



عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

QATAR CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER
ANNUAL REPORT
2017





عضو في مؤسسة قطر
Member of Qatar Foundation

QATAR CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER
ANNUAL REPORT
2017

www.qcdc.org.qa

ABOUT

QATAR CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER (QCDC)

Qatar Career Development Center is a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development, and part of its Community Development division. QCDC aims to be the country's beacon for career guidance, preparing therefore the young national human capital to respond to the requirements of the Qatar National Vision 2030, by first and foremost instilling career guidance within Qatar's socio-economic culture.



QCDC supports Qatari capacity building and empowers youth to better plan their career paths in line with their potential and the future needs of Qatar's labor market. The center also equips parents and career guidance and development practitioners with the tools and information needed so they may best advise and guide their children and students.

In striving to develop a qualified human capital, therefore contribute to achieving the pillars of the Qatar National Vision 2030, particularly human, social and economic pillars, QCDC has adopted a business model that rests on the following triad:

1. QCDC's alignment with and organic link to the QNV 2030, its resulting National Strategies, specifically the Education and Training Sector Strategy, as well as QF Community Development division's strategy
2. QCDC's embodiment of all three pillars of the career guidance discipline, these being:
 - 1) Career education and training
 - 2) Career awareness and interest building
 - 3) Career knowledge creation, sharing and utilization
3. QCDC's demand driven operations in response to the specific needs and gaps of Qatar's career guidance ecosystem.

To choose their best career pathway, students need to take into consideration the four pillars of career guidance systems, namely students career preferences; their capabilities; the demands of the labor market; and the necessary experience required.

Recognizing that there are several influencing parties that play different roles in the future of young Qataris, QCDC also works closely with a range of stakeholder such as parents, counselors, relevant practitioners and professionals, as well as career advisors.

One of QCDC's new strategies is the introduction of platforms and services that are rooted in research-proven activities. Over the past six Qatar Career Fairs, and through numerous surveys and activities, QCDC has compiled information that once analyzed, will pave the way for the development of new initiatives which will benefit the youth and the labor market.

Part of QCDC's work also involves exploring the local, regional, and international scenes to collect findings about current and future career needs and practices.

Drawing on the above, it becomes clear that QCDC's work is strongly aligned with Qatar Foundation's (QF) aspiration to unlock human potential by mostly providing quality education and diversified human capital investment. As part of QF's efforts in this direction, QCDC supports its goal of empowering and supporting young people from their first day of school, all the way through to advanced postgraduate studies. QCDC also contributes towards QF's goal of achieving social and economic prosperity by building stronger communities through lifelong learning and other related endeavors.

Table of CONTENTS

Qatar Career Development Center Annual Report 2017

Our Mission, Vision, Values, Audience and Stakeholders **06**

01 About Qatar Career Development Center



04 Director's Message

2016-2017 Achievements **08**

Students Career Management Skills Programs **14**

10 QCDC in the News



18 Counselors and Professionals Outreach Programs and Trainings

Career Knowledge Creation and Sharing **22**

Career Guidance Stakeholders Platform 2016 Recommendations' Follow-up **31**

26 Local, Regional and International Partnerships



34 Our 2017-2018 Strategic Objectives

Partners of the Year **36**

Contact us

 www.qcdc.org.qa
 (+974) 44546815
 qcdc@qf.org.qa

Follow our social media pages:



@QCDCQatar



DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Qatar Career Development Center celebrates another year of achievements with successful awareness programs and innovative initiatives that mark another milestone in our journey to cement the center's position as a beacon for career guidance in Qatar.

As part of its ever-evolving strategy, last year, QCDC, formerly known as Qatar Career Fair, underwent a business redefinition exercise that not only involved a rebranding campaign but also a refocusing of the center's activities and programs, which have become more geared toward bridging the gap between Qatar's education sector and its labor market.

QCDC, however, remains committed to the same principles and integrated strategy in support of Qatar Foundation's vision of excellence; a vision that focuses on providing quality education to Qatari youth who represent the backbone of our nation.

QCDC will remain committed to supporting Qatari youth as we guide them into choosing the right career path and equip them with the necessary skills to excel in the workplace. These objectives fall in line with our mission to develop a

highly qualified workforce that meets the needs of the local labor market and empowers Qataris to cope with current and future economic challenges.

The recent crisis engulfing the region has proven QCDC right about directing its efforts towards honing the skills of our youth and laying the foundations for a skilled workforce that meets the diverse needs of our local economy and contributes to the nation's self-sufficiency.

Under the wise guidance of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of the state of Qatar, our nation has worked to ensure a better future for its people as well as to foster scientific progress by promoting research and innovation in various disciplines to the benefit of Qatar and its citizens.

We are honored to follow in His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani's footsteps, with a commitment to the professional development of youth so that they can achieve their potential and meet the requirements of the Qatar National Vision 2030.

ABDULLA AL-MANSOORI
DIRECTOR





OUR MISSION

Our mission is to be a model career guidance center recognized for its invaluable contributions to having a highly accomplished Qatari human capital.



OUR VISION

Our vision is to support Qatari capacity building in alignment with the QNV 2030 and the aims of a knowledge-based economy, by nurturing Qatar's youth potential via career guidance and learning.



