



# ECOSF NEWSLETTER

## Exploring Collaborative Opportunities and Strengthening Science and Technology Cooperation between ECOSF and MoIT

President ECOSF, Prof. Tayebi, accompanied by Mrs. Tayebi and Ms. Dr. Miray Başaran, held a productive meeting with Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN, General Director of European Union and Foreign Affairs at the Ministry of Industry and Technology (MoIT) in Ankara, Türkiye on May 2nd, 2023. The meeting aimed to discuss potential cooperation between ECOSF and MoIT as well as explore areas of collaboration in Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI).

General Director Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN provided an overview of the Ministry and its related organizations, while President Prof. Tayebi introduced ECOSF and its mandates, highlighting the importance of Türkiye's knowledge and experience sharing within the ECO region.

Both sides acknowledged the successful projects and communication between Türkiye and ECO member countries. Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN mentioned the similarities between the "Maker Lab" project conducted by MoIT and the Inquiry-Based Science Education (IBSE) project by ECOSF.

Furthermore, Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN proposed organizing a webinar between Small and Medium Enterprises Development Organization of Türkiye (KOSGEB) and ECOSF, as well as between the Directorate General for Development Agencies of MoIT and ECOSF, to initiate collaboration in areas such as SMEs and smart regions. President Prof. Tayebi welcomed these suggestions.

Moreover, Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN informed the delegation about the support provided by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TUBITAK) in academia. Ms. Miray BAŞARAN discussed the plans for an AI Center in Istanbul and emphasized the importance of Istanbul in the project. Ms. BAŞARAN proposed cooperation between ECOSF, Istanbul Technical University, Yıldız Technical University, and Istanbul Technopark.

Besides, Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN suggested cooperation between ECOSF and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry (MEXT) in the field of consultancy for digital transformation. Ms. BAŞARAN expressed that if the project proves successful, it could be implemented in other ECO member countries as well.

Prof. Tayebi also highlighted the importance of the upcoming ECO Trade and Technology Expo and Conferences (TTEC) event to be held in Islamabad, Pakistan, in February 2024. The event aims to bring together entrepreneurs, investors, and academics to foster startup-founder and investor meetings, as well as conduct fairs and workshops.

In the end, Prof. Tayebi emphasized Türkiye's significance as one of the founding members of ECO and sought strong support for the ratification of the ECOSF Charter by Türkiye. Ms. Hande MERÇAN AYGEN assured those consultations had taken place with relevant authorities, including TUBITAK, and expressed hope for progress in the near future.





The meeting between President ECOSF and the MoIT delegation concluded a positive outlook for potential cooperation in various fields. Both sides recognized the importance of knowledge sharing and joint projects to advance science, technology, and innovation within the ECO region. The suggestions for webinars, academic collaboration, digital transformation consultancy, and participation in the TTEC event demonstrated a shared commitment to promoting collaborative initiatives for the benefit of Türkiye and the ECO member countries.

**President ECOSF met with President ECOEI in Ankara, Türkiye for enhancing mutual collaboration.**

President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, and President ECO Educational Institute (ECOEI), Prof. Mehmet Akif Kirecci, held a productive meeting on May 1st in Ankara, Türkiye. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways to strengthen cooperation between the two specialized agencies in terms of research, education, and scientific activities within the ECO region.

Following Key Points were discussed by both sides:

1. **Strengthening Cooperation:** Both sides emphasized the importance of enhancing collaboration between ECOSF and ECOEI. They discussed potential joint projects and initiatives that would contribute to the development of the ECO region.
2. **Participation in 4th BOT Meeting:** ECOSF expressed its interest in participating in the upcoming 4th BOT Meeting of ECOEI scheduled for August 2023. The meeting would provide an opportunity for ECOSF to engage with key stakeholders and exchange knowledge and expertise.
3. **Charter Ratification:** ECOSF sought assistance from the Turkish government in ratifying its Charter. The presidents discussed the necessary steps and procedures to facilitate the ratification process.
4. **Invitation to ECOEI:** ECOSF extended an invitation to ECOEI to participate in the ECO Technology and Trade Expo and Conferences (TTEC) scheduled to take place in Isambard in February 2024. The event would serve as a platform to showcase technological advancements and promote trade within the ECO region.
5. **Financial Contributions:** Both parties acknowledged the challenges associated with financial contributions from ratifying member states. They discussed strategies to encourage timely and proper payments to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of their organizations.







