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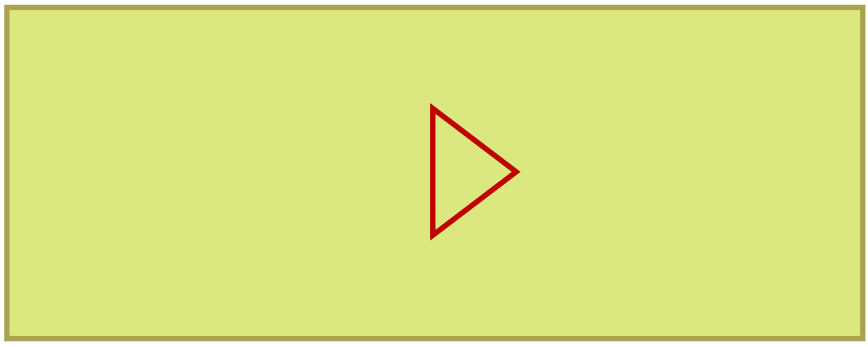
QQA Celebrates its 8th Anniversary

years of Giving 8 سنوات من العطاء

The National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA) celebrates its 8th anniversary that coincides with the Kingdom's National Charter celebrations.

QQA is one of the fruits of the Reform Project initiated by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, King of Bahrain, which is translated through the National Charter and through which His Majesty gives a great emphasis on developing the education and training sectors at the Kingdom of Bahrain.



Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki TV Interview in Bab Al Bahrain Programme on 2nd March 2016

Shaping Bahrain's Future

This year marks the QQA's 8th anniversary as a fruit of the Reform Project initiated by His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, and is represented by the National Charter, assuring the continual strategy of improvement and development of the education and training sectors representing the two vital components of renaissance of any country.

The genuine and sustainable vision of the wise leadership in supporting education and training initiatives at the Kingdom has been the driving force of Bahrain's educational revival. Such initiatives path the way to form a self-conscious and promising generation who shape Bahrain's brilliant and splendid reputation, and establish its role and contribution regionally and internationally.

Together, we continue our mission adding a new brick to our prosperous monument to future prospects ambitiously and steadily. We are very pleased to launch our first issue of the QQA newsletter "Quality Gate" establishing another new brick into this remarkable national organization, which started and always will be at high levels in strong Bahrain by its efficient citizens.

Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki

Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA)

QQA Promotes the Specialized Knowledge and Quality of Education and Training Institutions

The General Directorate of National Qualifications Framework

Directorate of National Examinations

Directorates of Government Schools and Private Schools & kindergarten Reviews

Directorate of Vocational Reviews

Directorate of Higher Education Reviews

Under the patronage of H.E. Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA), five forums were held during the period from 25 November 2015 to 17 February 2016.

The General Directorate of the National Qualifications Framework held the first forum entitled "NQF…Paving the Way for Education Development" in the presence of 100 experts in education and training sectors locally, regionally and internationally.

The forum addressed various themes on the development of national qualifications frameworks and their role in aligning learning outcomes with labour market and employment requirements. The forum also discussed the credit hours framework, and the National Qualifications Framework from the perspective of institutions and verification committees.

It was followed by the Directorate of National Examinations (DNE) forum which was held under the theme "National Examinations: Capacity Development to Improve Performance". A group of teachers, senior teachers and educators in basic education, as well as a number of education stakeholders in the Kingdom of Bahrain took part in the forum.

Two analysis of Grade 3 students' results in mathematics and Arabic language from 2009-2015 were also presented. The forum addressed the latest educational practices relating to the assessment of students' performance in the classroom environment.

The forum of the Directorate of Government Schools Reviews and the Directorate of Private Schools and Kindergartens Reviews was organised under the theme "Teaching & Learning in Intermediate Schools: A Quality Perspective". Participants were updated of the latest local and international developments in the field of teaching and learning strategies in the intermediate schools; in addition to the exchange of experiences in the development of students' performance in this educational stage.

The fourth forum was held by the Directorate of Vocational Reviews (DVR) under the theme "Vocational Education and Training: Going the Extra Mile – Closing the Gaps", with the participation of 130 members of the education and training institutions, and stakeholders in the sector.

The main papers reviewed the most important issues in the industry, the effective role of the institutions leaders to ensure the effectiveness of training and its relationship to the labour market requirements and needs.

The last forum was organised by the Directorate of Higher Education Reviews (DHR) titled "Enhancing Academic Standards in Higher Education". A number of experts and specialists in higher education and representatives of institutions and strategic partners took part in the DHR forum.

The forum theses addressed the international best practices and ways to take advantage of them. It also highlighted the importance of ensuring that Bahraini graduates are equipped with the attributes and competencies required for the labor market needs.

All forums had received a distinct media coverage; given the importance of their themes at one hand, and the valuable scientific research papers on the other hand.

Chief Executive participates in CHEA and CIQG Annual Meeting

Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA), took part in the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA) and CHEA International Quality Group (CIQG) annual meeting held in Washington, USA.

Dr. Al Mudhahki also met H.E. Shaikh Abdulla bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Khalifa, the Kingdom of Bahrain Ambassador to the United States of America.

QQA signs MoU with the SCQEF

The National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA) signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework Partnership (SCQFP). This aims to form strategic partnership to promote cooperation in relation to qualification frameworks, professional development, and advancement of international understanding between both parties to their mutual benefit.

The MoU was signed by Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA) and Aileen Ponton, Chief Executive Officer of SCQFP.

QQA issues its 7th Annual Report

The National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA) issues its 7th Annual Report that presents an evaluation of the education and training performance in the Kingdom of Bahrain, and an overview of the conferences that either were held, or in which the QQA took part in over the previous year. The QQA Annual Report also covers the results of the external quality review conducted by the International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE), which was successfully completed.

QQA Participation in Regional & International Conferences

Bahrain Schools Expo held under the patronage of H.E. Shaikha Hind Bint Salman Al Khalifa, President of Mother & Child Welfare Society at Bahrain International Exhibition Centre in January 2016.

Mrs. Wafa Al-Yaqoobi, acting Director of the Directorate of National Examinations and Mrs. Basma Al Sadeq, Data Officer at DNE submitted a paper on (Evaluating the Impact of the Bahrain National Examinations from its Commencement in 2008) to the Annual International Conference of Educational Research and Innovation "ICERI" held in November 2015, in Seville, Spain.

Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA) participated in the Conference on the Quality Assurance of Cross-Border Higher Education organised by the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA) in November 2015 in Paris, France.

Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA), Dr. Tariq Al Sindi, General Director of the General Directorate for National Qualifications Framework and Dr. Haya Al Mannai, General Director of the General Directorate of Education & Training Institutes Reviews participated in the International Network of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) 2015 Conference titled "Changing Landscape of Higher Education: New Demand on Quality Assurance" held in Chicago, Illinois, USA, from Monday, March 30 to Thursday, April 2, 2015.

Dr. Jawaher S. Al Mudhahki, Chief Executive of the National Authority for Qualifications & Quality Assurance of Education & Training (QQA), submitted a paper titled "Quality Assurance in Higher Education in the GCC States: Facts, Challenges & Priorities" to the 3rd Conference of the Oman Quality Network in Higher Education, which was organised under the title of (Quality Management and Quality Enhancement in Higher Education) in February 2015 in Muscat.

Dr. Khaled H. Albaker, Director of the Directorate of Government Schools Reviews, submitted a paper on education and competitiveness in the labour market to the 3rd International Education Conference under the theme (Education for the Future: From Planning to Application), which was held in August 2015, Sharjah, UAE.

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