

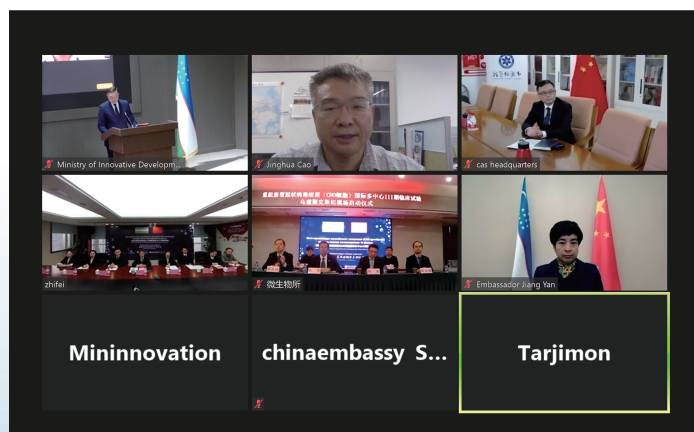


## Ibrokhim Y. Abdurakhmonov Awarded the Title of Ambassador of Silk Road Friendship at the Recommendation of ANSO

The Silk Road Friendship Award Ceremony was held online on 31 May. Themed around “Telling the stories of Belt & Road Initiative (BRI) participants”, the event was hosted by the China International Cultural Exchange Center (CICEC) and the Global People Magazine, co-hosted by the China International Culture & Arts Co. Ltd. (CICAC), and organized by the Peace Culture Development Group.

At the recommendation of the Alliance of International Science Organizations (ANSO), Mr. Ibrokhim Y. Abdurakhmonov, the Minister of the Ministry of Innovative Development of Uzbekistan, was awarded the honorary title of “Ambassador of Silk Road Friendship” for his essential role and efforts in promoting Uzbekistan-China COVID-19 vaccine cooperation.

Mr. Ibrokhim Y. Abdurakhmonov said that it was a shared expectation for the people of different countries along the Belt & Road to deal with the COVID-19 pandemic and promote innovative economic development. Uzbekistan, as a close partner of China, fully supported joint projects within the framework of the BRI which is a road of cooperation and health, and also a road of joint exploration. He hoped that the initiative would bring more opportunities for innovation and development for the people of the two countries. He gave assurance that Uzbekistan is willing to enhance cooperation on innovative development and public health with other countries along the Belt & Road for a bright future and mutual benefit.



# Announcement

## 2022 Call for Proposals and Application for ANSO Projects

ANSO Collaborative Research, ANSO Training, ANSO Fellowship, ANSO Science-based Advisory opened the call for proposals and application in mid-June 2022. We seek good ideas, suggestions and proposals from ANSO member institutions and partners. The guidelines and necessary documents for each project are available on the ANSO Website now! ([www.anso.org.cn](http://www.anso.org.cn))



## MAAP-PAS-ANSO Hybrid Workshop on "Ecosystem Restoration: One-Health and Pandemics" held in Islamabad



Organized by the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) and Monbukagakusho-MEXT Alumni Association of Pakistan (MAAP), and supported by ANSO, a hybrid workshop on "Ecosystem Restoration: One-Health and Pandemics" was held in Islamabad on 5 June to celebrate World Environment Day. The workshop was celebrated with more than 150 participants from different walks of life. Prof. Ailikon, Assistant Executive Director of the ANSO Secretariat, attended the workshop and introduced the mission and mandate of ANSO and the programs/projects it conducts.

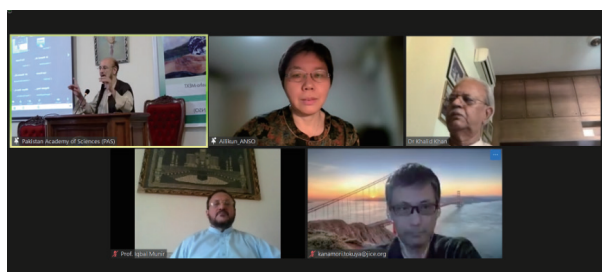
The event was honored by the online presence of Prof. Khalid Mahmood Khan, President of PAS, who highlighted the challenges and pitfalls in managing the current pandemic and advocated for strong collaboration across the scientific community and state institutions. The Secretary-General, PAS, Prof. Tasawar Hayat welcomed the distinguished guests and explained that ecological restoration is a clear and measurable strategy to address the global disease burden and enhance public health. He also expressed gratitude to ANSO for financial support under the ANSO International Collaborative Research project. Prof. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Prof. Emeritus at QAU, President MAAP, and fellow of PAS briefed the workshop about the seminar project

and highlighted that natural ecosystem restoration could provide a path to reversing some of the effects of climate change and easing the global disease burden.

