

WISE JOINS DISCUSSIONS AT TWO MAJOR GATHERINGS IN UNITED STATES

Presents Diverse Perspectives on 21st Century Skills at World Strategic Forum in Miami

Doha, Qatar, May 8, 2017 – The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) recently co-hosted a panel at the 2017 World Strategic Forum presented by the International Economic Forum of the Americas (IEFA) in Miami, Florida.

The World Strategic Forum was attended by over 1,200 delegates. A platform for partnership and dialogue among diverse actors in the global economy, the panel was designed to explore various approaches to meeting changing education challenges facing increasingly diverse learners of all ages and backgrounds worldwide.

The plenary panel, entitled ‘Preparing the Workforce of the Future’, was moderated by Stavros Yiannouka, CEO, WISE. The panelists included Mona Mourshed, who leads McKinsey & Company’s Global Education Practice; Eduardo Padron, President of Miami Dade College; Frank Azor, a Dell executive who helped Alienware grow to be a worldwide leader in PC gaming; and Khaled Helioui, the Tunisian-French CEO of the gaming platform, Bigpoint, and an engineer and angel investor.

The panelists reflected a variety of perspectives on how best to prepare young people, and all ages, for the constantly changing world of work. These included a call for greater personalized learning at the K-12 level and beyond, increased public-private sector collaboration, higher-education faculties which are enrolled and active in transforming learning spaces, and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Yiannouka pointed out a need for ongoing training at all ages, and for all individuals “to become more agile in the way they approach their careers, perhaps with greater emphasis on entrepreneurship.”

Additionally, WISE recently participated in a roundtable discussion at the Brookings Institution in Washington, D.C., entitled ‘Strengthening the Global Ecosystem to Foster Education For All’. The Center for Universal Education at Brookings, a think-tank, co-hosted the gathering with Teach For All, bringing together leaders from diverse sectors. The objective was to explore ways to improve access to quality education as called for in the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. The roundtable considered recommendations for greater investment in public schools to fuel a global ecosystem for building local capacity and supporting knowledge-sharing across borders.

The group agreed that leveraging the lessons from the health and other ecosystems by investing in innovation, building local capacity, and promoting knowledge-sharing could greatly accelerate progress toward ensuring all children have the opportunity to learn.

Follow-up discussions are planned to identify ways to support greater investment in global action, including a possible meeting at WISE 2017, to be held from November 14 – 16, in Doha.

In linking these communities and platforms, WISE, an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), facilitates better understanding, and supports concrete collaborative practices.

Image Caption

Image 1: Stavros N Yiannouka, CEO, WISE (left), leads a panel on 21st century skills at the World Strategic Forum in Miami, USA.

ENDS

About the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE):

WISE was established by Qatar Foundation in 2009 under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative thinking, debate, and purposeful action toward building the future of education. Through its authoritative research series and a range of on-going programs, WISE is a global reference in new approaches to education. The biennial global WISE Summit brings together over 1,500 educators, thought leaders, and decision makers from education, the arts, business, politics, civil society, and the media.

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a non-profit organization that supports Qatar on its journey to becoming a diversified and sustainable economy. QF strives to serve the people of Qatar and beyond by providing specialized programs across its innovation-focused ecosystem of education, research and development, and community development.

QF was founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, who shared the vision to provide Qatar with quality education. Today, QF's world-class education system offers lifelong learning opportunities to community members as young as six months through to doctoral level, enabling graduates to thrive in a global environment and contribute to the nation's development.

QF is also creating a multidisciplinary innovation hub in Qatar, where homegrown researchers are working to address local and global research and development challenges. By promoting a culture of lifelong learning and fostering social engagement through programs that embody Qatari culture, QF is committed to empowering the local community and contributing to a better world for all.

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