جامعة قطر
QATAR UNIVERSITY

Qatar University's Research Priorities (2025–2030)

Health

Society

Digital Technology

Resource Sustainability

Energy

استدامة الموارد
Resource Sustainability

الصحة
Health

التكنولوجيا الرقمية
Digital Technology

الطاقة
Energy

المجتمع
Society

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Symbols and Colors of the Research Priorities

Drawing inspiration from Qatar University's signature pattern of triangles and squares, each research priority has been translated into a unique visual form. The symbols and colors are designed to express the essence of each theme in a clear and recognizable way.

The Health priority is represented by a heart symbol. Its green color is associated with growth, vitality, and well-being, reflecting the essence of health and medical research. The heart symbolizes care, life, and human health.

The Energy priority is represented by a lightning bolt symbol. Its red color conveys power, activity, and urgency. The lightning bolt symbolizes energy, power generation, and innovation in energy solutions.

Digital Technology is symbolized by a microchip in dark blue. The color reflects reliability, intelligence, and innovation, while the symbol represents digital infrastructure and emerging technologies.

The Resource Sustainability priority is symbolized by a leaf. The brown color reflects the land, soil, and natural resources, underlining the importance of environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.

The Society priority is symbolized by three people standing side by side. The light blue color represents openness, communication, and harmony, emphasizing the values of community, inclusivity, and social cohesion.

Introduction to the Guide

Qatar University's Vision and Mission and Their Correlation to the Guide

Qatar University's Research Priorities Guide for 2030-2025 stems from its ambitious vision to be "a leading national institution of academic and research excellence with a global reputation." This guide embodies the university's unwavering commitment to producing, disseminating, and utilizing sound knowledge to serve society and achieve sustainable development.

This guide constitutes a strategic roadmap that reflects the university's pivotal role in the national scientific research system, directing research efforts toward national priorities that align with the goals of the Qatar National Vision 2030 in its integrated dimensions: human, social, economic, and environmental development.

This guide goes beyond simply identifying priority research areas to establish an integrated governance framework that ensures optimal investment of research resources and directs them toward achieving a tangible impact on society and the economy.

Through this integrated vision, Qatar University seeks to consolidate its position as a beacon of scientific research, anticipating future horizons, contributing to building a knowledge-based society, and supporting national aspirations for comprehensive and sustainable development. This reinforces its strategic commitment to building a knowledge-based and innovation-driven economy and developing a national human capital capable of meeting global challenges.

Lead and achieve global excellence: Achieving a prestigious research position regionally and globally by sponsoring innovative, robust, high-quality research with a tangible impact.

Alignment with the national vision: By directing the research system toward national priorities, enhancing the university's role as a strategic partner in the sustainable development process and achieving Qatar National Vision 2030.

Creating an environment conducive to creativity: By building an integrated research system that empowers researchers and students, fosters a culture of excellence and innovation, and stimulates the exploration of new horizons of knowledge.

Integrating research and higher education: By developing quality graduate programs aligned with the university's research agenda, enriching knowledge and preparing a generation of distinguished researchers.

Building an effective network of partnerships: By expanding local and international research collaborations with academic and industrial institutions, this will enhance Qatar University's cognitive and societal impact and consolidate its scientific standing.

The Purpose of the Guide and Target Groups

Objectives of the Research Priorities Guide

Develop a strategic research roadmap:

By establishing amethodological framework that directs research efforts toward addressing national priority developmental, economic, and social issues.

Achieve integration between research and education:

By strengthening the link between the research system and graduate programs, ensuring their alignment with national needs and sustainable development

Contribute to knowledge transformation:

By enhancing the role of scientific research in building a competitive national economy based on innovation and knowledge.

Promote informed strategic decision-making:

By providing a frame of reference for university decision-makers to allocate financial and human resources, and organize scientific events in line with identified priorities.

Improve the quality of research outputs:

By enhancing the robustness and impact of scientific research, developing its applicability, and transforming it into value-added products and services.

Target Groups

The university's academic community

Represented by faculty members and researchers across Qatar University's various colleges and centers.

Emerging researchers

Including graduate students and junior researchers seeking to develop their own research paths.

Government entities

Including state institutions and policymakers concerned with aligning scientific research with national trends.

Strategic Partners

Representatives from the private sector and industrial companies seeking to benefit from research expertise in developing their products and services.

Collaborating Research Institutions

Focusing on local, regional, and international universities and research centers seeking to establish research partnerships.

Supporting and Funding Agencies

Including local and international institutions and bodies involved in funding research projects.

Methodology for Developing Research Priorities

Qatar University's research priorities have been updated and developed using an integrated approach that ensures the university's commitment to developing research priorities that respond to national needs and keep pace with global developments. This approach also ensures the active participation of various stakeholders in the development process, enhancing the chances of these priorities succeeding in achieving their strategic objectives.

