



## Rashid bin Hamdan Honors UNESCO-Hamdan Prize Winners in Paris

Hamdan Foundation and  
UNESCO Ink MoU to Support  
Education Worldwide



Final Results of Season  
4 of Future Science  
Challenge to be  
Announced in  
February 2025

Hamdan-ALECSO Award for  
Distinguished Educational  
Research Receives 154  
Submissions from 11 Arab  
Countries

Winners of the  
'Innovators' Competition  
to be Honored in  
November 2025



Indonesian Ambassador  
Explores Initiatives of Hamdan  
bin Rashid Al Maktoum  
Foundation for Medical and  
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### Vision

A pioneering foundation fostering excellence

### Mission

Designing and implementing distinguished awards and programs that empower achievements in medicine and education, while nurturing the giftedness of individuals







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3 institutions from Bangladesh, Brazil, and Togo win the 8th edition  
**Rashid bin Hamdan Honors  
UNESCO-Hamdan Prize Winners in Paris**



**Rashid bin Hamdan:**  
Our partnership with UNESCO reaffirms the UAE's commitment to enhancing education globally

We believe in the significant role teachers play in shaping civilizations and developing societies

Education is the best investment for building a sustainable and prosperous future





### **Paris - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'**

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, honored the winners of the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development in its eighth edition.

Held in the main hall of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris, the honoring ceremony coincided with World Teachers' Day 2024 and was attended by senior officials and UNESCO's permanent delegates.

#### **Strong Ties**

Sheikh Rashid praised the strong ties between UNESCO and the United Arab Emirates, under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President, Prime Minister of the UAE, and Ruler of Dubai.

He expressed appreciation for UNESCO's continued support to education, science, and culture, noting its essential role in fostering international cooperation to

**Humaid Al Qatami:**  
**We are committed to investing in education globally and supporting teachers to empower them in building societies**

**Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:**  
**The prize reflects the Foundation's commitment to focusing on supporting communities and developing nations' education**

strengthen education, promote cultural diversity, and encourage human innovation.

Sheikh Rashid also emphasized that education represents a vital investment in the future, highlighting the Hamdan Foundation's role in advancing education through its partnership with UNESCO, which has facilitated the sharing of effective educational practices and the development of teachers' competencies worldwide.

Reaffirming the UAE's commitment to advancing global education, he underscored the importance of teachers in shaping a brighter future for generations to come.

Sheikh Rashid congratulated the prize winners and recognized the efforts of the judges and coordinators at both Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO. He stated, "At Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, we are honored to be part of this recognition reflecting our belief in the essential role of teachers in building societies and advancing civilizations".

#### **Additional Support**

Sheikh Rashid announced additional support for the Hamdan-UNESCO Fund, with new financing for



upcoming educational programs, including key projects such as the 2026 Global Teacher Report and the Knowledge Center affiliated with the Teachers Task Force to enhance the global standing of teachers. In his concluding remark, Sheikh Rashid expressed his hope that this prize will inspire recipients to continue their journey with dedication and creativity, reaffirming that education remains the most promising investment for building a sustainable and prosperous future.

### 3 Pioneering Projects

As part of honoring this year's winning projects, the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation and UNESCO

recognized three pioneering initiatives from Bangladesh, Brazil, and Togo. These projects have notably advanced teacher performance and strengthened their impact on local educational systems. The recognition coincided with World Teachers' Day 2024, of which theme was 'Recognizing Teachers' Voices: Towards a New Social Contract for Education', that highlighted the role of teachers in shaping the future of education and emphasizing the importance of incorporating their perspectives into educational policies.

### Education Quality

His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al

**Coinciding with World Teachers' Day, honoring the winners in recognition for their efforts to improve education**

**Announcement of new support for Hamdan-UNESCO Fund with additional budget for educational programs**

Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation expressed his satisfaction in honoring the winners of this esteemed prize.

He remarked, "This prize aligns with World Teachers' Day, underscoring the Foundation's commitment to advance global education quality and support communities to transform nations that need particular assistance in education".

Dr. Al Suwaidi added, "We congratulate the winners and commend UNESCO's efforts toward inclusive and equitable education, in line with the 'Education 2030' vision to expand learning opportunities and cultivate a society based on knowledge and equality".

He further stated that the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize supports, encourages, and enhances teachers' performance and effectiveness to promote 'education for all'. It recognizes teachers who demonstrate excellence in their practices and contribute to raising global education standards.

