

2023 WISE AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

QF initiative selects projects that empower learners and transform communities

Doha, Qatar, 17 April 2023 – The finalists for the 2023 edition of the WISE Awards have been announced. These projects, hailing from various countries around the world, have been selected for their innovative and impactful approaches to global educational challenges.

Each year, the initiative celebrates global innovative solutions to pressing educational challenges, with the WISE Awards pre-jury selecting the finalists based on their innovative character, positive contribution to learning, and potential for scalability and adaptability.

The 2023 WISE Awards finalists are Fontán Relational Education (FRE) by Colegio Fontán Capital (Colombia); Shamba Letu by So They Can (Tanzania); Tekwill in Every School by ATIC (Republic of Moldova); International Common Assessment for Numeracy (ICAN) by PAL Network (Kenya); Transform Schools by People for Action (India); Thaki Digital Literacy Rights by Thaki (Lebanon); NaTakallam: Connecting Refugees & Language Learners Worldwide by NaTakallam (USA); Transforming Education Systems by EIDU (Germany); Ahlan Simsim by IRC in partnership with Sesame Workshop (USA); Biodivercities Nature-Based Education Network by OpEPA (Colombia); Catalyzing ECE at Scale by Rocket Learning (India); and ELIFE by Fondation Tunisie pour le Développement (Tunisia).

"The work acknowledged by the WISE Awards is important in spotlighting new possibilities offered by innovation in education, with each of the 12 2023 finalists demonstrating new and proven solutions to key education challenges within their communities and beyond," said <u>Stavros N. Yiannouka, CEO</u> of WISE – an initiative of Qatar Foundation (QF).

"Whether enabling access to quality early childhood education, empowering refugee communities through access to digital literacy, or promoting nature-based community learning, these finalists are actively transforming young lives and empowering communities to take action in the face of today's most heightened challenges."

Six winners will be announced in September, and they will be celebrated at the upcoming summit in Doha, taking place from November 28-29. In addition to publicity and networking opportunities, each winning project will receive \$20,000 (US).

Since its inception in 2009, the WISE Awards have recognized and promoted 90 innovative projects, from over 150 countries, that are addressing global educational challenges.



This year's finalists represent a diverse range of sectors and locations, showcasing a growing resource of expertise and sound educational practice. The projects emphasize the need for education to be inclusive and equitable, with many finalists working to ensure that marginalized communities have access to quality learning opportunities. The use of evidence-based practices and data-driven approaches is also a common thread among the finalists, demonstrating a commitment to rigor and impact in education. By showcasing these diverse approaches and innovative practices, the 2023 WISE Awards finalists are paving the way for a more dynamic and effective education landscape globally.

For more information about the WISE Awards and this year's finalists, please visit <u>wise-</u><u>qatar.org</u>.

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About WISE

<u>WISE</u> was established by Qatar Foundation in 2009 under the leadership of its Chairperson, Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. WISE is an international, multi-sectoral platform for creative, evidence-based thinking, debate, and purposeful action in education. Through the biennial summit, collaborative research and a range of ongoing programs, WISE is a global reference in new approaches to education.

To stay up to date, follow WISE on LinkedIn, Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

About Qatar Foundation

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is a nonprofit 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 Amir, 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 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, please visit: <u>www.qf.org.qa</u>

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