

SEPTEMBER – DECEMBER 2016

We are pleased to share with you the major highlights of UNESCO Doha Office in the last quarter of 2016 in the field of education, culture, science, communication and information. Let's continue to work together in 2017 and beyond to successfully reach the Sustainable Development Goals!

DIALOGUE THROUGH CULTURAL INDUSTRIES



As part of the Intercultural Dialogue and Cultural Diversity Programme launched in early 2016, UNESCO Doha, Katara Cultural Village and Qatar National Commission to UNESCO organized an international conference on "Encouraging Dialogue and Diversity through Cultural Industries" on 6-8 December in Katara Cultural Village, Doha. [Read more ...](#)

2 GCC CASE STUDIES LAUNCHED ON EDUCATION 2030



As part of the QNRF funded research on "Momentum for Education beyond 2015," UNESCO Doha and Oman National Commission to UNESCO successfully launched the "Momentum for Education 2030: Educational Quality and Improved Learning Outcomes in the GCC: Sultanate of Oman Case Study" on 27 September 2016 in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. [Read more ...](#)



In collaboration with Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi Foundation, the UAE National Commission to UNESCO and the Ministry of Education, UNESCO Doha shared the results of the Ras Al Khaimah UAE Case Study with 35 education experts, launched on 13 October 2016 in the UAE as part of the "Momentum for Education beyond 2015" project. [Read more ...](#)

GCC MEMORY OF THE WORLD COMMITTEE LAUNCHED

To preserve documentary heritage from the GCC and highlight the cultural treasures of the region, a sub-regional Memory of the World Committee was launched by delegations from the GCC with the support of UNESCO and renown international independent experts at a consultation workshop co-organized by UNESCO Doha and the Oman National Commission to UNESCO from 5-7 December 2016 in Muscat, Sultanate of Oman. [Read more...](#)



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[SDG 4 – Education 2030 Sub-Regional Partners Meeting](#)

Two GCC & Yemen partners meetings were convened to reach a common approach for SDG4 implementation. [Read more](#)



[End impunity for violence against journalists in Yemen](#)

Press Freedom Groups Launch Video Campaign Calling for an End to Attacks against Journalists in Yemen. [Read more](#)



AL-REEM MAN AND BIOSPHERE RESERVE IN QATAR ASSESSED

The Ministry of Municipality & Environment, in cooperation with UNESCO Doha Office and in coordination with the Qatar National Commission for UNESCO has launched the first phase of the baseline assessment of the Al Reem Biosphere Reserve, which is the first key milestone in the development of an integrated Management and Development Plan for the Al Reem Biosphere Reserve. The State of Qatar is one of few countries in the MENA (Middle East & North Africa) region with an internationally recognized Biosphere Reserve under UNESCO's International MAB Programme. [Read more ...](#)

COLLECTIVE ACTION IN ACHIEVING SDG4 IN GCC

Under the auspices of His Excellency, Hussain bin Ibrahim Al Hammadi, Minister of Education of the UAE, UNESCO Doha, RCEP and ABEGS conducted the 2030 Coordination Meeting for SDG4: "Towards Collective Action in Achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4: Strategic Planning to ensure no one is left behind in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries" on 10-11 October 2016 in Al Bustan Rotana Dubai, UAE. [Read more...](#)



Qatar Fund for Development signs grant agreement to support UNESCO Doha Office

The 275,000 US Dollars agreement for the year 2016 was signed by QFD General Manager Khalifa Jassim al-Kuwari and Director of UNESCO Doha Office Anna Paolini. [Read more...](#)

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MUSEUMS, GIS AND AWARENESS INITIATIVES TO SAFEGUARD YEMEN'S CULTURAL HERITAGE

As part of its efforts to safeguard cultural heritage in Yemen, UNESCO Doha Office organized an experts meeting to coordinate efforts and exchange information on initiatives related to GIS, museums and awareness raising at UNESCO Venice Office from 19-20 December 2016. [Read more...](#)



FIRST INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO INFORMATION CELEBRATED IN QATAR



UNESCO, Qatar National Commission to UNESCO and Qatar National Library celebrated the occasion on 28 September through demonstrations of digitalization of rare manuscripts and facsimile at Qatar Foundation. [Read more...](#)



