

ECOSF NEWSLETTER



President of ECO Educational Institute Visited the Secretariat of ECOSF and held meeting with President ECOSF

Prof. Mehmet Akif Kirecci, President of ECO Educational Institute visited the Secretariat of ECOSF on January 11, 2025. He was cordially welcomed by Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, at the Secretariat.

During the visit, a meeting was held by both the leaders in which Engr. Khalil Raza, Programme Manager ECOSF and Mr. Ghulam Abbas Rahar, Manager (Administration) ECOSF also attended.

Prof. Kirecci thanked the President ECOSF for the welcome. He briefly highlighted the progress and achievements of the Institute. He also presented the progress of his Institute through different research and publications. He shared that the Institute has put lots of efforts to gather and compile the material for the books, covering different topics such as Connectivity and Common Legacies, a Handbook for Preschool Teachers, Education Thinkers in Türkiye, a Pioneering Model of Elderly Education and others.



President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi praised the achievements and contributions of ECOEI especially of the President of ECOEI towards promotion of education among ECO member countries through the publications. He also shared progress and programmes of ECOSF with Prof. Kirecci. He said that education and science are the pillars for the prosperity of the societies, thus, it is imperative for the both the organizations to collaborate closely to achieve common goals. Taking this opportunity, Prof. Tayebi mentioned that the ECOSF is going to organize an international conference in the month of April this year (2025) in Islamabad wherein, renowned scientists/experts are being invited. He invited ECOEI to join as partner/sponsor of the conference. Prof. Tayebi also

invited Prof. Kirecci to participate to the online ECOSF Session of the 12th International Conference on e-Learning and e-Teaching (ICeLeT 2025) to be held in Kerman, Iran on February 25-27 2025.



Prof. Kirecci thanked the President ECOSF for inviting to join hands with the Foundation for different events. He positively responded and requested for the detailed information in this context.

The meeting was ended pleasantly.

The Ambassador of Northern Cyprus Paid her maiden Visit to ECOSF Secretariat



Ms. Dilşad Şenol, the Ambassador of Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) paid her maiden Visit to ECOSF Secretariat in Islamabad on January 30, 2025. She was warmly received by President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi. During the visit, a meeting between Ms. Senol and Prof. Tayebi was held at ECOSF which was also attended by Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon, Executive Director and Mr. Ghulam Abbas, Manager (Administration) ECOSF.



During the discussion, Ambassador Şenol provided an overview of her country and highlighted its diverse society and emphasized that the country's economy operates on a free-market system, primarily driven by the services sector, including public services, trade, tourism, and education. She also underscored the high standards of education in TRNC, which attracts international students from over 160 countries, including a significant number from ECO member states such as Pakistan and Iran.

Ambassador Şenol further mentioned that TRNC holds observer status in organizations like the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), and the Organization of Turkic States (OTS). She expressed interest in exploring the possibility of TRNC becoming an observer at ECOSF and showed enthusiasm for engaging with ECOSF in various collaborative activities.

Prof. Tayebi thanked Ambassador Şenol for her visit and for sharing insights about her country. He provided a brief introduction to ECOSF, explaining that since its establishment in December 2011 and the formal initiation of activities in June 2013, the Foundation has organized numerous scientific programs, including capacity-building workshops, seminars, symposiums, meetings, and study visits across its member states. He also highlighted ECOSF's strong collaborations with international, regional, and national organizations, which have facilitated the engagement of the ECO region's scientific community in global initiatives.

Additionally, Prof. Tayebi elaborated on ECOSF's work in various fields such as STEAM education, climate change, water science, and engineering qualifications. He extended an invitation to TRNC to collaborate with ECOSF in these areas and participate in the upcoming Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) scheduled for April 2025 in Islamabad. He also encouraged TRNC's involvement in BRISEC activities, such as Teenager Maker Camps and Workshops. Furthermore, he welcomed the prospect of TRNC submitting a formal request to obtain observer status at ECOSF.

Ms. Dilşad Şenol greatly thanked President ECOSF for the positive response to engage TRNC in ECOSF activities.

The meeting ended with the exchange of souvenirs/shields and vote of thanks.

President ECOSF Called Upon the New Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic in Islamabad

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF called upon the new Ambassador of Kyrgyz Republic to Pakistan H.E. Mr. Avazbek Atakhanov on January 20, 2025 at the Kyrgyz Embassy in Islamabad. The President was accompanied by the Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon Executive Director and Mr. Ghulam Abbas Rahar, Manager (Administration). The Ambassador cordially welcomed the delegation at the Embassy.



