluded with the official unveiling of the book and an appreciation ceremony honoring its contributors. It is noteworthy that this distinguished work has been published by the ECO Cultural Institute Publications.

President ECOSF Participated Women in Science: Leading the Future to commemorate the International Day of Women & Girls in Science as a Chief Guest

Monday, 16 February 2026 – The National Academy of Young Scientists (NAYS) Pakistan, in collaboration with the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), organized a special event titled “Women in Science: Leading the Future” to commemorate the International Day of Women & Girls in Science. The event was held on 16 February 2026 at the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Islamabad.



On behalf of ECOSF, the President of ECOSF participated as the Chief Guest of the event. At the beginning, Dr. Riffat Qureshi, Director of administration, PAS, delivered the welcome address, highlighting the significance of celebrating women’s achievements in science. Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig, Secretary General, PAS, introduced the Pakistan Academy of Sciences and emphasized the importance of the International Day of Women and Girls in Science.



The event featured insightful talks by distinguished speakers. Dr. Gulshan Irshad (PMAS UAAR) discussed empowering science students through CETEWA. Prof. Zartasha Mustansar (SINES, NUST) spoke on women as science leaders, while Dr. Zoya Khalid (COMSATS University Islamabad) presented on breaking barriers and leading the future of AI-driven life sciences. Dr. Kubra Mehmood, CEO of Planet Biolabs, emphasized empowering women scientists through entrepreneurship.



The Chief Guest, Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, addressed the audience, emphasizing gender inclusivity, leadership opportunities, and the need to strengthen support systems for women in STEM. Prof. Tayebi highlighted that the future of science—driven by advances in artificial intelligence, precision medicine, climate-resilient agriculture, clean energy, and digital transformation—demands the full participation of women. He called for stronger investment in STEM education for girls, expanded mentorship and leadership opportunities, and better links between research, innovation, and industry. Reaffirming the ECO Science Foundation’s commitment to regional collaboration and capacity building, he encouraged women and young girls to claim their leadership roles and help shape the future of Pakistan and the region, expressing hope for lasting and meaningful progress.



The ceremony concluded with souvenir distribution and a vote of thanks by Dr. Aftab Ahmad, President NAYS Pakistan. The event ended with a group photo session and refreshments, marking a successful and inspiring celebration of women’s leadership in science.

Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Secretariat Hosts President ECOSF as a Guest Speaker at Internship Graduation Ceremony

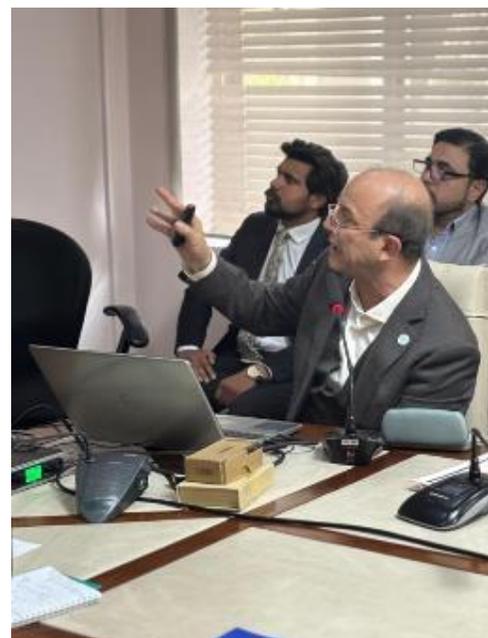
Tuesday, 24 February 2026 — The Federal Tax Ombudsman (FTO) Secretariat hosted Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), as a guest speaker at the concluding ceremony of its Internship Program at the FTO Secretariat. Mr. Almas Ali Jovindah (Advisor Legal) warmly welcomed Prof. Tayebi and introduced ECOSF’s regional mandate in promoting science, technology and innovation (STI). The ceremony was attended primarily by undergraduate law students from leading universities across Pakistan, reflecting the Secretariat’s expanding youth engagement and capacity-building framework.



In his keynote presentation titled “STEM Education as a Catalyst for Achieving the SDGs through 21st Century Skills,” Prof. Tayebi highlighted the critical role of STEM education and STI ecosystems in driving sustainable development—particularly for developing economies in the ECO region. He discussed global challenges such as population growth, resource pressures, and environmental degradation, and emphasized that achieving improved welfare requires strong political commitment, investment in quality education, robust STI infrastructure, and readiness for emerging technologies. He also showcased ECOSF’s initiatives as a regional catalyst for cooperation in STI, concluding with actionable recommendations focused on strengthening STEM and future skills, building innovation ecosystems, fostering regional collaboration, and leveraging digital technologies for inclusive growth.

Prof. Tayebi added STEM education directly correlates with job creation in various fields such as healthcare, information technology, and engineering. Additionally, STEM education creates indirect job opportunities by fostering entrepreneurship and innovation through activities such as startups and R&D.

