



## EDUCATION ABOVE ALL AND REACH OUT TO ASIA UNITE TO GIVE HOPE TO MILLIONS OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH ACROSS THE WORLD

*EAA expands to include ROTA as one of its core programs, strengthening the foundation's ability to bring new life-chances and real hope to poor and disadvantaged children, youth and women.*

**Doha, Qatar, February 28, 2017** - Education Above All (EAA) foundation has announced it is expanding to incorporate Reach Out To Asia (ROTA) as one of its core programs. The merger will complement EAA's mission to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for vulnerable and marginalized people in the developing world.

EAA champions and defends the basic right to education around the world with 50 projects in 43 countries. The addition of ROTA, which has international projects and has built deep links with communities in Qatar, adds to the foundation's ability to build and expand local and regional partnerships. ROTA will join other EAA programs, Educate a Child (EAC), Al Fakhoora, and Protect Education in Insecurity and Conflict (PEIC), to drive education for all. EAA's scope will be enhanced by ROTA's commitment to grassroots campaigning, and ROTA's international projects will help further the foundation's global reach.

Education Above All's Chief Executive Officer, Fahad Al-Sulaiti, said: "Bringing ROTA under the umbrella of the Education Above All foundation builds on the synergies between our missions and enhances our ability to deliver quality education to more children around the world. It allows us to build on our mutual ambition to support poor and marginalized communities to fulfill their potential through learning. Central to all of our programs is the fundamental belief that education is the driver of human development."

ROTA was founded by Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) in 2005. It has worked to empower local communities across Asia and the Middle East through the development of human potential. The success of ROTA's numerous initiatives would not have been possible without the unwavering support of QF.

Commenting on the merger, Machaille Al-Naimi, President of Community Development, QF, said: "Qatar Foundation is extremely proud of what ROTA has achieved. Over the years it has empowered young people and provided them with access to the education and training they need in order to realize their full potential and shape the development of their communities. QF provides tailored support to all of its projects, which upon reaching maturity begin to forge



their own distinctive paths. As a QF legacy project, ROTA will always remain a big part of our success story as an organization.”

Essa Al Mannai, Executive Director, ROTA, said: “During the last ten years, ROTA has made a positive impact on the lives of thousands, and it has been an honor to be part an organization such as QF which places such great emphasis on investing in human capital. We are eager to begin our new chapter with Education Above All, whose vision and mission aligns with ours. ROTA is proud to become a program of EAA where the QF legacy of investing in human potential continues. We look forward to working alongside the three existing EAA initiatives, so that, together, we can transform the lives of young people through education.”

– ENDS –

### **About Education Above All**

Education Above All (EAA) is an initiative founded in 2012 by Her Highness Sheikha Moza Bint Nasser. EAA envisions bringing new life chances, real hope and opportunities to improve the lives of poor and marginalised children, youth and women especially in the developing world. It aims to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education for vulnerable and marginalised people especially in the developing world, as an enabler of human development.

EAA believes that education is a fundamental right for all children and an essential condition to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). It is the single most effective means of reducing poverty, generating economic growth and creating peaceful and just societies, which is at the core of EAA’s philosophy.

Since its inception, Education Above All has been dedicated to providing education opportunities for marginalised and vulnerable children, youth and women even under the most difficult circumstances such as conflict situations, natural disaster and physical barriers.

### **Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential**

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. QF was co-founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Amir,

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and Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser, Qatar Foundation's Chairperson. QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy.

At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercializing solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>