



ECOSF NEWSLETTER



The 2nd Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp & Teacher Workshop organized by CYSC-CAST with ECOSF as a Major Cooperator

The 2nd "Belt and Road Teenager Maker Camp & Teacher Workshop" was held at No. 80 Beijing High School in Beijing – China from 15-21 November 2018. The events were jointly organized by Children & Youth Science Center (CYSC) of China Association of Science and Technology (CAST), Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST) of the People's Republic of China and supported by ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), InterAcademy Partnership Science Education Programme (IAP SEP), Academy of Engineering and Technology of the Developing World (AETDEW) and Network of African Science Academies (NASAC). This year, the theme of the event was; "Science Unites, Innovation Decides". The camp was jointly opened by the leadership of CAST, MoST-China, ECOSF, AETDEW, UNICEF and NASAC through playing the drums (as shown in the picture below).



In his opening remarks, H.E. Mr. Chen Gang, the Executive Secretary of CAST and Member of the Leading Party Members' Group of China, welcomed all the distinguished guests, teachers and students around the world. He expressed his great happiness to see such a large attendance from the world in teenager makers camp and teacher workshop as compared to the 1st camp held last year. He mentioned President Xi's vision and commitment towards the science technology and science education in China and along the Belt and Road. He assured the support of CAST on behalf of Government of P.R. China for such activities to make the youth a dynamic and energetic leadership of the future. He said that the future lies in the hands of today's youth and such



activities are the right direction to making them true leaders of the future. At the end, he wished the participants great learning during the camp and enjoyment of the stay through food and excursions in Beijing.

President ECOSF Prof. Manzoor H. Soomro in his remarks highly appreciated the CYSC, CAST, MoST China and other international organizations for organizing 2nd OBOR Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop as well as the exposure events in Beijing. He further said that ECOSF supported and facilitated 52 participants/officials from six (06) ECO countries which include; Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey.

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/2nd-Belt-and-Road-Teenager-Maker-Camp>

The 2nd National Workshop for Professional Development on IBSE successfully held in Isfahan, Iran – Iran Minister for SR&T witnessed the Activities

The 2nd National Workshop for Professional Development on IBSE in Iran was successfully held from 25-29 November 2018 at University of Isfahan, Isfahan, Iran. The workshop was jointly organized by ECOSF, University of Isfahan, Ministry of Education and Ministry of Science, Research and Technology (MSRT) of Iran in collaboration with *La main à la pâte* Foundation (LAMAP) of France, with the moral support of IAP SEP and ISTIC. The Workshop was the follow up of the 1st Workshop which was held in January 2017 at the same University. There were 38 participants and 8 observers from all over Iran, mainly the educators. LAMAP provided two trainers for this review workshop as was done last year.



A simple ceremony was organized to open the workshop on 25 Nov 2018 and the Director General of Ministry of Education of Iran Dr. Mahmood Amani Tehran formally opened the workshop. In his remarks, he thanked the ECOSF, LAMAP, University of Isfahan and MSRT for conduct of this follow up workshop. He also made a detailed presentation on "IBSE in Iran: Trends and Issue" wherein the ongoing activities on IBSE such as; training, curriculum and material development etc. and the challenges faced, were shared.

Dr. Hassan Hazarkhani of Ministry of Education Iran in his presentation informed the audience how IBSE was initiated in Iran when as ECOSF nominee, Dr. Amani participated in 6th LAMAP International Seminar held in Paris (June 1-6, 2015) followed by participation in ECOSF workshop in Astana-Kazakhstan on June 22-25, 2015 wherein, Prof. Manzoor Soomro proposed to initiate IBSE in Iran through organization of a capacity building workshop. As a result, the 1st workshop was successfully organized in January 2017 in Isfahan-Iran, followed by this 2nd workshop.

Earlier, Director International Scientific Cooperation University of Isfahan Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi made an opening speech and briefly introduced the University, its history, programmes and activities. Prof. Amir Rozatian of the University was the Chairman of the workshop Organizing Committee and looked after everything related to the workshop organization.

