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Impact of Culture on Socio-Economic Development

4.4

Digitization of Bilingual Dictionaries in the Countries of the Islamic World

Submitted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

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Introduction:

Given the importance of enhancing cultural and linguistic communication between different Muslim communities, considering that Arabic is the language connecting Muslim peoples, believing in the role of dictionaries in preserving cultural and linguistic heritage, and in line with the culture ministries' vision aimed at promoting cultural diversity and knowledge production and leveraging technology and artificial intelligence, this project seeks to enhance understanding and cooperation between Muslim societies by providing linguistic and cultural tools that facilitate communication, promote the dissemination of knowledge, and protect the unique linguistic diversity of each community. The project will significantly contribute to building knowledge bridges between different Islamic cultures, thus strengthening their integration and unity. These dictionaries will serve as a reliable reference for translation between Member States' languages in the target fields and disciplines. The project will also provide an interactive digital version of the bilingual dictionaries on the (Siwar Dictionaries Platform) of King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language. The platform will release the dictionaries successively once provided by Member States and computerized by King Salman Global Academy for Arabic Language.





Initiative Objectives:

The initiative aims at achieving several objectives, including:

- **1. Facilitating** linguistic communication between Arabic and the Islamic world languages.
- **2. Strengthening** cultural and linguistic ties between Islamic societies and preserving the diverse linguistic heritage.
- **3. Providing** electronic bilingual dictionaries that meet the latest international lexicography standards.
- **4. Facilitating** access to bilingual dictionaries on a single digital platform for all languages of the Islamic world.
- **5. Supporting** the use of modern technologies and artificial intelligence to accelerate the digitization of dictionaries.
- **6. Supporting** scientific work and translation of research, articles, and terms.
- **7. Promoting** the dissemination of knowledge between Islamic cultures in various fields.





Siwar's working mechanism:

Siwar is a digital platform that aims at computerizing lexicography and allowing users to consult all the dictionaries published on the platform. It also allows the author to computerize his/her dictionary, publish it to users and continuously update it, leveraging the platform's linguistic and computer tools.

The project consists in building a sub-platform of Siwar named "Bilingual Dictionaries Platform for the Islamic Countries", which features bilingual dictionaries previously authored by researchers or scientific bodies and shared by the Islamic countries concerned.

King Salman World Academy for Arabic Language has finalized the initial version of the "Bilingual Dictionary Platform for the Islamic Countries". The Academy also computerized the three following bilingual dictionaries:

- 1. Arabic-Uzbek dictionary
- 2. Arabic-Indonesian Lexicon
- 3. Arabic-Azeri Dictionary

The working mechanism also includes organizing workshops and training sessions for specialists in Member States to build their capacities in the field of dictionary production in cooperation with cultural institutions, universities and research centers.



Target audience:



The initiative generally aims to benefit all peoples of Islamic countries to digitally access, consult, and use these dictionaries in several fields such as education, scientific research, translation, and others. It also targets in particular general and university education students, as well as researchers and specialists in various fields of knowledge, and translators between Arabic and the languages of the Islamic world.













