

Lesson Four:	Madinat Al Irfan – a case study of urban development		
Aim:	To gain a greater understanding of the nature of the Madinat Al Irfan development and its wider impact on the Omani economy		
Specification Links:	<p>GCSE Geography AQA 8035: 3.2.1 how urban growth has created opportunities; a stimulus for economic development</p> <p>GCSE Geography CIE 0460: 1.6 the effect of change in land use in an urban area</p> <p>GCSE Geography Edexcel A: 4.6 a chosen city's structure in terms of its functions</p> <p>GCSE Geography Edexcel B: 3.3b characteristics of different urban land uses and the factors that influence land use type</p> <p>GCSE Geography Eduqas A: 2.3.2 consequences of urbanisation in a global city</p> <p>GCSE Geography Eduqas B: 1.1.2 the ways of life and current challenges created by urbanisation</p> <p>GCSE Geography OCR A J383: 2.2.6 contemporary challenges that affect urban change</p> <p>GCSE Geography OCR B J384: 5.1.b causes and consequences of contrasting urban trends</p>		
Key Vocabulary:	Madinat Al Irfan un/employment MICE	wadi GDP socio-economic	sustainability multiplier effect stakeholder
Resources:		Learning Outcomes:	
<p>PowerPoint: Madinat Al Irfan development</p> <p>Information station posters</p> <p>Land use map template</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To gain a greater understanding of the Madinat Al Irfan development • To be able to practise land use mapping • To be able to display data related to the Omani economy • To understand the wider socio-economic effects of Madinat Al Irfan 	
Lesson Introduction:			
<p>This lesson introduces students to the proposed Madinat Al Irfan development in the outskirts of Muscat. Students will piece together the different facets of urban development (such as design, stakeholders and access) and link urban development in Oman to socio-economic impacts.</p>			
Starter: (10 mins)			

Slide 2-4: A new city development

Students should watch video. Using the slides to support, teachers should introduce the idea of the Madinat Al Irfan development. Then students should list (or create a mind map) of all the key elements one should include in a new city (such as education facilities, parks, retail outlets etc.). Teachers can collect ideas from around the room until the list is exhausted.

Students should comment on which elements they consider to be essential and needed in the highest amounts (for example, do they prioritise residential over commercial?) It would be useful for the next activity to have this list recorded in full by students.

Main Activities (40 mins)

Slide 5-8: Land Use in Madinat Al Irfan

Students should watch the video which highlights the details of the development. Then on their [Land use map template](#), students should create a key of different land use types and shade the map accordingly. Students can note whether all of the elements they included in their initial list are included in the Madinat Al Irfan development. Students should then comment on whether the priorities of Madinat Al Irfan match the priorities they identified in the starter activity.

Slide 9-10: Information Station research

Students can go on a gallery walk around the classroom to gain more factual information about the Madinat Al Irfan development using the six [Information station posters](#). Students can then be given a quick understanding test as seen on the slide.

Slide 11-14: Socio-economic impacts of Madinat Al Irfan

Students should graph GDP data and unemployment figures on the same axes. Teachers can discuss with students whether they should use a bar graph or a line graph to show the data and open a further discussion about the nature of continuous and discrete data.

Reading the statement by His Excellency Dr Talal Al-Rahbi, students could then comment on how the Madinat Al Irfan development may change the socio-economy of Muscat and in which ways.

Reflection: (10 mins)

Slide 15: Sustainability and Madinat Al Irfan

Students can attempt the exam style question regarding Madinat Al Irfan and sustainability.

Extension & AS/A Level progression:

- Research into whether Madinat Al Irfan is truly considered a MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions) development? [as described by the CEO of OMRAN]

Bibliography:

Madinat Al Irfan introductory video and more detailed video edited from Omran Group

www.youtube.com/watch?v=sn9SiMX5zp8

Madinat Al Irfan masterplan image from Allies and Morrison www.alliesandmorrison.com/project/madinat-al-irfan

Oman GDP data from World Bank Data: data.worldbank.org

All information station images are stills from the above videos