



QF 'solar project aims to supply power for campus'

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science and Community Development (QF) is conducting some very sophisticated studies on implementing an energy management system, scheduled to go live next year, a senior official said yesterday.

"One of the projects in this connection is a centralised way of managing solar panels installed on various buildings in Education City," explained Jassim Telefat, technical director of QF's Capital Projects.

The logic behind the proposal to integrate solar panels within the campus is to use the energy generated from one building in other places as well.

"Technology is evolving, and we really need to harness it when we are constructing and designing our facilities," observed Telefat, who elaborated on the green initiatives undertaken by QF.

Incidentally, the United Na-

tions Climate Change Conference, which opened on Monday, is being held at QF's Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) constructed according to the US Green Building Council's Gold Certification standard for Leadership and Environment Design (LEED).

"QF is determined to place sustainability at the heart of everything it does. The idea is if you want your building to be sustainable, there are a lot of credentials for that and criteria you need to follow to indicate that you are environmentally responsible when you are designing and constructing your building. All of our developments will play a major role in minimising the carbon effect by using sustainable technologies."

Founded in 1995, QF's sprawling campus lies adjacent to the QNCC, and houses nine world-class educational institutions, including branches of Georget-

own University, HEC Paris and University College London. Its master plan was designed by renowned Japanese architect Arata Isozaki, and the site is home to a collection of breathtaking buildings, with many others at the planning stage.

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For Jassim Telefat, who began working on the project a decade ago, it has been quite a journey. "In the beginning the iconic building was Qatar Academy, which was really the starting point," he reflects. "And then the idea of creating the master plan came onto the scene, and the area started to expand until it reached almost 15mn sq m.

"I remember the days when I was going alone to the site, pouring the concrete and being heavily involved in the supervision teams for the construction. There was a very small group of people managing the projects, and today we are talking about an army of engineers, more than 300, and there are more than 50 live projects on site. So it's totally different than that time when we were working on only two buildings, and now we are working on massive construction activities and developments."

Every one of the buildings now at the planning or development stage is designed with environment in mind. A housing project to accommodate 1,200 students is nearing completion, and aims to achieve platinum LEED certification.

"The tiles that we have in the students' rooms have 55% glass content of plasma screens that used to be in televisions,

and when they don't function anymore we use the glass in the tiles as recycled content," Telefat said.

"We call this post-consumer use of the materials. We have solar panels in the roof, and we are involving some technologies so we can purify the water that we consume for showers and daily use, to reuse it again for irrigation and for fire protection. These things we pay close attention to, so we can be more sustainable."

QF's master plan is a live document that can be adapted to incorporate state-of-the-art advances in sustainable technology. The latest innovations are included at the conceptual stage of each new building and, increasingly, emphasis is placed on ensuring that the site as a whole reflects the QF's environmental ethos, while aiding the nation's journey towards a knowledge economy.



Yan Pei-Ming, centre, interacts with visitors at the exhibition.



Visitors view the "Painting the History" exhibition.

QMA to hold 'Little Sun' event

As part of its commitment to creating interactive, educational, and charitable programmes around its exhibitions, the Qatar Museum Authority (QMA) will hold a "Little Sun" event at the Yan Pei-Ming's "Painting the History" exhibition.

The event will include a 24-hour blackout for an entire day from 9pm on November 29 to 9pm on November 30, during which period the exhibition can be only seen in the dark using a "Little Sun" lamp.

"Little Sun" is a solar-powered lamp made for the 1.6bn people worldwide who live off the electrical grid. Founded by Olafur Eliasson and Frederik Ottesen, the lamp has developed an affordable solar-powered light to satisfy the urgent need for off-grid lighting and to promote economic growth in regions where electricity is not available, reliable, affordable, or sustainable.

By buying "Little Sun" at a full price in areas of the world with electricity, people help make it available for a lower price to communities with no or inconsistent electricity. This project is considered an artistic endeavour and a call to action. The "Little Sun" lamp will be

available for purchase at the exhibition and visitors will be able to learn more about solar power, the global energy challenge, as well as light and its importance for life. Charging stations will be located at the entrances of QMA Gallery, and lamps can be used inside.

