

ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) (Islamabad, Pakistan)

IBSE Activities in ECO Region from May 2016 till Jan-2017

ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF) is an Intergovernmental organization of 10 countries, viz., Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan. ECOSF is mandated to promote and fund STI research and capacity building of the member states in Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE) and related activities to strengthen the science base.

1. International Seminar on IBSE; *La main à la pâte* (June 2016)

ECOSF has been nominating teachers/experts/policy makers for the International Seminar on Inquiry Based Science Education *La main à la pâte* (LAMAP) held annually in Sevres near Paris, France. In 2016, a total of 15 nominations from the ECO region were sent to the LAMAP Foundation for the seminar; after evaluation, 7 candidates were selected as follows:

No.	Country	Nominations sent	Selected
a.	Azerbaijan	3	2*
b.	Iran	2	0
c.	Kyrgyzstan	1	0
d.	Pakistan	3	3
e.	Tajikistan	2	0
f.	Turkey	4	2
	Total:	15	7

*Note: Azerbaijan candidates could not attend the seminar.

2. IBSE Capacity Building Workshop, Pakistan (Sept 2016)

An IBSE Capacity Building Workshop for Pakistan was organized by ECOSF in collaboration with the Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) and LAMAP, France, in Islamabad from 5-9 September 2016. A total of **42 participants** from different parts and institutions of Pakistan were trained as Master Trainers. Since the workshop, those trainers have been carrying out more IBSE training workshops in their schools/systems; and have been training more teachers and students.

Hands-on Activities during the first workshop (5-9 Sept 2016):



3. Activities of the Master Trainers of Pakistan:

Institution	Master Trainers Trained by LAMAP	Teachers Trained as Master Trainers by Pak Trainers	Teachers Trained & Engaged in IBSE with Pupils	Pupils Engaged (Approx)
Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) Schools & Colleges	8	42	67	200
Cantt/Garrison Schools and Colleges	5	6	400	2500
Sukkur IBA	8	-	50	3000
Pakistan Science Club (NGO)	1	-	100	2000
Reset-switch (NGO)	1			
Provincial Institutes for Teacher Education (PITEs)	19	Data awaited		
Total	42	48	617	7700

4. 1st National IBSE Capacity Building Workshop for Iran: “Professional Development Programme on Inquiry Based Science Education”

As a part of the ECO Science Foundation’s Programme on Inquiry Based Science Education in ECO Member States, the 1st National Workshop on IBSE for Iran, entitled “Professional Development Programme on Inquiry Based Science Education (IBSE)”, was jointly organized by the ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), the University of Isfahan, the Ministry of Education of Iran, the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology of Iran, in collaboration with *La main à la pâte* Foundation (LAMAP), France, the InterAcademy Partnership - Science Education Programme (IAP-SEP), and the International Science, Technology and Innovation Centre (ISTIC) Malaysia, from 8-13 January 2016 at the University of Isfahan. The purpose of the workshop was to develop and enhance the capability and capacity of participating teachers, educationists, and scientists for promoting and implementing the IBSE approach in Iranian Schools. In all, 40 participants from across Iran attended the workshop. Under the patronage of ECOSF, an MoU was also signed between LAMAP and University of Isfahan for in principle agreement to future cooperation on IBSE.

Some glimpse of the hands-on activities during the IBSE workshop in Isfahan:



Future Plans (2017)

1. Capacity Building Workshop on IBSE in Tajikistan (April/Sept 2017-TBC)
2. Capacity Building Workshop on IBSE in Azerbaijan (2017- TBD)
3. Follow up Review Workshop on IBSE in Pakistan (Sept-Oct 2017)
4. Conduct of Training Sessions by the Trainers of Pakistan
5. Initiation of School STEM Clubs by Pakistan Science Club with ECOSF support

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