

2017 WISE AWARDS FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Fifteen projects from nine countries have been selected by the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) for innovative and impactful approaches to today's most urgent education challenges

June 27, 2017 – The World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE) announced the fifteen 2017 WISE Awards finalist projects.

Each year, the WISE Awards recognize and promote innovative projects from around the world that are addressing global educational challenges. The fifteen finalists come from nine countries.

The projects tackle a number of pressing education issues including early childhood education, basic infrastructure for schools, girls' education, coding and digital skills, access to books, critical medical care for children, boosting mathematics, science and reading levels, stimulating critical thinking and creativity, making learning fun and inclusive and enhancing teacher motivation.

Stavros N. Yiannouka, CEO, WISE, said: "The 2017 WISE Awards finalist projects have built effective, tested solutions to global education challenges. Whether ensuring access to fundamental primary education or preparing young people for the 21st century workplace, each project is already transforming lives, and provides an inspirational model for other communities to adopt. This is vital to our mission at WISE, dedicated to empowerment and collaboration."

The 2017 WISE Awards finalists:

- ANEER, Morocco <http://bit.ly/2t1qgh5>
- Building a Teacher-Led Movement for Change and Innovation, UK
<http://bit.ly/2rgAdGn>
- Lights to Learn, Spain <http://bit.ly/2szjCRY>
- Mindspark: Personalized, technology- based learning, India <http://bit.ly/2s0udUS>
- Open Book Publishers, UK <http://bit.ly/2srFILN>
- OPENPediatrics - Serious Games to Save Children's Lives, US
<http://bit.ly/2tI2EDG>
- PhET Interactive Simulations, US <http://bit.ly/2szwwiO>
- REACH, Ghana <http://bit.ly/2rv2E2l>
- 42, France <http://bit.ly/2s9Na5T>
- Science Bits, Spain <http://bit.ly/2rqRVuW>
- Shams Generation, Qatar <http://bit.ly/2tldXLW>
- Tele-Education Project-SAME, India <http://bit.ly/2srGQty>
- The Learner Guide Program, Tanzania/UK <http://bit.ly/2rgnO5m>
- The Speed School project, US <http://bit.ly/2rgq2l6>
- Ubongo Edutainment, Tanzania <http://bit.ly/2t1u2Hh>

A pre-Jury of international experts selected the 15 finalists, and the process was overseen by independent education consultants from Parthenon-EY.

The finalists were evaluated according to strict criteria. They must be successful, innovative education projects that have already demonstrated a transformative impact on individuals, communities, and society. They must be financially stable, have a clear development plan and be scalable and replicable.

The six WISE Awards winning projects will be announced in September 2017 and celebrated at the eighth World Innovation Summit for Education, November 14-16, 2017, in Doha, Qatar. In addition to publicity and networking opportunities, each project receives \$20,000 (US).

For further information, visit <http://www.wise-qatar.org/wise-awards>.

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About the WISE Awards:

Each year, the WISE Awards recognize and promote six successful innovative projects that are addressing global education challenges. Since 2009, WISE has received over 3,000 applications from more than 150 countries. To date, 48 projects from a wide variety of sectors and locations have won the WISE Awards for their innovation, positive contribution and potential for scalability and adaptability. These projects represent a growing resource of expertise and sound education practice. Year by year, WISE is building a community of education innovators which offers a fertile environment for ground-breaking collaboration. Today the WISE Awards network comprises pioneering projects that are helping bring real change to societies and communities.

The six winning projects will be announced in September 2017, and will be invited to attend the eighth World Innovation Summit for Education, November 14-16, 2017, in Doha, Qatar.

Discover the 2017 WISE Awards Finalists: www.wise-qatar.org/wise-awards-2017

About Parthenon-EY:

Parthenon-EY is a strategy consultancy, committed to bringing unconventional yet pragmatic thinking together with our clients' smarts to deliver actionable strategies for real impact in today's complex business landscape. The Parthenon-EY Education practice has an explicit mission and vision to be the leading strategy advisor to the global education industry. To achieve this, the company invests significantly in dedicated management and team resources so that its global experience extends across public sector and not-for-profit education providers, foundations, for-profit companies and service providers, and investors. Parthenon-EY has delivered more than 1,000 education sector engagements across over 95 countries in the last 10 years. Parthenon-EY is a member of the global network of EY Firms.

About the World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE):

The World Innovation Summit for Education 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 on-going programs, WISE is a global reference in new approaches to education. WISE 2017 will take place in Doha November 14-16 under the theme: **“Co-Exist, Co-Create: Learning to Live and Work Together”**.

For further information about WISE, visit www.wise-qatar.org