

August & September 2024 Newsletter

Events

A workshop Entitled "Education in Qatar 2022: Towards the 2030 Agenda"

The Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University hosted a workshop on September 30, 2024. Entitled "Education in Qatar 2022: Towards the 2030 Agenda". The primary objective of this workshop was to present the findings of the Qatar Education Study 2022 to decision-makers, researchers, academics, and stakeholders from various sectors.



During the event, the results of Qatar Education Study 2022 were showcased. Indeed, this longitudinal study was designed to equip policymakers with reliable data on the current state of the Qatari education system and its development. The study investigated the effectiveness of curricula, the role of private tutoring, online blended learning practices during Covid-19, school infrastructure and environment, and satisfaction levels among students, parents, teachers, and administrators. Furthermore, the workshop emphasized key areas that require reform to enhance the quality of education, promote equity and inclusivity, and better respond to labor market demands. It concluded with a series of evidence-based recommendations aimed at aligning Qatar's education system with the ambitious goals outlined in Vision 2030.



Key Recommendations "Education in Qatar 2022: Towards the 2030 Agenda" workshop:



Participation at the Third National Forum for Human Rights

The Policy Department in the Institute of Social and Economic Survey Research, under the supervision of Dr. Noura Lari, Manager of the Policy Department at the Institute, participated in the Third National Forum for Human Rights on "Protecting the Rights of Children in a Safe Digital Environment: Challenges and Prospects for Empowerment and Protection." The Project Manager Alaa Alshareef presented a paper entitled "Reflections on e-learning experiences during pandemics and emergencies: the Covid-10 pandemic as an example." This paper is part of the project "COVID-19 Pandemic: Public Risk Perceptions, Behavioral Responses and Compliance with Preventive Measures" through which we provide preliminary information on assessing individuals' level of e-learning experience during the COVID-19 pandemic, addressing educational challenges and developing alternative educational strategies during pandemics and emergency.



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Publications

Accepted paper for publication entitled: "Do Income and Consumption Growth Cause CO2 Emissions in Qatar? Implications for Climate Policy"

Prof. Arokiasamy from the policy department, along with co-authors Prof. Kaltham Al-Ghanim Prof. Ahmed Ali Khalifa, Prof. Monjur Mourshed and Hend Al-Sulaiti, and, has had a paper titled "Do Income and Consumption Growth Cause CO2 Emissions in Qatar? Implications for Climate Policy" accepted for publication in the Discover Sustainability journal. The paper highlights the following:

- Qatar has experienced a remarkable surge in all four components of gross domestic product (GDP) – consumption, government spending, investment, and net exports as well as significant growth in population over the past thirty years. Despite a potential link between increasing production and consumption and a corresponding rise in CO2 emissions in Qatar, there exists a significant gap in the literature addressing this linkage.

- Using sectoral data, this article investigates the long-term trends of GDP growth and expenditure and their nexus with CO2 emissions in Qatar. Least square regression analysis (multiple regression approach) and Granger Causality tests have been used to examine the long-term association between GDP-expenditure and its components and CO2 emission patterns.

- The study also discusses the environmental implications and the necessity for effective natural resource management in climate policy. Our analysis reveals consistent average annual increases in Qatar over the past three decades: 4.8% in total expenditure, 5.4% in GDP, 4% in government spending, 4.7% in household consumption, and 1.77% in CO2 emissions. During this period, production- and consumption-based emissions surged by 700%, while production-based emissions rose by 500%. The energy sector alone accounts for 86% of Qatar's total CO2 emissions.

- Significant Granger causality was found between CO2 emissions and various economic growth and GDP components, suggesting a potential inverted U-shaped Kuznets Curve, indicating a possible decline in CO2 emissions in future. However, achieving this decline in CO2 emissions in accordance with UN SDG Goal 12 requires additional policy measures focussed on carbon capture and storage, circular economy practices, carbon pricing, and complementary climate policies. Specific policy actions include establishing CO2 observatories, promoting clean energy initiatives, and engaging the private sector.

Barriers to Formal Volunteering Among Married Qatari Youth

Rima Charbaji El-Kassem, Dr. Noora Ahmed Lari, Amal Awadalla Ali from SESRI, and Alyaa Al Maadeed from Doha Institute for Graduate Studies published an article entitled "Barriers to Formal Volunteering Among Married Qatari Youth" in Cogent Social Sciences, Taylor & Francis.

Purpose:

The article aims to identify key factors influencing the lack of formal volunteering among married Qatari youth.

Methodology:

Utilizing data from the Qatar Youth Survey with a sample of 598 married individuals, factor analysis and multiple regression were employed for analysis.

Findings:

The principal findings highlight significant associations with non-volunteerism, including a negative work environment, preference for a male boss, parents' engagement with food and play, home-based parental involvement, and spousal caregiving responsibilities.

Practical Implications:

The research is expected to assist policymakers and decision-makers in Qatar draw strategies based on volunteers' rebuttals when calling for community service and unpaid helpers from local youth.

Originality:

This research contributes to existing knowledge as the first study in Qatar exploring the causes of non-volunteerism using multiple observed statements derived from previous research.

Acknowledgments:

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The article is available at: <https://doi.org/10.1080/23311886.2024.2386048>

News

Presenting at the 12th European Conference on Arts & Humanities (ECAH2024)

Dr. Buthaina Al Khelaifi and Maitha Al Naimi, senior research assistants from SESRI, attended the 12th European Conference on Arts & Humanities (ECAH2024) that was held in the University College London & SOAS, during the period from the 11th to the 15th of July 2024. The team collaborated on the recent valuable presentation related to the Family Cohesion project; a collaboration project with DIFI. The presentation was among 'Comparative Perspectives on Family & Relationships' session.

Describing the overview of family situation in Qatar gave new insights and fruitful ideas to the attendants about how to measure the family cohesion concept, as well as, explaining SESRI's outmost professional data collection methods and analysis, which was an astonishing aspect of the discussion that followed. Such gatherings and sharing of knowledge, is important to aspire for new collaborations and beneficial relationships with other parties outside of Qatar.