Akhbar Tamayoz

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Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO Discussed Advancing Partnership

1st Evaluation Stage Concluded for 37 Teams in Innovators 2026 Competition

New Edition of "Mishkat" to Train Arabic Language Education Leaders in 16 Countries



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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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From Türkiye, Ethiopia, and Indonesia

Rashid bin Hamdan

Honoured 3 Projects That Won UNESCO-Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development



Rashid bin Hamdan:

Excellence in education is a universal human language.

Teachers are united by one mission: empowering people through knowledge and building a brighter future for humanity.

We renew our commitment to continuing our partnership with UNESCO and supporting its programmes and initiatives aimed at advancing education.

منظمة الأمم المتحدة للتربية والعلم والثقافة

جائزة حمدان اليونسكو لتنمية أداء المعلمين

Winning projects:

- "ÖRAV Education Festival – Teacher-Led Professional Learning Ecosystem," submitted by Öğretmen Akademisi Vakfı – Teachers' Academy Foundation (ÖRAV), Türkiye
- "Maker-Teachers," submitted by Gondar College of Teachers' Education, Ethiopia
- "Collective Teacher Leadership Development Programme," submitted by Guru Belajar Foundation, Indonesia

Khaled El-Enany highlights Hamdan Foundation's important role in supporting education and its valuable, sustained contributions to strengthening and advancing the teaching profession globally.

169 applications received from 64 countries, including 129 that met eligibility requirements, with 15 countries participating for the first time.





Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, and Professor Chun Chen, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education, honoured three projects from Türkiye, Ethiopia, and Indonesia that won the ninth edition of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development in recognition of their innovative practices and contributions to developing teacher performance and improving education quality in their communities. The ceremony was held at UNESCO Headquarters in Paris in conjunction with World Teachers' Day.

The ceremony was attended by senior officials, representatives of Permanent Delegations to UNESCO, and representatives of participating organisations and projects.

In the presence of Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Dr. Khaled El-Enany, Director-General of UNESCO, opened the World Teachers' Day 2026 programme at UNESCO Headquarters.

The ninth edition of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development recorded the highest level of participation since the Prize was established, attracting 169 applications from 64 countries, of which 129 met the eligibility requirements, while 15 countries participated for the first time. Following the international evaluation and jury process, the Top 10 projects were selected, comprising three laureates and seven other finalists.

Distinguished Partnership

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum expressed Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences' pride in its distinguished partnership with UNESCO, which spans nearly two decades and represents a model of cooperation capable of turning visions into achievements and ideas into tangible impact that serves people everywhere.

He affirmed that UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development has continued steadily on its path, achieving the objectives for which it was established, foremost among them supporting teachers, recognising their contributions, highlighting their efforts, and encouraging successful educational practices that contribute to improving education quality and enhancing teacher performance.

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum noted that the 169 applications received from 64 countries in the ninth edition demonstrate that excellence in education is a universal human language and that teachers, regardless of their countries or contexts, are united by one mission: empowering people through knowledge and building a brighter future for humanity.

He renewed the Foundation's commitment to the approach established by its founder the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum, and to continuing its partnership with UNESCO and supporting its programmes and initiatives aimed at advancing education.

Congratulating the winning projects, Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum said their recognition honours their contributions and achievements, while also honouring every teacher who chooses to make a difference, every educational practice that places learners at the centre of the learning process, and every creative idea that inspires another teacher elsewhere in the world.

Dr. Khaled El-Enany highlighted the important role of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences in supporting education and its valuable, sustained contributions to strengthening and advancing the teaching profession globally through UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development.

Öğretmen Akademisi Vakfı – Teachers' Academy Foundation (ÖRAV), Türkiye, won the Prize for "ÖRAV Education Festival – Teacher-Led Professional Learning Ecosystem." Launched in 2015, the initiative is a prominent nationwide celebration of the teaching profession, organised by and for teachers. It promotes teacher-led professional learning and the exchange of knowledge and experience, and has engaged more than 38,000 teachers over 10 years.

Gondar College of Teachers' Education, Ethiopia, won the Prize for "Maker-Teachers." Launched in 2022, the project aims to improve early childhood education through the development and distribution of low-cost, culturally appropriate, play-based teaching and learning materials for indoor and outdoor activities.

The project has reached 98 schools across educational clusters and directly benefited more than 15,000





















pre-primary children.

Guru Belajar Foundation, Indonesia, won the Prize for its "Collective Teacher Leadership Development Programme." Launched in 2021, the scalable, community-led model aims to strengthen teaching effectiveness through collective leadership, reflective practice, and cross-sector collaboration.

The project strengthens teachers' role as collective leaders within their educational communities and has so far engaged 61,717 teachers across 91 regions and cities.

The total value of the Prize is US $ 300,000, distributed equally among the three winning projects, with each receiving US $ 100,000.

Established in 2008, the Prize recognises outstanding practices that contribute to improving teacher performance and effectiveness and supporting improvements in the quality of teaching and learning worldwide. It is awarded every two years.

The ceremony also featured presentations of the teacher development programmes represented by the 10 finalists, recognition of members of the international jury, a special video highlighting UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development, and panel discussions with representatives of the 10 finalist projects.