OUR VALUES

- Social and National Responsibility
- Clear Vision
- Continuous Strive Towards Betterment
- High Standards of Professionalism
- Development and Progress
- Pioneering and Leadership
- Innovation, Creativity and Initiative
- Knowledge and Experience
- Team Spirit
- Healthy Work Environment



OUR AUDIENCE

- Pre-university students
- University students and fresh graduates
- Parents
- Academic advisors and professional counselors
- Human capital specialists and practitioners
- Career guidance academics and researchers

OUR PARTNERS

- Ministries and governmental entities
- Academic, research and educational organizations
- Academic and educational policy and decision makers
- Public and private sectors
- NGOs/NPOs
- Specialized professional organizations and associations



2016/2017 ACHIEVEMENTS

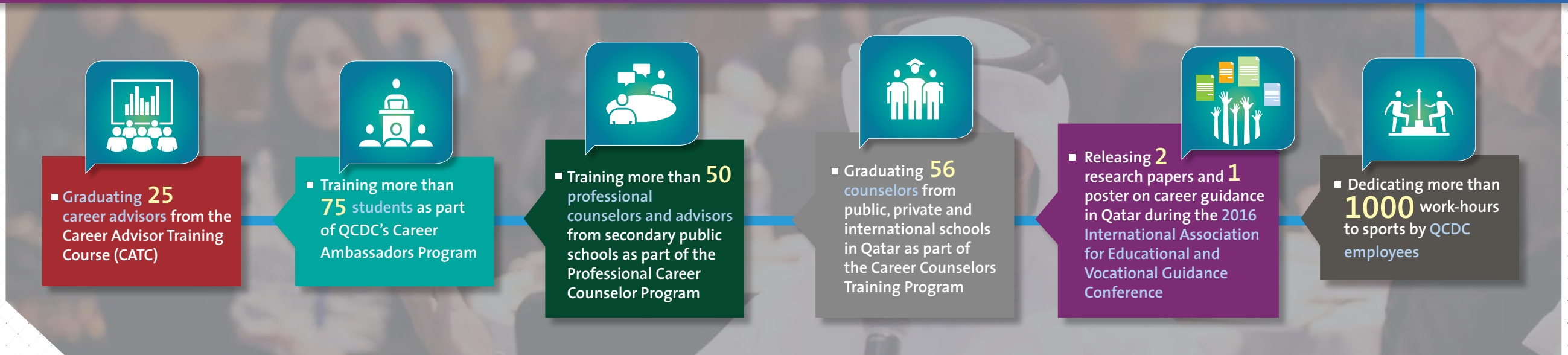
• The transition from Qatar Career Fair (QCF) to Qatar Career Development Center (QCDC).

♦ The transition from QCF to QCDC places emphasis on the latter's aim of becoming Qatar's leading career development and guidance center. At the heart of QCDC's work are its efforts in nurturing youth by providing them with career guidance and equipping them with work skills, while also promoting a culture of career development within Qatar. These efforts lay the foundations for a highly qualified workforce that adapts to the dynamics of Qatar's labor market and fulfills the growing local

demand for labor, thus enabling us to address current and future economic challenges.

♦ QCDC's approach is based on three anchors of career guidance all designed to empower Qatar's youth, because choosing a career goes beyond just selecting a profession. The three anchors are:

1. Delivering structured career education and training
2. Instilling multifaceted career awareness, understanding and interest
3. Producing, sharing and utilizing career knowledge



Qatar Career Fair explores ways to enhance development of youth

Qatar Career Fair (QCF) recently held its first 'Career Counsellors' Follow-up Meeting at the Education City Clubhouse (ECC). The meeting, held on September 21, was part of a newly launched initiative by QCF that includes a series of Career Guidance Stakeholders Engagement and Professional Development events.

The meeting was attended by 30 academic counsellors and career guidance practitioners in Qatar, who were divided into two groups to discuss new career guidance development initiatives to better serve Qatari youth.

QCF Director, Abdullah Ahmed Al Mansoori, said, "Career guidance is an organised educational process that assists students to explore their career path based on their capabilities and skills. At QCF, we are committed to developing all aspects of career guidance to enable Qatari youth to realise their full potential and help drive Qatar's transformation into a sustainable and diverse knowledge-based economy."

Commenting on his participation, Salah El Din El-Hawary, academic

counsellor at Omar bin Abdulaziz Independent Secondary School for Boys, said, "In my focus group, we explored topics such as the challenges facing academic counsellors in schools and the different ways in which the Ministry of Education and Higher Education can help us enhance our role. The introduction of academic counselling to the school curriculum, which is initiated by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, is planned to be piloted during this academic year in 10 schools, was also discussed."

Highlighting the efforts of QCF, a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), in advancing the role of academic counsellors, El-Hawary, said, "QCF provides academic counsellors with a discussion platform and is using our work, through proposing the launch of a specific club, where counsellors from independent and international schools in Qatar can meet to exchange knowledge and experiences."

Group one explored the outcomes from the 'Professionalisation of Career Guidance Practices' focus group discussion that was held during the Career



Abdullah Ahmed Al Mansoori (right), Director of QCF, and Phil Harrington, President and CEO of Kuder Inc., during the career counsellors follow-up meeting.

Guidance Stakeholders Platform in May 2016. They also charted ways to help pave the way for the 2017 event.

Group two was responsible for discussing the experience of the Career Advisor Training Course (CATC) participants with the QCF Career Advising System and were tasked with suggesting ways to enhance the programme within a clear timeframe and strategy.

At the end of the meeting, the last batch of participants of the CATC received their certificates of completion from the President of Kuder Inc., a world leader in career planning services and one of QCF's strategic partners. A Kuder delegation attended the

meeting as part of their visit to QCF last week to discuss the on-going projects and the possible future collaboration opportunities in the field of career guidance in Qatar.

Phil Harrington, President and CEO of Kuder Inc., said, "Attending the meeting has highlighted how passionate the academic counsellors and the career guidance practitioners are about serving youth in Qatar."

"We are honoured to partner with QCF, an organisation that has a clear vision on how to meet the needs of career counsellors, students, parents, and the business community within the State of Qatar, as it continues to develop," Harrington added.

