



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



ECOSF team congratulates Prof. Manzoor Soomro on winning the prestigious Chinese Government Friendship Award in recognition of great efforts in culture, education, S&T as well as the contributions in the economic and social development.

BTBU-ECOSF 3rd Joint Training Program - Digital Transformation for the Belt and Road (B&R) Countries

BTBU-ECOSF Joint Training Center with the support of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) organized the 3rd joint Training Program on Digital Transformation for the Belt and Road (B&R) Countries on October 11, 2021. This training was hybrid event where participants in Beijing joined the workshop onsite at BTBU campus, while rest of the participants joined virtually through Zoom. The training attracted participation of over 80 participants from 20 countries, particularly from the ECO Member Countries. This training workshop was moderated by Dr. Di Yuna, Head of the BTBU-ECOSF Joint Training Center and Engr. Khalil Raza Scientific Officer – ECOSF. Renowned experts and market leaders in digital technologies participated as resource persons. The intended outcome of this training was to support policy development facilitating digital transformation, creating relevant knowledge and building capacities in emerging technologies in the BRI countries.



Training Theme

The Chinese President Xi Jinping in his speech at the Belt and Road Forum (BRF) for International Cooperation in May 2017, pointed out; “we should be dedicated to the establishment of the 21st century ‘Digital Silk Road’ by adhering to innovation-driven development, strengthening cooperation in the frontier areas such as digital economy, AI, nanotechnology and quantum computers, and promoting the development of big data, cloud computing and smart cities”. The "Digital Silk Road" initiative has promoted the interconnection of countries worldwide and provided momentum for sustainable development in the world.

Countries around the world also wish to learn from China's experience in digital economy development and look forward to cooperating with China to promote their own digital development transformation. Given that, the Joint Training Centre organized this international training program themed as “Digital Transformation for B&R countries”, with the aim to share China’s practices in digital technology application in agriculture, tourism and business for experts, scholars and enterprises from the Belt and Road countries.

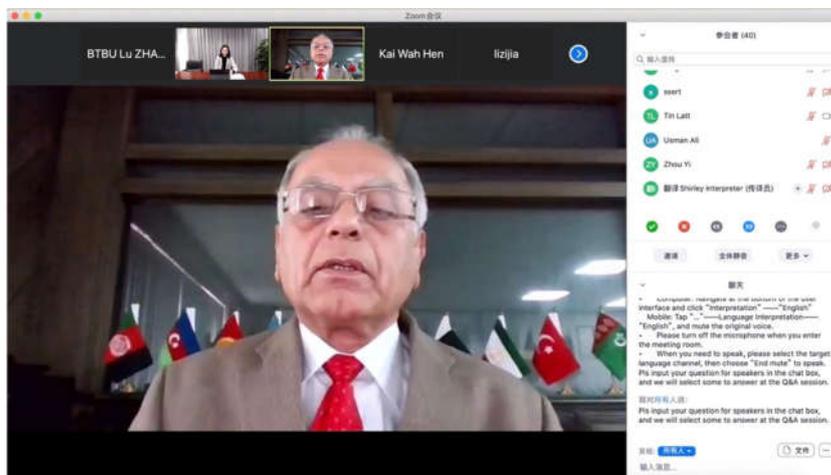
Digital Transformation

Digital transformation is the process of adapting existing practices to new digital methods to increase efficiency and keep up with rapidly changing market demands. This means integrating new technologies—big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, machine learning, the Internet of Things—into every area of the conventional business.

It’s imperative to not just implement new technology for the sake of innovation, but to fundamentally change the culture and increase operational efficiency by using agile digital and modern business tools and techniques. This training on Digital Transformation provided an overview of digital tools that benefit everyone at government, business and individual level.

Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro, President

ECOSF in his welcome remarks emphasized that Science, Engineering, Technology and Innovation (SETI) play a critical role in providing policy instruments that are essential to develop strong base of countries. Developing economies need these digital tools at their disposal as they move towards greater economic productivity and opportunity. Prof. Soomro underscored that BRI of China commits to foster the industrial development with strong technical cooperation in many fields, including sustainable energy, infrastructure development, emerging technologies, and smart cities or transport etc. To achieve these massive goals, it requires a robust commitment to support science and engineering, including the capacity building and human resource development, Prof. Soomro remarked.

