

Duqm zone set for major expansion to 2000 km2

Muscat - January 30, 2016

The Sultanate has expanded the total area of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm to 2,000 square kilometres from 1,745 square kilometres to accommodate oil storage activities at the Ras Markaz area which was included in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm as per the Royal Decree No 5/2016.

The Royal Decree designated the Ras Markaz area's development project as a public utility project.

The aim of the project is to support and realise the future goals of the Omani economy including the diversification of the national income.

The project's most important components include setting up of warehouses for storage and export of crude oil which would enhance the benefit from crude oil trade sector thereby boosting benefit from the related industries.

This goal can be achieved by exploiting the location and cutting cost of production, thus boosting revenues from the oil sector as well as enhancing the added value of the natural depths of the Arabian Sea and linking the commercial interests of companies operating in oil production and marketing sector. The Special Economic Zone

Authority at Duqm (SEZAD) has

accorded special attention to the project due to its socio-economic value.

In October last year, Oman Tank Terminal Company (OTTCO), an Oman Oil Company (OIC) subsidiary, finalised the initial designs for the crude oil storage terminal at Ras Markaz area and it will be built in phases, the first of which is expected to be completed and operated in coincidence with the launch of Dugm refinery.

The Ras Markaz crude oil terminal is considered a warehousing facility matching the best international standards and planned to be the largest of its kind in the Middle East region, as well as an international oil storage hub by providing easy access to oil markets in South Asia, Far East and Africa.

An area exceeding 1,600 hectares has been earmarked with a crude oil storage capacity of 200 million barrels.

The terminal will be linked to the oil fields via and the Duqm refinery thereby easing oil transfer by land from the warehousing facilities, besides the sea installations which will meet the needs oil tankers.

The terminal will also supply the Duqm refinery with crude oil which will contribute to the setting up of heavy industries and petrochemical plants in the special economic zone.



Duqm Economist Magazine Celebrates CSR



Muscat - January 30, 2016

The Special Economic Zone Authority in Duqm (SEZAD) issued the new issue of Duqm Economist with the theme of celebrating corporate social responsibility (CSR) in SEZD. In his editorial, H.E. Yahiya bin Said bin Abdullah Al-Jabri, Chairperson of SEZAD Board of Directors, indicates that SEZAD focuses on CSR with its three dimensions, namely human, environment, and legislation. "This emanates from SEZAD main objectives for the development of Al-Wusta Governorate, advancing lifestyle and livelihood in Duqm and providing employment opportunities for the citizens. Youth education, training and qualification programs have attracted the attention of SEZAD and the various companies operating in SEZD," adds Al-Jabri.

"During the past four years, SEZAD has been spreading CSR culture among the companies operating in SEZD and promoting this concept to live up to the aspirations of the people of the Wilayat of Duqm in particular and Al-Wusta Governorate in general," states SEZAD Chairperson. Duqm Economist, edited by colleague Mohammed

Duqm Economist, edited by colleague Mohammed bin Ahmed Al-Shezawi, has highlighted the attention accorded to the local community by SEZAD and the compa-



nies operating in SEZD. The implementation of 130 CSR programs since 2011, notably provision of 29 grants for graduates of general diploma certificate from the people of the Wilayat of Duqm for undergraduate study in private universities and colleges in the Sultanate is a testimony to that attention.

The new issue is diverse and rich with many topics and articles. The projects sector focuses on tenders awarded by SEZAD during the past year at a cost of OMR 176,000,000. In the field of investments, Saleh bin Homoud AI-Hassani, manager of the one-stop shop, states that SEZD attracted investments estimated OMR 242,300,000 last year.

Moreover, the issue touched upon the efforts of the operating companies in SEZD. In this regard, Stephen Thomas, CEO of Renaissance Services Group, affirmed his confidence in the promising future of Duqm. He stressed that the company's investment in SEZD, amounting to USD 200,000,000 based on realistic grounds, pointing out that Renaissance Village in Duqm aims at providing high quality services to its residents. On his part, Sheikh Ibrahim bin Sultan Al-Hosni, CEO of Duqm Development Company, noted that the implementation of the second phase of Duqm Façade City would commence by the end of this year or in the first quarter of next year.



