



The Cyrene Declaration

An Overview



Contents

5 Introduction

The Cyrene Declaration; An Overview

- 7 Guiding Principles
- 7 Activities of The GMCDA
- 8 Governance
- 8 Objectives of The GMCDA

Regional Plan

- 13 Jabal al Akhdar, The Green Mountain –
A Mediterranean Paradise
- 14 A Vision for Antiquities
- 18 A Vision for Nature. Preservation
- 23 A Vision for a Positive Future for the People
- 26 A Vision for a Sustainable Resource Management
and Renewable Energy Supply
- 30 A Vision for a Sustainable Development

Eco Tourism

- 36 Cyrene Grand Hotel – working with World Heritage Sites
- 40 Spa Resort – Agriculture, Nature, Tourism
- 44 Canyon Resort – Integration into the landscape

Other Libyan Projects

- 50 Leptis Magna – New and Old
- 54 Palm Beach Marina, Tripoli –
The City reaches out to the Mediterranean Sea
- 58 Medina – Restoration and Rejuvenation



Introduction

This brochure accompanies an exhibition of models and graphic displays that express a vision of sustainable development for The Green Mountain area of Eastern Libya.

The Cyrene Declaration – made in the ancient Greek Gymnasium at Cyrene, in the heart of The Green Mountain, on 10 September 2007 – marks the inception of the world's first regional-scale conservation and development project. Both the Cyrene Declaration and the exhibition respond to a series of challenges and opportunities, some of which are unique to this region, and others of which exist elsewhere in Libya and on a global scale.

First and most urgent among these challenges is the need to tackle climate change. Africa, and its arid northern areas in particular, are threatened by falling rainfall and rapid desertification. It is in Libya's interest to develop a new model of socio-economic development that minimises the release of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane. The development of more diverse sources of economic growth, such as tourism, is part of Libya's strategy to reduce its reliance on oil and gas. With its emphasis on renewable energy and integrated regional planning, The Green Mountain will also be of relevance to other countries whose economies currently rely on the exportation of fossil fuels and the importation of food and manufactured goods.

Of equal urgency is the protection of the local archaeological and natural treasures of The Green Mountain. This area is one of outstanding natural beauty and bio-diversity that contains one of the world's most important UNESCO World Heritage Sites, covering the Greek and Roman remains of Cyrene. The protection and preservation of both natural and cultural treasures of The Green Mountain are of international importance. Security and maintenance of the ancient sites must be improved, and a world-class museum built to house the vast and valuable store of ancient artefacts.

The third great challenge is to improve the economic and social fortunes of the inhabitants of The Green Mountain. The local population is disproportionately young and lacking in employment. In order to participate in the sustainable economic revival of their region, they need better training and education, health provision, sporting and cultural facilities, infrastructure and financial support.

The Green Mountain Conservation and Development Authority (GMCD) is being established in recognition of our collective responsibilities to society, the environment, and the cultural heritage of human civilisation. It will oversee the creation, development and ongoing management of a National Park, archaeological conservation areas, mixed use areas for commerce and cultural and environmental tourism, sustainable infrastructure, renewable power generation and a range of facilities for the local population. This will enable local economic, social, cultural and environmental agendas to complement and reinforce each other within a vibrant economy that benefits the local population, the Libyan people and the international community.

Three sustainable development projects to facilitate cultural and eco-tourism are already under way in The Green Mountain: the Spa Resort, the Canyon Resort and the Cyrene Grand Hotel. The Guiding Principles of the Cyrene Declaration are also being applied to other development projects in Libya, three of which – in or near the capital, Tripoli – are presented here: the restoration and redevelopment of the old medina; the re-development of a landmark marina site; and the creation of tourism facilities at the ancient Roman city of Leptis Magna.



The Cyrene Declaration

Made at Cyrene, Libya on 10 September, 2007

An Overview

Guiding Principles

The GMCDA will be structured and managed according to the following principles:

- The GMCDA will be committed to the creation of a thriving economic, ecological and cultural environment that benefits all current and future inhabitants of and visitors to the Green Mountain area
- All activities undertaken by the GMCDA will be in line with the interdependent and mutually reinforcing pillars of sustainable development: economic development, social development and environmental protection and restoration
- The GMCDA will be committed to the development and use of sustainable and renewable sources of energy and raw materials
- The GMCDA will be committed to the development – exclusive, if possible – of organic farming methods, aquaculture and food production
- The GMCDA will be committed to the cultural and sporting development of all the current and future inhabitants of the Green Mountain region
- The GMCDA believes that all local people should be given the opportunity to participate in the economic and cultural re-generation of the Green Mountain region

- To the maximum extent possible, all labour, food, energy and raw materials will be sourced locally
- The GMCDA's most urgent responsibilities will be the protection from further degradation of the archaeological remains throughout the Green Mountain region and unplanned urban sprawl
- The GMCDA's success in creating a sustainable region depends partly on the efforts of the global community to curb unsustainable human activities, such as the emission of greenhouse gases; we will lobby the forces that influence these activities to redress the deficiencies in these systems
- The GMCDA will be committed to the fostering and sharing of knowledge and understanding between Libyans and non-Libyans of all ages, genders, religious persuasions and countries of origin, including the provision of access to the historical and natural wonders of the region
- The GMCDA will never violate or condone the violation of any laws of any countries in which it operates, including the making of illegal payments
- The GMCDA will respect the rights and wishes of all its stakeholders, particularly those of the local population
- The GMCDA will be governed according to the highest prevailing international standards
- The performance of the GMCDA in respect of its good governance and effectiveness shall be monitored by an independent, reputable auditor and reported annually without interference or censorship by the GMCDA.

Activities of the GMCDA

The GMCDA will plan, establish and control in perpetuity the following:

- A National Park – to protect an area of outstanding natural beauty and ecological diversity that encompasses a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Sustainable Infrastructure – including renewable power generation, waste management and recycling facilities, closed-loop water systems, and sustainable transport
- Economic Development – sustainable local economy and industry, including sustainable fishing, organic agriculture and the manufacturing and servicing of new technologies
- Microbanking Services – to encourage and enable the local population to participate in the economic, cultural and sustainable regeneration of the Green Mountain
- Archaeological Conservation Areas – international collaborations to preserve and further excavate some of the world's greatest Greco-Roman and Islamic remains
- Mixed Use Areas – for visitors and locals, including hotels, restaurants, museums, performing arts facilities and sports facilities
- A world-class institution of higher learning – dedicated to research, development and education in the field of sustainable development



Governance

The GMCDA will be governed by a board of trustees under the direct authority of the Libyan government. The trustees include leading experts on sustainable development, including environmentalists, economists, conservationists, architects, archaeologists and public administrators.

The board of trustees will guide, oversee and approve all executive actions and partnerships with other organisations, including local and foreign government bodies, NGOs and businesses.

Objectives of the GMCDA

The goals of the GMCDA are the following:

- To create and protect in perpetuity the world's first regional-scale, world-class conservation and development area
- To move towards "CO2 neutrality" on a regional scale
- To create local economic development, high quality resources, reliable income and infrastructure for the residents the Green Mountain region
- To protect and restore the Green Mountain's unique animals, plants and geography
- To create a master conservation plan for UNESCO World Heritage sites in the Green Mountain region
- To exchange knowledge and understanding between young Libyans and their brothers and sisters throughout the world
- To create a long-term cultural and environmental tourism industry that will provide access for people interested in the cultural heritage of human civilisation
- To provide partnership opportunities for volunteer organisations representing all age groups and from all regions
- To create intelligent infrastructure with maximum utility and minimum impact
- To facilitate and encourage inward investment.

