

Expert Group Meeting on Promoting Best Practices
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PLANS AND PROGRAMS TO ALLEVIATE POVERTY IN OMAN

by

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Prepared by:

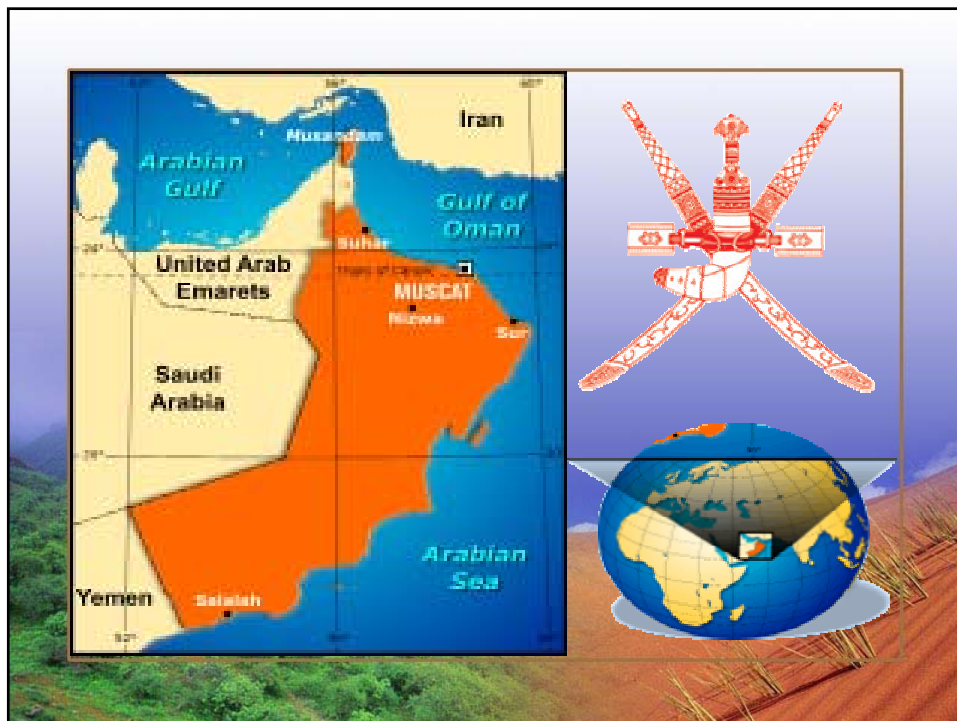
AMUR ALHAJRI

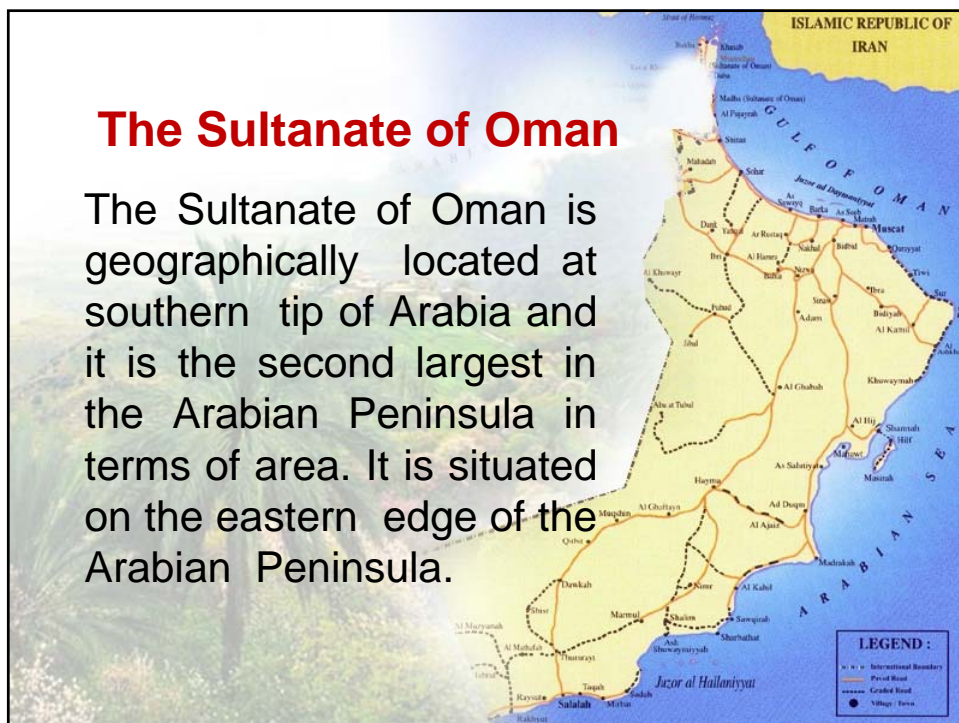
Director General of Social Development

