

Autumn, 2015

Al Ghanjah



الشركة العمانية للغاز الطبيعي المسال ش.م.ع.
Oman LNG LLC.



Celebrations

Cycle Tour

Sunaysilah Fort

New Era of CSR



Printed on recycled paper

Foreword by the Chief Executive Officer



In this 45th year of Oman's Modern Renaissance, we have indeed much to celebrate, both nationally and here at Oman LNG.

We have the good fortune to have HM Sultan Qaboos bin Said, a leader who launched one of the most successful Renaissance of the modern age, back home in good health. Our company has emerged stronger than ever from challenging times in the oil and gas market, at least in the pricing market.

Even more important to us at Oman LNG than the pricing market is the value of human life, and we continue to uphold our safety record and to communicate the importance of safety through our staff, contractors, customers and to audiences far beyond the company gates. Our objective is Goal Zero, that is to say an enterprise that functions without disruption or injury.

We continue to engage with the community, and to see and respect human gifts in all their forms. For those less fortunate, we reserve 1.5% of NIAT, distributed under our innovative and expanding Oman LNG Development Foundation (ODF). For the fortunately employed, we offer training, work openings, amenities to boost or ease production. For the less fortunate, logistical support in the form of equipment or mobility aids.

Moderated growth, supported by education, training, maximised potential of human and material resources. The core values that drive our company and country's success are inextricably entwined.

I hope you enjoy reading this interesting edition of your magazine!

Harib Al Kitani
Chief Executive Officer

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COMPANY NEWS

OMAN LNG'S BEST SAFETY RECORD ACHIEVED

Oman LNG achieved 1,909 Lost Time Injury (LTI) Free Days – our best safety milestone ever! Our last safety record was in 2009 with 1,886 LTI-Free Days. It is the vigilance, relentless efforts and dedication of our employees and contractors towards Goal Zero that have made this commendable safety highlight a reality and a moment to be proud of.



SAFETY DAY

Themed “Achieving Goal Zero. No Harm. No Leaks”, Oman LNG’s Safety Day captured the belief that staff and contractors can operate smoothly and go home safely – every day. With an approximate participation of 800 staff and contractors, the day was a huge success.

The energy apparent throughout the day was an indication of how the safety culture is truly embedded in and embraced by our employees and contractors and at the heart of everything we do.

The sessions were held at various locations across the company’s premises. Throughout the day, 14 event leaders, of whom nine were from outside the company’s Health, Safety and Environment team, volunteered to facilitate engagement sessions with staff and contractors to reinforce the safety culture.

Safety Day is part of the company’s policy of nurturing a strong safety culture among staff and contractors.

SHARING OPPORTUNITIES AT SQU CAREERS FAIR

The first edition of the Careers Fair for Omani students studying abroad organised by the Omani Students

Organisation at California State University, Long Beach, California was held at the Exhibition Hall, Sultan Qaboos University. The objective of the event was to tap into the Omani talent studying abroad and give the students and graduates a clear idea of the employment and training opportunities Oman LNG has to offer.

Mahmood Al-Hadidi, Head of Recruitment and Resourcing, Oman LNG, shared insight into the company and the oil and gas business. He took time to explain the range of possibilities available to enlighten the students of the various development opportunities the company provides.



BUSSING CARE PROVIDERS TO NEW HEIGHTS

The Omani Society for the Hearing Impaired and the Omani Woman's Association (OWA) in Al Awabi received the delivery of buses – a much needed



transportation – to support their activities for the local community.

A 30-seater passenger bus will assist the Society in organising various social activities for its members, while a 15-seater bus will help women and children to attend OWA activities and events.

PREPARING 30 OMANIS FOR THEIR FUTURE

Oman LNG and the Oman Society for Petroleum Services (OPAL) agreed to fund training for 30 Omani candidates. OPAL will facilitate and arrange the training for the candidates who are assured of employment in



the oil and gas industry once they complete the courses. The training, lasting 6 months, will see that the candidates receive monthly stipends throughout their schooling to support their employment in the oil and gas sector.

SUPPORT FOR THE SURI FISHING INDUSTRY AND TOURISM

In two separate agreements signed, Oman LNG allocated over 600 thousand Omani Rials to support the construction of a harbour at Al Barr and a protective dam at Al Aija beach for the fishermen in Sur.

The first agreement will fund the construction of a port at Al Barr area in Sur, which will allow fishermen to unload their daily catch more easily. The second is aimed at supporting the construction of a walkway and a dam 1,200 metres long and six metres wide in the north side of Al Aija, Sur.



