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Translating locally-led resilience into action

Salalah's Journey to a Resilience Hub

Proactive and integrated national and local action for disaster risk reduction — Sultanate of Oman

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What I will cover

01

A proactive stance

Moving from reaction to prediction and preparedness teamwork.

02

The national system

A unified structure serving the entire governorate .

03

Key investment

Health, dams, stormwater drainage .

From reaction to expectation

Oman focuses on acting before disasters strike and working as one united system
Salalah goal putting this strategy into action locally

1

expectation

- Risk knowledge, monitoring and early warning drive decisions taken before an event.

2

Integration

- One national command
- All sectors its operates to clear plan and vision .

3

Local delivery

- Governorates and cities are where resilience is built and tested.

Resilience is not a project. It is the standing condition of a city that has decided, in advance, how it will behave under stress.

Oman's national emergency management system



all local sectors work under one committee to turn national plans into action

investment in Salalah

01

Health

Capacity to treat

- A new 700-bed hospital
- A unified ambulance centre
- Seasonal surge planning
- Post-event public health

02

Dams

Water held back

- Salalah flood protection dam
- Sahalnout dam
- Wadi An'ar and Wadi Adawnab
- Protection of port and free zone
- Sediment kept out of the port basin

03

Drainage

Water moved away

- 86 critical points mapped
- City drainage network
- Wadi protection works
- Governorate master plan
- Recurring pre-season clearance

A city fails in more than one way: when water arrives, when water cannot leave, when the sick cannot be treated, and when nobody can see what is happening. Each pillar answers one of those.

Building the capacity to treat

The new Sultan Qaboos Hospital in Salalah is the largest single investment in Dhofar's resilience, and it changes what the governorate can absorb in a mass-casualty or surge event.

700

beds across
3,238 rooms

358 M /\$

total project
value

100,000 m²

site area,
seven storeys

> 97%

construction
complete

Q4 2026

expected start
of operations

Specialised capacity that Dhofar

Emergency care

CARDIOLOGY AND
VASCULAR CENTER

Oncology and
chemotherapy

STROKE UNIT

Burns treatment

Rehabilitation

The wider governorate programme

- More than US 420 million committed across nine hospitals and health centres in Dhofar
- Thumrait Health Centre upgraded to a comprehensive hospital, with isolation rooms and a dialysis unit
- New Madhi Health Centre; expansion at Awqad and Western Salalah health centres
- Al Mazyouna Hospital opened; a health centre for Shalim and the Hallaniyat Islands
- A baseline network of 45 health institutions across ten wilayats

Knowing where the water goes

Two national programmes give every governorate, including Dhofar, the evidence base for flood risk decisions.

Flood hazard mapping and emergency planning

Consultancy services to update flood hazard maps and prepare management and emergency plans across the governorates of Oman.

- A national flood risk assessment manual and a flood design manual
- Hazard maps classifying areas as high, medium or low risk
- Exposure analysis combining urban planning records with flood risk grades
- Flood risk management and emergency plans for the areas identified

Map types produced: inundation extent · water depth · flood hazard grade by velocity and flow

Hydrometric monitoring network

Setting up and build up , modernisation and maintenance of the national hydrometric observation network, feeding a digital database that helps send data remotely

58

rainfall stations
in Dhofar

10

wadi flow stations
in Dhofar



- Real-time data supporting flood early warning and severe rainfall prediction
- Analysis for decision makers, technical reports and the national water situation report
- Rainfall, wadi flow and groundwater data in one retrievable record

The Salalah flood protection dam system

- Protect Salalah city, the Free Zone, Raysut Industrial City and the Port of Salalah from flood risk
- Reduce the volume of sediment entering the port basin
- Control water arriving from the wadis and discharge it safely

Salalah Flood Protection Dam

77.2 million m³
storage capacity
23 m
height
6,121 m
length, with surface and underground discharge channels

Sahalnout Dam

6.4 million m³
storage capacity
21.8 m
height
3,315 m
length, with a concrete spillway

Also in the system

Wadi An'ar Dam · Wadi Adawnab Dam

Together the structures hold back and route flows that would otherwise reach the urban area unmanaged, which is why recent events did not produce losses on the scale the rainfall alone would suggest.



What the system protects

- Salalah city and its residents
- Salalah Free Zone
- Raysut Industrial City
- Port of Salalah, including the sediment load reaching its basin

Thank you

Salalah is open to any city working on cyclone, flood and health risk in an arid coastal setting. We would welcome the exchange.

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