



# SOCIAL INVESTMENT REPORT 2020



**Empowering Communities**



Nation building and development are a public responsibility that requires the commitment of all, without exempting any one from their role, in their respective specialties, and within their capabilities. Oman has been founded, and its civilization has been established through the sacrifices of its people who used their utmost in preserving its dignity and strength, exhibiting their loyalty in performing their national duties and advancing national interests to personal interests.



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**HM Sultan Haitham bin Tarik**  
February 2020

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## GCEO MESSAGE

In the past year, OQ - as a global integrated energy company - has witnessed the continued realignment of the relationship between business and Corporate Social Investment CSI. We have developed corporate social investment as a stringent concept and consistently uphold our commitment to the environment and the community. We set ourselves targets that go beyond regulatory requirements and aim to constantly sharpen our profile further to meet our stakeholders' expectations. For this, we set off on a new journey towards reshaping a new CSI framework that fits-in well to satisfy our aspirations, keeping into consideration the global CSI best practices and our relentless efforts to contribute to Oman's vision 2040. With community needs analysis study conducted all over Oman, three focus areas were developed; namely Health and Education, Economic Prosperity as well as Environmental Stewardship. These three pillars aligned with OQ's strategic priorities shall forge the future of OQ commitment towards society and environment.

I am pleased to share the outcomes of our initiatives that demonstrate our commitment to positive environmental impact and community engagement We hope to accurately reflect our position on our ever-expanding CSI focus - whether it's economic development or educational opportunities - and bring our customers, staff, partners, and many other stakeholders, with us on this journey towards a more prosperous future.

**Talal Bin Hamed Al Awfi**  
Acting GCEO

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report aims to showcase OQ's Corporate Social Investment (CSI) programmes and initiatives that were implemented in 2020 together with the external affairs management contributions to strategic partnership with Public, Private and NGOs sectors.

Projects are implemented in Oman with a purpose to serve the whole nation, in-line with the national agenda of Oman's "Vision 2040", and ultimately creating a sustainable impact to people and communities.

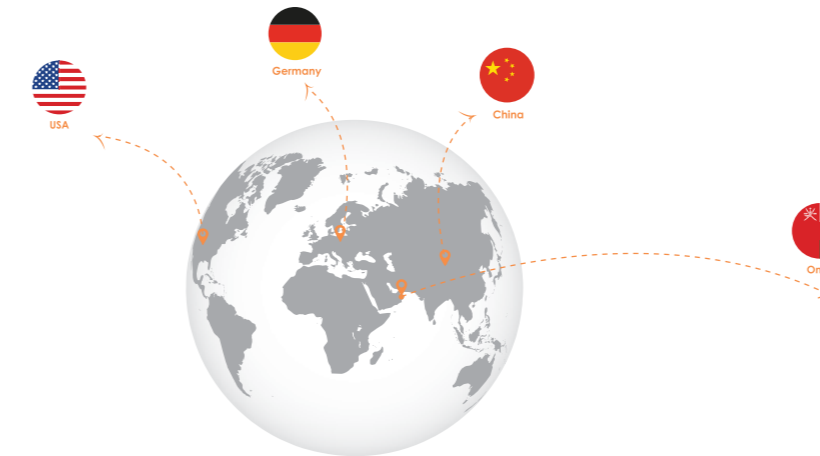
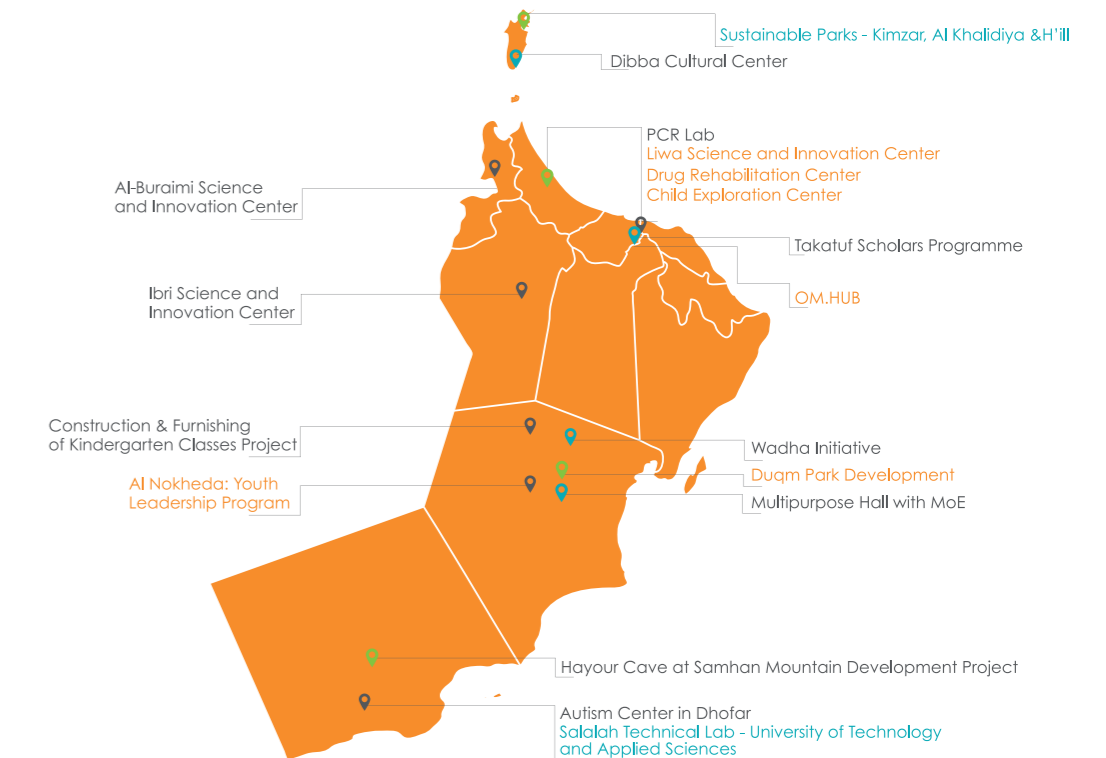
OQ aims to make continuous and sustainable impact on communities in which we operate, taking into considerations the company's aspiration and strategic priorities, UN SDGs 2030 and community needs and expectations. The following key focus areas were concluded to shape the new CSI framework with three focus areas:

 **Innovation and Education**

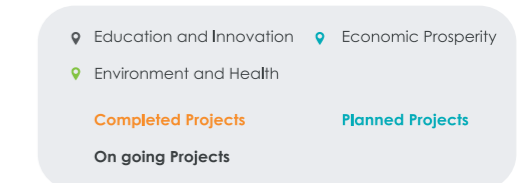
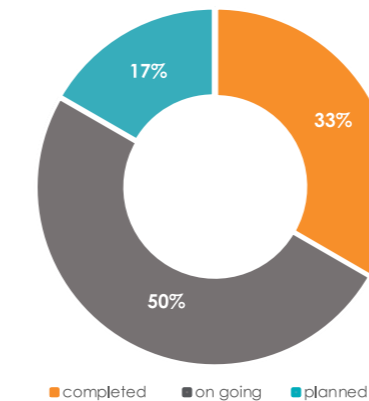
 **Environment and Health**

 **Economic Prosperity**

### Below is an overview of CSI projects implemented during 2020



The map above shows areas of CSI contributions established by OQ assets outside Oman





# EDUCATION AND INNOVATION

Education and Innovation is one of the focus areas OQ is investing at CSI. It contributes to building youth capacity, prepares them to take on various opportunities across all sectors, and develops better skills for Omani talents.

## AUTISM CENTRE PROJECT

Following its successful project at Suhar, the Autism Center is a key project aiming to support children with autism in Dhofar Governorate and blend them effectively with community. The center provides educational and therapeutic programmes to autistic children, while offering needed support to families and caregivers. Another role of the center, it shall be utilized to raise awareness about the spectrum of autism among community members which will play an important role in the integration of these unique children into society. It is worth mentioning that the center is designed based on top international standards for serving children with Autism Spectrum Disorders.



**Partner** Ministry of Social development



**Location** Dhofar Governorate



## DIBBA VISITOR CENTRE

Sharing is one of the company's behaviours, thus OQ signed an agreement to construct a museum with several facilities to reflect Oman's glorious history. Besides, this project aims to share and call attention to the natural beauty of Dibba, while attracting tourists and community members to this historical wilayet. Dibba is a coastal strategic location and it has one of the most important archaeological sites in Oman. Establishing this centre would mean preserving and displaying 2,111 historical artefacts discovered at the site to the general public.



