Omani talents rolling up their sleeves to build Duqm

Duqm - الدقم :

Over the past years, The Special Economic Zone Authority at Duqm (SEZAD) has attracted onboard many young Omani talents who will contribute in building Duqm and be part of the success story of the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZD).

Last year, SEZAD increased the number of employees to keep pace with the acceleration of development in the Zone, on one hand, and enhanced the services provided to investors on the other hand. Over 60 Omani male and female employees were hired last year with most of them are fresh graduates.

In this section, Duqm Economist Magazine sheds light on the newly appointed employees in SEZAD where they share their experience and express opinions.



Proud of my professional experience

Marwah is a Bachelor degree holder in General Chemistry from Sultan Qaboos University in 2015. She is a fresh graduate landed in Duqm to start her career journey in 2019 as an Environmental Inspector in the Environmental Regulatory Department.

Commenting on her experience, Marwah pointed out that “Being a female working in Duqm is a blessing unlike how others look at it as a challenge. The working environment in Duqm is very inspiring and colleagues are highly supportive. I’m really grateful for the experience of being part of the team developing the environmental regulations at the Special Economic Zone at Duqm. What’s happening in Duqm is really promising for the future of Oman”.

Marwah Al Hashmi: The working environment in Duqm is very inspiring



Promoting investment in the Zone

Thuraiya Al Zarafy graduated with a Bachelor degree of business and commerce focused on marketing and international business form Monash University, Malaysia. She joined SEZAD in 2019, bringing with her 7 years of rich local and international experience in sales and marketing.

“As a Marketing Specialist, I play a key role along with the marketing and promotion team to attract local investors and Foreign Direct Investments to the Special Economic Zone at Duqm (SEZD). I also participate in overseas promotional campaigns and roadshows to meet with potential investors and business leaders in various sectors. In addition, I escort business delegations during site visits in Duqm as well as contribute in building the corporate brand of SEZAD within and outside the Sultanate. To me it is a great opportunity to be part of a project that can contribute on a massive scale to the Omani economy”, Thuraiya expressed.

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Amal Al Harrasi: I spare no effort in playing a key role to achieve SEZAD's mission

Marwa Al Hinai: I strive to work on solving the complaints immediately, so the satisfaction bar remains high

Asim Al Amri: I'm proud to contribute in delivering SEZAD's mission to develop Duqm

Said Al Farraji: Working at SEZAD is a thriving experience that meets my professional aspirations



Reducing expenditure

Amal Al Harrasi, Procurement Specialist in the Administration and Management Services Department, said: "Working in the Procurement Department allows me to seek the best suppliers in the market as well as explore different cost effective deals for SEZAD. Working for the Special Economic Zone at Duqm, being the largest economic zone in MENA brings me great opportunities to approach regional and international markets seeking professional suppliers".

Amal is a Master degree holder in Business Administration from the Modern College of Business and Science, Oman. She brings 4 years of experience in procurement.



Meeting the interests of stakeholders

Marwa Al Hinai is a Bachelor degree holder in Business Management and was appointed in SEZAD early 2019 to join the infrastructure management team in Duqm.

Explaining her professional responsibilities, Marwa stated: "My duty is focused on receiving complaints either from investors, employees or residents and work on solving them immediately, so I strive to keep the satisfaction bar high always. Working with a team of different qualifications and expertise was a motive to hone my skills and enrich my experience. As well, being an employee based in Duqm is another opportunity to build my self-confidence and shoulder a different responsibility that helped me prove the competency of Omani women in whatever they do and wherever they are placed".



Contributing to achieve SEZAD's vision

Commending the experience of working at SEZAD, Asim Al Amri explained, "Working as a project engineer for different infrastructure projects including dams and sewage treatment plant is a very insightful experience indeed. I'm really proud to be part of this national development project in the Special Economic Zone at Duqm. I'm really proud to contribute in delivering SEZAD's mission to develop Duqm as a promising economic destination with diverse investment opportunities".

Asim works as a Mechanical Engineer in the Infrastructure Management Department. He graduated from the University of Mississippi, USA with a Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2017. Post-graduation, Asim managed to equip himself with some practical skills from the training experiences, which he had in different corporates. Prior joining SEZAD in April 2019, he undergone a 6-month training course to prepare him to come onboard.



A thriving experience

Said Al Farraji working as an Environmental Inspector in the Environmental Regulatory Department explained, "Working at SEZAD is a thriving experience that meets my professional aspirations. Throughout the first year of employment, I have attended 4 technical courses which helped me enrich my knowledge and hone my practical skills and abilities. A number of different learning opportunities have been obtained through the different inspection duties and site visits escorted to different projects and businesses in Duqm".

Said is a Bachelor degree graduate in Environmental Biology from Sultan Qaboos University in 2017. Post-graduation, he has been always dreaming to work on environment-related projects and working at SEZAD provides him the sought-after opportunity and made his dream come true.



Inspiring and innovation-provoking environment

In this regard, Nada Al Siyabi, the IT Business Analyst in the Information Technology Department, sheds light to her experience on the innovation and creativity front. Nada is a Bachelor degree holder in Software Engineering from the Higher College of Technology. She is very skilled cadre bringing 2 years of rich experience in software development.

"I really enjoy working at SEZAD as through the digital solutions and applications which I develop I could contribute to enhance the experience of our investors. Likewise, I work on developing different applications dedicated to serve the employees. The working environment at SEZAD is very inspiring and helps developing my skills and abilities in the field of IT and communications," Nada enthusiastically expressed.



New horizons

Marwan Al Habsi is a fresh graduate started his career path at SEZAD as an HSE Specialist in the Risk Management Department. However, he got involved in different training opportunities over the past years, post graduating from the Higher College of Technology in 2017 with a Bachelor degree in Electrical Engineering.

Marwan affirmed, "Being an engineering graduate, but working in HSE field is a great opportunity which opened new horizons for me. Over the past 10 months of working as an HSE Specialist in SEZAD, I could come across learning lessons that contributed to diverting my career path to a thriving field. Experiencing Hikka Cyclone was a real development lesson for me to work under pressure and experience crisis management".



Providing job opportunities

Reflecting on the positive impact of SEZAD's mission of developing Duqm, Athra Al Junaibi commented: "Being a resident of Duqm, I'm really grateful to contribute to the national mission of developing Duqm, which served providing job opportunities for locals. Throughout the years, Duqm will witness a facelift, making a positive social and economic impact on people's life".

Athra works as an Administrative Employee in the Compliance and Enforcement, handling secretarial tasks for the department. She is a Diploma degree holder in Business Management from Dhofar University.



Building the bright future of Duqm

Touching on the promising future of Duqm, Mustafa Al Balushi, SME Specialist in the Partnership and Development Department, remarked: "Working with SEZAD is a unique opportunity as what we are doing today would bring the prospective success and bright future of Duqm. SEZAD provides us with almost all the incentives and facilities that every employee looks for, so it's our responsibility to payback for SEZAD and Oman overall by bringing our best expertise".

Mustafa is a Bachelor degree holder in Business Management from Gulf College, coming with 10 years of experience in business development through different positions he handled in various private and government bodies.

Nada Al Siyabi: Introducing digital solutions and applications that contribute to enhance the experience of investors and promote the Zone

Marwan Al Habsi: Experiencing Hikka Cyclone was a real development lesson of crisis management

Athra Al Junaibi: Duqm will witness a facelift, making a positive social and economic impact on people's life

Mustafa Al Lawati: Working with SEZAD is a unique opportunity to contribute in building the bright future of Duqm