خلال معرض قطر المهني خبراء يناقشون سبل تطوير خدمة طلاب قطر

الحدث الذي

عقد مركز معرض قطر المهني مؤخرًا في المرسى المهني، الأول في الساحة الاجتماعية بالمدنية التعليمية، وبعد هذا اللقاء جرت من سبيل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر. حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر، حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر، حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر.

شارك في اللقاء خبراء من مختلف المؤسسات التعليمية، حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر، حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر، حيث ناقش الخبراء سبل تطوير الخدمة الطلابية في قطر.

وقال السيد عبد الله أحمد المنصور، المدير التنفيذي لمركز معرض قطر المهني، بالموافقة على التوجيه المهني هو عملية تربية منضبطة ومخططة تهدف إلى مساعدة الطالب على اكتشاف ميوله وقدراته وشخصيته المهنية، مما يساعده على اختيار المسار المهني المناسب له. لذلك نركز في مركز معرض قطر المهني على مختلف جوانب تطوير هذا المجال بما يحكم أهداف المركز الرامية إلى تمكين الشباب القطري، والمساهمة في تحقيق رؤية التنمية البشرية الواردة في رؤية قطر الوطنية 2030.

Seminar discusses career planning

Career guidance

The seminar outlined career planning and guidance practices in Qatar and provided suggestions on how to improve and enhance the nation's career guidance system. The event brought together officials, school counsellors, and professional consultants.

The Peninsula

Qatar Career Development Center (QCDC) has invited high school students to participate in their Career Village initiative, which takes place at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) Student Center on April 26-27, from 9am to 4pm.

Career Village brings together representatives from leading Qatari-based corporations and institutions from numerous industries including education, finance, health, energy, manufacturing, construction, media and military.

The event aims to instill a strong career culture among Qatari high school students and to familiarise them with the dynamics and challenges of the country's labour market in addition to introducing them to career fields that enable them to leave their country.



QCDC takes part in global meet on educational and vocational guidance



QCDC recently participated in a conference organised by the International Association of Career Development (IACOD) in London, UK. The event was attended by representatives from various countries, including Qatar.

The conference focused on the latest trends and challenges in career guidance, with a particular emphasis on the role of technology and data in the field. QCDC representatives presented a paper on the Qatar Career Advising System, which was well-received by the audience.

QCDC Career Village on April 26

THIRING NEWS NETWORK

QATAR Career Development Center (QCDC) has invited high school students to participate in their Career Village initiative, which takes place at the Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU) Student Center on April 26-27, from 9am to 4pm.

Career Village brings together representatives from leading Qatari-based corporations and institutions from numerous industries including education, finance, health, energy, manufacturing, construction, media and military.

The event aims to instill a strong career culture among Qatari high school students and to familiarise them with the dynamics and challenges of the country's labour market in addition to introducing them to career fields that enable them to leave their country.

The first day of the event will be dedicated to male students while the second day will be dedicated to female students.

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

General Authority of Commis, Qatari University, Qatar, College of the North Atlantic-Qatar, Qatar National Bank, Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

Abdullah Al Mansoori, director of QCDC, said, "Career Village plays an important role in introducing students to new career paths and to the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

these initiatives to familiarise themselves with career options." Organizations participating in Career Village include Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, National Bank of Qatar, Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration, Industrial School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, Qatar Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ministry of Interior,

RECEIVING FREE COVERAGE

in print and online media worth

QAR 5,609,413

بموجب مذكرة تفاهم بين الجانبين

شراكة استراتيجية بين التعليم ومؤسسة قطر



الحدث الذي

وقعت وزارة التعليم والتعليم العالي مذكرة تفاهم مع مركز قطر للتطوير المهني، كمكمل عن مؤسسة قطر للتربية والعلوم وتنمية المجتمع وذلك لإقامة شراكة استراتيجية في كافة الأنشطة المرتبطة بمجال التوجيه الدراسي والمهني والتخطيطي، عبر الشكائ متنوعة من التعاون.

حضر مراسم التوقيع عن جانب وزارة التعليم والتعليم العالي السيدة ريم محمد أبو خديجة مديرة إدارة التوجيه التربوي، والسيدة عبدالله أحمد المنصور، المدير التنفيذي لمركز قطر للتطوير المهني عن جانب المركز. وأكدت السيدة ريم أبو خديجة أن هذه الشراكة تمثل عنصراً حاسماً في تحقيق العديد من النتائج المنشودة في رؤية قطر الوطنية 2030، واستراتيجية التنمية الوطنية للدولة 2017-2022. وقالت: «مركز قطر للتطوير المهني هو إحدى الجهات الناشطة في الدولة وهي جهود تدعم في تحقيق غاية الوزارة.

في مجال بناء القدرات البشرية،

QCDC highlights role of guidance in developing national workforce

The role of career guidance in developing the national workforce is a key theme of a seminar held by QCDC in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The event, which took place at Hamad Bin Khalifa University's Student Center, was attended by a large number of participants, including government officials, school counsellors, and professional consultants.



One of the speakers addressing the gathering.

QCDC recently participated in a conference organised by the International Association of Career Development (IACOD) in London, UK. The event was attended by representatives from various countries, including Qatar.

The conference focused on the latest trends and challenges in career guidance, with a particular emphasis on the role of technology and data in the field. QCDC representatives presented a paper on the Qatar Career Advising System, which was well-received by the audience.