Ms. Anne Goube, Trainer of LAMAP in her presentation shared the brief history of IBSE programme in France and its evaluation. She also shared that after the successful implementation in France, the programme was expanded to other 60 odd countries of the world where it is also running successfully.

Ms. Goube also read a message of Prof. Pierre Lena, Co-Founder of LAMAP during the opening ceremony. In his message, Prof. Lena appreciated the Iranian authorities for organization the follow up workshop and shared his goodwill for the success. Ms. Albine (Trainer of LAMAP) also read a message of Ms. Laurence Constantini of LAMAP during the opening.

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/Professional-Development-on-IBSE>



Minister for Science, Research and Technology of Iran H.E. Mr. Mansour Gholami (center) visiting the 2nd Workshop on IBSE in Isfahan-Iran (26 Nov 2018)

Executive Secretary of China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) met the President ECOSF and Officials from ECO Countries in Beijing-China

The Executive Secretary of China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) H.E. Mr. Chen Gang (also Member of the Leading Party Members' Group of China) along with senior officials of Children & Youth Science Center (CYSC) held a meeting with the President of ECOSF Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro and the Officials from ECO Countries on 16 Nov 2018 in Beijing-China. The meeting was held on the sidelines of the 2nd OBOR Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Camp (15-21 Nov 2018). H.E. Mr. Gang thanked the President ECOSF and the officials for attending the event. He especially mentioned and highly acknowledged the great support of ECOSF for the One Belt and One Road initiatives of China, especially for the Teenager Maker Camps and Science Summer Camps. He shared the wisdom



of President Xi Jinping of China for provision of Quality Science Education at School level. He further said that in realization of President Xi's dream, numerous programmes have been initiated and the organization of Maker and Science Camps and Teachers workshops are also part of it.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Executive-Secretary-of-CAST>

Belt and Road International Science Education Coordinating Committee (BRISECC) constituted in Beijing

Belt and Road International Science Education Coordinating Committee (BRISECC) was constituted and its inaugural/1st annual meeting was held on 16 November 2018 during the 2nd Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop in Beijing China. In the augural meeting, Prof. WU Yueliang, Vice President of the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences (UCAS) was elected as founding President of the BRISECC. Whereas four founding Vice Presidents viz., Dato Ir. (Dr.) LEE Yee Cheong, Chairman, Inter-Academy Partnership Science Education Program (IAP SEP) Global Council; Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro, President ECOSF; Mr. LISOVYI Oksen, Director of Junior Science Academy of Ukraine and Dr. LIU Yang, Director General of Children & Youth Science Center of CAST were unanimously elected. Dr. LIU was also elected as the Secretary General of BRISECC responsible for Secretariat to be established at CYSC and for organizing the Annual Meetings during the Teenager Maker Camps. Members of the Committee are the International & National organizations and individuals.



Objective of the BRISECC is to promote coordinated development efforts and common prosperity of the international science education through extensive cooperation among government departments, scientific organizations, schools and enterprises, etc. along the Belt and Road. The Committee will also serve as a high level science education platform to boost resource and information sharing, personnel exchange among the members.

Officials and Teachers from ECO Countries met in Beijing on the sidelines of 2nd OBOR Teenager Maker Camp 2018 and Discussed Collaboration and Networking in the Region

A meeting of High Officials and Teachers of ECO Countries was held under the chairmanship of President ECOSF on 17 November 2018 during 2nd One Belt and One Road Teenager Maker Camp at Beijing-China, 15-20 Nov 2018. The meeting was attended by 15 Officials/Teachers from; Azerbaijan (02), Iran (05), Pakistan (04), Tajikistan (01), Turkey (01) and ECOSF (02), who were participating in the camp. ECOSF invited and supported jointly with Children Youth Science Center (CYSC) of CAST, the participants from ECO region to get the benefits of interaction/networking with other international organizations/participants joining the camp.