During the visit, a meeting was held to discuss the matters pertaining to ECOSF, Kyrgyzstan and ECO region. In the meeting, President ECOSF said that ECOSF is a specialized agency of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and intergovernmental organization of ten countries of Asia, Eurasia and Central Asia i.e., Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, he added. Prof. Tayebi told the Ambassador that the Charter of ECOSF was signed by all ten member countries including Kyrgyz Republic in March 1995 but five members viz., Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan have ratified and other members including Kyrgyzstan would ratify the Charter and its Additional Protocol of the Foundation. Taking the opportunity, President ECOSF requested the Ambassador to help and support for ratification of ECOSF Charter and its Additional Protocol by the Government of Kyrgyzstan. The ratification of the Charter will enable Kyrgyzstan to nominate its President for ECOSF and many other benefits can also be availed.

Prof. Tayebi said that since its establishment in December 2011, the Foundation has been working to promote and support Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) based activities in the Member Countries. So far, a huge number of seminars, workshops, trainings, meetings, expos, etc. have been organized wherein, the scientists, researchers, teachers, students, policy makers and many others from ECO region including Kyrgyzstan have been trained/exposed on SETI, which is the integral part of any country for the sustainable development. He emphasized that ECO countries should invest more in SETI to achieve the sustainable development swiftly to compete with the world. Making strong scientific base, it is required to train the youth of ECO region, thus, realizing the importance of the youth, ECOSF is imparting training to the science teachers of ECO region to teach the STEM through Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) methodology of France. Prof. Tayebi shared with the Ambassador that ECOSF

has planned to organize “ECONEX Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI)” from 15-16 April 2025 in Islamabad in which the Ministers responsible for Science and Technology from ECO Countries will be invited to attend. Thus, he requested the support of the Ambassador for participation of the Kyrgyz Minister.

Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon highlighted that despite financial challenges, ECOSF has consistently supported member countries, including Kyrgyzstan, by encouraging their participation in scientific events. He noted that with increased financial contributions from member states, the Foundation could undertake even more initiatives for regional benefit.

Ambassador Atakhanov acknowledged the valuable role of ECOSF and expressed his appreciation for its initiatives. He assured his support for advancing the ratification of the ECOSF Charter and its Additional Protocol. The Ambassador also expressed strong interest in the upcoming ECONEX conference and pledged his assistance to ensure Kyrgyzstan's participation. Furthermore, he encouraged ECOSF to establish more frequent communication with the Kyrgyz Ministry of Education and Science to foster collaboration on ongoing and future programs.

The Ambassador graciously accepted an invitation from Prof. Tayebi to visit the ECOSF Secretariat, underscoring his commitment to enhancing cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and ECOSF.

The Meeting was ended with vote of Thanks.

HEC and ECOSF Strengthen Ties to Boost Regional Collaboration in Higher Education and Innovation in the ECO region

Islamabad, Pakistan – President of the Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF), Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, met with Chairman of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan, Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, at the HEC headquarters on January 30, 2025. The meeting focused on enhancing collaboration between HEC and ECO member countries in the fields of human capital development and higher education.



The discussions underscored the importance of strengthening partnerships to advance Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) across the ECO region. Prof. Tayebi extended an invitation to Prof. Ahmed to join as a key partner in ECOSF's upcoming International Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation: Catalysts for Regional Connectivity and Sustainable Development in the ECO Region (ECONEX), scheduled to take place on April 15–16, 2025, in Islamabad, Pakistan.

ECONEX aims to bring together policymakers, industry leaders, scholars, and researchers to engage in meaningful dialogue and develop actionable policy recommendations. The event will focus on bolstering the STI ecosystem in the Global South, with an emphasis on fostering regional connectivity and sustainable development.

Prof. Mukhtar Ahmed emphasized the critical role of collaboration in these areas for the economic and regional development of Pakistan and the broader ECO region. He assured HEC's full support as a key partner and offered to host the ECONEX at the HEC headquarters.

Prof. Tayebi expressed his gratitude for HEC's continued support and cooperation, highlighting the importance of this partnership in achieving ECOSF's mission of promoting science and technology for sustainable development.

ECOSF and COMSTECH Explore Collaboration for Upcoming ECONEX 2025 Conference

Islamabad, Pakistan –President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi held a meeting with Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary, Coordinator General of COMSTECH (the OIC's Ministerial Standing Committee on Scientific and Technological Cooperation) on January 16, 2025. The meeting was held at the COMSTECH headquarters, aimed to explore potential support for ECOSF's upcoming International Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation: Catalysts for Regional Connectivity and Sustainable Development in the ECO Region (ECONEX), scheduled for April 15–16, 2025, in Islamabad.