Dr. Al Suwaidi mentioned that the prize offers more than financial support; it provides a global platform for sharing and disseminating outstanding teaching practices, stressing that investing in teachers means investing in the future, as they play a pivotal role in developing the skills of future generations.

He added, "The UNESCO-Hamdan Prize is a major initiative that we undertake to realize the vision of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences. We are proud to contribute to improving education worldwide, and we look forward to witnessing more achievements by teachers through this prize".

The winners of this year include three international organizations recognized for their contributions to education: Good Neighbors Bangladesh for their project: "Enhancing Teachers' Capacities for Quality Educational Environment", Curitiba Municipality - Municipal Education Secretariat in Brazil for their project: "Veredas Formativas", which promotes interactive

### **Ali Abdullah Al Ali: The prize is an effective tool to stimulate distinguished educational practices**

His Excellency Ali Abdullah Al Ali, Permanent Delegate of the UAE to UNESCO, reaffirmed the UAE's continued support and dedication to strengthening UNESCO's educational programs, stating, "The UAE views education as a cornerstone for sustainable development and social progress, and we remain committed to support initiatives aimed at improving the quality of education globally".

He further added, "The UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development has become an effective tool for UNESCO in stimulating excellence in educational practices. We are proud of its impact in motivating teachers and recognizing their contributions worldwide".

He emphasized that the UAE will continue supporting the prize and other UNESCO initiatives, based on its core belief in education's vital role in building a better future. He stated, "We are confident that our cooperation with UNESCO will help achieve our shared vision of high-quality education for all and foster opportunities for success in various societies".

### **Carlos Vargas Tamez: Esteemed honor and incentive to enhance the quality of training teachers globally**

Carlos Vargas Tamez, Chief of the Section for Teacher Development at UNESCO, emphasized that the UNESCO-Hamdan Prize serves as an esteemed honor and a powerful incentive for improving teacher development, aiming to enhance the quality of training teachers globally. He remarked that "UNESCO, through this prize, transforms teaching into a collaborative profession".

He remarked, "The prize helps foster cooperation among teachers worldwide, contributing to the exchange of ideas and successful educational practices. This collaboration has not only strengthened individual skills but has also built an international network of educators working toward common educational goals."

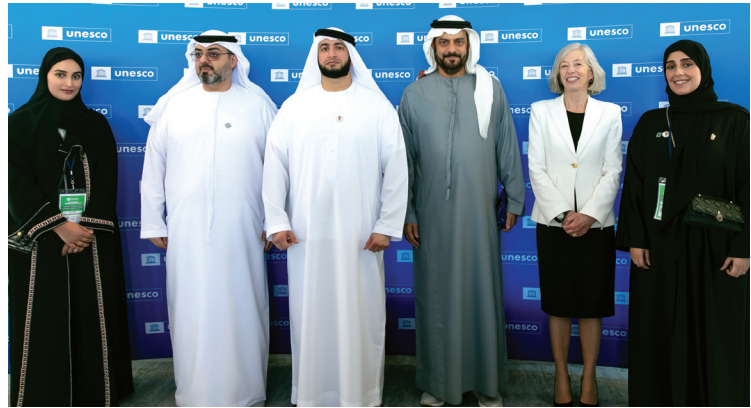
Carlos stated that the prize encourages teachers to innovate and adopt new methods, ultimately improving education quality and creating better learning opportunities for students around the globe. "We at UNESCO are proud of our partnership with the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, and we look forward to continuing this collaboration to enhance the role of teachers and education on a global scale", he added.

### **Borhene Chakroun: The prize is a central part of our efforts to elevate education globally**

Borhene Chakroun, Director of Policies and Lifelong Learning Systems at UNESCO, praised the UAE's unwavering support for UNESCO's educational initiatives, noting that this partnership reflects a deep commitment to advancing education worldwide.

He stated that "thanks to the close cooperation between the UAE and UNESCO; tangible results are being achieved in improving education quality, ensuring equal educational opportunities, and building a brighter future for humanity".

Chakroun stated, "The UNESCO-Hamdan Prize is a central part of our efforts to elevate the quality of education globally. By recognizing distinguished teachers and encouraging the adoption of best practices, we aim to contribute to achieving the SDGs and ensuring education for all".



education and skill development for teachers, and Tchitchao High School in Togo for their project to rural students: "Community-Based Approach to Improve Basic Literacy Skills".