Objectives of the meeting were to discuss the coordination mechanism and networking among the scientific and educational community and support/collaborate in the field of STI. The Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) for STEM was the main discussion agenda.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Officials-and-Teachers-from-ECO-Countries>

Belt and Road Forum on Science Education held in Beijing during the 2nd OBOR Teenager Maker Camp and Teacher Workshop

Belt and Road Forum on Science Education was held at Beijing, China on 17 November 2018 during the 2nd OBOR Teenager Maker Camp and Teachers workshop, 15-20 Nov 2018. Theme of the Forum was “Science Education for all” and the purpose was to share experiences, resources, promote mutual learning and fulfil the responsibilities. The educationists and policy makers from countries along the B&R attended the Forum. The high officials and teachers from ECO countries viz., Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Turkey, and ECOSF also participated in the Forum.



ECOSF has collaboration with Children & Youth Science Centre (CYSC) of China Association for Science and Technology (CAST). Under the collaboration, ECOSF coordinated and managed participation of 52 students. Teachers and officials/policy makers from its member countries mentioned above.

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/Belt-and-Road-Forum>

President ECOSF held dialogue with the Beijing Technology and Business University –BTBU, China

While in Beijing, the Deputy Director General China Association for science and technology Prof. WANG Chinglin invited President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro to visit the BTBU and its Pakistan Study Center for strengthening collaboration in the field of S&T between the BTBU and counterpart institutions in ECO member countries, especially Pakistan with particular reference to China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

The international office of BTBU organized the quick visit of Prof. Soomro on November 23, 2018. Therein, he was warmly welcomed and met by Prof. TAN Xiangyong Chairman of the University Board, Prof. Ms. XU Dandan, Dean School of Economics and Prof. ZHU Zhenrong Deputy Director of the Pakistan Study Center of Science & Technology and Economy in the School of Economics.



Read more: <http://eco4science.org/BTBU>

EU Export Control Programme Organized by ISTC in Armenia- ECOSF Participated as Collaborator

The International Science and Technology Center (ISTC) at Astana- Kazakhstan in collaboration with European Union Export Control Programme for Dual use goods (EUP2P) organized regional seminar on “Export Control on Dual-Use Materials and Technologies in Central Asia” in Yerevan, Armenia on 5-6 November 2018. The purpose of this seminar was to build an interaction among research communities with their experience and their best practices with government and industrial sector of Export Control Systems.



The participants from ISTC member Countries as well as other ECO member countries viz- Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan participated in the seminar. On behalf of ECOSF, its Scientific Officer Engr. Khalil Raza participated in the seminar and contributed to various group discussions and table top exercises during the event.

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/EU-Export-Control-Programme>

LAMAP Trainers and ECOSF Official visited the Iranian Schools and observed the IBSE in Action

A delegation of *La main à la pâte* (LAMAP) France Trainers (Ms. Anne Goube and Ms. Albine Courdent) and ECOSF Official (Mr. Ghulam Abbas- ECOSF Coordinator for IBSE) paid a visit to the Iranian elementary schools on 24 Nov 2018 in Isfahan - Iran. Official IBSE Coordinator of Ministry of Education of Iran (Dr. Hassan Hazarkhani) also accompanied the delegation. During the visit, the officials met with the teachers and management of the schools and reviewed the curriculum and activities being taught in the schools. First visit was paid to the boys' school and the 4th class was observed wherein an activity of electronics was undergoing. After the boys' school, the officials went to girls schools and observed the 5th class. During the class, an activity to



learn the body parts specially the arm and its movement was being undertaken. The LAMAP trainers were very much happy about the teaching methodology being implemented in schools which was about 80% on IBSE methodology.

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/Iran-Schools>

International Forum on Engineering Capacity held in Beijing, China

International Forum on Engineering Capacity was held in Beijing China on November 21-23, 2018. The forum was organized by China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) and supported by World Federation for Engineering Organizations (WFEO) and Federation of Engineering Institutions of Asia and Pacific (FEIAP) and UNESCO.

