



A MAGNET FOR INVESTORS

SEZAD ENJOYS A SET OF COMPARATIVE AND COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES THAT QUALIFY IT TO BECOME A REGIONAL MARITIME TRANSPORT STATION AND A LOGISTICS SUPPLY GATEWAY TO THE GULF REGION. IT IS LOCATED ON THE ARABIAN SEA, OPEN TO THE INDIAN OCEAN, WHICH GAVE IT A STRATEGIC ADVANTAGE BY BEING LOCATED ON INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING LINES BETWEEN EAST AND WEST AND CLOSE TO CONSUMER MARKETS IN ASIA AND AFRICA



The Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD) - one of the areas supervised by the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) - is ready to receive investments in various sectors. The zone has advanced infrastructure and all services and facilities.

The zone has a high-level infrastructure. It includes an international airport and a multi-purpose port consisting of 3 main berths that meet the needs of industrial, commercial, logistical and oil derivatives projects in the zone, in addition to building a modern network of roads linking it to various investment areas.

SEZAD enjoys a set of comparative and competitive advantages that qualify it to become a regional maritime

transport station and a logistics supply gateway to the Gulf region. It is located on the Arabian Sea, open to the Indian Ocean, which gave it a strategic advantage by being located on international shipping lines between East and West and close to consumer markets in Asia and Africa.

The zone is characterised by the presence of large fish wealth, its proximity to oil and gas production areas, and many minerals that can be exploited in establishing industrial projects. All these features qualifie SEZAD to be an integrated industrial base for converting industries that are based on natural raw materials available in the Governorate of Al Wusta.

The zone is also characterized by the availability of wind and solar energy throughout the year. This enables the zone to achieve success in renewable energy projects and green industries.

The Duqm Refinery, which commenced operation in 2023, is one of the most prominent large industrial projects in the zone. It is a major catalyst for the establishment of a variety of industrial projects based on the refinery's products.

The most important opportunities for investment sectors available in

the SEZAD are the establishment of refineries, oil storage and refining, heavy and petrochemical industries, medium and light industries, warehousing and logistics services, tourism investment, the establishment of hotels and tourist resorts, the provision of health and treatment services, the establishment of hospitals and health centres, private schools, training institutes and university colleges, investment in the commercial sector and the establishment of commercial complexes and sports facilities, investment in the mining sector, fishery and food industries, real estate development, artificial intelligence, and drone experiments, for which an area of 18 square kilometers has been allocated, and clean energy, green hydrogen and ammonia, for which an area of 250 square kilometers has been allocated.

The zone provides a set of benefits, incentives and exemptions, including exemption from income tax and customs tax for goods imported from outside the Sultanate of Oman and goods exported from the zone abroad, state lands usufruct in the zone, and facilitating the provision of all necessary services for projects through the one-stop shop.

Additionally, the most prominent existing projects in the zone are the Port of Duqm, the dry dock for ship repair, the fishing port (multi-purpose), the fish and food industries complex, Duqm Airport, the Duqm Refinery, the Ras Markaz crude oil storage terminal, the integrated electricity and water station, the sebacic acid production refinery, and KarwaMotors, the Vulcan Green Steel Factory, Hyport Duqm, the Duqm HongTong Piping Factory specializing in the production of non-metallic pipes made of reinforced polyethylene plastics, and the Al Nahda Village in Duqm (Labourers Village).

The zone also includes a number of hotel establishments, including: Crowne Plaza Duqm Hotel and Park Inn Hotel and Resort Duqm, in addition to a number of 3-star, two-star and one-star hotels, and a number of guesthouses.



A MONUMENTAL GULF ALLIANCE FUELS REGIONAL ENERGY REVOLUTION

1

THE JOINT \$9 BILLION CROSS-REGIONAL INVESTMENT HERALDS A NEW CHAPTER OF REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE ENERGY SECTOR.

2

THE WORLD'S YOUNGEST REFINERY BOASTS A DAILY CAPACITY OF 230,000 BARRELS.

3

INTEGRATING INNOVATION WITH THE LATEST TECHNOLOGIES WITHIN A FORWARD-LOOKING APPROACH, OQ8 SKETCHES A BRIGHTER, SUSTAINABLE FUTURE FOR THE ENERGY SECTOR.