The discussions focused on strengthening collaboration between ECOSF and COMSTECH to advance science, technology, and innovation (STI) across the ECO and OIC regions. Prof. Tayebi highlighted the conference's objectives, which include fostering dialogue among policymakers, industry leaders, and researchers to develop actionable policy recommendations for enhancing the STI ecosystem in the Global South.

Prof. Dr. M. Iqbal Choudhary expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative and assured COMSTECH's support in making ECONEX 2025 a success. He emphasized the importance of such platforms in promoting regional connectivity and sustainable development through science and technology.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Ahmed Sirohey, Director General for Africa at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan, and Mr. Khalil Raza, Programs Manager at ECOSF. Their presence underscored the significance of the conference in fostering international and regional partnerships.

ECOSF and Health Services Academy to Co-Lead Session on Enhancing Regional Collaboration in Public Health Policy at ECONEX 2025

President of the Economic Cooperation Organization Science Foundation (ECOSF), Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, met with the Vice Chancellor of the Health Services Academy (HSA), Prof. Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan, at the HSA on January 31, 2025.



The meeting focused on collaboration for the upcoming International Conference on Science, Technology, and Innovation: Catalysts for Regional Connectivity and Sustainable Development in the ECO Region (ECONEX), where HSA will co-lead a session titled Enhancing Regional Collaboration in Public Health Policy in the ECO Region.

The session aims to address critical challenges in public health by fostering dialogue among policymakers, healthcare professionals, and researchers. It will focus on strengthening regional collaboration to improve healthcare systems, enhance accessibility, and leverage innovation in public health policy across the ECO region.

Prof. Tayebi emphasized the importance of integrating science, technology, and innovation into public health strategies to achieve sustainable development goals. He also invited the HSA participation to the 6th International Congress on Mobile Health, which will be held in Shiraz, Iran, during February 18-20, 2025. Professor Tayebi added ECOSF is a co-organizer of this event.

Prof. Dr. Shahzad Ali Khan reaffirmed HSA's commitment to advancing public health policy through evidence-based research and regional cooperation. As part of this collaboration, Prof. Shahzad Ali Khan added HSA can organize a dedicated session on healthcare during the conference, addressing key regional health challenges and opportunities for innovation. This initiative will foster scientific collaboration, policy dialogues, and sustainable healthcare solutions in ECO Member Countries. He also said it is possible for HSA to attend virtually the Mobile Health Congress and deliver the relevant presentations.

The meeting was also attended by Mr. Khalil Raza, Programs Manager at ECOSF, Dr. Tariq Mehmood Ali, Dean of HSA, and Dr. Shahid Baig, Dean of HSA.

VC QUEST and VC Skills University Khairpur called upon President ECOSF

Prof. Dr. Saleem Raza, Vice Chancellor Quaid-e-Awan University of Engineering, Science and Technology (QUEST) Nawabshah - Sindh and Prof. Dr. Rasool Bux Mahar, Vice Chancellor of Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University of Technology and Skill Development, Khairpur - Sindh called upon President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi on January 16, 2025 at ECOSF Secretariat, Islamabad. Both the dignitaries were well received by the President ECOSF.

Prof. Saleem Raza briefly introduced his university and said that in 1996, QUEST was established as a public sector university and is accredited with the Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) and is the member of Association of Commonwealth Universities. Presently, it consists of the departments of Electrical Engineering, Computer Systems Engineering, Information Technology and Computer Science. He further said that the University is serving the people of interior Sindh province of Pakistan by imparting quality education of engineering, science and technology at the affordable costs. Prof. Rasool Bux Mahar also talked about his university which is providing technical education and skill development.



President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi thanked Prof. Raza and Prof. Mahar for the introduction of their universities and appreciated the role of the university for providing engineering and S&T education to the local youth. Prof. Tayebi also introduced ECOSF and that it is a specialized agency of Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO) and intergovernmental organization of ten regional countries. He also said that since its inception in June 2013, the Foundation has been serving the scientific community of ECO region. He further said in small span of time, the Foundation has developed close collaboration with international, regional and national organizations which provides opportunity to the Foundation to enhance capacity building of the people of the region and facilitate the scientific community and organizations/institutes to establish collaboration in various scientific fields.