Primary References for Updating Research Priorities

The Third National Development Strategy

Qatar's Third National Development Strategy (QNDS3) represents the primary framework upon which Qatar University's research priorities were updated. This strategy seeks to advance sustainable development across multiple pillars encompassing vital sectors in the country. These pillars include health, including promoting public health, healthcare innovation, and digital transformation in the health sector. Environment and climate change, through reducing emissions, protecting biodiversity, and promoting the concept of a circular economy. Digital transformation, through adopting artificial intelligence technologies and developing digital governance systems. Energy, with a focus on achieving a sustainable energy mix and increasing value-added from manufacturing industries; and Education, through improving the quality of the educational system, ensuring equal opportunities, and expanding digital applications in the education sector. These pillars are closely aligned with the national priority areas of research, development, and innovation identified by the Qatar Research, Development, and Innovation Council.

Global Research Trends

The research priorities for each pillar were updated based on a comprehensive alignment study with the most prominent global research trends, according to Scopus 2024 database indicators. This study focused on five main pillars: health, energy, digital technology, resource sustainability, and society. Within each of these pillars, a set of emerging and promising global research trends was identified that align with the national needs and development strategies of the State of Qatar. These trends were selected to have a high impact on a global scale and represent an opportunity for leadership and research excellence for Qatar University.

Strategies of the University, Ministries, and National Institutions

In addition, the alignment of the proposed Research Priorities (2030-2025) with the university's overall strategy Research Priorities (2021-2025) and with the strategies of relevant ministries and national entities was studied. This study took into account the integration with the strategic plans of key national entities, including, but not limited to, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education, which focuses on the quality of education, digital transformation, and sustainable development; the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, which aligns with its orientations in the areas of emission reduction, biodiversity, water resource management, and the circular economy; the Ministry of Public Health, which aligns with the goals of promoting population health, developing health services, and ensuring the efficiency of the health system; the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology, which takes into account the strategies of digital government, artificial intelligence, and the Digital Agenda 2030; and Qatar Energy, which aligns with the priorities of enhancing technical capabilities and developing the oil, gas, and sustainable energy sector.

Methodological Framework for Updating Research Priorities

The methodology for updating research priorities is based on an integrated set of key pillars, including alignment with the Third National Development Strategy, ensuring that research priorities are consistent with the goals and future directions of the national strategy. It also includes a strategic analysis of previous priorities (2021-2025) through a comprehensive assessment of research priorities in the previous period to identify strengths and potential areas for improvement. As well as an analysis of research productivity (2020-2024) at Qatar University through an analytical study of research published in Scopus Database to assess productivity and accumulated expertise in various research fields. It also includes monitoring future trends globally and locally by extrapolating emerging research trends at the global and local levels, which represent promising opportunities for research excellence. It also looks into stakeholder engagement, as the initial draft of the research priorities was presented to the university's colleges and research centers for feedback, to ensure that the proposed priorities are consistent with the country's and university's strategy, and with available expertise and capabilities. The research priorities were updated based on these observations through extensive consultations with various colleges and research centers.

User Guide

The Research Priorities Guide is a strategic tool that guides research work at Qatar University toward shared national goals. It is used by researchers, colleges, centers, and departments to align research projects with national priorities, direct grants, and update academic programs. It also supports decision-making and promotes integration between research, education, and community service.

The follow-up mechanism and the implementation of the guide requires institutional commitment and interdisciplinary collaboration to ensure effective research outputs that serve the country's sustainable development.

How Can a Researcher Choose a Research Topic that Is Compatible with the Priorities?

To identify a research topic that aligns with Qatar University's research priorities, researchers—whether faculty members, researchers, or students—should familiarize themselves with the university's diverse research pillars and choose a topic that aligns with their specializations and research interests. The university also encourages collaborative research between different disciplines, both disciplinary and interdisciplinary, as this type of research can enhance scientific value and offer innovative solutions to current challenges. It is essential for researchers to gain a deep understanding of research priorities and their subfields to maximize the available opportunities. Furthermore, researchers can benefit from the university's internal grants, as well as from support programs offered by the Qatar Research, Development, and Innovation Council (QRDI) and other stakeholders, providing them with additional resources to develop their outstanding research projects.

The Role of Colleges and Centers in Implementing the Guide

Qatar University's colleges and research centers play a pivotal role in implementing the guide and achieving the research priorities' objectives. They constitute the scientific and research environment that includes specialized researchers from various fields. Colleges and research centers are expected to develop five-year strategic plans and executive plans that align with the objectives of the research priorities, while ensuring that their scientific outputs are coordinated with their responsibilities and duties towards these priorities. Colleges and research centers must also coordinate between the university's research priorities and the country's strategic priorities to ensure integration between research activities and effective contribution to national development.

Practical approaches we propose may include:

1. Raising public and private awareness by college and research centers of the importance of conducting research within the research priorities, introducing these priorities, and disseminating them among researchers.
2. Planning to hold conferences, seminars, or workshops that give scientific attention to the research pillars, either by all pillars or their branches related to the work of colleges, departments, or centers.
3. Pursuing joint efforts, such as specialized or interdisciplinary research teams, to achieve new and innovative knowledge solutions to the aspirations and ambitions of Qatari society.
4. Research collaboration with government institutions to achieve shared benefits within research priorities and shared interests in this regard.
5. Achieving scientific outputs and research publications that serve as evidence of the achievement of these priorities.

Linking Research Priorities to Funded Projects (Internal and External) and Graduate Programs

Translating Qatar University's research priorities for the period 2030-2025 into tangible achievements requires adopting a comprehensive institutional approach that combines research funding and graduate programs. This alignment represents a pivotal step in ensuring that strategic visions are transformed into concrete research projects led by university researchers and graduate students.

