



ROTA LAUNCHES iEARN-QATAR 2016

Programme Promotes Youth Development Through Education

Doha, Qatar, 7 May 2016: Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) has officially inaugurated the International Education And Resource Network in Qatar for 2016 (iEARN-Qatar). This year's programme kicked off with an Open House event on Thursday, and brought together 327 students from around the country, along with 65 teachers, to showcase 43 unique projects.

Hosted at Qatar University (QU), the event was held under the patronage of Qatar Chemical and Petrochemical Marketing and Distribution Company (Muntajat) in partnership with the National Center for Educational Development (NCED) in the College of Education at QU.

In his opening speech, ROTA's Executive Director Essa Al Mannai said: "Building human capacity and empowering youth through education is an integral part of promoting community development. We believe that by equipping youth with the necessary skills they will have more confidence in shaping their future."

Dr Abdullah Abu-Tineh, NECD Director, said: "Each year, iEARN-Qatar provides students with a platform to showcase their special projects. The event reflects our collective commitment to moving beyond traditional education methods to project-based learning, enabling students to play an active role in the learning process."

This year's Open House saw an increase in the number of projects exhibited and schools that participated, demonstrating the success of the partnership between ROTA, NECD and Muntajat.

Muntajat CEO, Mr Abdulrahman Ali Al-Abdulla, said: "We are fully committed to promoting social responsibility through our sponsorship of development and educational initiatives, particularly programmes which promote youth empowerment and capacity building."

Made up of over 50,000 schools and youth organisations in more than 140 countries, iEARN is a non-profit organisation that works to empower young people to undertake projects designed to make a meaningful contribution to the welfare of the wider community.

The programme encourages cultural exchange between participants from member states, from kindergarten through secondary grade, via a virtual network that connects teachers and students worldwide.

ROTA, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), became the official representative of iEARN-Qatar in 2008. In 2014, NECD joined the programme, and, in the same year, Muntajat signed a three-year agreement to become its official sponsor.

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About ROTA

Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organisation launched in December 2005 in Doha, Qatar, by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Operating under the auspices of the Qatar Foundation, ROTA is committed to providing high quality and relevant primary and secondary education, encouraging relationships among communities, creating safe learning environments and restoring education in crisis affected areas across Asia and around the world. ROTA envisions a world, where all young people have access to the education they need in order for them to realise their full potential and shape the development of their communities.

For more information about Reach Out To Asia, please visit: www.reachouttoasia.org

About Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organisation that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Qatar Foundation was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Chairperson Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercialising solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>