

September 2022 Newsletter

Panel Discussion: Project Proposals by the Sustainable Development Desk at the Policy Department

The Desk of Sustainable Development: Policy Department organized a panel discussion about three sustainable development desk projects proposal on health, urban development, and marine environment. On 14 September 2022.



1) Project 1: Indoor air pollutants and their health effects in Qatar. This project aims to measure indoor environmental pollutants in general and their health effects, focusing on the most common: incense and scented candles and their devastating effects on health.

2) Project 2: Land reclamation and the conservation of marine environmental diversity in Qatar. This project aims to measure the importance of marine diversity and ecosystems for human survival and their connection to Qatari identity and heritage, as well as the services provided by the marine system, the most important of which is sustainable food security.

3) Project 3: Environmental factors and low fertility in Qatar. The project aims to measure the importance of population development, sustainability, and preservation after shifts in the demographic structure, and the environmental factors that lead to low fertility in Qatar.

Workshops

Workshop on the Risks of Addiction and Behavioral Abnormalities

Dr. Khaled Abdul-Jabbar, a consultant at the Family Affairs Department at the Ministry of Administrative Development, Labour and Social Affairs, and associate professor at SESRI, presented a workshop on the research application of the “assessment examination, brief intervention and referral for treatment of adolescents from addiction risks and behavioral Abnormalities”.



Organized by the Ministry of Social Development and Family, represented by the Department of Family Affairs and in partnership With SESRI at Qatar University, from September 26 to September 29 at the Strategic Studies Center in Education City. The workshop was attended by members of the treatment and rehabilitation teams from the centers under the umbrella of Qatar Social Work Foundation: Aman, Dreama, Wifaq, and Behavioral Healthcare Center, including doctors, nurses, and psychologists. In addition to Naufar Wellness & Recovery Center, and a group of social workers, school staff, Hamad Medical Corporation, and trainees from Qatar University. During the workshop, the first Arab guideline was issued on the assessment examination approach, and brief intervention and referral for adolescents' addiction and behavioral abnormalities treatment.

ANDD Paper Series Workshop

Prof. Arokiasamy Perianayagam- head of the Urban Development office at SESRI's Policy Department was invited as a speaker in the plenary session on “Thinking Policy Impact,” which was part of the “Joint Paper” series perfection workshop and the scientific writing workshop titled “How to Write Scientific Papers & Get Them Published” during 5–6 September, 2022. The purpose of Prof. Arokiasamy's participation was to highlight the value of scientific writing for diverse audiences, including policy makers.

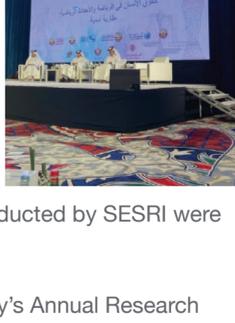


Participation in College of Health Sciences' Monthly Seminar

Professor Arokiasamy Perianayagam presented a lecture entitled “Health Survey Research: Measurement and Principles of Survey Instrumentation”. The lecture covered the following topics: the conceptualization of research measurement, defining measurement, measurement and operationalization, level and type of measurements, and measurement validity and reliability. In addition, the principles of survey instrumentation, considerations in survey instrument design, examples of constructs and measurement, types of survey questions, innovation in survey research, direct measurement in health surveys, and biomarkers were also discussed. The lecture aimed to provide scientific skills and strengthen health survey research capacities by influencing choices in innovative measurement tools and instrument construction.

News

Prof. Diop represented SESRI in The National Human Rights Committee (NHRC) first national forum on human rights on September 12 and 13, 2022. The forum was focused on the role of law enforcement agencies in protecting human rights during FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022.



Two executive reports for two commissioned projects conducted by SESRI were delivered to governmental institutions.

Seven research posters were accepted for Qatar University's Annual Research Forum and Exhibition 2022.

Dr. Elmogiera Elawad and Abdulrahman Rahmany have been acknowledged for their work in training and mentoring students who were taking part in the Research and Graduate Sector and Qatar University Young Scientists Center's Summer Internship Program. They trained students on the principles of Research Methodology.



Dr. Elmogiera conducted a research with the students on the Challenges of Data Collection During COVID-19.

Recent Publications

New Releases of Policy Department: Policy Briefs

The policy department at SESRI is pleased to release its newest policy briefs for May 2022, completed by the social development desk, the government service desk, and the sustainable development desk, entitled:

- **Policy Brief 1:** “Public Awareness, Perceptions, and Engagement with Emerging Mobile Media Technologies.”
- **Policy Brief 2:** “E-Government Adoption in the State of Qatar.”
- **Policy Brief 3:** “Using Innovative Technology in the Management of Food Waste in Qatar.”