### 7 Projects

Seven projects reached the final selection stage of the Hamdan-UNESCO Prize for Teacher Development in 2024, representing several countries. From Indonesia: transforming schools into hubs of innovation and sustainability; and Temu Pendidik Nusantara. From Angola: Teacher Training Schools. From Norway: developing active learning methodology. From China: Teachers as Dream-Makers. From Brazil: Nova Escola's Lesson Plans and Protagonist Families. All the above projects focused on promoting education and teachers' capabilities. These projects were selected for their significant role in improving teachers' performance and enabling them to bring about positive changes

in their educational environments, which, in turn, enhances the quality of education and promotes equitable learning opportunities.

The UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development received over 100 submissions from 33 countries, reflecting the growing trust in the prize and its role in advancing global education.

UNESCO places great importance on this \$300,000 prize for its contribution to supporting educators and encouraging them to improve their performance and effectiveness. This prize is a key tool for UNESCO to achieve the goal of education for all, by enhancing the quality of education and the efficiency of teachers worldwide.

First launched in 2008 with the support of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, the Hamdan-UNESCO Prize aims to support and encourage those working globally to advance teacher effectiveness, aligning with UNESCO's core principles and objectives.

### Funding for the 2026 Global Teacher Report and the Knowledge Center affiliated with the Teachers Task Force

### 7 projects reached the final round of the 2024 UNESCO-Hamdan Prize from various countries



In the presence of Rashid bin Hamdan

# Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO Ink MoU to Support Education Worldwide



## Paris - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, and the accompanying delegation attended the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UNESCO regarding the teacher-support programs implemented by UNESCO through the Hamdan-UNESCO Fund.

The ceremony took place in UNESCO's main hall in Paris on the sidelines of the ceremony honoring the winners of the eighth edition of the Hamdan-UNESCO Prize for Teacher Development.

Commenting on the MoU, His Excellency Humaid Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Trustees – Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, said, "This agreement builds on the vision of the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, may he rest in peace, to

## MoU Objectives:

- Strength collaboration between Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO in developing sustainable education programs
- Enhance teachers' skills worldwide
- Promote innovative solutions to tackle educational challenges
- Foster inclusive educational environments to drive SDGs
- Focus on enhancing effective teaching tools and improve teacher efficiency
- Support international efforts to raise education quality in under-resourced areas

support education and international initiatives that enhance teacher performance and capabilities".

He added, "We are dedicated to investing in global education by empowering teachers to fulfill their essential role in community building".

The MoU seeks to strengthen the cooperation between the Foundation and UNESCO in developing sustainable education programs, enhancing teacher skills worldwide, and promoting innovative solutions to tackle educational challenges.

Additionally, it aims to foster inclusive educational environments to drive SDGs, focusing on enhancing effective teaching tools, improving teacher efficiency, and supporting efforts to raise education quality in areas that lack resources.

This MoU aligns with the ongoing efforts to promote education as a basic tool for achieving sustainable development, reflecting the Foundation's commitment to enhancing international cooperation in this field.



Extends to the entire Arab world and targets talented youth aged 10 to 17

## Final Results of Season 4 of Future Science Challenge to be Announced in February 2025

**Humaid Al Qatami:**

**Our youth have the potential to create positive change and achieve progress**

**The submitted projects demonstrated exceptional levels of innovation and creativity across various fields**

### **Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'**

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has announced that the final results of the fourth season of the "Future Science Challenge" will be announced during a virtual closing ceremony on 27 February 2025.

Hosted by the Hamdan Center for Giftedness and Innovation and

extending to the entire Arab world, the competition began in September 2024. Its agenda includes several accompanying activities, such as general introductory meetings and a specialized training program for team supervisors and students in October 2024, along with virtual project evaluation sessions scheduled for January and February 2025.

This season's theme, "Fostering Positive Change in Society", aims

to inspire innovation and creativity among youth, encouraging them to explore new areas in science and technology. It invites participants to leverage modern technologies to find solutions to societal challenges in healthcare, education, and living standards.

This initiative offers talented students aged 10 to 17 from across the Arab world a valuable opportunity to develop their scientific and technical





Archived photo from previous season of the competition

skills while showcasing their innovative talents.

### Inspiring Youth

His Excellency Humaid Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, highlighted the competition's significance in motivating Arab youth to create positive change in their communities. He pointed out that this season's theme, "Fostering Positive Change in Society", is an open call for Arab youth to present creative solutions to societal issues using the latest technologies, particularly in the fields of artificial intelligence (AI) and the Internet of Things (IoT).