The award ceremony formed part of World Teachers' Day 2026, held this year under the theme "Standing with teachers: 60 years of protecting the profession, advancing its status and shaping our futures," in conjunction with the 60th anniversary of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers. The occasion highlighted the importance of protecting the teaching profession, strengthening teachers' status, and recognising their role in shaping the future of societies.

Since its establishment, UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development has continued to highlight outstanding educational experiences and initiatives worldwide and support projects capable of creating sustainable impact in teacher development and education quality, within the framework of the longstanding partnership between Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and UNESCO.



Rashid bin Hamdan Toured Exhibition of Finalist Projects

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, visited an exhibition showcasing the finalist projects in the ninth edition of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development 2025–2026, where he learned about the participating projects and their experiences and initiatives in teacher development.

In addition to the three winning projects, the final-stage shortlist included seven other projects.

"From Class to Nation: Brunei Darussalam's Teachers Teaching Teachers Collaborative Learning System," developed by the Ministry of Education, Brunei Darussalam, promotes to promote teacher learning nationwide. To date, it has recorded 33,596 course participations for a cohort of 6,700 teachers.

Pedagogical Approaches

The shortlist also included "NEEV Multilingual Education Programme," submitted by Language and Learning Foundation, India. The project focuses on integrating indigenous languages in classrooms through multilingual pedagogies. It has contributed to training more than 2,000 teachers and improving student engagement and learning outcomes.

Also shortlisted was "The Organizational Capacities Program for Secondary Education," submitted by Fundacion Tarahumara Jose A. Llaguno, Mexico. The project supports secondary school teachers working in indigenous rural communities and has trained 230 teachers to develop their pedagogical, organisational, and leadership skills and strengthen the participation of families and communities in school improvement.

From Palestine, "Keeping Learning Alive on the Frontline: A School-Based Resilience Model for Teacher Development and Learning Continuity in Protracted Crisis Contexts (2022–2025)" also reached the final stage. Led by the principal of Waleed Abu Mweis Basic Boys' School, the project focuses on continuous professional development for teachers, strengthening school resilience, and maintaining learning continuity in crisis contexts. It has benefited 29 teachers and more than 500 learners.

Supporting Education Quality

From Türkiye, "Teacher Communities Program," submitted by KODA Rural Schools Transformation Network, also reached the final stage. The project builds communities of practice in which teachers lead the professional learning process through cycles of six sessions combining social-emotional learning and reflective practice, thereby supporting education quality in rural and marginalised settings.

From Uganda, "Learning to Learn Teacher Development Program," submitted by Kimanya-Ngeyo Foundation for Science and Education, also reached the final stage. Through a cascade model, the project seeks to strengthen teachers' professional autonomy and reflective, inquiry-based, and learner-centred practices. It has been implemented in three districts and has reached 2,500 teachers.

The shortlist also included "Regional (Un)conferences in EdCamp format, or EdCamp-in-a-box Program," submitted by EdCamp Ukraine NGO, Ukraine. The project focuses on grassroots professional development initiatives and strengthening teacher engagement. Since its launch, it has facilitated 374 events in educational institutions and reached approximately 50,000 teachers and educators.



Rashid bin Hamdan and Khaled El-Enany Discussed Advancing Partnership Between Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, and Dr. Khaled El-Enany, Director-General of UNESCO, discussed ways to further develop the longstanding partnership between the two organisations and strengthen cooperation in areas of mutual interest, particularly initiatives and programmes aimed at supporting teachers, advancing education, and enhancing its quality.

During the meeting, both sides stressed the importance of building on the cooperation achieved over recent years and continuing to develop high-impact initiatives that support teachers, strengthen their capacities, and promote the exchange of expertise and knowledge in support of sustainable educational development goals.











Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO Signed Agreement on Research Project Titled "Innovations in Teacher Professional Development"

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Sheikh Rashid bin Hamdan Al Maktoum, Supreme Chairman of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, witnessed the signing of an agreement between the Foundation and UNESCO for a joint research project titled "Innovations in Teacher Professional Development: Lessons Learned from UNESCO–Hamdan Prize Laureates", on the sidelines of the ceremony honouring the laureates of the ninth edition of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development.

The agreement was signed by H.E. Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, and Professor Chun Chen, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education.

The research project will draw on the experiences and practices of winning projects from previous editions of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize to examine innovative and effective approaches to teacher professional development, including programme implementation, sustainability, and scalability. The findings will be used to inform future initiatives and policies aimed at strengthening teachers' capacities.

Strategic Partnership

H.E. Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami said: "The agreement extends the strategic partnership between Hamdan Foundation and UNESCO and reflects both organisations' commitment to maximising the impact of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize and drawing on the accumulated experience of its winning projects. The initiative goes beyond recognising outstanding practices by studying and analysing them and transferring the resulting knowledge to educational institutions, policymakers, and organisations involved in teacher development worldwide."

He added: "The research project represents an important step towards transforming the successful experiences of Prize laureates into applicable knowledge that can support the development of more effective and sustainable teacher professional development programmes."

He reaffirmed the Foundation's commitment to continuing the approach established by the late Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum through investment in education, support for teachers, and stronger international partnerships that contribute to improving education quality globally.