Saif al-Islam Gadafi, Cyrene,
10 September, 2007.







Jabal al Akhdar The Green Mountain A Mediterranean Paradise



1
Bordering the Mediterranean Sea to the north, Libya lies between Egypt to the east, Sudan to the southeast, Chad and Niger to the south, and Algeria and Tunisia to the west. Libya is the fourth largest country in Africa, covering an area of almost 1.8 million square kilometres (700,000 sq mi), 90% of which is desert. Boasting a stretch of almost 2,000km of largely unspoilt coastline and a temperate Mediterranean climate, the country is a haven that must be protected and enjoyed.

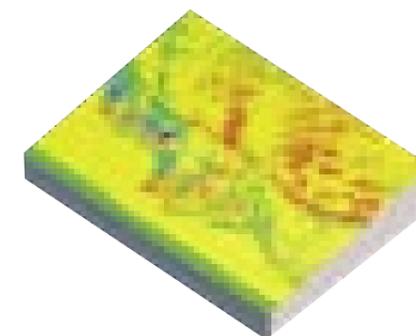
Libya has been inhabited since the 8th millennium BC, when its coastal plain was home to a Neolithic people. It has since been a melting pot, with the Phoenicians, Carthaginians, Greeks, Romans, Byzantines and Ottomans ruling all or part of the area. The country is home to some of the most important and best-preserved prehistoric, Greek, Roman, Judaic and Islamic antiquities in the world, with archaeological sites at Cyrene, Leptis Magna, Sabratha and Ghadames. The three historical regions of the country are Tripolitania, the Fezzan and Cyrenaica; the modern capital, Tripoli, is home to 1.7 million of Libya's 5.7 million people.

Micro-Climate

The micro-climate of The Green Mountain is generated by the northern winds moving across the Mediterranean Sea and picking up humidity. Once this humid air passes over The Green Mountain, it is forced upwards by the sudden rise in topography. As it rises and continues to cool, the air releases its warmer, heavier water molecules, falling as rain and ground level condensation over the mountains.

Once the air passes over the mountains, it has lost all its humidity and is very dry, continuing southward into the Saharan desert. This process was once highly visible when the region would frequently receive more than double the rainfall of the area south of the mountains. However, due to extreme climate changes in the past 15 years, the 600mm annual rainfall has now dropped to as low as 250mm per year.

1. Libya; A hidden treasure on the Mediterranean Sea
2. The Green Mountain, Libya 220km from Tukrah to Darnah
3. Costa del Sol, Spain 280km from Tarifa to Motril
4. Côte d'Azur, France 270km from Cassis to Menton
5. The Green Mountain, irradiation study
Opposite: Coastal view



A Vision for Antiquities



1

1. Pentapolis at the Ptolemaean Empire 323BC
2 and 3. Ruins of Apollonia
4 and 5. Ruined city of Cyrene



2

History

Libya has been continuously inhabited since Phoenicians times, when its first trading posts were established. By the 5th century BC, Carthage had founded the cities of Oea (Tripoli), Libdah (Leptis Magna) and Sabratha in an area that was later called Tripolis, or "Three Cities". Libya's current-day capital, Tripoli, takes its name from these early settlements.

Cyrene flourished under the Greeks who conquered Eastern Libya, developing the city in 631 BC. Within 200 years, four more important Greek cities were established in the area: Barce (Al Marj); Euhesperides (later Berenice, present-day Benghazi); Teuchira (later Arsinoe, present-day Tukrah); and Apollonia (Susah), the port of Cyrene. Together with Cyrene, they were known as the Pentapolis (Five Cities). The Green Mountain has a richly layered archaeology with remains that record the country's heritage through the ages.

The Romans unified both regions of Libya, and for more than 400 years, Tripolitania and Cyrenaica became prosperous Roman provinces. Roman ruins, such as those of Leptis Magna, attest to the vitality of the country, where populous cities and even small towns enjoyed the amenities of urban life.



3

Conservation

The Green Mountain is rich with prehistoric, Greek, Roman, Judaic and Islamic antiquity. For many years, this precious cache of surviving history has remained concealed within the immense and beautiful landscape of the region. There are few measures in place to preserve and protect this treasure-trove, which is suffering looting, and there is limited access to admire or study it. We shall ensure the wider excavation of the sites, in order to more fully understand and display the extraordinary civilisations that once existed here. Protecting this UNESCO World Heritage site is an urgent and important mission. Rather than approaching the challenge in isolation, our vision places it at the heart of the regional plan. This is an opportunity to combine an ethical and commercial strategy in which world-class antiquities attract the most demanding and rewarding visitors. A thriving tourist industry, based on a complete and authentic cultural and environmental experience, will revitalise the local economy and create thousands of new jobs, of which 5,000 could exist at the UNESCO World Heritage Centre alone.



4



5

Image 2 © WWF-Shoreline; image 3 © Basil Pao

- 1. Litter
- 2. Museum
- 3. Storage
- 4. Temple of Zeus



Museum

At the moment, there is no suitable museum for the display and preservation of the huge quantities of antiquities that are a treasure of the Libyan national heritage. We propose to create a new museum to allow visitors to experience the history of the region with displays of artefacts and objects that will allow tourists to gain a full understanding of Libya's legacy. We will also create the right conditions for the display of objects of this value and age – environmentally controlled rooms with controlled access and appropriate security.

Storage

The storage facilities need to be reconsidered, and brought up to world class standards for conservation and preservation.

Site Improvement

Libya has long suffered from litter control problems, and while its situation is improving, rubbish still detracts from the scenic quality of its historic sites. A key to the successful conservation of Libya's heritage is the development of a managed waste disposal system. Neglected sites need to be cleared of waste to present a clean and cared for appearance. They require improved excavation, conservation and restoration techniques. Enhanced site security will also be implemented to help preserve antiquities, stop looting and prevent waste dumping. Appropriate waste disposal facilities are required for staff and visitors alike.

H.R.H. The Prince of Wales School of Traditional Arts

An integral part of The Green Mountain regional plan is the establishment of a school specialising in the training of traditional building, restoration and other craft methodologies under the auspices of H.R.H. The Prince of Wales School of Traditional Arts. The school will work together with the regional planners, archeologists, and the local population in helping to restore the old souk at Cyrene. In this way, the inhabitants of The Green Mountain will become actively involved in the running and management of the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Cyrene.

**A thousand years
of history is written
into its ruins.**

UNESCO World Heritage Centre

A Vision for Nature. Preservation



1



2



3



4

1. Dragonflies reflect a healthy water supply
 2. Endangered loggerhead sea turtle of Libya
 3. Colourful sea fish
 4. Dramatic rock formation of Kouf National Park
- Opposite: View of coast from valley

Nature

The Green Mountain is currently a breathtakingly beautiful coastal region that has infinite potential to attract visitors. Its continued allure depends on the effective protection of its biodiversity and natural environment.

Many Mediterranean coasts have suffered from poorly planned development that damages the environment and destroys the natural assets that attract the most affluent visitors. This is environmentally, socially and economically unsustainable. In order to preserve coasts and their ecology for the local inhabitants and for the enjoyment of visitors, it will be necessary to place strict limits on the nature and quantity of building allowed.

Although there is currently a nature reserve, we believe that it might not be sufficiently protected to prevent damage. We propose the creation of a greater number of adequately monitored nature reserves to ensure that any development is restricted to small pockets.

In this way, 1,000 new jobs will be created and the infrastructural elements will be kept compact and efficient. The rest of The Green Mountain will be kept free from urban sprawl.