"Painting the History", an exhibition by French-Chinese artist Yan Pei-Ming, opened to public on October 12 at the QMA Gallery, Building 10, in Katara, and will stay on view until January 12, 2013.

Curated by Francesco Bonami, the exhibition profiles three types of history-makers and highlights the power of painting as a medium for recording historical events and portraying iconic figures.

Yan Pei-Ming is a world-renowned artist who became known for his "epic-sized" portraits of Chinese communist leader Mao Zedong, and actor Bruce Lee. He was commissioned in 2010 to create portraits of HH the Emir Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani, and HH Sheikha Moza bint Nasser. The two portraits are displayed at the entrance of Mathaf: Arab Museum of Modern Art.

Qtel offers HD voice call for smartphone

Qtel's smartphone customers can now "enjoy clearer and sharper calls" thanks to the state-of-the-art high-definition (HD) voice technology now available on Qtel's 3G network.

High-definition voice delivers crystal clear call quality and also reduces background noise.

This provides a much better call experience especially for customers using their smartphone's loudspeaker function in noisy environment such as the workplace, the sports stadium or the mall.

Qtel launched the high-definition voice service in June and now, after a period of network stabilisation and greater availability of suitable mobile handsets, the service is available for both Hala and Shahry customers who use smartphones on the 3G network for voice calling.

There is no additional charge for using the HD voice service and calls are charged at normal rates.

The service is proving especially popular for customers using a growing range of new smartphones, such as the iPhone 5 and Sony Xperia T, which provide high-definition voice support.

To take advantage of the service, both the caller and recipient need to be using mobile devices that are enabled for high-definition voice while connected to the Qtel3G network.

High-definition voice is part of Qtel's ongoing strategy to improve the customer experience through cutting-edge technology.

In recent years, Qtel said it has upgraded its 3G network, with the aim of "delivering the best possible" voice and Internet experience.



Khalid bin Khalifa al-Thani and senior Qatargas executives at the company's recent Town Hall meeting.

Qatargas CEO underlines staff safety

Qatargas held its annual "town hall" meeting, which provided a forum for employees to discuss with the senior management, matters related to the company and seek clarification on key issues and developments.

Welcoming staff members to the two-day meeting Qatargas CEO Khalid bin Khalifa al-Thani said the annual event was aimed at reinforcing the open communications policy adopted by Qatargas at every level.

"The aim of this forum is to address any issues concerning our employees who are the foundation of our success. As we move ahead with our vision to become the world's premier

LNG company by 2015, it is very crucial for us to create opportunities for open dialogue with our people," he said.

Urging the staff to continue their commitment to safety, the Qatargas chief executive officer said: "I would like to utilise this opportunity to remind all of you about one of our core values - safety. We need to be alert at all times and cannot afford to be complacent when it comes to safety. Safety is a collective effort and each one of us is responsible. Ultimately, our aim is to make sure that everyone goes home safely, every day."

Congratulating the staff for their hard work, commitment and dedication, Khalid bin Khalifa al-Thani said: "Year

2012 has been a great year of accomplishments for us. We continue to operate our facilities efficiently, delivering LNG to our valued customers in all four corners of the world, safely and reliably. In over 15 years of our operations we have never missed a single cargo. This would not have been possible without the help and contribution of our staff, customers and shareholders. Looking ahead, we should continue to enhance our safety performance and uphold our status as a reliable supplier of LNG to our customers around the globe."

The day's events included an overview on the accomplishments of Qatargas during 2012.

Leading real estate project wins award

Primelands Real Estate Development, owned by Sheikh Khalid bin Ahmed al-Thani, has announced that its high-end compound Al-Rayyan Village won the Best Development Multiple Units Qatar Prize with a 5-Star Rating at the recent International Property Awards Arabia 2012 - 2013.

The event held in Dubai, gathered the most prominent names of the regional and international real estate industry.

International Property Awards is described as the world's largest and most prestigious property competition.

The nomination and selection processes rely on an independent panel of expert judges representing all areas of real estate development.

"This award constitutes, therefore, an independent endorsement of excellence, which celebrates once more the collective efforts invested into turning Al-Rayyan Village into a great community and an epic success story," an official of Prime Lands Real Estate Development said.



Prime Lands Real Estate Development team with the award.

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