Renowned for its fishing activities, Sur is believed to have an estimated 3,000 inhabitants involved in the fish trade, often drawing buyers from locations outside South Sharqiyah Governorate.

OMAN LNG EXTENDS THEIR SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PORTFOLIO



As part of its corporate social responsibility efforts, Oman LNG signed three pacts aimed at assisting the visually challenged and supporting the Public Authority for Civil Defence and Ambulance (PACDA) in its relentless efforts to save and protect civilians.

As part of a partnership with the Al Noor Association for the Blind in Sur, the company funded the purchase of numerous braille sense devices and recently carried out a braille training programme in Sur.

At the close of the training, Oman LNG donated the braille devices to the participants who had been using the devices throughout the training.

The second agreement will see that a four wheel drive vehicle is purchased for Al Noor Association for the Blind in Al Dakhliya Governorate. The vehicle will further assist the Association in organising various social activities for its members. The pact was signed by Mr. Mohammed bin Adeem Al Subaihi, Chairman of Al Noor Association for the Blind in Al Dakhliya Governorate.

The third accord, worth 118,000 OMR, signed by Brigadier Mubarak bin Juma Al Ghailani, Director-General of Civil Defence, will support the purchase of two 5000 gallon water trucks for the Public Authority for Civil Defence and Ambulance in Sur.

PROVIDING RELIEF TO 900 PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED

Over 900 people living with disabilities across the Sultanate will soon receive some respite through modern medical equipment to bring more comfort to their lives. 273,200 OMR has been allocated towards the Oman Association for the Disabled to procure 905 various devices comprising 595 wheelchairs, 60 hearing aids, 50 electric beds and mattresses, 100 commode chairs and a further 100 air cushions.

This relief comes under the auspices of an agreement signed between Oman LNG and the Oman Association for the Disabled.

GIVING PAPER NEW LIFE

Oman LNG, in cooperation with Al Rahma Charity Team, recently introduced a paper recycling bin at its Head Office at Airport Heights.

The initiative is two-pronged and aims to raise awareness about the importance of recycling while simultaneously supporting less fortunate families. Proceeds from the sale of the recycled materials will be donated to Al Rahma Charity Team to support less fortunate families.

If successful, the pilot scheme will be extended to Oman LNG's premises in Sur, further illustrating the company's commitment to contribute to our community.

Welcome Back Your Majesty



The jubilation that spread like a wave through Oman on 23 March 2015 began in silent anticipation. TV audiences across the country watched intently as the doors of the Royal aircraft opened and His Majesty Sultan Qaboos, returning from 8 months of medical treatment in Germany, emerged walking down the steps and across the carpeted tarmac.

This year marks the 45th anniversary of Sultan Qaboos' vision of Oman's modern Renaissance. That vision has been carefully manifested, step by step, to create the transformed country we live in today. The values that have paved our country's path to a higher, more enlightened destiny are national unity, knowledge through education, and a culture that fosters tolerance, fairness and human rights.

These values are not obtainable without hard work; the binding factor that brings the whole together. His Majesty has called on youth to 'remember that work, as much as it is a right, is a duty also.' Today, with many of those original aspirations achieved, the task of providing work is shifting from the State to the private sector.

Tolerance is at the heart, of Oman's approach giving it a unique role in a turbulent world. 'Our main policy is non-interference in the affairs of other states... Our foreign policy is based on firm foundations and principles, support for right and justice, and a desire to work together with other peace-loving countries of the world...through dialogue and negotiation.' (HM Sultan Qaboos, 14 November 2006).

Early Studies

Sultan Qaboos bin Said, born in Salalah on 18 November 1940, received his early schooling in Oman before being sent by his father, the late Sultan Said bin Taimur, to



