

URBAN OCTOBER Programme

Celebrating
World Habitat Day



**ADEQUATE
HOUSING** *for ALL*

Live
**عمان
OMAN**





AT A GLANCE

Four days.

Four big questions.

05

DAY ONE MONDAY 5 OCTOBER

Adequate Housing for All

1 panel · 2 talks Page 3

06

DAY TWO TUESDAY 6 OCTOBER

Emerging & Fast Growing Cities

6 panels · 5 talks Page 5

07

DAY THREE WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER

Cities That Work for Everyone

4 panels · 7 talks Page 9

08

DAY FOUR THURSDAY 8 OCTOBER

Housing Beyond the Home

4 panels · 5 talks Page 13

**ADEQUATE
HOUSING** *for all*

5—8 | Oman Convention
Oct. 2026 & Exhibition Centre

وزارة الإسكان والتخطيط العمراني
Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning





05

OCTOBER 2026

DAY ONE MONDAY

Adequate Housing for All

Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2026

Morning

11:00 - 12:45

11:00
to 12:45
1 HR 45

OPENING CEREMONY

Global & National Observance Opening Ceremony

Welcoming Statements, UN-Habitat

UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award Ceremony,
Anacláudia Rossbach, Under-Secretary-General &
Executive Director, UN-Habitat Statements by Recipients

Maryam Nawaz Sharif, Chief Minister of Punjab, Pakistan,
representing the Punjab Housing and Town Planning Agency, Lahore, Pakistan
/ Htoo Aung, representing Housing NOW, Bago, Myanmar / Thiago
Bauermann Gubert representing Aldeia do Espraiado - Tekoa Ara Hovy:
Brazil's First Municipal Indigenous Reserve/ Abdelmalek Ghanem,
Bizerte, Tunisia / Sadiq Khanb (representative), London, United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Signing Ceremony for Development Agreements,
including International Agreements

Afternoon

12:50 - 17:20

12:50
to 13:30
40 MIN

TOUR

Inauguration of the Expo

15:00
to 15:45
45 MIN

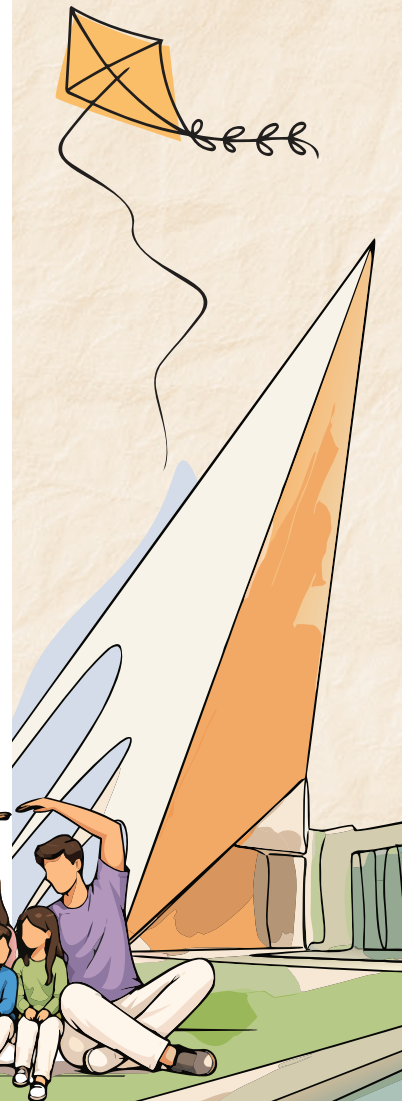
TALK

Ministerial Segment

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15:45
to 17:00
1 HR 15

PANEL DISCUSSION

Flagship Dialogue: Adequate Housing for All

Elena Diaz Galan, UN Special Rapporteur on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights

Rony Lahoud, General Director, Public Corporation for Housing, Lebanon

Sultan Barakat, Professor in Public Policy, Qatar Foundation's Hamad Bin Khalifa University; Honorary Professor, University of York

Partha Mukhopadhyay, Senior Fellow, Centre for Policy Research, India

Wendy Werner, World Bank Group Country Manager for Oman

MODERATOR Rania Hedeya, Director, UN-Habitat ROAS

17:00
to 17:20
20 MIN

CLOSING

Closing of the Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2026

Anacláudia Rossbach, Under-Secretary-General & Executive Director, UN-Habitat

17:30
to 18:30
1 HR

Invest in Al Duqum Waterfront

Evening

18:30 - 22:00

18:30
to 19:10
40 MIN

CULTURE

Entertainment

TBC

19:30
to 20:10
40 MIN

CULTURE

The Crowd on Fire Stand-up Comedy Session ARABIC

Tareq Al Harbi & Al Salt

21:00
to 22:00
1 HR

CULTURE

Sado Music Concert

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OCTOBER 2026

DAY TWO TUESDAY

Emerging & Fast Growing Cities

Morning

10:00 - 12:35

10:00
to 10:40
40 MIN

PRESENTATION + PANEL

Beyond Masterplans: How Developers Turn Urban Vision into Reality

Mohammed Al Mohammadi, CSO, Retal Urban Development Company
Ahmed Al Owaisi, CEO, Al Raed Real Estate Services
Ali Baomar, CEO, Al Dahab Real Estate Company
Qais Al Bahri, CEO, Dream Villa
Nasser Al Siyabi, DG, Ministry of Housing and Urban Planning
Amr Elhamy, Co-CEO and GM of Talaat Moustafa Group
Sameh Habib, CEO, Al Ahly Sabbour Development
MODERATOR Maryam Al Sharji, Director, Oman Real Estate Centre, MoHUP