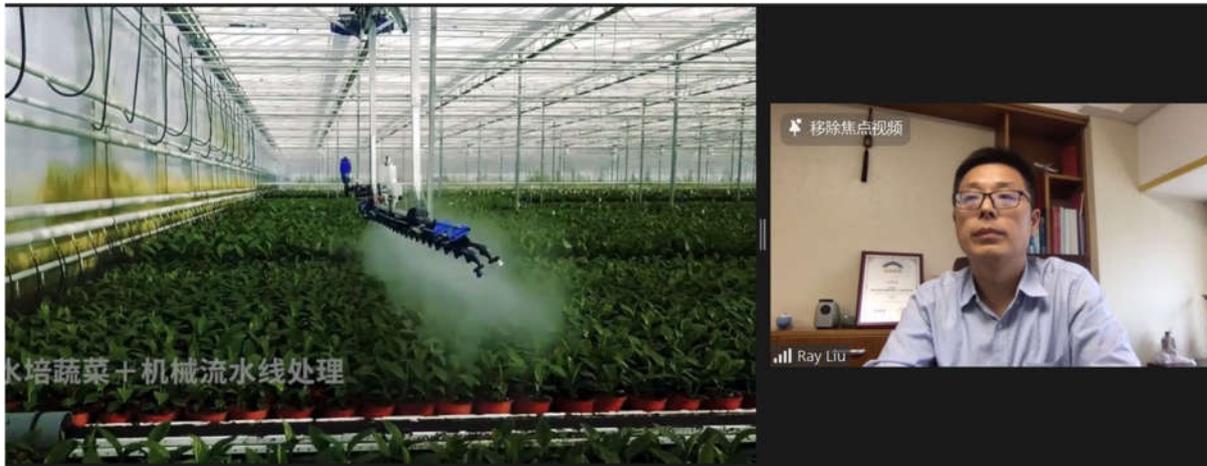


Prof. Soomro further elucidated that “BRI offers a tremendous potential to spur a new era of trade, economic and industrial growth for countries in Asia and beyond. In order to maximize the benefits of BRI, the participating countries require to develop adequate technological workforce and engage in an alliance for promotion of cross-border cooperation in the Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) sectors”, Prof. Soomro highlighted.

The training workshop addressed three focused areas of digital transformation:

- (a) Smart Agriculture
- (b) Digital Tourism and
- (c) E-commerce and platform economy

Mr. Zhenlei LIU, General Manager, Shanghai Idatasky Information Technology Co., Ltd.; Dean, CP-WELLWAY Institute of Smart Agriculture underscored that technology is advancing faster than we could have ever imagined. Across industries, new tools are being developed and released each day to boost efficiency, improve safety, increase profits and create innovative ways to communicate, navigate, conduct business and simply get the job done. Agriculture, one of the world's oldest and most respected professions, is among those constantly experiencing change.



Mr. Liu highlighted that digitization, Internet of Things (IoT) and sustainability – are three fundamental megatrends that are guiding many economic sectors and there is a growing interest for integrating digital and smart technologies in the agriculture sector. "Smart agriculture" is an emerging concept that refers to managing farms using technologies like IoT, robotics, drones and AI to increase the quantity and quality of products while optimizing the human labor required by production.

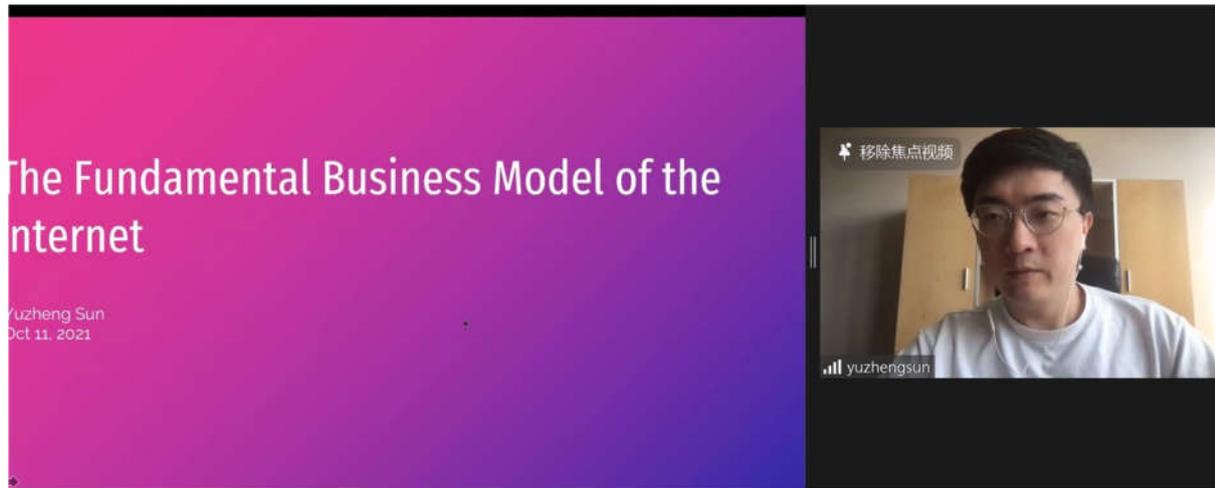
Among the technologies available for present-day farmers are:

- Sensors: soil, water, light, humidity, temperature management
- Software: specialized software solutions that target specific farm types or Applications agnostic IoT platforms
- Connectivity: cellular, Wifi, etc.
- Location: GPS, Satellite, etc.
- Robotics: Autonomous tractors, robots, drones, processing facilities, etc.
- Data analytics: standalone analytics solutions, data pipelines for downstream solutions, etc.