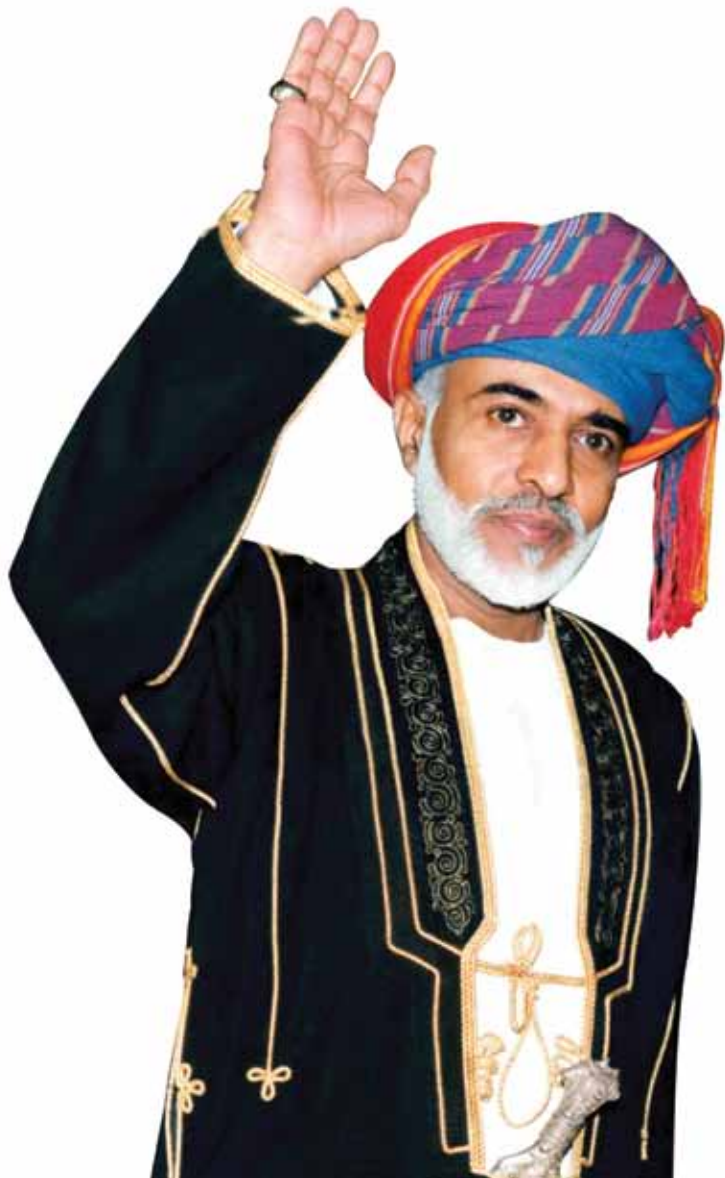
complete his education in England. Two years at private schools in Suffolk were followed by officer training at the Royal Military Academy at Sandhurst and a posting to a military regiment in Germany. Studies in leadership and local government prepared him for his future role. Finally, on completing a 3-month world tour encouraged by his father, His Majesty returned to Oman in 1964 and settled in Salalah, immersing himself in the study of Islamic shari'a, as well as the history and culture of Oman.

His Majesty's interests

His Majesty is an avid reader and book-lover, with a well-stocked library of rare and contemporary works. His particular love of Arabic science and learning of religion, astronomy, heritage and nature, have found practical expression in the strong support he freely offers to so many cultural projects, both at home and abroad, as well as all endeavours that highlight and promote tolerance in Islam.

This passion for the arts encompasses a deep love for music in its diverse expressions, from traditional to opera. In 1991 he completed a project, the scholarly Encyclopaedia of Arab names.

His Majesty manages to balance a genuine need to interact with his people with a lifelong passion for horses and purebred Arabian racing camels, hard work, a love of people and of nature, curiosity, knowledge and creativity.





23rd March, 2015

**A historic day as a nation rejoices in
welcoming back our beloved visionary leader**

His Majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said

**We pledge to continue translating your vision
into reality to serve the Sultanate of Oman**



The Journey



www.omanlng.com



Oman Cycle Tour

By James White

Jebel Al Akhdhar or the Green Mountain. It is late on Day Four, Stage Four of the Tour of Oman, and we are about to see the true heroes begin to detach from the silver thread of overlapping wheels that whirr past the village of Birkat Al Mouz to enter the gruelling last 5.7 kms of the day. With over 180 kms already behind them since they swept inland from the morning's start at the Sultan Qaboos Grand Mosque, the toughest test arrives abruptly, at an impossibly steep initial gradient of 20%, later to fall off somewhat, then rise again for an average over the final kilometres of 10.6%. This is serious climbing,

and the contestants will likely not be taking in the majestic views of the plain below – at least not until the red jersey has been drawn over exhausted shoulders at the day's finishing line. But they are nonetheless spectacular. And it is a perfect day for cycling.