UNESCO, Al Jazeera and OHCHR jointly called for increased safety of journalists in the Arab region to enhance public access to information and encouraged governments to support freedom of expression. [Read more...](#)

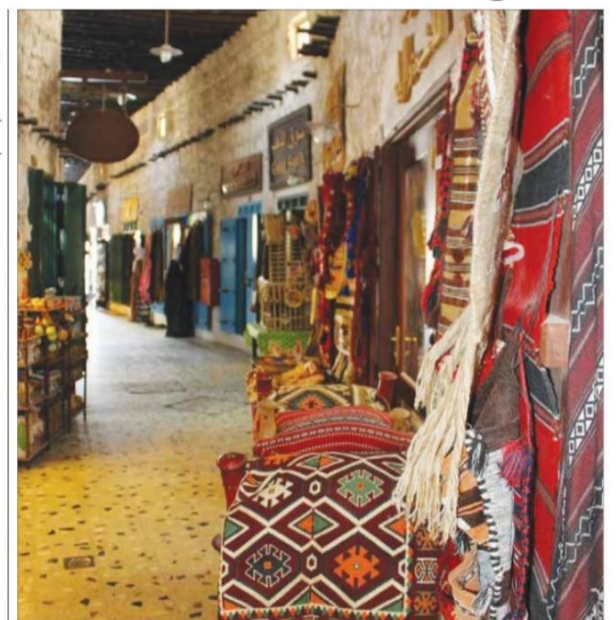
Creative economy: a bearer of social and economic change

Many stories can be told from the Arab region demonstrating the relation between creativity and economics

By UNESCO Office Doha

The concept of "creative economy" has drawn much attention in recent times, but what is it? Cultural industries which make up the creative economy can include design, music, crafts, film and television, fashion, publishing, heritage, festivals and a range of other traditional and modern arts and crafts and cultural activities which generate income and create employment. The creative economy has come to be recognized as a key driver of economic growth, diversification and even social change across the globe. The concept of creativity is not new and neither is economics, but what is new is our understanding of the nature and the extent of the relationships between them and how they can be combined to create extraordinary value and wealth.

Beyond the obvious examples of creative entrepreneurship with global reach, we can also highlight the range and diversity of opportunity within the creative sector on a smaller scale and its potential for small to medium enterprises and entrepreneurs. The Creative Economy Report published by UNESCO and UNDP in 2013 brings to life cases and trends, and opportunities and challenges of creative economy on the ground. Many stories can be told from the Arab region demonstrating the relation between creativity and economics. The turn to a modern lifestyle triggered a decline in traditional creative and artistic activities. Local weavers and other craftsmen became destitute because of a sharp contraction of the market for their traditional products.



The Handicraft Centre in Souq Waqf.

annual growth rate was 8.8%. Even more interestingly, the Creative Economy Report by UNESCO and UNDP

Diversity of Cultural Expressions that supports governments in investing, and protecting their creative and

innovative and cross-cutting solutions to complex issues.

UNESCO partnered with Qatar's newspaper Gulf Times to publish [series of articles](#) ahead of its international conference on dialogue and diversity through cultural Industries.

'TOGETHER FOR HERITAGE' LAUNCHED IN AL ZUBARAH

More than 50 young volunteers from Qatar and around the world have begun a 20-day project supported by Qatar Museums and UNESCO to conserve the historical Al Zubarah heritage site, recently named a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the best-preserved examples of 18th century merchant towns in the Gulf region. [Read more...](#)



Our latest publications:

- * [UNESCO Biosphere Excursion: A learning experience for young environmentalists from Ethiopia and the UAE](#)
- * [Global Education Monitoring Report 2016](#)
- * [Endangered Heritage: Emergency Evacuation of Heritage Collections](#)

CNA-Q AS UNESCO CHAIR ON TVET

Dr. Rupert Maclean was appointed UNESCO Chair on TVET and Sustainable Development by UNESCO. A MoU was signed between CNA-Q and Qatar National Commission to UNESCO for cooperation on TVET-related projects in Qatar. [Read More...](#)



Upcoming events in 2017:

- * Second Arab Regional Meeting for Education 2030, Dubai, 5-7 March 2017
- * Digital Youth Festival, 7 March 2017, Qatar
- * Women Make the News, 8 March 2017, Qatar