Qatar National Research Fund

QATAR INNOVATION PROMOTION AWARD (QIPA)

Call for Applications
Pilot Cycle (2014)

May 20th 2014
## Acronym List

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II- Introduction

The vision of Qatar National Research Fund (QNRF) is to play a catalytic role in transforming Qatar into a knowledge based economy by enabling research and development excellence in Qatar. QNRF invests in research and innovation that could catalyze the expansion and diversifications of the Qatar’s economy.

Building on its successful investments in developing research and innovation culture in Qatar, QNRF along with its partners is launching the Qatar Innovation Promotion Award (QIPA) as a pilot program this year for supporting innovative ideas with high potential impact/benefits for the economy and society of Qatar. The program will invest in original competitively selected innovative ideas of individuals from all sectors and sections of Qatar’s economy and society to enable an early demonstration of the potential impact of their innovations in the form of a demo/prototype. It would do so by financially supporting the development of demos, prototypes of the innovative ideas and experiments to prove the feasibility of their implementation.

III- Why support innovation

QNRF has adopted the following definition for innovation, “the process of applying new knowledge/ideas, or existing knowledge/ideas in a new context, which creates either new wealth or social welfare through development of successful and competitive products, services and processes”.

The new knowledge created in society, while it may improve social welfare, it cannot be translated into wealth unless it is utilized in the form of products or services. The extent of new knowledge which has gone into making products or services could be measured in terms of its complexity (i.e. diversity and interconnectedness of products and services in an economy), which is why innovation is considered a combinatorial phenomenon. This implies that for measuring the knowledge or innovation led growth of an economy, one should measure the complexity of the economy. That is why diversification (i.e. complexity) is an essential characteristic of any economy aiming for resilient economic growth and building the foundations of a knowledge-based economy. As Qatar’s economy is primarily dependent on natural resources, diversification of the economy will be vital for Qatar. The QIPA investments would aim to foster the development of this diversity.

QIPA program will complement other initiatives in Qatar which are providing support and/or incubation to innovative ideas and ventures, by providing pre-incubation support to innovative ideas at scale to enable competitive innovative ideas to reach the stage where they can demonstrate their potential benefits, leading to adoption of such ideas by business incubators or early stage investors. QNRF with its record of creating successful initiatives for competitively selecting and funding R&D projects in large numbers is best positioned to launch such a program to fund innovations at scale in Qatar to build a pipeline for potential investment by business incubators like QSTP or other investors

IV- Benefits of QIPA

Some of the benefits of Qatar Innovation Promotion Program (QIPA) are:

1. Decreasing the risks in development of innovative technology-based solutions in Qatar
2. Increase flow of investment worthy ideas in Qatar’s economy
3. Development of pathways for laboratory, university, industry, and individual innovations to reach in the real world

1 New knowledge/idea, or existing knowledge/idea in a new context for creating either new wealth or social welfare
4. Spurring of technological innovation in Qatar
5. Increases in the productivity of people and organizations in Qatar’s economy
6. Increases openness to new ideas of innovators in Qatar’s society
7. Progress towards becoming a competitive knowledge economy

Benefits for individuals:
1. Receive financial support to demonstrate their idea’s feasibility and impact
2. Receive post-award non-financial support to strengthen their idea and plan
3. Opportunity to hone their creative and entrepreneurial abilities in a safe environment
4. Access to opportunities for business incubation/ further investments/ licensing

V- What will QNRF fund

We expect a QIPA applicant to apply at a stage when the following have been achieved or are ready:

1. Studies to validate the working of separate elements of the proposed demo/prototype have been done by the applicant or by others, or those are publicly established/known facts.
2. Basic technological components are integrated to establish that they will work together
3. Ad-hoc demo or crude prototype or a representative analytical model of the prototype/demo has been developed by the applicant
4. Applicant has planned what tests will be conducted to establish the validity of proposed idea in a controlled environment (e.g. laboratory) and in an operational environment (i.e. the range of environmental conditions in which the proposed solution will operate or get implemented).

Those who submit an application prematurely may lower their chances of receiving funds in subsequent cycles, if the program is continued based on the response and QNRF’s experience in this pilot cycle.

Applicants with a well-tested prototype can later produce a good proof-of-concept and a strong business plan hence they will be considered favorably when submitting their applications to QSTP or other business incubators of their choice.