The meeting between President ECOSF and President ECOEI concluded on a positive note, with a shared commitment to strengthen collaboration between the two organizations. They agreed to work closely together to implement the discussed initiatives and address the challenges in order to promote scientific and educational development within the ECO region.

**President ECOSF called upon Deputy Minister for Economic Diplomacy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I.R of Iran.**

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, President ECOSF visited Iran Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and met Dr. Mehdi Safari, Deputy Minister for Economic Diplomacy, MFA, in Tehran on May 09, 2023. Dr. Seyed Jalaedin Alavi Sabzevari, Director General, International Organizations Affairs at MFA and Mr. Tahmasebi Mr. Abulqhasem Tahmasebi, Director for ECO and Multilateral Economic Cooperation, MFA, attended the meeting.



President ECOSF mentioned in this meeting the formulation of the strategic plan of Eco Science Foundation and some of the current and future activities of the foundation in scientific, research and academic fields. President ECOSF also appreciated the support of two important member countries of the foundation, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In this meeting, Dr. Mehdi Safari, Deputy Minister of Economic Diplomacy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, pointed out the importance of multilateral economic organizations such as ECO for the Islamic Republic of Iran and emphasized some important areas of cooperation between ECO member countries, including in the field of nano and bio technologies. He also asked the

President ECOSF to pursue exchange of professors and students and strengthen research in knowledge-based fields in the ECO region.

Prof. Tayebi explained the current challenges of non-payment of Iran's contribution which has caused many problems in implementing plans and projects. The Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs reiterated the support of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the ECOSF and declared its readiness to help solve the foundation's problems.



**President ECOSF called upon Acting Minister for International Affairs and Head of International Scientific Cooperation Center, Ministry of Science, Research and Technology, I.R. of Iran.**

President ECOSF Professor Syed Komail Tayebi called upon Prof. Dr. Vahid Haddadi Asl, the Acting Minister for International Affairs and Head of International Scientific Cooperation Center at Iran Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT), Tehran on May 09, 2023, to seek the progress of Iran's financial issues and related arrears. Prof. Haddadi Asl mentioned his efforts in this respect and will provide the ECOSF with the progress report. Prof. Tayebi also briefed the progress of TTEC to Prof. Haddadi Asl and invited the MSRT for contribution and support.



Additionally, President ECOSF called upon Dr. Mehdi Piri, Advisor to the Vice President Law (Legal Assistance) of Iran to pursue the progress and seek the support of Vice Presidency (Legal Assistance) of Iran on mandatory budgetary contribution and the related arrears to the ECOSF by the Islamic Republic of Iran and to further strengthen the understanding and cooperation between the ECOSF and Iranian institutions. Dr. Piri emphasized his entire efforts to resolve the financial issues.



**President ECOSF Explores Collaborative Opportunities with Jamili Foundation**

Tehran, May 08, 2023 - President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, paid a visit to the Jamili Foundation, where he had a productive meeting with Dr. Shadi Jamili, Director of YSF (Young Scientists Festival) Permanent Secretariat, and her team. The meeting aimed to strengthen collaborations and explore partnership opportunities between ECOSF and the Jamili Foundation.



Building on their existing cooperation, the discussions revolved around several key areas. Both sides emphasized the importance of enhancing their collaboration through joint programs that would promote scientific advancement and knowledge exchange within the ECO region. Furthermore, the President of ECOSF expressed support for the YSF, underscoring the significance of nurturing and empowering young scientific talent. The Jamili Foundation's involvement in the YSF was viewed as a valuable opportunity to inspire and engage the next generation of scientists.

In addition, the two organizations discussed the potential for joint collaboration with other international organizations, particularly with the Belt and Road Initiative Science, Technology, and Innovation Cooperation Committee (BRISECC). This strategic partnership would foster greater regional cooperation and leverage the collective expertise of participating countries.