The theme of the forum was Capacity Building for a Shared and Better Future of Mankind. The 3-day forum consisted of a plenary session, two parallel sessions, as well as on-site visits to China's engineering endeavors. Various stakeholders, mainly the engineering organizations, governmental agencies, enterprises, international/regional organizations and media, were engaged to discuss strengthening engineering capacity, especially improving engineering education and sharing engineering practice standards, which are compulsory for enhancing mutual understanding and engineers' mobility around the world, and ultimately achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals.



Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro was invited as head of ECOSF- a collaborating organization of CAST. Prof. WANG Qinglin, Deputy Director General CAST opened the forum and welcome remarks were given by Prof. SHU Wei, Executive Secretary CAST. Prof.

Gong Ke President –elect of World Federation of Engineering Organization (WFEO) and Prof. Shahbaz Khan, Director and Representative UNESCO Regional Science Bureau for Asia and The Pacific made speeches in opening session and discussed importance of Engineering Capacity and its standards for Sustainable Development.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/International-Forum-on-Engineering-Capacity>

ECOSF participated in the 2nd International Forum of Scientific Organizations and the founding General Assembly ANSO in BRI held in Beijing, China

The Second International Science Forum of National Scientific Organizations on the Belt and Road Initiative was organized by Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) in Beijing – China on November 4-5, 2018. The Forum was held in conjunction with the founding General Assembly of the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO) in the Belt and Road Region. This mega event brought together scientists and experts devoted to deepening cooperation for a shared future for mankind. The inaugural event drew some 700 scientific representatives from over 40 countries and regions along the Belt and Road.



President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro was invited as guest speaker and a panellist in panel discussion in ANSO-Digital Belt and Road Session. The forum was chaired by Prof. Guo Huadong, Professor Institute of Remote Sensing and Digital Earth (RADe), Chinese Academy of Sciences, and Session was chaired by Prof. HAN Qunli, Executive Director Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR).

Read more: <http://eco4science.org/ANSO>

4th Invention to Innovation Summit held at CECOS University Peshawar

The Institute of Research Promotion (IRP) and CECOS University Peshawar in collaboration with ECOSF and other organizations, organized the 4th Invention to Innovation Summit on 22-23 November 2018, at CECOS University, Peshawar- Pakistan. It is pertinent to mention that this programme was launched and initiated by Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro as Chairman of Pakistan Science Foundation and Mr. Abid Shirwani CEO of IRP back in 2010 at Lahore and in 2015 at Peshawar. Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Ali Muhammad Khan was the Chief Guest in the 4th summit at Peshawar. Engr. Khalil Raza Scientific Officer represented ECOSF in the event and delivered his presentation in one of the parallel sessions.

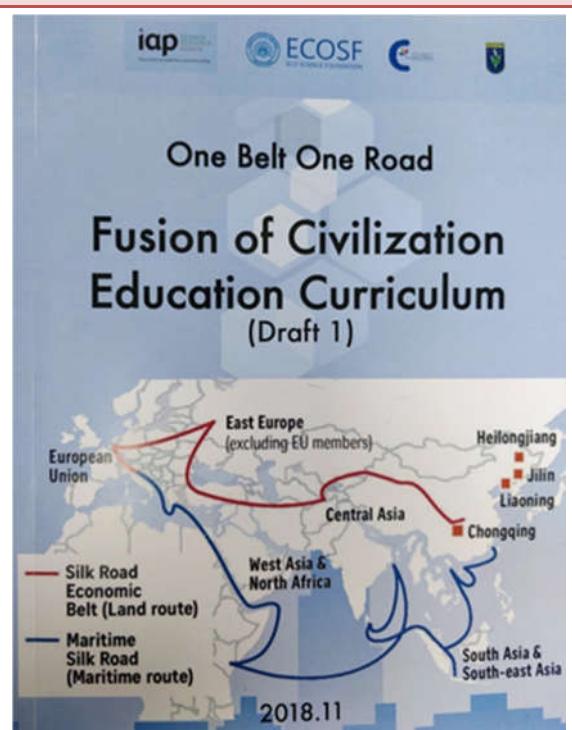
The Summit aim was to stress upon the importance of technology in local economy and provided an opportunity to Academia, Industry and Government for the establishment of Corporate Linkages in the field of technology. The objectives of the summit were to promote, disseminate, expand and advance the viable research technologies. The Innovation summit included Presentation of Viable Technologies through Technical Sessions, Exhibition of Academic & Industrial Innovative Products/Models, and Exhibition of innovative product/technology/idea by university students, Workshops on Research Commercialization, Business Plan Competition and Annual Innovation Awards. A large number of Institutions participated in innovation summit to showcase their projects.