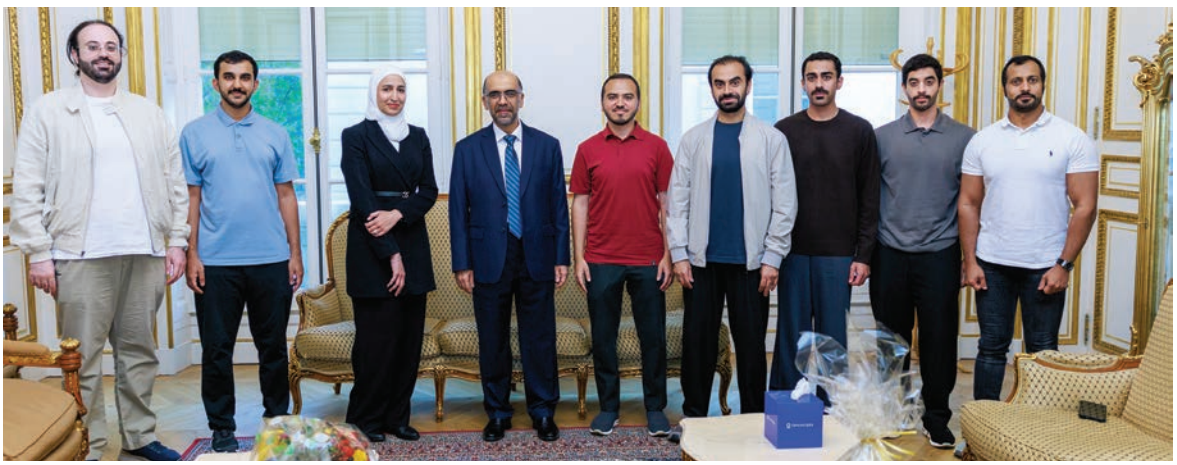
The research draws on the experiences and practices of winning projects from previous editions of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize.

Examining innovative and effective practices in teacher development, programme implementation, sustainability, and scalability.

Humaid Al Qatami: The project helps transform successful experiences of the Prize laureates into applicable knowledge.

To brief them on Medical Awards categories, criteria, and application procedures

Suleiman Al-Hammadi Met Emirati Doctors on Overseas Training from Various UAE Entities







Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

H.E. Dr. Suleiman Mohammed Al-Hammadi, Member of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, met with Emirati doctors on overseas training at the UAE Embassy in Paris, on the sidelines of the ceremony honouring the laureates of the ninth edition of UNESCO–Hamdan Prize for Teacher Development. The meeting was held at the invitation of the Youth Councils' France branch.

During the meeting, the doctors were briefed on the categories and criteria of the Foundation's medical awards and how to participate. They also provided an overview of the progress of their training, whether through various residency programmes in France or specialised fellowship programmes.

The Foundation also offers Best Research in Healthcare Award, dedicated to trainee doctors in the UAE and abroad. The award forms part of the Foundation's initiatives to support research capacity, stimulate the generation of scientific knowledge in health-related fields, and encourage projects that combine scientific value with the potential for practical application in advancing healthcare practice, policy, and education.



Discussing Cooperation in Gifted Education, Innovation, and Medical Sciences with Belarusian Consulate General





Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

H.E. Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, received H.E. Aliaksei Zhaldybin, Consul General of the Republic of Belarus in Dubai, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting was attended by H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of the Foundation, and a number of its senior officials.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation and ways to strengthen it in the areas of identifying and supporting gifted individuals, promoting innovation, and advancing the education and healthcare sectors.

The Foundation showcased initiatives supporting medical research, educational excellence, and giftedness development

The meeting also reviewed the Foundation's specialised programmes and initiatives aimed at supporting medical research, advancing educational excellence, and identifying and nurturing developing gifted talents in line with international best practices.

The meeting forms part of the Foundation's efforts to expand international cooperation and exchange expertise with leading research and educational institutions and centres, supporting innovators and contributing to the advancement of the healthcare and education sectors.



Hamdan Foundation and GCAA Discussed Enhancing Cooperation in Institutional Excellence and Innovation

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, received a high-level delegation from the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA), headed by H.E. Omar bin Ghaleb, Deputy Director-General of the GCAA. The meeting was attended by senior officials from both sides.

During the meeting, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation and ways to exchange expertise, with the aim of consolidating best practices in institutional excellence, fostering an innovation-driven environment, and advancing organisational performance.

They also reviewed key initiatives and specialised programmes implemented by the Foundation to support national talent and promote a culture of excellence and scientific research.

The meeting forms part of the Foundation's efforts to strengthen partnerships with national entities and leading institutions, exchange knowledge, and integrate efforts in support of the Foundation's future aspirations.









Tests Held for Hamdan Centre Students to Form Teams for Robotics and Innovation Competitions

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Centre for Giftedness and Innovation, part of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, organised a technical assessment for Centre students aged 10 to 16. The assessment forms part of the selection and qualification process for joining the Centre's teams participating in specialised competitions and championships in robotics, innovation, science, and technology at local and international levels.

The Centre will complete the selection process by conducting personal interviews with applicants to assess their abilities and skills and select those qualified to represent the Centre in various competitions.

