

Qatar CSR Report 2013 launched

The cover of the report.

DOHA: To improve efficiency of CSR activities in the country, the Ministry of Economy and Commerce has called for the formation of an association, including civil society and companies, to address obstacles facing social responsibility and suggest solutions to overcome them.

The ministry, in the introduction to the recently launched “Qatar CSR Report 2013’, has encouraged implementation of CSR in all institutions as a component of increased competitiveness. It also orients Qatari companies towards integration into an effective network that highlights Qatar’s role in the field at the global level.

Qatar CSR network has launched the report in partnership with Qatar University and participation of the ministry.

The Report titled ‘The Initiative’, is distinguished by contributions from top Qatari figures, professors and professionals.

The introduction says the ministry has formed a team to suggest CSR standards for Qatari companies. The team comprises bodies and ministries, including the Ministry of Environment, the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Qatar Chamber, Qatar Exchange, National Committee for Human Rights and Audit Bureau.

Following the state’s adoption of Qatari principles and standards, steps will be taken to maximise benefits of the goals and guarantee sustainable development in the future.

The ministry is leading in the field of corporate social responsibility (CSR) nationwide, focusing on enhancing efforts to help achieve Qatar’s National Vision 2030.

It has given full attention to CSR principles as part of its strategic planning and programmes that contribute to the most effective implementation of economic policies. It uses CSR as a leadership platform to supervise and guide commercial activities in accordance with the needs of national development, and to implement policies and programmes to attract investment and support the increase of exports.

The ministry recognises the importance of government support for CSR initiatives to motivate and facilitate corporate procedures to implement developmental plans and projects that emerge from these initiatives, and engage small and medium enterprises in CSR.

It intends to launch a Qatari CSR index that takes into account similar international experiments based on UN standards.

It also seeks to form a CSR network that covers Qatari companies in general and companies registered at Qatar Stock Exchange in particular, to promote the exchange of ideas and help these companies work closely to meet CSR standards.

Moreover, it believes in the importance of the government’s support of CSR initiatives through encouraging and facilitating corporate actions, implementing resulting developmental projects, and integrating the concept of social responsibility into education to make future generations aware of CSR.

The ministry adopts sustainable CSR projects as they have long-term impacts rather than using the temporary financial aid method.

The report reflects the increasing importance of sustainable development, and is an indicator of the economic and social growth in Qatar. It is available on <http://qatarcsr.org/QatarCSR-Report-2013-English.pdf>

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13/07/2014