المنصوري: نسعى لتأهيل جيل يخدم الوطن



«قطر للتطوير المهني» ينظم «القرية المهنية»

الليارات. وتضم القرية المهنية ممثلين عن شركات ومؤسسات رائدة في دولة قطر تمثل قطاعات التعليم، والإعلام والمال والأعمال والطاقة والصناعة والمواصلات والاتصالات والصحة والبلدية والبيئة والأمن وتهدف إلى ترسيخ الثقافة المهنية لدى طلاب وطالبات المرحلة الثانوية وإعدادهم لمواجهة التحديات التي يفرضها سوق العمل القطري، بالإضافة إلى تعريفهم بأفضل المجالات التي يمكن أن يخدموا الدولة من خلالها. وفي هذا الإطار أوضح عبدالله أحمد

المنصوري: الجهود المبذولة تفوق التوقعات



«قطر للتطوير المهني» ينظم «القرية المهنية»

ينظم مركز قطر للتطوير المهني عضو مؤسسة قطر للتربية والعلوم وتنمية المجتمع، «القرية المهنية» يومي 26 و 27 أبريل الجاري بمركز الطلاب التابع لجامعة حمد بن خليفة بالمدرسة التعليمية ودعا المركز طلاب المرحلة الثانوية من مختلف مدارس الدولة وأولياء الأمور والمدرسين المهنيين والأكاديميين للمشاركة في الفعالية التي سيخصص اليوم الأول فيها للجنين واليوم الثاني



WINTER CAREER CAMP 2017

QCDC celebrated the graduation of 30 preparatory school students who participated in its Winter Career Camp 2017 in a ceremony held on Thursday, 19 January 2017, at Hamad bin Khalifa University (HBKU) Student Center. The ceremony featured the distribution of certificates of participation to the students who took part in the camp.

The camp aims to instill a strong career culture among students and helps youth discover their skills and talents as part of an educational and recreational experience that empowers students to carefully choose their future careers.

The camp featured five days of interactive workshops designed to hone students' personal skills and develop their professional capacities. The workshops included 'Success Skills', which aimed to equip students with the basic skills to excel in the labor market and succeed in their careers, and 'Leadership Skills', which introduced students to leadership traits and the principles of successful teamwork.

Site visits included a trip sponsored by Msheireb Museums to the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Jassim House, where students listened to a lecture about the history of the heritage house and its cultural significance to Qatar before inspecting the paintings and archaeological exhibits in the building.

Students also visited Lusail City, where they learned about the smart and sustainable design of leading residential and recreational landmarks as well as the self-sufficiency plans that characterize the modern and unique project, which include a light railway network and a floating taxi system.

Students also toured the different facilities of Hamad International Airport, including observation towers, duty free shops, and airline and information offices. Additionally, participants visited the Immigration Department, where they learned about job opportunities at the airport and the responsibilities of each department.

Students gained knowledge of the work prospects offered by each institution and had first hand insight into the nature of jobs.

Building on its motto, 'Your Future in Your Hands,' QCDC has wrapped up the most recent edition of its Ambassadors Program, which kicked off in October 2016 to support preparatory and secondary school students.

The program aims to raise awareness among Qatari youth around professional development and equip students with the necessary skills to enable them to optimize their career and specialization plans, promoting a culture of initiative-taking, creativity and innovation.

The program is an effective tool that contributes to the promotion of youth initiatives and embodies a long-term investment in young Qatari leadership that will play an integral role in paving the way for a prosperous future for our country.

QCDC WRAPS UP CAREER AMBASSADORS PROGRAM

34 students from Omar bin Al Khattab Preparatory Independent School for Boys, Omar bin Al Khattab Secondary Independent School for Boys and Khalifa Secondary Independent School for Boys participated in this year's edition of the program, which featured various activities at HBKU Student Center in Education City. Additionally, 44 students from Al Bayan Secondary Independent School for Girls, Umm Hakeem Secondary Independent School for Girls, Al Ieman Secondary Independent School for Girls and Ruqaya Preparatory Independent School for Girls also took part in activities that were organized at their institutions.

The program featured months-long workshops that focused on positive thinking, communication and life skills, career planning, teamwork and event management.



I have benefited greatly from QCDC's workshop on how to create a positive self-image that helps us define future goals by identifying our concerns, abilities and capabilities."

Tayef Abdel Rahman Youssef
Student at Al Bayan Secondary
Independent School for Girls

THE CAREER VILLAGE

Q CDC was thrilled to host 600 high school students, parents and career counselors from various public schools across Qatar to participate in its Career Village event, which took place on April 26–27, 2017 at HBKU Student Center.

The event brought together representatives from leading Qatar-based companies and institutions from sectors including education, finance and business, energy and manufacturing, communications, health, municipalities, environment, media, and security.

The event was designed to familiarize high school students with career opportunities across various sectors, as well as the dynamics and challenges of Qatar's diverse labor market. Exhibitors presented a series of interactive workshops, and simulating real work practices to offer practical and hands-on experience and knowledge about career fields that will enable them to best serve their country.

Participating organizations included: the Ministry of Interior, the General Authority of Customs, Qatar Airways, Qatar Rail, Qatar News Agency, Qatar National Bank, the Qatar Banking Studies and Business Administration Independent School, Hamad Medical Corporation, RasGas, The Center for Geographic Information Systems at the Ministry of Municipality and Environment, Qatar Media Corporation, Ooredoo, Texas A&M University at Qatar, College of the North Atlantic-Qatar, Qatar Biobank, the Career Services Center at Qatar University, INJAZ Qatar, the Permanent Committee for Drugs and Alcohol Affairs, Qatar Scientific Club, and Total.



Exhibitors offered students insights into a range of work fields, as well as the scholarships and training programs they offer.

Career Village is one of several initiatives organized by QCDC to guide Qatari youth into making informed decisions that reflect positively on their academic and professional futures.

