



REACH OUT TO ASIA LAUNCHES NEW EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM FOR GIRLS IN PAKISTAN

In Collaboration with CARE International - The Project Aims to Reach 1000 Girls in SWAT District

Doha, Qatar, 25 October 2015: Reach Out To Asia (ROTA), a member of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), has launched the 'Institutional Support for Participatory, Inclusive and Responsive Education' project in collaboration with CARE International, a leading humanitarian and development organization.

The project aims to improve access to higher quality education for females in secondary school in the rural SWAT district of Pakistan by introducing the concept of a double-shift school system, where teaching operates in two shifts, with one group of students in the building early in the day and a second group of students later in the day. The system will make use of up to 35 existing government primary schools.

ROTA has launched this project in an attempt to fulfill its ongoing mission of building cohesive societies, through initiatives that give importance to the development of society and education for countries in need. This project is also in line with QF's mission of promoting productive change regionally and internationally.

The project formal launching was on 12 September 2015 and will continue for a period of three years. Commenting on this initiative, Mr. Essa Al Mannai, Executive Director of ROTA said: "Our cooperation with CARE International is part of ROTA's agenda to achieve equal educational opportunities with high efficiency and quality in areas with lesser degree of access to education, as well as providing a suitable environment to achieve this goal."

He added: "ROTA always cooperates with international and local organizations and bodies in order to enable and unlock the potential of young people to build a strong and sustainable community, and help in the restructuring of the youth role in order to serve their communities."



For the double-shift schools, 100 local teachers will be hired under flexible terms agreed with the education department. Teachers will be provided teacher training on an Accelerated Learning Program (ALP) and the project aims to reach up to 1,000 female students.

This initiative also aims to improve access to technical education through a package of advanced training programs. It will provide vocational skills and entrepreneurship development to 300 young men and women through training and support, and help up to 100 women working from home develop their own projects. The aim is to develop skilled laborers who do not have a support system by enrolling them in small projects that will give them an opportunity to work independently.

The program will support the existing 35 schools by providing them with all the supplies, equipment and facilities needed for a suitable and comfortable learning environment. The program is also developing an action plan to overcome any obstacles to providing a quality education for girls through behavioral and community campaigns at the local and regional level.

-ENDS-

For further media information and interview requests please contact:

Mohamed Abu Slima

Grayling

Telephone: +974 5019 4898

Email: mohamed.abuslima@grayling.com

About ROTA:

Reach Out To Asia is a non-profit organisation launched in December 2005 in Doha, Qatar, by Her Excellency Sheikha Al Mayassa bint Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani. Operating under the auspices of the Qatar Foundation, ROTA is committed to providing high quality and relevant primary and secondary education, encouraging relationships among communities, creating safe learning environments and restoring education in crisis affected areas across Asia and around the world. ROTA envisions a world, where all young people have access to the education they



need in order for them to realise their full potential and shape the development of their communities.

For more information about Reach Out To Asia, please visit: www.reachouttoasia.org

About Qatar Foundation - Unlocking human potential:

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development is a private non-profit organization supporting the State of Qatar in the process of turning carbon-based economy to a knowledge economy by unlocking human capabilities, including the benefit of the State of Qatar and the entire world. Qatar Foundation was founded in 1995 on the initiative of a His Highness the Father Amir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani, and is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser the Chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Qatar Foundation is committed to achieving its mission overall strategy for education, science, and community development through the establishment of the education sector that attracts world-class universities to Qatar to enable young people to acquire the skills and behaviors necessary for the knowledge-based economy. It also supports innovation and technology through innovative solutions derived from the basic scientific fields. The Foundation is also contributing to the creation of a developed society and the promotion of cultural life and the preservation of heritage and to meet the immediate needs of the community.

For all Qatar Foundation initiatives and projects, please visit the website: <http://www.qf.org.qa>