Internal grants play a vital role in achieving the desired integration by aligning grant programs with approved research priorities and managing the research funding system according to specific, measurable performance indicators. These grants also provide renewed opportunities for researchers to submit research proposals that align with the university's strategic directions. The participation of colleges and research centers is a fundamental pillar for promoting innovation and linking research outputs to national and academic needs. Researchers are encouraged to align their proposals with the university's priorities when applying for external grants to maximize benefits and achieve research integration.

Follow-up Mechanism and Performance Indicators

As part of its 2023-2027 strategy, Qatar University seeks to enhance the quality of research and enhance its impact in specific areas that meet the needs of the local and international community. The strategic objective of this strategy for scientific research focuses on "increasing the qualitative impact of research," while developing innovative scientific solutions that address the key challenges facing the national development process.

To achieve these ambitions, the university adopts an integrated system for effective monitoring of research performance through strategic indicators, and indicators of the Research Quality and Impact Assessment Framework. These indicators were carefully designed to measure the quality and impact of research, as well as to monitor the relevance of research projects to national priorities and their ability to contribute to addressing contemporary issues.

Qatar University relies on a specific set of strategic indicators to follow-up on its research priorities. These indicators enable the university to measure the impact and quality of research, aligned with its ambitious aspirations in this field. These indicators include: the number of patents related to societal needs and priorities; the percentage of interdisciplinary research that focuses on societal issues and contributes to achieving national priorities; the percentage of research with results that directly reflect societal needs and priorities; the number of research publications indexed in internationally recognized databases; and the number of research papers published in peer-reviewed journals resulting from student graduation projects that align with societal needs and priorities.

These indicators play a pivotal role in monitoring the impact of research and assessing its alignment with national priorities, enhancing Qatar University's leadership in scientific research and contributing to sustainable development of society.

To ensure the effectiveness of the follow-up mechanism of these indicators and achieving the goals linked to the community priorities represented by the priority pillars in this guide, the university adopts annual monitoring as an optimal methodology for the follow-up mechanism, adjusting the course when necessary, and providing guidance, if necessary, to narrow the gap between the target and the actual value of the indicator. This methodology seeks to maximize research gains and desired results within the strategic objective of scientific research, in a manner that is relevant to the community's priorities and needs in general, and in line with the university's scientific priorities and research pillars within its current strategy.

Qatar University's Research Priorities' Pillars (2025–2030)

Qatar University's priority research pillars for the period 2025-2030 form the cornerstone of its future strategy, providing a clear roadmap for research directions aligned with the Qatar National Vision 2030. These pillars revolve around five key strategic areas: health, energy, digital technology, resource sustainability, and society, specifically designed to effectively respond to national development requirements. These five areas reflect the university's unwavering commitment to employing scientific research as a pivotal tool for achieving sustainable development and strengthening the knowledge-based economy in the State of Qatar.

By focusing on these strategic pillars, Qatar University seeks to contribute effectively to addressing national challenges and meeting the needs of Qatari society, while ensuring that it keeps pace with global scientific developments in these vital fields. Figure (1) illustrates the interconnectedness between these five research pillars and their role in supporting Qatar National Vision 2030, highlighting their integration to achieve an advancement of comprehensive research and development that serves the country's aspirations.

Qatar University's Research Priorities' Pillars (2025–2030)

