

December 2023 Newsletter

News

SESRI Receives ISO Certificate



The Social and Economic Survey Research Institute has achieved the reaccreditation for the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management Standards. Prof. Kaltham Al-Ghanim, director of SESRI, commended the efforts of SESRI's members and their dedicated work towards accomplishing this achievement. The institute was honored at the ISO certification award ceremony organized by the Strategy and Development Office, with the presence of Dr. Omar Al-Ansari, president of Qatar University.

Agriculture Census Results 2022 Seminar

The Social and Economic Survey Research Institute at Qatar University organized a research seminar titled 'Results of the Agricultural Census 2022: Towards Achieving Sustainable Food Security' on Wednesday, 6 December, 2023. The event was attended by Dr. Kaltham Al-Ghanim, director of SESRI, along with a number of officials from the Ministry of Municipality and researchers and those interested in this field from various sectors and university research centers.



The seminar included a video presentation of the Agricultural Census project in Qatar 2021 that documented its stages. Subsequently, various presentations were delivered, including a presentation on the methodology of the Agricultural Census and the study of costs and productivity by Dr. Elmogiera Elawad, head of field operations at SESRI. This was followed by a presentation on the key results of the Agricultural Census and the study of costs and productivity in the agricultural sector by Dr. Muhammad Al-Sir, Economist in Agricultural Affairs Department, Ministry of Municipality. Dr. Mozammel Atta, Consultant at the Livestock Department, Ministry of Municipality, also presented the key results of the census and the study of costs and productivity in the livestock sector.

This was followed by a discussion and feedback session with Mr. Yousef Al Khulaifi, Director of Agricultural Affairs Department at the Ministry of Municipality, Mr. Mohamed Al Ghaithani, General Manager of Mahaseel- Hassad, Mr. Abdulaziz Al Ziyara, Director of Livestock Affairs Department at the Ministry of Municipality, and Mr. Mohamed Saeed Al Mohammadi, Director of the Statistics Department at the Planning and Statistics Authority. Finally, a video commentary on the research was provided by Dr. Abbas Al Awadi, Arab Organization for Agricultural Development at Cairo University.



Recent Publications

Understanding the Relationship Between Students' Perception of Environmental and Psychological Variables and their STEM Learning in Qatar: A Structural Equation Modelling Approach

Dr. Abdel Latif Sellami, Rima Charbaji El-Kassem, Malavika Elaveetil Santhosh, Maryam Fahad Al-Thani, and Noor Ahmad Al Emadi published a paper in the European Journal of STEM Education, this research sought to investigate the relationship between students' perceptions of various environmental and psychological factors and their STEM learning. The study incorporated quantitative exploratory design, including data from 1,625 students (preparatory & high school) in Qatar using QES 2018 data. It examined the relationships among five key variables, i.e., (a) the quality of teaching, (b) satisfaction with school, (c) the positive perception of the importance of mathematics/science for students' future, (d) the fear of asking math/science questions, and (e) their STEM learning. The results of the regression analysis and structural equation modelling analysis demonstrated a significant relationship between the explored variables. A positive correlation has been computed between "quality of teaching," "satisfaction with school," "recognition of the importance of mathematics/science for the future," and "students' STEM learning". In contrast, the variable "fear of asking mathematics/science questions" was found to be negatively associated with "students' STEM learning." This study research offers important recommendations for policymaking and suggests avenues for further investigation and research in this area.

To view the paper kindly visit:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/375927225_Understanding_the_relationship_between_students'_perception_of_environmental_and_psychological_variables_and_their_STEM_learning_in_Qatar_A_structural_equation_modeling_approach

Labour Reforms in Qatar: Continuity and Change in Perceptions and Attitudes Among Citizens and Migrant Workers

Prof. Abdoulaye Diop, Šemsia Jatić, Dr. Le Trung Kien, John Lee Pratt Holmes, Muznah Madeeha and Fahmida Naheen published a paper in the Asian Populations Studies Journal titled “Labour reforms in Qatar: Continuity and Change in Perceptions and Attitudes among Citizens and Migrant Workers”. Hosting the FIFA World Cup was a pivotal moment for Qatar and the broader Arab region, attracting attention, tourism, and economic benefits. However, it also intensified global scrutiny of Qatar’s labor laws that govern the lives of migrant workers. In response, Qatar implemented significant labor reforms to address criticisms and enhance the business environment. Despite these efforts, ongoing evaluation is crucial for assessing reforms’ effectiveness. To understand public attitudes, a 2021 nationally-representative telephone survey targeted Qatari nationals and migrant workers. The survey explored how recent employment system changes affected their lives, perceptions, and attitudes. Findings reveal the potential for substantial change, driven partly by international pressure promoting reform. Continuous research and monitoring are vital for sustaining these changes and navigating challenges. This comprehensive approach is essential for grasping the intricate dynamics shaping Qatar’s evolving socio-economic landscape.

To view the paper kindly visit:

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/17441730.2023.2284017/10.1080>

Research Achievements

QU Internal Grant Awarded Cycle-7 (2024-2025)

In collaboration with Ibn Khaldon Center, the Sustainable Development Desk in the Policy Department has been awarded a research grant to the project entitled: “Toward sustainable energy consumption: understanding consumers’



perceptions and intentions to purchase electric and hybrid vehicles in Qatar.” Electric and hybrid vehicles (E&HV) are a notable energy-efficient innovation that can speed up transition to a low carbon-emissions transportation system without a negative impact on the environment, unlike traditional vehicles that use internal combustion engines and produce carbon emissions. Tackling environmental pollution resulting from road vehicles necessitates a serious transformation in consumer attitudes based on a thorough understanding of the factors influencing their intention to adopt E&HV. The project aims to examine consumers’ intentions to purchase E&HV in Qatar, an oil- and gas-rich country, emphasizing socioeconomic factors.