**Partners** Ministry of Heritage and Tourism  
Office of Minister of State  
and Governor of Musandam



**Location** Musandam Governorate



## SCIENCE & INNOVATION CENTRES AL BURAIMI & IBRI

Yes we dare! OQ focuses on the present economic, social and educational needs, while having an eye on the future. This is why we have invested in the establishment of two Science & Innovation Centres in Ibri and Al Buraimi. The centres are state of the art facilities with an ambition to act as hubs for the creative and daring minds. With the Fourth Industrial Revolution upon us, the centre aims to promote innovation and engagement in sciences and to foster learning, problem solving, risk taking and great ideas! It will offer several learning facilities such as a planetarium, innovation and multipurpose halls, a theatre, a public library and more.



**Partner** Ministry of Education



**Location** Al Dhahira Governorate  
Al Buraimi Governorate



## DHALKOUT CULTURAL CENTRE

At OQ, we believe in the importance of community solidarity to become stronger and more vibrant. This is why Dhalkout Cultural Centre was a key project, aiming to create a significant positive impact in the society at the western part of Dhofar. The Centre also aims to host a variety of cultural and educational events in the area for community members from all age groups.

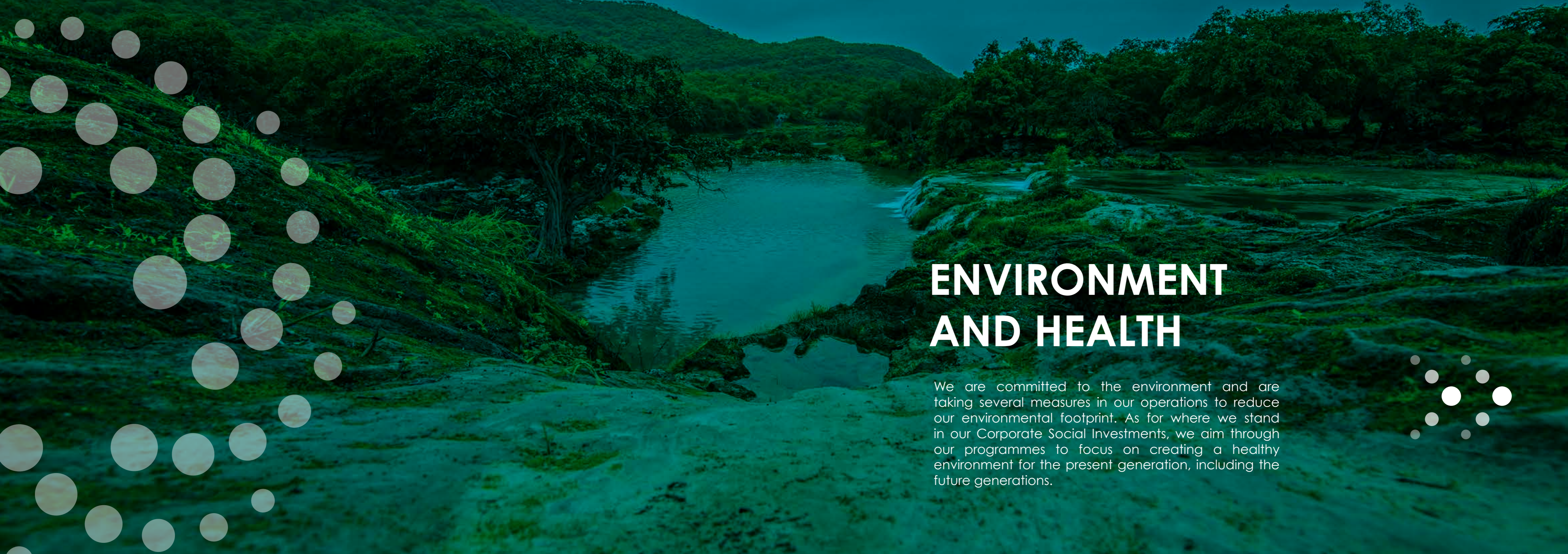


**Partner** The Minister of State & Governor  
of Dhofar



**Location** Dhofar Governorate





# ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTH

We are committed to the environment and are taking several measures in our operations to reduce our environmental footprint. As for where we stand in our Corporate Social Investments, we aim through our programmes to focus on creating a healthy environment for the present generation, including the future generations.



## CO-FUNDING POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION PCR LABORATORY

OQ joined forces with Sohar Port and Freezone, and five of its tenants in committing to a social investment agreement with the Ministry of Health in the fight against Covid-19. The initiative revolved around equipping the establishment of a regional molecular PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) laboratory in North Al Batinah Governorate. The project comes under the multiple efforts towards improving healthcare services provided to citizens the Governorate due to the spread of Covid-19 in the region. It will be vital in expediting diagnostic processes and the timely treatment of patients.



