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QATAR NATIONAL RESEARCH FUND COLLABORATES WITH DOHA INTERNATIONAL FAMILY INSTITUTE TO LAUNCH NEW RESEARCH GRANT

Marriage, Parenting, Family-Work Balance, And Family Laws And Practices In The Arab World Priority Research Areas

Doha, Qatar, 3 March 2015: Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) and the Doha International Family Institute (DIFI), members of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), have announced their collaboration for the launch of a new research grant focused on the Arab family and policy related issues.

Osra, which means family in Arabic, is the new DIFI-QNRF joint funded grant and will prioritise research aimed at developing knowledge about the Arab family. Research areas include marriage and family structure, parenting, family-work balance, and family laws and practices. The research findings funded under Osra will assist the development of evidence-based policies and programmes to promote the well-being of the Arab family.

QNRF is a member of Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) and, by investing in cutting-edge research, it supports Qatar Foundation on its mission to build Qatar's innovation and technology capacity, and help the nation develop into a hub of research excellence.

DIFI supports Qatar Foundation's mission to foster a progressive society by addressing the community's immediate social needs. DIFI's vision is to be recognised as a global knowledge leader on issues facing the Arab family through research, policy, and outreach.

Applications for the Osra grant will open on 16 March 2015 and the awards will comprise a one-year grant of up to US\$50,000. Researchers from Qatar and the Arab region are being urged to submit their proposals before applications close on 25 May 2015.

To qualify for Osra funding, a research project must be led by a Lead Principal Investigator with a doctoral qualification, who has at least three peer-reviewed scientific publications in a relevant field, and is residing and affiliated to an institution in Qatar or another Arab country.

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In addition to its own research activities, DIFI promotes research on the Arab family by providing research grants and organising an Annual Conference on Family Research and Policy.

Dr Abdul Sattar Al-Taie, Executive Director of QNRF, said, “We are delighted to collaborate with DIFI on this new research programme since the Osra grant addresses an area that has, in a large part, been left unexplored in the Arab region.”

“QNRF aims to nurture Qatar’s research environment by addressing the key areas outlined in the Qatar National Research Strategy and supports high-quality research in fields relevant to Qatar and its surrounding region. Osra, no doubt, adds a new dimension to the vast portfolio of QNRF-funded research programmes,” he added.

Commenting on the Osra grant, Noor Al Malki Al Jehani, Executive Director of DIFI, said, “DIFI aims to raise awareness of family issues and contribute to the development of family policies in the Arab world by supporting research on the Arab family. We are very happy to collaborate on this new grant since it will unite local, regional, and international partners in seeking solutions to family-related issues faced in the Arab world.”

Established in 2006, DIFI aims to support the 2004 Doha Declaration on the Family by contributing to the global knowledge base with information about issues facing the Arab family and how they can be tackled.

Through developing and disseminating high-quality research, as well as encouraging knowledge exchange on family-related issues across an international and interdisciplinary network of researchers, DIFI makes family issues a priority for policy makers through advocacy and outreach at the national, regional and international level.

For registrations and submissions please log onto: <https://oss.qnrfsubmission.org>

For more information on QNRF and the programmes that it offers, please visit www.qnrf.org

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About Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D)

Leading Qatar’s vision to become an international centre for research and development excellence and innovation, QF R&D is home to Qatar Science & Technology Park, a world-



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class hub for technology innovation and commercialisation, as well as Qatar National Research Fund, a globally renowned scientific research funding organization and prominent research institutes operating at the frontiers of science, including Qatar Biomedical Research Institute, Qatar Computing Research Institute and Qatar Environment and Energy Research Institute.

About Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF)

Driven by the aim of fostering a culture of research in Qatar, QNRF was established in 2006 to advance knowledge and education by acting as a support system for researchers. It is a member within the Research & Development establishment at Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development.

QNRF administers funding for original, competitively selected research and furthers collaborations within academia, the public, private, governmental and non-governmental sectors through effective, mutually beneficial partnerships. While QNRF actively seeks internationally recognised researchers, it is dedicated to funding research that meets the needs of Qatar. For more information, visit: www.qnrf.org

About Doha International Family Institute (DIFI)

Acknowledging the importance of the family in society, DIFI, formerly known as Doha International Institute for Family Studies and Development (DIIFSD), was established in 2006 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation. The mandate of the Institute is based upon the affirmations set forth in the Doha Declaration on the Family, which was the outcome of the Doha International Conference on the Family, organised in 2004 to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the International Year of the Family. The Institute has a special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UNECOSOC).

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