“We have been able to attract high school students to our pavilion at the Career Village, to introduce them to the opportunities and jobs at Hamad Medical Corporation as well as to familiarize them with our different departments. Representatives from the departments of radiology, medical laboratories, pharmacy, emergency, dentistry, medicine, have joined us today to educate children on healthcare.”

Dr. Mohammed Sultan Al-Darwish
Oral Care and Dental Health Consultant
at Hamad Medical Corporation

SUMMER CAREER CAMP 2017

Q CDC has successfully concluded the fourth edition of its Summer Career Camp, which attracted a large number of students who were eager to learn about their educational and career options. 55 secondary school students participated in the two-week long camp, which took place in July 2017.

The camp featured a variety of activities and educational programs, as well as stimulating workshops that offered practical skills and knowledge to help inspire students as they plan their future academic and career paths.

The camp included site visits to leading organizations in Qatar such as Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar Tourism Authority, Msheireb Museums, Qatar Development Bank, and Qatar Business Incubation Center. These visits offered a glimpse into different professions, and taught students about the career opportunities available at each organization. Students also participated in a number of workshops delivered by the organizations to help them match their abilities and skills with a variety of career choices.

As part of the educational workshops, the students learned how to write resumes and prepare for university admissions; both important skills as they progress through their academic and career paths.

The Summer Career Camp 2017 focused on additional topics such as entrepreneurship and handicraft projects, in order to demonstrate careers outside

traditional office jobs, including starting a business and making use of personal talents. Students also participated in a series of handicraft workshops, including a session on how to make perfume. The students were then given the opportunity to produce their own perfumes by mixing various oils and scents.

This year's camp featured special guest Sheikha Al Wadaani, a Qatari psychology major at the University of Sussex in England. In 2013, Al Wadaani created a new game as part of her participation in the INJAZ competition, where she won the 'Best Student Company in Qatar' award. Later, she participated in the INJAZ Al-Arab regional competition, where she was nominated for the 'Best Social Impact' award. Al Wadaani's game, titled 'Learn and Enjoy,' aims to teach students about different school curricula and subjects, and was inspired by the famous board game Monopoly.



“I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the camp, as we've benefited a lot from our participation. We learned how to decide on our academic choices and have a better understanding of our capabilities. I advise all students to join the coming editions of the camp, and urge them to work for the development of our country to achieve the Qatar National Vision, because Qatar deserves the best from its people.”

Mai Al Qubaisi
Student

Al Wadaani shared her success story with the students and invited them to modify her game to be more career-relevant. Students in turn shared what they learned during the Summer Career Camp.

QCDC and Al Wadaani have collaborated to develop a practical framework to launch a new version of the 'Learn and Enjoy' game focusing on four key areas: military, medicine, business, and tourism. The camp's attendees were divided into different groups to add more areas, topics, and questions to the game. This new version of the game will be used by QCDC in its various trainings, workshops, camps, and programs.

CAREER COUNSELORS FOLLOW-UP MEETING

30 academic counselors and career guidance practitioners from Qatar have participated in the 'Career Counsellors Follow-up Meeting' organized by QCDC in September 2016 as part of the center's efforts to support career guidance and professional development stakeholders.

Participants were divided into two groups to discuss new career guidance development initiatives to better serve the Qatari youth.

Group one explored the outcomes from the 'Professionalization of Career Guidance Practices' focus group discussion that was held during the Career Guidance Stakeholders Platform

in May 2016. They also charted ways forward to help in paving the way for the 2018 event.

Group two was responsible for assessing the experience of the Career Advisor Training Course (CATC) participants with the QCDC Career Advising System and was tasked with suggesting ways to enhance the program within a clear timeframe and strategy.

At the end of the meeting, the second batch of participants of the CATC received their certificates of completion from the President of Kuder Inc., a world leader in career planning services.



“ *In my focus group, we explored topics such as the challenges facing academic counselors in schools and the different ways in which the Ministry of Education and Higher Education can help us enhance our role. The introduction of Academic Counseling to the school curriculum, which is initiated by the Ministry of Education and planned to be piloted during this academic year in 10 schools, was also discussed. QCDC provides academic counselors with a discussion platform and is uniting our work, through proposing the launch of a specific club where counselors from independent and international schools in Qatar can meet to exchange knowledge and experiences.”*

Salah-El-Din El-Hawary
Academic counselor at Omar Bin Abdulaziz
Independent Secondary School for Boys

“ *I really believe these initiatives are valuable not only for Qatar Foundation-affiliated schools and students but for Qatar in general because they will have a lasting impact. QCDC is guiding the development of Qatari students which will help the country grow in the direction that it should and I'm glad to be a part of it.”*

Steve Stay
Career Counselor at Awsaj Academy

PROFESSIONAL CAREER COUNSELOR PROGRAM

Q CDC has concluded its four-day Professional Career Counselor program, which took place from 19 to 22 December 2016 at the Education City Clubhouse. The program saw the participation of more than 50 career counselors and educators from independent schools across Qatar.

The training program, a joint initiative between QCDC and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and in collaboration with Bedaya Center, aims to equip career counselors with the tools and resources they require in order to offer the best career counseling services to students so that they can properly chart their academic and career paths. This is especially important since professional and educational counseling remains a relatively new field in many of Qatar's independent and private schools.



This program also provides an opportunity for a comprehensive counseling development in the State of Qatar. Besides offering an advanced training for counselors, it underscores the principles of career guidance while providing participants with the strategies and resources they need to offer career counseling services and effectively guide students toward planning their academic and professional paths. As such, it complements the central efforts of QCDC in this field.