All of us have to share the Earth's fragile ecosystems and precious resources, and each of us has a role to play in preserving them. If we are to go on living together on this earth, we must all be responsible for it.

Kofi Annan





- Environmental plan of the Green Mountain**
- - - Region Boundary
 - Contour lines
 - Sea
 - City
 - ✈ Airport
 - Road
 - International road, expressway
 - Boat
 - - - Wadi

- Saltlake
- Tree Savannah
- Desert
- Grass Savannah
- Land
- Agricultural land use 20% to 70%
- Agricultural land use over 70%
- Areas that host the main biological richness and are the most threatened
- High-level of sea bottom bio-diversity
- Main threats as pollution hot spots
- ▲ Turtle nesting site
- Reef barrier
- Wetland of international importance



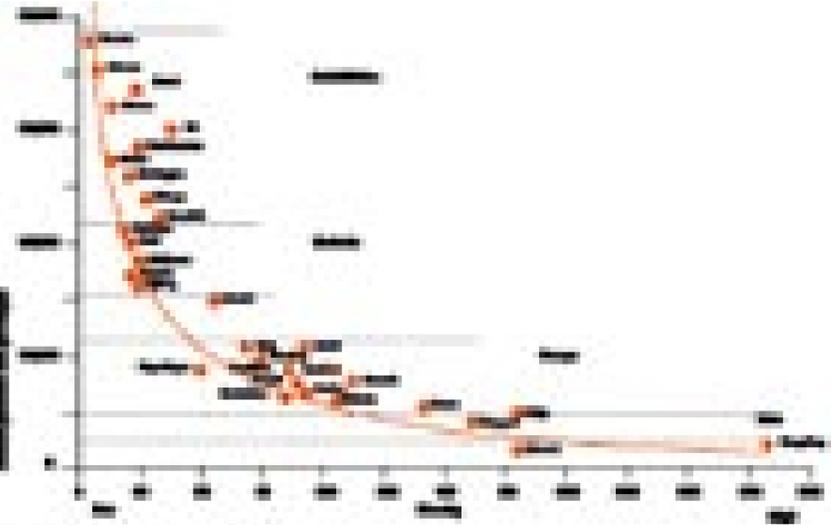
A Vision for a Positive Future for the People

Development

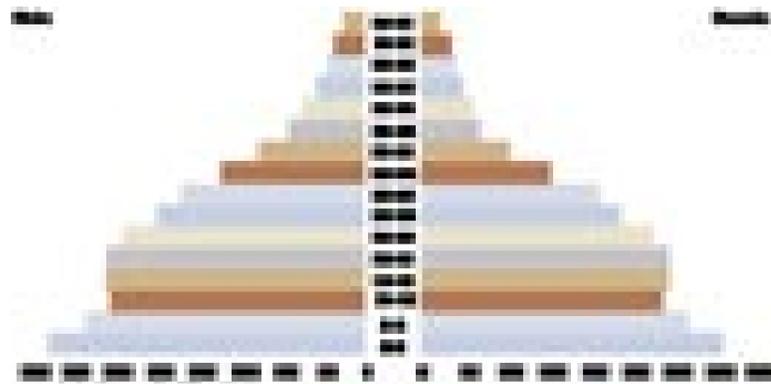
Our vision not only addresses the environmental impact of development, but also concerns the processes and people involved. The creation of economic opportunities for local communities and the safeguarding of their cultural heritage are vital to the success of the region. In design terms, the vision is therefore one that fights sprawl and creates more compact settlements that are mixed-use and high density. Intelligent infrastructure – from IT to roads and public transport – is imperative. The modernisation of schools, hospitals and vital public amenities will sit at the heart of these communities, in line with the country's ethos of providing free education for all levels of study.

Population

Libya has a young and rapidly growing population who must be given opportunities to contribute to the country's life and economy. The majority of the population is under 30 years old. 30% are officially unemployed, a proportion that is set to rise as greater efficiency is brought into the public sector. This project will compensate by helping to create an estimated 65,000 new jobs in tourism and related industries, as well as safeguarding the main attractions: the environmental and cultural assets. Eco-tourism will teach visitors to Libya to respect its heritage and environment.



1



People in thousands, Libya 2006

2



3



4

- 1. Chart showing how as density elevates, car use reduces. Urban density in persons per hectare
- 2. Disproportionate youth proportion of population
- 3 and 4. Fréjus school, France by Foster + Partners uses traditional smoke-chimney cooling methods in its construction

© Basil Fao; image 3 © Dennis Gilbert/VIEW; image 4 © Paul Raftery

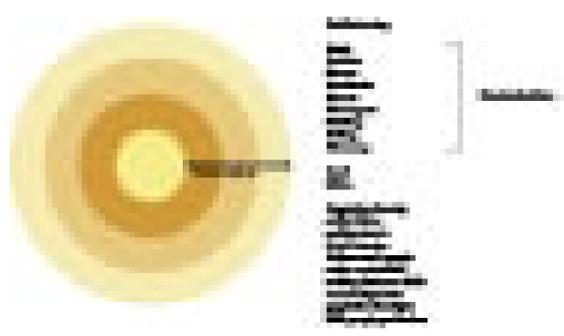
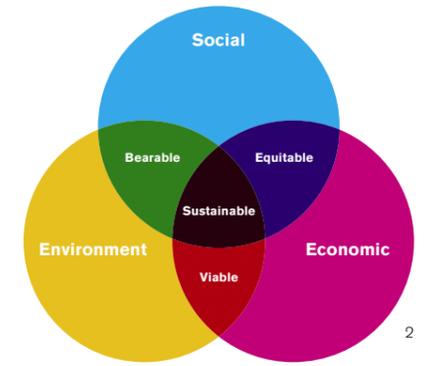


Image 4 and 5 © Foster + Partners



2



3

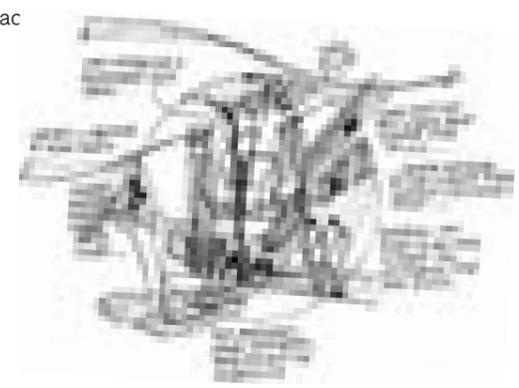
Communities

Any plan must focus on the building of sustainable communities, rather than the development of individual elements, creating homes and not housing. Tourism facilities will be integrated into the landscape and linked to the local communities, rather than isolated.

