# Manara - Qatar Research Repository: Qatar's open access repository infrastructure solution

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https://manara.qnl.qa/



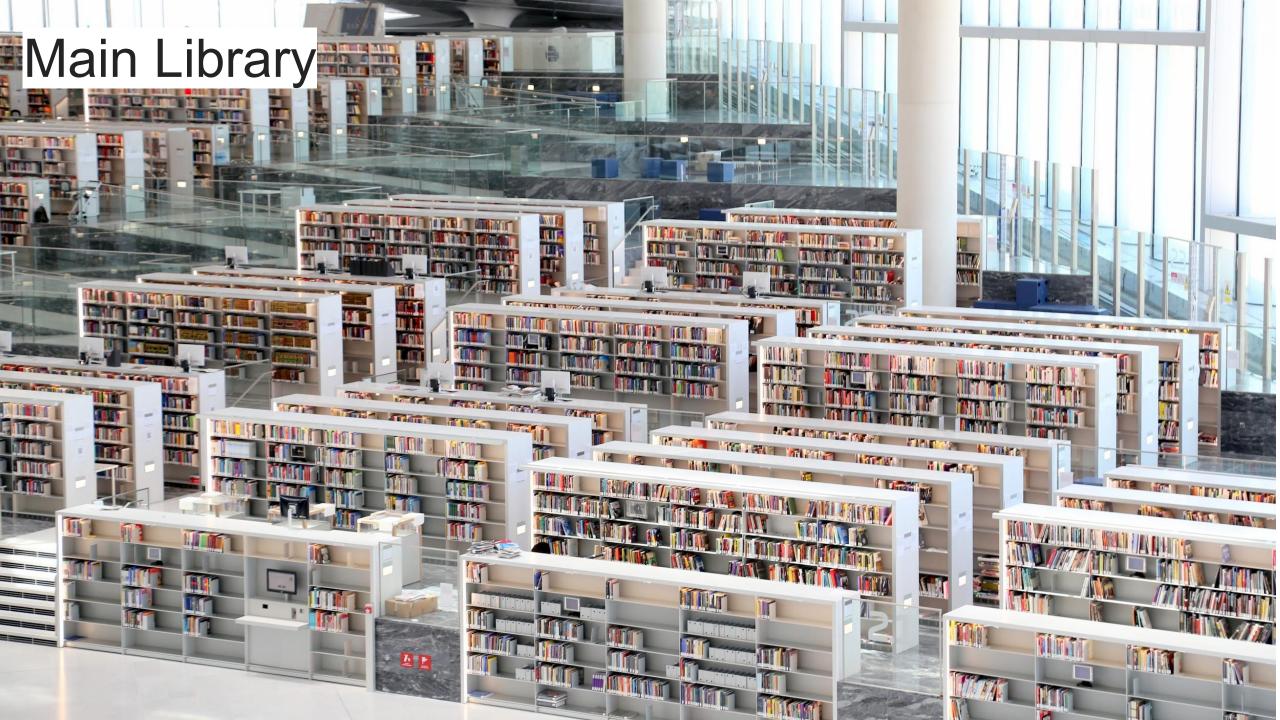
### Qatar's Research Landscape



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- 3,080,804 total population Qatar (May 2024)
- 5,628 (incl. 3,478 researchers) R&D personnel (2021)\*
- 1,222M USD (0.68% of GDP) Gross domestic expenditure on R&D (2021)\*
- 30+ Universities and Research Centers
- 6,558 publications in 2023, 54% open access (Scopus)
- 3 Open Repositories (OpenDOAR)
- 13 Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- Qatar Research Development and Innovation Council (QRDI-C) is the main research funding agency

















The mission of Qatar National Library is to preserve the nation's and region's heritage and enable the people of Qatar to positively influence society by creating an exceptional environment for learning and discovery.





### The Case for a National Research Repository

- A Qatar Research Repository aligns directly with the Library's mission
- Such a dedicated research repository service allows the Library to capture, digitally preserve and provide access to any research outputs created in Qatar
- Since 2016 the Library is coordinating a national-level E-resources Consortium, ensuring optimum licensing and financial terms for subscription-based access to research and educational content for ten major institutions
- The Consortium proven that such a cooperation model brings many benefits to its members and allows to achieve results not possible for its members acting individually



### The Case for a National Research Repository

- Open access is one of the Library core values and the Library works on the development and advocacy of open access in Qatar and internationally for many years
- One of the main initiatives in the QNL Open Access Fund, which supports researchers by covering article processing charges (APCs) for open access publications
  - The Library started to operate the Fund in 2017 and so far supported around 2019 researchers from 45 Qatari institutions, with the total number of over 5,000 papers
- Open Access Fund supports gold model of open access (publisher-based), and now with Manara the Library wants to provide country-scale support for the green model (repository-based)

### Manara – a new service by QNL for Qatar-based researchers











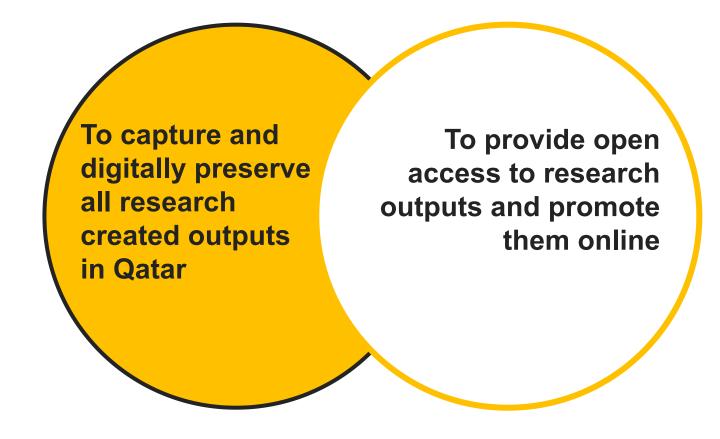




### Manara = *lighthouse* in Arabic



### What are the goals of Manara?



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- Allows researchers to deposit their research outputs, including <u>traditional</u> <u>academic</u> works and <u>non-traditional academic</u> outputs such as datasets, conference posters, and presentations.
- Home for research outputs in Arabic
- Legacy Archiving (changing landscape of universities in Qatar)