Read More: <http://eco4science.org/4th-IIS>

ECOSF contributes towards development of Fusion of One Belt One Road (OBOR) Civilizations Curriculum Design (FoCED) for Global Peace and Harmony by IAP-SEP

The major parts of the world are in constant turmoil and chaos due to terrorism, religious extremism, violence, genocide and massive population dislocation often perpetuated by “well educated” people of every colour and creed. Advancement in STI alone cannot solve this complex challenge, unless moral, social and ethical values are incorporated in the school curriculum. To address this global challenge, there is need for a curriculum for kids that enables them to learn morality and social code of conduct in their early age and build profound understanding that all human beings are the same under the skin. Such a curriculum will help promote global peace and produce the rational citizens with sense of ownership and feeling to live in coexistence and harmony. ECOSF has contributed towards this project by the Inter-Academy Partnership Science Education Programme (IAP SEP) entitled, “Fusion of One Belt One Road (OBOR) Civilizations Curriculum Design (FoCED)” in collaboration with ISTIC Malaysia, the China Association of Children’s Science Instructors (CACSI), Children and Youth Science Center of China Association of Science and Technology- CAST (CYSC) of China Association of Science and Technology (CAST) under the mega initiative of China- One Belt One Road (OBOR).



Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Global-Peace-and-Harmony>

Science, Technology and Innovations are the need of time, said the Minister S&T during World Science Day commemoration

The World Science Day for Peace and Development (WSDPD) was commemorated at Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) on 13 Nov 2018. WSDPD is celebrated every year throughout the world to underline the significance and relevance of science in our daily lives. This year's theme "Science, a Human Right", recognize the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations.

The Chief Guest of the ceremony was the Minister for Science and Technology of Pakistan, H.E. Mr. Muhammad Azam Khan Swati. During his speech, the Minister said that the nations who knew the importance of Science, Technology and Innovations (STI) and put the significance amount of their GDP on science and research, have achieved the marvellous development and prosperity. He further said that the youth of Pakistan is very intelligent and hard worker, only they require the right direction and right policies.



Read more: <http://eco4science.org/wsd-2018>

Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) organized a seminar on "Pakistan, Central Asia and CPEC: A Vision for Improved Connectivity"

Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) Pakistan organized a seminar on "Pakistan, Central Asia and CPEC: A Vision for Improved Connectivity" on November 13, 2018. The objective of the seminar was to highlight and discuss the way forward on improving the connectivity among Central Asia States, Pakistan and China under Belt and Road Initiative to boost socio-economic environment in the region.



Ms. Tehmina Janjua, Foreign Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Pakistan was the Chief Guest at this seminar. Other speakers at the seminar included following:

- H.E Mr. Yao Jing, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China;
- H.E. Mr. Barlybay Sadykov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Kazakhstan;
- Mr. Erik Beishembiev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Kyrgyz Republic;
- H.E. Mr. SherAli Jononov, Ambassador of the Republic of Tajikistan;

- H.E Mr. Atadjan Nurlyevich Movlamov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Turkmenistan and Dean of Diplomatic Corps; and
- H.E. Mr. Furqat Sidiqov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/ISSI-6>

ECOSF participated in a Public Talk on “Kazakhstan-Pakistan Relations: Priorities of Kazakh Foreign Policy” organized by ISSI

A public talk on “*Kazakhstan-Pakistan Relations: Priorities of Kazakh Foreign Policy*”, organized by the Institute of Strategic Studies Islamabad (ISSI) on November 30, 2018 under its Ambassadors Platform series. **H.E. Mr. Barlybay Sadykov the Ambassador of the Republic of Kazakhstan** was the speaker during the talk. The event was also a part of the celebrations of the independence of Kazakhstan which falls on December 16. On behalf of ECOSF, Engr. Khalil Raza participated in the event.