As part of an introductory session on career counseling, the participating counselors were introduced to the theoretical foundations of career counseling, as well as the role of professional counselors. Participants were also exposed to the basic skills of career counseling, which include the ability to think clearly, approach problems objectively, and arrive at innovative solutions, in addition to teamwork, effective communication, and critical thinking. Then counselors were also encouraged to differentiate their students and understand and evaluate their personal identities, in order to build their confidence and self-esteem. Finally, the program highlighted the significance of parental guidance in children choosing a suitable career path.

“ *Our goals can only be achieved by raising career counseling awareness among students and across all social sectors. Academic counsellors play a major role in coordinating and managing the process of academic and career counseling with effectiveness and competence. We value our partnership and collaboration with QCDC and Bedaya Center and appreciate their role in educating students in line with the Qatar National Vision 2030.”*

Mrs. Noor Al-Maadheed,
Head of Academic Counseling,
Ministry of Education and Higher
Education

3RD EDITION OF CAREER ADVISOR TRAINING COURSE CONCLUDES



The collaboration between QCDC and Sidra reflects the importance of knowledge and expertise exchange between members of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development in line with its mission to provide a better future for Qatar and its people.

This new batch of participants follows 40 other participants who have participated in the past three editions of the program.

For the third consecutive year, QCDC has organized the Career Advisor Training Course (CATC), the only bilingual program of its kind in Qatar and the GCC region. More than 25 employees from Sidra Medical and Research Center (Sidra) participated in the third edition of the course, which took place in February 2017, welcoming Sidra employees exclusively as part of a joint initiative with QCDC.

The course is designed to equip participants with essential career guidance and planning skills, as well as the necessary tools to assist Qatar's youth and workforce in their career journeys.

“We are pleased to work with QCDC in supporting the professional development of our HR and Learning and Development teams. Through this joint collaboration and the support of our leadership at Sidra, we are empowering them to identify, develop and nurture the talent and skills of our employees. Our focus goes beyond our current staff - it also takes into account the next generation of career professionals looking to join the healthcare sector.”

Dr. Kholode Al-Obaidli
Chief Learning Officer at Sidra

QCDC WRAPS UP 3RD EDITION OF CAREER COUNSELORS TRAINING PROGRAM

QCDC has successfully wrapped up the third edition of its Career Counselors Training Program, which was organized in partnership with the U.S. Embassy in Qatar, and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education in May 2017.

More than 23 newcomers participated in sessions tailored to provide level-specific training to independent school counsellors and equip them with the resources to offer the best counseling services to students, while 33 experienced counselors also joined discussions on issues such as the impact of counselor training programs

“This course was a wonderful opportunity to learn how to engage youth and communicate with various international academic institutions to the benefit of our students.”

Ahmed Aldiyat
Academic Advisor at Nasser bin Abdullah
Al Attiyah Secondary School for Boys

and efforts to professionalize career guidance practices. A number of key presentations were open to both beginner and experienced counselors.

By tailoring sessions to match school counselors' level of experience, QCDC sought to ensure that all participants gained the most from taking part in this important program, enabling them to empower Qatari youth to better serve the nation.

Margo McCoy, a U.S. licensed Professional Counselor, and Patrick Desbarats, Head of the Counselling and College Placement at the American School of Doha (ASD), delivered more than 15 presentations over a five-day period on topics ranging from post-secondary school options for students, to identifying the pillars of career and educational counselling.



QCDC PARTICIPATES IN CONFERENCE ON PROMOTING EQUITY THROUGH GUIDANCE

As part of its commitment to participate in international events relating to professional development and career guidance, QCDC participated in the 'Promoting Equity Through Guidance: Reflection, Action, Impact' conference that was organized by the International Association of Educational and Vocational Guidance (IAEVG) in Madrid from 15 – 18 November, 2016.

The event was aimed at contributing to the ongoing discussions on the impact of educational and vocational guidance and the importance of the support provided by institutions, governments and the private sector to promote personal, professional and academic development as well as creating more equitable, sustainable and cohesive communities. QCDC representatives contributed to several panels on the agenda of the



event and presented two papers on career guidance in Qatar and a poster outlining the training programs offered by QCDC to support school counsellors and career guidance experts in Qatar.

A delegation from QCDC also participated in a symposium that brought together representatives from 22 local and international organizations to discuss the best approach to share knowledge and exchange information as well as the need for cooperation to advance professional development policies. Participants also discussed the possibility of coordinating efforts to support professional development in various countries.

The conference's sessions also touched on various other topics including the provision of professional services for immigrants and refugees, intervention during difficult economic times and issues relating to career development and public policy.

Representatives from QCDC familiarized participants with the center's initiatives and programs. It outlined its efforts to support Qatar's youth in achieving a better professional future through training and consultancy services as well as to instill career guidance within Qatar's culture through programs, initiatives and activities relating to professional development and career guidance, and the development of the state's career guidance policies.



QCDC DISCUSSES ROLE OF CAREER GUIDANCE IN DEVELOPING THE NATIONAL WORKFORCE

As part of its efforts to promote career guidance in Qatar, QCDC organized in February 2017 a seminar on the role of career guidance in developing the national workforce and contributing to Qatar's transition towards a knowledge-based economy. The seminar outlined career planning and guidance practices in Qatar and provided suggestions on how to improve and enhance the nation's career guidance system. Participants also touched on global career guidance practices and discussed the advantages and challenges of implementing such practices.

The seminar also underscored the role of career guidance in supporting Qatar's human development pillar as part of the National Vision 2030 through the development of a national workforce that contributes to overcoming the challenges of the transition from a carbon-based to a knowledge-based economy.

The seminar was moderated by Sylvia Nassar, a Professor and Doctoral Program Coordinator of Counselor Education at North Carolina State University. Dr. Nassar has served in a variety of clinical mental health, school, and college settings over the past 30 years, and launched several initiatives to promote the professionalism of counseling and counselor education.