He added, "We believe that our youth have the potential to create positive change and achieve the progress we aspire to. This competition provides the perfect platform for them to develop their ideas and transform them into tangible realities that serve their communities".

AlQatami noted, "The previous seasons of the competition attracted a wide participation and significant interest from talented students across the GCC countries, motivating us to expand its reach to the entire Arab world. The projects submitted showcased exceptional levels of innovation and creativity in various domains, such as smart irrigation systems, health monitoring devices, and smart security systems. These projects are not merely conceptual; they are practical models demonstrating the capabilities of younger people to provide effective technological solutions to diverse challenges".



### Season 4 of the competition:

- Expanding participation to include talented individuals across the Arab world
- The theme: "Fostering Positive Change in Society"
- Aims to inspire innovation and creativity among youth
- Encourages exploration of new areas in science and technology
- Finding solutions to societal challenges in healthcare, education, and living standards.

### Competition Stages

The competition will stretch over two stages. In the first stage, participating teams will develop and submit their projects on the electronic platform, where they will undergo an initial evaluation by the judging panel. The top ten projects in each age category will advance to the final stage, where online interviews will be conducted with the qualifying teams for a more detailed and interactive assessment. The winning teams will be selected based on specific criteria, including design and innovation, technology application, presentation skills, and the project's alignment with the competition theme.

The competition targets talented Arab

students between the ages of 10 and 17 from Arab countries to provide them with a competitive environment to showcase their talents. It serves as a comprehensive journey to enhance their scientific and innovative skills, increase their understanding of future technologies, and offer practical solutions to the challenges facing their communities.

Those interested in learning more about the competition can visit <https://hamdanfsc.com>. Upon registration, each team will be able to create an account on the competition's electronic platform, where they can upload project files and access the training curriculum, which includes educational materials and lessons on AI and IoT.

# Launch of the Support Program for Participants in Hamdan Foundation's Educational Awards

Training workshops to enhance the performance of previous participants and encourage them to join the current cycle

## Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has announced the launch of the Support Program for participants in the Foundation's educational awards.

This initiative is part of the Foundation's ongoing efforts to empower qualified individuals who have previously participated

in these awards, helping them meet the standards of excellence and encouraging them to take part in the current cycle through specialized training workshops aimed at enhancing their chances of success.

His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of the Foundation stated, "This program reflects the Foundation's commitment to support excellence and improve the quality of

education. It aims to provide participants with the necessary support and equip them with the tools and skills needed to achieve the best outcomes". He added, "We recognize the importance of supporting outstanding individuals in various fields of education, in alignment with the wise leadership's vision and strategic plans to support efforts aimed at developing a flexible educational system that meets future demands".





## Indonesian Ambassador Explores Initiatives of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences

**Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:** We look forward to developing partnerships and enhancing cooperation between medical and educational institutions

Both sides emphasized the importance of collaboration to develop innovative projects that serve the Emirati and Indonesian communities

### **Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'**

His Excellency Husin Bagis, Ambassador of the Republic of Indonesia to the United Arab Emirates, explored several initiatives of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences during his visit to the Foundation's headquarters.

This visit aligns with the Hamdan Foundation's efforts to strengthen its relations with international

partners and expand its influence through collaboration with prominent institutions and figures worldwide.

Both sides emphasized the importance of collaboration to achieve common goals and to develop innovative projects that serve both the Emirati and Indonesian communities.

### **Fostering Partnerships**

His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for

Medical and Educational Sciences, stated: "We look forward to developing partnerships that bring mutual benefits and enhance cooperation between medical and educational institutions". He added: "Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation serves as a model for UAE initiatives in supporting excellence in the medical and educational fields. Through this collaboration, we aim to elevate the levels of quality and innovation in both sectors".



# The Implementation of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model in Italian Schools

**By Dr. Lara Milan:**

Founder & CEO of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model - SEM Italy

**This reflective summary was prepared & drafted by Dr. Sadiq A. A. Ismail.**

In this article, Dr. Lara Milan discussed the need for a model to be implemented in Italian schools to support gifted learners to enhance their potential and accomplish their overall goals. Efforts started earlier and suggested adopting different educational models to meet the diverse educational needs of children with high intellectual abilities and projected potential. The main purpose of her study was to examine how the SEM's implementation in Italian public schools can have a positive impact on the attitudes of teachers, principals, and students towards educating the gifted and talented. It also looked at parents' attitudes towards special programs offered to the gifted. The last research question intended to investigate if students' creativity in treatment schools was enhanced by participating in self-selected enrichment activities.