The Jamili Foundation also expressed their intent to participate in the upcoming ECO Trade and Technology Expo and Conferences (TTEC) and extend their support to the event. This collaborative effort would further enhance the TTEC's success in promoting technological innovation, entrepreneurship, and trade within the ECO region.

**President ECOSF met with leadership of Mustafa Science and Technology and Pardis Technology Park Iran.**

President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi visited Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) and met with Dr. Seyed Ali Omrani, Executive Director, Mustafa Science and Technology and Dr. Amin Reza Khaleghian Director General of International Affairs & PR at Pardis Technology Park (PTP) in Tehran on May 08 2023.



Both sides talked about contributing and facilitating the ways to strengthen their mutual cooperation to enhance scientific and technological affairs specially in the ECO region based on STEP events such as workshops, seminars, virtual programs and young scientific fellowship program. Prof. Tayebi also invited PTP and MSTF to participate hopefully and actively to TTEC.

**President ECOSF and President University of Tehran met in Terhan to enhance regional scientific collaboration in the ECO region.**

Prof. Tayebi, President ECOSF visited University of Tehran (UT) and met Prof. Seyed Mohammad Moghimi, the UT President, at his office on May 09, 2023. Prof. Mostafa Razavi, Dean Caspian Campus of UT attended the meeting as well.



Prof. Moghimi welcomed warmly the ECOSF President and emphasized bilateral collaboration between University of Tehran and ECO Science Foundation, as scientific and technological partnership is considered as a strategic target to the University of Tehran.

In this meeting, Prof. Tayebi briefed objectives and programs of ECOSF and welcomed a robust partnership with University of Tehran so that both sides would be able to reinforce bilateral cooperation in joint research, education and scientific activities in the ECO region. President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi Invited University of Tehran to participate to TTEC in Islamabad in coming February 2024. Then, the President of University of Tehran confirmed the university contribution to the TTEC. The followings were concluded by the meeting:

- Prof. Mostafa Razavi, Dean Caspian Campus, was appointed as the UT focal point.
- Two hybrid conferences on STI and tourism will be held jointly at the Caspian Campus and other related UT institutions, respectively, in the near future.
- ECOSF will facilitate partnership between University of Tehran and other selected universities and scientific centers in the ECO region.
- Both sides share a plan of professors and students’ mobility in the region.
- Technology Park of UT will participate actively in ECO TTEC.





**President ECOSF paid a visit to the ECO Art Gallery**

On the invitation of Ms. Lida Saidi, the founder of the ECO ART Gallery, the President of ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi visited the ECO ART Gallery located in Tehran's Ferdowsi Square on May 7, 2023. The gallery showcases a collection of handicrafts from various ECO member countries, including Pakistan, Türkiye, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, and Iran. The visit provided an opportunity for President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi to appreciate the cultural richness and artistic diversity of the ECO region as expressed through the displayed handicrafts. The ECO ART Gallery stands as a testament to the shared heritage and creativity of the ECO member countries, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation of their artistic traditions.



**ECOSF participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> Sheikh Bahai Technopreneurship Festival hosted by ISTT.**

On May 11, 2023, President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi participated in the 17<sup>th</sup> Sheikh Bahai Technopreneurship Festival (SHTF) at Isfahan, hosted by Isfahan Science and Technology Park (ISTT). This festival aimed to identify the country's unknown entrepreneurial and innovative minds working in different fields of science and technology and to introduce them to eager investors looking for a new project to back. The festival included a variety of programs such as: An exhibition introducing the latest achievements of technology companies, a B2B matchmaking event, a training workshop on Global Success Beyond Hard Skills, and a panel discussion on "Business Growth Strategic Challenges".

During his visit of the festival, Prof. Tayebi met Prof. Ghasem Moslehi the President of Isfahan Science and Technology Town (ISTT) and other festival officials to invite their contribution and collaborations to the ECO Trade and Technology Expo and Conferences (TTEC), which will be held by the ECOSF in coming February 2024. Both sides also discussed broader cooperation regarding the current MOU signed previously.



