

The Open Quantum Institute, a multilateral governance initiative for quantum computing

Elias X. Huber



Why the Open Quantum Institute?

1.2 Quantum Computing has great transformative potential

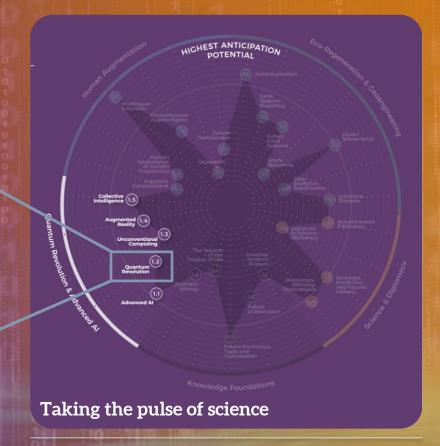


Applications that benefit humanity?

Global divides?

How can bring academic, industry, diplomacy and education leaders together?





#### The Science Breakthrough Radar

The GESDA Science Breakthrough Radar® aims to identify emerging research and map major science advances at 5, 10 and 25 years. Those advances will potentially have a significant impact on who we are as humans, how we are going to live together and how we can ensure the sustainability of our planet.



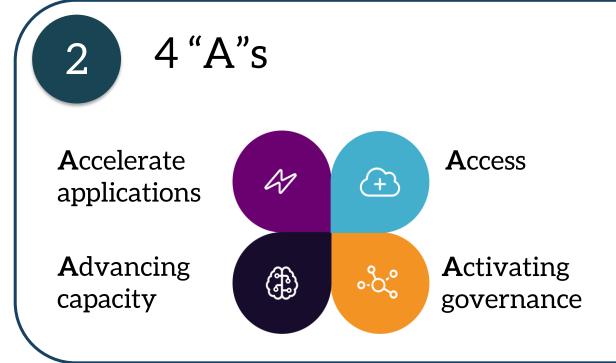


## **Outline**



1

# GESDA approach and establishment of the OQI



# Examples

- OQI use case teams
- Industry partnerships
- Education consortiums
- Hackathons
- Diplomacy Game
- Quantum intelligence report

# Anticipating scientific breakthroughs



Geneva Science and
Diplomacy Anticipator Foundation

#### The GESDA approach: Use the future to build the present

Quantum Computing, a technology with great transformative capability, requiring a science and diplomacy mobilization to ensure global access and benefits.

Ensure equitable access to the technology and progresses for the benefit of humanity



Science to accelerate sustainable development



Policymakers to think upstream about the impact of scientific and technological progress on society

Anticipation of future developments

- Acceleration of the dialogue between science, diplomacy, philanthropy and society
- Translation of opportunities into action



# The OQI Journey





Incubation phase

Pilot phase

2021

gesda

2023



gesda UBS

Public Announcement of OQI in Oct 2022 Official launch in March 2024

**Involvement** of **permanent representations in Geneva**: Australia, Austria, Brazil, Chile, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Malta, Mexico, Morocco, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Singapore, Slovenia, Switzerland, UK, US



# The OQI Incubation Partners



#### Academia



**ETH** zürich











**NITheCS** 













Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator Foundation

## Industry **OAQT**











DVIDIA

IQM

Our incubation partners helped us grow OQI from a concept to reality, with many in the process of formalising their engagement to become partners during our pilot phase.

## **Diplomacy**

20+ permanent representations in Geneva

#### **UN@HABITAT**





















Fondazione Compagnia di San Paolo



# Strategic Pillars of the Open Quantum Institute



#### A1 Accelerating applications for humanity

Realising the full potential of quantum computing by accelerating use cases geared towards achieving the SDGs, thanks to the combined forces of researchers and developers, entrepreneurs, the United Nations, and large NGOs.



Providing global, inclusive and equitable access to a pool of public and private quantum computers and simulators available via the cloud



Developing educational tools to enable everyone around the world to contribute to the development of quantum computing and make the most of the technology.



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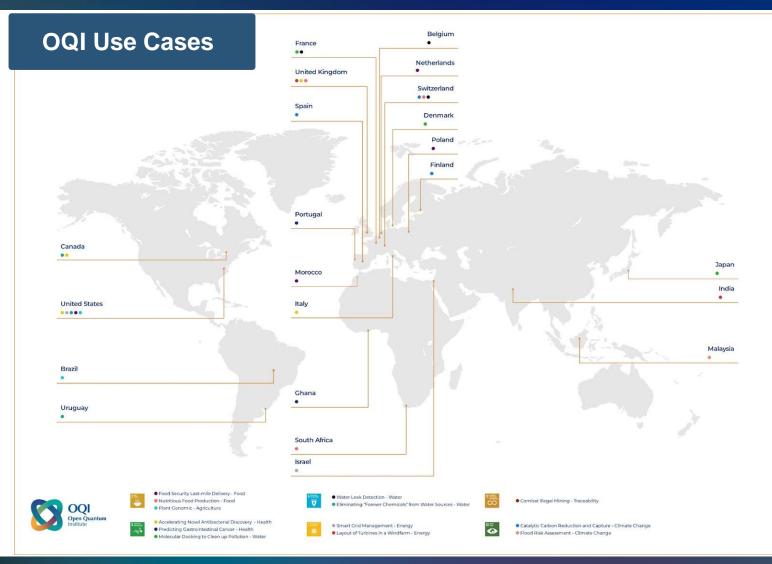
A4 Activating multilateral governance for the SDGs