The ascent snakes up the mountain in a series of hairpin bends. Although steep, the road is broad and well surfaced. This is the stretch that has brought every Tour de France winner of recent times to sign up for the Omani race and today's winner will stand a very good chance of taking away the ultimate prize. And so indeed

James White is a freelancer writer and photographer based in Southampton, England, a PhD in plant conservation biology.

it was to turn out, when Stage Four winner Rafael Valls of Spain went on to win the Tour of Oman 2015 two days later on 23 February, notching up his best win of what is shaping up to be a very promising career. His previous best performance was a third-place finish at the 2010 Tour de San Luis in Argentina.

Valls' triumph was aided largely by the controversial events of the Fifth Stage, which had to be abandoned after a stop-start drama due to inopportune weather conditions. Oman was hit by a sandstorm during that same week, and extreme heat added to the riders' woes, forcing them to protest and abandon the course. But as if to be true to its reputation, that ill wind set the stage for the manifestation of Valls' subsequent victory. "These have been three dream days," he said, "and this is the apotheosis."

Although still in its infancy, the Tour of Oman has quickly become a crucial season-starter event for the world's leading riders in the build-up to the Tour de France - world cycling's most storied competition - and the two other Grand Tour meets. It is organised jointly by the Amaury Sports Organisation (which conducts the Tour de France), Muscat Municipality and Paumer, with former legendary cyclist Eddy Merckx playing the leading role as an organiser.

This year's Tour was the longest so far, at 984 kms, and showcased much of the variety of the Omani landscape, from windswept coastline to the mountains inland and the flat and undulating plains between. The six-stage race offers riders a tricky mix of straightforward sprint races and some tough climbs up the scenic and twisty, rocky mountains.

Oman's challenging terrain has long been a draw for professional cyclists looking for a month or two of sunshine and practice away from Europe's biting winter season. Eddy Merckx has himself described the Jebel Al Akhdhar challenge as the best preparation for the





Tour de France, and indeed it has proved an effective early path to glory for many top Grand Tour names.

Yet it wasn't until 2010 that this recognition and the country's spectacular sights and sounds convinced the UCI Asian Tour to make Oman a permanent annual stopover with the six-stage Tour of Oman, which is classified as a 2.HC event and is already six editions old.

The inaugural race in 2010 was won by Swiss rider Fabian Cancellara of Team Saxo Bank. The following year, Dutch cyclist Robert Gesink of Rabobank took home the crown. In 2012, it was the turn of Slovakian rider Peter Velits of Omega Pharma-Quick Step to take the honours, and the following two years, Froome took the centre stage. Until Valls stepped in to wrest the initiative in 2015.

OMAN AND THE ASIAN SCENE

The Tour of Oman is a major competition on the calendar of the UCI Asia Tour, which is part of the UCI's Continental Circuits. These circuits were recognised under one umbrella and integrated into a common ranking system in 2005 by the International Cycling Union (UCI).

The Asia Tour is joined by four other continental circuits - Africa, the Americas, Europe and Oceania - but they are all classified as one step below the UCI World Tour events, which form the highest circuit.

Iran's Samad Pourseyedi of Tabriz Petrochemical Team won the last edition of the UCI Asia Tour's individual

prize. Iran itself bagged the 2013-14 trophy for top nation, while Tabriz Petrochemical is the defending team category champion.

The UCI Asia Tour begins at the start of February every year and concludes by mid-December. The season-starting competition is the Tour de Filipinas in the Philippines and the season concludes with the Tour of Al Zubarah in Qatar. The Tour of Oman is the sixth race on the UCI Asia Tour. It comes shortly after the Dubai Tour, the Tour of Qatar and a pair of Asian Cycling Championships.

Later down the year, UAE hosts two more UCI Asia Tour meets, the Abu Dhabi Tour and the Sharjah Cycling Tour; and Qatar hosts the season-ending Tour of Al Zubarah.

STEPPING STONE FOR GRAND TOURS

The UCI Asia Tour events, like the popular Tour of Oman, are approached by numerous top-rated cyclists as stepping stones or dress rehearsals for the ultimate circuit in world cycling - the UCI World Tour. The top circuit includes the three Grand Tours, cycling's topmost competitions, and around 25 competitions that are held all over the world.

The Tour de France, the Giro d'Italia and the Vuelta a Espana are the three coveted Grand Tours, and ever since the launch of the Tour of Oman, riders who are regulars and top-finishees in the Grand Tours make it a point not to give the Oman trip a miss.



Scorching win for Valls

Top Spanish rider Rafael Valls capped off yet another exhilarating edition of the Tour of Oman cycling extravaganza when he wrapped up a confident victory at the 2015 edition on 22 February.