The initiative forms part of the Centre's efforts to identify talent, develop students' capabilities, and prepare a creative and distinguished generation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, building on the achievements of the Centre's teams in numerous local and international championships and competitions. The assessment targets the Centre students passionate about technology, innovation, and technical challenges, giving them an opportunity to demonstrate their skills and join the Centre's technical competition teams.



Hamdan Foundation Received Ministry of Interior Delegation to Discuss Advancing Excellence and Innovation

The visit supports stronger strategic partnerships among national institutions and integrated efforts in knowledge transfer





Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, received a delegation from the Ministry of Interior headed by Colonel Dr. Saleh Mohammed Al Kaabi, Deputy Director of the Excellence and Leadership Department. The meeting was attended by a number of officials and senior representatives from both sides. During the meeting, the two sides discussed prospects for cooperation and ways to exchange best institutional practices and expertise, contributing to strengthening a culture of excellence and leadership, fostering innovation, and embedding quality across the workplace.

The meeting also highlighted key advanced initiatives and programmes implemented by the Foundation to support excellence, scientific research, and talent development.

The visit forms part of efforts to strengthen strategic partnerships among national institutions and integrate knowledge-transfer efforts, supporting both sides' aspirations to expand future cooperation and develop joint leading practices.

















345 submissions received, with 33% increase

Evaluation Completed for 219 Medical Awards Submissions in 2026 Cycle

Submissions advancing to the evaluation stage increased by 37% in the current cycle.



Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
Evaluation is based on clear criteria and rigorous methodologies that ensure objectivity and equal opportunity for all nominees.

Participant satisfaction reached excellent levels, with 98% satisfaction for the Arab World Awards and 96% for the Local Awards.

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has completed the evaluation process and interviews for 219 nominees for its 2026 Medical Awards, representing an increase of 37% compared with the previous cycle, when 160 submissions advanced to the evaluation stage.

The current cycle received 345 submissions across the Medical Awards categories, compared with 260 submissions in 2025, representing growth of 33%.

The evaluation process covered five awards: the Arab Award for Research in Healthcare, Arab Award in Genetics, Best Research in Healthcare Award, Innovation in Healthcare Award, and Hamdan Award for Distinguished Personalities in the Healthcare Sector.

Established Criteria

The Arab Award for Research in Healthcare received the highest number of submissions at 90, followed by the Innovation in Healthcare Award with 89, and Hamdan Award for Distinguished Personalities with 75 submissions.

The interviews represent an important stage in the evaluation process, enabling the committees to complete their review of nominations and engage directly with nominees on their work and achievements. This supports assessment against the established criteria for each award and provides a comprehensive view of the quality of the submissions and their scientific and professional impact.

Growing Interest

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, said: "Participation levels in the 2026 cycle reflect growing interest in the Foundation's Medical Awards and their role in recognising distinguished achievements in scientific research, innovation, and excellence across the healthcare sector. The interviews represent an important stage in the evaluation process, providing an opportunity for a detailed review of submissions and direct engagement with nominees, thereby enhancing the accuracy and comprehensiveness of the assessment."

He added: "The Foundation is committed to ensuring that the evaluation process is based on clear criteria and rigorous methodologies that uphold objectivity and equal opportunity for all nominees, with a focus on the quality of each achievement, its scientific and professional value, and its impact on the development of the healthcare sector. We also continue to develop the awards framework to enhance the participant experience and strengthen its role in supporting research, innovation, and excellence."

Supporting Excellence

Participant satisfaction results also reached excellent levels, with overall satisfaction at 98% for the Arab World Awards and 96% for the Local Awards. Satisfaction with the criteria for the Arab World Awards reached 99%, while satisfaction with communication for the Local Awards stood at 97%.

The evaluation process forms part of the Foundation's efforts to support excellence in the healthcare sector, encourage scientific research and innovation, and recognise achievements and practices that contribute to advancing healthcare and strengthening its impact.

From 361 eligible applications

7 Research Projects Won Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Health Research Grant

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
The true value of the grant lies in the new knowledge generated by the winning research projects.

Winning research projects comprise:

- **3 projects in Biomedical Research**
- **2 projects in Medical Education Research**
- **2 projects in Health Policy Research**



Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Seven research projects were selected from 361 eligible applications in the inaugural cycle of the Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Health Research Grant, part of the awards of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences.

The winning projects comprise three in Biomedical Research, two in Medical Education Research, and two in Health Policy Research, following the completion of the evaluation process in August 2026.

Making a Real Difference

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, said: "What distinguishes the Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Health Research Grant is its focus on supporting promising research questions at a stage when scientific funding can make a meaningful difference to their development."

He added: "The inaugural cycle, which attracted 361 eligible applications, demonstrated a notable level of research interest, while the seven winning projects spanned advanced biomedical research, medical education, and health policy, fields that collectively contribute to the development of the healthcare ecosystem."

He continued: "We view these projects as the beginning of research pathways whose results and impact we look forward to seeing, rather than the conclusion of a competitive process. The true value of the grant will be reflected in the evidence and new knowledge these studies generate, and in their potential to open opportunities for application, development, and use across healthcare and academic institutions. Our responsibility therefore extends beyond selecting the projects to supporting a research environment in which serious ideas can grow and achieve an impact beyond the individual project itself."