She has published nearly 90 books, refereed articles, and other instructional materials and delivered more than 100 conference presentations.

"We thank QCDC and Dr. Sylvia Nassar for offering us the opportunity to participate in events that contribute to the development of our skills and competencies. I have greatly benefited from Dr. Nassar's expertise."

Mohamed Soueileh
Academic Advisor at Ahmed Bin Hanbal
Independent Secondary School for Boys



QCDC ISSUES 7TH EDITION OF 'CAREER GUIDE' MAGAZINE

QCDC has released the 7th issue of its career magazine entitled 'Career Guide'. The annual magazine aims to provide a wealth of information for the Qatari youth, school and university graduates, parents, researchers and experts in the fields of career guidance and human development.

The guide is part of QCDC's comprehensive activities and programs to promote and nurture a career

culture among members of Qatar's society, helping young people choose an occupation that aligns with their skills and aspirations, while making appropriate educational and professional choices.

The latest issue offers information and tips from career development experts to those looking for assistance in planning their career path. The magazine begins with an overview of the various activities and events organized by Qatar Career Development Center throughout the year, followed by the "Choosing a Career" section, which features five interviews with Qatar-based professionals who discuss their work in the fields of dentistry, buildings inspection, research, art and programming. By sharing their experiences, they provide an overview of the skills required in each profession and what it takes to succeed in these fields.

Following sections touch on the key role that parents play in the success of their children, and highlight the importance of the National Service Program in Qatar, which contributes to enhancing critical thinking skills among youth and developing other positive personality traits such as responsibility, mutual respect and diligence.





Over the past few years, QCDC has invested great efforts in developing a comprehensive strategic partnership framework that engages an equally diverse and robust body of carefully selected career guidance stakeholders inside and outside Qatar. In light of the latest regional developments, this strategy has become relevant more than ever to ensure that the country continues its development course towards the human capital development, innovation and sustainability trajectories.

Throughout the course of 2016 and first quarter of 2017, QCDC technical experts conducted a series of exercises, followed by review sessions, in order to identify the most valuable stakeholders in four levels, namely institutional, national, regional and international, and the best ways to engage and interact with them. The outcomes of the technical sessions were linked to specific goals and objectives and turned into concrete action plans.

ON THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL

QCDC has established or solidified relationships beyond typical interaction with premier entities within Qatar Foundation (QF), such as the Pre-University Education Division, QF branch university campuses, the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE), Sidra, the Community Development Leadership and the Strategic Planning Department, as well as outside the corporate environment with Qatar University, the US Embassy in Qatar, Education USA, KidzMondo, Meeza, SAP and Silatech.

ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Throughout the course of the 2016-2017, QCDC technical experts hosted a series of meetings, ad-hoc or on quarterly and semi-annually basis with national career guidance stakeholders, including the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Transportation and Communication as well as the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics, and continued to leverage the momentum created by the Career Guidance Stakeholders Platform in May 2016. The aim of the scheduled sessions was to build on the findings and results of the Platform and to lay the foundations for a new integrated career guidance system within the framework of Qatar's Education and Training Sector Strategy 2017-2022.

QCDC also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, designed to promote educational and career guidance-related activities and support professional development in Qatar.

The agreement promotes cooperation between QCDC and the Ministry through the exchange of expertise and knowledge, and the organization of joint programs and initiatives. One of the most important cooperation aspects is the integration of QCDC's Career Advising System (CAS) into the national education framework.



CAS was developed by QCDC in cooperation with Kuder Inc, a world leader in career planning services. It is a comprehensive career assessing and planning solution that assists students in choosing an education and career path that best matches their skills and interests.

The ratification of the MoU will pave the way for further cooperation between the Ministry and QCDC, building on previous joint initiatives to promote the center's strategic support for Qatar and its youth. The partnership agreement also represents a crucial step towards the accomplishment of the objectives of the Qatar National Vision 2030 and the National Development Strategy 2017-2022.

ON THE REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL LEVELS

Q CDC has established relationships or strengthened ties with reputed institutions, such as the Asia Pacific Career Development Association (APCDA), the International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance (IAEVG) and other distinguished academics and professionals from North America, Europe and Asia in the field of career guidance and development. The Center also presented part of its research in the form of two papers and a poster to the 2016 IAEVG Conference in Madrid, Spain.



CAREER GUIDANCE STAKEHOLDERS PLATFORM 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS' FOLLOW-UP



Almost a year has passed since QCDC wrapped up the latest edition of its Career Guidance Stakeholders Platform, complete with a set of strategic recommendations aimed at embedding career guidance within Qatar's socio-economic culture.

Throughout the course of the 2016-2017 academic year, a series of post platform meetings were held with career guidance stakeholders that continued to leverage the platform's momentum, build on its findings and results, and pave the way for the bi-annual event's next edition, planned for the spring of 2018.

Most of the platform's strategic recommendations have been implemented, laying the foundations for a new integrated career guidance system within the framework of Qatar's Education and Training Sector Strategy 2017-2022.

The new system rests on a joint action plan designed to strengthen collaboration between various career guidance stakeholders in Qatar. These include the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics, Qatar Foundation (QF), and QF partner universities, among other academic institutions and key stakeholders.



CAREER GUIDANCE STAKEHOLDERS PLATFORM 2016 RECOMMENDATIONS' FOLLOW-UP



QCDC took concrete steps to put the joint action plan into motion along three axes: ensuring the future Qatari workforce has access to professional development through qualified academic and career counselors in Qatar; implementing a coordinated program across universities and colleges to promote a culture of counseling and career guidance among students; and making use of Qatar's advanced IT infrastructure to create and develop an electronic system for career guidance.

