



## **WORLD INNOVATION SUMMIT FOR HEALTH ATTRACTS GLOBAL ENTRIES FOR FIRST INNOVATION SHOWCASES COMPETITION**

*Qatar Foundation's global health initiative to feature projects that could help shape the world's future healthcare system*

**Doha, 22 October 2014:** The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH), a global initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), has attracted global innovators with projects for the first ever 'Innovation Showcases' competition.

WISH's 'Innovation Showcases' competition has already received more than 35 applications from over 10 countries including Qatar, Egypt, Germany, USA, Haiti, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Slovenia and Switzerland. The inspired innovations include new practices, health products and digital solutions, as well as service delivery models and health education ideas.

The competition gives healthcare innovators the chance to demonstrate their work in front of more than 1,000 global experts and decision-makers at the next WISH Summit taking place in Qatar on 17-18 February 2015. WISH is in line with QF's mission to unlock human potential and underscore Qatar's pioneering role as an emerging centre for healthcare innovation.

The event will help to highlight innovations in a range of fields that have the potential to transform healthcare worldwide. Next year's WISH Summit is aimed at addressing and trying to find solutions to the most pressing global health issues and is part of QF's mandate to launch initiatives to help drive the nation towards fundamental healthcare development and reform.

Winners of the 'Innovation Showcases' competition will be selected by a panel of distinguished experts including Professor the Lord Darzi of Denham, Executive Chair of WISH and Director of the Institute of Global Health Innovation at Imperial College London; Dr Hanan Al Kuwari, Managing Director of Hamad Medical Corporation; Tim Brown of global ideas consultancy IDEO; and social innovator and entrepreneur Bright Simons, President of mPedigree Network.

Commenting about the importance of WISH and the 'Innovation Showcases' Lord Darzi said: "Innovation is at the heart of what we do, and the Summit represents a once in a lifetime opportunity for innovators to demonstrate their ideas to some of the most powerful and influential people in healthcare. This can be a real springboard for connecting with the right people and disseminating exciting new products and practices across the globe."



The eRanger, one of the winners of the 'Innovation Showcases' at WISH 2013, is already making an impressive impact in many parts of the world, including a partnership with the government of Kenya and St John Ambulance Medical Centre in Kenya to introduce a First Responder motorcycle. The eRanger is a versatile, robust cost-effective vehicle with the cargo capacity of a sidecar, which can help provide healthcare in hard to reach communities.

Mike Norman, eRanger's Founder and UK Managing Director, said: "The Summit gave us a remarkable opportunity to raise our profile and build awareness of our innovation.

"WISH is the perfect platform for health innovators, and we are delighted with the progress it has helped us make. Right now, we are working with health authorities in Uganda, the Philippines, Kenya and South Africa to create ground-breaking, life-changing projects."

The 'Innovation Showcases' competition closes on 31 October 2014. Interested applicants can apply by visiting the WISH website: <http://www.wish.org.qa/2015-summit/innovation-showcases>.

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Notes to Editors:

For more information please contact:

Noha El Afify

WISH Communications Manager

[nelafify@wish.org.qa](mailto:nelafify@wish.org.qa)

+974 77686624

### **About the World Innovation Summit for Health:**

The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) is a global healthcare community dedicated to capturing and disseminating the best evidence-based ideas and practices. WISH is an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) and is under the patronage of Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, its Chairperson.

The inaugural WISH Summit took place in Doha in 2013 and convened more than 1,000 global healthcare leaders. Through annual Summits and a range of ongoing initiatives, WISH is creating a global community of leading innovators in healthcare policy, research and industry. Together, they are harnessing the power of innovation to overcome the world's most urgent healthcare challenges and inspire other stakeholders to action.

### **Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential**

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the



world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF carries out its mission through three strategic pillars: Education, Science and Research, and Community Development. QF's Education pillar brings world-class universities to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. Meanwhile, its science and research pillar builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercializing solutions through key sciences. Finally, its community development pillar helps foster a progressive society while also 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 [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa).

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