



## Once again ROTA joins hands with HBKU for Adult English Literacy Program

**Doha, Qatar, 28th September 2013:** Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) has once again joined hands with selected Hamad Bin Khalifa Universities for the Adult English Literacy (RAEL) initiative to help low-skilled workers improve their English language skills.

The RAEL initiative kicked off its 2013-14 program with a two-day 'Training The Trainer' course for new volunteer student tutors.

This year, 36 volunteers representing Georgetown University School of Foreign Service, Texas A & M University, Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, Carnegie Mellon University, and Reach Out To Asia, were trained in RAEL 'Training of Trainers' at ROTA on 20th and 21st September.

After completing the course developed by Qatar Milestone Training Solutions (QMTS), qualified Literacy Trainers will go on to deliver a specially created curriculum to low-skilled workers employed at four Education City universities and Reach Out To Asia .

*"Being part of the REAL program is one of the best parts of my job. Since 2009, I have been involved in REAL as the curriculum developer and teacher training, and it has been a very rewarding experience, says Silvia Pessoa. "With the new revised curriculum developed in collaboration with Natalia Gatti, we hope that the experience of teaching and training will be even more meaningful."*

ROTA's Adult English Literacy initiative enables workers to achieve personal goals and improve life opportunities. By teaching laborers who work within their own campus, the student volunteer tutors also affirm each university's commitment to social responsibility and lifelong learning.

*"We have held a successful RAEL 'Training the Trainer' course. The volunteers were so excited and enthusiastic. The courses are held twice a year (September and February) for each cohort of trainers delivering ROTA's literacy training program. Course topics include learning to teach the ROTA Literacy curriculum, understanding the issues affecting low-income migrant workers, methods to facilitate adult learning, and the use of facilitation and community-based learning*



tools," says  
Abdulla  
Community Development Manager at ROTA.

Albakri,

*"It is such a great honor for us to develop and deliver RAEL 'Training the Trainer' courses for ROTA. Such programs match our vision where we aim to give an opportunity for all who live in this blessed country to contribute to nation building and at the same time to be able to develop and realize their potential," said 'Waseem Munla' of QMTS.*

ROTA's Adult English Literacy classes are taught during a 16-week period split into two terms. The first term begins in 22<sup>nd</sup> of September and ends in 22<sup>nd</sup> of December, with the second term starting in February and finishing in April 2014.

Inaugurated in 2009, the ROTA's Adult English Literacy program was created to develop the English literacy and language abilities of Qatar's low-skilled migrant workers. During the 2012-13 season, 73 university students taught basic and intermediate level English classes to 130 workers employed across the four universities, with cleaners, pantry staff and other support staff among the Education City workers learning improved English language skills.

*"I think that the ROTA training helped me a lot in preparing myself mentally for my first ever teaching experience with adults. I plan on using the skills imparted to me by the trainers in the best possible manner to positively impact the lives of migrants who have chosen to enter this program to improve their skills," said Ahwaz Akhtar, one of the student volunteer tutor from Georgetown University- Qatar.*

For more information about all Reach Out To Asia's programs in Qatar and 11 Asian countries, visit [www.reachouttoasia.org](http://www.reachouttoasia.org) or the ROTA Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/reachouttoasia](http://www.facebook.com/reachouttoasia)

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**About ROTA**



Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organization launched in December 2005 in Doha, Qatar, by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassabint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Operating under the auspices of the Qatar Foundation, ROTA is committed to providing high quality and relevant primary and secondary education, encouraging relationships among communities, creating safe learning environments and restoring education in crisis affected areas across Asia and around the world. ROTA envisions a world, where all young people have access to the education they need in order for them to realize their full potential and shape the development of their communities.

Further information on Reach Out To Asia can be found at:

[www.reachouttoasia.org](http://www.reachouttoasia.org)

### **About Qatar Foundation**

Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, and chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation is a private, non-profit organization committed to the principle that a nation's greatest natural resource is its people. The headquarters of Qatar Foundation are located within its flagship project, Education City. A fourteen million square-metre campus, Education City is home to numerous progressive learning institutions and centers of research, including branch campuses of six of the world's leading universities, plus a cutting-edge science and technology park. Qatar Foundation also works to enhance the quality of life in Qatar by investing in 'Education, Science and Technology and Community Health and Development'.