Al batinah Region

Ministry of Social Development

Sultanate of Oman





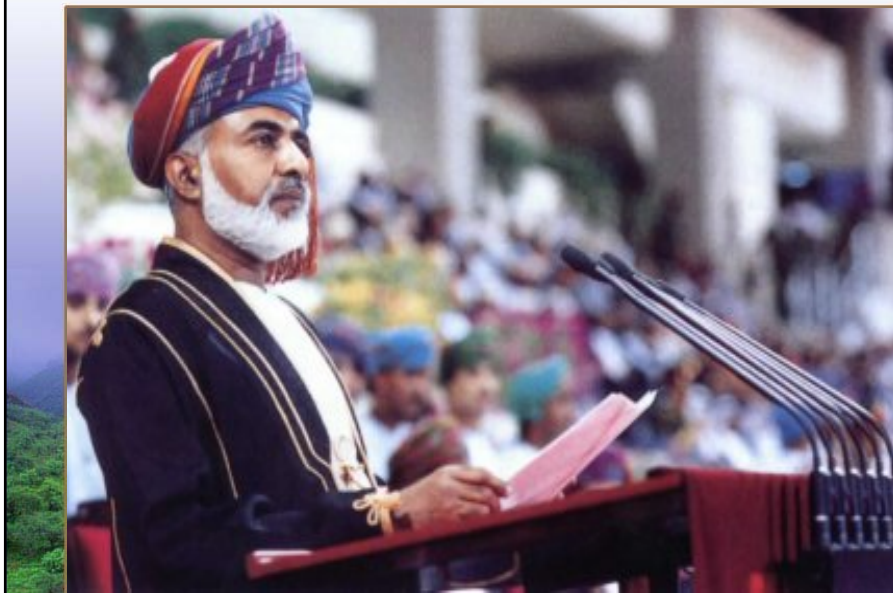
Oman is bordered by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the west, and the Republic of Yemen in the south, United Arab Emirates lies to the north –west and to the east of the Arabian sea and the Gulf of Oman.

