

Concept Note

Regional Webinar on Sustainable Transport and Electric Mobility in the ECO Region

Proposed Date: 28 September 2026

11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Baku Time / 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM Pakistan Time

Organizers: ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), Islamabad, Pakistan and ECO Clean Energy Center (CECECO), Baku, Azerbaijan

Format: Virtual – Zoom

Duration: 90 minutes

1. Background and Rationale

Transport is fundamental to economic growth, trade and regional connectivity across the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) region. At the same time, rising mobility demand, dependence on petroleum fuels, urban air pollution and increasing greenhouse gas emissions make the transition towards sustainable transport an important regional priority.

The scale of the challenge is significant. **Climate Watch data indicate that the ten ECO Member Countries generated approximately 366 million tonnes of CO₂ from domestic transport in 2023.** Iran accounted for around **148 MtCO₂**, Türkiye **97 MtCO₂**, Pakistan **44 MtCO₂**, and Kazakhstan about **30 MtCO₂**. Together, these four countries represent approximately **87% of the ECO region's transport-related CO₂ emissions**. Overall, the ECO region accounts for approximately **4.4% of global transport CO₂ emissions**.¹

This emissions footprint underscores both the urgency and opportunity for transport decarbonisation. **Electric mobility is emerging as one of the most practical pathways** to reduce petroleum dependence and transport emissions while improving urban air quality and creating opportunities for closer integration between the transport, electricity and renewable-energy sectors.

ECO Member Countries are at different stages of this transition, but national climate commitments increasingly reflect the importance of electric and low-carbon mobility. For example, **Pakistan's NDC targets a 30% shift to electric passenger vehicles and a 50% shift to electric two/three-wheelers and buses by 2030.**² **Azerbaijan's NDC 3.0 targets 500 electric buses in 2025 and 1,100 by 2026,** alongside expansion of charging infrastructure and incentives for electric vehicles.³ **Kyrgyzstan reports 6,859 electric vehicles already deployed, representing 63.5% of its 2025 target of 10,800 vehicles.**⁴

These developments demonstrate growing momentum but also highlight common challenges relating to charging infrastructure, electricity-grid readiness, technical standards, financing, policy design and market development. The diversity of experience across ECO Member Countries creates a strong basis for regional knowledge exchange, enabling countries to learn from one another and identify opportunities for coordinated action.

Against this background, the ECO Clean Energy Center (CECECO) and ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) are jointly organizing this webinar on **“Sustainable Transport and Electric Mobility in the ECO Region.”** The webinar will bring together policymakers, experts and practitioners to examine emerging trends, national experiences and practical pathways for accelerating sustainable mobility across the region.

2. Objectives

The webinar aims to:

- highlight the scale and significance of transport emissions and petroleum dependence in the ECO region;

¹ Climate Watch (2026), Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Sector, processed by Our World in Data.

² Pakistan's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), submitted to the UNFCCC.

³ Azerbaijan's Nationally Determined Contribution 3.0 (NDC 3.0), submitted to the UNFCCC.

⁴ Kyrgyzstan's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), submitted to the UNFCCC.

- share experiences and emerging good practices in sustainable transport and electric mobility across ECO Member Countries;
- examine enabling policies, charging infrastructure, technical standards, grid integration and investment requirements for EV deployment;
- explore the role of clean and renewable energy in supporting transport electrification; and
- identify opportunities for regional cooperation, knowledge exchange and capacity building among ECO Member Countries.

3. Tentative Programme

Time (PKT, GMT+5)	Session	Speaker
12:00 – 12:05	<i>Welcome Remarks and Regional Perspective</i>	Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi President, ECO Science Foundation, Pakistan
12:05 – 12:10	<i>Regional Clean Energy Perspective</i>	Ms. Aysel Yagubova Executive Director, ECO Clean Energy Center (CECECO), Azerbaijan
12:10 – 12:15	Remarks	Representative, ECO Secretariat, Iran
12:15 – 12:30	<i>Policies for the Electrification of Road Transport: A Global Perspective</i>	Mr. Jinlei Feng Programme Officer, Policy Advice International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), UAE
12:30 – 12:45	<i>Scaling Up Electric Vehicle Adoption in the ECO Region: A Regional Perspective</i>	Prof. Madjid Abbaspour Professor, Energy & Environment Group, Sharif University of Technology, Iran
12:45 – 12:55	<i>ECOSF Overview: Decarbonizing Road Transport in the ECO Region: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities</i>	Mr. Khalil Raza Program Manager – Energy & Climate, ECO Science Foundation, Pakistan
12:55 – 01:10	<i>Discussion and Q&A</i>	
01:10 – 01:15	<i>Closing</i>	

4. Target Participants

The webinar will target representatives of ECO Member Countries, particularly agencies responsible for transport, energy, environment and industry, as well as regulators, electricity utilities, universities and research institutions, development partners, automobile manufacturers, EV and charging-infrastructure companies, and other private-sector stakeholders.

5. Expected Outcomes

The webinar will facilitate exchange of national experiences and practical lessons concerning EV policy, infrastructure, standards, energy-system integration and investment.