Expert underscored that IoT can add value to all areas of farming, from growing crops to forestry. Precision agriculture is one of the most emerging applications of digital agriculture, which is an umbrella concept for IoT-based approaches that make farming more controlled and accurate. In simple words, plants and cattle get precisely the treatment they need, determined by machines with superhuman accuracy. The biggest difference from the traditional approach is that precision farming allows decisions to be made per square meter or even per plant/animal rather than for a field. By precisely measuring variations within a field, farmers can boost the effectiveness of pesticides and fertilizers, or use them selectively.

Mr. Yuzheng SUN Associate Director of Data Science, Interactive Entertainment Department, Tencent gave his talk on the Fundamental Business Model of the Internet. Mr. Sun gave a detailed outline of business models by predominant internet business, including Google, Facebook and Instagram etc. Mr. Sun stressed that The Internet has changed so many aspects of day-to-day life, and it has changed the means and ways the business are run. He further elaborated on the internet businesses, including Google or Facebook, he said these internet giants are primarily digital advertising companies. He exemplified that much of the revenue of Google comes from advertising domain via its search engine and its AdSense program, which places ads on millions of websites.

While in the case of Facebook, it makes money predominantly by showing ads from advertisers within its Facebook and Instagram apps. The Facebook business model is based on offering its tools and services mostly for free to billions of users and



then making money by allowing businesses to show Facebook's users advertising. Advertisers pay the price to Facebook that is determined in an auction, based on demand and supply.

That means that people who use Facebook services (users) are not the ones paying Facebook for it. Real customers are primarily small businesses advertising on some of Facebook's family of apps. Facebook's focus on small businesses became an even more apparent part of the Facebook strategy as it introduced the first version of its e-commerce tools called Facebook Shops.

Pro. Nao LI, Professor, School of International Economics and Management, BTBU delivered her lecture on Smart Tourism. Prof. Li elucidated that China has introduced several initiatives to support transportation and promote digital technologies to ensure the travel and leisure industries keep pace with changing consumer trends and advances in technology. Smart tourism has become increasingly popular in China. Smart tourism intends to utilize modern technology and adjust the tourism service model to meet the growing demand for detailed travel services and products. Prof. Li emphasized that smart tourism provides a support system to tourists within the context of information services and an all-encompassing technology.

With smart tourism ecosystem, key stakeholders make use of digital technologies to improve tourists' experiences for wide ranging applications, from smart hotels offering check-in via mobile devices to real-time collection of tourist data for tailoring personalized hotel or sightseeing services.

Prof. Li compared the characteristics of both traditional tourist information services and those incorporated in smart tourism. For the Chinese tourism market, smart tourism represents a new direction implying a significant influence on tourist destinations, enterprises, and tourists.

Prof. Li further shared that Chinese smart tourism is a government-oriented and centralized system that involves integration of multiple resources and departments, e.g., transport, technology, and hotels etc. Hence, the government has the greatest advantage to mobilize those resources. Based on above reasons, government plays important roles in constructing smart tourism system, which concretely manifests as guider and coordinator.

Prof. Yimin ZOU Associate Professor, School of Economics and Trade, Zhejiang Normal University presented his lecture on E-commerce. Prof. Zou underlined that digital commerce and economy is thriving because of its convenience enabling easier connectivity between sellers and buyers. This opens the way for radical changes in how businesses carry their work, socialize, create value in the economy, and compete for the resulting profits. E-commerce has completely changed the retail market, with shoppers foregoing a trip to the high street in favour of buying what they need from their computer or phone. It has also opened the market for local businesses, with the likes of small boutiques now being able to export to an international market if they wish to do so. As a matter of fact, some businesses now choose to exist solely online, avoiding the costs of rent and retail staff.

Prof. Dr. Dandan Xu Vice President, Beijing Technological and Business University (BTBU) gave his closing remarks towards the end of training workshop. Prof. Xu concluded that transformative powers of digital technology will be at the heart of sustainable economic growth in the Belt and Road region. Dr. Xu assured Chinese institutions, including BTBU are committed to infusing digital best practices into current and new programs to foster the opportunities and imperatives of inclusive digital transformation.