Dr. Muhammad Ali, principal investigator of the ANSO collaborative research project entitled "Molecular detection and characterization of bat-borne viruses from Pakistan", gave a brief talk on "Bats, Viruses and Pandemics". He pointed out that bats are one of the most diverse mammalian orders, containing an estimated 20% of all mammal species. He overviewed ongoing global research on bat viromes and discussed current challenges. In concluding remarks, he emphasized the need for close and apolitical collaboration among scientists in combating pandemics.

Other invited speakers also presented their work and ideas on ecological restoration, including Dr. Nancy Connell (National Academy of Sciences, USA), Dr. David Franz (National Academy of Sciences, USA), Dr. Tim Trevan (Co-Founder of Chrome Biorisk Management Consulting, Maryland), Prof. Dr. Li Cui (Institute of Urban Environment, Chinese Academy of Sciences), Dr. Shahbaz Khan (UNESCO-Beijing), Prof. Lijun Shang (London Metropolitan University, UK), Dr. Qadeer





Ahsan (Executive Director of the Fleming Fund), Dr. Quaid Saeed (CEO Islamabad Healthcare Regulatory Authority), and Dr. Niriyoshi Shinomiya (President, National Defense Medical College, Japan).

The seminar was closed by H. E. Ryuji Iwasky (representative of the Japanese Embassy in Islamabad) with a take-home message on the importance of environmental preservation and how it is essential for us. He emphasized that it is a collective responsibility of all different government and non-government organizations to address challenges through the engagement of society and the research community. Cross-institutional collaboration is needed for the introduction of new policies to mitigate major threats for future generations.

The workshop provided a platform for a vigorous and healthy debate within the conceptual framework of action on existing ecological crises. The one-health approach can be a very effective technique to deal with the catastrophic results of a human-environment imbalance, as well as lethal disease outbreaks/pandemics that arise from the critical nexus of humans, animals, ecosystems and climate change.

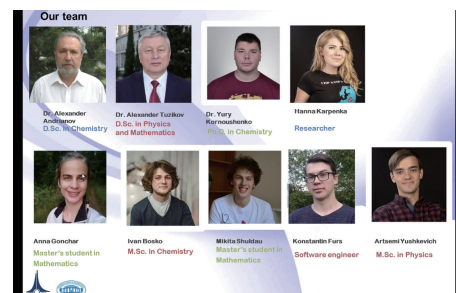
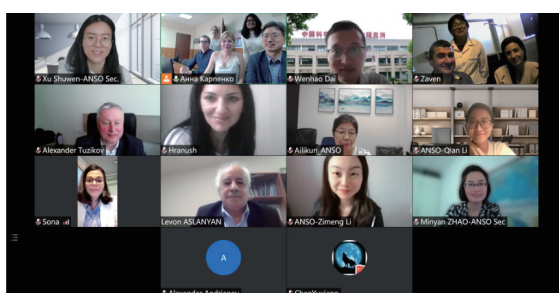
## An ANSO Project Hosted by a Research Team from Belarus Kicked off

The kick-off meeting for an ANSO Collaborative Research Project entitled “Application of Deep Learning, Molecular Modeling and Biomedical Assays to Develop Small Drug-like Compounds as Potential SARS-CoV-2 Main Protease Inhibitors” was held online on 27 May. Hosted jointly by the United Institute of Informatics Problems (UIIP) of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Institute of Molecular Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia, the half-day meeting was attended by 18 participants from all project teams involved and the ANSO Secretariat.

Dr. Alexander Tuzikov from UIIP, Principal Investigator (PI) of this project, presented the research background, objectives, technical issues and work plan for the project. He and his colleague Dr. Alexander Andrianov also introduced recent achievements made by their team in virtual screening, molecular modeling and deep learning technologies for anti-SARS-CoV-2 drug development. The ANSO Secretariat gave a brief introduction on the mission and mandate of the organization and the projects and activities it supports.