The event concluded with a Certificate Distribution Ceremony, graced by the Hon’ble Federal Tax Ombudsman of Pakistan, Mr. Zafar Hijazi, who distributed certificates to graduating interns and commended their professionalism and active participation. In his remarks, Mr. Hijazi underscored the importance of youth engagement, institutional learning, and the role of young professionals in strengthening governance and accountability in Pakistan.





Prof. N. M. Butt Highlights Nanotechnology and AI Frontiers in the ECOSF Science Chronicles Webinar

Wednesday, February 25, 2026-The ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) hosted a webinar on its *Science Chronicles Webinar Series*, featuring Prof. N. M. Butt, S.I., who delivered an insightful lecture on **Nanotechnology and Emerging Trends, including its Interaction with Artificial Intelligence**.

Prof. Butt provided a comprehensive overview of nanotechnology’s expanding applications across diverse industries, underscoring its scientific, technological, and socioeconomic significance. He highlighted recent innovations, including the development of a bone repair paste and nanotechnology-based drills used in cardiology. He also discussed the integration of nanotechnology with artificial intelligence, emphasizing their mutual benefits in advancing material science while cautioning about responsible application in sensitive domains such as nuclear and air defense technologies.

A key highlight of the session was Prof. Butt’s reflection on the establishment of Pakistan’s first BS Nanotechnology degree program at Preston University in 2010, a pioneering initiative he helped launch. He elaborated on the multidisciplinary nature of nanotechnology education and its long-term national impact. Despite limited domestic industrial opportunities, the program has produced 65 graduates who have collectively secured 75 fully funded MS and PhD scholarships across 14 countries—an achievement shared during the webinar.





**Nanotechnology and Emerging Trends including
Interaction with Artificial Intelligence(AI).**
Dr.N.M.Butt, S.I
Ph.D.(Management),D.Sc.(Management)

Professor & Chairman ,
Preston Institute of Nano Science & Technology (PINSAT),
 Preston University, Islamabad.
(e-mail: nmbutt26@gmail.com, nmbutt@preston.edu.pk)

For presentation at:
The SCIENCE CHRONICLES WEBINAR SERIES.
Economic Cooperation Organization - Science Foundation (ECOSF).
 Islamabad, 25 February,2026.

Addressing research and industrial collaboration challenges in Pakistan, Prof. Butt noted the lack of advanced testing facilities and insufficient industry partnerships. He recounted past efforts to engage industries, including collaborative initiatives with Canadian partners and projects linked to environmental, tax-air, and sports sectors, while acknowledging that large-scale industrial adoption remains limited.

The interactive Q&A session emphasized the need for stronger government support, sustained scientific enthusiasm, and practical applications to advance nanotechnology. Participants proposed organizing a regional conference to foster collaboration among ECO member states.

In his concluding remarks, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, expressed deep appreciation for Prof. Butt's pioneering contributions to science and technology in Pakistan, particularly in nanotechnology. Prof. Tayebi also proposed hosting a regional conference in Islamabad, with Prof. Butt's guidance, to strengthen knowledge exchange and practical cooperation among ECO countries.

UNESCO and ECOSF Discuss Strengthening Strategic Collaboration

Wednesday, February 18, 2026- Mr. Fuad Pashayev, UNESCO Representative in Pakistan, accompanied by Mr. Raza Shah, National Professional Officer (Natural Sciences), visited the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) on February 18, 2026, for a high-level meeting aimed at reinforcing institutional cooperation.

The UNESCO delegation was warmly received by Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, and Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director ECOSF.

During the meeting, Prof. Tayebi highlighted the strong and longstanding partnership between ECOSF and UNESCO since the Foundation's inception. He emphasized ECOSF's continued commitment to advancing regional cooperation in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) across ECO member states.



The discussions focused on several key areas of potential collaboration, including:

- Revitalization and preservation of Karez water systems
- Engineering standardization and qualification frameworks program
- Climate Change Education
- Promotion of STEM Education across the region

Prof. Tayebi also expressed ECOSF's willingness to join the UNESCO UNITWIN Network on Structural Restoration and Disaster Risk Management of Architectural Heritage, hosted by the University of Isfahan, recognizing its importance for regional resilience and heritage conservation.

Mr. Pashayev appreciated ECOSF's continued efforts in promoting regional STI cooperation between Pakistan and other regional economies. He noted the strong alignment of objectives between UNESCO and ECOSF and emphasized the importance of further strengthening collaboration to maximize collective impact.

The meeting concluded with a shared understanding to enhance strategic cooperation and explore practical initiatives that contribute to sustainable development and knowledge exchange in the region.

Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF Visits COMSATS for Meeting with Executive Director Dr. Mohammad Nafees Zakaria

Tuesday 17 Feb. 2026 – Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of the Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF), visited the COMSATS Secretariat. He was warmly received by Ambassador Dr. Mohammad Nafees Zakaria, Executive Director of COMSATS, along with Dr. Mehwish Qayyum Durani, Additional Director (Coordinator for International Organizations) and Head of CCCS. During the meeting, they discussed the joint plans of collaboration in 2026 and reaffirmed the two IGOs' commitment to strengthening cooperation among their common member countries, with a focus on advancing e-learning and digitalization to accelerate science-led education, energy issues, climate change and sustainable development.