Along the first axis, QCDC, in partnership with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education and the U.S. Embassy in Doha, held a series of training programs for public and private school counselors. The training programs were followed by a series of meetings with representatives from QF and the Ministry of Education and Higher Education to discuss the alignment of international career guidance practices with the Qatari reality, and to provide insights into the review process of the Education and Training Sector Strategy 2017-2022.

The meetings culminated in a roadmap for the implementation of projects in line with the Education and Training Sector Strategy, as well as the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. The MoU focuses on student and career counselor development in addition to the promotion of stakeholder engagement and research efforts.

The MoU also featured the introduction of QCDC's career guidance system in the educational process of students. The system, which was developed in cooperation with Kuder, a world leader in career planning services, represents a comprehensive and valuable assessment and planning tool that will help students explore the educational and professional options which best fit their abilities and interests.

Along the second axis, QF and QCDC have planned collaboration frameworks to meet the needs of QF's Pre-University Education (PUE) entities and its partner universities.

The first collaboration framework with PUE is designed to meet the career guidance needs of students across QF academies and to contribute to the implementation of a two-tier Community Transition Program (CTP). The CTP pilot project by The Learning Centre (TLC) and Awsaj Academy caters for students with no access to Awsaj Academy's general curriculum and aims at preparing youth to join the professional world.

The collaboration framework with QF partner universities, on the other hand, contributed to the design of a post-graduation career-options model that was presented to QF graduates during the last Convocation 2017 ceremony. The model aims to provide a fully-fledged roadmap tailored to the career related needs of alumni from QF universities to help bridge the gap between graduates and employers.

Along the third and final axis, QCDC is planning a strategic partnership with a multinational software corporation and other government agencies to integrate customized and need-based IT solutions into the national career guidance framework. The solutions build on the QCDC-Kuder Career Planning System and the completion of the CATC Project.

QCDC continuously reviews and introduces necessary structural changes to keep its Career Guidance Stakeholders Engagement Platform relevant and up to date. The latest structural changes involve a shift in focus from engaging individuals to engaging institutions in Qatar and the GCC region.

The 2016 edition of the Career Guidance Stakeholders Engagement Platform, a first event of its kind in Qatar, brought together more than 150 experts to discuss efforts to advance and support career guidance as a powerful means for personal, social, educational and economic success of young Qataris, and Qatari society in general.

This support is instrumental to the success of Qatar's Education and Training Sector Strategy and the accomplishment of the Qatar National Vision 2030 (QNV2030), particularly the Human Development Pillar.

The input received from stakeholders since then has been compiled and interpreted to address specific needs in terms of training and professional development for career practitioners today and in the near future. The findings were also assessed to better plan for the next platform scheduled to take place in 2018.





2017-2018 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

QCDC is joining forces with various partners and career guidance professionals on the local, regional and international levels to achieve a set of goals that meet the needs of its target audience, whether by reviewing its existing programs and services or introducing new ones. QCDC's goals for 2017-2018 can be summarized as follows:

FIRST: ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL CAREER GUIDANCE SERVICE AND STRATEGY

The Center will work to lay the foundation for a national career development strategy, which will mainly feature a central and integrated center for career development services. The Center will provide programs aimed at enabling students and graduates to make the right career choices and will contribute to the development of a career guidance culture in Qatar that empowers the country's future workforce.

The center will also organize and standardize career development practices across different school systems, higher education and the labor market while providing students, graduates, parents, schools, universities and professional counselors with access to information on professional development, as well as education activities that transcend their field of study and academic disciplines.

SECOND: EMPOWERING THE PRIVATE SECTOR

QCDC will also develop a strategy dedicated to promoting the private sector as a viable and alternative career option. The strategy aims at gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges facing the private sector and providing support to ensure that private companies can attract and recruit Qatari graduates.

THIRD: PROVIDING INFORMATION ON THE LABOR MARKET

QCDC will pursue its research to gain a deeper understanding of the labor market and identify the future skills that Qatar needs to build a competitive economy. This requires relevant educational entities and sectors to further engage with the labor market in a bid to provide insight into the evolving set of skills needed to meet the future requirements of the labor market.

2017-2018 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

FOURTH: RAISING CAREER AWARENESS

QCDC will continue to provide in-depth career related information to assist parents and students in making informed career choices. Awareness and career development campaigns will target school students with the aim of familiarizing and encouraging youth to explore the work environment to create a positive attitude toward work.

FIFTH: ENCOURAGING FEMALE GRADUATE WORKFORCE PARTICIPATION

QCDC is working to address the high rate of unemployment among female graduates by supporting the needs, aspirations and participation level of female graduates in the national workforce. This can be achieved through the development of educational

programs addressing cultural barriers that prevent Qatari women from pursuing their professional aspirations as well as launching public campaigns that positively promote women's contribution to the development of a modern, diversified and sustainable economy, as well as social attitudes aimed at providing more employment opportunities for women.

SIXTH: DEVELOPING THE RIGHT SKILLS

QCDC is seeking a national development policy aimed at promoting skills relevant to the labor market. This can be achieved by ensuring greater collaboration between the government and education sector to achieve the desired objectives of academic tracks in science, technology and engineering. QCDC will also promote career guidance and professional training to enable teachers to contribute to the development of a more diversified service-based economy through academic activities and programs.

SEVENTH: ESTABLISHING A GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR CAREER SERVICES

QCDC will seek to establish a governance and regulatory framework for career development services to instill a culture of career development. This can be achieved through the government's sponsorship of further research in the field of career development, which contributes new and innovative ideas to the public sector in line with Qatar's policies.