Mr. Sadykov talked about how in twenty seven years of independence, poverty in Kazakhstan has been reduced to 2.7 per cent in 2017, the literacy rate is one of the highest in the world and the country is also one of the biggest oil suppliers in the world. He acknowledged how Pakistan was one of the first countries to recognize and establish diplomatic relations with Kazakhstan, something which the Ambassador said still resides in the hearts and memories of the Kazakh people.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Priorities-of-Kazakh-Foreign-Policy>

LEAD Pakistan organized a National Consultative Deliberation on 'Pakistan at Global Warming of 1.5 to 2 °C: Capturing Opportunities and Managing Challenges'

A national consultative deliberation on 'Pakistan at Global Warming of 1.5 to 2 °C: Capturing Opportunities and Managing Challenges' was jointly organized by Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Pakistan and Ministry of Climate Change on November 30, 2018. The event brought together a large number of climate change experts, environmentalists, academicians, media personnel and politicians. ECOSF was represented in the national consultative dialogue by its President, Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro along with Engr. Khalil Raza.

Climate change deliberated that global warming of 1.5°C and more so of 2°C will not only worsen climate change impacts but have direct implications on Pakistan's economy, food security, water supply, livelihoods, social well-being and ecosystem health. They also stressed the need to undertake planning on how to cope with surging risks associated with climate change and called it more necessary than ever.

Mr. Malik Amin Aslam, Advisor to Prime Minister on Climate Change stressed that environment and climate change issues

were one of the most important issues being faced by Pakistan and other countries, which would impact the survivability of our populations. Referring to a recent IPCC Report 2018 on limiting global warming at 1.5°C, he said; if we want to boost the country's climate resilience against intensifying impacts of climate change, we need to make climate change concern an integral part of socio-economic development policies and action plans.



Read more: <http://eco4science.org/Pakistan-at-Global-Warming>

Message from President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro on World Science Day published in Weekly Technology Times

Message from President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro on World Science Day: The celebration of a World Science Day for Peace and Development underlines the importance and relevance of science in our daily lives. This year, the theme was "Science, a Human Right", which is in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations. Everyone must have a right to participate in and benefit from science.

Science has played a critical role in the development of this world, and scientific innovations and inventions have led to significant technological advancements, which have continuously improved our lives. There are numerous aspects of life upon which science has a tremendous beneficial impact including: food security, disease prevention, water security; climate change, energy and agriculture etc.

Read more: <https://www.technologytimes.pk/message-president-ecosf/>



Audrey Azoulay
Director-General of UNESCO



Maria Sotiriou, Exec. Director of COMSATS



Prof. Manzoor Hussain Soomro,
President ECOSF

This special Science Day for Peace and Development 2018, UNESCO urges every nation to recognize their human right to participate in and benefit from science.

This right is enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, but it is also a right that we can claim and support science endeavours that we can transition to stronger science and reinforce scientific culture in our societies.

UNESCO also calls on governments, businesses, civil society and individuals to support science and make science accessible to all. They share UNESCO's objectives of making science closer to people by way of social sharing scientific knowledge and fostering the engagement of young people in science, technology and innovation. In the year that marks the centenary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, UNESCO puts the Human Rights at the heart of the World Science Day for Peace and Development 2018, which is organized by science centres, science museums and regional networks partnering with the Association for Science and Technology Centers.

Together, we should strive for greater access to science education - particularly for girls - as well as support Open Science and innovative ways for advancing research.