Both VCs praised the role of the Foundation and shown keen interest to collaborate with the Foundation for different scientific programmes which was welcomed by the President ECOSF.

The meeting was ended with vote of thanks.

ECOSF contributed to the 2nd International Muallem Prize hosted by Borhan Public Foundation, Iran

The closing ceremony of the 2nd International Muallem Prize was held on 27th of January 2025, the eve of the Prophet's Ascension, attended by Alireza Kazemi, Iran Minister of Education, along with selected nominees, officials, educators, and media representatives. Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF, also attended virtually. The Minister of Education described this decision as a reflection of the vision and wisdom of an enlightened teachers. **Among the five winners of the prize, Mr. Abdul Rauf, CEO Pakistan Science Club who was nominated by the ECOSF.** Mr. Abdul Rauf, founder and CEO of the Pakistan Science Club, has been a strong proponent of STEM-based activities, making learning interactive and engaging through various initiatives. The Pakistan Science Club and ECOSF have been longstanding partners in promoting STEM education among young children and school-level students. Mr. Rauf was selected as one of the top five finalists for the prestigious Muallim Prize, recognizing his tremendous contributions to science communication and education



The Muallem Prize is an international, non-governmental award presented annually by the Borhan Public Foundation in Iran, in collaboration with the Iran Ministry of Education, and with the support of sponsors and benefactors including ECOSF. This award is dedicated to recognizing teachers and educators who have made outstanding contributions in education, training, or social impact.



The funding for the Muallem Prize—including cash prizes, event expenses, and promotional activities—is provided through public contributions, sponsors, and benefactors who are committed to preserving and enhancing cultural standards in the country and the broader Islamic community, either through financial support or cultural endowments.

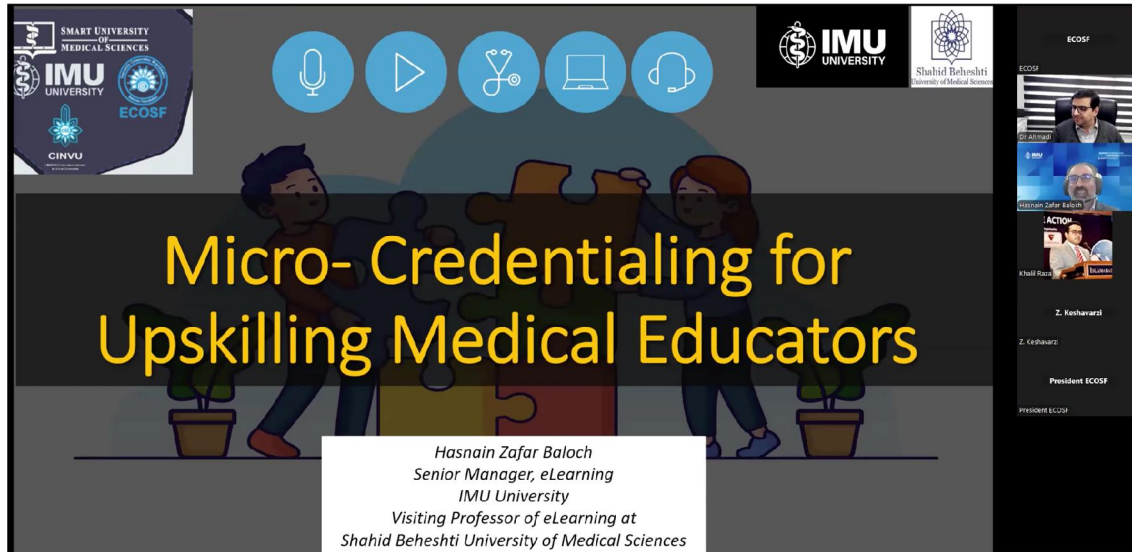
ECOSF and Smart University of Medical Science Host Webinar on Micro-Credentialing for Medical Educators

Islamabad, January 18, 2025 – The ECOSF in collaboration with Iran’s Smart University of Medical Science, successfully hosted an insightful webinar titled "Micro-Credentialing for Upscaling Medical Educators" on Saturday, January 18. The event attracted participants from across the region.

The webinar featured Mr. Hasnain Zafar, Senior Manager and eLearning Module Coordinator at the International Medical University, Malaysia, as the guest scholar. Mr. Zafar shared his expertise and insights on the growing importance of micro-credentialing in enhancing the skills and competencies of medical educators, emphasizing its role in adapting to the evolving demands of medical education.