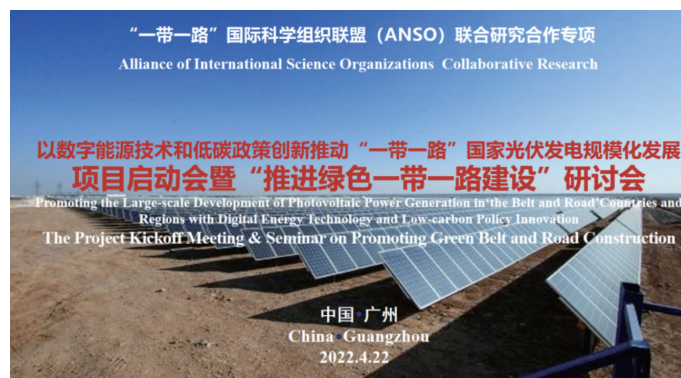
Prof. LIU Hong and Dr. DAI Wenhao from the Shanghai Institute of Materia Medica of CAS presented their major success in developing a new kind of inhibitor for SARS-CoV-2 main protease which is currently undergoing clinical trials. Prof. Zaven Karalyan from the Institute of Molecular Biology of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Armenia talked about their main research in the Laboratory of Cell Biology and Virology. As an invited guest, Dr. Eui-Jeon Woo from the Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology gave a very interesting talk on developing therapeutic antibodies based on protein design.

This project aims to propose and explore new approaches and ways to address the global challenges posed by SARS-CoV-2. It intends to apply deep learning and molecular modeling tools to identify novel potent inhibitors of the SARS-CoV-2 main protease (MPro) that plays an important role in mediating viral replication and transcription. This will be followed by computational validation, synthesis and biomedical assays. The project is scheduled for completion over three years from 2022 to 2024.





# Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion of CAS Held the Kick-off Meeting of the ANSO Collaborative Research Project



The kick-off meeting of the ANSO Collaborative Research Project entitled “Promoting the Large-scale Development of Photovoltaic Power Generation in the ‘Belt and Road’ Countries and Regions with Digital Energy Technology and Low-carbon Policy Innovation” was successfully held on 22 April at the Guangzhou Institute of Energy Conversion, CAS (GIEC). This project is jointly carried out by GIEC, HUAWEI, Chiang Mai University, Vietnam University of Science and Technology, the Global Environmental Institute, and the CAS Innovation Cooperation Center Bangkok (CASICCB). Prof. CAO Jinghua, Executive Director of the ANSO Secretariat, Prof. LV Jiancheng, Director of GIEC, Prof. Nat Vorayos, Vice President of Chiang Mai University, and Mr. LIU Yang, Vice Minister of the Strategy and Business Development Department of HUAWEI, attended the meeting and delivered the opening remarks. Prof. BAI Yu, Director of the Science & Technology Department of GIEC, hosted the meeting and more than 60 experts from China, Thailand and Vietnam attended the meeting online.

Prof. CAO Jinghua, emphasized the significance of this project in addressing climate change issues and aiding progress to the goals of carbon peaking and carbon neutrality. He expressed his hope that China, Thailand and Vietnam would make efforts to build a “small and beautiful” photovoltaic demonstration project. He stated that this is a demonstration project involving multiple countries, leveraging advanced tools to explore an actionable and practical model. The model provides strategic plans for enterprises hoping to develop the PV industry and a set of available and applicable solutions that can contribute to the achievement of carbon peaking and neutrality goals. At the same

time, it also provides a good development pattern for Chinese PV enterprises to be able to participate in international cooperation and jointly solve the challenges facing humanity. The Principal Investigator, Prof. ZHAO Daiqing, gave a brief report on the project background, task breakdown, project progress, project features and expected outcomes. Five experts from the collaborating institutions also reported the details of their work and progress.

Prof. LIAO Cuiping and Prof. LUO Zhigang hosted the academic workshop. Prof. XIE Pengcheng, the senior engineer at GIEC, introduced the development of the Renewable Energy Planning Toolkit. Prof. LUO explained the role of China as a “joint carbon reduction hub” with developed countries in achieving carbon reduction goals. Mr. CHEN Hui, the Director of National Industrial Policy and Planning in the Asia Pacific Region for HUAWEI and other 15 experts from the collaborating institutions shared their ideas about the two topics of the workshop.

As an international scientific organization, ANSO is committed to developing renewable energy and promoting high-quality development of Belt and Road cooperation through the construction of the ANSO “Energy Corridor”, with the aim of addressing major global and regional sustainable development challenges at a high standard to benefit people’s livelihoods.



## Contact Us

ANSO Secretariat  
No.16 Lincui Road, Chaoyang District, Beijing  
100101, China

anso-public@anso.org.cn  
<http://www.anso.org.cn/>

Responsible Editor: Ailikun  
Editors: Ruiyang Zhou, Zhongxiu Wang, Jingyuan Feng  
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