**Virtual Meeting between ECOSF and University of Tehran Science and Technology Park (UTSTP) Strengthens Collaboration Efforts**

President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi engaged in a virtual meeting with Professor Ali Asadi, President of University of Tehran Science and Technology Park (UTSTP) on May 27, 2023, along with esteemed participants, including Prof. Iraj Allahdadi, Vice President of UTSTP, and Prof. Mostafa Razavi, Dean Caspian Campus, University of Tehran.

The meeting served as a platform for both parties to exchange introductions and explore areas of collaboration. Prof. Tayebi provided a brief overview of ECOSF's mission and initiatives, while Prof. Asadi highlighted the establishment and goals of UTSTP.

Key discussions revolved around UTSTP's contribution to the upcoming ECO Trade and Technology Expo and Conferences (TTEC). The UTSTP expressed their willingness to participate but requested more detailed information regarding the participation conditions.

Furthermore, UTSTP expressed their eagerness to collaborate with relevant counterparts in the ECO region, emphasizing the importance of fostering university-industry collaborations for technology-based economic development and knowledge advancement.

Established in 2006, UTSTP plays a pivotal role in promoting sustainable development by facilitating knowledge and technology transfer between universities and companies. It fosters a supportive environment that encourages innovation, creativity, and quality, while also nurturing entrepreneurship among students and faculty members.

The virtual meeting between ECOSF and UTSTP served as a significant step towards strengthening collaboration efforts and advancing scientific and technological development within the ECO region. The discussions laid the foundation for future partnerships, knowledge exchange, and the realization of mutually beneficial projects and initiatives.



**ECOSF Explores Collaborative Opportunities with PAF-IAST for Scientific Advancement in the ECO Region**

On May 25, 2023, a delegation from the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) visited the Pakistan Pak-Austria Fachhochschule Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology (PAF-IAST) in Haripur. The purpose of the visit was to explore potential collaborations and exchange academic and scientific knowledge between ECOSF and PAF-IAST. The ECOSF delegation was headed by President ECOSF Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, including Executive Director Dr. Ghulam Muhammad Memon and Programme Manager Engr. Khalil Raza. PAF-IAST leadership, Dr. Muhammad Mujahid, Rector, and Dr. Nasir Khan, Project Director, warmly welcomed the ECOSF delegation.





Dr. Muhammad Mujahid delivered a comprehensive briefing on PAF-IAST's academic and scientific capabilities during the meeting. The focus was on PAF-IAST's efforts to skill young individuals in emerging technologies and entrepreneurship. Dr. Mujahid highlighted the institute's state-of-the-art facilities, advanced research programs, and the emphasis on practical and industry-relevant education. President ECOSF Prof. Tayebi expressed great interest in PAF-IAST's initiatives and acknowledged the importance of equipping youth with the necessary skills for the evolving job market.

Both sides engaged in fruitful discussions regarding potential collaborations with other member countries of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO). The ECOSF delegation expressed their eagerness to foster academic and scientific partnerships, facilitating the exchange of knowledge and expertise within the ECO region. Specific areas of collaboration, such as joint research projects, faculty and student exchanges, and sharing best practices, were discussed. Prof. Tayebi and Dr. Memon both commended PAF-IAST's commitment to innovation and expressed their intention to support and facilitate collaborative initiatives.

Following the meeting, PAF-IAST arranged a comprehensive campus tour for the ECOSF delegation. The tour showcased the institute's modern infrastructure, including, High Performance Computing, Data Centers, laboratories, research centers, and business incubation facilities. The delegation had the opportunity to interact with faculty members, researchers, and students, gaining valuable insights into the practical application of academic and scientific pursuits at PAF-IAST. The visit strengthened the relationship between ECOSF and PAF-IAST, setting the stage for future joint endeavors that will contribute to the advancement of science, technology, and innovation within the ECO region.



**President ECOSF Engages in Virtual Meeting with University of Tehran and Iranian Association of Chemical Engineering**

President ECOSF, Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi, participated in a virtual meeting on May 27, 2023 with Prof. Mostafa Razavi, Dean of Caspian Campus, University of Tehran (UT), Prof. Vahid Taghikhani, Chairman of the Iranian Association of Chemical Engineering (IACHe), and Dr. Hamed Mousavi, Vice-Dean of Caspian Campus, University of Tehran.