To view these policy briefs, kindly visit the SESRI publication page at: sesri.qu.edu.qa/research/sesri/publications

New Research Related to FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022

A research team from SESRI (Prof. Abdoulaye Diop, Aisi Jatic), John Lee Holmes, Kien Le Trung, Engi El Mghrabi, Maitha Al Naimi) published a new research about the World Cup event entitled “Interest in Volunteering for the FIFA 2022 World Cup in Qatar: A nationally representative study of motivations” in the Journal of Policy Research in Tourism, Leisure and Events. This study explores the determinants of Qatari citizens and expatriates' interests in volunteering for the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™. Drawing on two waves of nationally representative surveys from Qatar, the researchers explored various elements that affect Qataris and expatriates' interest in volunteering. Table 2 in the study presents the results from the substantive analyses of Qataris, white-collar and blue-collar resident expatriates' interest in volunteering in the upcoming World Cup in November – December 2022. For more details: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19407963.2022.2125521>

Article: Drivers of Fish Consumption in Qatar

Dr. Sana Abusin and co-authors published in the Journal of Sustainability an article titled “Drivers of Fish Consumption in Qatar.” The study explains that the demand and supply gap in local fish production provides non-artisanal opportunities for investment in fish production and processing. To view the article, kindly visit the link: <https://www.mdpi.com/1808048>

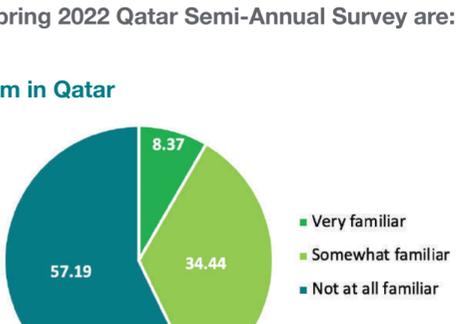
SESRI's Latest Research Results

SESRI conducted its Qatar semi-annual survey in Spring 2022 with the aim of gauging public opinion on various topics. A team of trained researchers conduct telephone interviews with a selected sample of citizens and residents and asking questions related to their attitudes and opinions toward various topics, including: (1) part-time work, (2) work from home, (3) household income and expenses, (4) youth engagement, and (5) educational sustainability policies in the State of Qatar.

The most important results of the Spring 2022 Qatar Semi-Annual Survey are:

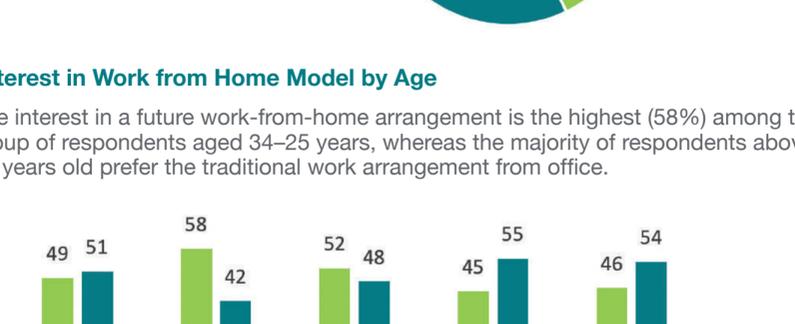
Awareness of Part-time Work System in Qatar

The survey results indicated that almost half of the respondents (57%) are not familiar with the draft decision about terms and conditions of a part-time system in government agencies that the Qatari Cabinet approved in September 2021, in which Qatari employees can apply to work part time instead of full time.



Interest in Work from Home Model by Age

The interest in a future work-from-home arrangement is the highest (58%) among the group of respondents aged 34–25 years, whereas the majority of respondents above 45 years old prefer the traditional work arrangement from office.



Household Expenses vs. Household Income by Gender

Both men and women believe that their household expenses are about the same as their household income; however, more men (23%) than believe that their household expenses are lower than their household income than do women (15%).



Youth Engagement

The most important respondents (59%) believe that maintaining security and stability is the most important matter for Qatar society.

Sustainable Education Policy

There is a gap in knowledge between citizens (57%) and white-collar expats (39%) about the idea of academic fraud in Qatar. Several factors were found to influence the probability of being familiar with this problem, such as respondent's gender and education level.