VI- Program Description

- QIPA provides pre-incubation support to enable competitive innovative ideas of individuals for demonstrating their potential benefits with the objective of preparing the awarded ideas for business incubation or early stage investments by other organizations or individuals.
- Only those individuals who are currently either citizens or residents of Qatar are allowed to apply for this program
- Maximum duration for any project funded by QIPA could be up to an year (i.e. 12 calendar months);
- Amount of financial support/ investment provided to the awarded ideas through QIPA cannot exceed USD 100,000 for an awardee;
- In case a team of individuals plan to apply, then they must select Team Leader who will submit the application on behalf of the whole team.
- Individuals who are employed will have to submit a no-objection letter from their employer in Qatar
- In the application, applicants are expected submit details of at least one milestone per quarter for the duration of award as proposed under the development plan
- QNRF along with its implementing partners will evaluate the submitted proposals and announce the awards on a competitive basis
• Subsequent to the award announcement, all engagements/interactions of the selected awardees will happen with QNRF’s implementing partner only. This includes signing of contracts, receiving financial and other support.
• QIPA applicants are encouraged to determine the categories their proposed idea will fall into as per the Frascati classification (Available in a document format at http://www.qnrf.org/funding_programs/QIPA/download_center/);

VII- Eligibility, Registration and Application Submission

Eligibility

• Only individuals are allowed to apply to QIPA i.e. Citizens and permanent residents of Qatar, organizations are not allowed to apply;
• One team leader can submit only one Application in the pilot cycle of QIPA;
• The budget submitted must comply with the budget guidelines (see Appendix C);
• Applicants who have other ongoing projects with QNRF (in any other funding program) are allowed to be listed as a team member in only one Application to QIPA’s pilot cycle.

Registration

• Individuals applying for QIPA must register in QNRF database at https://www.qnrfsubmission.org through the “applicant” channel and click on the “New applicant”;
• Applicants are required to use their official work email addresses (if available) when registering;
• The registration will require submission of personal and contact information, specialization, research interest and uploading the CV (in PDF format) in the language in which Application has been submitted;
• Applicants who register twice with two different email addresses will be disqualified;
• Information required during registration has been detailed in Appendix A;
• The registration steps can easily be found at: http://www.qnrf.org/funding_programs/QIPA/download_center/.

Application

• Once registered, team leaders may log into: https://oss.qnrfsubmission.org/ choose “Submit QIPA Application”;
• Furnish all the information asked in the online application (including a detailed Development Plan in PDF format and supporting documents as detailed in Appendix B);
• Applicants may check their Application status on “Application Status” tab in the main menu;
• For resubmitted Applications, the information mentioned above will be automatically retrieved for display;
• Once submitted, QNRF will send to the applicant a confirmation email and an SMS with an Application ID number indicating that it has been successfully received;
• Applications have to be submitted within a specific timeline as indicated in section IX.

VIII- Proposal Review Process

Application Evaluation Process

QNRF along with its partners will evaluate the submitted Applications to a “Panel Review Process” aimed at selecting innovative solutions from individuals based on the scientific and technological understanding of industrial and societal concerns that are critical to Qatar and the world.

The overall process will be conducted in the following steps:
1. Administrative and Eligibility reviews will be conducted first
2. Applications will either be rejected, or forwarded for further consideration
3. Status of the Applications will be updated on the Submission Channel (i.e. Rejected/Moved to Panel Review stage)
4. Decisions taken at any stage will be final and no appeals for re-evaluation will be accepted
5. Shortlisted Applications move to the Panel Review stage where specialists will be invited to evaluate the Applications received on their Technical, Execution and Programmatic/Strategic merits. Panelists will score each Application based on the review criteria and make comments on each Application in the QNRF’s online evaluation system
6. The Panel will also decide which Applications they plan to invite for presentations
7. The Panel will be called for a meeting where presentations by the shortlisted applicants will be made, followed by a Q&A session. QNRF Program Officer responsible for QIPA will aggregate scores and votes to prepare a list of recommendations for final review and approval
8. QNRF will announce the final results.