The researcher referred to the three major approaches to teaching and learning: Acceleration, Enrichment and Differentiation. Acceleration denotes that students move faster by skipping grades and instructions in order to learn within the level that best matches their academic abilities. Enrichment represents the provision of richer and varied experiences and services to extend the breadth, depth, and complexity of the school regular curriculum. The differentiation approach emphasizes the practice of matching appropriately challenging tasks and instructional strategies with each student's abilities, interests, and learning styles to ensure that all students are engaged in the learning process. Later in the article, differentiation was seen as a strategy rather than a model, and the researcher continued to refer to the other two as models (Enrichment & Acceleration).

Enrichment and acceleration are two methodological approaches that are paired together to provide richer learning opportunities and environments to meet the unique educational needs of talented students to develop their skills and abilities, particularly creativity and thinking skills. It is then argued that a combination of models should be considered for educating and supporting gifted and talented education. The above-mentioned approaches, enrichment, acceleration, and differentiation, may be considered for such a combination, as is the case of the "School Enrichment Model" (SEM) developed by Renzulli & Reis (Renzulli & Reis, 2014) in the US and adopted by several schools. The SEM adopted an instructional pedagogy that stresses the importance of providing each student with the necessary opportunities, resources, and support to enhance their potential and accomplish their goals.

As a justification for the introduction of the SEM within the Italian context, the researcher highlighted that this combined approach and its multicriterial identification system have overcome some of the concerns about the implementation of a single model in gifted education contexts. Another reason for the adoption of this model is that the SEM model has been implemented in many areas and schools inside and outside the United States (Burns, 1998), and it has



**Dr. Lara Milan**

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demonstrated success and usefulness within various socioeconomic levels and program organization patterns (Olenchak, 1988; Olenchak & Renzulli, 1989). It is also further argued that this model has several positive characteristics such as: considering both scientific and ethical principles, including combined strategies, being supported by scientific research, being an inclusive and flexible model, supporting twice-exceptionality, and considering minorities and underrepresented populations, etc.

The researcher highlighted some of the obstacles that may challenge the implementation of the SEM model within the Italian context. The major challenge is the scarcity of professional and trained specialists in the area of enrichment practice. Specialists in enrichment, according to the researcher, are key figures in gifted education, as they may assume major roles to assist in a number of areas relevant to the implementation of the SEM model such as assisting in the identification of students, designing and implementing enrichment curricula, providing creative resources and enriching activities, maintaining accurate student records, arranging parent meetings, etc.

At the end, the study reported that the results exceeded the researcher's expectations. It was found that school principals, teachers, parents, and students have developed more positive attitudes toward the entire concept of gifted education and talent development. In relation to the last question of the study, the results of implementing the SEM for two years in a treatment school revealed an increase in students' creative productivity. Students were reported to produce several original creative products they presented and shared with an audience.

The study also put forward recommendations to consider the introduction of an enrichment specialist position as a new professional figure and to develop and establish standards and specialized certification for Enrichment Specialists within the Italian context. It was also suggested to establish an international association of specialists in gifted and talented education to oversee all activities and research in the field and to contribute to the progress of gifted education and talent development in general.



Commencement of the implementation phase for outstanding projects

## Winners of the 'Innovators' Competition to be Honored in November 2025



**Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:**

**We aim to identify and support young creative talents**

**The current edition has attracted Emirati and Gulf youth, with a total of 137 applications submitted**

**The judging panels consist of elite experts and specialists from various relevant fields**



## Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has announced the commencement of the initial evaluation process for the 'Innovators' competition. Organized annually, the competition is open to individuals aged 18 and above who have a passion for innovation and practical, implementable ideas.

Outstanding projects selected from the first phase will be executed at FabLab UAE through this leading initiative aimed at supporting and encouraging young innovators in the fields of science and technology. This will be followed by the second evaluation phase in November 2025, during which the projects will be assessed based on their success in achieving the set objectives. The winning teams will then be announced and honored in November, reaffirming the Foundation's ongoing commitment to supporting youth and fostering innovation and excellence in their fields.

### Precise Standards

His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, stated, "The 'Innovators' competition seeks to identify and support young creative minds through an evaluation process based on precise and transparent standards".

