

## **ROTA showcases success of iEARN-Qatar projects**

### TRIBUNE NEWS NETWORK

DOHA Children's creativity in as diverse fields as science and culture was at its best at the fun-filled open house of Reach Out To Asia (ROTA), a Qatar based non-governmental organisation, at the Qatar Academy Senior School of Education City, on Saturday.

Dozens of school children, representing as many as 14 schools of Qatar, displayed their works on eight different projects of iEARN.

The works included among others a solar cooking stove, a water habitat, a miniscule replica of the conventional majlis of the Arab world and teddy bears.

The exhibits were part of the iEARN-Qatar Open House projects for 2008-2009.

The open house gave students and teachers a platform to share their respective projects with the visitors.

It also gave them a chance to learn new skills, do their own research and have fun.

iEARN is the world's largest non-profit global network that enables young people to use Internet to engage in collaborative educational projects across the globe.

Commenting on the open house, the iEARN-Qatar Coordinator and Connect ROTA Manager Pascal Siegel said, "The iEARN Qatar 2009 Open House is another demonstration of our efforts to connect educators and learners.

The iEARN Qatar community has benefited from the ROTA knowledge network and worked with great energy and enthusiasm.

The past year has been a motivating and rewarding experience for both the teachers and the students.

However, I would like to encourage more schools to join us and share the enthusiasm and the knowledge of the community." The participating teachers as well as students were also awarded certificates of achievement as a token of recognition for their hard work and dedication.

The open house also highlighted the professional development of teachers and the benefits of the collaboration through the network with over 120 iEARN communities around the world.

ROTA became the official representative of iEARN in Qatar in March last year.

ROTA aims at facilitating the implementation of the iEARN-Qatar Programme in three phases: Establishment and initiation during a pilot phase from March to July 2008, expansion and capacity building of iEARN-Qatar trainers and facilitators between September 2008 and July 2009 and further expansion and development of iEARN-Qatar aiming to build a sustainable community of educators.

(RM)