**ANDD Third Annual Meeting**

**Thursday, 18 May 2023**

**Research Complex (H10), Qatar University, Doha, Qatar**

**Success Stories in Incorporating SDGs in Education, Research, and Practice**

**Introduction**

The Academic Network for Development Dialogue (ANDD) is a tangible step towards enhancing cooperation and dialogue between the United Nations (UN) and the academic community. ANDD represents a think tank in the Arab region that aims to influence the work of the UN and the global dialogue related to policy options in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

On 14 July 2020, participants from 16 academic and research entities from the region gathered to discuss the need to establish a network of educational institutions in order to support the implementation of the SDGs in the Arab region. This meeting was held under the leadership of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA), in cooperation with the Academic Council on the United Nations System (ACUNS) and Qatar University (QU), and led to the establishing of the ANDD.

The ANDD focuses on creating an intellectual sharing process to bridging the local knowledge gap and fosters academic expertise and scientific findings to support progress towards sustainable development in the region, including supporting evidence-based action by the UN system. The network supports an action chain approach, where small-scale actions (individual or institutional research and workshops) lead to new broader progress, and ultimately these results inspire more actions (i.e., region-wide effect). This connectivity between academics, expert practitioners, and the UN assumes a foresight role for the group, not just an advisory one.

Relying on local academic expertise to advise on new UN programs and policies is an initiative to drive the region towards proactive policy-making, in line with national plans for achieving the SDGs. This collaboration will support the global conversation and cooperation between partners and academia in the region. It is providing the UN with relevant knowledge.

Currently, the network has 36 member institutions. Since its inception, the network activities included:

* Holding two annual network meetings. QU organized the first annual meeting in cooperation with the ESCWA on 31 March 2021, where the 5-year-plan of the network was approved along with the required taskforces and the collaboration agenda among the members. The second annual meeting was organized by Cadi Ayyad University in cooperation with QU and ESCWA on 13 April 2022 under the theme “The role of Academic Research in influencing the achievement of the SDGs”.
* Completing a research summer internship where 23 students from member institutions attended and received certificates for online courses on a variety of subjects offered by QU.
* Launching a discussion paper series that aims to encourage structured dialogue over wicked problems in the region and holding a perfection workshop in Doha.
* Starting a research collaboration grant focusing on the subject of sustainable development, through QU International Research Collaboration Co-Fund (IRCC) program.

**ANDD Annual Meeting**

The network holds a yearly meeting to bring together scholars and UN professionals, to discuss and encourage new themes/directions and ideas in the analysis of regional organizations and policy issues, as well as underlining gaps in SDGs’ achievement strategies in the region. It brings scholars and UN practitioners together to deepen their relationships and work together on research matters around selected themes relevant to the United Nations system in the region.

Such meetings stimulate advanced research and teaching on selected themes and subjects based on regional challenges and the regional programs of the UN system, producing research articles that are published in international journals.

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| Date | Theme | Host | Year |
| 31 March 2021 | Research, Innovation & Collaboration to Advance the SDGs during Crisis and Post-Crisis Times | QU in partnership with ESCWA and ACUNS | 2021 |
| 13 April 2022 | The role of Academic Research in influencing the achievement of the SDGs | Cadi Ayyad University & QU in partnership with ESCWA | 2022 |
| 18 May 2023 | Success Stories in Incorporating SDGs in Education, Research, and Practice | QU & Al-Quds University in partnership with ESCWA and ACUNS | 2023 |

The ANDD third annual meeting for the year 2023 will be held on QU campus on 18 May 2023, under the title: **"Success stories in integrating sustainable development goals into education, research and practice"**.

The meeting will focus on how various organizations, universities, and researchers are incorporating the SDGs in education, research, and practice. Participants will learn about different approaches and strategies that have been successful in implementing the SDGs in their work.

The meeting will cover a range of topics related to the SDGs, including education for sustainable development, the role of the private sector along how inter- and non-governmental organizations serve the SDGs. The second edition of the network's paper series will also be announced.

We look forward to an engaging and insightful discussion on the success stories of incorporating the SDGs in Education, Research, and Practice.

**Program**

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| **Program (Doha time)** |
| **8:30-9:00** | **Arrival and Registration** |
| **Social Time / Networking**  |
| **9:00-9:15** | **Opening Remarks***Speakers:** *Prof. Mariam Ali Al-Maadeed, Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies, Qatar University (QU)*
* *Mr. Stian Holen, Chief of Strategy, Planning, Accountability and knowledge Section, ESCWA*
* *Dr. Elham Kateeb, Dean of Scientific Research, Al-Quds University (AQU)*
 |
| **9:15-11:00** | **Session 1** |
| **Keynote Speakers:*** *H.H. Mr. Khalifa bin Jassim Al-Kuwari, Director General, Qatar Fund for Development (TBC)*
* *Dr. Salem Al-Malik, Director General of ISESCO*

**Panel Discussion I: SDGs in Education, Research & Practice***Moderator:* *Dr. Abdelaziz Bouras, Pre-Award Manager, QU**Speakers:** *Dr. Mohammed Al-Otaibi, President, Kuwait Association for Graduate Studies*
* *Dr. Isam Ishaq, Dean of Dual Studies, AQU*
* *Dr. Nidal Shaban, Association of Sustainable education system (ISLE association)*

*Discussion with the members* |
| **11:00-12:00** | **Session 2: Private Sector & Academia** |
| **Panel Discussion II: Role of the Private Sector in Implementing the SDGs** *Moderator: Dr. Ahmed Khalifa, Professor of Economics, College of Business & Economics, QU**Speakers:** *Prof. Dzulkifli Abdul Razak, Rector, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)*
* *Mario Jales, Economic Affairs Officer, 2030 Agenda and SDG Coordination Cluster, ESCWA*
* *Dr. Mabrouk Ouederni, Product Development & Innovation Manager, QAPCO*
* *Dr. Ahmad Ayyad, Assistant Professor of Translation Studies, Director of AQU Career Center, AQU*

*Discussion with the members* |
| **12:00-13:00** | **Lunch and Prayer Break** |
| **13:00-14:00** | **Session 3: Organizations & Academia** |
| **Panel Discussion III: How do inter- and non-governmental organizations serve the SDGs?***Moderator: Dr. Andreas Rechkemmer, Professor of Global and Public Policy, Hamad Bin Khalifa University (HBKU)**Speakers:** *Dr. John Kilani, Director of Sustainable Development, Al-Attiyah Foundation*
* *Mrs. Jana El Baba, Social Affairs Officer,* *Unit of 2030 Agenda, ESCWA*
* *Prof. Rachid Hakkou, Professor at the College of Sciences and Techniques, Université Cadi Ayyad*

*Discussion with the members* |
| **14:00-14:30** | **Summary of the first call for the ANDD Paper Series***Dr. Zuheir Bakleh, Information Management Officer and Knowledge Management Team Leader, ESCWA* |
| **Announcing the second call for the ANDD Paper Series***Prof. Arokiasamy Perianayagam, Research Professor, SESRI, QU*  |
| **14:30-15:00** | **Real Stories***Moderator: Dr. Elham Kateeb, Dean of Scientific Research, Al-Quds University**Speakers:** *Dr. Zainal Abidin Sanusi, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM)*
* *Prof. Haitham Lababidi, Acting Assistant Vice President for Planning, Kuwait University*

*Discussion with the members* |
| **15:00-15:15** | **Closing Remarks** |
| **15:15-16:15** | **ANDD governance and future plan (ANDD members) Meeting (by invitation only)** |