



2015 WISE AWARDS FINALISTS REVEALED

Fifteen Projects Have Been Chosen For Their Innovative And Impactful Approaches To Today's Most Urgent Challenges In Education

Doha, Qatar, 10 May 2015 – The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) revealed today the names of the fifteen projects selected as the 2015 WISE Awards finalists. The projects, which come from around the world, represent some of the most innovative and effective approaches to key current global education challenges.

The WISE Awards, part of a wider, year-round programme by Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), aim to identify and promote the most innovative and effective approaches to key global education challenges, and build a network of change-makers to inspire others around the world.

WISE was inaugurated by Qatar Foundation in 2009, under the leadership of its Chairperson Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, and is designed to promote debate and purposeful action in order to build the future of education. Over the past few years, WISE has demonstrated how it has played a pivotal role in bringing together global thought leaders and educational practitioners with one aim of creating a better education environment for all.

Selected by a pre-jury of international education experts, the 2015 WISE Awards finalists offer creative solutions in access, quality education, the teaching of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) and entrepreneurial skills. Together, they address a wide range of issues that represent common global challenges.

"The 2015 WISE Awards finalist projects present creative solutions to diverse education challenges around the world. Beyond their contributions to improving education practice and enabling individuals and communities in their own regions, these projects are a rich and inspiring source of ideas for others elsewhere," said Dr Asmaa Al-Fadala, Head of Research at WISE.

The 2015 WISE Awards finalists include Al-Bairaq, a non-traditional educational programme based at the Center for Advanced Materials (CAM) at Qatar University. Supporting innovation and entrepreneurship, Al-Bairaq immerses secondary students in hands-on science activities, builds appreciation for the work of scientists, and offers students new opportunities.

The WISE Awards finalist projects were selected according to strict criteria. They had to demonstrate innovative thinking and a concrete positive impact on communities and societies, as well as the potential to be replicated in other contexts and regions.

The WISE Awards winning projects will be announced in September and celebrated at the seventh World Innovation Summit for Education, 3 – 5 November 2015 in Doha, Qatar. For further information about WISE and the WISE Awards, please go to <http://www.wise-qatar.org/wise-awards>, or visit the WISE Awards webpage: <http://www.wise-qatar.org/wise-awards-2015>

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NOTES TO EDITORS

The 2015 WISE Awards Finalists:

- Al-Bairaq (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/al-bairaq-qatar>): Qatar
- Bridge International Academies (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/bridge-international-academies-kenya>): Kenya
- Children's Video Library in Sign Language (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/videobooks-for-deaf-children-argentina>): Argentina
- Discovering Diversity (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/discovering-diversity-australia>): Australia
- The Educate! Experience (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/educate-experience-usa>): USA/Uganda
- The Edible Schoolyard (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/edible-schoolyard-usa>): USA
- GirlEng - Girls in Engineering Program (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/girleng-south-africa>): South Africa
- INEE - The Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/inee-the-inter-agency-network-for-education-in-emergencies-usa>): USA
- The Lab on a Bike (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/lab-on-a-bike-india>): India
- Lights to Learn (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/lights-to-learn-spain>): Spain/Latin America
- Nafham (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/nafham-egypt>): Egypt
- NetEase Open Course (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/netease-open-course-china>): China
- Teacher Changemakers Movement (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/teachers-changemakers-movement-uk>): UK
- The Talking Book Program (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/talking-book-program-usa>): USA
- Universe Awareness, UNAWE (<http://www.wise-qatar.org/universe-awareness-unawe-the-netherlands>): Netherlands
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About the WISE Awards:

Each year the WISE Awards recognize and promote six successful innovative projects that are addressing global education challenges. Since 2009, WISE has received more than 2,000 applications from over 140 countries. Thirty-six projects have been recognized around the world from a variety of sectors for their innovative character, their positive contribution and for scalability and adaptability. The six winning projects will be announced in September and celebrated at the seventh World Innovation Summit for Education, November 3-5, 2015, in Doha, Qatar

About the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE):

Qatar Foundation, under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser established the World Innovation Summit for Education in 2009. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate and purposeful action. WISE has established itself as a global reference in new approaches to education. Through both the annual Summit and a range of ongoing programs WISE is promoting innovation and building the future of education through collaboration. WISE 2015 will take place 3-5 November in Doha.