The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize in Science and Technology-2021, 4th Award Ceremony held in Tehran, Iran

The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize, established in 2012, is a top science and technology award granted biennially to the top researchers and scientists of the Islamic world in four categories: “Life and Medical Science and Technology”, “Nanoscience and Nanotechnology”, “Information and Communication Science and Technology”, and “All areas of science and technology”. The Prize is granted to works deemed to have improved the human life, made tangible and cutting-edge innovations on the boundaries of science, or presented new scientific methodology.

The laureates in each category are awarded USD 500,000/- which is financed through the endowments made to the Prize. The laureates are also adorned with a special Medal and a certificate. The Mustafa Prize laureates are invited to lecture around the Islamic World and partake in Science and Technology Exchange Programme (STEP) for interaction with S&T communities.

The 1st Grand Award ceremony was held in 2015 and the 4th biennial award ceremony was held in the infamous Wahdat Hall Tehran (Iran) on 21 October 2021, wherein five scientists were awarded the prize. The ceremony was also live streamed online and many joined virtually.

Engr. Mahdi Saffarinia, the CEO of the Mustafa^(PBUH) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) and the President of PARDIS Technology Park opened the event with his welcome speech. He warmly welcomed the scientists, scholars and S&T policy makers who attended this round of Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize Award Ceremony from around the world.



Engr. Mahdi Saffarinia CEO of MSTF welcoming the guests

Dr. Sorena Sattari, the Vice President of Iran for Science and Technology and the head of Mustafa (PBUH) Prize Policy-making Council, in his speech at the ceremony said; “I hope the Mustafa (PBUH) Prize brings opportunities for more friendship in the near future.” He appreciated the idea of the Muslim unity week saying that unity in the Islamic society is very important to cope with challenges.

He talked about the representatives of Islamic society during the golden age of Islam. He named Rumi, Omar Khayyam, Avicenna, Al-Farabi, Muhammad ibn Musa al-Khwarizmi, and Ibn al-Haytham as the luminary figures of that era. He said that these figures were luminaries of science and culture in their era and they were beyond borders. As Prophet Muhammad^(PBUH)

said, the scientists are heirs of prophets, he continued. Hence, today Islamic society can provide innovation and development according to their commonalities in having Holy Quran, religion, and Prophet Muhammad^(PBUH), he added. He appreciated a friendly relationship set up between Muslim countries based on science and technology.

According to the experiences of Iran, transforming into an innovative society can overcome challenges with international collaboration in the field of science and technology, he added.



Vice President for S&T I.R. Iran Dr. Sorina Sattari speaks to the audience

Dr. Sattari said that the Islamic countries have common cultural fields to have joint projects. He said that the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize aims to use science and technology as a factor to make opportunities for friendship and collaboration in Islamic society. "I am very glad that this international prize provides a network of scientists of Islamic countries to solve the problems of society according to science and technology. I hope the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize brings opportunities for more friendship in the near future," he concluded.

Prof. Cumrun Vafa an Iranian origin scientist working at Harvard University, USA and Prof. Zahid Hasan of Bangladesh working at the Princeton University, USA won The Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize in the field of "All Areas of Science and Technology".

Bangladeshi Professor of Princeton University, Zahid Hasan, won the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize for "Weyl fermion semimetals." He said in his Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize acceptance speech; "this achievement is the outcome of my research for more than 15 years". He then thanked his graduate students, collaborators, colleagues, and mentors with whom he found new and exotic results in Quantum physics. "Big dreams come true rarely in life but it turns out mine did!" he stated.

Harvard University professor an Iranian-American, Prof. Cumrun Vafa a Theoretical Physicist, was awarded the Mustafa (PBUH) Prize for his work "F-Theory." He gave the full cash prize to an institution in Tehran. "I present this Prize to the Foundation for Supporting Fundamental Sciences that is now being established in Iran by my colleagues," Vafa said in his Prize acceptance speech, adding "I hope this initial investment attracts more investments for helping the development of basic sciences in Iran and the countries in the region". He stated; "I am deeply pleased to receive the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize. This prize is a reminder that there are no boundaries in the realm of science and technology, and that these belong to all the humanity."

Vafa pointed out that the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize is "a reminder that the Islamic countries, making up one-quarter of the world's population, must revive their importance and play their critical role in this realm."

Prof. Mohamed H. Sayegh, Prof. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary, and Prof. Yahya Tayalati were the other 2021 Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize laureates from Islamic countries; viz., Lebanon, Pakistan and Morocco respectively.



Prof. Mohamed H. Sayegh from Lebanon received the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize for “Novel Therapies to Improve Renal and Cardiac Allograft Outcomes.” He in his prize acceptance speech shared the elements of success in academia which he said he has learned “over the past 35 years.” El. Sayegh, Professor of Medicine and Immunology from Lebanon, shared with the audience the elements of success in academia which he had learned over the past 35 years of academic work, such as “Developing a focus of expertise” and “thinking big but expecting success in baby steps.”