PAS and ECOSF Commit to Strengthening Regional Cooperation Among Academies of Sciences in the ECO Region

Friday, February 13, 2025- The Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) and the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing regional scientific cooperation among the Academies of Sciences of the ECO region during a recent high-level meeting at ECOSF.



Prof. Dr. Aslam Baig, Secretary General of PAS, accompanied by Dr. Riffat Mahmood Qureshi, director Admin PAS, visited ECOSF on February 13, 2025. Delegates were warmly received by Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF.

The meeting focused on enhancing collaboration between PAS and ECOSF, including discussions on the renewal of cooperation between the Pakistan Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Sciences of Iran. Both sides emphasized the importance of revitalizing academic linkages and promoting scientific exchange within the ECO region.

Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi Attends Reception of Honouring New HEC Chairperson Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar

Tuesday, 17 February 2026- A grand reception was held at the Islamabad Club to honour the newly appointed Chairperson of the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar on 17 February 2026.

The event drew ambassadors, diplomatic representatives, university vice-chancellors, and heads of academic institutions from across Pakistan, highlighting the growing international engagement of the country’s higher education sector. On behalf of ECOSF, Prof. Dr. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President of ECOSF, attended the event.

Addressing the gathering, Chairperson HEC Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, emphasized the need for effective collaboration with global partners to uplift Pakistan’s higher education system in line with international standards. He



reiterated his resolve to introduce transformative reforms and promote innovation driven by Artificial Intelligence (AI) across universities, pledging to equip Pakistani institutions with facilities that meet global benchmarks.



Ensuring the quality of higher education, he stated, would remain his foremost priority. He underscored the importance of strengthening faculty development, improving infrastructure, and enhancing research capacity in universities across the country.

The Chairperson also expressed gratitude to various countries for offering scholarships to Pakistani students, terming such cooperation vital for expanding academic opportunities and global exposure.

In a short meeting with Prof. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, Professor Tayebi, President ECOSF, assured the deep cooperation between ECOSF and HEC in strengthening scientific collaboration in the ECO region.

Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

Science Chronicles Webinar Invitation: Nanotechnology, AI, and the Next Industrial Revolution – February 25, 2026

We are pleased to invite you to a webinar organized by the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) as part of the Science Chronicles Webinar Series. This session will explore the cutting-edge developments in nanotechnology and its critical interaction with Artificial Intelligence

Webinar Details

Topic: Nanotechnology and Emerging Trends including Interaction with Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Date: Wednesday, February 25, 2026 & **Time:** 11:00 GMT +5 (Islamabad Time)

Speaker: Prof. Dr. N. M. Butt, S.I. Professor Chairman, Preston Institute of Nano Science and Technology (PINSAT), Distinguished Physicist and Nanotechnology Pioneer

In this webinar, Dr. Noor M. Butt will discuss how nanotechnology—the manipulation of materials at the nanoscale (1 to 100 nm)—is sparking a new industrial revolution. Key discussion points include:

Zoom link:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81228761341?pwd=0lslNlJmX7ZCaKWyz5a48jUHU0PPt.1>

Meeting ID: 812 2876 1341
 Passcode: 872878

DR. N. M. BUTT, S.I.
 Ph.D (Birmingham), D.Sc (Birmingham)
 Professor and Chairman
 Preston Institute of Nano Science and Technology
 (PINSAT), Preston University, Islamabad.

- The impact of nanotechnology on medicine, energy, defense, and climate change.
- The interdependent nexus between Nanotechnology and AI.
- A look toward the future transition from Nanotechnology into “Pico-technology”.
- Insights into Pakistan’s multidisciplinary BS-Nano degree program at PINSAT.

How to Join:

You can join the session directly via Zoom using the credentials below:

Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81228761341?pwd=0lslNlJtnX77CaKWvz5a48JUHU0PPt.1>

Meeting ID: 812 2876 1341

Passcode: 872878

We look forward to your participation in what promises to be a highly insightful discussion on the technologies dominating our future.

International Conference on Life Sciences for Resilient Systems and Sustainable Futures (LS-RSF 2026)

The Kauser Abdulla Malik School of Life Sciences is organizing the International Conference on Life Sciences for Resilient Systems and Sustainable Futures (LS-RSF 2026), to be held from 21–23 April 2026 at Forman Christian College University, Lahore, Pakistan. This conference is envisioned as a global platform to foster meaningful dialogue, promote interdisciplinary research, and showcase innovative scientific contributions. It will bring together national and international experts to exchange knowledge, explore emerging trends, and develop actionable strategies for sustainable development.

LS-RSF 2026 aims to strengthen research networks, empower young scientists, and highlight practical applications of life sciences aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). By integrating science, policy, and practice, the conference seeks to generate impactful solutions that enhance resilience across natural and human systems. For more details, please visit this official announcement at: <https://ecosf.org/ls-rsf-2026/>