Biomedical Research

In Biomedical Research, a research team led by Professor Mohamed A. Saleh, Professor of Pharmacology in the Department of Clinical Sciences, College of Medicine, University of Sharjah, was selected for the study titled "Renal Glucagon Receptor (GCGR) Modulation: Key to Differential Protection by Tirzepatide and Retatrutide in Diabetic Kidney Disease".

The research examines mechanisms that may explain differences in the kidney-protective effects of the two treatments in diabetic kidney disease.

Also selected was a research team led by Professor Mohammad A. Qasaimeh, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Bioengineering at NYU Abu Dhabi, for the project titled "A Tri-Modal AFM–Raman–microRNA Machine Learning Platform for Precision Exosome-Based Prostate Cancer Classification".

The project seeks to develop a more precise approach to prostate cancer classification by integrating advanced analytical techniques with machine learning.

A research team led by Dr. Yasmin Sajjad of Fakih IVF Centre, Abu Dhabi, was also selected in the same field for the study titled "Thymosin-α1 for Recurrent Implantation Failure Following Transfer of a PGT-A-Tested Embryo: A Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Trial".

The study evaluates the effectiveness of thymosin-α1 in cases of recurrent implantation failure through a clinical trial designed to assess the treatment's effect systematically.

Medical Education Research

In Medical Education Research, a research team led by Dr. Fayez Alshamsi, Associate Professor in the Department of Internal Medicine, College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University, was selected for the project titled "From Bias to Bridge: An AI-Powered Intervention to Advance Medical Education and Publishing Equity for the UAE and MENA Region".

The project explores the use of AI to help reduce bias and promote equity in medical education and scientific publishing.

A research team led by Dr. Adnan Agha, Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine and Consultant Endocrinologist at the College of Medicine and Health Sciences, United Arab Emirates University, was also selected for "Project AMAN: Developing and Validating a Linguistically-Safe AI Clinical Reasoning Tutor for Gulf Medical Education".

The project aims to develop an AI-powered educational tool that supports medical students in building clinical reasoning skills while taking into account the linguistic characteristics and educational context of the Gulf region.

Health Policy Research

In Health Policy Research, a research team led by Dr. Dian Kusuma, Assistant Professor of Public Health and Epidemiology at Khalifa University, Abu Dhabi, was selected for the study titled "Probability of an Obese Person Attaining Normal Body Weight: Retrospective Cohort Study Using Malaffi Electronic Health Records in Abu Dhabi".

The study uses electronic health record data to estimate the probability of people with obesity attaining a normal body weight, generating evidence that may contribute to a better understanding of weight-management trajectories and the formulation of related health policies.

A research team led by Dr. Ashokan Arumugam, Associate Professor in the Department of Physiotherapy, College of Health Sciences, University of Sharjah, and Scientific Committee Chairperson of the Emirates Physiotherapy Society, was also selected for the project titled "Evidence-Informed Development of UAE National Physical Activity and Sedentary Behavior Guidelines for Population Health and National Policy Implementation".

The project aims to develop evidence-informed national guidelines to promote physical activity, reduce sedentary behaviour, and support population health in the UAE.

The Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Health Research Grant is part of the Foundation's initiatives to strengthen research capacity, stimulate the generation of scientific knowledge in health-related fields, and encourage projects that combine scientific value with the potential for practical application in the development of healthcare practice, policy, and education.

112 teams representing 28 government and private-sector entities participated in the ninth edition

1st Evaluation Stage Concluded for 37 Teams in

Innovators 2026
Competition

A panel of experts and specialists evaluated the projects and ideas submitted by participating teams.

Competition criteria focus on innovation and creativity, applicability, practical feasibility, and expected project impact.

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
The value of the competition extends to giving participants practical experience in developing solutions, presenting ideas, and benefiting from specialised feedback.







Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has concluded the first evaluation stage of the ninth edition of the Innovators 2026 competition, with 37 teams advancing from 112 participating teams representing 28 government and private-sector entities. The first stage saw the participating teams' projects and ideas evaluated by a panel of experts and specialists against the competition's criteria, which focus on innovation and creativity, applicability, practical feasibility, and expected project impact.

High Level of Diversity

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of the Foundation, said: "The first evaluation stage of the Innovators competition revealed a high level of diversity in the ideas and projects submitted, while also reflecting broad participation from various government and private-sector entities."

He added: "The Foundation is committed to ensuring that the evaluation process provides participants with a meaningful opportunity to test the strength of their ideas, identify areas for improvement, and advance their projects towards greater maturity and practical application."

He continued: "The value of the competition extends beyond selecting outstanding projects. It also lies in giving participants practical experience in developing solutions, presenting ideas, and benefiting from specialised feedback. This is a key focus of the ninth edition, through a structured process that helps teams develop their projects systematically and strengthens their ability to turn ideas into applications with practical value."

Evaluation Stages

The evaluation process comprises several stages designed to assess the projects comprehensively and select the most outstanding ideas in line with the approved criteria. The teams progressing to the next stage will be announced as they continue to develop their projects ahead of the final evaluation and selection of the winning projects.