Dr. Yahya Tayalati won the Mustafa^(PBUH) Prize for “Observation of the Light by Light Scattering and the Search for Magnetic Monopoles.” Tayalati, Professor of Physics from Morocco thanked the members of the Mustafa^(PBUH) Science and Technology Foundation for the exemplary way to promote scientific excellence in the Islamic world. Tayalati stated; “I will continue my efforts and I hope that the recognition of my work by the Mustafa^(PBUH) Science and Technology Foundation can serve as an inspiration to many others. I am humbled and appreciative.”

Prof. Muhammad Iqbal Choudhary from Pakistan was recognized for his “Discovery of fascinating molecules with therapeutic applications”. “For decades I have worked tirelessly and selflessly with the single aim of contributing to the alleviation of the suffering of people through my scientific discoveries. This award has strengthened my resolve to continue this work with sincerity of purpose and selfless motivation,” Prof. Choudhary said. He briefly explained his research work and its implication such as the treatment of Epilepsy and Leishmaniosis diseases.



L-R: Prof. Mohamed H. Sayegh, Prof. M. Iqbal Choudhary and Prof. Yahya Tayalati with their prizes

President ECO Science Foundation Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro, a member of the Mustafa^(PBUH) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) was an invited guest and participated in the ceremony and the S&T Exchange Programme (STEP). He has been associated with the activities of MSTF including The Mustafa(PBUH) Prize publicity and the process.

During the ceremony, art performances from the home countries of each laureate, such as music ensemble from Iran, Qawwali from Pakistan and a famous vocalist from Beirut enthralled the audiences and added zest to the event this time.

The Activities of 5th Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop are under way since 21st September

The activities of the 5th Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop are under way since 21st September 2021. The Camp is being organized by Children & Youth Science Center (CYSC) of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) co-sponsored by the Ministry of Science and Technology, People's Republic of China (MOST) and CAST and supported by ECOSF, InterAcademy Partnership Science Education Program (IAP SEP), and Network of African Science Academies (NASAC).



Due to deadly COVID-19 pandemic, the activities are managed **virtually** as done in previous year, wherein, the participating teams have been assigned different scientific tasks to be completed phase-wise in stipulated time. The scientific activities in the fields of robotics, 3D printing, health education, science video, engineering, physics, chemistry, astronomy, etc. are being completed by the students.

It is pertinent to mention that this year, Space Maker Camp has been made part of the main event. In the Space Maker Camp, the teams of 30 students and 10 teachers each, are being provided space kits (tether balloons and experimental satellite) to carry out the space activities on the ground in respective countries including Pakistan.

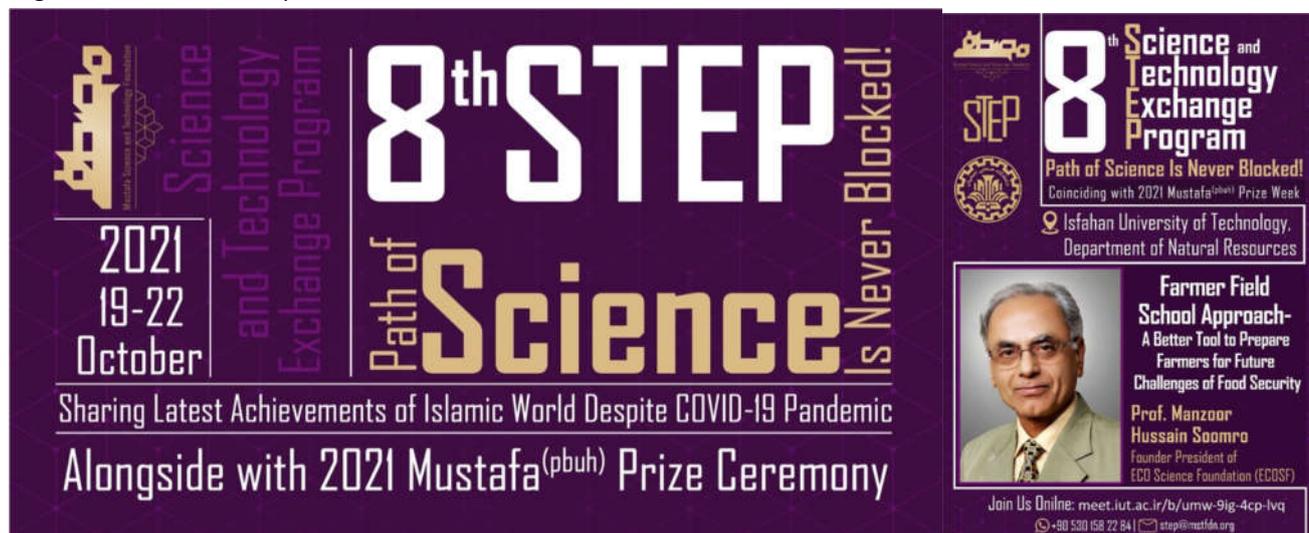
About 1686 students and teachers from 47 countries/autonomous regions are participating in the Camp. In response of the efforts of ECOSF, 451 participants from eight ECO Countries i.e., Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan are attending the Camp.

