

صندوق الحماية الاجتماعية
SOCIAL PROTECTION FUND



Scientific Research Award

for the Civil Pension and Social
Insurance Institutions of the GCC

Sultanate of Oman 2023



Contents

3

Preface

5

Award
General
Goals

5

Award
Categories

6

Research
Fields

7

Participation
Conditions

8

Award
Prizes

10

Timelines

11

Participation
Form

Preface

The Scientific Research Award for the Civil Pension and Social Insurance Institutions of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) is a scientific award organized every two years. It is concerned with researches related to the social protection system (civil pension, social insurance) in order to reveal the most prominent challenges facing the civil pension and social insurance in the GCC, as well as finding solutions according to various variables to contribute on enhancing the culture of pension and social insurance and presenting them with the latest research methods, and creating research platforms that embrace Gulf scientific competencies and capabilities by presenting areas related to pension and social insurance to keep pace with the modern developments of the socio-demographic, economic and political variables and changes in the Arabian Gulf region.

The Unified Scheme Extending Insurance Coverage was established by the decision of the GCC Supreme Council in 2004, and it contributes effectively to securing the social protection umbrella for citizens of the member countries of the Council, and seeks to provide security and job stability for the employee category and achieves social reassurance towards embodying the concept of cooperation between governmental and private institutions in the member countries and it contributes greatly to the transfer of labor forces and encouraging the exchange of expertise among the GCC countries. Therefore, with nearly two decades having passed since the start of the Unified Scheme Extending Insurance Coverage, it is appropriate for the Arab Gulf countries to turn to evaluate the experiment, opening the gateway to analysis and investigation, and directing research capabilities to



uncover challenges facing the civil pension and social insurance institutions of the GCC.

In order to achieve interaction among the member countries, the idea of the award is based on joint efforts between the civil pension and social insurance institutions of the GCC through the formation of one team to direct the award to determine the mechanism that achieves the goals for which it was established, and to propose areas that take into account the adequacy and sustainability of the funds.

The Scientific Research Award is organized biennially, overseen by the civil pension and social insurance institutions in the GCC countries; the Social Protection Fund in the Sultanate of Oman organizes this year session.

Social Protection Fund

It was promulgated by Royal Decree No.(50/2023). Its purpose is embodied in caring for the individual and society. It works to implement the government's vision and policies related to social protection and to establish its integrated and sustainable system in the Sultanate of Oman. It is considered an important step towards unifying pension funds by merging them to form a more capable, efficient, and effective entity and sustainability. The Fund seeks to improve the quality of life, to provide protection and social care, to enhance investment in society through developing and implementing policies and programs targeting the social and economic fields, as well as to monitor the indicators of the sustainability, efficiency, adequacy and justice of these programs and policies, the extent to which they achieve national goals and visions in the field of social protection, their sustainability, integration, comprehensiveness and stability, their impact on community partnership values and their preservation of the rights of current and future generations.



Award General Goals

- Supporting scientific research in the fields of social protection (Civil Pension and Social Insurance Institutions of GCC)
- Providing a platform for researchers across the Arab Gulf countries to study the most important contemporary issues and challenges in areas related to the social protection system.
- Encouraging researchers and those interested in research fields to continue their research activities and initiatives to enrich science and knowledge related to civil pension and social insurance systems in the Arab Gulf countries.
- Promoting the culture of social insurance in Gulf societies.
- Benefiting from research outputs as inputs to the strategic plans of various civil pension and social insurance institutions.
- Enriching the Arab library, especially that of the Gulf, with specialized references and sources in social protection sciences.
- Motivating academic institutions to offer specializations concerned with social protection sciences, especially actuarial sciences.

Award Categories

Researchers with Ph.D.'s and Master's degrees

Researchers with Bachelor's degrees and university and college students



Research Fields

- Actuarial science (its importance, challenges).
- Civil pension and social insurance systems investments.
- Laws and legislation of civil pension institutions and social insurance systems “extending protection as a model”.
- Economic risks and the role of civil pension and social insurance systems in economic development.
- Developing insurance services and their quality.
- Supporting strategic planning in civil pension institutions and social insurance systems.
- Developing civil pension and social insurance systems and expanding coverage in light of the best international practices.
- Technology and the use of Artificial Intelligence and its role in the development of civil pension institutions and social insurance systems.
- Quality of business continuity plans (BCP).
- The role of the international agreement in improving the work of pension and social insurance institutions.
- Governance of civil pension and social insurance institutions.



Participation Conditions

- The applicant must be the researcher personally.
- The main researcher must be a citizen or resident of the GCC countries.
- The application must be submitted in one of the fields related to civil pension and social insurance systems and is related to one of the fields of the award.
- The submitted research must not have been previously published in part or adapted from a doctoral thesis, a master's thesis, or a current project to obtain a postgraduate degree from any university or in any language.
- The research must be submitted in Arabic or English.
- The researcher must be prepared to provide any relevant information that the award committees may request.
- The researcher who wins the award must commit to submitting a visual or photographic presentation.
- Members of committees, teams, or external arbitrators are not entitled to participate in the competition.
- Employees of civil pension and social insurance institutions in the GCC countries are not eligible to participate in the award.
- Researchers do not have the right to object to the decisions of the main committee as they are final.
- The nomination application must be filled out electronically, through the award's website.



Award Prizes for winning research

Researchers with Ph.D.'s and Master's degrees

First

6000
Omani Rials



Or its equivalent currency in the GCC countries +
a certificate of entitlement

Second

5000
Omani Rials



Or its equivalent currency in the GCC countries +
a certificate of entitlement

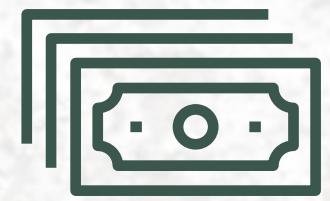


Award Prizes for winning research

Researchers with Bachelor's degrees and university and college students

First

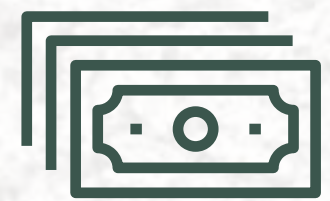
4000
Omani Rials



Or its equivalent currency in the GCC countries + a certificate of entitlement

Second

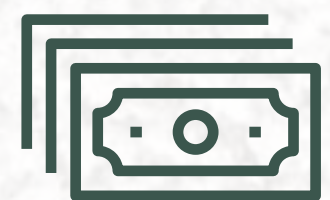
3000
Omani Rials



Or its equivalent currency in the GCC countries + a certificate of entitlement

Third

2000
Omani Rials



Or its equivalent currency in the GCC countries + a certificate of entitlement



Timelines

Announcing the award and preparing research proposals



29 October 2023



Deadline for receiving research proposals



11 January 2024



Announcing the results of research proposals, and communicating with researchers



19 March 2024



Deadline for submitting integrated research



26 December 2024



Announcing the award winning research



April 2025



Application form to participate in the Award



سند الفرد والكل

X YouTube Instagram SPF_0man



+968 96597066

| 80077600



@ GCCAWARD@SPF.GOV.OM

GCCAward.spf.gov.om