4

THE REFINERY POSITIONS SEZAD AS A VITAL ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL HUB AIMED AT ACHIEVING ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION POLICIES.

February 7 will mark the historic inauguration of OQ8, the largest investment of its kind between two Gulf countries represented by OQ – the global integrated energy group – and Kuwait Petroleum International. The world's youngest refinery, standing as a testament to innovation, progress, and strategic cross-border partnership, is poised to revolutionise the energy landscape.

The inauguration will be in the presence of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik, and His Highness Shaikh Mishal Al Ahmed Al Jaber al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait.

Located along Oman's eastern shoreline in Duqm, OQ8 features a daily refining capacity of 230,000 barrels of crude oil. Its strategic coastal position offers a distinct advantage, granting seamless access to the major international maritime routes of the Indian Ocean and the Arabian Sea. With ambitions of achieving global acclaim, OQ8 is geared to make a substantial impact on Oman's economic growth and future well-being.

ABDULSALAM BIN MOHAMMED AL MURSHIDI, the President of Oman Investment Authority (OIA), commented on the milestone inauguration, saying: "The gracious attendance of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik and His Highness Shaikh Mishal Al Ahmed Al Jaber al Sabah at the inauguration of OQ8, the largest joint investment between the two nations, is a reflection of the two leaders' unwavering support of the investment and economic partnership between Oman and Kuwait. We are proud of the heights of success reached by this joint venture and the repercussions that has on enticing further joint investment."

He added that OQ8, the largest joint investment in the petrochemical and refinery industry between two Gulf Cooperation Council countries, is a culmination of the bilateral relations between the Sultanate of Oman and the State of Kuwait, reflecting the deep-rooted economic relationship and tying joint interests to new joint investments.

He also emphasised the role that the inauguration of OQ8 plays in paving the way for regional and global investment in Oman, especially in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD). Elaborating on its host of investment incentives, and highlighted SEZAD's holistic investment infrastructure, from the facilities and services provided by Marafiq to the Port of Duqm and the

Ras Markaz Crude Oil Terminal, all of which showcase SEZAD's added value as a promising manufacturing hub, particularly in the downstream and logistics sectors.

Commenting on the historic inauguration, **SHAIKH NAWAF S AL SABAH**, CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), explained: "The launch of OQ8 marks a pinnacle of achievement for the Omani-Kuwaiti alliance. This collaboration not only merges our economic interests but also celebrates the profound connection and shared legacy that Oman and Kuwait hold."

On this long-awaited event, **DAVID BIRD**, CEO of OQ8, said, "This is an incredible milestone in our journey towards transforming the energy stage. OQ8 encapsulates the power of collaboration and strategic vision. As we commence full-scale operations, we reaffirm our commitment to excellence and the betterment of the communities we serve. OQ8 emerges as a beacon of progress, symbolising a brighter future for the energy sector."

He further stated, "OQ8 transcends its regional significance by incorporating unparalleled, state-of-the-art capabilities. Destined to be a cornerstone of national and global energy markets, it exemplifies our commitment to leading through innovation. This venture is a bold declaration of our vision to drive economic prosperity far beyond Oman's borders, setting new benchmarks for the industry and fostering growth across the region and beyond."

OQ8, encompassing three key packages, is engineered for the specialised production of a wide range of premium petroleum derivatives, including diesel, jet fuel, naphtha, liquefied petroleum gas, sulphur, and petroleum coke. Capable of processing diverse blends and grades to meet market demands, the refinery has notably contributed approximately 3.261 thousand tonnes to the industrial and energy sectors from March 2023 to January 2024.

The nationalisation rate at OQ8 stands at an impressive 60 per cent. Currently, 749 employees from 32 nationalities contribute to the refinery's success, embodying values of diversity, inclusion, and the exchange of experiences. This diverse workforce is instrumental in cultivating an effective institutional culture focused on excellence.

The company's commitment to social investment is evident in its contribution of over \$5.4 million in social investment projects and sponsorships, positively impacting over 450,000 individuals. These initiatives focus on education, health, economic prosperity, and environmental stewardship, emphasising mutual benefits and continuous dialogue with local communities.