The celebration of a World Science Day for Peace and Development 2018, UNESCO urges every nation to recognize their human right to participate in and benefit from science. This year, the theme is "Science, a Human Right", which is in recognition of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights by the United Nations. Everyone must have a right to participate in and benefit from science. Science has played a critical role in the development of this world, and scientific innovations and inventions have led to significant technological advancements, which have continuously improved our lives. There are numerous aspects of life upon which science has a tremendous beneficial impact including: food security, disease prevention, water security, climate change, energy and agriculture etc.

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Republic of Yemen joins COMSATS- President ECOSF attended the Ceremony

The Republic of Yemen formally joined COMSATS and the Signing Ceremony of Accession was organized by the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSATS) on November 6, 2018 in Islamabad Pakistan. The membership agreement was signed by Mohammed Motahar Alshabi, Ambassador of Yemen to Pakistan, and Executive Director COMSATS, Dr. S.M. Junaid Zaidi, on behalf of Yemen and COMSATS, respectively.

Federal Minister for Science and Technology Muhammad Azam Khan Swati was the chief guest on the occasion while Ambassadors and High Commissioners from different countries based in Islamabad, representatives of international organizations and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs were also present. President ECOSF Prof. Dr. Manzoor Hussain Soomro also attended the signing ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, the Minister noted with satisfaction that Yemen's accession to COMSATS, which he believed, is going to further build the edifice of the Organization and enlarge the scope of collaborative activities of the Commission.

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Republic-of-Yemen>



Upcoming Events posted on ECOSF website and Facebook page

A series of Short Video Messages from the two Multidisciplinary Expert Panel (MEP) of IPBES

The Intergovernmental science-policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) announces a new resource – a series of five short video messages from the two MEP Co-Chairs, Marie Stenseke and Luthando Dziba, about the importance of the MEP, its work to date, key challenges for the future and their shared vision for the MEP. These resources can help deepen the understanding of and appreciation for the efforts of the MEP.

For more details, please visit: <http://eco4science.org/MEP>

Persian Gulf University Winter School 2019

The international program titled "winter school for students and fresh graduates of process and petroleum engineering" on 4-13 February 2019 in Persian Gulf University (PGU). The objectives of this program include, but not limited to getting introduced to novel techniques and technologies in process and petroleum engineering, potentials, activities, capabilities and scientific achievements in PGU, visiting selected giant gas and petrochemical plants in Iran, as well as cultural tours to historic cities of Bushehr and Shiraz. This program is planned for international students and fresh graduates of chemical, process, and petroleum engineering. The cost of program is 500 Euros paid by cash upon arrival in Bushehr and includes registration, accommodation, food, course materials, central laboratory, Shiraz and Bushehr city tours, entrance tickets for historic and cultural places, and transport inside Iran (Bushehr, Assaluyeh, Jam, and Shiraz). However, it does not include the visa and flight costs

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/PGU-winter-school-2019>

Call for Nominations of Experts – Assessment of Invasive Alien Species

Governments and organizations are invited to nominate experts from a diversity of disciplinary backgrounds and gender, in order to ensure a balanced team of experts. Interested experts (Nominees) who would like to seek nomination by a Government, are encouraged to contact their IPBES National Focal Point (<https://www.ipbes.net/national-focal-points>) regarding any country-specific processes or deadlines and are requested to fill out their application form by no later than **11 January 2019**. Nominators (governments or organizations) should approve the applications and submit their nominations by **1 February 2019**. Early nominations ahead of the deadline are encouraged. Experts will be selected according to the IPBES rules of procedure during IPBES 7, taking place from 29 April to 4 May 2019 in Paris, France. Experts will be informed of their selection in June 2019.

For more information and details, visit: <http://eco4science.org/assessment-of-invasive-alien-species>

The Yidan Prize 2019: Announcement

The Yidan Prize, the world's largest prize in education, is now open for nominations:

- Find out more about the announcement [here](#).
- Sign up for the Yidan Prize Summit 2018 [here](#).
- Nominate for the Yidan Prize 2019 [here](#)

Read More: <http://eco4science.org/Yidan-Prize-1>