Microbanking

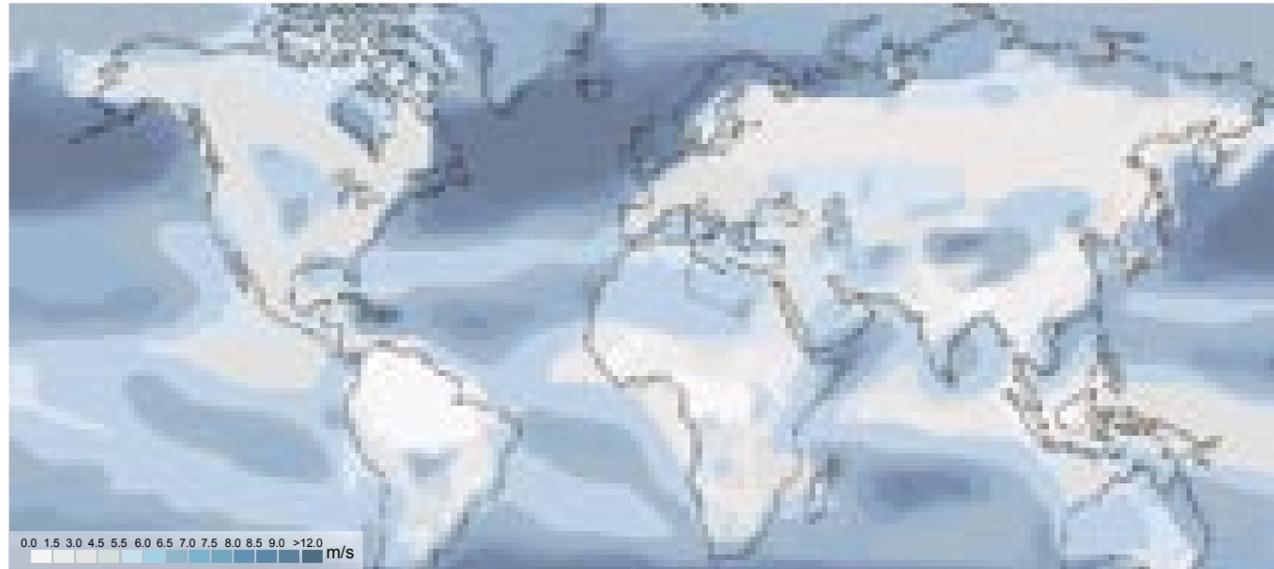
Microbanking is a means of extending credit, usually in the form of small loans with no collateral, to non-traditional borrowers, such as those in rural or underdeveloped areas. Its introduction could help to lift the fortunes and social development of the communities in The Green Mountain. Greater personal ownership will encourage all to become better stewards of the natural and built environment and build a valuable legacy for future generations.

- 1. Traditionally-inspired architecture at Lathrun, Green Mountain
- 2. Sustainability diagram
- 3. Urban sprawl, Sousah, Green Mountain
- 4. Masdar, a zero carbon city proposed for Abu Dhabi designed by Foster + Partners that draws inspiration from traditional Arab walled cities
- 5. Diagram showing natural ventilation captured in building construction



5

A Vision for a Sustainable Resource Management and Renewable Energy Supply



1. World wind energy diagram
 2. Jatropha plantation
 3. Jatropha nut
 4. Oil production
 5. World solar energy resources. The hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth is 57.7°C at Al' Aziziyah, Libya on September 13, 1922
 6. Average annual precipitation

Energy and Resource Management

Energy and water are basic requirements for civilisation. Our vision is to capitalise on The Green Mountain's natural climate, as a clean and renewable source of energy to sustain life in Libya far into the future.

Wind

Wind is a natural resource found across all coastal areas around the world. With more than 220 kilometers of coastline, The Green Mountain is blessed with a continuous source of potential clean energy at all times of the year. These winds typically flow across the coast of The Green Mountain and are funnelled up the steep canyons where their velocity increases. This resource can then best be capitalized upon with the sustainable use of wind turbines.

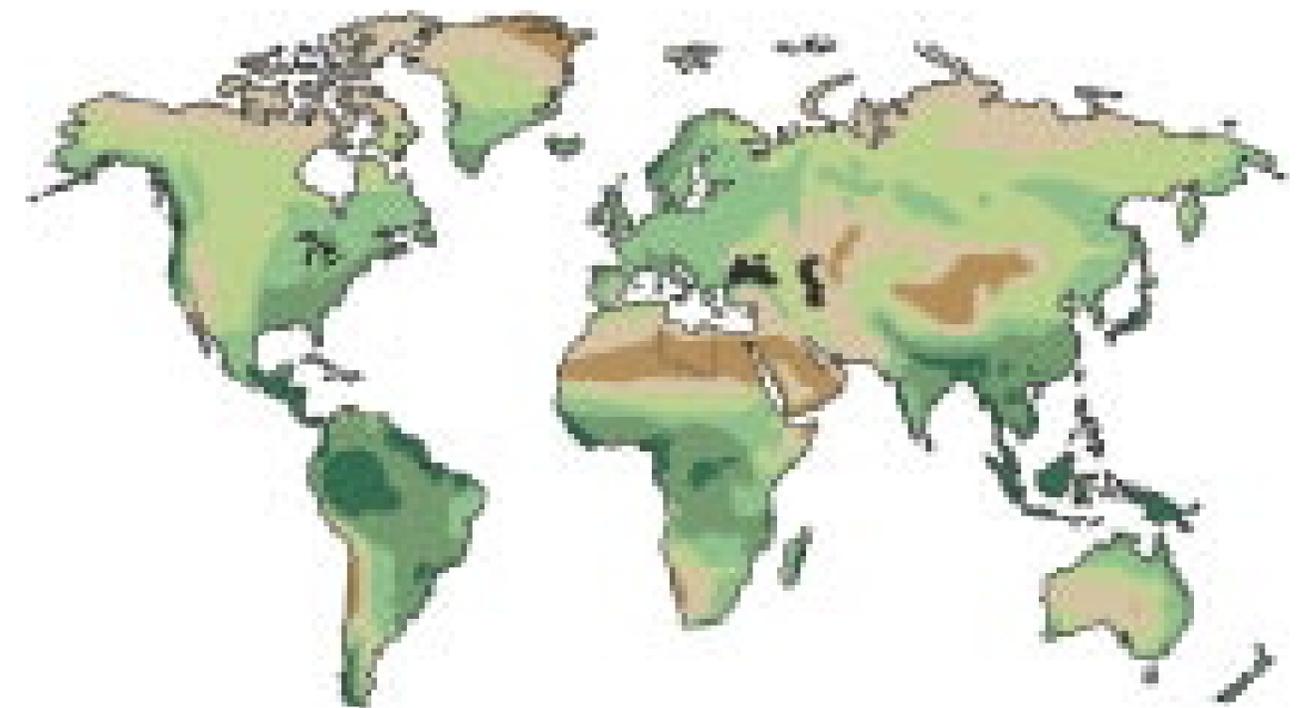
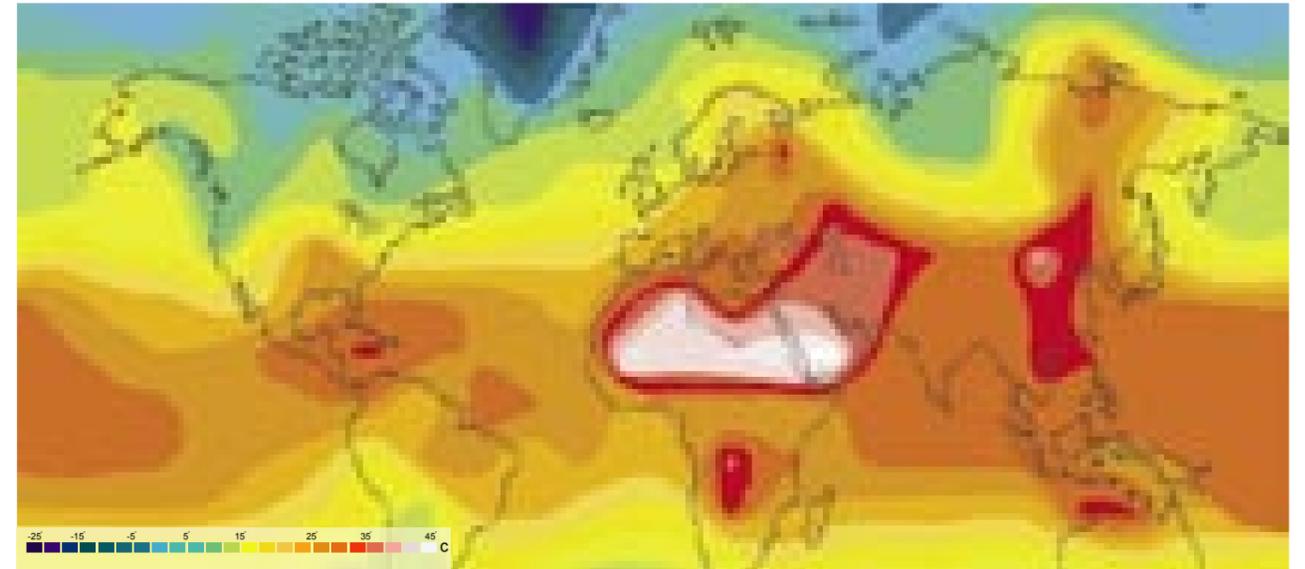
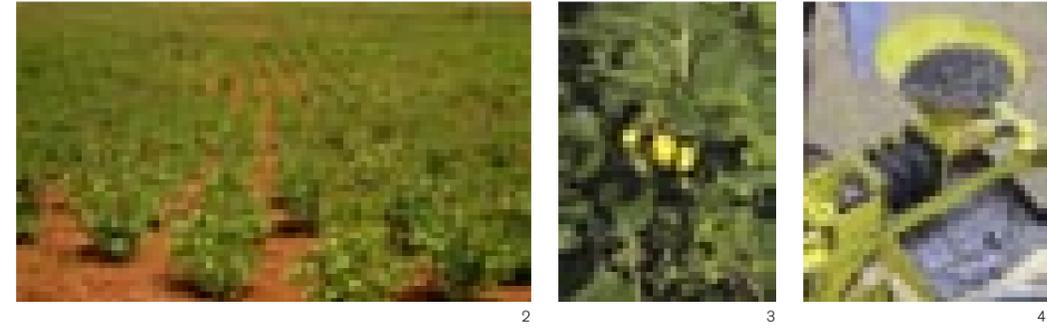
While roughly 140 wind turbines could be used to exclusively power The Green Mountain, we feel that a mixed approach of various sustainable energy technologies is most suitable. A limited number of wind turbines can be used both to generate electricity and as viewing platforms for visitors.