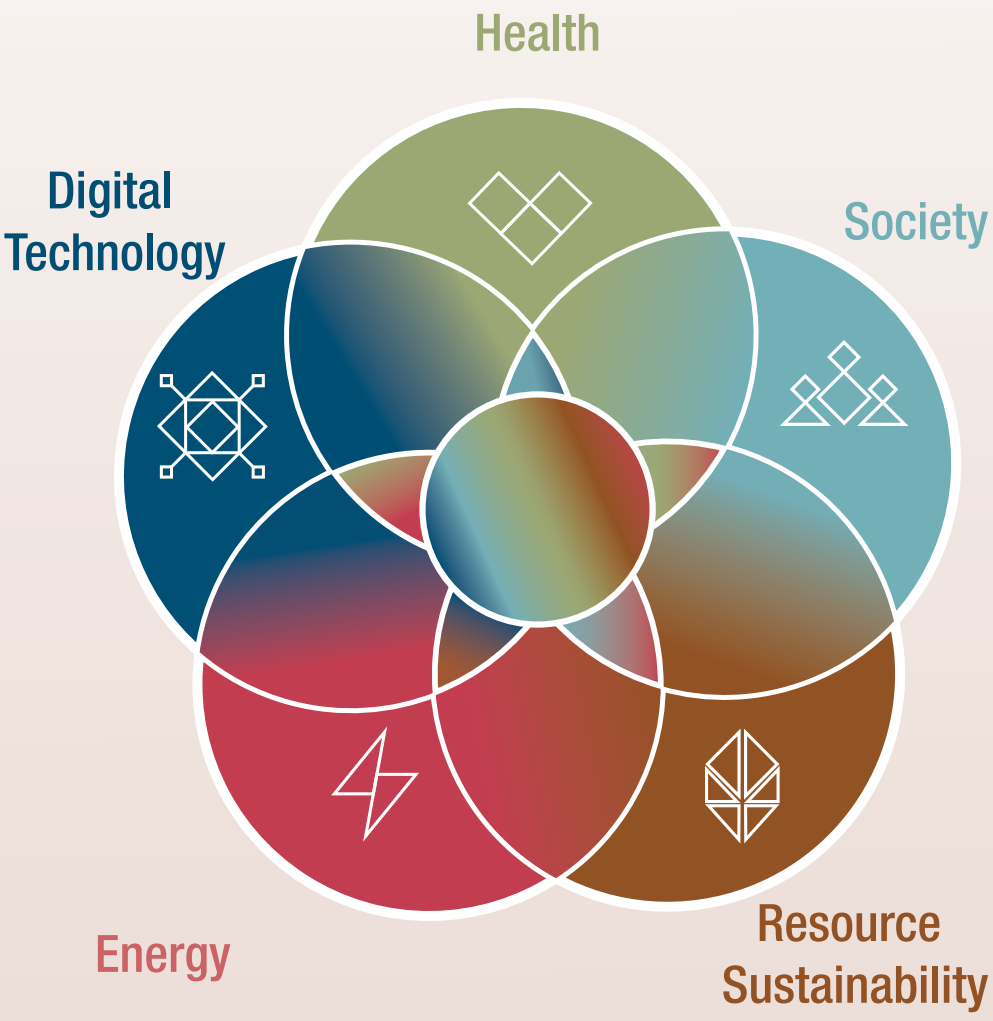
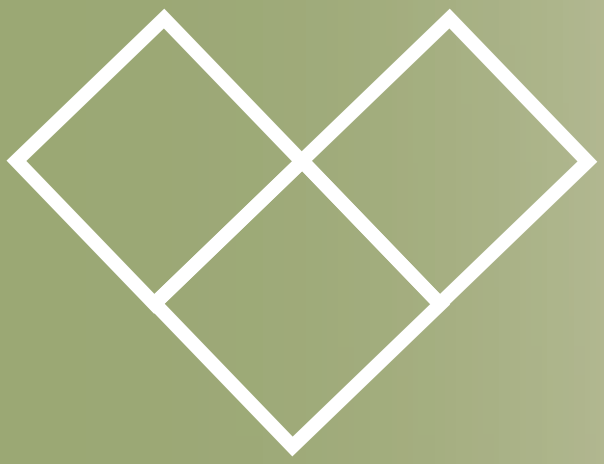


Figure (1) Qatar Universality's Research Priorities' Pillars (2025-2030)

Research Pillar:
Health



As part of enhancing scientific research at Qatar University, the health pillar is a key research priority for the period 2025-2030. It encompasses several vital areas that contribute to improving healthcare and developing innovative treatments. Regenerative medicine and stem cell research focus on restoring the functions of damaged tissues and organs using stem cells and tissue engineering, and the resulting ethical and moral challenges, opening new horizons for treating incurable diseases such as heart disease and diabetes. Meanwhile, digital health and telemedicine aim to improve the quality of healthcare through remote healthcare applications and virtual services, facilitating patients' access to effective treatment. Artificial intelligence in healthcare also enhances the efficiency of diagnosis and treatment through bioengineering, medical data analysis, and accurate recommendations. This contributes to the development of innovative technologies, improving patient experience, and reducing medical errors.

Meanwhile, precision and personalized medicine and genomics aim to provide personalized healthcare based on each individual's genetic characteristics, which poses cybersecurity challenges. This enhances the effectiveness of treatments and reduces side effects. On the other hand, public health and epidemiology focus on disease prevention and control by studying their outbreak and developing effective strategies to combat them. Immunology and vaccines, meanwhile, seek to enhance the body's ability to resist disease by developing effective vaccines and improving the immune response, contributing to the prevention and reduction of infectious diseases. Focusing on these research areas at Qatar University fosters medical innovation and provides new therapeutic solutions, strengthening the university's position as a leading center for scientific research and medical development.

Main and sub-priorities of the Health Pillar

The chart (Figure 2) illustrates the Health Pillar as one of Qatar University's main research areas. The pie chart also illustrates the main research priorities within the Health Pillar and the sub-priorities emanating from each main priority. This provides a deeper breakdown of the identified research areas and reflects the hierarchy and logical interconnection between the various priority levels within the university's health research strategy.

Regenerative Medicine and Stem Cell Research		Digital Health and Telemedicine		Precision and Personalized Medicine and Genomics	
Regenerative Medicine Applications		Development of Digital Health Systems		Drug Discovery and Development, Clinical Evaluation and Pharmacogenomics	
Stem Cell Research	Tissue Engineering	Telemedicine Applications	Virtual Care Services	Genomics and Gene Editing	Genome Editing Technologies and Medical Diagnostics
Artificial Intelligence in Healthcare		**Public Health Systems and Epidemiology**		**Immunology and Vaccines**	
Health Care Management and Economics		Chronic Disease Management and Mental Health		Vaccine Development and Evaluation	
Medical Diagnosis	Advanced Patient Care	Health Policy and Planning	Public Health Systems Development	Vaccination Policies and Programs	Immunity and Chronic Diseases

Figure (2) Main and sub-priorities of the Health Research Pillar

Research Pillar:
Energy

Energy is a strategic research pillar at Qatar University, given its vital role in supporting the Qatar National Vision 2030, particularly in its economic and environmental aspects. Energy is a major driver of the national economy, which calls for the development of sustainable solutions that enhance its efficiency and support the transition to a diversified economy, less dependent on traditional resources, through innovation and advanced technology. Through this priority, Qatar University seeks to lead interdisciplinary research efforts focused on addressing challenges related to energy production and consumption, developing renewable and clean energy technologies, reducing emissions, and designing smart and safe energy management systems.

