

## Katara Tech Forum Champions Inclusion Through Technology



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Dr. Mervat Ibrahim

Qatar Ambassador for Peace

DOHA, July 1

The “Katara Tech” Autism Forum concluded at Katara Cultural Village, underscoring Qatar’s commitment to inclusion and technological empowerment for individuals with autism. The event aligns with Qatar National Vision 2030, emphasizing equal opportunities and societal integration for people with disabilities.

Her Excellency Sheikha Sheikha bint Jassim Al Thani, Assistant Undersecretary for Family Affairs at the Ministry of Social Development and Family, graced the forum. She toured the pavilions and reaffirmed support for people with disabilities, emphasizing that the newly launched National Strategy 2025–2030 includes initiatives to enhance family stability, early childhood care, and community empowerment. She noted that educational and scientific empowerment of people with disabilities is central to Qatar’s long-term vision for improving quality of life and social inclusion.

Among the key supporters were Mr. Thamer Al Qadi, Director of Technology at Katara, and Mr. Mohsen Al-Ajji from the Business Center. Both highlighted the forum's role as a sustainable platform that supports individuals with autism, not just as a one-time event but as a long-term initiative to foster inclusion through digital literacy and innovation.

Strategic partner Ready Future for Technological and Educational Consultancy played a prominent role by hosting training workshops and interactive demonstrations. Dr. Mervat Ibrahim, Peace Ambassador and CEO of Ready Future, introduced AI-driven educational programs and assistive software aimed at strengthening the learning capabilities of children with autism.

A standout moment was a live presentation by students benefiting from educational grants. They demonstrated smart applications developed through AI and coding programs tailored to their needs. The showcase was met with enthusiasm, reflecting the transformative impact of inclusive education powered by technology.

A major announcement during the forum was the launch of the Artificial Intelligence Educational Grant, a free initiative offering accredited courses and technical support in AI and software development for children with autism. This program aims to continue learning beyond the classroom, helping families provide ongoing support at home in a safe and encouraging

environment.

Her Excellency Sheikha Sheikha bint Jassim Al Thani emphasized the Ministry's commitment to implementing practical programs that address modern challenges, strengthen maternal and child well-being, and foster partnerships with civil society, the private sector, and business centers.

These collaborations aim to ensure the sustainability and effectiveness of such initiatives, reinforcing the role of people with disabilities in Qatar's evolving social structure.

In closing, Mr. Thamer Al Qadi and Mr. Mohsen Al-Ajji reaffirmed their dedication to future collaborations with local and international stakeholders, aiming to build long-term frameworks that positively impact individuals with disabilities and their families.

The "Katara Tech" Autism Forum concluded as a shining example of how technology, policy, and collaboration can bridge gaps and pave the way for a more inclusive and empowered society across Qatar.