Through the Innovators competition and its innovation initiatives, Hamdan Foundation continues to support creative talent and provide enabling environments that help participants develop their ideas and benefit from available tools and expertise to transform them into practical solutions and projects, contributing to strengthening a culture of innovation across the community.









Focuses on innovative solutions to make roads and mobility systems safer and smarter

Hamdan Foundation Launched 6th

“Future Science Challenge”

as Participation Grows by Over 600%

Final projects to be submitted from 18 February to 17 March, with the closing ceremony and winners announced on 29 April.



Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences has launched the sixth season of the Future Science Challenge, following growth of more than 600% in participation since the competition was launched five years ago.

The new season is held under the theme "The Future of Roads & Mobility" and the slogan "The Smarter Road", targeting gifted and talented Arab students aged 10 to 17. Team registration continued until 24 October.

Practical Solutions

The sixth season focuses on using Artificial Intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), sensors, and smart systems to develop practical solutions that contribute to improving roads and mobility systems and making them safer, more efficient, and smarter. Participating teams are encouraged to identify a real-world problem or opportunity for improvement and then design a practical technology-based solution that can be applied in areas related to vehicle and pedestrian movement, traffic and parking management, road safety, emergency response, infrastructure, services, and connected systems.

Growing Passion

H.E. Humaid Mohammed Al Qatami, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation, said: "As we launch a new season of this scientific competition and reflect on its journey since inception, what stands out is not only the growth in participation, which has exceeded 600%, but also the growing passion for science and technology and the increasing belief in the ability to contribute to shaping the future. While this reflects organisational success, it also carries a deeper message: investing in the minds of Arab students generates a strong response, and partnerships around education and innovation can grow when supported by vision and determination."

He stressed that rapid transformations in the nature of knowledge have redefined the role of education, placing greater emphasis on developing students' ability to think, analyse, and build solutions. He noted that AI and IoT are opening new opportunities for students to move beyond using technology to innovating and deploying it in ways that benefit society.

Challenge targets gifted and talented Arab students aged 10 to 17.

Humaid Al Qatami:
The future of science and technology will be shaped by teams that know how to combine knowledge, skills, experience, and diverse perspectives.

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
Future Science Challenge is a competitive platform that develops the skills of gifted and talented students.

Efficiency, Safety, and Sustainability

Al Qatami said: "The theme of the sixth season of the Future Science Challenge, roads and mobility, connects to the broader question of how we build the cities and communities in which we want to live with greater efficiency, safety, and sustainability."

Addressing the participating students, he said: "While this challenge gives you an opportunity to compete, we hope it also gives you an even greater opportunity to collaborate, because the future of science and technology will not be shaped by isolated minds, but by teams that know how to combine knowledge, skills, experience, and diverse perspectives."

He added: "That is why we believe the greatest thing we can offer you is not ready-made answers, but confidence in your ability to search for answers and create them." He also emphasised the importance of learning through competition and experimentation and making use of the sixth season to transform challenges into opportunities for innovation and solution development.

Competitive Platform

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of the Foundation, explained that the Future Science Challenge is an online competitive platform designed to develop the skills of gifted and talented Arab students in science, technology, and innovation through multidisciplinary applied learning, while encouraging them to use scientific and technological knowledge to address real-world problems and develop innovative solutions.

He said: "The competition continues to attract growing participation, with an increase of 600%. We currently have more than 150 student teams representing numerous schools and educational institutions across Arab countries."

He noted that the new season includes a training programme to support participating teams and supervisors in developing their projects. Three training webinars will be held on 7 and 21 November and 19 December 2026. Final project submissions will be accepted from 18 February to 17 March 2027, leading up to the closing ceremony and announcement of the winners on 29 April 2027.

Gaining Experience

Dr. Al Suwaidi praised the role of sponsors, partners, teachers, supervisors, and parents in supporting students, encouraging their participation, and helping them continue developing their capabilities. He stressed that the value of the challenge extends beyond competition to the opportunities it provides students for learning, experimentation, collaboration, and gaining experience.

Through its sixth season, the Future Science Challenge continues to support gifted and talented Arab students by providing applied learning opportunities that bring together science, technology, innovation, and teamwork, enabling them to develop their skills and transform their ideas into solutions with the potential for further development and practical application.



Launched by Hamdan Foundation and ICESCO

New Edition of

"Mishkat Educational Leadership"

to Train Arabic Language Education Leaders in 16 Countries

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and the Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) announced the launch of the 2026–2028 edition of the "Mishkat Educational Leadership" programme under the theme "Creative Practice: Our Way to the Skills of Tomorrow". The programme aims to train educational leaders in 16 countries across Africa and Asia through 40 workshops organised over 2 academic years.

In October, Mishkat Al Arabiya Hall at ICESCO Headquarters in Rabat hosted a preparatory meeting for the programme's experts and coordinators, bringing together 24 experts and educational officials. ICESCO was represented at the meeting by Adel Bouraoui, Adviser to the Director-General and Supervisor of the Mishkat Al Arabiya Programme, with the participation of Dr. Mohammed Ismaili Alaoui, the programme's academic coordinator and Director of the University Center for Teaching Arabic to Non-Arabic Speakers at Morocco's Sultan Moulay Slimane University.

