

WORLD INNOVATION SUMMIT FOR HEALTH ANNOUNCES HEALTH PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REPORT FOR 2016 CONFERENCE

Report by WISH and the World Bank to Address Challenges of Health Professional Education and Opportunities to Accelerate Progress towards Universal Health Coverage

Doha, Qatar, 12 October 2016: The World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) has announced it will publish a report focusing on the challenges of health professional education in order to stimulate debate and action on this important topic.

The report will be presented during a policy briefing session at the WISH 2016 Summit, taking place from 29th to 30th November in Doha, and will address the critical challenge of achieving Universal Health Coverage (UHC) in the midst of a chronic global shortage of competent health professionals.

World population increases, coupled with economic growth, have contributed to a higher demand for healthcare, increasing the pressure on healthcare workforces. In the absence of an accessible and competent health workforce, millions of people around the world will be unable to receive the services necessary to meet their needs.

The report is the result of a collaboration between the WISH and the World Bank Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice, with the support from an international advisory board. The report hopes to enable increased collaboration between governments, partners and the World Bank Group in addressing health workforce and education related issues to accelerate progress towards UHC.

Timothy Evans, Senior Director of the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank Group, and chair of the Health Professional Education Advisory Board, said: “More ambitious and innovative investments are urgently required to make sure the education of health workers is not the primary constraint to achieving Universal Health Coverage by 2030.”

Amidst the challenges and opportunities represented by the global consensus around UHC, this report aims to catalyse intelligent and bold ideas on how investments in the education of health workers can help accelerate progress towards UHC.

WISH, a global initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), is a meeting point for thousands of high-level policymakers, academics, and professionals. It has also evolved into a key platform for the dissemination of healthcare innovation and best practices.

The WISH 2016 Summit will feature nine research papers that highlight and address some of the world's most pressing healthcare challenges, including Healthy Populations, Precision Medicine, Investing in Health, Accountable Care, Cardiovascular Disease, Autism, Behavioral Insights, Genomics in the Gulf Region and Islamic Ethics, and Healthcare Workforce. Internationally-renowned experts will chair the discussions. For the first time, WISH will also report on its impact, locally and globally, on issues previously highlighted at the conference, such as diabetes and patient safety.

The summit will feature innovation showcases from around the world that are shaping the design, delivery, and financing of care, as well as a cohort of young innovators; emerging healthcare leaders under the age of 30, whose contributions to global health deserve wider recognition.

For further information about WISH, please visit www.wish-qatar.org and Twitter [@WISHQatar](https://twitter.com/WISHQatar).

Image Captions:

Image 1: Timothy Evans is Senior Director of the Health, Nutrition and Population Global Practice at the World Bank Group, and chair of the Health Professional Education Advisory Board.

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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 international summits and a range of on-going 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 organisation 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 Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir of Qatar, 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 commercialising 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 <http://www.qf.org.qa>