In alignment with its ICV strategy, \$2.4 billion has been spent so far with local suppliers. Throughout the construction phase, OQ8, committed to ensuring that at least 20 per cent of all goods and services continue to be sourced within Oman, bolstering the local economy. This commitment extends to local SMEs – OQ8 sources spending at least \$534 million of its resources from these community-based businesses. The volume of products manufactured in the Sultanate of Oman reached \$182 million.





DUQM REFINERY STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO THE GROWING ECONOMIC COLLABORATION AND BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN OMAN AND KUWAIT



A LANDMARK JOINT VENTURE ADVANCING GULF ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

JOMAR MENDOZA

The largest joint venture between two GCC countries, Duqm Refinery, is set to revolutionise the petroleum industry. This landmark project epitomises the convergence of economic interests and underscores the deepening ties between the Sultanate of Oman and the State of Kuwait.

Set amidst a backdrop of growing economic and trade relations, Duqm Refinery represents an unparalleled investment in the region. Backed by OQ — Oman’s global integrated energy group — and Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), this venture stands as a sterling example of progress and mutual benefit. The official opening will be graced by the esteemed presence of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and His Highness Shaikh Mishal Al Ahmad Al Jaber al Sabah, Emir of Kuwait.

Entering the realm of the Special Economic Zone in Duqm (SEZAD), the Duqm Refinery has captured the attention and admiration of officials and industry leaders alike. Dr Ali bin Masoud al Sunaidy, Chairman of the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ), lauds the Royal interest in the projects at SEZAD, acknowledging the pride and honour it instils in all those involved. Serving as a strategic cornerstone, the Duqm Refinery bolsters the nation’s efforts to increase the value of the converting sector and present new investment opportunities for small and medium enterprises in Duqm. Furthermore, its advantageous proximity to Asian and African markets establishes a distinct competitive edge.

Officials have reiterated that the Duqm Refinery stands as a testament to the growing economic collaboration and bilateral relations between Oman and Kuwait. Abdulsalam bin Mohammed al Murshidi , Chairman of the Oman Investment Authority (OIA), extols the unlimited support and patronage demonstrated by the two leaders, emphasising the success of this partnership and its potential to inspire further investment ventures. Al Murshidi affirms that the Duqm Refinery represents the largest joint investment in refineries and petrochemicals in the GCC, engendering meaningful economic integration between the two nations while unlocking avenues for wider Arab and foreign investments in Oman.

Highlighting the broader significance of the Duqm Refinery, Shaikh Nawaf Saud al Sabah, CEO of Kuwait Petroleum Corporation (KPC), emphasises the embodiment of economic interests between Oman and Kuwait, unified by their shared heritage. This strategic project not only fortifies the stability of global

energy supplies but also augments future cooperation between GCC countries, fostering development and economic initiatives. Aiding in this endeavour is the Sultanate of Oman’s strategic location, facilitating the storage and smooth export of petroleum products to the world market.

From an Oman Vision 2040 perspective, the opening of the Duqm Refinery holds great significance in accomplishing national priorities. Dr Khamis bin Saif al Jabri, Chairman of Oman Vision 2040 Implementation Follow-up Unit, envisions the emergence of Duqm as a premier industrial and economic hub, bolstered by the diverse opportunities created by this project. Furthermore, the priority placed on the private sector, investment and international cooperation aligns harmoniously with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, all of which will be invigorated by the Duqm Refinery.

The impact of the Duqm Refinery extends beyond its immediate economic importance. Qais bin Mohammed al Yousef, Minister of Commerce, Industry and Investment Promotion, asserts that Duqm Refinery strengthens Oman’s commitment to economic diversification and the unlocking of new revenue streams.

