



Photo Release

Yaman Abou Jieb wins *STARS OF SCIENCE* Season 7 on MBC4 Syrian innovator named winner

Doha, 20 November 2015: Yaman Abou Jieb, the young innovator from Syria, emerged victorious in the breathtaking live finale of *Stars of Science* in Doha, Qatar, concluding the seventh season of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development's (QF) "edutainment reality" TV program on MBC4.

Voting from viewers around the Arab world combined with a jury deliberation garnered Yaman Abou Jieb a score of 37.2%, enough to win the first prize of \$300,000 USD for his Solar Washing Machine, Glean. Yaman thrived on *Stars of Science* Season 7 due to his trademark resilience and determination.

Launched in 2009, *Stars of Science* is dedicated to scientific innovation, and aims to shine a spotlight on the next generation of young Arab innovators. The initiative brings to fruition QF's overarching vision of unlocking human potential by creating an environment that facilitates learning and knowledge acquisition.

Omar Hamid, inventor of the Prayer Chair, Sanda, came in second place with a combined score of 23.1%, earning \$150,000. Omar charmed audiences this year with his creativity and passion for social impact.

The tenacious, problem-solving innovator from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Hassan Albalawi, came in third with a score of 20.4% with his EEG Cap Analyzer, Wakecap. With his ECG Stress Analyzer, Digiheart, Mohamed Mourad Benosman, a strong-willed thinker from Algeria, came in fourth place with a score of 19.3%. Hassan won \$100,000 USD, while Mohamed was awarded \$50,000 USD.

"*Stars of Science* has been the experience of a lifetime – I am proud to represent Syria in this great competition," Yaman Abou Jieb, winner of *Stars of Science* Season 7, noted. "By connecting young innovators like me with resources and expertise, Qatar Foundation generates interest in science, engineering, and design in the Arab world. Going forward, I will be driven not only to develop Glean, but to give youth across the region confidence in their abilities to improve lives through innovation."

Stars of Science will return in 2016 with Season 8. In the new season, *Stars of Science* will accept applicants between the ages of 18-35. Special emphasis will be placed on finding promising project ideas that contribute to resolving the sustainable development challenges in the Arab



countries and ensuring that their inventions are beneficial to their communities and have an impact regionally and globally. Enabling projects in diverse areas from Computing and Information Technology, Energy, Environment, to Health and Biomedical sciences.

The program will also diversify the prizes for the finalists to include both cash and grants for product development, such as incubation. The total value of the prizes for finalists will increase to \$1,000,000 USD.

Innovators interested in entering *Stars of Science* Season 8 still have time, with online applications closing on January 30th, 2016. Aspiring candidates from around the region are encouraged to apply via the official *Stars of Science* website: www.starsofscience.com.

ENDS

For further information, please contact:

Taylor Bossung or Hanane Rougani
T +974 4436 4385

For more information please visit:

Website – www.starsofscience.com

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/StarsOfScienceTV>

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/starsofscience>

YouTube – <https://www.youtube.com/user/StarsOfScienceTV>

Instagram – <https://instagram.com/starsofsciencetv/>

Stars of Science

Entering its eighth season, the Arab world's leading scientific "edutainment reality" TV program Stars of Science, an initiative of Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF), will be back on MBC4 in 2016 with an exciting new format.

Competitively selected from across the Arab world, nine candidates between the ages of 18-35 will enter the competition with promising project ideas that contribute to resolving the sustainable development challenges in the Arab countries and ensuring that their inventions are beneficial to their communities and have an impact regionally and globally. Enabling projects in diverse areas from Computing and Information Technology, Energy, Environment, to Health and Biomedical sciences.



The brightest minds of the region will fiercely compete against each other with their innovative ideas entering a Prototyping & Customer Validation elimination round for a chance to win a share of up to \$1,000,000 USD worth of seed funding and in-kind support.

During the grueling 10 week process, the candidates demonstrate the validity of their solutions with the support of a team of experienced engineers, designers and business leaders alongside Stars of Science alumni as they compete against the clock in a custom built lab where it will take perseverance and resourcefulness to succeed.

For more information please go to: www.starsofscience.com

Qatar Foundation – Unlocking Human Potential

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development (QF) is a private, non-profit organization that is supporting Qatar on its journey from a carbon economy to knowledge economy by unlocking human potential, for the benefit of not only Qatar, but the world. Founded in 1995 by His Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Father Emir, QF is chaired by Her Highness Sheikha Moza bint Nasser.

QF's work encompasses education, research and community development. World-class universities are brought to Qatar to help create an education sector in which young people can develop the attitudes and skills required for a knowledge economy. At the same time, QF builds Qatar's innovation and technology capacity by developing and commercializing solutions through key sciences. The Foundation also works to foster a progressive society while enhancing cultural life, protecting Qatar's heritage and addressing immediate social needs in the community.

For a complete list of QF's initiatives and projects, visit <http://www.qf.org.qa>