

# April 2022 Newsletter

## 14<sup>th</sup> Cycle (NPRP-S) Grant Awarded by the Qatar National Research Fund

A proposal has been awarded a grant under the 14<sup>th</sup> cycle of the NPRP Standard. The project is entitled “Digital Nomadism, Hybrid Working Model: A Post COVID Perspective for Women Empowerment in Qatar.” The aim of this project is to investigate the challenges and opportunities of mainstreaming flexible and hybrid working modes and the extensive use of technology in facilitating these models motivated by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It measures the impact of these models on empowering and increasing Qatari women’s engagement in various economic activities.

The project is a collaboration between a research team from the College of Business and Economics at Qatar University (LPI: Prof. Mohd Faisal), policy head at SESRI (PI: Dr. Noora Lari), PI Prof. Omneya Abdelsalam and a number of researchers.



Member of Qatar Foundation

## QF Invites SESRI to Discuss World Cup Efforts

As part of SESRI’s mission, we aim to contribute to Qatar’s national development and play a critical role in Qatar’s 2030 vision by conducting wide-scale research on important social and economic issues. In the past 10 years, SESRI has focused on a number of research survey studies related to the upcoming FIFA World Cup event in Qatar 2022. Some of these studies include:



- o Qatari Attitudes towards Migrant Workers (2012)
- o A Study of the Views of Qataris and Expatriates vis-à-vis the Hosting of FIFA 2022 World Cup (2014)
- o Guest Workers’ Welfare Index (2021 ,2019 ,2018 ,2017)
- o QU Study - Pre & Post FIFA Games (2022)

SESRI has also been working on ongoing studies with the Supreme Committee for Delivery & Legacy, including:

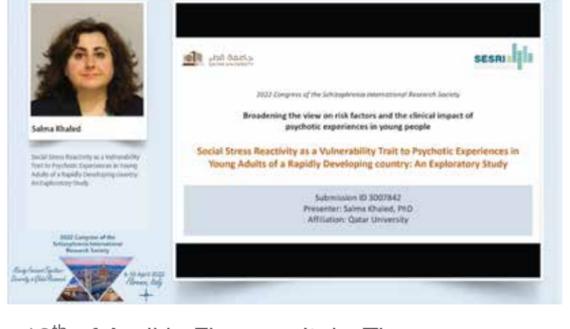
- o SC Workers’ Welfare Survey (2018 , 2019 , 2021 and 2022)
- o Survey of Perceptions and Attitudes towards the SC and the FIFA World Cup Qatar 2022™ (2018 ,2019 ,2021 and 2022)

The surveys conducted focused on 7 main areas:

- o Knowledge and Interest in Football
- o Participation and Volunteering
- o Ticketing
- o Transportation
- o Accommodation
- o Sentiments and Perceptions
- o Potential Impact and Legacy

## Dr. Salma Khaled Participates in Schizophrenia International Research Society 2022 Congress

Dr. Salma Khaled, Research Associate Professor, with the Social & Economic Survey Research Institute at Qatar University participated in a peer-refereed symposium titled “Broadening the View on Risk Factors and the Clinical Impact of Psychotic Experiences in Young People” as part of the Schizophrenia International Research Society 2022 Congress, which was held on the 6<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of April in Florence Italy. The congress was organized by one of the largest multidisciplinary scientific societies in the field of mental health with the mission of bringing together researchers and clinicians for the identification, prevention, and treatment of people with schizophrenia and other related disorders. The title of Dr. Khaled’s presentation was “Social Stress Reactivity as a Vulnerability Trait to Psychotic Experiences in Young Adults of a Rapidly Developing Country: An Exploratory Study”, which highlighted the role of heightened stress reactivity in increasing susceptibility to subclinical symptoms of psychosis including paranoia and hallucinations in young adults. Dr. Khaled found evidence in support of direct associations between negative social evaluation reactivity (feeling nervous and lack of confidence in response to situations where perceived threats to social reputation and status expectations are high), and increased reports of unusual cognitive and sensory symptoms in students at Qatar University. Her findings support the theory that social stress not only shares common pathways with psychotic phenomena that are predominantly emotion-based (e.g. depression-anxiety), but may also be in itself a pathway to these abnormal phenomena. These results can have important implications for early detection and prevention of severe mental illnesses in non-clinical individuals in Qatar and elsewhere.