## AGRICULTURAL DRONE TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERTISE EXCHANGE PROJECT

OQ is dedicated to not only offer solutions and products for sustainable utilisation of natural resources for the benefits of humanity, but to also play its part in supporting its partners in this quest. An MOU was signed with the MoAFWR to support the strategic projects and studies the Ministry aims to carry out.



## ENVIRONMENT PRESERVATION AND RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

An MOC was signed between OQ and Environmental Authority towards the initiation of several key projects dedicated towards the preservation of Oman's environmental and natural resources. This strategic partnership is in line with OQs commitment in advocating for environmental education increasing public knowledge and awareness about natural resources and environmental preservation.



## RECONSTRUCTING FALAJ AL-WASET

OQ is committed to playing a strategic role in line with Oman's quest to protecting the country's cultural and natural heritage. In line with this, an MOU was signed with Wali Al-Buraimi office to support to reconstruction of Falaj Al-Waset in Al-Buraimi Governorate. This project will not only serve the community residing in the area; but will also offer added-value through preparing it to become a tourist attraction and sharing Oman's rich heritage.





# ECONOMIC PROSPERITY

Supporting Omani entrepreneurs is another focus area of our Social Investment initiatives. Our projects are designed to support small and medium sized businesses and to assist their growth and development.

## SOICAL INVESTMENT PROGRAMMES

OQ and Minister of State and Governor of Musandam Office signed a Memorandum of Cooperation in strategic partnership to finance the establishment of several social projects in the Governorate of Musandam. Around twelve environmental and touristic projects were developed to be implemented in the wilayets of Musandam Governorate in five years from 2020 to 2024.



Partner

Musandam Governorate Office



Location

Musandam Governorate



## DEVELOPMENT OF HAYOUR CAVE AT SAMHAN MOUNTAIN

The Hayour Cave Project is located in Jabal Samhan in the Dhofar Governorate. The development of the Hayour Cave in Jabal Samhan is one of the most important tourism projects and has had an effective and tangible impact in supporting the booming tourism movement within the Dhofar Governorate. This project aims to also inspire and create multiple business and employment opportunities for Omani youth. This site is considered one of the most attractive sites for tourism and has a unique and breathtaking view, as it is located among the highest peaks within the Dhofar mountain range.



Partner

Ministry of Heritage and Tourism



Location

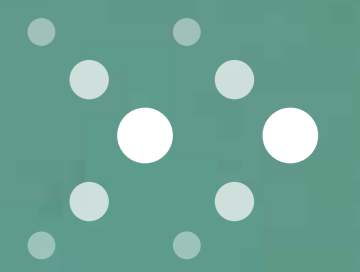
Dhofar Governorate





# ENGAGEMENT WITH SOCIETIES (LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL)

OQ ensures sustaining constructive and robust relationships with all stakeholders and and community members creating a shared value by proactive engagement aiming at fostering a responsible and sustainable business practices. Here is a glimpse of some of our community engagement programmes from last year.



## STRATEGIC COOPERATION AND CONSTRUCTIVE ENGAGEMENTS

The External Affairs and Social Investment Department recently hosted members of the 8th National Defense Course. The National Defense College has an annual programme that includes learning about a number of projects established within the Sultanate. The delegation from the College was headed by Major General Salim bin Musallam bin Ali Qatan, Commandant of the Omani National Defense College. He was accompanied by more than 50 participants from the College. The visitors were provided with the latest economic and strategic developments in OQ, related to its current and future business, projects and programmes, and also viewed an exhibition on the the annual performance index. The entire delegation were taken on a site tour of the Suhar Refinery and the Liwa Plastic Industries Complex Project, They were even able to visit the Musandam Gas Plant in the Governorate of Musandam.



## MUTUAL COOPERATION WITH ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

In line with its strategic partnerships with Government sectors, OQ welcomed HE DR Abdullah Ali Al Amri - Chairman of Environment Authority to visit the company's main head office at Muscat. The guest was escorted with OQ's management and was briefed about the company's various products and services provided.



## AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND WATER RESOURCES MINISTERIAL VISIT TO OQ ASSETS

Presided by His Excellency the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, and in the presence of His Excellency the Governor of North Al Batinah, a delegation from the Ministry visited OQ to closely look at all production operations of the company in addition to the services provided by the company to the community through added value and social investment services.