Urgent Need

Representatives of the participating entities expressed their appreciation to Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and ICESCO for launching the programme, stressing that it responds to an urgent need for specialised training opportunities that equip Arabic language teaching professionals with modern leadership and pedagogical skills and support their use of artificial intelligence technologies.

The first programme workshop, titled "Educational Guidance and Professional Development for Teachers of Arabic to Non-Arabic Speakers", was delivered by a team of 10 specialised international experts using practical approaches that incorporate digital applications and artificial intelligence tools to achieve the programme's objectives.

The programme forms part of the Hamdan bin Rashid–ICESCO initiative to support the Arabic language in countries where other languages are spoken. It aims to develop the pedagogical and leadership competencies of Arabic language teaching professionals and enable them to use digital applications and artificial intelligence tools to enhance their teaching practices.

40

workshops organised over 2 academic years to train educational leaders across Africa and Asia

10

specialised international experts delivered the first workshop using AI tools to achieve the programme's objectives.

Preparatory meeting for Mishkat Educational Leadership experts and coordinators brought together 24 experts and educational officials.

With the participation of a number of specialists and professionals in the health sector

Hamdan Foundation Enhances Healthcare Professionals' Expertise in Nutritional Management of Phenylketonuria



Dr. Salama Al Muhairi:

The workshop forms part of the Foundation's medical initiatives to support the development of the healthcare sector.

Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences organised a specialised training workshop entitled "Nutritional Management of Phenylketonuria (PKU)" at its headquarters in Dubai, with the participation of healthcare professionals and specialists. The workshop aimed to strengthen scientific knowledge and practical skills in therapeutic nutrition for inherited metabolic disorders.

The workshop was accredited by the Dubai Health Authority (DHA) for 3 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours, reflecting its importance in supporting professional development and enhancing the competencies of healthcare practitioners.

The workshop, delivered by Dr. Hanadi Algabeesh, Senior Clinical Dietitian at Al Jalila Children's Specialty Hospital, covered a range of scientific and practical topics, including an introduction to phenylketonuria, an inherited metabolic disorder, and the potential neurological and health complications associated with elevated phenylalanine levels in the blood if appropriate treatment is not followed.

Dr. Hanadi Algabeesh also reviewed the fundamental principles of nutritional management for PKU, along with the development of appropriate dietary plans and meals for different age groups.

The workshop programme addressed specific nutritional considerations for children, adolescents, and women during pregnancy, as well as the latest developments in available treatment options. It also included practical case studies and interactive exercises on meal planning, food-label reading, and estimating daily nutritional requirements, helping healthcare professionals strengthen their ability to provide appropriate nutritional care for patients.

Dr. Salama Al Muhairi, Director of the Medical Excellence Department at Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, said the workshop forms part of the Foundation's medical initiatives to support the development of the healthcare sector and enhance the competencies of medical professionals and allied health practitioners.

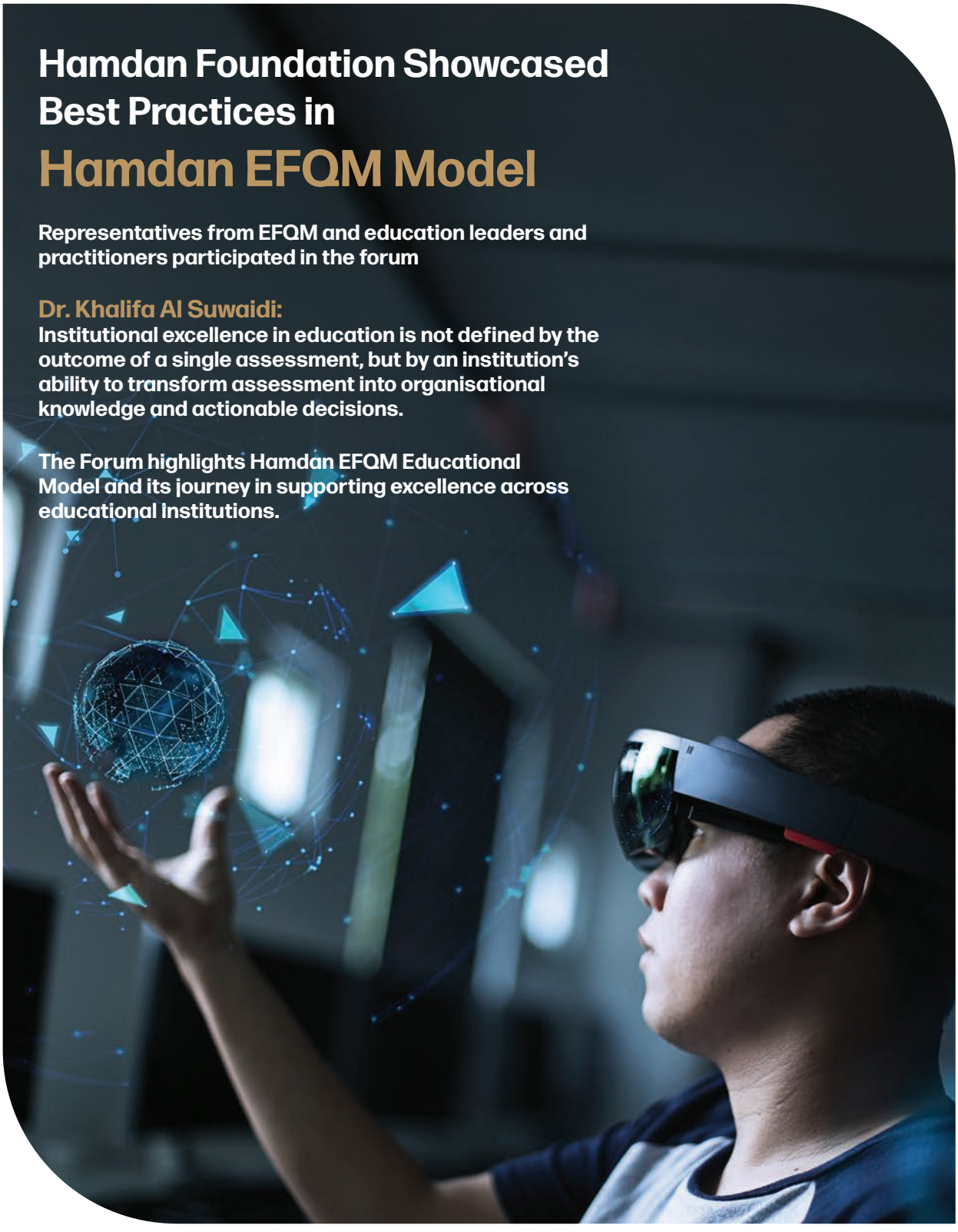
She added that the workshop provided opportunities for continuing medical education and the exchange of specialised knowledge and expertise, while addressing key practical challenges faced by specialists in managing cases, effective strategies for nutrition education and support for patients and their families, and the importance of integration among medical specialties to ensure continuity of care and achieve optimal health outcomes.