The six days of pulsating action came to an end with a sprint finish at the picturesque Muttrah Corniche in the Omani capital's most popular seaside neighbourhood. The opportunistic Valls, who rides for Lampre-Merida, stayed calm and collected to ensure he took the overall honours, while ace Austrian cyclist Matthias Brandle of IAM Cycling emerged champion in the sixth and concluding stage.

Brandle was the highlight of a memorable finish to the six-stage contest. He escaped from the peloton early in the day along with Team Sky's Danny Pate, Etixx-Quick-Step's Iljo Keisse and Topsport Vlaanderen-Baloise's Jef van Meirhaeghe, and then took off on his own in the closing couple of kilometres and won by a telling four-second margin as the others in the bunch jostled for initiative.

Belgium's Keisse finished second in the sixth stage, while his compatriot Van Meirhaeghe and Pate followed a handful of seconds later in third and fourth place, respectively.

The points competition was won by Italian rider Andrea Guardini (Astana), who also won the first stage of the race. South Africa's Louis Meintjes (MTN-Qhubeka) was the best young rider, while Van Meirhaeghe won the prize for the most aggressive rider after participating in the breakaway on every stage of the race. BMC Racing was the winner of the team classification title.

A key missing element at the 2015 edition was 2013 Tour de France champion Chris Froome, who had won the Tour of Oman in 2013 and 2014. The British-Kenyan rider of Team Sky skipped the Oman trip this year and instead opted for the equally competitive Ruta del Sol in Andalusia, Spain, as part of preparations for this year's Tour de France.

SUNAYSILAH FORT

A Historical Landmark



Introducing Modernity with History

High above the handsome ancient trading port of Sur, four circular towers mark the classic square outline of Sunaysilah Castle, standing quietly watchful over city and shore. Today no cannons peek threateningly out from the gunsplits. Instead, curious visitors climb to the top of the towers for a panoramic view of the town and harbour, or rest in the internal courtyard and ponder the illustrious, and sometimes turbulent, history of this place.

Sur has at various times in its history been a prominent regional gateway port, with Sunaysilah Castle as the centrepiece of Sur's defensive system, its massive bulk a powerful deterrent to sea-borne raiders. Built some 300 years ago, the settlement it guarded was by then already more than a thousand years old, having traded extensively with East Africa as early as the 6th century.

The strategically placed castle has now become the fortunate beneficiary of Oman LNG's contribution to

country, community and culture. When the restoration project currently ongoing at the site is complete, the complex will have gained a protected surrounding walkway, parking and reception areas and ancillary buildings with facilities for VIP guests.

The main focus of the project will, of course, be the expansion of its internal amphitheatre to 338m², turning it into a perfect arena for atmospheric cultural events. The Ministry of Tourism is partnering the venture and will be anxious to see a tourism payoff to the investment. But given the magnificent setting and the popularity of Sur as a destination, that payoff will not be long forthcoming and is likely to be a rewarding one.

Forts, castles and towers are evocative of Oman. Of the hundreds of these impressive buildings that decorate the landscape many, like Sunaysilah, dominate from high positions. To the occupants and townspeople – as well as the intruder – they represented deterrence, defence, authority, refuge, connection with history, with the past. Whoever controlled them controlled the land, population and resources. And Sur has been in some of its various incarnations a very wealthy city, with much to defend.

Sunaysilah is not the only castle in Sur. The larger Bilad Sur Castle is on lower ground, its defensive function more focused on possible attack from the interior. And of

course Al-Ayyah Fort had an exclusively military function, as did its several associated watchtowers.

And yet the overall effect of all of this defensive architecture in a medium-sized population centre is not aggressive. Rather, it lends solidity and calm to the town, in the manner of benevolent architectural grandparents.

In its second major heyday, under the Yaruba Imams, Sur once again became Oman's pre-eminent port for the trade with East Africa and beyond. From the 17th to the 19th century, when Oman was a major Asian naval power, as many as 400 ships might be found anchored in the city's broad lagoon at any one time, while dhows built in Sur itself rode the monsoon winds eastwards to India, Ceylon and China. Defence was more crucial than ever. Those were the glory days of Sunaysilah, when its towers bristled with guns and its courtyard bustled with activity.