### Competition Objectives:

- Providing the necessary opportunities to develop young people's innovative ideas
- Turning ideas into tangible projects
- Driving sustainable development
- Enhancing national capacities in science and technology
- Offering the necessary support to innovative students

Headed, "Through this initiative, we aim to provide the necessary opportunities to develop their innovative ideas and turn them into tangible projects that contribute to driving sustainable development and enhancing national capacities in science and technology. Additionally, the competition supports innovative students as part of the Foundation's commitment to creating a conducive environment for them to implement their creative plans". Dr. Al Suwaidi emphasized that the support and opportunities provided by the Foundation to innovators will significantly advance their innovative journeys, contributing to the future of science and invention across various fields.

### Future Readiness

The competition aligns with the Foundation's efforts to encourage

excellence among students, in line with the wise leadership's vision and strategic plans to enhance future readiness by fostering an education sector that adapts to scientific and technological advancements. The goal is to graduate empowered generations that contribute to strengthening the UAE's global standing in education, talent, and innovation.

'Innovators' encourages students to be creative by transforming their ideas into projects through the Foundation's FabLab UAE. The current edition has garnered significant interest from Emirati and Gulf youth, with a total of 137 applications submitted.

### Best Practices

The judging panels consist of a group of elite experts and specialists from various fields related to the competition. These experts have undergone intensive training on the latest developments to ensure the application of best practices and global standards in the evaluation process.

These steps reflect the Foundation's commitment to providing a fair and transparent competition that offers equal opportunities for all participants to showcase their talents and achieve their aspirations.

The first phase of judging the 'Innovators' competition involved interviewing the participating teams and evaluating their ideas. The objective was to identify the most outstanding teams and qualify them for the implementation phase.



Commencement of the evaluation process, with Saudi Arabia leading with 103 research papers

## Hamdan-ALECSO Award for Distinguished Educational Research Receives 154 Submissions from 11 Arab Countries

**Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:**

We look forward to seeing the submissions contribute to creating robust, sustainable educational systems

The significant rise in submissions reflects the dedication of researchers to improving the quality of education



## Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has announced the launch of the evaluation process for the 2024 edition of the Hamdan-ALECSO Award for Distinguished Educational Research.

This year's edition has received 154 research submissions from 11 Arab countries, with Saudi Arabia leading with 103 research papers, followed by Egypt with 17, and the UAE with 16. Other contributions have come from countries such as Jordan, Kuwait, and Oman.

Commenting on this achievement, His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, stated, "The significant rise in submissions this year is a clear indicator of the dedication shown by educational researchers across the Arab world towards improving the quality of education".

Dr. Al Suwaidi emphasized that the award's goal is to stimulate creative thinking in educational research and to present innovative solutions to the sector's most pressing challenges. "We look forward to seeing these research efforts contribute to the creation of robust, sustainable educational systems that support the future of learning across the Arab region".

### Promoting Excellence

The Hamdan-ALECSO Award is a leading platform for promoting educational excellence, recognizing and honoring both institutions and individuals for their distinguished contributions to education. It seeks to motivate educational researchers across the Arab world to produce exceptional work that benefits the educational ecosystem. The award also aims to identify and share successful educational practices, and to address ongoing challenges through rigorous research, with the goal of offering practical and actionable recommendations.

### Enriching the Educational Field

In line with its objectives, the award prioritizes the enrichment of the educational field through groundbreaking research, fostering talent and innovation, and keeping pace with modern teaching methodologies. It also supports new technological initiatives that are shaping the future of education.

An international panel of highly experienced academics will evaluate the submissions. The total prize money stands at USD 25,000, targeting a wide range of educational researchers, including teachers, school administrators, social workers, psychologists, and university professors, all with a shared aim of driving innovation in education.

## International panel of highly experienced academics to evaluate the submissions

## The USD 25,000 award targets educational researchers from various categories

### Award Objectives:

- Achieving excellence in supporting educational distinction by recognizing outstanding institutions and individuals
- Motivating educational researchers in the Arab world to produce exceptional work that benefits education
- Identifying and sharing successful practices and addressing educational challenges
- Enriching the field with groundbreaking research and fostering innovation and talent in educational research
- Keeping pace with modern teaching methodologies and supporting new technological initiatives in education





Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi: Collaboration with the Association is an opportunity to develop, enhance, and diversify programs that serve the UAE's innovation ecosystem

## **Joint Program for Innovators Between Hamdan Foundation and the Emirates Inventors Association**

**Discussing ways to enhance cooperation  
between both parties, particularly in innovation  
and invention**

**Reviewing the projects and programs being  
implemented and their responsiveness to  
community aspirations**



## Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and the Emirates Inventors Association have launched a joint program to support inventors and innovators in the UAE.

