



مؤسسة قطر
Qatar Foundation

إطلاق قدرات الإنسان
Unlocking human potential



INNOVATION AND
ENTREPRENEURSHIP

OVERVIEW

INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP AT QF



As a hub for research and innovation, Qatar Foundation has ideas that lead to real-world impact in near term. Through this, we aim to inspire youth to be innovative, and nurture them into innovative entrepreneurs in numerous fields, including tech.

QF has built an ecosystem that has welcomed multinational corporate partners, access to funding vital research, and has aided the in developing a private sector that supports diversifying Qatar economy. Entities supporting innovation and entrepreneurship at QF have continued to conduct and patent research aligned with Qatar's national goals and strategies for development.

The following are the QF entities that are creating and evolving a comprehensive ecosystem to foster innovation and entrepreneurship.

QATAR SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY PARK (QSTP):



QSTP is Qatar's premier hub for applied research, technology innovation, incubation, and entrepreneurship. QSTP fosters a vibrant ecosystem that facilitates the development of new high-tech products and services, supports the commercialization of market-ready technologies, and offers state-of-the-art offices and facilities specifically designed for tech-based companies.

Operating across four overarching themes – Energy, Environment, Health Services, and Information & Communication Technologies – QSTP's programs and services are designed to support Qatar's drive toward sustainable economic development and diversification.

The facts and figures behind Qatar's premier tech-business incubator

- In 2019, QSTP pledged to offer \$50 million in the next five years to support start-ups.
- QSTP's investments and incubation efforts have helped to produce and commercialize over 30 innovative products which have been taken into the Qatari market.
- Over \$1 billion has been invested in research, development and innovation activities by international companies registered at QSTP.
- QSTP has made 115 investments in regional companies through its partnership with Silicon Valley-based 500 Startups.
- Over 50 tech-focused Qatari startups have been incubated at QSTP.
- QSTP's efforts have contributed to the discovery of eight new and useful sets of information, such as the data generated from years of empirical testing at the Solar Test Facility.
- Over 80 companies – including 20 international companies - are currently based at QSTP
- Since 2008, over 5,000 people have worked at QSTP-based companies
- Since 2008, over 1,000 people have benefited from QSTP's innovation programs

QSTP'S PARK & FREE ZONE:



By building sustained partnerships with industry-leading companies and global conglomerates, QSTP has helped bring international expertise to Qatar, which has successfully contributed to the development, implementation, and commercialization of new technologies, products, and services.

QSTP houses various international corporations (such as ExxonMobil, Shell, ConocoPhillips, Microsoft, Cisco), SMEs, research institutions, and local tech startups.

INNOVATION AND INCUBATION AT QSTP

- **Stars of Science (SoS):** An edutainment TV initiative of QF and the premier innovation show in the Arab world that empowers Arab innovators to successfully transform innovative ideas into tangible solutions, strengthening the culture of innovation within Arab youth. In its journey that started in 2009, the show has demonstrated how young Arab innovators develop technological solutions for their communities, aiming to improve people's wellbeing, provide financial opportunities to their citizens, and advance sustainable development.
 - 175 alumni from 18 Arab countries.
 - Over 55 alumni launched into entrepreneurial ventures.
- **XLR8:** A 5-month program offering intensive training and mentorship, enabling promising innovators to transform tech-based ideas into commercially viable businesses.
- **ELV8:** ELV8 is a brand new 12-month growth accelerator program from QSTP. It serves as a launchpad for the global growth of Qatar's tech startups, in order for them to expand their business into new international markets and will be delivered in partnership with Silicon Valley-based Plug and Play.
- **Incubation Center:** The QSTP Incubation Center is a technology-focused program that aims to foster local tech entrepreneurship in Qatar. It is focused on accelerating the establishment and growth of promising tech start-ups through rapid incorporation in the QSTP Free Zone, collaborative co-working space, business facilitation and support services which includes access to a network of mentors, access to funding programs, training and prototyping facilities.

INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER (IDKT) OFFICE:



As the gateway to QF's RDI activities, IDKT paves the path to impactful industry interactions. This is done through Intellectual Property (IP) management, commercialization and licensing, industry support and business development and innovation management and recognition.

- 430 teams enrolled in QSTP's XLR8 program since inception
- 3 startups launched through XLR827 local startups currently incubated at QSTP
- 82 companies hosted at QSTP
- 36 SMEs received Product Development Fund since 2017
- 14 seed and startup funding deals since 2019

QF RDI FUNDING OPTIONS



- Innovation Coupon: Aimed at Qatar-based SMEs or startups in all sectors and industries that are engaged in the development of technology-rich products and services.
- QSTP Product Development Fund (PDF): Funding SMEs and Startups that develop products and services relevant to local market needs.
- QSTP Tech Venture Fund (TVF): Provides an opportunity for tech founders and entrepreneurs to source seed-stage capital when they are first embarking on their journey.
- Technology Development Fund (TDF): This program provides 6 to 12 months of funding to advance a technology from prototype to the ready-for-market level. Participation is by invitation and requires a technology disclosure submission to IDKT.



ABOUT QATAR FOUNDATION

Qatar Foundation (QF) is a non-profit organization made up of more than 50 entities focused on education, research, and community development.

QF's unique ecosystem – supported by partnerships with leading international institutions – is built on initiatives that address our most pressing challenges, create global opportunities, and empower people to shape our present and future.

ABOUT EDUCATION CITY

Education City, QF's flagship initiative, is a campus that spans more than 12 square kilometers and hosts branch campuses of some of the world's leading educational institutes, a homegrown university, research and innovation hubs, and community facilities. Together, this makes Education City a unique environment of knowledge – pioneering a new approach to multidisciplinary, global education and enabling breakthroughs that benefit Qatar and the rest of the world.

QF MEDIA CENTER

The Qatar Foundation (QF) Media Center provides you with access to useful information. This includes a list of QF expert commentators, information about the QF Centers, media pack & factsheets, logos, photo gallery and finally, our stories & press releases.

To find out more, please visit www.qf.org.qa/media-center

For more information and for media enquiries, please contact the QF Press Office at pressoffice@qf.org.qa

