



## **QATAR FOUNDATION HOSTS LIVELY GOOGLE APPS EVENT**

*QF Continues To Embrace Cutting-Edge Technology To Support Student Learning*

**Doha, Qatar, 30 March 2016:** Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) recently hosted a two-day educational event that focused on deploying, integrating, and adopting Google Apps in Pre-University Education.

The event, which was held from 11<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March, took place in the Liberal Arts & Sciences Building in Education City, and welcomed over 200 education professionals and 20 Google instructors from all over the world.

The event reinforced QF's desire to unlock human potential by offering the best and most innovative form of academic curricula to stimulate the provision of a knowledge-based economy in Qatar, in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.

Operating under the umbrella of Pre-University Education, Qatar Foundation schools are leading adopters of Google Apps For Education (GAPE); a collaborative and integrated communication platform which complements educational needs in the classroom.

Rwdah F. Al Suwaidi, IT Project Manager at Pre-University Education, commented on the event, saying: "This is the second year that the AppsEvents Summit featuring Google Apps For Education has been held in Qatar. The event demonstrates Qatar Foundation's invaluable role in the field of global education. Additionally, it assists the country's overall development, contributing to an enriched knowledge-based economy. On a larger scale, this helps to position the country as a hub of academic excellence, dedicated to hosting prominent professional educational events, which attract leading professionals from around the region and the rest of the world."

The event, which featured inspiring keynotes, also conducted breakout sessions focusing on the authentic integration of multiple technological constructs with pedagogy, such as 'Gamification', which uses online gaming programmes to engage students. Apart from also offering educators the chance to explore Google technology, an overview of the opportunities and threats posed by advancing technology was also discussed during the summit.

James Sayer, Event Organiser and Director of Google Apps Events in Asia, said: "An integral part of the educational achievements of Qatar Foundation includes the commitment to incorporating cutting-edge technology into the classroom. QF school educators and technology team members are some of the most experienced GAPE integration specialists in the region. We had over 100 QF teachers in attendance this weekend, demonstrating an ongoing resolve to utilise the latest educational research and innovation in Qatari classrooms."

"The event is also invaluable as it brings together regional educators to discuss the progression of technology in Pre-University Education, providing a framework for best practices in Qatar," continued Mr Sayer.



As a keynote speaker and Google Certified Innovator, Brian Farrell a Canadian who has previously participated in Google Apps events in Japan, Abu Dhabi, and Dubai revealed: “Events like these are great for teachers to take a step back and focus on their teaching methods in a challenging and opportunistic technology environment.”

“Google Apps provides teachers with endless possibilities, which have the potential to transform the classroom and make valuable connections with influential social and cultural constructs, extending the world of learning to outside the school gates.”

**Captions:**

**Image 1:** Regional educators listen intently to guest speakers at the Google Apps For Education event, hosted by Qatar Foundation’s Pre-University Education.

**Image 2:** British Certified Google Trainer Dean Stokes presents an interactive talk on the incorporation of technology in education.

**-ENDS-**

**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. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation’s Chairperson. 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>