Hamdan Foundation Showcased Best Practices in Hamdan EFQM Model

Representatives from EFQM and education leaders and practitioners participated in the forum

Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi:
Institutional excellence in education is not defined by the outcome of a single assessment, but by an institution's ability to transform assessment into organisational knowledge and actionable decisions.

The Forum highlights Hamdan EFQM Educational Model and its journey in supporting excellence across educational institutions.









Dubai – 'Akhbar Al Tamayoz'

Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences organised the "Best Practices Forum in Hamdan EFQM Model" at the Etihad Museum in Dubai, bringing together representatives from EFQM and education leaders and practitioners. The forum showcased practical experiences in institutional excellence and discussed ways to benefit from best practices in developing performance and embedding a culture of continuous improvement across educational institutions.

The forum was held as part of the Foundation's efforts to strengthen the practical application of the Hamdan EFQM Educational Model by providing a platform for institutions and practitioners to exchange expertise and learn from real-world experiences in applying institutional excellence concepts, supporting the transition from assessment to identifying priorities, developing practices, and improving outcomes.

H.E. Dr. Khalifa Al Suwaidi, Chief Executive Director of Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences, explained that institutional excellence in education is not defined by the outcome of a single assessment, but by an institution's ability to transform assessment into organisational knowledge, actionable decisions, and improvement.

He said: "Hamdan EFQM Model provides educational institutions with a systematic framework for understanding performance, identifying priorities, and linking ambitions with actions and outcomes, helping them build a clearer and more sustainable development pathway."

He added: "Best practices in educational quality gain their real value when they move beyond being successful experiences within a single institution and become knowledge that can be understood, adapted, and applied by other institutions."

He stressed that the importance of the forum lies in bringing practitioners together around real experiences and discussing the elements behind their success, thereby strengthening institutional learning and making continuous improvement part of the everyday culture of schools and educational institutions.

The forum featured a visual presentation highlighting Hamdan EFQM Educational Model and its journey in supporting excellence across educational institutions. Hani Shaqlusi, Head of Service Delivery, Middle East, EFQM, addressed the role of excellence models in developing institutional performance.

During the panel discussion titled "Distinguished Experiences and Practices in Implementing Hamdan EFQM Educational Model", moderated by Dr. Rashid Muslim Al-Riyami, participants shared experiences from educational institutions and practices related to implementing the model. The session provided an opportunity to exchange expertise and discuss ways to benefit from successful experiences in developing institutional and educational performance.

The panel featured Fahad Mousa Hassan from Qatar Science and Technology School; Salama Khalfan Obaid Al Mazrouei from Qatr Al Nada School for Basic and Secondary Education; and Jamila Ahmed Jamei Al Hindasi, Director of Zayed Educational Complex – Dibba Al Fujairah.

The Foundation honoured the forum's guests and participating speakers in recognition of their contributions to enriching the dialogue and exchanging knowledge and expertise. The event concluded with an open question-and-answer session, allowing attendees to engage with the speakers and discuss practical aspects of institutional excellence and improvement.

Hamdan EFQM Educational Model is based on the partnership between Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum Foundation for Medical and Educational Sciences and EFQM. It was developed to address the specific needs of the education sector and provides institutions with a structured framework for assessing performance, identifying priorities, and embedding a culture of continuous improvement, supporting their ability to achieve more sustainable educational outcomes.