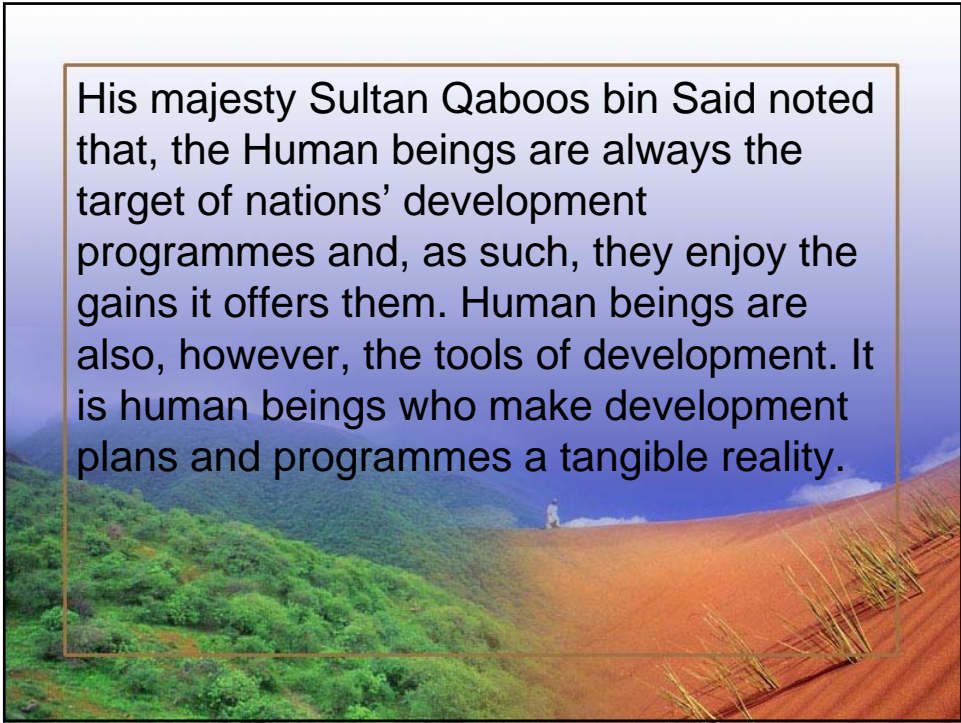


Oman is a tourist's delight, with a civilization of almost thousands of years. Oman has a great treasure of historical and geological attractions.



Oman's 1700 kms coastline is famous for its whales, dolphins, turtles and other creatures. Oman is a naturalist's paradise for sea safaris, water sports and thrilling adventures.





His majesty Sultan Qaboos bin Said noted that, the Human beings are always the target of nations' development programmes and, as such, they enjoy the gains it offers them. Human beings are also, however, the tools of development. It is human beings who make development plans and programmes a tangible reality.

General information

| | |
|------------|--|
| Land area | 309.5 thousand sq km |
| Population | 3.0 million (2003) (Omani 2.4 m, non Omani 0.6m) |
| Capital | Muscat |
| Religion | Islam |
| Language | Arabic but English widely spoken |
| Time | GMT + 4 |
| Currency | Omani Riyal (RO 1 = US\$ 3.68) |
| Climate | Temperature is (30 c) SEP - Mar (more than 45 c) Apr - AUG |

Combating poverty

Poverty never has been a problem in Oman as it appears in other developing countries and no doubt. This is because of the Islamic traditions and values in the Omani community which based on cooperation between the society members and the government.

The Omani programs to alleviated poverty:

1. Social Security programs

- Payment of monthly stipend for orphans, divorcees, widows, unmarried women, abandoned women, families of prisoner, and elderly people, which are 49550 cases, spending for them RO. 30 million = US 115.8 million yearly.
- Distribution of school stationery annually to 40,000 students from families on social security programs spending for them Ro. 0.772 million = US 2.0 million
- Provision of aid, in cash or in kind, in cases of disaster or emergency such as fire =Ro. 1 million

2. Income generating and traditional crafts projects:

- 1. Create earning opportunities for individuals.**
- 2. Raise their living standard**
- 3. Upgrade skills & capacities**
- 4. Reviewing the status of family members on welfare with a view of helping those who possess skills start their own business.**



3. Youth projects

They are projects introduced for youth in Oman to improve their standard of living these projects are: -

- The Fund for the Development of youth projects.**
- The Sanad project**
- Intilaaqah program**
- Sufon Al Shabab**



Omanisation

In Oman, the Omanisation programme has been in operation since 1988, working toward replacing expatriates with trained Omani Personnel. by the end of 2009, the number of Omanis in government services exceeded the set target of 98%, and in banking sector reached 94%, and in the other private sectors replacement by omanis is moving very fast.