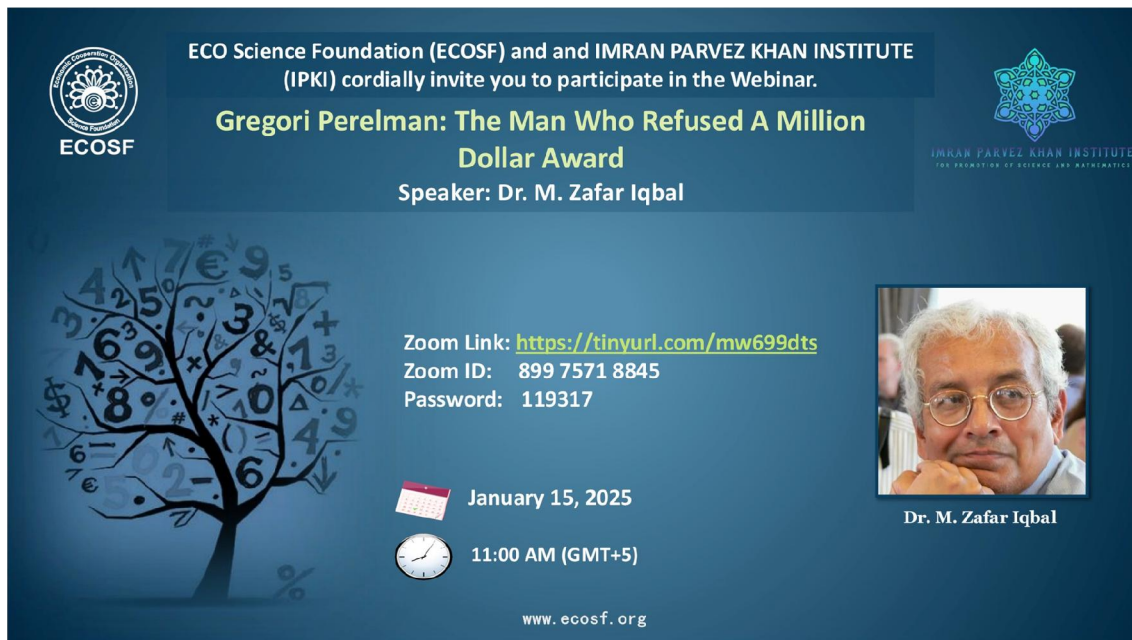
The session was moderated by Dr. Seyed Ahmad Ahmadi, who facilitated an engaging discussion and Q&A segment, where participants interacted into the practical applications of micro-credentialing.

Recorded webinar is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a4ephUTb5yA>



ECOSF and IPKI Institute Host Webinar on Popularizing Mathematics and Science

Islamabad, January 15, 2025 – The ECO Science Foundation in collaboration with the IPKI Institute, organized an engaging and enlightening webinar titled "Popularizing Mathematics and Science" on January 15. The event featured a talk by Prof. Dr. M. Zafar Iqbal, Professor Emeritus at the Department of Physics, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad.



Prof. Iqbal delivered a lecture entitled “Grigori Perelman: The Man Who Refused a Million Dollar Award,” shedding light on the extraordinary contributions of the Russian mathematician Grigori Perelman. Perelman, known for his groundbreaking work in geometry and topology, was awarded the prestigious Fields Medal in 2006 for his revolutionary insights into the Ricci flow. However, he famously declined the award, stating, "I'm not interested in money or fame; I don't want to be on display like an animal in a zoo."

During the talk, Prof. Iqbal highlighted the monumental impact of Perelman’s work on the field of mathematics, particularly in topology, and discussed the broader implications of his discoveries. The session aimed to inspire a deeper appreciation for mathematics and its role in advancing scientific knowledge.

Recorded webinar is available at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cD7sQs1H6PM>

Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

Invitation to Participate in One-Day Workshop

The UNESCO Chair on Knowledge Systems for Integrated Water resources Management (IWRM), CUI Wah Campus is pleased to invite you to participate in a One-Day Workshop on Advanced Geographic Information Systems (GIS), scheduled for February 27, 2025 (Thursday) at CUI Wah Campus.

This hands-on workshop is designed to enhance participants' skills in spatial data analysis and advanced GIS techniques. It will provide valuable exposure to cutting-edge GIS technologies, focusing on practical applications in environmental analysis and hydrology. The workshop aims to empower youth, academicians and professionals from various industries to better understand and utilize geospatial tools.

To register for the workshop, kindly fill out the registration form at the following link <https://wa.cuiwah.edu.pk/alias/AGIS>. The session will offer interactive learning opportunities that will significantly enhance your understanding and application of advanced GIS technologies.