Water

With limited rainfall and sweltering heat, Libyans have long faced adverse conditions. This led the ancient Romans to construct extensive aqueducts throughout The Green Mountain, the ruins of which stand today.

Although The Green Mountain enjoys a relatively high level of atmospheric moisture, rainfall in the region is low and has more than halved in just fifteen years from 600mm to 250mm. 93% of the country is desert; a proportion that is set to rise as a result of climate change. In 1976, The Green Mountain had some 500,000 hectares of forest; today there remains just 180,000 hectares. In The Green Mountain, the level of the water table has dropped from 200m below the surface to 600m below the surface. It is therefore essential to minimise the use and wastage of water. It is estimated that in excess of 30,000 new engineering jobs could be created by renewable industries in the region.

Image 2, 3 and 4 © www.jatropha.de





1. Polymeric tubing membrane
2. On-shore wind turbine
3, 4. Solar collectors

Solar

The hottest temperature ever recorded on Earth is 57.7°C at Al' Aziziyah, Libya on September 13, 1922. The sunlight falling on a single square kilometre over the course of one year contains as much energy as 1.5 million barrels of oil. In this region, we feel that solar power is one of the most promising sustainable technologies capable of meeting a significant proportion of future energy demand. There are various strategies available to harness solar energy, including: Concentrated Solar Power (CSP), involving large scale installations in the desert; photovoltaic, whereby panels convert sunlight direct into electricity; and convection (or thermal) energy, which uses the direct heat of the sun without the need for extra power.

I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait 'til oil and coal run out before we tackle that.

Thomas Edison (1847 - 1931)

Image 2 © Foster + Partners; image 3 © Jim West/Alamy



A Vision for a Sustainable Development



1. Fish farming will broaden the local opportunities
2. Benidorm, Spain – over development along the coast
- 3 and 4. Avoid development towards coast line
4. Encourage preserved public coast line for all
5. Ras al Halal, 2005 – What's the future?
6. Traditional Mediterranean slope
7. Potential danger of uncontrolled development

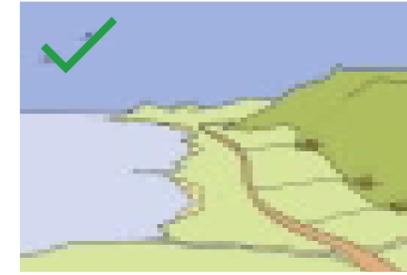
Agriculture

Our vision for the sustainable economic development of The Green Mountain is to create a region that will once again be the breadbasket of Libya, producing food and, crucially, energy. The Green Mountain has the perfect conditions to harvest solar (photovoltaic and thermovoltaic) and wind energy. The expanse and climate of the region also provide an opportunity to harvest carbon neutral or carbon negative bio-fuels, such as the Jatropha bean, to provide the required energy.

Libya's agricultural produce (primarily wheat, barley, dates, almonds, grapes, citrus fruits, watermelon, olives and tomatoes) meets only 15% of the country's total demand. 75% of the goods imported to Libya are foods; we hope to reverse this to help the country become more self-reliant. Tourism and agriculture must go hand in hand. Consumption should be of local produce. In this fertile place, fishing and agriculture are essential to the process of revitalisation and the success of the hospitality industry.

Eco-tourism

Eco-tourism is about connecting conservation, communities and sustainable development. It is about people, balance and the allocation of finite resources over time to generate maximum social benefit. If Libya is to develop its tourism industry, it must be done sustainably to safeguard the interests of city dwellers, farmers and the wider environment. Crucially, it must allow visitors to discover the country's rich heritage and striking geography.



There are social, environmental and economic aspects to sustainable development, all of which must be in balance in order for eco-tourism to succeed. Eco-tourism must effectively promote the preservation of entire local ecosystems, rather than individual species, vistas or sites. It must be economically viable in order to attract the right investment, and requires proper planning, financing, marketing and management. We will devise a scheme that follows the principles of the Quebec Declaration and Oslo Statement on Eco-tourism. The Quebec Declaration, for example, calls for the conservation of natural and cultural heritage; the inclusion of local and indigenous communities in planning, development and operation; interpretation of the natural and cultural heritage of the destination for the visitor; and the attraction of independent travellers and small groups, who are less damaging to the environment.







Cultural and Eco-Tourism

The GMCDA's Guiding Principles are based, in part, on the recommendations made in the Toronto Statement, which calls on nations to recognize the valuable role that eco-tourism plays in local sustainable development, and for local communities to be involved in – and benefit from – the planning, creation and management of eco-tourism and its supporting industries.

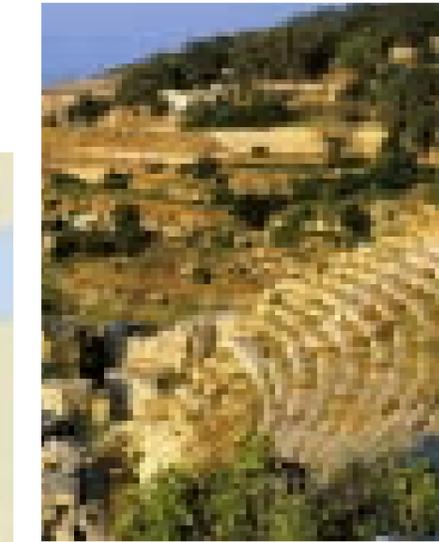
Cultural and eco-tourism stands in contrast to mass tourism in three important ways: firstly, it attracts more affluent visitors who are more willing and able to contribute to the local economy; secondly, overall visitor numbers are lower, so energy consumption and pollution are minimized; finally, it provides an economic incentive for the preservation of natural and cultural assets, since these are the main attraction. Taken together, these factors combine to produce a more sustainable, authentic, equitable and profitable tourism industry.