It is an annual event and this year's event is organized virtually due to COVID-19 pandemic, aiming to strengthen cross-cultural exchange, promote international understanding, inspire innovation in young generation and for all scientists and science teachers to promote mutual learning and fulfil their responsibilities in science education career. The event gives students the opportunity to cooperate with the best of their age at international level, to share ideas and study cutting-edge knowledge in science labs of top schools in China through hands-on experience and teamwork under guidance of experienced teachers.

The camp will continue till November 2021.

8th STEP held along the 2021 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize in S&T

The 8th STEP (Science and Technology Exchange Program) was organized in Iran by the Mustafa^(pbuh) Science and Technology Foundation (MSTF) from 19-22 October 2021 on the occasion of the 2021 Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize ceremony held in Tehran Iran during the birth week of Prophet Muhammad Mustafa^(pbuh).



STEP is a platform, organized by Mustafa Science and Technology Foundation, to expand the scientific network amongst the STI actors of the Islamic world in form of holding international events and laying the groundwork for enhancing scientific synergy and cooperation.

ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) has been partner in the STEP right from the beginning and also participated in the STEP-8, held at various universities, research institutions in Iran. President ECOSF Manzoor Hussain Soomro joined the STEP-8 activity in the Isfahan University of Technology (IUT), Isfahan on 19 October. Prof. Soomro made a presentation entitled; **“Farmer Field School Approach- A Better Tool to prepare farmers for the future challenges and smart agriculture”** at the College of Agriculture Engineering of IUT.

In his presentation Dr. Soomro introduced the farmers’ capacity building approach called “Farmer Field School” (FFS); which is a non-formal and inquiry based learning approach to educate farmers about the scientific processes taking place in their crops and livestock in a place without walls, in the field or under a tree.



In FFS, the experts and 25-30 farmers come together to observe their growing crops or livestock, collect data, do the agro-eco analysis, present the data and decide subsequent action to be taken by them. He shared his experiences of working with farming communities using FFS and also highlighted the importance of futuristic smart agriculture involving new and emerging technologies based on crops data and using Artificial Intelligence. After the one hour talk, Q&A session was held and the speaker answered questions on the talk and functioning of ECOSF for promotion of S&T in ECO member countries.



Earlier on, Prof. Soomro was taken around to visit various laboratories of the Agriculture College of IUT and interacted with the researchers and young scientists/Ph.D. scholars.

President ECOSF meets the Acting Minister of MSRT Iran

While in Tehran, the President ECOSF Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro on 23 October 2021 visited the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) of the Islamic Republic of Iran and held a meeting with H.E. Dr. Salar Amoli, the Acting Minister for International Cooperation of MSRT. Prof. Soomro was accompanied by Prof. Dr. Masoumeh Malek, the DG of International Cooperation in the University of Tehran and member of the International Advisory Board of ECOSF. Purpose of the meeting was to review and streamline the cooperation and support of MSRT to ECOSF, transfer of funds from MSRT to ECOSF and its activities in Iran and joining of an Iranian national as next President of ECOSF.



Dr. Salar Amoli who has been dealing with ECOSF affairs in Iran since its inception and is well versed with the functioning of the Foundation, cordially welcomed Prof. Soomro and appreciated the activities of ECOSF especially its strong international cooperation. Dr. Amoli particularly applauded the ECOSF's robust collaboration with the Chinese institutions under the Belt and Road Initiative of China.

All matters were discussed one by one and the Acting Minister Dr. Amoli assured of all possible cooperation and support to ECOSF and its programmes. He also offered to host the next (5th) meeting of ECOSF Board of Trustees in Iran. ECOSF will follow up with specific matters with the MSRT of Iran.

At the end, Dr. Soomro presented the Coffee Table Book- "Five Years of ECOSF's Journey" to Dr. Amoli.

President ECOSF meets the Deputy Minister of Agriculture-Jehad of Iran

President ECOSF Prof. Manzoor H. Soomro while in Tehran for participation in the Mustafa^(pbuh) Prize award ceremony, was invited to visit the Ministry of Agriculture-Jehad in Tehran-Iran on 20 October 2021. The President was warmly welcomed in the Ministry by the Deputy Minister for Horticultural Affairs Dr. Mohammad Mehdi Boroumandi flanked by General Directors of various departments of the Iranian Ministry.