Administrative and Eligibility Review

QNRF will screen the submitted full Applications against the below criteria after the Application submission deadline. Applications will be disqualified and not forwarded to Panel for any of the following reasons:

- Not meeting one or more eligibility criteria listed above;
- Ideas submitted to or funded by other QNRF funding programs;
- Exceeding the research plan limit for number of pages (10 pages including cover page);
- Submitting incorrect/irrelevant information or documents;
- Application having been plagiarized, copied or duplicated. QNRF reserves the right to test all submitted Applications for plagiarism and misrepresentation. If any Application or report is found to be plagiarized or misrepresented, it will be disqualified and not forwarded to reviewers. QNRF will take further independent action as deemed necessary. Please refer to “QNRF Guidelines on Referencing and Plagiarism Policy” at http://www.qnrf.org/funding_programs/QIPA/referencing_plagiarism_policy/
- QNRF reserves the right to decline any Application, if deemed necessary due to any conflict of interest.

Application Evaluation Criteria

The evaluation process will be conducted by a team of specialized experts from within and outside of QNRF on the following criteria:

1. Scientific/Technical Merit
   - Technical/Scientific Feasibility of the proposed solution
   - Innovation Potential of proposed Idea
   - Team’s technical capabilities

2. Programmatic merit
   - Social Impact
   - Economic Impact
   - Competitiveness
   - Team’s execution capabilities
   - Cost effectiveness and planning (i.e. budget, ROI for QNRF, quality of planning
   - Risk analysis
   - Overall impact and quality of Application and presentation
Award Selection

- QNRF will select the award based on the Application review criteria and evaluation panel’s recommendations.
- QNRF reserves the right to reduce the total budget requested in the Application, based on the Panel’s recommendations. In such a case, and if awarded, the timeline and the budget submitted will be made available to the team leader applicant for modification.

IX- Post Award Phase

Pre-Funding Requirements

- If awarded, the teams will be granted 8 weeks from the award notification date to submit the following documents to QNRF’s implementing partner:
  - Endorsement letter bearing original signatures and stamps of the relevant offices;
  - Ethical compliance official approvals, if required, bearing original signatures and stamps of the relevant offices.
  - A scanned copy of “No Objection Letter” signed by Head of HR or CEO/MD/Chairman/President of your organization
- QNRF will withdraw the investment for teams failing to submit the above in a timely manner.

Payment Model

- A payment schedule based on the approved budget will be included as a part of the agreements signed. After signing the relevant agreements with the awardees, funds would be disbursed to them as per the payment schedule.

Support

QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA, will strive to provide different types of support required to nurture the innovative ideas selected for increasing the likelihood of their success. It will help the teams/individuals to develop their prototypes/demos and become a stronger candidate to secure financing to move to the next level in their planned growth path. For this purpose, QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA may provide the awardees access to mentors, potential users/customers, consulting service providers, interns, etc. The QIPA program team will regularly review the progress and plans of awardees to provide them with feedback and recommendations to improve their prospects for success.

Deliverables and Outcomes

The following deliverables are required from the QIPA recipients:

- **Progress reports**: Team leaders should always keep the information related to their progress towards planned milestones current by submitting the latest updates through the Online Applicant System for QIPA. Failure to update the system before regular reviews conducted by QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA and/or QNRF would be considered as missing the milestones. A more detailed quarterly report should also be submitted to highlight the progress made and detailed accomplishments of each objective, including results obtained as well as problems or difficulties encountered.

- **Release of payment** for the next term will be tied to acceptance of satisfactory progress reports. Payments will be delayed/ withheld if the teams fail to submit satisfactory and timely progress reports. Progress Reports will be reviewed to ensure progress and compliance with both QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA and QNRF’s policies and guidelines and the team leads will be
notified of acceptance or deficiencies in the progress report no later than 4 weeks from the date of receipt by our implementing partner.

- **Final Report**: Within 90 calendar days after the end of the project lifetime, the awardees shall submit the actual working prototype/demo to QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA along with a Final Report using the Online Applicant Channel to QNRF. The requirement for submitting prototype/demo can be relaxed in cases where it is required for further research and development by the awardee. In such cases, video and other evidence proving that the goals set for the prototype/demo were achieved. The Final Report shall provide detailed description of accomplishments reached in light of the overall goals and objectives, including results obtained, problems or difficulties encountered, and future plans for development and launching of the product/service in the real world. Awardees shall also submit a detailed closeout financial report using an online financial template. Final Reports will be reviewed to ensure completion of the project’s objectives and compliance with policies of QNRF and its partner and guidelines and the team leader will be notified of acceptance or deficiencies within 4 weeks from the date of receipt. Acceptance of a report and demo, which has reasonably addressed all requirements for such submission shall not be unreasonably withheld.