The Green Mountain is particularly well suited to the development of cultural and eco-tourism, because it combines world-class antiquities, a rich local culture, great natural beauty and bio-diversity, and low levels of existing development. Illustrated here are three projects developed in the Green Mountain Region being financed by The Libyan Social and Economic Development Fund in partnership with private investors from UAE and other countries.

The selected projects are being developed by Gulf Tourism Investments International Ltd. in association with Foster+Partners.

Cyrene Grand Hotel

Working with World Heritage Sites



- 1. Site location
- 2. Low impact development, buildings nestled behind the trees
- 3. Ruins
- 4. Concept diagram – maximising site position
- 5. British Museum, London – sensitive intervention with historic building by Foster + Partners
- 6. Sackler Galleries, Royal Academy of Arts, London



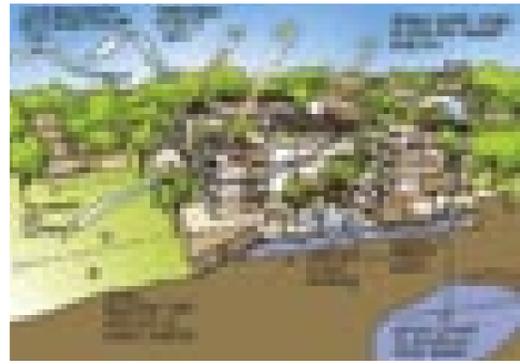
The site for the Grand Hotel Cyrene enjoys a privileged position on the Green Mountain, adjacent to the ruins of Cyrene and with spectacular views of the Mediterranean. Neighbouring the Temple of Zeus, it will be the ideal hub for visitors to the area.

Situated in a pine grove, the hotel will be a discrete and sympathetic intervention built on the plinth of an existing building. We will adhere strictly to the UNESCO World Heritage guidelines in every respect and stage of design. The hotel will be completely hidden from the ruins by the densely planted pine trees, thus preserving the quality of the landscape for future generations. The construction of the hotel will be properly monitored, and remain low-impact.

The Grand Hotel Cyrene will deploy passive and active environmental strategies to minimise long term environmental impacts. It will take advantage of the cool sea breezes to ventilate the hotel naturally for much of the year.

Image 5 © Nigel Young/Foster + Partners; image 6 © Dennis Gilbert/VIEW





© Foster + Partners



1. Concept for natural cooling and shading
2. View of low buildings among the trees
3. Section through hotel room
4. Courtyard view

Spa Resort

Agriculture, Nature, Tourism



1



2

- 1. Site location
- 2. View towards the Mediterranean Sea
- 3. Concept diagram – maximising sun, rain and wind direction for sustainable development
- 4. Waterfall in The Green Mountain
- 5. Kawana House, Japan by Foster + Partners – working with nature
- 6. Site plan

The site of the Spa Resort benefits from a secluded location on the slopes of the Green Mountain. The site was historically an inhabited one and the scheme will restore life to it. The spa resort is based on a holistic ecological philosophy that includes a minimum use water system, naturally ventilated buildings and the production and cooking of organic food.

The Spa will become an exclusive mountain retreat, inspired by the life-giving properties of the adjacent waterfall. The main communal building will be set on the footprint of the original house, while the rest of the resort's accommodation will follow the natural terraces of the mountain.

The villas will be finished to a high specification and linked by small paths and bridges to create a feeling of seclusion and intimacy.

Construction work on-site will be kept to a minimum, and, where possible prefabricated and local materials will be used.



3



4



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Image 5 © Ian Lambot



6

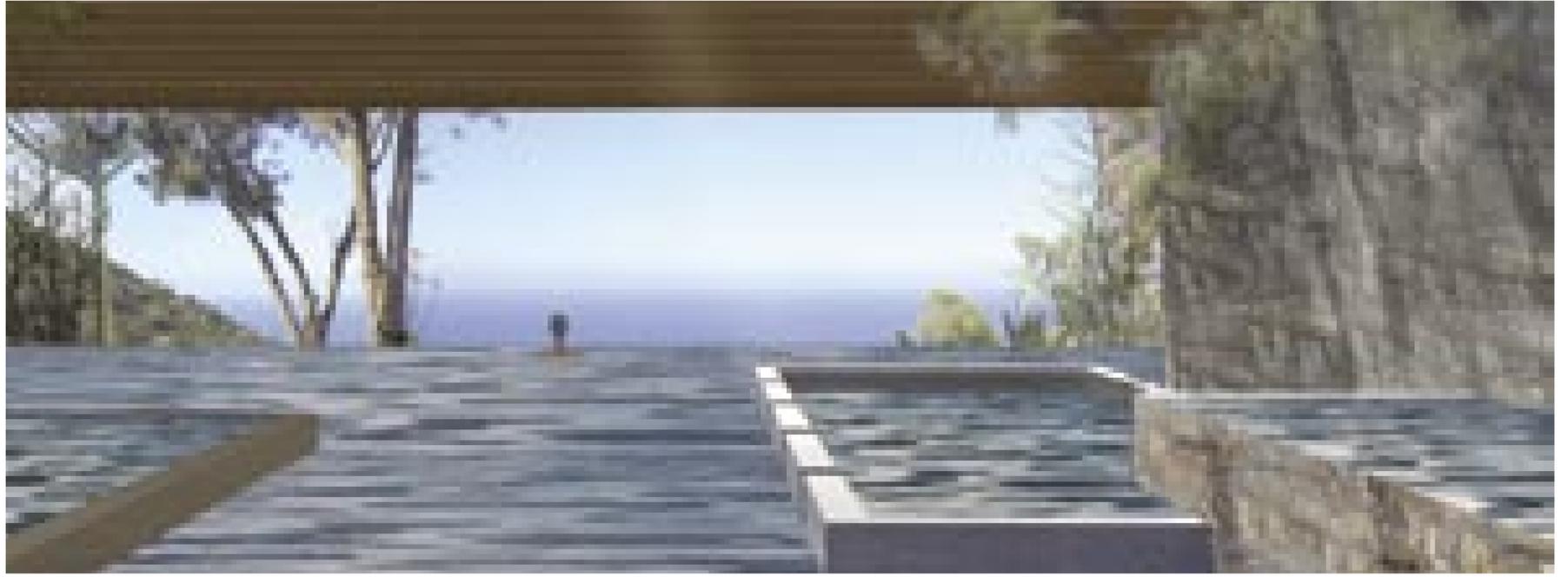
© Foster + Partners



1



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4



5

- 1. Section showing use of natural lighting and cooling
- 2. Resort apartment
- 3. Spa view
- 4. Section through hotel room
- 5. Flexible planning

Canyon Resort

Integration into the Landscape



1. Site location
2. View from shore,
resort not visible from
the coast
3. View towards the fort
Opposite: Site plan



2



3

The Canyon Resort is set on the rim of a dramatic canyon overlooking the Mediterranean Sea, near the village of Sousa. On the hilltop are the ruins of a 20th century Italian hill fort. The site will become a focal point of the sustainable development of The Green Mountain.