His Excellency Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Secretary-General and CEO of the Hamdan Foundation, received a delegation from the Emirates Inventors Association, led by Engineer Ahmed Majjan, Chairman of the Association's Board of Directors, at the Foundation's headquarters.

The meeting explored ways to enhance cooperation between the two institutions, particularly in the field of innovation. Both parties reviewed the projects and programs each is implementing and their alignment with community aspirations, especially those aimed at enhancing the scientific performance of talented and innovative students in the fields of science, technology, and engineering.

### Promoting Invention

Engineer Ahmed Kajoor presented the Association's programs aimed at promoting the concept of innovation and invention, linking local objectives

### Ahmed Majjan:

**Unifying efforts can accelerate the dissemination of invention culture and improve services provided to innovators**

with international activities by exploring learning environments and leveraging available opportunities.

The delegation also reviewed the activities conducted by the Hamdan Foundation as part of the 2024 Summer Program for Giftedness and Innovation and was briefed on significant achievements from local and international participation in innovation competitions.

### Innovative Thinking

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi emphasized that the Hamdan Foundation and the Association share a commitment to nurturing and empowering talented, distinguished, and innovative individuals, contributing to the leadership's

aspirations and the community's vision of fostering innovative thinking, utilizing creative energies, and maximizing leadership in the field of innovation and invention. He stressed that the collaboration with the Association represents an opportunity to develop and diversify programs that benefit the UAE's innovation ecosystem.

### Elevating Services

Engineer Ahmed Majjan highlighted that discovering and improving the services provided to inventors and innovators comes from connecting with relevant institutions, especially leading ones like the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, which shares some of its goals with the Association in the field of innovation. He stated, "Unifying efforts can accelerate the dissemination of the culture of invention, improve services provided to innovators, and overcome obstacles in building the innovation system in the UAE. Moreover, pushing joint efforts qualifies a generation of students to keep up with artificial intelligence and advanced technology, in line with the leadership's vision of making the UAE a leading center for invention and innovation".



# Honoring Schools Participating in EFQM-Hamdan Global Educational Award





**Dr. Jamal Al Mehairi:**  
**EFQM-Hamdan Model applies advanced standards that raise the quality of education requirements in schools**

**Russell Longmuir:**  
**EFQM-Hamdan Model has proven its efficiency in improving performance and ongoing evaluation**

**Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'**

The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences recognized schools participating in the second edition of the EFQM-Hamdan Global Educational Award during a special ceremony held in Istanbul, Turkey, on the sidelines of the EFQM Forum in June 2024.

His Excellency Dr. Jamal Al Mehairi, Vice Chairman of the Foundation's Board of Trustees, stated, "We are pleased to acknowledge the efforts of the participating schools and the winners of the second edition of the EFQM-Hamdan Award. This award reflects our commitment to celebrating excellence, recognizing outstanding institutions, initiatives, and individuals in education. It also contributes to the development of a global framework for educational quality while sharing knowledge and best practices across schools worldwide".

He further emphasized that "the Hamdan Foundation has always been

at the forefront of developments in the education sector, committed to implementing best practices that meet international standards. In collaboration with the EFQM Foundation, we have developed an accredited global model for educational quality that has proven its impact on enhancing education in numerous countries".

He also highlighted that the EFQM-Hamdan Education Model applies advanced standards that raise the quality of education requirements in schools, providing clear methodologies for achieving and sustaining excellence. Dr. Al Mehairi congratulated honorees and praised the vital role played by EFQM and its team of educators and experts in ensuring the success of the award's first edition.

**Global Recognized Standards**

Russell Longmuir, CEO of EFQM, shared his thoughts on the collaboration: "We are delighted to continue our partnership with the Hamdan Foundation in implementing the EFQM-Hamdan Model, which

is designed to enhance educational quality through globally recognized tools and standards. This model ensures continuous improvement in education by fostering a framework where all stakeholders are involved in strategic planning and execution, focusing on long-term performance. The model has proven its efficiency and importance in improving, which is evident from its wide adoption by institutions seeking to elevate performance and embrace ongoing evaluation". Several schools were recognized for their exemplary achievements. Qatr Al Nada Secondary School from Abu Dhabi earned a 6-star rating, while GEMS Modern Academy from Dubai and Emirates National Private School from Al Ain each received 4 stars. Additionally, Al Zaidiya Government School for Girls from Al Ain, the American School of Creative Science from Sharjah, and Fatima bint Al Yaman Government School from Kuwait were awarded 3-star ratings for their efforts in implementing the EFQM-Hamdan model.