This pillar also aims to support national policies through effective partnerships with government and industrial entities, and to contribute to building a national base of research talent capable of excelling locally and globally. This pillar includes diverse research topics covering the technical, environmental, regulatory, and social dimensions of the energy sector, such as energy efficiency, energy resource transformation, sustainability, advanced technologies, and smart control systems. This diversity of topics represents a comprehensive response to national priorities and an opportunity to enhance the university's contribution to finding practical, applicable solutions that contribute to the country's sustainable development.

Main and sub-priorities of the Energy Pillar

The chart (Figure 3) illustrates the energy pillar as one of Qatar University's main research areas. The pie chart also illustrates the main research priorities within the energy pillar and the sub-research priorities emanating from each main priority, providing a deeper breakdown of the specific research areas and reflecting the hierarchy and logical interconnection between the various priority levels within the university's energy research strategy.

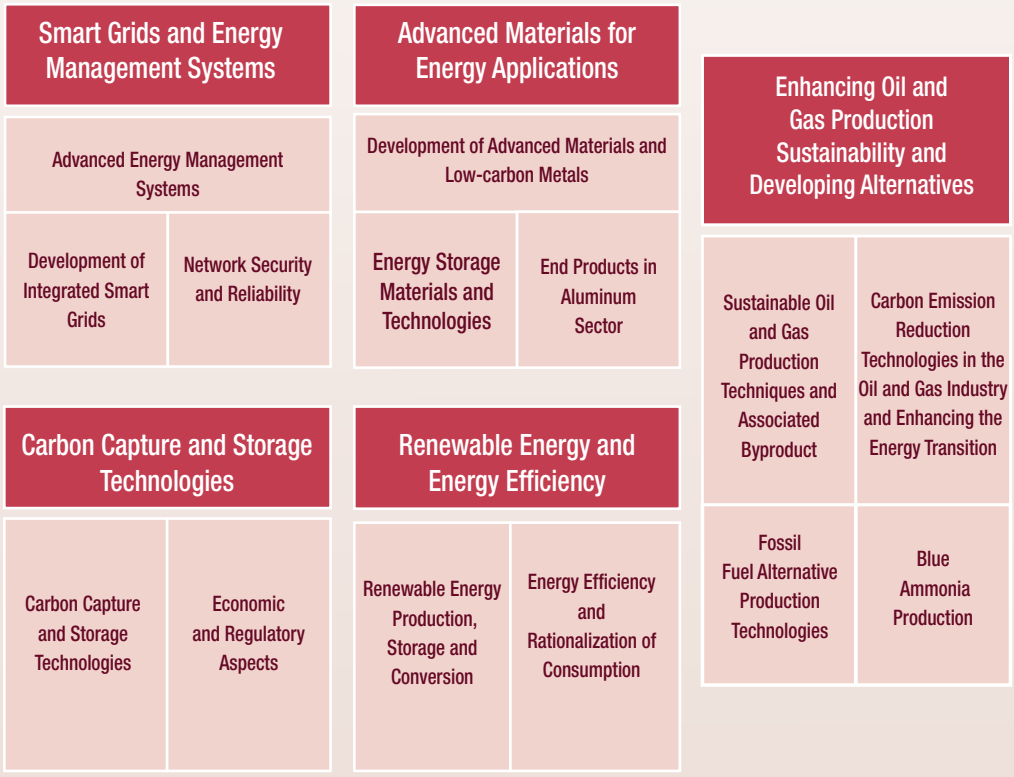


Figure (3) Main and sub-priorities of the Energy Research Pillar

Research Pillar:
Digital Technology

Qatar University prioritizes digital technology as one of its key research priorities for the period 2025–2030, in line with the national drive toward digital transformation and building an advanced knowledge-based economy. This priority stands out as a pivotal factor in enhancing the efficiency of vital sectors, providing innovative solutions to societal and economic challenges, and achieving technological excellence at the local and international levels. Through this pillar, the university focuses on supporting advanced research in the fields of artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, high-performance computing, smart communications, data analytics, and digital integration. It aims to enable researchers to develop sustainable digital applications and technologies that contribute to accelerating digital transformation in government and industrial institutions, and enhance the role of technology in supporting innovation and smart services.

This priority gains a strategic dimension due to its ability to contribute to building a competitive digital economy, creating quality job opportunities, and developing safe and effective digital infrastructures. It also considers the ethical dimension by developing technical solutions that respect societal values and employ artificial intelligence responsibly. This pillar branches into multiple research areas, including digital transformation, smart cities, autonomous robotics, big data analytics, and smart systems integration. This makes it a key intersection with other research priorities and enhances Qatar University's contribution to supporting technological innovation and comprehensive digital transformation in the country.