### Manara stats (November '22 – June '24)

5,117

Total number of items deposited on Manara

320,021

Total online views

122,339

Total downloads



### Who can deposit content to Manara? (1)

- All researchers based in Qatar, on individual basis
  - Many local researchers already share their research outputs using repositories outside of Qatar
  - More and more journals require open access to research data before publishing a research paper
  - Researchers not covered by any institutional-level Manara cooperation can still benefit from Manara
    - In such cases QNL will do the basic content review before publishing



### Who can deposit content to Manara? (2)

- Any research institution from Qatar, via institutional cooperation with QNL
  - Manara is designed as joint repository service available for the entire Qatar research community
  - Building on the QF Multiversity concept, enriching Qatar research infrastructure
  - Many publishers allow self-archiving (depositing pre-prints and author-accepted versions of papers to institutional repositories)
    - Some of QNL e-resources agreements also allow self-archiving articles published behind paywall





### Manara as an infrastructure solution

- Manara provides an infrastructure solution to research institutions in Qatar that need research repository solutions with digital preservation support.
- Manara is designed to operate within a multi-institutional framework through partnerships with other institutions in Qatar.
- The Library assumes responsibility for its operation, while any researchfocused institution in Qatar can use it as its institutional repository.

### Partnership Tier Structure

#### Tier 1

- Individual researchers' accounts
- Batches of content uploaded by QNL
- Basic institutional visibility

#### Tier 2

- Institutional agreement
- Admin access, content review and management
- Custom branding

#### Tier 3

 Custom services and integrations



### Manara Partnerships Support Model

| Researcher Journey Stage |                              | Discovery of the institutional repository                                    | Registration for the repository user account and profile setup   | Item submission and review  | Publication of submitted items | Post-submission<br>engagement  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------|--|
| (S) (E)                  | Partner's Repository<br>Team | Running the outreach activities     Responding to users inquiries            | Verification of registration eligibility     Creates registration request ticket in support website and communicates outcome to researcher | Review of files and submitted metadata (incl. categories check); licensing check     Assignment of DOI  | Publication of reviewed items  | Content curation incl. collections creation     Analyzing repository content usage reports     Promoting/highlighting content in outreach activities |
|                          | QNL Manara Team              |  | Verification of registration eligibility     Creation of a user account based on tickets/requests received                                 |   |                                |  |
| Support Actions          | QNL Manara Team              | Response to Partner's inquiries     Supporting Partner's outreach activities | Batch registration of users upon request   | <ul> <li>Batch upload upon<br/>request</li> <li>Individual item upload<br/>for special cases</li> </ul> |                                |  |



### Partner's tailored sub-portals within Manara

- Each participating institution receives a
  - tailored sub-portal within the repository,
  - essential training
  - content management privileges
  - digital preservation assistance from QNL.
- This dedicated sub-portal serves as an institutional repository, streamlining self-archiving processes and facilitating the green Open Access route.



### Partnerships in 2024 (Tier 2)

In 2024, QNL signed agreements with Hamad bin Khalifa University and the University of Doha Science and Technology for Manara to be used as their research repository.









### **HBKU** on Manara



CATEGORIES INSTITUTIONS SEARCH Q

Manara - Qatar Research Repository / Hamad Bin Khalifa University



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### **UDST** on Manara



Manara - Qatar Research Repository / University of Doha for Science and Technology



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Repository





### More repositories in Qatar are needed

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|---|--|---------------|-------------------------|---------|--|--|--|
| Manara - Qatar Research Repo  | sitory   | Type          | Software                | Country |  |  |  |
|   |  | Institutional | Other                   | Qatar   |  |  |  |
| Manara - University of Doha for   | r Science and Technology Repository                            | Туре          | Software                | Country |  |  |  |
|   |  | Institutional | Other                   | Qatar   |  |  |  |
| Q   |  |               |                         |         |  |  |  |
| QSpace  |  | Туре          | Software                | Country |  |  |  |
|   |  | Institutional | DSpace                  | Qatar   |  |  |  |
|   |  |               |                         |         |  |  |  |
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### **Next Steps**

- Establish more partnerships with universities in Qatar
- Support self-archiving practices and policies (green open access) with partner universities
- Support more non-traditional research outputs deposits (e.g. datasets)
- Increase number of individual user registration and deposits

# Goal is to open Qatar's research outputs to the world





#### Theme: Transforming Knowledge Into Action

Open Science in higher education institutions and research communities is a highly complex and rapidly evolving landscape, and there are many ways of transforming knowledge into practical action. We have therefore identified 4 thematic areas for this year's Annual Forum, reflecting the priorities of our members and wider network across the Arab states:

- Policies and funding
- Open Access publishing and open education resources
- Capacity building and community engagement
- Open infrastructure and infrastructure supporting Open Science

Official Website:



Registration:



## Thank you

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