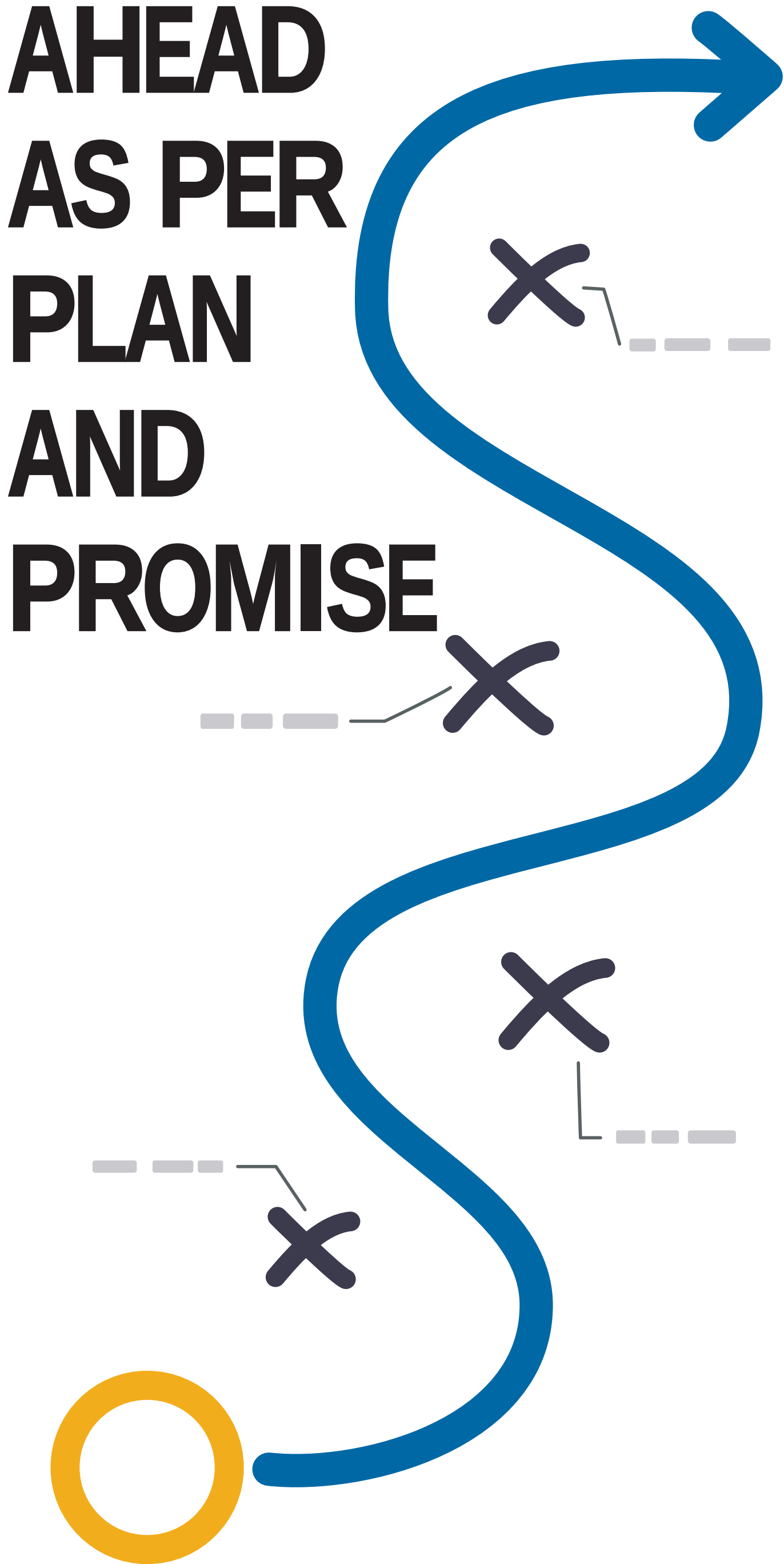
As a heavyweight industry with high investment value and production capacity, it becomes a catalyst for the industrial sector and stimulates the establishment of transformational industries with substantial added value. Furthermore, the local markets witness a surge in economic activity, as contracts, purchases, and services totalling over \$2.4 billion support national companies engaged in construction and supply sectors.

With Duqm Refinery as a shining beacon of economic integration and collaboration, Oman stands as a prime destination for investment, guided by the pillars of Oman Vision 2040. As the Sultanate of Oman hosts three refineries, each playing a vital role in achieving national economic diversification, the significance of this venture becomes impossible to overlook. Not only does it refine oil into high-quality products, employing cutting-edge technologies for environmental preservation, but it also signals a shared commitment to sustainable growth and a brighter future for the Gulf region.