Main and sub-priorities of the Digital Technology Pillar

The chart (Figure 4) illustrates the digital technology pillar as one of Qatar University's main research areas. The pie chart also illustrates the main research priorities within the digital technology pillar and the sub-research priorities emanating from each main priority. This provides a deeper breakdown of the specific research areas and reflects the hierarchy and logical interconnection between the various priority levels within the university's scientific research strategy in the field of digital technology.

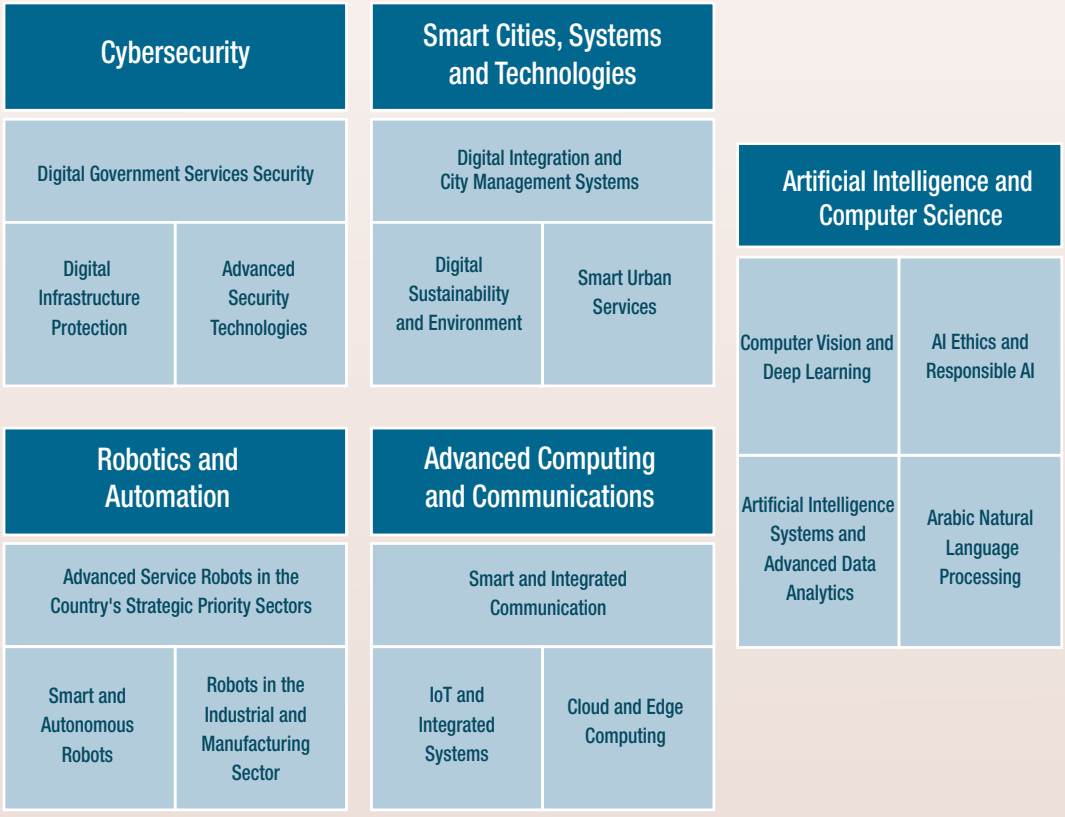
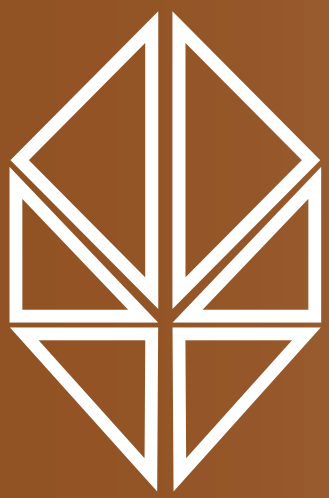


Figure (4) Main and sub-priorities of the Digital Technology Research Pillar

Research Pillar:
Resource Sustainability



Resource sustainability is a strategic pillar among Qatar University's research priorities, given its pivotal role in supporting environmental resilience, economic growth, and achieving social welfare. This pillar embodies the university's commitment to addressing environmental and climate challenges through scientific research and innovation, supporting the transition to a circular, low-carbon economy. This pillar focuses on six interconnected areas, beginning with environmental protection and biodiversity by conserving natural habitats, restoring ecosystems, protecting threatened species, and developing climate change adaptation strategies. It also addresses water and food security by developing smart water management systems, improving food supply chains, and adopting sustainable agricultural technologies that enhance production and address the impacts of climate change. In the field of sustainable construction, the university supports the development of low-carbon materials, the adoption of environmentally friendly technologies, and sustainable engineering designs, while adhering to circular economy principles and reducing the environmental impact of infrastructure.

This pillar also includes research in smart and sustainable infrastructure, such as low-emission transportation systems, asset management, and resilient urban planning adapted to climate change. It also promotes circular economy solutions, recycling, and the conversion of waste into valuable resources, promoting sustainable production and consumption patterns. Finally, the university focuses on developing innovative agricultural technologies that support food security and are used in diverse applications, enhancing resource management efficiency and serving national development goals. Through these priorities, Qatar University is consolidating its position as a leading institution in sustainability research regionally and internationally.