The last date to register is February 20, 2025. We would greatly appreciate your participation.

Courtesy: CUI Wah Campus

COMSATS UNIVERSITY ISLAMABAD
UNESCO Chair on Knowledge Systems for Integrated Water Resources Management
COMSATS University Islamabad (CUI), Wah Cantt, Pakistan

unesco
Chair

One day workshop on Advanced GIS
Dr. Summera Fahmi Khan

Join us for a comprehensive workshop on *Advanced GIS* where we delve into cutting-edge GIS tools and techniques. This workshop will provide both theoretical knowledge and hands-on experience, empowering you to enhance your geospatial skills for practical applications, particularly in environmental analysis and hydrology.

Workshop Agenda

- **Recap of GIS Fundamentals:** Understand spatial data types, coordinate systems, and their foundational concepts.
- **Introduction to Advanced GIS Tools:** Explore and demo key GIS tools and interfaces, expanding your technical toolkit.
- **Hands-on Demonstration:** Gain practical experience by applying GIS tools in real-world scenarios, with a focus on environmental and hydrological analysis.

Registration Link: <https://wa.cuiwah.edu.pk/alias/AGIS>

Registration Deadline
FEBRUARY 20, 2025

February 27, 2025
10 AM - 01 PM

Lab - 9
CUI, Wah Campus

UNESCO Chair on Knowledge Systems for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), COMSATS University Islamabad, Wah Campus

Contact Information:
uwc@cuiwah.edu.pk
+92 51 9314382-83

28th National & Regional Conference on Climate Change, Resilience & Sustainable Development!

Be part of engaging discussions and research contribution on climate change, resilience, and sustainable development during 28th National & Regional Conference on Climate Change, Resilience & Sustainable Development. Selected papers will be submitted to Iranian & International ISI Journals for publication after a quick review!

18th Green Development Festival & National/Regional Competition of Painting and Photography

This festival is held in different ages as follows: Children, teenagers, and adults

- Submit your artwork or photography by February 18, 2025.
- Selected works will be showcased in a special exhibition during the conference.
- Final winners will be honored and celebrated!

Key Deadlines:

- Submitting Articles: February 3, 2025
- Submitting Art/Photography Works: February 18, 2025
- Participate in the Festival: February 3, 2025

Don't miss this opportunity to contribute to a greener future, showcase your creativity, and connect with experts and enthusiasts from around the region!

For more details, please visit: <https://www.irsen.org>



28th National & Regional Conference on Climate Change, Resilience & Sustainable Development
 International, Regional & National approaches
 Feb. 25-26, 2025
 Organized by: Iranian Society of Environmentalists (IRSEN)

Paper Presentation Topics

Climate Change and global approaches	Climate Change and its impacts on the environment
Climate Change and regional approaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Human environment ✓ Natural environment (forests) ✓ Marine environment ✓ Wildlife ✓ Water resources
Climate Change and national approach	Climate Change and Emerging Technologies
Climate change and the role of governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Renewable Energy ✓ Energy storage (including the Hydrogen role) ✓ Technologies to reduce energy consumption ✓ Technologies to reduce water consumption
The role of green economy on sustainable development and resilience on the Climate Change	The role of education and culturalization on sustainable development and resilience on the Climate Change
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environmental accounting ✓ Creating employment opportunities ✓ Expansion of economic interactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Environmental education ✓ Culturalization in improving the quality of the environment ✓ The role of local communities in environmental protection

The selected papers by conference scientific committee will be submitted to Iranian & International Scientific ISI Journals published by IRSEN for publication after a quick review by editorial teams



18th Green Development Festival and the National & Regional Competition of Painting and Photography
 This festival is held in different ages as follows:
 1- Children and teenagers 2- Young people and adults

How to send works:

- 1- The name, age and signature of the artist should be included on the submitted drawing, sketch or photo.
- 2- Full details, contact number and email should be legibly inserted behind the works.
- 3- Works should be sent in A4 size or larger.

Selected works are exposed to visitors in the side exhibition of the conference.
 Final winners will be honored.
 Note: Submissions will be stored in the forum archive and will not be returned.

Submitting works	Submitting articles	Participate in the festival
Feb. 18, 2025	Feb. 03, 2025	Feb. 03, 2025



Conference Secretariat:
 Iranian Society of Environmentalists (IRSEN)
 Phone: +982166085183, +989190079775
 website: www.irsen.org, email: irsen@irsen.org