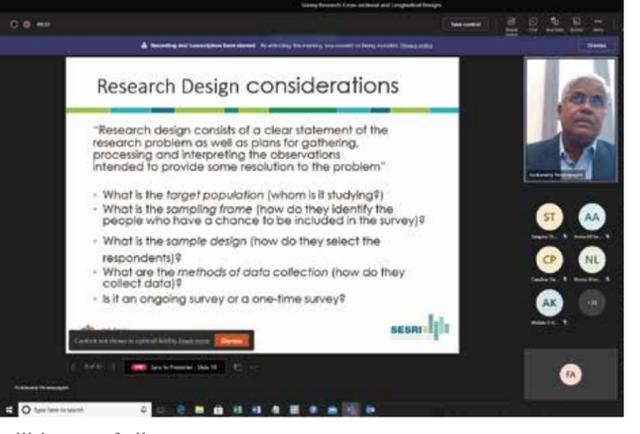
## Prof. Arokiasamy Perianayagam Joins SESRI Team

Prof. Arokiasamy Perianayagam has recently joined the policy department at the Social and Economic Survey Research Institute (SESRI) at Qatar University. His early background is in demography, but his current expertise and achievements cover a range of subject areas including survey research, public health, epidemiology, and development studies. He is listed on Stanford University’s list of the world’s top 2 % Scientists in Research Citations. He has more than two decades of experience of heading large-scale nationwide surveys collaborating with numerous international organizations such as WHO, UNFPA, RAND, HSPH, USC, UCLA, UM, LSE, and a network of national institutions in India and in LMICs. He had been an international consultant to the Ministry of Public Health, Government of Qatar for implementing the Qatar World Health Survey and Ageing Survey.



## SESRI’s Lecture Series: Conducting Survey Research and Producing Policy Reports

SESRI’s policy department has launched a series of lectures on survey designs and methods led by Professor Arokiasamy, Head of the Urbanization Development Desk. The aim of this lecture series, running from April to May 2022, is to provide scientific skills in survey research design, methods of data collection and analysis, and policy dissemination techniques.



The topics of the lecture series will be as follows:

- 1) Survey Research: Cross-sectional and Longitudinal Design;
- 2) Survey Research: Measurement and Instrumental Development;
- 3) Experimental Research Designs (RCT);
- 4) Application of STATA in Data Assessment and Analysis;
- and 5) Writing Scientific and Policy Report. The lecture series will enhance knowledge of survey methods to allow for innovative explorations and the publication of high-quality, impactful policy reports.

## Participation in Food and Technology Conference 2022

Dr. Sana Abusin’s manuscript abstract has been accepted for participation in the eighth International Conference on Food Chemistry & Technology, which will be held in October 12-14 ,2022, in Rome, Italy. This eighth conference in the series comes after the prodigious success of the previous meetings, which were held in San Francisco in 2015, Las Vegas in 2016, Baltimore in 2017, Berlin in 2018, Los Angeles in 2019, and virtually in 2020 and 2021.

## Participation in FAO Regional Expert Consultation

The Institute participated in the FAO Regional Expert Consultation - Food Loss and Waste Reduction for Transforming Agri-food Systems in the Near East and North Africa summit, which was held on April 2022 ,19. Food sector experts from all regions attended the consultation and participated in various group discussions to devise strategies to reduce and manage food loss and waste in a sustainable way. Dr. Sana Abusin represented the Institute in this meeting.

## SESRI Receives ISO for Third Year

SESRI has received the ISO certification for three years. The International Organization for Standardization is an international standard development organization composed of representatives from the national standards organizations of member countries.