Key discussions focused on the IACHe's contribution to the upcoming ECO Trade and Technology Expo and Conferences (TTEC), wherein they expressed their commitment to invite and support relevant knowledge-based companies and scientific/research institutions.

Furthermore, the meeting marked an important milestone as plans were unveiled for a joint conference on renewable energy and sustainable development. The collaboration between ECOSF, IACHe, and UT would culminate in a hybrid conference to be held at UT's Caspian Campus in the near future.



The Iranian Association of Chemical Engineering (IACHe), established in 1992, serves as a platform to enhance technical knowledge, foster industry-university connections, provide career guidance, and promote entrepreneurship within the field of chemical engineering.

The virtual meeting between ECOSF, UT, and IACHe showcased the dedication and collaboration among stakeholders to advance scientific and technological development in Iran and the ECO region. The discussions paved the way for future initiatives and partnerships, fostering knowledge exchange and promoting sustainable development practices in the field of renewable energy.



## Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

### Virtual Workshop on: Artificial Intelligence and e-Learning in Engineering Courses

The ECO Science Foundation in collaboration with University of Isfahan is hosting a Virtual Workshop on: "Artificial Intelligence and e-Learning in Engineering Courses" on June 6, 2023.

**Date and Time:** Tuesday June 06, 2023 (16/03/1402), 8:00-10:00 am (Iranian local time, GMT +3:30)

#### Speakers:

- Prof. Dr. Hamid Reza Marateb, University of Isfahan, Iran
- Engr. Jalil Raza, Pak-Austria Fachhochschule: Institute of Applied Sciences and Technology (PAF-IAST), Pakistan

#### Topics:

- Artificial Intelligence Innovations in Online Learning
- The impact of artificial intelligence on learner–instructor interaction in online learning
- Learning analytics.
- Transforming Education: Harnessing the Potential of AI-enabled Smart Classroom Solutions

Join us in the Workshop on  
**"Artificial Intelligence and e-Learning in Engineering Courses"**  
 Venue: Council Hall, Faculty of Engineering, University of Isfahan  
 Tuesday June 06, 2023 (16/03/1402), 8:00-10:00 am (Iranian local time, GMT+3:30)  
 Meeting Link: [meet.google.com/jcd-rost-gli](https://meet.google.com/jcd-rost-gli)

**Dr. Hamid Reza Marateb**, University of Isfahan, Iran  
 • Artificial Intelligence Innovations in Online Learning  
 • The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Learner–Instructor Interaction in Online Learning  
 • Learning Analytics

**Engr. Jalil Raza**, Pakistan-Austria Fachhochschule-Institute of Applied Sciences & Technology (PAF-IAST) Pakistan  
 • Transforming Education: Harnessing the Potential of AI-Enabled Smart Classroom Solutions

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### ECO Technology and Trade Expo and Conference (TTEC)

The ECO Science Foundation plans to organize the Technology and Trade Expo and Conference (TTEC) in Islamabad in February 2024 to provide a platform for businesses, technology companies, organizations, and governments from the Member Countries to showcase their latest technologies, products, and services.

TTEC would essentially provide a platform for businesses, technology companies, organizations from the Member Countries to showcase their latest technologies, products, and services. ECOSF aims to host this conference and expo as its one its flagship and regular programmes to provide an opportunity for the Member Countries to explore new trade opportunities and strengthen existing partnerships. The would provide a forum for government officials, industry leaders, and experts to discuss and exchange ideas on how to promote sustainable economic growth and regional integration in the ECO region.

ECO Technology and Trade Expo and Conference (TTEC)

Economic Cooperation Organization  
 Science Foundation (ECOSF)

Islamabad, Pakistan  
 February 23-25, 2024



TTEC will cover a wide range of themes related to science and technology and trade as listed below:

- Clean Energy, Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development
- Healthcare and Biotech
- Agri-Tech and Water Resource Efficiency
- Digital transformation and innovation (ICT, IoT, AI and Big Data)
- Regional integration and trade
- Entrepreneurship and SME development
- Education and human capital development (Universities, Research Organizations)
- Science and Technology

**Please join us and become a partner, sponsor, and collaborator on the Technology and Trade Expo and Conference (TTEC).**

For more information, [click here](#)