



30/11/2010

Qatar Foundation REN updates  
for i2 Middle East Muscat meeting

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# Agenda

- Qatar Foundation In Brief for those who are not familiar with QF
- QFREN Brief History and update
- QFREN News since our last meeting
- QFREN Governance proposals
- QFREN so far lesson learned
- QFREN Going Forward
- Q&A



We are :

# Qatar Foundation

for Education, Science and Community Development

“Unlocking Human Potential”





# QATAR FOUNDATION

for Education, Science and Community Development

“The sharing of knowledge,  
ideas and values is the noblest  
way to transcend barriers...”

Her Highness Sheikha Mozah Bint Nasser Al-Missned, Chairperson of Qatar Foundation



# QATAR FOUNDATION

for Education, Science and Community Development



**An independent, chartered, nonprofit organization committed to the development of Qatar and its people.**

Founded in 1995 by HH the Emir  
Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani

Chairperson: HH Sheikha Mozah bint  
Nasser Al-Missned



# QATAR FOUNDATION

## Mission and Vision

**Qatar Foundation is guided by the principle that a nation's true wealth is its people. Our goal is to develop that human potential:**

- by creating a network of centers committed to delivering first-rate education, supporting science and research and promoting community development
- by partnering with world-class educational and research institutions
- by building a unique Education City, featuring state-of-the-art technology and facilities, that is a hub for the creating, sharing and finding practical uses of knowledge



# QATAR FOUNDATION

## The Sidra



القطر  
*Qatar Foundation*

Our symbol is the sidra tree, a symbol of perseverance, courage and hospitality. It became a refuge for poets and people of thought and a sanctuary for travelers seeking peace of mind and soul. There are several similarities between the sidra and Qatar Foundation, starting with the non-profit nature of the Foundation and the good they spread in the society, the numerous branches they both have and the positive shades they provide.