### X-Timelines

The following table shows important dates for the QIPA’s Pilot cycle:

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<th>Dates</th>
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<td>Open Online Registration For Inventors</td>
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<td>Open <strong>Application</strong> Submission</td>
<td>May 21, 2014</td>
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<td>Deadline: Close <strong>Application</strong> Submission</td>
<td>Aug 11, 2014</td>
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Appendix A: Information Required during Registration

The following information would be gathered from the Applicant during Registration on the Online Submission System (OSS). Please note that in the list shown below, color of the text denotes the following:

- **Black Text:** Mandatory Information
- **Blue Text:** Optional information
- **Red Text:** Note for Applicant

1. **Title (Mr./Mrs./Miss/Dr....)**
2. **ORCID**
3. **First Name**
4. **Middle Name**
5. **Last Name**
6. **Nationality**
   a. Upload scanned copy of passport or a Birth Certificate of Qatar
7. **Research Area**
8. **Specialty**
9. **Sub-specialty**
10. **Curriculum Vitae** [Upload in pdf format]
11. **Address**
12. **Phone number**
13. **Cell phone number**
   a. Upload scanned copy
14. **Employed (Yes/No)**
   a. Organization name
   b. Department
   c. Office Address
   d. Office Phone
   e. Fax Number
   f. Position
   g. Non-Profit/ Business [select one]
   h. Sponsor ID of the employer in Qatar
15. **Website (if any)** [Option to provide up to 3 website links]
16. **Gender**
17. **Date of Birth**
18. **Qatar ID no.**
19. **Highest Degree** [Drop down options – None, UG, Masters, PhD]
   a. According to the Highest Degree selected, options will be displayed for asking the Participant details of his degree/s – Institution, Major, Joining Year, Degree, Graduation Year, City, Country
20. **Publications (Yes/No)**
   a. If yes, then details of Publications would be asked i.e. Patent/Journal Paper/ Conference Paper
Appendix B: Information Required during Application and in the Development Plan

Following information would be gathered from the Applicant during the submission of Application on the Online Submission System (OSS). Please note that in the list shown below, color of the text denoted following:

- **Black Text:** Mandatory Information
- **Blue Text:** Optional information
- **Red Text:** Note for Applicant

1. Title (100 Characters)
2. Keywords [3-5 key words]
3. Frascati classification (at the level it is being asked in other QNRF programs)
   a. Main [give an option of “Not Applicable”]
4. Summary of proposal with overview of proposed research design/plan, methods, experiments and analysis to be used (650 Characters)
5. Problem statement and project objectives [Which technical challenge will be solved] (1,300 characters)
6. Milestones and Timelines [Min 1 milestone per quarter on a monthly time has to be entered in the system]
7. Budget in QAR [Calculate specifics and provide detailed breakdown with justifications wherever necessary i.e. don’t just use round numbers, mention the underlying assumptions & show calculations; Maximum sum could be USD 100,000; & Item heads could be: Personnel, Equipment, Consumables, Misc (travel included); *Please understand that if selected, final budget will be decided through mutual discussions and no expenses can be incurred without the approval of QNRF Director Programs or her/his appointee]
8. Current status of technology for the proposed solution [State of the art of current technology available to solve the selected problem. What the end product will look like and what would it do?] (1300 characters)
9. USP of the proposed solution/idea relative to other alternatives (1300 characters)
10. Potential of the proposed idea for generating new IP (650 characters)
11. Is any existing Intellectual Property (IP) being utilized here
   a. Declaration of existing IP used with its details (e.g. previous funding organization, IP rights with Core team, etc.) (650 characters)
   b. Benefits to any background IP involved (both registered and unregistered) (650 characters)
12. Strength and weaknesses of team (2,000 characters)
13. Project risks and mitigation plans to manage those risks
   a. Technology risks [Uncertainties involved in technology development] (650 characters)
   b. Business risks [Uncertainties involved in adoption of solution, or because of growth of alternatives] (650 characters)
   c. Resource risks [Impact of delays in staffing or getting access to equipment] (650 characters)
   d. Schedule risks [Effect of not meeting timelines] (650 characters)
14. Upload Development Plan [PDF format, maximum 6 pages, outline of the document available is written below this section]
15. Interest shown by any potential users (if yes, upload Letter of Intent to use/buy)
16. Portfolio/ Images/ Other documents [allow upload of upto 5 documents]
17. Benefits to Qatar and alignment with QNRS (650 characters)
18. Resource Requirements and Availability
   a. Describe the current available resources including the level of access (650 characters)
   b. Resources required for the implementation of the proposal, including qualified inventors, laboratory space, facilities, available material, etc. (650 characters)
19. Human Subjects or Animal research involved  Yes/No
Development Plan (PDF Format) should not be any longer than 6 pages and also have no more than 6,000 words. It can include the following information and any other information not included in the other sections of Application but deem critical by the Applicant.