## ONGOING ENGAGEMENT WITH OUR STAKEHOLDERS

Within the framework of OQ's continuing support for serving the community, a meeting was held with H.E Sheikh Saqr bin Sultan Al Shukaili, Wali of Sur, to find and view solutions to the issues related to having gas pipelines in the Wilayat.





# VOLUNTEERING (LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL)

OQ believes in the value of voluntary activity as an important expression of citizenship and an essential component. OQ takes responsibility for ensuring that volunteers within its own organisation and people from outside are appropriately involved, valued for their contributions and respected as colleagues and good citizens.

## VOLUNTEERING - THE POWER OF GIVING

OQ believes in the value of volunteering activity as an important expression of citizenship and an essential component. Thus, OQ takes responsibility for ensuring that volunteers within its own organisation and outside are appropriately involved, valued for their contributions. The following page shows statistics about number of volunteering hours and beneficiaries in 2020.

# THANK YOU

OQ VOLUNTEERS



## GREEN OMAN INITIATIVE

When we are close to nature, we feel a sense of happiness, tolerance and peace. Oman is well known for its many natural beauty spots and its firm stand on natural conservation projects. OQ launched the "Oman Green Initiative" by distributing lemon and mango trees to the general public. This initiative aims to spread awareness among the younger generation of Omanis on the importance of keeping our surroundings clean and green, especially since the entire world is facing serious deforestation issues.



## RAMADHAN WITH EHSAN

OQ employees conducted through Ehsan Volunteering Team a humanitarian campaign by raising fund to distribute ration boxes to unprivileged families all around Oman during the holy month of Ramadan. The fund raised was doubled by OQ company to increase the number of beneficiaries as part of the true commitment towards community.



## COVID-19: CONTRIBUTIONS BY OQ EMPLOYEES

Our employees made personal contributions to support the Sultanate's efforts in countering the outbreak of Covid-19, as part of 'All for Oman' campaign.



## OQ SANATISERS

The idea of manufacturing hand sanitisers by OQ's lab. arose from the current circumstances connected with the spread of COVID-19. As part of our social responsibility towards supporting the efforts in combatting this pandemic, we continue to strive towards helping our people and community and coordinating with several government entities.

