



## 42 SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN QATAR SET TO PARTICIPATE IN 2ND QATAR STEAM FAIR

*220 Projects With Total Of 401 Entrants Registered To Compete*

**Doha, Qatar, 05 December 2015:** The second Qatar Science, Technology, Engineering, Math and Art Fair (Qatar STEAM), organised by Qatar Foundation Research & Development (QF R&D), is set to take place from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC).

A total of 401 entrants, 65 per cent of which are Qataris, will compete in the Fair, which is being held in collaboration with Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF), a globally renowned scientific research funding organisation and member of QF R&D, and the Supreme Education Council (SEC).

By playing host to the Fair, QF R&D is helping to fulfil Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development's (QF) mission to build and develop capacity for creativity and critical thinking through research in education and science.

Furthermore, as Qatar STEAM aims to facilitate an environment in which the nation's young scientists can thrive by developing solutions to real-life problems, the competition also supports the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV2030) and the Qatar National Research Strategy (QNRS).

At the close of registration on 15<sup>th</sup> November, 220 projects from 42 secondary schools had registered to participate in the nationwide competition. Participating teams or individuals will present their projects to a judging panel over the course of the two-day competition.

The eight project categories include Computing, Biomedicine, Mathematics & Physics, Basic Sciences, Engineering, Chemistry, Energy, and Behavioural & Social Sciences.

During the build up to the competition, project assistance will be made available to students and teachers of registered projects. Through the Mentor Programme, students and teachers will be assigned an expert to assist in the execution of their projects. In addition, information sessions and workshops will be held to offer project support.

Dr Hamad Al Ibrahim, Executive Vice President of Research and Development at Qatar Foundation, said: "The inaugural Qatar STEAM Fair was a tremendous success and we continue to build on that success. The number of teams that have entered to participate in the second Fair indicates a growing interest in scientific research among the country's youth. The competition will not only help students develop their research skills and overall academic development, but also encourage them to conduct comprehensive research further on in their academic and professional careers."



The eight winning teams from the inaugural Fair, held earlier this year in March, are set to represent Qatar at the 6<sup>th</sup> Intel International Science Competition Arab World taking place in Alexandria, Egypt from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The Qatari team will compete in the Computing, Energy, Chemistry, and Behavioural & Social Sciences categories.

**ENDS**

### **Qatar Foundation Research & Development**

Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) is charged with the Qatar National Research Strategy, dedicated to making Qatar a leading center for research and development excellence and innovation. QF R&D is home to Qatar National Research Fund, a leading scientific research funding organization, Qatar Science & Technology Park, an international hub for technology innovation and commercialization.

For more information, visit: [www.qfrd.org](http://www.qfrd.org)

### **Qatar National Research Fund**

Driven by the aim of fostering a culture of research in Qatar, Qatar National Research Fund (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](http://www.qnrf.org)

### **Supreme Education Council**

The Supreme Education Council is the authority responsible for the development and advancement of Qatar's education sector to meet the needs of the nation's leadership to nurture human capital and competency in various fields. The Council is also responsible for drawing up the national educational policy and linking the latter to a set of educational goals, plans and programmes in accordance with the general objectives of the State.

For more information, visit: [www.sec.gov.qa](http://www.sec.gov.qa)

**For more information, please contact:**



Qatar Foundation Press Office

Tel: +974 4454 5849

Email: [pressoffice@qf.org.qa](mailto:pressoffice@qf.org.qa)