1. **Comprehensive R&D Plan** with clearly defined
   a. Decision making criteria for various decision points
   b. Proposed design, methods and analysis to achieve the stated goals of this project
   c. Detailed milestones and deliverables
2. **Team Capabilities**
   a. Outlining strengths of the team
   b. Explaining why the applicant team can deliver the proposed solution faster/better than other potential competitors around the world.
   c. Write about any collaborations, partnerships and hiring of external consultant with justifications
   d. Any other advantages the applicant team enjoys relative to its potential competitors
   e. Clearly mention business and technical capabilities separately
3. **Market Assessment and competitiveness**
   a. Economic and social benefits of the proposed solution
   b. Market potential of the technology (Demand in target markets)
   c. Competitiveness of the proposed product relative to other competitors
   d. Currently planned business model
   e. Likelihood of further investment
   f. Partnership agreements and/or Letter of Intent (LOI) secured from potential buyers
XIII- Appendix C: Budget Compliance Guide

Budget
During the application, a separate online budget will be automatically generated for the applicant in the online channel. In the event of any mismatch or violation of QNRF’s budget policies, the OSS will prompt the lead inventor to make corrections. Once done, the system will consolidate the data and generate a “submitted budget” report which will be available to the applicant for editing before final submission. This report will also be provided to the Panel for evaluation.

Budget Components
The following are budget components will be accepted:

- **Personnel Cost**: Compensation of the applicants (if any) shall be in accordance with the approved budget.

- **Equipment and Consumables Cost**:
  - **Equipment**: Defined as items having a useful life of more than one year and a unit acquisition cost of greater than QAR 12,000. Equipment cost might include the cost of renting facilities/lab, leasing equipment and services.
  - **Consumables and Supplies**: Defined as items having a useful life of less than one year and a unit acquisition cost of less than QAR 12,000.

- **Professional Services Cost**: In case awardees plan to utilize some professional services then those costs would be included in this category

- **Miscellaneous Cost**: Other costs not included in the above categories like Travel and any unanticipated costs could be included here
With respect to research ethics and safety, the teams involved in QIPA should commit to follow best work practices which should be consistent with Qatari and internationally recognized standards and applicable laws and in accordance with the following guidelines:

- **Research Misconduct**: Any potential incidents of research misconduct that, if valid, would cast significant doubt on the validity of a project’s results shall be reported immediately in writing.

- **Human Subjects Research**: QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA will release funds to awardees of QIPA for projects involving human subjects only upon receiving approval of the IRB or equivalent, whenever required, following policies and guidelines described in the Qatar Supreme Council for Health (SCH) document for institutions inside Qatar. If such projects are to be conducted in inside and outside Qatar, the inventors must submit separate IRB approval in both jurisdictions. QNRF reserves the right to review procedures, before and after the fund release, to ensure the awardee’s compliance with the SCH policies and guidelines.

- **Research Involving Laboratory Animals**: QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA will release funds to awardees of QIPA for projects involving laboratory animals only upon receiving Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), or equivalent, approval, whenever required, following policies and guidelines described in the Qatar Supreme Council for Health (SCH) document for institutions inside Qatar. QNRF reserves the right to review the policies and procedures prior to the approval of animal subjects projects.

- **Research Safety**: Awardees of QIPA must ensure safety during activities that involve the use of hazardous material (biological, chemical or radioactive material). Approval(s) from the relevant IBC for funded projects must be submitted before fund release.

- For further information on QNRF’s Research Ethics Guide as applied to its research grants, please see [http://www.qnrf.org/about_qnrf](http://www.qnrf.org/about_qnrf).

**Ethical Compliance Requirements**

- Awarded Applications that propose involving human subject(s) should be reviewed and approved by relevant SCH-registered Institutional Review Board (IRB), before starting any development activity.

