Webinar Series on Science, Ethics and Innovation

Advancing Science Diplomacy and South-South Cooperation under the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development (2024–2033)

Webinar 3: Science and Scientific Researchers

24 November 2026
10.00am Pakistan time
Register Via Online MS Teams Link

Lead Organization: UNESCO Office in Pakistan

Partners: Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) and ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF)

Science and scientific research are essential to sustainable development, public well-being and evidence-informed decision-making. For science to benefit society, researchers need enabling environments that uphold scientific freedom and responsibility, research integrity, inclusion and meaningful engagement between science, policy and society.

UNESCO's Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers (2017) provides an international framework for strengthening science systems with human well-being, inclusion and human rights at their centre. It promotes scientific freedom and responsibility, equitable participation, appropriate working conditions, research integrity and international scientific cooperation.

As the third session of the Webinar Series on Science, Ethics and Innovation, this webinar will promote dialogue on strengthening research environments and scientific careers while encouraging international cooperation, knowledge exchange and South-South collaboration.

Introduction
The webinar will increase awareness of UNESCO's Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers and explore how Member States and institutions can strengthen responsible, inclusive and enabling research environments. Policymakers, researchers, universities and scientific institutions from the COMSATS and ECO regions will connect UNESCO's global framework with regional experiences and opportunities for cooperation.

Objectives

The webinar aims to:

- Increase awareness of UNESCO's Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers.
- Promote dialogue on scientific freedom and responsibility, research integrity and enabling research environments.
- Share experiences on inclusive scientific careers, international cooperation and stronger science-policy linkages.
- Strengthen institutional partnerships, science diplomacy and South-South cooperation.

Expected Outcomes

The webinar is expected to:

- Improved understanding of UNESCO's framework for science and scientific researchers.
- Enhanced exchange of experiences on research environments, scientific responsibility and inclusion.
- Identification of opportunities for institutional cooperation, capacity development and researcher exchange.

Key Themes

The webinar will focus on:

- UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers
- Scientific freedom, responsibility and research integrity
- Enabling conditions and careers for researchers
- Inclusion and equitable participation in science
- Science-policy interfaces and public trust
- International scientific cooperation and researcher mobility

Target Participants

- Government ministries responsible for science, technology and higher education
- National science and technology councils and academies
- Universities, research institutions and centres of excellence
- UNESCO Chairs and Category 1 and 2 Centres
- Scientists, researchers, research managers and policymakers
- Early-career researchers and graduate students
- Development partners and UN agencies

Format

- **Mode:** Virtual (Microsoft Teams)
- **Duration:** 90 minutes
- **Working Language:** English

24 November 2026

Time	Session	Speaker
09:50 – 10:00	Logging on	Participants
10:00 – 10:05	Context Setting / Introduction	Mr. Khalil Raza, Program Manager, ECO Science Foundation
10:05 – 10:10	Welcome Remarks	Mr. Fuad Pashayev, Representative of UNESCO in Pakistan
10:10 – 10:15	Remarks	Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President, ECO Science Foundation
10:15 – 10:20	Video on UNESCO's Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers	UNESCO
10:20 – 10:35	Building Global Scientific Partnerships: International Cooperation, South-South Collaboration and Science Diplomacy	Prof. Zeinab Osman, Professor of Biocomposites, National Center for Research (NCR), Sudan
10:35 – 10:50	Beyond the Paper: Mission-Driven Research for National Impact	Dr. Mohamed-Slim Alouini, UNESCO Chair on Education to Connect the Unconnected, King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), Saudia Arabia
10:50 – 11:05	Scientific Research and Development in OIC Member Countries	Mr. Muzamil Edema, Researcher, Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC), Turkey
11:05 – 11:20	Scientific Research and Ethical Responsibility	Dr. Max Paoli, Programme Coordinator, The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS), Italy
11:20 – 11:35	Questions and Answers	Participants
11:35 – 11:40	Vote of Thanks	ECO Science Foundation

Regional Dimension and South-South Cooperation

The webinar will leverage UNESCO's normative leadership and the regional networks of COMSATS and ECOSF to exchange experiences on enabling research environments, scientific responsibility and international cooperation. It will foster partnerships among governments, universities and research institutions and promote researcher exchange, capacity development and South-South cooperation under the International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development.

Guidance to Join Webinar

- Register for the participation in the webinar in advance (See the link on the first page).
- Log in to the webinar at least 5–10 minutes early to resolve any last-minute technical issues and ensure a punctual start.
- Familiarize yourself with the platform's features. Please note that all participants' microphone will be muted. The moderator will take comments and questions via Q&A box.
- Ensure your device and internet connection are functioning properly before the session begins.
- Use external speakers for better audio.
- Respect speakers and participants by maintaining a professional and focused environment.
- Keep questions and feedback relevant to the topics being discussed.

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