SEZAD Floats Tender on Establishment of Fishing Port in Duqm



Muscat - January 12, 2016

This month, SEZAD floated the tender on implementation of fishing port in Duqm for the international companies specialized in this field and local companies of the first grade or higher.

The fishing port in Duqm is the largest of its kind in the Sultanate with an area of 600 hectares. It includes a fish industry area aimed at achieving the optimum utilization of fish resources through the establishment of a group of specialized fish manufacturing and canning facilities.

SEZAD set 26 January as the date for the companies wishing to know more about the site to visit the project site. The companies may also receive answers to their inquiries about the project through contacting the Department of Contracts and Tenders during the bidding period, which shall last until 8 March.

The establishment of the fishing port and fish industry area in Duqm is part of the Sultanate's efforts for economic diversification. It aims to provide more job opportunities for the citizens, and stimulate economic activity in Al-Wusta Governorate, increase the yield of available fish resources in the country. This is part of taking advantage of the strategic location of Duqm as a promising economic and investment area that has a multi-purpose port, an airport, highways and a railway underway, which would contribute to the revitalization of SEZD.

The port includes wave breakers with a total length of 3.4 km, a fixed pier for fishing purposes of 850 meters, and a fixed pier for ROP of 50 meters. Project works shall

include deepening the harbor basin up to 6 meters, land reclamation to establish port service buildings. They shall also includes a tourist area with a wharf, floating berths, 5 floating moorings for fishermen with linking bridges, a floating marina for Coast Guard, in addition to a crane for boat maintenance, slider to boats, marine services and facilities, service buildings, internal roads, parking lots and maintenance and repair workshops.

The fish industry area in Duqm shall include 60 fish manufacturing facilities, cooling and freezing stores, and ship maintenance and repair workshops. The area aims to encourage fish farming, attract projects that add good value to SEZD, conduct research on fishery sector development at an equipped research center in addition to various qualification and training centers.

SEZAD confirms its commitment to environmental protection and the preservation of its components

Duqm - January 20, 2016

Special Economic Zone Authority in Duqm (SEZAD) confirmed its commitment to protect the environment, preserve its natural components and pay attention to biodiversity in SEZD.

Salim bin Yasser Al-Sulaimani, vice president of Support Services at SEZAD, indicated that the various elements of the environment are of interest to SEZAD given its main roles identified by the royal decrees.

"Recently, SEZAD implemented many of the events and programs that aim to preserve the environmental health and safety," added Al-Sulaimani in a speech at SEZAD celebration of the Omani Environment Day.

During its celebration of the Omani Environment Day, SEZAD organized a number of events and activities that embodied the care enjoyed by the environment in SEZD IN cooperation with the companies operating there.

The activities included an awareness seminar held at Crowne Plaza Hotel in Duqm under the auspices of Mohammed bin Saif Al-Topi, Director General of Regional Municipalities and Water Resources of Al-Wusta Region. It included several presentations and lectures aimed at raising the level of environmental awareness for all community groups, businesses and institutions operating in Duqm. The presenters confirmed the importance of reducing environmental pollutant rates and maintain the environmental health and safety, the fungal life and the marine environment. The events also included the implementation of beach cleaning

The events also included the implementation of beach cleaning in Duqm in cooperation between SEZAD and a number of companies operating in SEZD. They provided 1150 municipal bags, three trucks the capacity of each is 10 tons of various waste and residues.

Abdul Aziz Al Hinai CSR Specialist stated strongly that the responsibility to our Environment is not just alone the responsibility of the Government and Private sector, each and every one of us residing in this environment is responsible. 3 ten tonne trucks were filled, 1150 bin bags were used and over half a tonne of plastics and ropes were recovered. Oman is a beautiful country and more importantly Duqm has all the factors required to make it a tourist destination, if each one of us contributes within our society, together we can keep our environment clean and sustainable.