Main and sub-priorities of the Resource Sustainability Pillar

The pie chart (Figure 5) illustrates the Resource Sustainability pillar as one of Qatar University's main research areas. The pie chart also illustrates the main research priorities within the Resource Sustainability pillar, and the sub-research priorities emanating from each main priority. This provides a deeper breakdown of the specific research areas and reflects the hierarchy and logical interconnection between the various priority levels within the university's research strategy in the field of Resource Sustainability.

Water and Food Security		Environmental Protection and Biodiversity		Agricultural Technologies for Food and Other Applications	
Developing Food Supply Chains and Strengthening Storage Systems		Species Protection, Biodiversity, and Ecosystem Services		Innovative and Sustainable Agricultural Systems and Technologies	
Water and Food Security Monitoring and Evaluation Systems	Sustainable Water Resource Management and Water Desalination	Protection and Management of Protected Areas	Ecosystem Adaptation to Climate Change	Food Production Enhancement	Agricultural Resource Management
Circular Economy		**Climate Adaptation and Sustainable Infrastructure**		**Sustainable Materials and Construction**	
Waste Conversion Technologies and Waste-to-Value Solutions		Smart Digital Infrastructure and Resilient Urban Infrastructure		Smart Building Technologies and Energy Management Systems in Buildings	
Development of Circular Economy Systems	Recycling Innovations and Behavioral Change	Sustainable Transport Infrastructure	Climate Risks to Infrastructure	Sustainable Construction Technologies	Low-Carbon Building Materials

Figure (5) Main and sub-priorities of the Resource Sustainability pillar

Research Pillar:
Society

Society is a key pillar of Qatar University's research priorities for the period 2025–2030, in line with the Third National Development Strategy, which aims to build a cohesive society and promote human development, economic diversification, and sustainability. This pillar focuses on supporting digital transformation and expanding the digitization of government services to achieve digital inclusion, along with developing digital infrastructure. It also places special emphasis on education, particularly digital education, through curriculum development, skills development, and improving the quality of higher education outcomes. This pillar includes supporting economic diversification and the circular economy, promoting innovation and entrepreneurship, developing small and medium-sized enterprises, localizing jobs, developing national capabilities, and strengthening the infrastructure of financial technology.

On the social front, research aims to support family cohesion, empower women, achieve work-family balance, and strengthen social safety nets for the most vulnerable groups. This pillar also focuses on consolidating national identity, preserving societal and religious values, and promoting active citizenship and volunteerism. The pillar also addresses issues of national and human security and public safety through research that addresses traffic safety, cybercrime, drug control, and crisis recovery, to ensure quality of life and community safety. Through this pillar, the university seeks to support the state's efforts to build a balanced, safe, and prosperous society and enhance Qatar's role in achieving peace and stability regionally and internationally.

Main and sub-priorities of the Society Research Pillar

The chart (Figure 6) illustrates the Society pillar as one of Qatar University's main research areas. The pie chart also illustrates the main research priorities within the society pillar and the sub-research priorities emanating from each main priority. This provides a deeper breakdown of the specific research areas and reflects the hierarchy and logical interconnection between the various priority levels within the university's research strategy in the fields concerned with society.

Identity and Social Values	
Community Participation and Voluntary Work	
Social and Religious Values	Strengthening National Identity

Digital Society and Digital Government	
Digital Transformation of Government Services	
Digital Governance and Data Management	Digital Inclusion and Digital Infrastructure

Economic Diversification and Sustainable Development	
Sustainable Development and Circular Economy	Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Support for SMEs
Financial Technology	Public Policy Development
Localization of the Workforce and Building the Capacity of Locals	

Education, Digital Education, and Building Capacity	
Quality of the Digital Learning Environments	Digital Capacity and Skills Development
Teaching and Learning Strategies	Developing Educational Policies
Development of Digital Curricula and Educational Resources	

National and Human Security, Safety, and Crisis	
Diplomacy and Conflict Resolution	Public Safety and Security
Drug and Crime Prevention	Cybercrime
Disaster and Crisis Management	

Family Cohesion	
Developing Services for Priority Groups	Supporting the Role of Women in Society
Work-Family Balance	Strengthening the Institution of Marriage
Enhancing Family Values and Intergenerational Bonds	

Figure (6) Main and sub-priorities of the Society research pillar

Expected Results and Intended Impact

Qatar University expects to achieve a set of impactful research outcomes through the implementation of its research priorities for the period 2025-2030. These priorities aim to create a tangible impact across various scientific and developmental fields in the country. The most prominent expected outcomes and desired impacts are reflected in the following areas:

Enhancing the University's Leadership Position

These new research priorities will enable the university to achieve a leading position regionally and internationally, enhancing its role as a leading national institution in supporting innovation and contributing to building the national knowledge-based economy among prestigious international universities.

Developing National Knowledge

Research priorities will contribute to developing national solutions that address issues of food security, energy, health, and the digital society, providing a solid scientific foundation to support strategic government decision-making and enhance independent national decision-making.

