



جامعة الجلالة
GALALA UNIVERSITY

Regional forum for Open Science *in the* Arab Region

Regional Expert Meeting on Open Science: **Modalities**, **Challenges**, and **Opportunities**

Calls for the Participation in
The First Regional Forum for Open Science in the Arab Region

Venue: Galala University,
City of Galala,
Arab Republic of Egypt

21st - 22nd
September 2021



Regional Bureau
for Sciences in the
Arab States - Cairo
المكتب الإقليمي
للعلوم في الدول
العربية - القاهرة



Regional Expert Meeting on Open Science: **Modalities, Challenges,** and **Opportunities**

Under the Patronage of

H. E. Prof. Dr. Khaled Abd El Ghaffar

Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research/Egypt

**The Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, in cooperation with
UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States in Cairo,**



Participants:

UNESCO National Commissions/Delegates
Researchers/ Academics/Educators
Policy makers/ Legislators
Publishers/ Scientific Journal Editors
ICT and Software Developers

Scientific Committee

Prof. Dr. Yasser Refaat

Deputy Minister of Higher Education for Scientific Research Affairs, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Essam Khamis

Alexandria University - Member of the Council for Higher Education and Scientific Research Policies - Member of the Advisory Committee for Open Science at UNESCO, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Mahmoud Sakr

President of the Academy of Scientific Research, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Mohamed El-Shennawy

Advisor to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research for International Relations and Agreements for Scientific Research Affairs - Vice President of Galala University for International Cooperation, Community Service and Environmental Development, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Salah Obeya

Professor and Director of the Center for Photonics and Smart Materials - Zewail City of Science and Technology - Chairman of the Science Committee of the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt

Dr. Ghaith Fariz,

Director UNESCO Regional Office for Sciences for the Arab States (Cairo, Egypt)

Prof. Dr. Ghada Abdelbary

Secretary General of the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Mouin Hamzé

Secretary General, National Council for Scientific Research, Lebanon

Prof. Dr. Ahmed Ali Abdalla Murad

Acting Associate Provost for Research, United Arab Emirates University (UAEU), United Arab Emirates

Prof. Dr. Samia Charfi Kaddour

Rapporteur of the Committee, Director-General, Scientific Research, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Tunisia

Prof. Dr. Faiza Al-Kharafi

L'Oréal UNESCO FWIS 2011 Laureate, Board member of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World (TWAS) [Kuwait]

Organizing Committee

Prof. Dr. Mohamed El-Shennawy

Advisor to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research for International Relations and Agreements for Scientific Research Affairs - Vice President of Galala University for International Cooperation, Community Service and Environmental Development, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Ghada Abdelbary

Secretary General of the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt

Prof. Dr. Nazar M. Hassan

Senior Science and Technology Specialist, UNESCO Cairo Office (Cairo, Egypt)

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Mohsen Al-Mahallawi

Faculty of Pharmacy, Cairo University, Member of the Coordinating Committee for the Open Science Project, Egypt

Dr. Hadir El-Hashemy

Researcher at the National Research Center, member of the technical body of the National Committee and rapporteur of the Natural Sciences and Technologies Committee, Egypt

Dr. Mohamed Ramadan

Supervisor of the Egyptian Observatory for Science, Technology and Innovation, Academy of Scientific Research, Egypt

Dr. Mohamed Maher

Director General of Strategic Planning and Research Studies, Academy of Scientific Research, Egypt

Mrs. Soha Mohsen

Assistant-Advisor to the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research for International Cooperation and Agreements Affairs, Director of the Office of the Vice President of Galala University for International Cooperation, Community Service and Environmental Development, Egypt

Mr. Sayed Moussa

Acting Assistant Secretary-General of the Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt

Mrs. Intessar Nassr

Supervisor of Science Department, Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt

Eng. Marwa Ahmed

Technical Member, Department of Science, Egyptian National Commission for UNESCO, Egypt



The First Regional Forum for Open Science in the Arab States

“Concept Note”

Open science is a movement that seeks to make science more open, accessible, effective, democratic and transparent. Driven by unprecedented achievements in digital worlds, the transition to open science allows information, data and scientific outputs to be more widely available (open access) and more credible (open data) with the active involvement of all stakeholders (openness to society)

Based on UNESCO's global, regional and Arab initiatives and activities in advancing the open science agenda, including the regional meeting held in August 2020 and the initiative “UNESCO Regional Platform for Science in the Arab Region: Towards Open Science in the Arab Region and the World”, the “First Regional Open Science Forum In the Arab States” will be held to bring together those working in science in the Arab region to deliberate and discuss the most efficient ways to advance the open science agenda in the Arab region towards achieving sustainable human development and for realisation of a dignified wellbeing for the peoples in the Arab region.