Duqm Refinery serves as an exemplar of inter-Gulf cooperation, fuelling economic integration and strengthening trade relations between Oman and Kuwait. This game-changing venture underscores the imagination, ambition, and unity of purpose demonstrated by these two Gulf states. As the final valves open, the Duqm Refinery unleashes a powerful tide of economic diversification, fostered by investment opportunities, strategic partnerships and shared aspirations for a prosperous future.

Set amidst a backdrop of growing economic and trade relations, Duqm Refinery represents an unparalleled investment in the region

GOING AHEAD AS PER PLAN AND PROMISE



VINOD NAIR

The Special Economic Zone in Duqm (SEZAD) in Al Wusta Governorate has developed in various phases, which include the development of basic infrastructure to host one of the biggest core industries in the region.

Currently, work is under way to develop 40 per cent of the master plan for the SEZAD, which includes the Port of Duqm, the dry dock, the fishing port, the Duqm Refinery, and other basic projects such as roads, stations for electricity, water and gas and projects for clean energy and green hydrogen.

SEZAD was established in 2011 and extends over an area of 2,000 sq m and can embrace various projects in various sectors — tourism, trade, logistics services and real estate development.

The cumulative volume of government and private investment in the zone has reached about RO 4.2 billion in SEZAD infrastructure and in other economic projects.

The total length of the roads currently being implemented in the zone is about 120 kilometres, in addition to about 150 kilometres that were implemented in the past.

The zone has been connected to the national electricity grid that supplies the entire Sultanate of Oman with a capacity of 400 kilovolts, accommodating all mega projects.

SEZAD carried out many works related to expanding the green area, tree planting operations, and infrastructure for recreational projects, in addition to establishing a public park.

SEZAD seeks to implement entertainment projects to attract visitors and residents, including a multi-use entertainment commercial project that will be established near the tourist area, and the establishment of a Friday market. About RO 5 million have been allocated

for these projects. There are currently investment projects worth RO 1.8 billion under construction in the zone, bringing the volume of investments in Duqm to RO 6 billion, including investments worth RO 4.2 billion for existing projects.

Since its opening five years ago, Duqm Airport has been an integral part of Oman's plans to enhance infrastructure and logistics services in the region.

The number of passengers and flights witnessed by Duqm was 33,348 arrivals and 31,514 departures.

Oman Airports is working to expand the network of flights to and from the airport to include more local and international destinations, and facilitate trade and cultural exchange.

Duqm Refinery is a catalyst for the industrial sector in the Sultanate of Oman, as it is considered a heavy industry in terms of investment value and production capacity.

It has impacted the local markets through contracts, purchases and services amounting to more than \$2.4 billion, benefiting national companies operating in the construction and supply sectors.

The oil storage terminal at Ras Markaz is a vital project that targets the storage of all types of crude oil in large quantities outside the Strait of Hormuz. This allows international companies to store their oil at the terminal for any period.

The terminal occupies an area of 40 sqm and can store about 200 million barrels of oil when eventually built out.

The terminal is linked to Duqm Refinery via an 80-km pipeline through which crude oil is transported from Ras Markaz to the refinery.

The oil storage facilities include eight huge oil storage tanks, floating buoys for importing and exporting oil and 7 km-long submarine pipelines to receive and export oil and a station for pumping oil into tanks.

The Global Space and Technology Company announced the 'Zone 88' area located in SEZAD for five projects: A space habitat centre, commercial space launching area, unmanned vehicles technology centre, artificial intelligence and advanced technology testing area and ground station.

These projects will open the door for international and local institutions to invest in the space industry and serve as a suitable destination for spacecraft launches,

Asyad Group has kicked off operations at Asyad Container Terminal (Port of Duqm) to promote the region as a global container handling destination and a centre for integrated logistics.

34.5%

OF THE FIRST PHASE OF
NATIONAL ROAD
32 COMPLETED

PAVING THE WAY FOR PROGRESS

The management of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD) continues to carry out the works of the first phase of the National Road 32, where the completion rate reached 34.5 per cent. The 16-km-long road project starts from the road in front of the Duqm Refinery northwards to the entrance of the Duqm centre southwards.