Providing a neutral forum to help shape multilateral governance of quantum computing for the SDGs



# A1 - Accelerating Applications for Humanity





#### Use case examples:



- Nutritious Food production
- Food Security Last mile food delivery
- Plant Genomics



- Accelerating Novel Antibacterial Discovery
- Molecular Docking
- Predicting Gastro-intestinal Cancer



- Water Leak Detection
- Eliminating forever chemicals from water sources



- Laying out turbines in a windfarm
- Smart grid management



- Carbon Capture
- Flood risk assessment

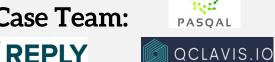


## **Example: Water Leak Detection**





**Use Case Team:** 



**₹ REPLY** 





**Quantum Approach:** Optimization (Neutral atoms) **Problem:** Piping networks loose up to 60% of their freshwater to leaks. Exacerbated by increasing populations and lack of maintenance.

How can the placement of a limited number of expensive sensors be optimized?

Mathematize problem of sensor placement (-> Maximum Independent Set)

Simulate close-tooptimal placement Improve detection and localization of leakages at lower cost





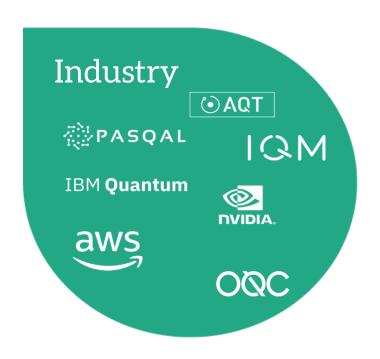




## A2 - Access for All



Leverage OQI's industry partnerships to provide QPUs for project teams

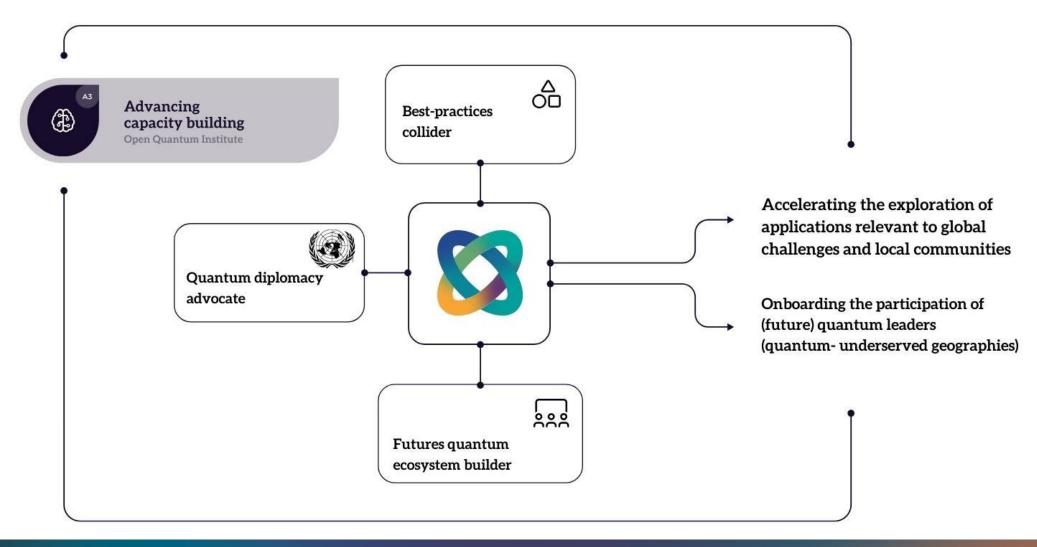






# A3 - Advancing capacity building at OQI











#### **Educational Consortium**

55+ institutions contributing, with 17 official member institutions. and 80 experts involved in the **Education Consortium** 

All activities aligned and relayed as part of the UN Year of Quantum Science and Technology

best-practices

- **Educational Consortium Workshops**
- **Educational Repository**
- Foundational Trainings

futures quantum ecosystems

- Hackathons
- Training for host institutions of OQI supported hackathons
- Pre-hackathon training programme for participants
- OQI mentorship programme
- OQI internship programme
- Regional quantum community events
- OQI inspired activities

- Quantum Diplomacy Game
- Quantum Diplomacy Game facilitator programme
- OQI representation at the UN year of quantum





#### For 2025:

#### **OQI** educational consortium

- Share experience and best practices and codevelop tools
- Feed OQI Edu Repository which will feature e.g. a Paper on Regime of Quantum Advantage



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**Example: 2023 Hackathon at NYU** 

Abu Dhabi

Task: Quantum computing to address Sustainable Development Goals

Focus on Affordable & Clean Energy "Quantum topology and neural networks for blackout response"

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#### Quantum hackathons focusing on SDGs

- Support 6 hackathons in quantum-underserved geographies in all continents
- → Deployment of OQI's Hackathon in a Box



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#### **Quantum Diplomacy Game**

Role play on quantum diplomacy, the game's objective is to raise awareness of the geopolitical implications of quantum computing as an emerging technology.