- As per SCH regulations, awarded proposals that involve stem cell transfer in human research, human gene transfer research, and clinical trials must obtain approvals from SCH. ([http://www.sch.gov.qa/sch/En/content.jsp?smenuId=63](http://www.sch.gov.qa/sch/En/content.jsp?smenuId=63)), before starting any development activity.

- Awarded Applications that involve animal research should be reviewed and approved by the institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), if the Application is awarded, before starting any development activity.

- Awarded Applications that involve recombinant DNA research and biohazard research projects should be reviewed and approved by Institutional Bio-safety Committee (IBC), before starting any development activity.

- QNRF requires the lead inventor to upload a letter confirming that approval(s) for protocols in compliance with the guidelines, regulations and policies of IRB, IACUC and IBC (or others as deemed necessary), will be submitted if the proposal is funded.

- Inventors without the capacity to obtain IRB, IACUC and/or IBC approval should seek proposal review and approval by already existing registered IRB and IACUC following SCH approval.

- Applicants need to select the appropriate ethical compliance needed for their proposal in the online system. Below is the list of types of ethical compliances that the Applicants can select from.

1. Human Subject:
   1.1 Stem Cell Transfer in Humans;
   1.2 Human Gene Transfer Research;
   1.3 New Investigational Drug (NID);
   1.4 Investigational Devices;
   1.5 Social and Behavioral Research;
   1.6 Other Human Research Activities.

2. Animal Subjects

3. Hazardous Materials:
   3.1 Recombinant DNA;
   3.2 Other Laboratory based research.
Appendix E: Intellectual Property Rights Policy

The QIPA program is intended to promote the activities of innovators and entrepreneurs in Qatar. The innovators’ right to maintain control/ownership of their ideas and the IP created by them will be recognized by QNRF. Agreements with the funded teams will be signed by QNRF’s implementing partner for QIPA stating that whenever one or more members of team try to commercialize the IP created through QIPA funding either by setting up a company or through technology transfer to an existing company, then on behalf of QNRF, a QNRF appointed entity reserves a right for sharing the proceeds. In case a company is started then such sharing of proceeds will be done through the mechanism of taking a minority stake (equity) and/or revenue or profit sharing position in the company for the critical funding provided to the team at this early stage. Determination of this exact fraction of equity or revenue to be received by the QNRF appointed entity would be made according to methods of valuation in accordance to Qatar’s laws. To ensure that the innovators don’t get discouraged, upper limits on the equity owned by QNRF’s implementing partner or any other QNRF appointed entity and/or revenue share have been set as the 20% of the enterprise value and/or 10% of revenue from the product developed through QNRF support.

Additionally, for all IP created by the teams during the program, Qatar Foundation (QF) will hold non-exclusive licenses for usage of such IP to do/support further R&D for creating any foreground IP in the future, if and only if IP created through QIPA support is abandoned (i.e. not used for 2 consecutive years to create products/services or foreground IP) or the company or organization created for launching the product or service based on the IP, or project/ product line/service based on that IP, is closed or gets purchased.

In case, some background IP is being used to develop the new foreground IP through the support provided by QIPA program, following scenarios will be considered:

1. Background IP used belongs to QF: Teams would be provided a non-exclusive license for the use of QF IP as intended in their Application. The entrepreneurs would own the rights to any new inventions (foreground IP) made by using the QF IP. Such license of QF IP could be provided for a mutually agreeable fee, equity, revenue sharing mechanisms, etc. In exceptional cases, based on strategic considerations and interest of Qatar, QF could even decide provide such a license for free to the applicant teams.

2. Background IP owned (fully or partially) by the entrepreneurs or individuals/organizations from outside QF system or Qatar:

   Intellectual Property and Technology Transfer (IPTT) office of QF R&D to make an assessment of the potential conflicts in the ownership of foreground IP created through use of QIPA funds by the applicant and present its recommendations to
   i. manage such conflicts for securing QF’s right to use and do further R&D, or;
   ii. not to fund such an Application or;
   iii. fund the Application and not take any IP rights because having such a company in Qatar serves the greater national interest (i.e. economic, social or strategic)

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2 Foreground IP: Any new Intellectual Property (IP) developed by awardee during the award period within the scope of awarded project

3 Background IP: Intellectual Property in existence prior to the start of project