

# March 2023 Newsletter

## News

### Participation in the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development 2023



Prof. Kaltham Al-Ghanim, Director of the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute at Qatar University, participated in a session entitled "Sustainable Industrial Development and Rethinking Supply Chains (Goal 9)". During her participation, she emphasized the importance of connecting the private sector with the international sustainable development goals, and integrating them into its programs aimed at local communities.

Notably, Prof. Al-Ghanim conducted an analytical study on 105 major companies to measure the extent to which their work programs are aligned with and represent the international sustainable development goals. She recommended that there should be a connection and coordination between the strategies of these companies and the national development strategies, especially in the field of achieving SDGs.

In conjunction with the Arab Forum for Sustainable Development 2023, ESCWA will launch the second edition of the Annual Review of Sustainable Development Goals 2023: Private Sector and Sustainable Development Goals in the Arab Region. The series of annual reviews of sustainable development goals aims to guide and stimulate discussions during the forum.

The Arab Forum for Sustainable Development 2023 discussed solutions and encouraged action to accelerate the recovery from COVID-19 pandemic, and fully implement the Sustainable Development Plan for 2030 in the Arab region. The forum focused on the five sustainable development goals that will be reviewed by the high-level political forum in 2023, which is "Goal 6" on clean water and sanitation, "Goal 7" on affordable and clean energy, "Goal 9" on industry, innovation, and infrastructure, "Goal 11" on sustainable cities and communities, and "Goal 17" on partnerships to achieve these goals.

### Collaboration Grant Project with Ibn Khaldoun Center entitled: "Towards sustainable energy consumption: understanding consumers' perceptions and intentions to purchase electric and hybrid vehicles in Qatar"

Dr. Sana Abusin participated in a collaborative QU grant project, as PI with a lead from Ibn Khaldoun Center (Dr. Ebaidalla Mahjoub) the idea of the proposal grant is focusing around the fact that Qatar exerted considerable efforts to mitigate environmental pollution, including transition to electric vehicles technologies, aiming to reduce CO2 emission by 17% by 2030. Therefore,

tackling environmental pollution resulted from road transportation necessitates a serious transformation in consumption attitude based on a well understanding the factors influencing consumers' intention to adopt E&HV. The project will discuss the socioeconomic factors influence consumer purchasing electric cars.



### Training course on SPSS for agricultural data in collaboration with The Arab Organization for Agricultural Development

At the request of the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, SESRI is organizing a training course for the Ministry of Municipality employees on agricultural statistics analysis. The course will be held for a period of five days at Qatar University in mid-May 2023, and will be presented by Dr. Almughira Alawad from the institute.

The course aims to train researchers on statistical analysis using the SPSS statistical package, giving participants a comprehensive understanding of the importance and types of data. The course will also develop participants' skills in statistical analysis, conducting statistical tests, and writing statistical reports using farm data.

### Publication of the book "Estimating Costs, Productivity and Net Return in the Agricultural Sector"



The Social and Economic Survey Research Institute has released a book entitled "Estimating Costs, Productivity and Net Return in the Agricultural Sector", which is the third book in the series related to the Agricultural Census Project. The book is published and distributed during the 10th International Agricultural Conference in Qatar on March 15-19 2023. This report presents the results of estimating costs, productivity, and net returns for both plant and animal agricultural production, which were conducted by the institute at Qatar University in collaboration with the Ministry of Municipality.

The results presented in frequency tables and distributions entailed an estimation of costs, productivity, and net returns in agricultural production. These results included the estimation of net returns and productivity for the most important vegetable crops produced in both open fields and cooled and non-cooled greenhouses, the estimation of net returns and productivity for the most important fodder and date crops, the estimation of operational costs for beekeeping, as well as the estimation of costs and total and net returns for the economic animal farming in farms and rural areas of various types. Additionally, the estimation of dairy production costs in the traditional sector (farms and ranches) and the estimation of costs for producing local eggs in the traditional sector were presented, along with calculating the herd growth rate and economic calculations for the movement of livestock in the traditional sector.

### Participation in the tenth edition of the Qatar International Agricultural Exhibition 2023

Dr. Al-Mughira Alawad, surveys expert at SESRI, presented a paper on the methodologies of studying costs, productivity, and net returns for the agricultural sector (plant and animal) in Qatar, as well as another paper on the agricultural census methodology. The agricultural census for 2020/2021 were published in collaboration with researchers from the Ministry of Municipality, and were presented at the conference accompanying the exhibition. Additionally, some examples of the institute's partnerships with the Ministry of Municipality were showcased at the Qatar University booth, such as the Agricultural Census Book 2021 in Qatar and the book on estimating costs, productivity, and net returns in the agricultural sector (plant and animal) 2022. It is worth mentioning that Qatar University's participation aims to highlight its efforts to provide innovations that contribute to food and water security in the country.

## Results of the Institute's Latest Research:

### NESRI Identity Survey

SESRI conducted the National Identity Survey in September and October 2022 with the aim of gauging public opinion on the concept of national identity. We selected some results of the study below:

#### Feelings of Belonging to the Homeland

DISAGREE	AGREE	ITEM
0%	100%	You would prefer to be a citizen of the State of Qatar more than any other country in the world
0%	100%	You feel proud of your belonging to the State of Qatar
7%	93%	The world would be a better place if people in other countries were like Qataris
1%	99%	In general, Qatar is better than most other countries
44%	56%	You consider yourself a member of your tribe first and a Qatari second
1%	99%	You feel a sense of belonging to the Qatari society more than other societies
0%	100%	It is important to you to find acceptance of the Qatari society
3%	97%	Your Qatari identity more important than other identities?

The previous results show the pride of citizens in their homeland and their strong sense of belonging to it, as well as the continued strength of tribal affiliations in society.

The table below shows the respondents' opinions on a number of phrases and whether they pose a threat or do not pose a threat to national identity:

#### Respondent's perceptions on National Identity threats

The previous results show acceptance and openness to other cultures. What is interesting is that a large percentage of the participants do not see the use of the English language as a threat to national identity, but they find other manifestations associated with western culture to be a danger. It is noticeable that 58% see Qataris marrying foreigners as a threat to identity. In addition, other results deserve further examination and deeper study by researchers.

Not a threat	A threat	Items
6%	94%	Young people's attraction to imitate Western culture
7%	93%	Dependence on servants to raise children
10%	90%	Christmas / Halloween / Valentine's Day Celebrations
16%	84%	Spread of western dress
16%	84%	Western music concerts
19%	81%	Favoring individual interest over the collective interest
31%	69%	An increase in the proportion of non-Muslims
36%	64%	Social media
42%	58%	Qatari marriage to foreigners
44%	56%	satellite channels
52%	48%	Western art galleries
54%	46%	Enrollment of Qatari children in foreign schools
57%	43%	The increased proportion of foreigners among the population
59%	41%	The widespread use of the English language
69%	31%	foreign tourists
89%	11%	Travel for tourism

## Publications:

### New releases of Policy Department: Policy Briefs

The Policy Department at SESRI is pleased to release its newest policy briefs for January and February 2023, entitled:

1. Policy Brief- Issue 1: "Labor Reforms: Adopting Part-Time Work in Government Entities."
2. Policy Brief – Issue 2: "Post Pandemic Future Adopting a Work from home model."
3. Policy Brief – Issue 3: "Fostering Qatari Youth Civic Engagement and Empowerment."
4. Policy Brief – Issue 4: "Economic Welfare Spending and Saving Patterns in the Qatari Context."

To view these policy briefs, kindly visit the SESRI publication page at: Publications | Qatar University (qu.edu.qa)