The works of the first phase of the road include the construction of six traffic lanes, three lanes in each direction with a width about 120 metres, separated by a hardscaped Centre Median, between the two directions with road shoulders on both sides for each direction, in addition to service roads on both sides with a total length of about 23 km and a width of about 7.3 m. The works also include the construction of 4 signalised intersections, one roundabout, and the installation of smart lighting poles (LED) and road signs. The road was designed with high specifications to avoid the accumulation of surface water and flooding, through the construction of 3 major concrete bridges for the wadis in Saay, Jurf, and Dangert.

The project works include all civil works for the building of the road, including excavation, backfilling, laying of base courses, asphalt paving, concrete construction works for transformers, bridges and tunnels required at intersections with secondary roads, in addition to the works of extending service networks and lighting, and other complementary works, landscaping, ground services, and channels for future services.

It is worth mentioning that the second phase of the National Road 32 is being worked on with the same specifications and dimensions of the southern section of the road, which is about 13.8 km long, while the National Road 32 coming from the Wilayat of Mahout towards the Wilayat of Al Duqm is a major thoroughfare for the overall layout of the main road network in SEZAD.

The Wilayat of Al Duqm is undergoing a comprehensive improvement in the areas of public services, infrastructure, entertainment and marketing. The rapid



DUQM AIRPORT ROAD DUALISATION

The dualisation of the main road from Duqm Airport roundabout to Ras Markaz (54-km-long) constitutes a step forward in the establishment of a strategic road network within the masterplan of the Special Economic Zone in Duqm (SEZAD).

Abdullah bin Salim al Hakmani, Manager of Technical Affairs at SEZAD, said that the project cost stands at RO 57 million.

He affirmed the completion of more than 27 per cent of the 54-km road from Duqm Airport roundabout to Ras Markaz, noting that the whole project is expected to be completed by mid-2025.

growth in those areas is inspired by ongoing economic and tourism projects, as well as projects that will be implemented in the near future at the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZAD).

Like other fast-growing economic hotspots, the Wilayat of Al Duqm boasts a full set of government institutions and commercial establishments, said Adil bin Amer al Yafee, Deputy Wali of Al Duqm.

In particular, the establishment of SEZAD added momentum to the growth of the wilayat and generated many gains that also extended to adjoining wilayats in the Governorate of Al Wusta.

Projects already established in the wilayat include the Port of Duqm, a dry dock, a refinery, an airport and other projects scheduled to be implemented in the next few years, said Al Yafee, noting that the wilayat is being prepared to become a major destination for investors, businessmen and tourists from different countries of the world.

Zayed bin Juma al Junaibi, Member of the Municipal Council in the Wilayat of Al Duqm, said that the wilayat features a comparative advantage and a special investment climate that qualify it to accommodate the largest economic projects of strategic importance, like the Duqm Refinery. He added that existing and upcoming facilities gave a strong motive to upgrade public services and infrastructure in the Wilayat of Al Duqm and other wilayats in the governorate.





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ANCHORED BY A WORLD-CLASS SEAPORT ABUTTING INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING LANES, DUQM – WITH ITS OPTIMAL CONDITIONS FOR RENEWABLE SOLAR AND WIND POWER GENERATION – IS UNMATCHED IN ITS VALUE PROPOSITION AS A DESTINATION FOR LARGE-SCALE GREEN HYDROGEN PRODUCTION. PREDICTABLY, THIS DESERT EXPANSE HAS ALREADY PULLED IN A STAGGERING \$38 BILLION IN INVESTMENTS TO DATE, THAT WILL POWER THE GROWTH OF OMAN'S FUTURE GREEN ECONOMY

CONRAD PRABHU

Once conceived as a hub for predominantly hydrocarbon-based petrochemicals, industrial and mining related industries, Duqm Special Economic Zone (SEZAD) is rapidly making way for mega investments that are more aligned with Oman's sustainability goals.

In the hinterland of the SEZ are set to emerge vast farms paved with millions of solar panels and tens of thousands of wind turbines that will provide multi-gigawatts of renewable electricity to produce zero-carbon green hydrogen. While the bulk of this clean energy resource is earmarked for export, part of this output will power a new generation of green industries, including steel, aluminium, cement, white goods and even green chemicals.

