

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For further information, please contact:
Luiza Staniec
Tel: +33 (0)1 56 03 58 90
Email : news@wise-initiative.org

WISE AWARDS 2010 **Innovative Education Practice Awards**

Application submission period: 15 May to 15 July 2010
online at <http://www.wise-qatar.org/en/awards>

May 12th 2010, Doha – The Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development launches the **2010 WISE Awards** call for innovative education practice projects. The 2010 WISE Awards will **recognise a total of six** educational initiatives that have demonstrated over a period of time a real and positive impact within the theme of ***Transforming Education: Investment, Innovation and Inclusion***. The submission period for applications is **15 May to 15 July 2010**.

The WISE Awards are a cornerstone of the World Innovation Summit for Education - WISE, an international forum and collaborative platform inaugurated in 2009 by Qatar Foundation with the aim of recognising, sharing and driving change in education. The 2010 edition of WISE will take place from 7 to 9 December in Doha, Qatar.

Dr Abdulla bin Ali Al-Thani, Chairman of WISE and Vice President - Education, Qatar Foundation, explained:

“The 2010 WISE awards will give recognition and support to projects that have fostered innovative change in education in various parts of the world. They will build upon the achievements of 2009, when six outstanding winners were selected from almost 400 applications. These successful initiatives are ongoing, and we continue to monitor their progress.”

The theme ***Transforming Education: Investment, Innovation and Inclusion*** is intended to encourage the submission of proposals that have had a significant impact upon transforming education through:

- *sustainable investment strategies,*
- *innovative processes and technologies, and*
- *effective policies and practices promoting inclusion and diversity*

-more-

The Prize

Six prizes will be awarded, each worth \$20,000. Recipients of the Awards will also be given the opportunity to showcase their projects during the WISE Summit in Doha, Qatar from 7 to 9 of December.

Who can apply?

Applications are invited from individuals or teams of individuals from across the world and from all education sectors. Applications must be submitted in English on the official form available at <http://www.wise-qatar.org/>. A letter of endorsement from the head of the applicant's organisation or institution must accompany each application. The deadline for applications is 15 July 2010. No late applications will be considered and incomplete applications will be deemed ineligible.

The Selection Process

A Pre-Jury of leading international education experts will select 30 finalists based on their assessment of the information provided on the application forms. These finalists will be invited to submit more detailed applications on a separate form. An International Jury of prominent educational figures drawn from governments, civil society, the private sector, international organisations, universities and social entrepreneurs will then review these finalists' applications and recommend the six Award winners.

ABOUT WISE

In 2009, on the initiative of Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Qatar Foundation launched the World Innovation Summit for Education - WISE, an international forum and collaborative platform to recognise, share and drive change in education. With the participation of major education stakeholders, opinion leaders, and decision-makers from diverse disciplines, WISE seeks to stimulate visionary thinking on education, offering new ways of addressing current global challenges, identifying untapped opportunities and anticipating future educational models. WISE is a collaborative initiative made possible through the support of major internationally renowned partners (Association of Commonwealth Universities, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie, International Association of University Presidents, Institute of International Education, RAND Corporation),

For more information, please visit: www.wise-qatar.org

The WISE 2010 Summit will bring together 1,000 people from 120 countries in Doha, Qatar, from 7 to 9 December 2010.

ABOUT QATAR FOUNDATION FOR EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Founded in 1995 by decree of His Highness Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifa Al Thani, Emir of Qatar, Qatar Foundation is a non-profit organization focusing on education, scientific research and community development. Under Qatar Foundation's umbrella are Education City, which comprises elite universities, several academic and training programs and Qatar Science and Technology Park, which boasts more than twenty-one world-class companies involved in scientific research and development. Chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Qatar Foundation also aims to enhance lives through community development initiatives including Doha Debates, Reach out To Asia and Al Jazeera Children's Channel. Joint venture partnerships in the areas of design, ICT, telecommunications, policy studies and event management contribute to fulfilling the objectives of the Qatar Foundation.

For more information, please visit: www.qf.org.qa