

QF R&D AND QNL COLLABORATE TO MANAGE QATAR'S RESEARCH EFFORTS

Data-Focused Project to Enhance Accessibility and Impact of QNRF-funded Research

Doha, Qatar, August 21, 2017: Discoveries and data produced by Qatar's research community will be managed in a more streamlined and accessible way through a new collaboration between Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) and Qatar National Library (QNL).

The QF R&D-QNL Research Data Project will establish a framework for ensuring the outcomes of projects supported by Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) are stored, preserved, and communicated effectively. The aim is to increase their visibility, maximize their potential for impact, and sharpen Qatar's research focus on the nation's highest priorities.

QNRF – which is part of QF R&D – and QNL, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), will work together to build capacity for research data management through the development of policies, skills, and infrastructure, while joint workshops with the research community will enhance data management skills.

"The rapid acceleration in the level of Qatar's research output in the decade since QNRF's establishment has created the need for frameworks and processes that ensure the products of the nation's vibrant R&D enterprise have the greatest, and most enduring, value and impact," said Dr. Abdul Sattar Al-Taie, Executive Director, QNRF.

"By harnessing QNRF's capacity to facilitate mission-driven research, to the data management and curation expertise of QNL, this partnership will support the cultivation of a research culture in Qatar, and add a valuable new element to the support and guidance that QNRF provides to its awardees. It will bring a cohesive approach to research data management that helps to ensure the fruits of Qatar's R&D efforts are transparent, focused, accessible, and capable of benefiting the nation both now and into the future."

The project will collate data from previous, ongoing, and future projects funded through QNRF's portfolio of programs, as well as from public reports and publications in high-impact scientific journals. An online planning tool will capture the data, and QNL's digital repository will be upgraded to support the curation and reuse of valuable research data sets.

"Both QNL and QNRF share the common goal of nurturing the creation of knowledge," said Susan Reilly, Director of the Digital Library, Licensing and Copyright, QNL. "This joint effort towards increasing the accessibility of research information was a natural route for us."

"Guided by our vision to promote discovery, and our consistent efforts to spread knowledge, this partnership will serve to increase the visibility and impact of Qatar's research outputs. Partnerships such as this are what will help to propel Qatar forward and aid in the country's future growth and development."



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Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D)

Qatar Foundation Research and Development (QF R&D) is charged with the Qatar National Research Strategy, dedicated to making Qatar a leading centre for research and development excellence and innovation. QF R&D is home to Qatar National Research Fund, a leading scientific research funding organization, and Qatar Science & Technology Park (QSTP), an international hub for technology innovation and commercialization.

For more information, please visit www.qfrd.org

Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF)

Driven by the aim of fostering a culture of research in Qatar, QNRF was established in 2006 to advance knowledge and education by acting as a support system for researchers.

QNRF, part of Qatar Foundation Research and Development, administers funding for original, competitively selected research and furthers collaborations within academia, the public, private, governmental and non-governmental sectors through effective, mutually beneficial partnerships. While QNRF actively seeks internationally-recognized researchers, it is dedicated to funding research that meets the needs of Qatar. For more information, visit: www.qnrf.org

Qatar National Library

Qatar National Library (QNL), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, acts as a steward of Qatar's national heritage by collecting, preserving and making available the country's recorded history. In its role as a research library with a preeminent heritage collection, QNL fosters and promotes greater global insight into the history and culture of the Gulf region. As a public library, QNL provides equal access for all Qatari residents to an environment that supports creativity, independent decision-making and cultural development. Through all its functions, QNL provides leadership to the country's library and cultural heritage sector.

QNL also supports Qatar's transition from a reliance on natural resources to become a diversified and sustainable economy by providing support to students, researchers, and the public to promote life-long learning and empower individuals and communities for a better future. The QNL project was announced on 19 November 2012 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation.



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>