The Ministry of Agriculture had invited Prof. Soomro- a professional agricultural expert in his own right and as the President of ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), to discuss and explore the possibilities of cooperation with other ECO member countries



through ECOSF, leading to enhancing the trade in agricultural commodities.

The Deputy Minister introduced his team and briefed the President ECOSF on the plans and initiatives of the Iranian Ministry and indicated intension to operate. He mainly shared the strengths of Iranian Agriculture sector and willingness to cooperate in R&D as well as trade between Iran and other ECO member countries.



President ECOSF briefed the Iranian Deputy Minister and his team on what ECOSF is and what activities it is pursuing, thereby highlighting various on-going initiatives of the Foundation. He particularly emphasized on the ECOSF's international cooperation especially developed with Chinese institutions such as; China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) including the Teenager Maker Camps and School Teachers workshops as well as the capacity building in science, engineering, technology and innovation (SETI) for economic development with the Beijing Technology and Business University (BTBU), Beijing under the Belt and Road Initiative of China. Prof. Soomro also shared with Dr. Boroumandi the ECOSF initiative on inquiry based science education (IBSE) for teachers' capacity building by emphasizing on the need for building the capacity of food producers- the farmers using inquiry based learning novel approach of farmer field schools (FFS). Dr. Soomro also shared with the hosts about his talk and interaction previous day (19 Oct) with the faculty of the College of Agriculture at the Isfahan University of Technology (IUT), Isfahan Iran. He then offered ECOSF assistance in building the capacity of Iranian agriculture extension experts and growers through FFS, and suggested to the Iranian Ministry of Agriculture-Jehad to share some proposals with ECOSF as to what aspects exactly they wish to take up for ECOSF support.

The Deputy Minister of Iran was very appreciative of the activities of ECOSF and assured to share the ideas for cooperation between them and ECOSF.

World Food Day under the theme of "World Food Day - Our Actions Are Our Future" held at COMSTECH President ECOSF participated

COMSTECH in collaboration with UK based organizations SAWiE and UPSIGN celebrated the World Food Day under the theme of "World Food Day - Our Actions Are Our Future" on October 14, 2021. World Food Day is an international day celebrated every year worldwide on 16 October. This day is celebrated widely by organizations concerned with hunger and food security. President of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi was the Chief Guest in the event. President Dr. Arif Alvi called for paradigm shift in world's priorities to ensure food security. The President said without food security Muslim world is under tremendous stress and the growing population has also become another challenge to food security as forty percent people in Pakistan are suffering from stunting growth.



The aim was to celebrate World Food Day in Pakistan to promote knowledge and support good practices for enhancing agriculture and food production through climate-smart agriculture, conserve water, soil resources and protect biodiversity. The technical session included six talks from top national and international agriculture scientists and corporate leaders, which were followed by discussion session on the theme of “Achieving food self-sufficiency in Pakistan. President ECOSF, Prof. Soomro participated in the event.

ECOSF participated in the Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference

ECOSF participated in the Second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference held virtually on 14-16 October 2021, Beijing, China. The second United Nations Global Sustainable Transport Conference provided an opportunity to focus attention on the opportunities, challenges and solutions towards achieving sustainable transport worldwide. It was a follow up on the first Global Sustainable Transport Conference, held in 2016 in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, and it indicated a way forward for sustainable transport to help achieve the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Paris Agreement on climate change in the Decade of Action.

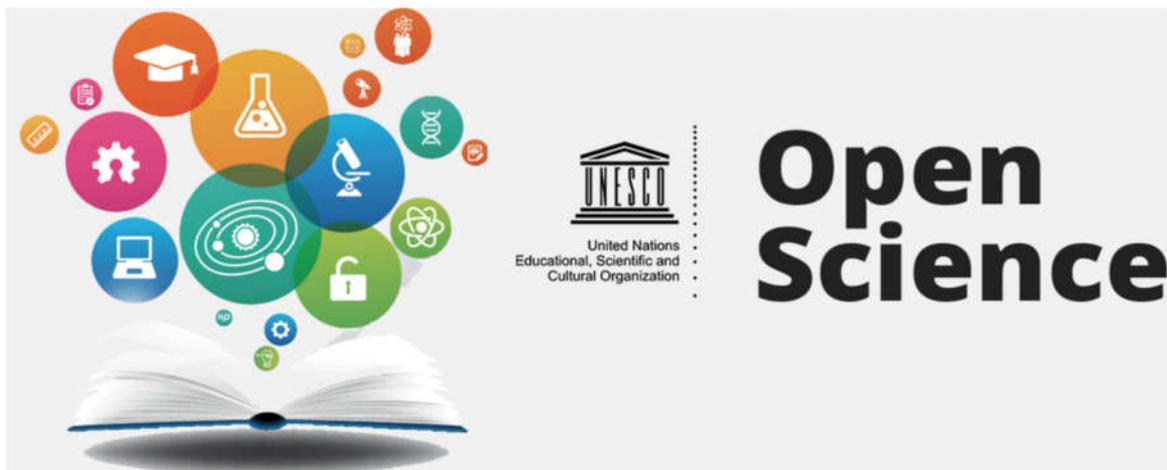
On behalf of ECOSF, President ECOSF Prof. Manzoor H. Soomro and Engr. Khalil Raza, Scientific Officer participated in the conference virtually. One of the critical sessions was themed as “Route to COP26: Accelerating Business Action for Decarbonizing Shipping and Social



