



GESDA invites the winners of the 12th NYUAD hackathon to join the 2024 GESDA Summit

The Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator Foundation (GESDA) congratulates the winners of the 12th annual New York University Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) International Hackathon for Social Goods whose participants worked on one of the most promising technologies of our time, Quantum Computing (QC) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). "The hackathon concludes with Innovative solutions for UN sustainable development goals," commented Catherine Lefebvre, Senior Advisor for the Open Quantum Institute (OQI) at GESDA, which last year signed a memorandum of understanding with the New York University of Abu Dhabi to support the event.

GESDA contributes to OQI's educational activities and is delighted to invite the winners of this edition to the GESDA annual summit from the 9th to 11th October 2024 in Geneva. The six students from India, UAE, UK, and Uruguay will have the opportunity to engage with global participants from science, diplomacy, business and civil society to anticipate scientific and technological advancements and discuss solution ideas that can accelerate the response to the challenges of humanity whilst widening the circle of beneficiaries.

NYUAD and GESDA work to raise international awareness about the relevance of quantum computing to the SDGs and the importance of quantum computing education for all. The NYUAD hackathon has provided regional and international visibility to the OQI and its partner, CERN, UBS and GESDA as key impact partners for the Hackathon.

For the first time, the hackathon received substantial support from the recently launched [Open Quantum Institute](#), an initiative hosted at CERN, born at GESDA and support by UBS, which covered the costs of the students taking part in the Hackathon, contributing to the inclusion of young researcher and developers of underserved geographies.

NYUAD affiliated faculty and clinical professor of computer science Sana Odeh, who founded and organized the event, commented: "The [NYUAD International Hackathon for Social Good](#) has once again demonstrated the important role that quantum computing can play in making a positive impact on society in the Arab World and beyond."

With its support for the NYUAD Hackathon and the XPRIZE Quantum for real-world impact competition, GESDA is encouraging the creation of a scientific community familiar with quantum technology, which will soon provide innovative solutions to the UN's sustainable development challenges. This

progress will take place within the framework of the OQI, which will also bring together a wide range of expertise in this field.

GESDA is an independent, private, non-profit foundation governed by Swiss law that is established in Geneva and operates on the principle of public-private partnerships. We focus on projects that can use the best science available to provide solutions to current and future technology-related challenges. GESDA spearheaded the institute's creation to promote responsible quantum computing.

NYUAD is a first-of-its-kind global university that represents a transformative shift in higher education, one in which the intellectual and creative endeavors of academia are shaped and examined through an international and multicultural perspective. Designed to draw the most talented and creative students and faculty from around the world, it enables those students and faculty to circulate throughout a network while retaining access to the university's intellectual community and resources.

OQI is a multilateral governance initiative that promotes global and inclusive access to quantum computing and the development of applications for the benefit of humanity. It's focus on advancing capacity building in order to enable everyone around the world to contribute to the development of quantum computing and make the most of the technology has been perfectly represented by the collaboration with the New York University of Abu Dhabi.