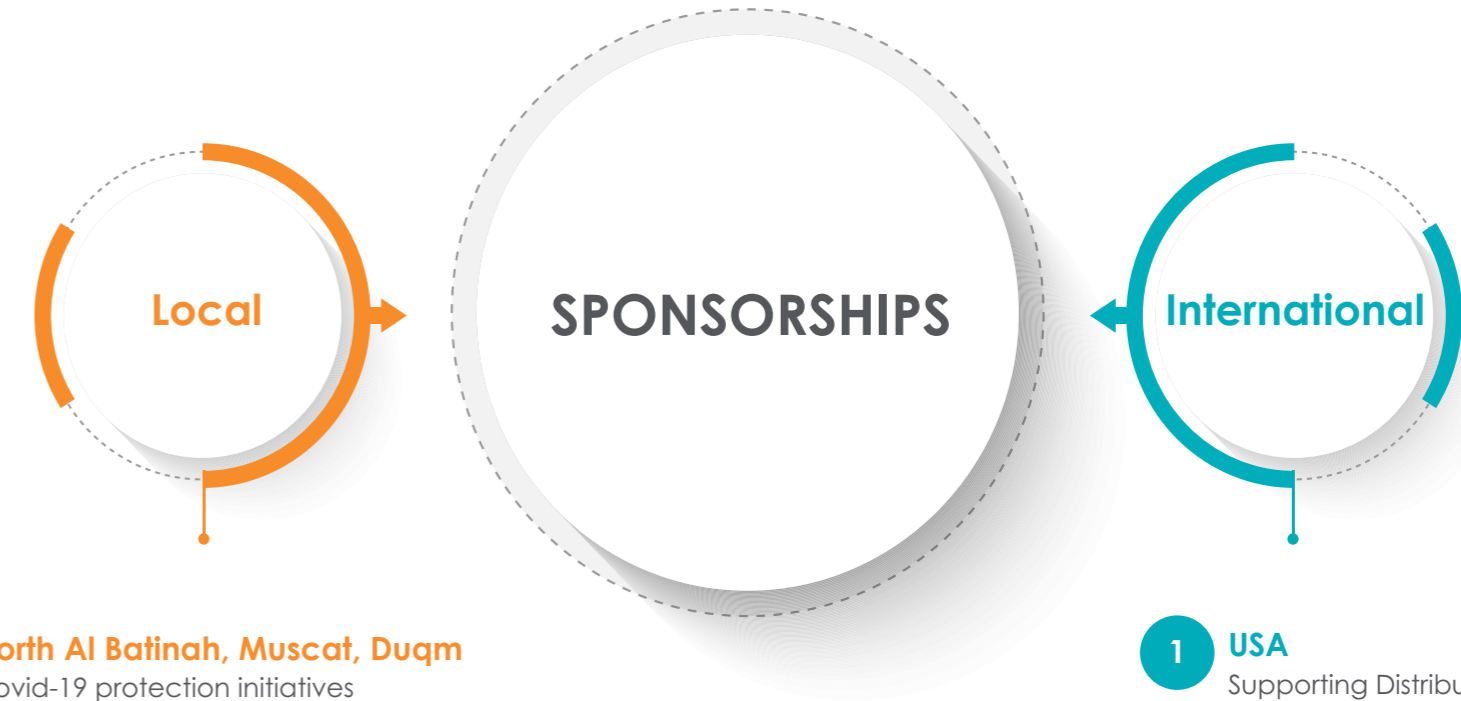




## COLLECTIVE EFFORTS IN CONTAINING COVID-19 CORONA VIRUS OUTBREAK



Standing true to the social investment principles towards the welfare of the community, OQ joined the government efforts towards combating Covid-19 Corona virus to contain this pandemic by contributing of two million Omani Rials to the fund established for this purpose Furthermore, OQ employees contributed towards this cause with an amount of 590,978 OMR.



- 1 **North Al Batinah, Muscat, Duqm**  
Covid-19 protection initiatives
- 2 **Musandam**  
Distribution of Hand Sanitizers Musandam schools
- 3 **Muscat**  
Environment-Friendly bags distribution
- 4 **Duqm**  
Supporting Oman Woman Association
- 5 **Salalah**  
Sponsoring walking day for raising cancer awareness.

- 1 **USA**  
Supporting Distributive Education Clubs of America(DECA) to encourages the development of business and leadership skills through academic conferences and competitions  
  
Sponsor Baseball Challenge Tournament
- 2 **Germany**  
Supporting Sophie-Scholl-High School with tablets  
  
Provision of playground equipment to kindergarten at Oberhausen

## EXAMPLES OF SPONSORSHIP INITIATIVES IN 2020

01



### Environment & Health

- Supporting the hearing aids project for people with hearing disabilities
- Requesting to Support disabilities right agreement with Braille
- Environmental Society Oman membership

02



### Education & Innovation

- **CPRJ webinar**  
Sponsoring CPRJ innovative Technologies to showcase and promote OQ products
- **Sponsoring the International Gas Union Research Conference 2020 (IGRC)**  
the IGRC is triennial event organised by the International Gas union that highlights the research, development and innovation aspects of the international gas industry

03



### Economic Prosperity

- **OCSR 2020**  
OQ was the main sponsor in Al Roya CSR forum in its 4th version. The forum discussed the CSR practices in Oman and how to be aligned with the Oman vision 2040
- **OCGS membership**  
OQ contributed to supporting Oman Centre for Governance and Sustainability, which is a governmental entity established by a royal decree 30/2015 in 2015-July, dedicated to public and private corporates in the Sultanate. It is an independent body and for nonprofit making. The objective of the center is to educate and spread the awareness in the fields of governance and sustainability and to raise the level of knowledge and leveraging practices in the fields

## Conclusion

We would like to give special thanks to all our partners from Government entities, Private Sector and NGOs, who supported us in partnership and cooperation towards achieving the best community services in Oman.



## Jusoor Foundation

OQ is a proud co-founder of Jusoor Foundation; the first in Oman as pioneer social responsibility foundation that aims to develop and implement sustainable social projects, works as the social investment arm with Sohar Aluminium and Vale companies.

For more information visit:



@Jusooroman



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## SPECIAL THANKS



### Special Thanks to Photographer:



# Corporate Social Responsibility 2021 A New Journey

Towards the end of 2020, the CSI practice was revisited to ensure better alignment with OQ's aspirations. These include the needs assessment survey for our communities. For further consolidation, Oman's vision 2040 and UN SDGs-2030 were considered in the survey while developing OQ's CSI focus areas. These areas will mark the future three pillars of OQ social investment: Education and Health, Economic Prosperity and Environment Stewardship. The CSI fund, sponsorship, as well as the supervision of volunteer programmes will be based on these pillars as it will be expressed in the 2021 report.



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