Responsibility". This session focused on Maritime transport, which plays a crucial role enabling international trade and facilitating economic development globally. Maritime trade and seaports are livelihoods for many Small Island Developing States (SIDS) and Least Developed Countries (LDCs). The session This session elaborated on how companies can secure a green and decent shipping industry.

ECOSF Contributes to Open Science Report prepared by UNESCO

A report on Open Science has been prepared by UNESCO Jakarta in partnership with Institute for Study and Development worldwide and contributed by numerous organizations contributed. On behalf of ECOSF, Prof. Manzoor Soomro contributed in the report. The title of the report is "Local and National Mapping on Implementation Strategies and Mechanisms to Enable Open Science for Accelerating SDGs in Asia and the Pacific".

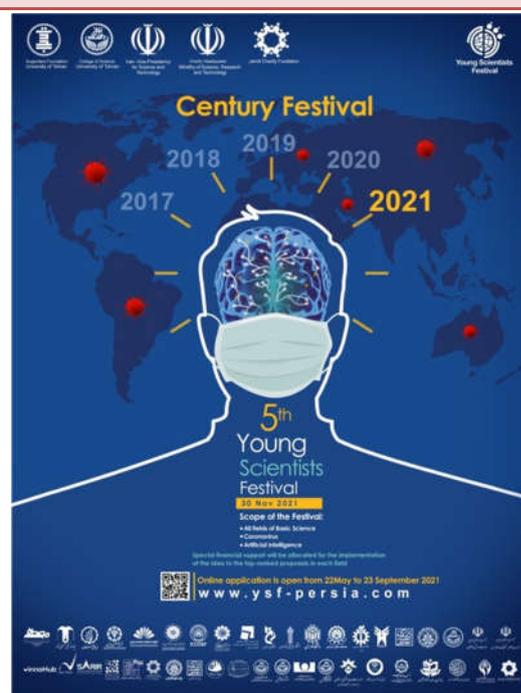


This report builds upon a review of the current literature, analysis of global consultation on Open Science with emphasis on the Asia Pacific region, and some limited empirical data collection through key informant interviews for five focus countries, one from each sub-region (Malaysia, Republic of Korea, Pakistan, Samoa and Uzbekistan). There are three main objectives of the report such as presentation of information about the status of Open Science development in Asia and the Pacific; identification of the available pools of Open Science resources for the focus countries and making the recommendations on awareness and capacity building, policies and infrastructures to support Open Science implementation to accelerate achievement of the SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region.

5th Young Scientist Festival (YSF) being held in Tehran by Jamili Charity Foundation of Iran in collaboration with ECOSF

5th Young Scientist Festival (YSF) as "Century Festival" is being held in Tehran on 30th November 2021 by Jamili Charity Foundation of Iran in collaboration with ECOSF and other national/international organizations. The aims of this event are supporting the applied science, nurture talents and strengthen the morale of innovation and inspiring the young generation of Iran.

The YSF encourages submission of the applied ideas in five fields of Basic Science (Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Computer Science, Biological Science and Geology) along with two special lines of Coronavirus and Artificial intelligence. The festival goals are: motivating creative young researchers/students, boosting the initiative startups, supporting the knowledge-based products, supporting and completing the cycle of innovation to successful knowledge-based businesses. The selected ideas will receive administrative and educational support in addition to reasonable fund to develop the idea/project. Next Year, YSF will be a global event and address much wider audiences. President ECOSF Prof. Manzoor Soomro is attending the event as an invited speaker.



Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

Invitation for the International Seminar on Climate Change Education

“The Office for Climate Education is hosting a one week International seminar on Climate Change Education, in Paris, in January 2022, in partnership with the French Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation.

The seminar aims to promote the development of climate change education in national curricula by facilitating dialogue and cross collaboration between different countries and stakeholders (scientists, educational officers, teachers, etc.). Therefore, this event is intended for around 50 decision-makers, teacher trainers and teachers of foreign (non french) educational systems wishing to discover and get acquainted with the latest trends, methodologies and tools on climate change education (CCE).

The OCE would like to invite interested policy-makers, educators and teacher- trainers from the same country to apply together as a pair.

Read More: <http://ecosf.org/Seminar-on-Climate-Change-Education>