EAA report to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Right to Education

Together Project under Education Above All (EAA) Foundation works to enable children who do not have access to education in Qatar to have equitable access, in order to unlock their potential to be productive, responsible and contributing residents who transform their local communities and contribute to the country’s economic prosperity. The Together project aims to identify the target population of approximately 4,000 out of school children and address their educational needs, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and project’s sponsors.

Since 2017, EAA/Together, in collaboration with Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MOE) and its funding partners, is ensuring that all children in Qatar have access to education through the removal of any barriers by providing support in finances, space and capacity building. This is done by collaborating with local ministries and NGOs, liaising with affected communities, and facilitating the establishment of alternative education programs.

Apart from what Together has achieved in a short period of three years through its scholarship programs and establishment of Assalam Schools, previously known as Al Ihsaan Schools, following is the plan of action for upcoming years:

**Plan of Action:**

EAA is in process of and looking forward to achieving the following:

* Initiated a cycle of workshops among Qatar Planning and Statistic Authority and UIS to improve and standardize the data collection mechanisms and data collected itself with respect to the educational sector and children that will be held in April 2020 in Qatar;
* In addition to the existing Assalam Schools, at least three more schools accommodating up to 900 students, will be established providing free education in the upcoming years to address specific alternative educational needs of the children facing barriers to education;
* One of the school will be established as a vocational training school addressing the need of young adults who have remained out of school due to barriers faced and cannot bridge educational gaps in mainstream education. The goal is to equip the youth with the right functional literacy, vocational trainings and certifications to enable them to be an independent and contributing member of the society;
* The children and families moving from Syria and Yemen are already being accommodated without securing residency and are exempted from having a valid QID for school enrollment i.e: facilitated Second Assalam School in issuing temporary ID number for around 100 Yemeni and Syrian students on visit visa;
* The program will continue to support children at risk of dropping out and facilitate cases with all the entities in Qatar e.g. facilitating children with special needs;
* A Digital School program under its final stages of approval, aims to provide literacy, numeracy and functional skills through digital platforms, community learning centers and hands on experiences to children who otherwise cannot be enrolled in any schools in Qatar due to barriers faced. The target for these children or young adults is to mainstream them into vocational training or alternative educational programs in order to have them with certifications or educational records letting them to be employed or pursue higher education.

Apart from children’s education, EAA also focuses on other population segments through ROTA:

* EAA’s Program, Reach Out to Asia (ROTA) continues to provide computer and language literacy programs to foreign received construction workers in Qatar. The program currently has served 750,000 beneficiaries