The resort is designed to embrace the dramatic geography of the site, providing extensive views over the countryside, whilst remaining hidden from the coast. Set into the rockface and built using the local traditions of cave architecture, the resort's design seeks to mimic landscape itself.

The buildings will be constructed out of natural stone to protect the internal spaces from extremes of external temperatures. Camouflaged in the rocky landscape, each building will take on a distinctive character. The overall impression will be of a village that has evolved organically over time.

The Canyon Resort will offer visitors a choice of two hotels and a variety of residential units.





1



2



3

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4

- 1. Sectional perspective showing sensitive construction on hillside maximising natural light and cooling
- 2. Resort integrated into hillside
- 3. Respecting the natural topology
- 4. View of hotel room
- 5. Diagrammatic section through resort apartment



5



Other Libyan Projects

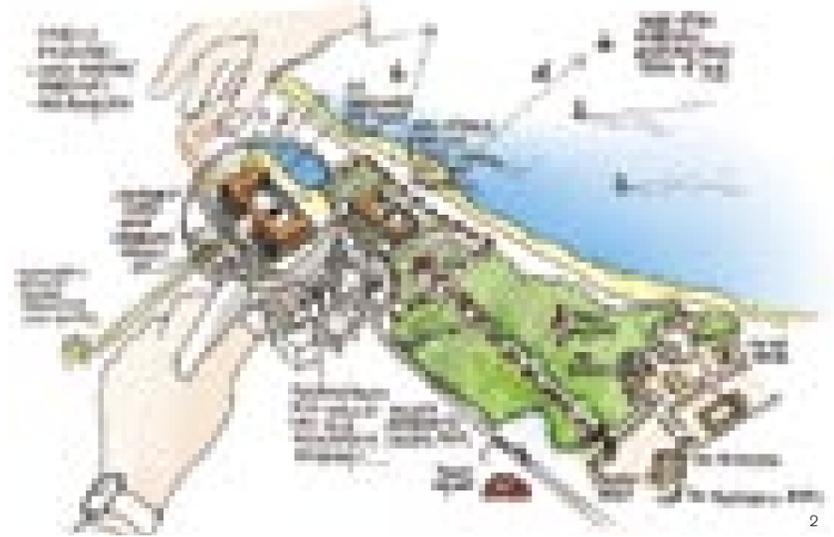
There are currently a number of further projects under development in the Tripoli area of Libya. These projects at Leptis Magna, a UNESCO World Heritage Site along Tripoli's Marina and in the heart of the Medina are also being financed by the Libyan Social and Economic Development Fund in partnership with private investors from UAE and other countries. They are being developed by Gulf Tourism Investments International Ltd in association with Foster + Partners and follow the guiding principles of sustainable eco-tourism as set out in the GMCDA.

Leptis Magna

New and Old



1. Site location
2. Project analysis
3. Detailed of ruined sculpture
4. Arch of Septimus Severus
5. Remains of the ancient market
Opposite: Site plan
Overleaf: Remains of the amphitheatre



Leptis Magna is a UNESCO World Heritage site. It was a Phoenician colony that belonged to the Carthaginian empire, its nature has always been cosmopolitan. In the mid-second century AD, it was conquered by the numidian King Massinissa, and later became a prominent city of the Roman Empire. The Romans built the port, theatre, bath houses, forum, and several triumphal arches. Leptis achieved its greatest prominence in the era that began in AD 193, when Septimius Severus, a native son, became emperor. The building and wealth he lavished on his hometown made Leptis Magna the third most important city in Africa, rivalling Carthage and Alexandria.

The proposed site for the hotel benefits from a unique seafront location adjacent to Leptis Magna and a private beach. There will be a dedicated access to the ancient site from the hotel as well as direct access to the beach. The site also has easy access from Tripoli and its international airport.

The hotel is designed to be highly responsive to its setting, respecting the site of Leptis Magna as well as the vernacular traditions of dense development in North Africa so that it does not infringe on the beach and sea front. It will be a model for sustainable seafront development as well as a leading African Resort.



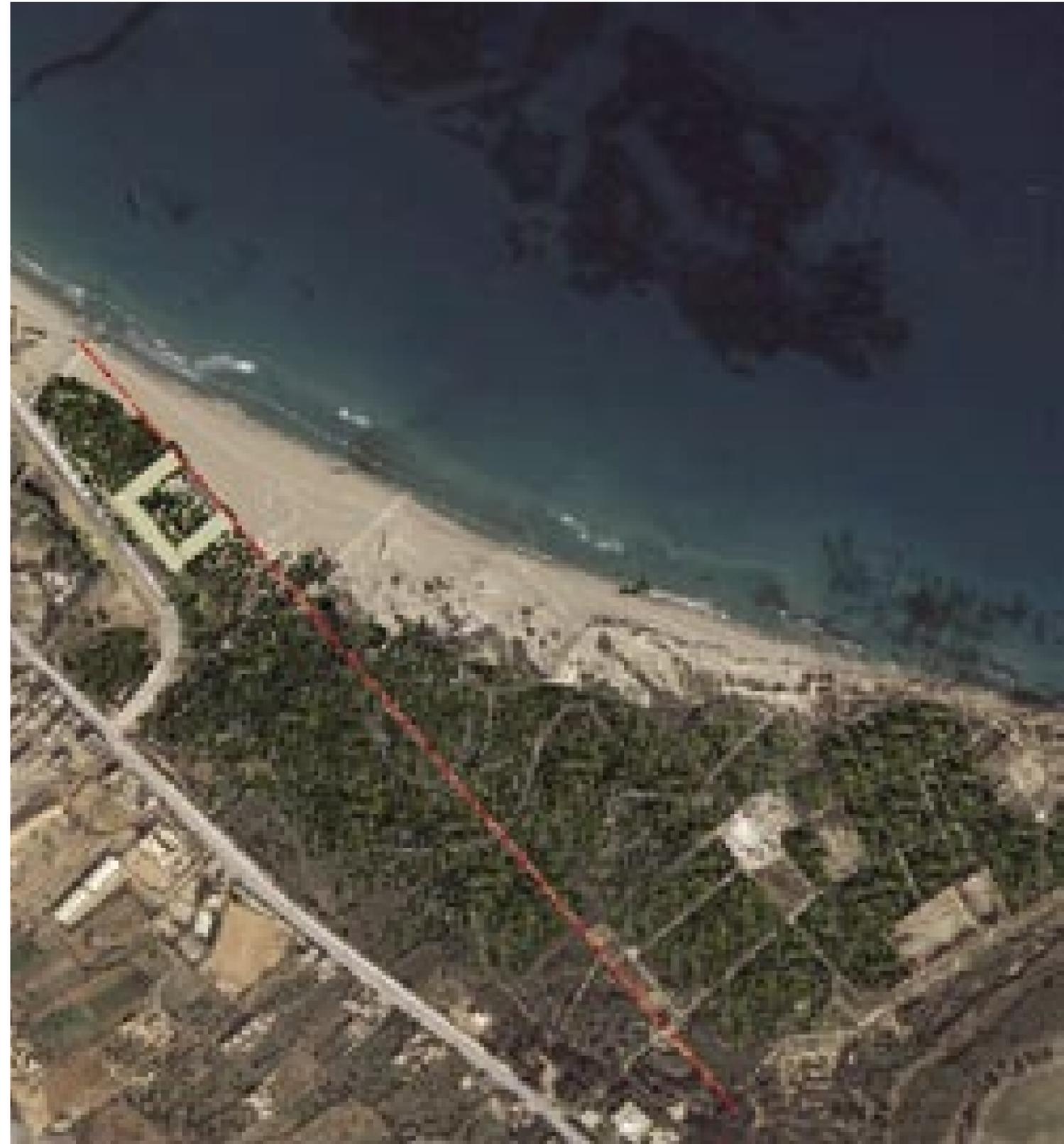
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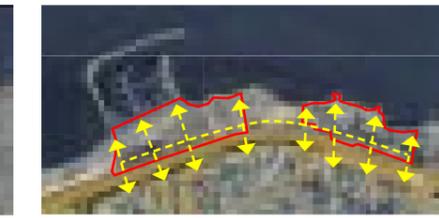