And now Sur is reinventing itself, as a picturesque tourist hub and regional centre. The old enterprising spirit that has sustained this well-placed natural harbour on the Gulf of Oman for millennia still flows in its veins. It is still a major fishing port and undisputed master of the dhow-building craft, which is thriving with new clients from the leisure industry. Tim Severin built the Sindbad here, in the reputed city of Sindbad himself, using boat-builders



and later crew from Sur while cruise liners dock on the outskirts of the town.

The restoration of Sunaysilah is not Oman LNG's first or only restoration project in the locality. It is already involved in several significant restoration projects, including the Bibi Miriam monument.

One of the most exciting of its existing joint projects with the Ministry of Tourism is the multi-million dollar scientific research centre at Ras al-Jinz, with its mission to create a safe nesting environment for the threatened green-sea turtle (*Chelonia mydas*). Ras al-Jinz beach is world renowned and probably the most important nesting concentration of green turtles on the Indian Ocean. And it is the only place where the public can observe the nesting process of these amazing sea giants at close quarters.

The Turtle Reserve was established by a Royal Decree in 1996 and the Turtle Centre was established in 2008 with funding from Oman LNG. Already it attracts thousands of scientists and tourists from all over the world every year.

Oil and gas have helped fund much of Oman's modern Renaissance, and gas is now funding the transition to a service-oriented economy, at the heart of which lies tourism. Sur has been lucky in this respect, thanks in great measure to the nearby presence of Oman LNG. In the drowsy heat of mid-afternoon, the old town has a timeless air, resting peacefully beneath the sleeping giant above. But Sur is wide awake to the opportunities of the 21st century and, resourceful as ever, always ready to adapt.





Oman LNG Development Foundation: A New Age of Corporate Social Responsibility

Since its inception, Oman LNG has placed significant emphasis on contributing to the growth and development of Oman and its people in various aspects; not least its vigorous Social Investment Programme.

In order to further strengthen its robust Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts with more focus and prominence, Oman LNG Board of Directors decided to establish a separate legal Foundation back in 2009.

1st July 2015 marked the operational start-up of Oman LNG Development Foundation. The establishment of Oman LNG Development Foundation will not just provide financial support for projects, initiatives and programmes for the benefit of the Omani society; it will also act as Oman's largest CSR centre of excellence that will in turn act as a role model for sustainable social investment in the Sultanate.



About Us

In 2009, Oman LNG LLC reviewed its pioneering Social Investment Programme and made the decision to upgrade. The programme was already well established and had an outreach that extended to the furthest corners of the Sultanate. Its goal was to give depth and detail to the company's overall policy of contributing to the socio-economic development of the country.

A significant milestone was reached in 2011 when the Cabinet of Ministers approved the company's request to establish a social development foundation. Later, a Ministerial Decision was issued, approving the creation of Oman LNG Development Foundation, while outlining and detailing the mandate and proposed business activities of the organisation. This license to operate was the first of its kind issued to an Omani company.

The newly established Oman LNG Development Foundation will invest 1.5% of Oman LNG's net income after tax (NIAT) as its contribution to sustainable social development programmes. The Foundation will be in a better place to conduct the necessary studies to serve the advancement of communities, while maintaining existing levels of support, previously established within the framework of Oman LNG's Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) policy.

Our Objectives

The objectives of the Foundation are to provide financial support to programmes, initiatives and schemes aimed at benefiting and advancing Omani society. They will focus on the following areas:

- Infrastructure development
- Human resources development (training and education)

- Health, Safety and Environmental awareness initiatives and training programmes
- Heritage and culture
- Sports and other youth development activities
- Charity and other CSR activities (including government recommendations) as agreed by the Board of Directors

In addition, the Foundation will conduct the necessary studies to serve and develop society. Meanwhile existing levels of support, as established under Oman LNG's CSR policy and exercised in communities across the country as well as Sur, will be maintained.

Vision

To create a sustainable income stream and provide financial support for projects, initiatives and programmes that benefit the local community where Oman LNG operates, as well as in other governorates throughout the Sultanate.

Mission

- To become a role model for CSR globally and make Omanis proud of their contribution
- To create a new concept in CSR (income/sustainability) in the Sultanate
- To assume a pioneering role as a sustainable CSR Foundation and to advance the overall image/brand of Oman LNG and its shareholders





اليوم السنوي للشركة العمانية للغاز الطبيعي المسال Oman LNG Day



فعاليات رمضان للشركة العمانية للغاز
الطبيعي المسال - الغازي ٢٠١٥

Oman LNG Ramadhan Activities – Al Ghazi 2015