This important regional event is held within the scope of the project titled “Supporting the Consultation Process on Open Science in the Arab States” which is funded by UNESCO and jointly implemented by the Egyptian National Commission for Education, Science and Culture; and the UNESCO Regional Bureau for Sciences in the Arab States - Cairo and in coordination and participation of the National Commissions for UNESCO in various Arab States.



Aims and Objectives

The main objective of the dialogue sessions and discussions is to identify common challenges and key gaps, share best practices and develop practical measures for the success of the Open Science Project in the Arab States.

This important regional event will include interactive discussion sessions aiming at:

1. To broadly define the open science concepts and practices at the global level based on UNESCO's open science initiatives and relevant global and regional literature and initiatives.
- This will be accomplished through dialogue sessions on "open science" to clarify the concepts, definitions and objectives of open science and its benefit to the progress of society.
2. To present the results of the open science survey and the statistical analysis of the results.
3. To examine the most efficient ways to advance the open science agenda in the Arab region, taking into account the science-relevant specificities in the region and in line with Arab development needs. This will be accomplished by
 - By presenting policies and strategies towards open science and highlighting the main success factors, expected challenges and possible approaches for overcoming them
 - Presenting successful initiatives in support of open science in order to shed the light on the best applied practices in the field of open science
4. Defining the principles and foundations of the Arab strategy for open science to be adopted later by the League of Arab States and the Arab member states.

An exhibition of Open Science in the Arab Region will be organized in parallel to the forum. This will provide an opportunity for participating parties and individuals to display their scientific products, including publications, books, researches, inventions and scientific activities that they have undertaken or intend to carry out.

Parallel working fora and Open Science exhibition will allow the possibility of direct interaction among participants, decision makers and beneficiaries of the open science fields.

Venue and Date

The first regional forum will be held at Galala City, hosted by Galala University, Arab Republic of Egypt during September 21st 22-nd, 2021.

Participants

Conference attendees will include key representatives from Arab States' delegations, Arab National Commissions' delegates for UNESCO, scientists, researchers, academics, software developers, policy makers, youth representatives, publishers, civil society representatives and the private sector. This shall enable presenting effective and illustrative practices and experiences, as well as successful initiatives in the field of open science.

For more information, please contact egypt.natcom@gmail.com

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Open Science Components

Open access, open infrastructure, open educational resources, open data, open labs, resource mobilization and funding, open innovation, citizen science, open assessment, open sources...

Open Science

- Makes scientific knowledge available, accessible and reusable by all
- Advances scientific cooperation and information sharing in order to spread benefit to science and society
- Enables the processes of creating scientific knowledge, evaluating it and communicating with effective entities in society outside the traditional scientific community
- Makes knowledge available for all to transform scientific and research societies into innovative and productive societies that enhance the relationship between science and society, advance humanity, and achieve sustainable development goals
- Includes all scientific disciplines and aspects of scientific practices including basic and applied sciences, natural sciences, and social and human sciences



منظمة الأمم المتحدة
للتربية والعلم والثقافة

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Be part of the “**Open Science**” policy development process in the Arab Region through participating in the formulation of recommendations for advancing Open Science in the Arab States

For more information, please contact egypt.natcom@gmail.com



OFFICIAL ORGANIZER: ARAB ORGANIZERS FOR CONFERENCE MANAGEMENT

Address : 14 Mohamed Mandour Rabaa El Adaweya St.,-Nasr City

Tel.: 0222603653 Mobile : +20 100 222 3158 / +20 1068663434 / +20 1068666085

E-mail address : araborganizers@hotmail.com

Website: www.araborganizers.org