"The year is 2035. Large-scale quantum computing has been achieved, but the costs are still too high for general commercial use."

#### best-practices

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#### Quantum **Diplomacy Game**

2025: Deployment of this role play on the geopolitical implications of quantum computing as an emerging technology around the globe



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# A3 - Advancing capacity building activities in 2025



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#### Quantum Diplomacy Game

→ 2025: Deployment of this role play on the geopolitical implications of quantum computing as an emerging technology around the globe



#### International Year of Quantum Technology and Science (IYQ)

- → OQI representation on the IYQ Steering Committee
- → Contribution to the IYQ global events calendar







## A4 - Activating Multilateral Governance for SDGs





**Quantum Diplomacy engagement** through informal discussions with 20+ permanent representations in Geneva and in country with input from community of practice (industry and science)

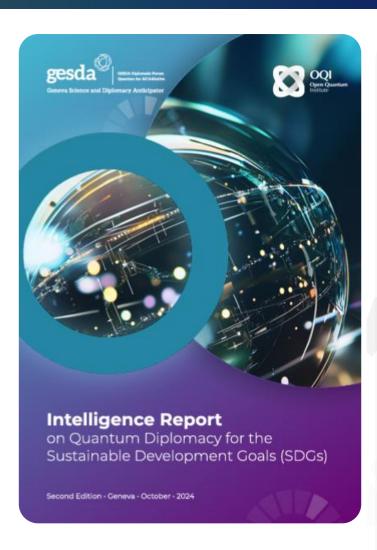
- Digital and economic inclusivity
- Technology for the SDGs
- Global Security
- Interoperability
- Trade
- Environment
- Talent
- Human Agency





## A4 - Activating Multilateral Governance for SDGs





#### How quantum and AI will work together

Artificial intelligence (AI) has so far enabled disruptive applications. From efficient analysis and predictive tasks on large datasets to "recommendation" systems and chatbots, AI's rapid adoption across a spectrum of industries is broadening.<sup>4</sup> Combining classical machine learning (ML)<sup>5</sup> - which is a subset of AI - with quantum computing is, unsurprisingly, a field of growing expectations and hype. The intersection of AI and quantum<sup>6</sup> is still a nascent field, and the effort is at the research and development level. Quantum machine learning, for example, accounts for less than 1% of total machine learning research publications.<sup>7</sup>

The interplay of machine learning and quantum computing can be summarized in three categories:

- Using classical machine learning to develop quantum computers: Already in use today, classical
  machine learning can help to improve experimental control of quantum computers and reduce
  hardware errors, construct quantum circuits, and simulate the result of quantum computations.
- Quantum-inspired machine learning: Research on quantum computing has inspired the exploration
  of new techniques and theoretical insights benefiting classical machine learning.<sup>11</sup>
- Quantum machine learning: 12 Industry and academic researchers are exploring ways of using classical machine learning techniques on quantum computers. Currently, much of their research focuses on using existing small-scale quantum computers jointly with classical computers (so called "hybrid computing") to identify potential benefits. 13 Quantum computers also offer some benefits 14 for learning from quantum data (data that itself originates from quantum sensors for instance). One major challenge is the efficient input and output of classical data to and from quantum data. It is still too early today to predict if this hybrid approach could realize a quantum advantage for practical applications (i.e. outperforming classical computing), 15 even with future fault-tolerant quantum computing. 16

In sum, **quantum machine learning will not replace classical machine learning**. One could potentially augment the other by **working in tandem**. Classical machine learning<sup>17</sup> already benefits the development of quantum computers. Despite the early stage of this research field, the intersection of AI and quantum offers exciting avenues that can benefit from more direct collaboration between experts in different disciplines.<sup>18</sup> As the field matures, a transdisciplinary approach should learn from recent AI governance principles and adapted them to this emerging field at the cross-section of AI and quantum computing.



## Conclusion: How can we ensure equitable access?



**Anticipating** 



Accelerating of the dialogue between science, diplomacy, philanthropy and society



Translating opportunities into action

Identifying opportunities for SDG use cases on the global quantum landscape

Identifying access and implementation support needs

Using platforms such as the Quantum Diplomacy Symposium to debate across sectors about multilateral efforts required to harness the technology responsibly

Using quantum technologies as tools for equitable innovation rather than instruments of division

Offering support for implementation when providing access to technology

Advocating for **capacity-sharing** initiatives

Offering open-source educational resources

Implementing collectively best practices for advancing capacity building













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