Offered by the Foundation in collaboration with the UAEU's College of Education

# Orientation Meeting for the 6th Batch of the Master of Educational Innovation Program



## Dubai - Dareen Mahmoud

The Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences organized an orientation meeting for the sixth batch of students enrolled in the Master of Educational Innovation program, which is offered by the Foundation in collaboration with the United Arab Emirates University (UAEU). The program aims to cultivate creative educators equipped with the skills and vision necessary to achieve excellence in the educational field.

Marwa Sahrawi, Director of the Educational Excellence Department at the Foundation, remarked, "The Master of Educational Innovation program, developed in partnership with UAEU, is one of the Foundation's flagship initiatives. It aims to equip participants with new knowledge, sharpen their skills, and foster innovative thinking, with a focus on change and creativity to keep up with the evolving education sector".

Dr. Ahmed Al Kaabi, Program Coordinator at the College of Education at UAEU, provided an overview of the program, emphasizing its focus on preparing distinguished educators. He explained, "The Master of



**Marwa Sahrawi:**  
**Our goal is to equip participants with new knowledge to sharpen their skills**

**Dr. Ahmed Al Kaabi:**  
**The program bridges theory and practice, focusing on innovation**

Educational Innovation program is the fruit of collaboration between the Hamdan Foundation and UAEU's College of Education. The Foundation supports the program by offering 10 fully funded scholarships each year to



achievers". He added, "The program bridges theory with practical application, with a strong emphasis on innovation and research, both qualitative and quantitative. We are excited to see the growing number of students enrolling in the program each year".

Halima Ibrahim, a student in the sixth batch and principal of Al Nahwa Kindergarten and School, expressed her gratitude, saying, "Being accepted into the Master of Educational Innovation at UAEU, thanks to the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, is a great honor. I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of this cohort and hope to live up to the trust placed in me by contributing meaningfully to the education sector". Noura Al Hammadi, a graduate of the third batch, offered advice to the new students, saying, "To the sixth batch, I encourage you to seize this incredible opportunity offered by the Hamdan Foundation. This program will pave the way for remarkable achievements and open doors to new opportunities that will positively impact both you and those around you in your professional environments as you serve this beloved country".

# FabLab UAE

## Organizes Training Workshops to Improve Students' Innovation and Creativity



### Dubai - 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

FabLab UAE, based at the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences in Dubai, has organized a series of training workshops for school students, aimed at enhancing their technical skills and inspiring their innovation across diverse fields.

These workshops align with the Foundation's strategy of preparing a generation of qualified individuals capable of driving technological advancement and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development goals. As part of this initiative, FabLab UAE held a workshop titled "Wooden Lamps" for sixth and seventh-grade students from Hessa bint Al-Mur School, where girls were trained in designing lamps using laser cutters and building electrical circuits.

Another workshop, titled "Burj Khalifa Lamp", was organized for students from Mohammed Noor School, where they were introduced to 2D design skills and laser cutting technology, to be used in making innovative models.

Additionally, FabLab UAE conducted a



**Mariam Alghawi:**  
Student participation in the workshops develops their technical skills and hones their creative talents

training workshop titled "Office Tools" for students from Zayed Educational Complex - Al Mizhar Branch. This workshop aimed to enhance students' skills in digital fabrication and innovation. Another workshop, titled "Journey into the World of Smart Things (Arduino Applications)", was also held. In this regard, Dr. Mariam Alghawi, Director of the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Center for Giftedness and Innovation, commented: "Student participation in events like these is undoubtedly crucial for honing their talents. These workshops offer students the chance to acquire knowledge, learn new skills, and stay informed about the latest scientific advancements to keep

pace with technological progress".

The participating students expressed their enthusiasm for the workshops, highlighting how the materials helped them explore modern technologies and acquire new skills that will benefit them in the future.

FabLab is the UAE's first comprehensive educational digital fabrication lab for innovation and a member of the global FabLab network. Launched as an initiative by the Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation in alignment with the national innovation strategy, the lab's mission is to empower youth to lead the digital fabrication movement and introduce innovative solutions for a sustainable future.