



دولة قطر

State of Qatar

**National Report of the State of Qatar on the Comprehensive and Effective
Implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action***

For the period 2020–2024

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Section 1: Takeaways

Essential Components in the evaluation of priorities, accomplishments, challenges and barriers over the past five years

The State of Qatar is actively formulating national policies and strategies aligned with the pillars of its 2030 National Vision. The third National Development Strategy (NDS3) for 2024–2030, developed through extensive collaboration with stakeholders from the public and private sectors, as well as civil society organizations, outlines seven key outcomes to be achieved over the seven-year period. These outcomes will be pursued through targeted initiatives featuring clearly defined and measurable objectives. This strategy focuses on sustainable economic growth, financial sustainability, a future-ready workforce, a cohesive society, high-quality living, environmental sustainability and distinguished government institutions. Besides, it aims to build a society that promotes justice and equality, embodies the principles of the State’s Permanent Constitution, protects public and private freedoms, promotes moral and religious values, preserves customs, traditions and cultural identity, and ensures security, stability and equal opportunities. It also supports the establishment of a robust social protection system that safeguards civil rights for all citizens, ensures an adequate income to maintain health and dignity, and empowers women to participate fully in political and economic development, particularly in leadership and decision-making capacities.

Furthermore, the State has initiated the Digital Government Strategy 2023–2025, which details comprehensive digital transformation initiatives set to influence interactions among citizens, residents, businesses and government agencies. The strategy is anchored on four primary aspirations: enhancing digital services and beneficiary engagement, fostering governmental innovation, prioritizing data-driven investments and promoting sustainable solutions. The overarching objective is the effective digital transformation of government operations.

The State introduced the Sustainable Urban Environment Quality Strategy Initiative and the National Youth Policy, intending to develop human capital and promote the participation of younger generations in economic, social and political sectors, as well as identify their priorities and needs. These initiatives also include a stated goal of involving youth in decision-making, policy development and implementation. Additionally, the State launched the Family Charter,

described as the first of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa region, under the slogan: “Family is a nation’s wealth.”

Enhancing global cooperation and engaging international frameworks

The State of Qatar places a strong emphasis on international cooperation and partnership for development, both domestically and internationally, reflecting its commitment to advancing the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. International collaboration is considered a fundamental component of the national development strategy. As an active member of the global community, Qatar is committed to promoting global peace and security through political engagement, development initiatives, humanitarian assistance, and by strengthening its regional and international influence. Additionally, the State of Qatar attaches significant importance to North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation agendas.

Women’s rights and representation in leadership roles

The State has consistently promoted women’s participation across legislative, judicial, administrative and political sectors, both domestically and internationally, in accordance with constitutional provisions, national legislation and its international commitments. In the latest government formation, three ministerial portfolios have been entrusted to women. Additionally, a Qatari woman currently serves as the Vice President of the Qatari Shura Council. By the end of 2023, the Qatari women’s workforce participation rate had reached 49 per cent. In the government sector, female employment accounted for 68 per cent in 2022 and increased to 72 per cent in 2023, while women held 41 per cent of supervisory roles in organizations governed by the Civil Human Resources Law 54. The number of female diplomats in the diplomatic corps rose to 320 by 2023, including representatives at the United Nations and international organizations in New York and Geneva. Women now represent 20 per cent of the judiciary, with a target of at least 30 per cent by 2030. Cabinet Resolution No. 13 of 2021 established guidelines for part-time government positions for women, reducing weekly working hours by half and prioritizing Qatari female employees with children, thereby supporting work-life balance and family care responsibilities.

Advancing women's empowerment, addressing gender-based discrimination and fostering gender equality

The Permanent Constitution of the State of Qatar underscores the important role of women and actively promotes their rights by establishing the principle of equality in both rights and responsibilities. It explicitly prohibits discrimination on the basis of gender and guarantees equal access to services and participation across all sectors. These principles are enshrined in Articles 135, 35 and 46 of the Constitution. Furthermore, Articles 18 and 19 of Chapter Two, which address the basic components of society, provide the legal framework for the principles of equality and non-discrimination. As a supreme constitutional value, the principle of equality is afforded constitutional protection, mandating that no law or legislation may contravene it.

The Constitution assures equality between men and women with respect to civil and political rights, encompassing the right to stand for office, vote, contribute to policy development, hold public positions at all levels and participate in organizations and associations relevant to public and political affairs. This commitment is reflected in Articles 34, 43, 42, 45, 77, 54, 93, 92, 83, 80, 94, 95 and 100.

As part of the Second National Development Strategy 2018–2022, the State of Qatar has implemented various initiatives aimed at empowering women and challenging prevailing stereotypes, under the guidance of Qatar Development Bank. The following projects were included:

- The Social Development Centre (Namaa) supported entrepreneurship for small and micro enterprises by enabling 149 businesswomen to benefit from its incubation services during 2022–2023. These services focused on enhancing technical and administrative competencies, facilitating commercial activities through structured business plans, and fostering strong relationships with institutions and ministries across the nation.
- Efforts to attract businesswomen with start-up and micro productivity projects, whether home-based or established companies, yielded an annual increase of 10 per cent, with 33 new projects added in 2023.

- Approximately 7,000 Qatari women are either partial or complete owners of companies.
- Qatar Development Bank provides direct financing to entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprise owners of both genders. As of the end of 2023, 56 women entrepreneurs had received direct financing, amounting to nearly 661 million Qatari riyals.
- Qatar Development Bank also extends indirect loans through the Al-Dhameen programme, which offers the necessary guarantees for partner banks to support entrepreneurs. By the end of 2023, approximately 321 women had benefited from this service, with the total value of loans reaching about 333.5 million Qatari riyals.
- Participation by women in Qatar Development Bank’s professional development and entrepreneurship training programmes saw considerable growth in 2023.
- Since 2019, over 30 women have participated in Qatar Development Bank’s incubation programmes and business accelerators at various centres, including the Qatar Business Incubation Centre, Qatar Fintech Centre, Qatar Sports Tech Programme and Qatar’s fashion and design business incubator.