Hydrogen Oman (Hydrom), the orchestrator and master-planner of Oman's green hydrogen industry, has already found takers for the massive land blocks it has carved out from around Al Wusta Governorate for the first round of green hydrogen projects. An auction process launched by Hydrom in November 2022 has already resulted in the award of the first two blocks.

To date, Hydrom has signed agreements with five different sets of developers. They include the winner of the first block — the Amnah Consortium — comprising Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP), Blue Power Partners (BPP), and Al Khadra Company (part of Hind Bahwan Group). Agreements were also signed with the winner of the second block — the POSCO-Engie Consortium — comprising POSCO Holdings, Engie, MESCAT Middle East DMCC, Samsung Engineering Co Ltd, Futuretech Energy Ventures, Korea East-West Power Co. Ltd, and Korea Southern Power Co. Ltd.

Three other projects that were initiated before the launch of Hydrom — the so-called 'Legacy Initiatives' — were also formalised. They were granted an exemption from participating in the auction process. Agreements were signed with all three Legacy Initiatives: Green Energy Oman (GEO), led by Shell New Energies, OQ, Intercontinental Energy and EnerTech; BP; and Hyport Duqm (comprising DEME Group and OQ). All five agreements, for the most part, are identical in their broad scope and mandate. (A sixth agreement signed more recently, in December 2023, concerns the Salalah2 project, which is planned for implementation in Dhofar Governorate).

The five firm green hydrogen projects already being prepped for implementation in Duqm will produce an aggregate of 750,000

tonnes per annum of green hydrogen. Oman's goal is to achieve the production of between 1 million — 1.5 million tonnes of green hydrogen annually by 2030. This equates into roughly 8 – 15 GW of electrolyser capacity and 16 – 30 GW of renewable power. Investment required to develop 1 GW of electrolyser and 1 GW of renewable capacity is an estimated \$1 billion, underscoring the magnitude of these projects.

Integrated end-to-end, these projects encompass the full hydrogen value chain: Renewables generation, Hydrogen production, Hydrogen derivatives conversion (into ammonia, methanol, sustainable aviation fuels, and so on), and Offtake. Opportunities also abound for domestic utilisation of green hydrogen in, for example, green steel production.

Hydrom is also overseeing the development of common infrastructure, encompassing the production and transmission of water to produce green hydrogen, the transmission of renewable electrons, and the transportation of green hydrogen from the land blocks to the downstream areas in the Duqm SEZ. This infrastructure is being initiated for implementation in collaboration with the 'national champions' — the national utility companies — such as Marafiq, Nama Water Services, OETC, Asyad Group and so on. At the downstream end, green hydrogen production is expected to catalyse investments in an array of industrial ventures. Hydrom, along with the Public Authority for Special Economic Zones and Free Zones (OPAZ) see opportunities for using green hydrogen or clean hydrogen in refining operations, steel manufacturing, and in the production of fuels for shipping, as well as sustainable chemicals. Hydrogen can also be used to produce a wide range of derivatives and fuels as well, including e-fuels or synthetic fuels, such as sustainable aviation fuels.

Downstream opportunities prioritised for hydrogen use will include low-carbon fuels for shipping, green steel manufacturing and the production of ammonia for export.

Already there are pledges by some developers to earmark part of their output for local consumption. For example, Amnah, the multinational consortium that won Oman's first land block (Z1-01), says its green hydrogen will be utilised to support the production of either green steel or intermediate low-carbon commodities, such as Hot Briquetted Iron (HBI) and Direct Reduced (DR) iron. Amnah expects to invest around \$6 – 7 billion in a major scheme targeting an output of 210,000 tonnes of green hydrogen in the first phase of its development.

EPICENTRE OF OMAN'S EMERGING GREEN HYDROGEN ECONOMY



Award imminent - World Hydrogen Summit - Rotterdam



POSCO Engie green hydrogen design



DUQM REFINERY PROJECT PROPELS OMAN-KUWAIT PARTNERSHIP & INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

OQ8, the spearhead of Oman-Kuwait's largest investment project, fuels diversification efforts in the Sultanate.

SOCIAL IMPACT

A 60-per cent nationalisation rate highlights OQ8's dedication to employing Omani talent.

Investing in the future, 114 local and 10 international scholarships have been awarded through educational initiatives.

OPERATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

The refinery produces valuable refined products like diesel, jet fuel, naphtha and LPG.

SAFETY AND HEALTH

HSSE policies form the cornerstone of operations, resulting in over 6.8 million incident-free hours in 2023.

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

OQ8 prioritises sustainability by employing advanced waste management systems and utilising effective emission control technologies.

GLOBAL ENERGY INFLUENCE

The project facilitates enhanced trade flows between East and West, while focusing on market expansion in Asia and Africa.



INFRASTRUCTURE INTEGRATION

A network of connected projects, including OQ Gas Networks, Oman Tank Terminal, Marafiq, and OQ Trading, ensures seamless operations.

Ras Markaz Crude Oil Terminal plays a pivotal role in this integration.

INVESTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Massive investment of \$9 billion underscores commitment to Oman's economic transformation.

OQ8 Refinery poised to become a key player in the global energy market, strategically importing crude oil to secure its position.

GLOBAL IMPACT

Refinery boasts an impressive capacity of over 230,000 barrels per day, significantly boosting Oman's refining output.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

Collaboration with Kuwait Petroleum International strengthens ties and aligns with Oman Vision 2040's diversification goals.

REGIONAL COOPERATION

OQ8 serves as a catalyst, promoting economic stability and growth within the Gulf Cooperation Council region, setting a precedent for future collaborative initiatives.

(ICV) COMMITMENT

OQ8 demonstrates its commitment to Oman by investing \$2.4 billion in local suppliers and \$534 million in supporting SMEs.



A GOOD LIFESTYLE FOR MULTIPLE CULTURES

AFRAH AL BALUSHI
@AfrahAlBalushia

While the city of Duqm is distinguished by its quiet location on the eastern coast of the Sultanate of Oman, it has become a place of attraction for various groups, especially after it became one of the most prominent investment stations in Oman, and facilitates the lifestyle to live in, whether permanent residence or partial residence.

Duqm was previously home to fishermen and their families for generations, but things seem to have changed quickly. Education and healthcare have become the most prominent things that encourage people to choose this city to reside in, whether permanently or partially, and in Al Duqm; as it is still in a growth and construction phase, most people want to invest in this city.

Al Duqm brings together diverse cultures that suit the lifestyle available in it, as its climate and environment make those who visit it wish to stay there as long as possible, which explains the population and urban growth in the city. It is today bringing together multiple nationalities, diverse cultures and peoples who contribute with Omani cadres in building a modern city and an economic destination that meets the aspirations of its people, visitors and residents.

With the diversity of cultures in it, Al Saad International School is one of the most important components of the modern city of Al Duqm. The school, which began its first academic year three years ago, was originally established to be a modern school community for Omani, Arab and foreign students, and at the same time it encourages the engineers coming from the furthest part of this world to move to Al Duqm where his children could continue their school education.

The health sector has witnessed a noticeable expansion over the past years, as before the establishment of the Special Economic Zone in Duqm, the population numbers were limited and the Duqm Hospital affiliated with the Ministry of Health was sufficient for the purpose. Today, the need for expansion of the health sector in Al Duqm has increased, and this is why the economic zone was established early. For Duqm, a number of private health complexes have been established to keep pace with population growth in the city. Today, the number of these centres has increased and they open their doors around the clock, and their outpatient clinics cover all medical specialities.

In order to attract working there, attention has been paid to providing amenities and entertainment to attract people, whether workers or tourists, to be a tourist station in addition to being an economic area.

Various hotel options are also available, as there are more than 12 hotel options, including 4-star hotels overlooking the sea, other 3-star or 2-star hotels, and hotel apartments that occupy a distinctive location in the centre of Al Duqm. Even, hotel options are not limited to only it depends on the type of accommodation, but also includes the location, services provided, and view.

Al Duqm is classified as a major option for investment and tourism for those coming to the Sultanate of Oman from abroad, whether for the purpose of investment or tourism. It is also a suitable option for many Omani families who want to spend a happy vacation on a clear and clean beach. It is similarly an important location for those who wish to practice the hobby of fishing, diving, or other sporting hobbies. It considering an ideal location for those who want to visit the Arabian Oryx Reserve, Bar Al Hikman, or other tourist sites in Al Wusta Governorate.