# QATAR FOUNDATION

## Map of Education City

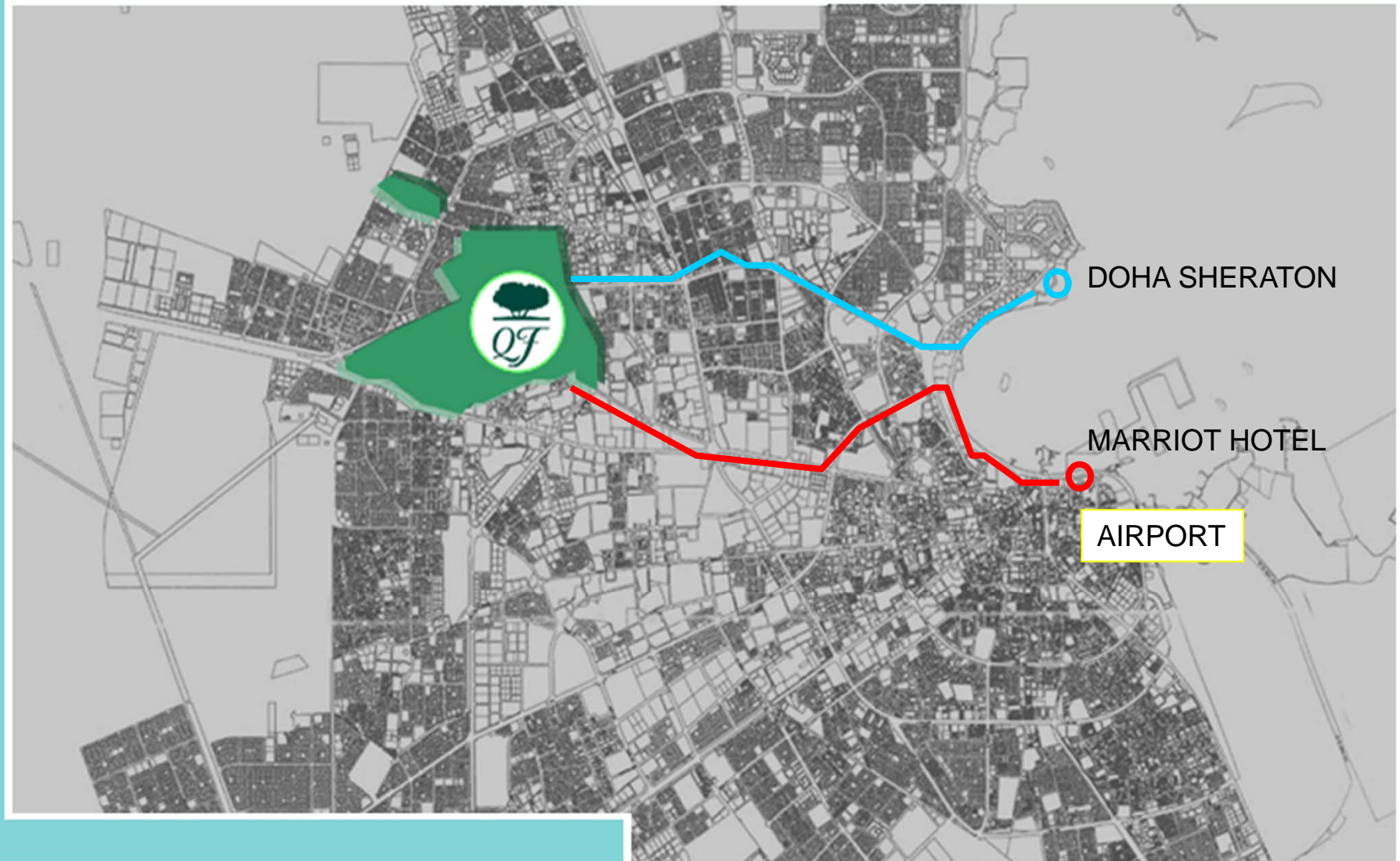






# QATAR FOUNDATION

Location





# QATAR FOUNDATION

Serving the whole citizen

- Early Years Education
- Specialized Education Program
- Primary, Secondary, College Preparatory Programs
- University Branch Campuses
- Public Policy Research
- Commercial Research and Development
- Community Outreach



# QF University Branch Campuses

- QF / Education City is home for Many US and world leading University
- WCMC\_Q
- VCU\_Q
- TA&MU\_Q
- CMU\_Q
- GT\_Q
- NW\_Q
- .....
- More University are joining shortly



# QF Research Initiatives

- QF has many Centers and initiatives for
  - Research
  - Research funding
  - Research collaboration (academic and commercial )
- A Research & Education Network  
QFREN is going to serve this community and increase its sharing capability



# QFREN Objectives

QFREN is Qatar's first Research & Education focused Network:

- Designed to meet service requirements and growth demand for the next 10 years.
- High-availability design, and next-generation underlying technology.
- Information collaboration/capabilities attracts knowledge capital, educational and research institutions and programmes.
- Facilitate research opportunities through/with established global R&ENetworks



## For further info on QF

- [www.QF.org.qa](http://www.QF.org.qa)
- QF was the 2009 host for the i2 Middle East group gathering
- [www.i2.edu](http://www.i2.edu) also has last year QFIT presentation for further detail





# QFREN Brief History

- QFREN idea has been in the making for more than 5 years
- QFREN took around year and a half to build and commission
- It is estimated to take around 6 months to connect the participating BC, QF centers and local institutions
- QFREN will be initially local to EC
- World's NREN peering is next



# News since our last meeting

- The 2 cores are up an operationl
- Meeza is operating the Network as our service provider
- More testing on the 40GIG Backbone, scalable to 100GIG later on
  
- The 2 zone with 4 hops were completed and ready for connections



# News since our last meeting...cont

- The Branch Campuses building connectivity plan is progress at the moment
- The technical team is charting the connection project plan for each campuses building



# QFREN Governance Proposal

- Management is still looking over many governance proposals models as there are many
- It may consist of the following
  - Board of Director
  - Advisory Council
  - Technical Committee



# QFREN so far lesson learned

The plans had sufficient contingency time for delays but none the less

- Be careful of your time lines and don't underestimate any soft task (Regulatory approval)
- The Civil work and the infrastructure cabling can be challenging (for live networks)
- Hardware shipping delay due to volcano clouds



# Going forward

- More Services on the REN
- More peering with other NREN





# Q& A

- Thank You



الكويت  
*Qatar Foundation*

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