

# August 2022 Newsletter

## A Group of Researchers from SESRI Published a Scientific Article in the Special Education - Specialusis Ugdymas Journal

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published an article titled "A Path Analytic Investigation of Non-Qatari Mothers' Perceived Adjustment to Blended Learning During the COVID-19 Pandemic," indexed by Scopus Special Education - Specialusis Ugdymas Journal. This study aims to better understand the factors influencing non-Qatari mothers' perceived adjustment to blended learning during the COVID-19 pandemic in Qatar. A 34 item questionnaire was administered to 446 non-Qatari women living in Qatar during the pandemic. Exploratory Factor Analysis was used as a data reduction technique and to test the validity of the instrument. The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy and Bartlett's test of sphericity were calculated. The findings of the study reveal that four out of seven hypotheses were confirmed using Multiple Regression Analysis. Four independent variables (1) mothers' perception of school support during COVID-19 (2) work-life balance (3) students' perceived adjustment to blended learning and (4) independent (innovative) learning significantly affect mothers' perceived adjustment to blended learning during the pandemic. This study provides strategic insights regarding non-Qatari mothers' perceived adjustment to blended learning during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Findings of the present study should encourage schools and employers in Qatar to better understand expat mothers' challenges during crises such as COVID-19.

## Participation in the American Sociological Association Annual Meeting

Dr. Noora Lari, Manager of Policy Department presented a paper titled: "Empowering Qatari Youth: Civic Engagement and Political Participation" in a session on youth and activism at the American Sociological Association's annual meeting held August 5-9, 2022 in Los Angeles, California. The paper indicates that youth civic engagement and political participation involves three main factors: education systems, employment opportunities, and channels of civic engagement where government agencies attempt to include youth in various fields.



The paper also indicated the new risks and challenges of integrating into civic participation and the responsibility that it entails, in addition to suggesting innovative policies and solutions at the national level to promote youth civic engagement in a post-pandemic society. The paper also calls for the implementation of youth policies in:

- (1) Benefiting from the experiences of active youth in civic participation activities.
- (2) Rectifying existing gaps in social protection systems and political participation.
- (3) The government's response to these gaps and future action.

## Contribution of Non-Profit Organizations to Food Security and Sustainability in the State of Qatar

Dr. Sana Abu Sin (Research Associate), and Mariam Fahad Al-Thani (Senior Research Assistant) from SESRI, participated in writing chapter twelve of a book titled: "Sustainable Qatar". The chapter is titled: "Contribution of Non-Profit Organizations to Food Security and Sustainability in the State of Qatar". The authors of the book included senior researchers in sustainable development from various academic institutions, including: Qatar University (highest participation rate), Hamad Bin Khalifa University, Qatar Foundation, and Doha Institute for Graduate Studies.



The book encourages innovative thinking about sustainable policy-making in Qatar and expanding traditional approaches that focus on theoretical aspects. Three main topics are discussed: (1) politics, (2) the environment, and (3) people. The chapter referred to the great efforts made by charitable organizations to maintain food security, and their potential to solve the issue of food surplus in the State of Qatar; a perplexing problem. It is recommended that a collective collaboration between academics, government agencies, and civil society would help in designing an effective strategy aimed at sustaining food security. Furthermore, policy makers need to support and encourage charitable organizations to participate in managing, sustaining, and achieving food security. Therefore, allocating grants and facilities to organizations working in food waste management would motivate charities to contribute to food sustainability.

## SESRI's Latest Research Projects

### Family Cohesion in the State of Qatar Project

LPI: Prof. Kaltham Al Ghanim

The Doha International Family Institute (DIFI) is collaborating with the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University on the "Family Cohesion in the State of Qatar" project. This project is a milestone in a process of work on family cohesion/solidarity in Qatar. The purpose of which is to develop, validate and further perfect an aggregate approach to family cohesion.

**The objective of the Family Cohesion Project:**

- Conduct systematic review regarding measurements of the quality of family relationships. This review would include major sources such as, the Journal of Marriage and the Family, Demography, Journal of Family Issues, the American Journal of Sociology, the American Sociological Review, Journal of Family Psychology, Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology, International Journal of Sociology of the Family, Journal of Family and Community Health, Family Relations, Journal of Comparative Family Studies, Marriage and Family Review and the Journal of Family Violence.

with DIFI

### Qatar's Labor Law Changes and Workers' Welfare: Attitudes and Perceptions for a Sustainable Future

LPI: Prof. Abdoulaye Diop

This 11<sup>th</sup> cycle NPRP project outlines a comprehensive survey project that assesses change and continuity in perceptions and attitudes about the system of labor among the broad populations residing in Qatar: Qatari nationals, high-income and low-income expatriate workers. Moreover, the study targeted critical issue areas such as general perceptions of worker welfare, necessary workers' skills and progress on building a knowledge-based economy that is sustainable in accord with the Qatar's 2030 National Vision, impact on business innovation and entrepreneurship as well as issues specific to implementing the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.

**The objective of "Qatar's Labor Law Changes and Workers' Welfare: Attitudes and perceptions for a sustainable future" project** was to develop a large study to collect the information and feedback as well as new elements within the labor laws so that the views of Qatari citizens, residents and lower-income expatriate workers) and businesses necessary to re-calibrate the implementation protocols would be registered. This facilitates changes that will address human rights organizations' concerns in a way that is constructive rather than constricting for progress. The study results underpin a robust knowledge base enabling policy makers to improve pre-existing intervention regimes and to develop new methods for tackling important migration-related issues and to provide concomitant public services.

NPRP

### Agriculture Census

LPI: Dr. Elmogiera Fadlallah Elsayed Elawad

The Ministry of Municipality and Environment (MME) has engaged the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University to social and execute its agricultural census in Qatar. Agricultural census is a statistical process based on collecting, processing and disseminating data on the structure of agriculture, which often covers the whole country or a large part of it. It usually involves collecting agricultural data such as size of properties, land usage, cropping areas, irrigation, number of farm animals, resources and power. Census are conducted regularly every ten years to provide more recent data for agricultural policy purposes. The data provided by the census are important to food security policies and Qatar's National Vision 2030 which aims the development and expansion of the agricultural sector. This requires the introduction of finest practices and an agricultural business model focused on economic efficiency, profitability and sustainable agriculture, optional use of scarce resources, and a minimal impact on the environment.

**The objectives of the study are summarized as follows:**

- Provide samples frame for agricultural surveys.
- Provide data of agriculture structure in the state of Qatar, which include production, resources, production and cost.
- Provide up to date data for corps, vegetables, livestock and used areas.

with MME