Achieving Progress in Scientific Research

Research priorities will contribute to the production of authentic applied knowledge closely linked to the needs of Qatari society, leading to a significant increase in the number of scientific papers published in prestigious journals. These priorities will also foster the growth of interdisciplinary research that combines various scientific fields, deepening research impact and raising the level of methodology and quality of research results in line with international standards.

Promoting Innovation and Transforming Research into Practical Applications

New research trends will lead to increased patent registrations by transforming research findings into marketable products and solutions. These trends will also support entrepreneurship by encouraging research projects that transform into startups, and strengthening partnerships between the university and the public and private sectors.

Building Qualified Research-Human Capital

Research priorities will support the attraction and development of national competencies through specialized training programs and quality research opportunities. They will also enhance the relevance of graduate programs to national research priorities, meeting local market needs for specialized research expertise and skills.

Promoting National Identity and Social Cohesion

Research priorities will support the preservation of cultural and social values through research that enhances national identity and supports the stability of Qatari society. They will also focus on social and cultural issues that contribute to strengthening social cohesion and national unity.

Enhancing the University's Ability to Attract Competitive Funding

Research priorities will provide a strategic platform to support projects related to vital issues for the region, such as energy, health, and sustainable development, to enhance opportunities for competitive funding. These approaches will contribute to improving the efficiency of grant management and directing research investment toward areas that generate the highest scientific and economic returns for the country.

Frequently Asked Questions

This chapter provides comprehensive answers to frequently asked questions about Qatar University's research priorities for the period 2025–2030. These answers aim to clarify the concept of research priorities and their follow-up mechanisms for their implementation, and to help researchers and faculty members understand how to align their research projects with these priorities. These questions also clarify the institutional procedures associated with implementing research priorities and their impact on various aspects of the university's research ecosystem.

Basic Concepts of Research Priorities

What are the research priorities at Qatar University?

Research priorities are strategic research areas identified by the university to support the achievement of its vision and mission and contribute to the achievement of national development goals (Qatar National Vision 2030). These priorities include areas such as health, energy, digital technology, resource sustainability, and society.

What is the difference between primary and secondary research priorities?

The primary research priorities are broad themes within each pillar that define the general direction of research in that pillar. The secondary research priorities are more specific topics that branch out from each primary priority, guiding research in a more focused manner.

Why were research priorities identified at Qatar University?

Defining research priorities aims to focus research efforts on issues of national and international importance, enhance the societal and economic impact of research, direct resources and support toward areas that maximize benefit and innovation, and enhance the university's competitiveness in global rankings.

Alignment with Research Priorities

How can researchers align their research projects with research priorities?

When preparing their research proposals, researchers are advised to review the university's research priority documents, clarify how their projects contribute to one or more of these priorities, and link their research project objectives to performance indicators identified in the priority areas.

How can researchers ensure that their project aligns with research priorities?

They can do this by reviewing official university guidelines and documents, communicating with the Department of Research Planning and Development in the Research and Graduate Studies Sector for direct consultation, and attending workshops or information sessions held by the department on research priorities.

Can a research project cover more than one research priority?

Yes, interdisciplinary projects that serve more than one research area are particularly valued and increase their chances of acceptance and support due to their multiple impacts and the added value they provide to the research ecosystem.

What if a researcher has a new idea that is not included in the research priorities?

They can present it, explaining its importance and innovation. It will be evaluated based on quality and feasibility criteria, but the chances of support may be higher if it is directly linked to one of the approved priority areas.

Research Priorities and Institutional Support

Do research priorities affect the chances of obtaining internal grants?

Yes, funding preference is given to projects that align with approved research priorities. Researchers are often asked to demonstrate the connection between their project and the university's priorities when submitting grant applications.

Does all research have to be linked to research priorities to receive funding?

Not necessarily. Independent research projects can be supported if they demonstrate high scientific quality or provide outstanding innovation. However, linking to priorities significantly increases the chances of funding and institutional support.

How do research priorities affect academic promotions and research performance evaluations?

They play an important role, as researchers' contributions to priority areas are positively recognized in annual performance evaluations, and research linked to priorities with tangible impact may receive additional recognition in academic promotion applications. Some colleges require clarification of the relevance of research to priorities in promotion documents.

Managing the Research Priorities System

How can researchers align their research projects with research priorities?

The university provides guidelines, induction workshops, and guidance from research units and colleges to help new faculty members understand these priorities and integrate them into their future research plans.

Are training or workshops provided for researchers to better understand research priorities?

Yes, the university periodically organizes specialized workshops and training programs to help researchers understand research priorities and how to align their projects with them. Individual consultations are also provided through the Office of Scientific Research Support.

Can research priorities be updated or changed over time?

Yes, the university periodically reviews its research priorities based on national and global changes, scientific progress, and the evolving needs of Qatari society, ensuring that these priorities remain relevant to scientific developments and contemporary challenges.

How are research priorities linked to the university's overall research policies?

Research priorities constitute an essential part of the university's overall research policy, serving as a key reference for directing funding, supporting projects, selecting research partnerships, and setting performance standards for scientific research.

How is the contribution of research and projects to achieving research priorities measured?

It is measured through specific performance indicators such as the number of projects and research papers linked to each priority, the impact of research on public policies or industrial practices related to the priorities, and research outputs (patents, practical applications, industrial partnerships) within the priority areas.