Education

Free governmental education

Oman before 1970

- 3 Schools
- 350 students boys only.
- 35 teachers

Oman now

- 1046 schools.
- 586.074 student. boys= 292.477, girls= 275.597
- 30.668 teachers M & f.
- 28,183 student in private schools.
- 1 governmental university
- 5 private universities.
- 25 governmental colleges.
- 15 private uni colleges.

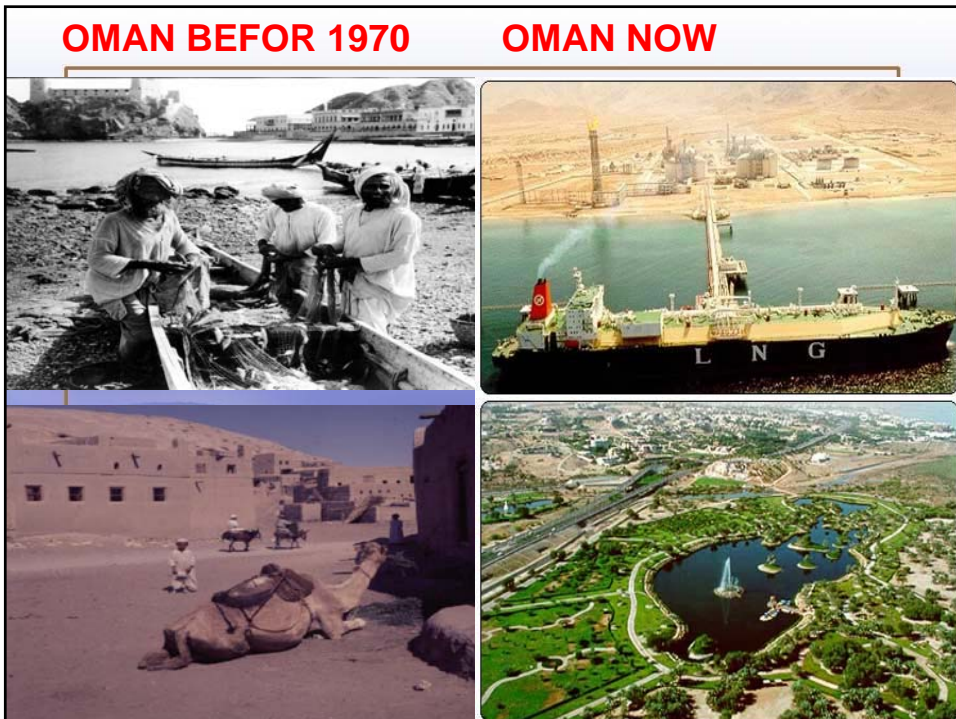
FREE HEALTH SERVICES

• IN 1970

- 3 HOSPITALS.
- 1 REFRRAL HOSPITAL.
- 5 HEALTH CENTRES.
- 13 DOCTORS.
- 150 NURSES.

• NOW

- 58 HOSPITALS.
- 13 REFRAL HOSPITAL.
- 127 HEALTH CENTERS.
- 3150 DOCTORS
- 8500 M&F NURSES.



OMAN BEFOR 1970



OMAN NOW



Oman Economic Vision for 2020

- To have economic and financial stability.
- To reshape the role of the Government in the economy and to broaden private sector participation.
- To diversify the economic base and sources of national income.
- To globalise the Omani economy.
- To upgrade the skills of the Omani workforce and develop human resources.

Vision 2020 aims

Provide an ongoing and comprehensive framework for the Omani economy, one which will enable the diversification of sources of national income by increasing the economic role of;

- Natural gas
- Industry
- Tourism
- Shipping
- Trade
- Mineral Resources:
Copper, Chromites, Nickel, Iron, Gold and Silver.

Economic Diversification

- Petrol and Gas
- Port Qaboos.
- Port Salalah.
- Port Sohar.
- Port al duqum
- Tourism.
- Mineral (Copper, Chromites, Nickel, Iron, Gold and Silver).
- Agriculture and Fisheries

Thank you