© Foster + Partners



The Marina, Tripoli

City reaches out to Mediterranean Sea



1. The site in relation to the Medina of Tripoli
2. Extending the city to the sea
3. Scale comparison with Nice, France
4. Site location
5. Sketch of building orientation maximising natural light and breezes
6. Canopied restaurants along the beach
7. Nightlife
8. Boats in the old harbour
9. Site plan

The Marina is located on the Mediterranean coast, 5 km east of the medina at Tripoli. Designed to create a lively, mixed use quarter on the Mediterranean coast that bridges the Al Fat'h Highway, the scheme will extend Tripoli to the coast, as it was historically. Informed by the tight urban grain of the city, the design builds on the lessons of other successful seafront cities on the Mediterranean coast, such as Nice and Cannes. The ambiance and style of the old Tripoli waterfront will be reinterpreted in a modern architectural language.

The active fishing harbour will be retained and set next to a more modern, vibrant marina. Shops, cafés and restaurants will line a new seafront promenade, culminating in a landmark building at the centre of the two sites. The new accommodation will be arranged in traditional city blocks set around internal courtyards that echo the traditions of the vernacular architecture. The division between the private internal spaces and the semi-private gardens will be softened by the addition of balconies and verandas that overlook the internal courtyards.

The development will also include a luxury hotel, comfortable serviced apartments, and high quality retail space, cafés and restaurants.

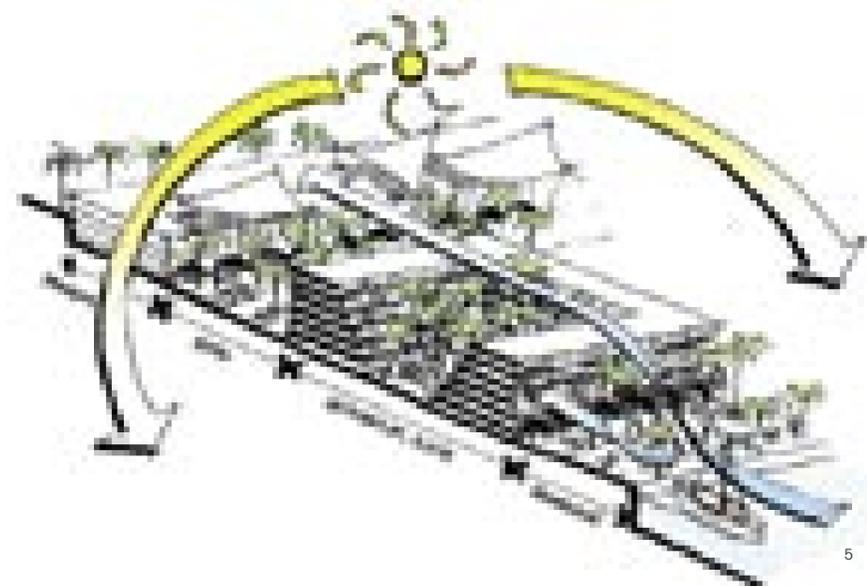


Image 3 © Gvictoria/Dreamstime; image 6 is based on Dennis Gilbert/VIEW photograph

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The Marina

Medina

Medina

Restoration and Rejuvenation



1. Site location
2 and 3. Bringing back vibrant young society
4. Spatial analysis by Intelligent Space Partnership Ltd. showing areas of most pedestrian movement in red
5. Connection to waterfront
6. Medina as it could be

Our scheme will transform Tripoli's historic medina into a vibrant city district. Like the most successful Mediterranean cities, the medina will be a symbiosis of old and new parts: combining the conservation of traditions with contemporary working and living; the historic fabric with modern technology.

Tightly packed and easily accessible Tripoli's urban structure mixes working, living, and leisure in the dense city grid; the medina has strong foundations for successful urban living already in place. Even in its current degraded state; it has the charm of other Mediterranean and North African old city centres. Our scheme will reinforce the urban character and charm of the medina by carefully integrating new buildings while emphasising the tight grain of the district and the rich mix of uses in the medina, allowing it to flourish as Tripoli's urban centre. A visitor centre, museums and galleries sitting in amongst the living city, will showcase the country's rich history and dynamic present for tourists and Libyans alike.

The social agenda must be a key driver in the scheme and the cultural relevance of individual neighbourhood elements must be an important consideration in the regeneration of Tripoli's historic quarters. The Old Walled City must preserve its heritage and carefully assess landmarks, vernacular architecture, and less tangible histories of an old Tripoli in parallel to redeveloping the historic medina while strengthening connections with the wider city. Tripoli's Walled City is an exemplar piece of sustainable urban planning in Libya –highly dense yet conceived of at human scale, the reinvigorated medina should inspire and inform future developments in the country.

The Prince's School of Traditional Arts (PSTA) in partnership with the Libyan Heritage Foundation (LHF) are establishing a school of traditional arts in the old city of Tripoli to strengthen young Libyans practice and understanding of the principles of traditional Islamic art and design, to support the living local handicrafts and revive forgotten ones as well as contribute towards the regeneration of the urban environment in the old city.

Building on the experience of PSTA's Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts Programme in London as well as their outreach projects in Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Cairo, the PSTA will establish a local school and develop an education programme.

Through its three-year education programme, young Libyans will be empowered to participate in the process of regenerating the old city of Tripoli by enabling them to acquire theoretical, technical and vocational skills.

At the school the universal principles of the great traditions of the world will be taught as a basis for understanding the language of traditional art and architecture as well as its application in the local context.

The school's courses will be based on the living handicrafts and materials used in the Old City. Courses will include classes on woodworking, ceramics, gypsum carving, glass and tiles, as well as courses in geometry, biomorphic design and the principles and concepts of sacred and traditional arts.



Image 2 © Maria Tejero/Getty Images; image 3 © Pankaj & Insi Shah/Getty Images



1. Site plan of Medina
Opposite: Aerial view
of Medina

This project is complementary to the regeneration of the urban environment in the old city. Hence, an important aspect of the school is to raise an awareness of how the traditional arts can play an important role in building contemporary urban spaces. The regeneration of the old city will include new infrastructure and real estate development which will require the commercialization of some of the craft activities.

After attending the school young Libyans will be able to undertake restoration work and establish vocational and commercial undertakings.

The Prince's School of Traditional Arts

The Prince's School of Traditional Arts is a post-graduate school focused on Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts. It is under the patronage by HRH Prince of Wales and is located in London (UK).

The School's courses combine theory and practice, teaching art and crafts skills that have profound roots in all the major faith traditions. It is also involved in outreach and education programmes for Muslim countries and younger people, and has established vocational courses to teach craft, and built links with institutions in Nigeria, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and India.

The Libyan Heritage Foundation

The Libyan Heritage Foundation is a Libyan registered foundation involved in charitable works in Libya. It was founded in 2007.

Its mission is to protect and promote Libya's rich cultural heritage through restoration of archeological sites, supporting living handicrafts and arts, education and working with the youth.



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