10:45
to 11:25
40 MIN

PRESENTATION + PANEL

Making a Difference

UN-Habitat Scroll of Honour Award Winners
Moderator Katerina V. Bezgachina, Chief of Communications, UNH

11:30
to 11:50
20 MIN

TALK

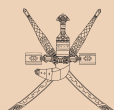
Gangnam-style: 10-Minute City - The 2030 Seoul Plan

Dr Inhee Kim, Chief Masterplanner Gangnam-gu, Seoul Institute

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11:55
to 12:35
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

In Conversation with City Makers: Seoul & Rotterdam – Lessons and Parallels for Muscat

Dr Inhee Kim, Chief Masterplanner Gangnam-gu, Seoul Institute

Arnoud Molenaar, Global Director Resilience & Partnerships; Former Chief Resilience Officer, City of Rotterdam

TBC

INTERVIEW BY Monika Bik, Planning Advisor, MoHUP

Afternoon

12:40 - 17:30

12:40
to 13:00
20 MIN

TALK

Who Pays for Transit? International Lessons of Land Value Capture

Shuprotim Bhaumik, Partner, HR&A Advisors

13:05
to 13:45
40 MIN

PRESENTATION + PANEL

Making It Happen: Bringing Muscat's LRT Stations from Plan to Reality

James Rayner, Founder, Urban Place Network

Ash Gupta, Director of Masterplanning, tp bennett

Shuprotim Bhaumik, Director, HR&A Advisors

Ahmed Al Maqbali, Development Director, Madinat Al Irfan

MODERATOR Mohammed Al Balushi, PM Sur Structure Plan, MoHUP

13:50

Entertainment Break – 'Writers in Conversation' ARABIC

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14:50
to 15:10
20 MIN

TALK

Extraordinary Everyday

Mari Randsborg, CEO, Cobe

15:15
to 15:35
20 MIN

TALK

Cities by Design: Shaping Sustainable and Inclusive Futures

Gianluca Racana, Board Director, ZHA
(Stirling Prize Winner)

15:40
to 16:00
20 MIN

TALK

District Design - Regulation, Identity & Value (Tokyo)

Isamu Sugeno, Director of International Business Planning,
Mitsubishi Jisho Design

Michio Koda, Principal Architect, Mitsubishi Jisho Design

16:05
to 16:45
50 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

Beyond New Buildings: What Makes a City Thrive? The Power of Public Realm & Regeneration

Sergey Kuznetsov, Architects of the Future in VEB.RF, MD Strelka
KB; Former Chief Architect of Moscow

Rail Magzumov, First Deputy CEO & Partner, Marks Group

Alexey Muratov, Partner, Strelka KB

Jonathan Lane, Director Development Planning &
Urban Design, WSP

MODERATOR Shadha Al Balushi, Senior Architect, MoHUP

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16:50
to 17:30
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

Good Design or Good Business: Must We Choose?

Jordan D'Gama, Director of Strategic Market Development MEA

Fuad Al Kindi, Chairman, Oman Society of Engineers & IKAM

Ercan Agibras, Professor of Architecture & Urban Planning, GuTech, Architekt ETH

William Matthews, Founder, William Matthews Associates

Saud Muhsinovic, Director, Mott MacDonald; University College London

Daisy Sabbagh, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Sarooj Development

Mohamed Al Shaqsi, Executive Director, GCC Region, VA Group, Oman

MODERATOR Maryam Al Balushi, Oman Society of Architects & Meinhardt Oman Market Lead

17:40
to 18:10
30 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

COP 31 (TBC)

Evening

18:30 - 22:00

18:30
to 19:00
30 MIN

CULTURE

City of Wonder: Circus Show

CULTURE

Match (TBC)

19:00
to 19:30
30 MIN

CULTURE

Nothing Is as It Seems - Magic Show

Abdullatif Saleh

19:30
to 20:00
30 MIN

CULTURE

Rhythm of the City - Live performance

20:00
to 20:30
30 MIN

CULTURE

A Symphony of Memories - Spacetoan Musical Show

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OCTOBER 2026

DAY THREE WEDNESDAY

Cities That Work for Everyone

Morning

10:00 - 11:55

10:00
to 10:40
40 MIN

MOHUP PANEL

Six Plans Completed. The Journey Continues

Yaqoub Al Harthi, Greater Muscat Structure Plan

Hali Al Balushi, Ibri Structure Plan

Shatha Al Mazroui, Greater Salalah Structure Plan

Mohammed Al Balushi, Sur Structure Plan

Asila Al Busaidi, Rustaq Structure Plan

Anisa Al Kishri, Greater Nizwa Structure Plan

MODERATOR Laith Al Shiyadi, Urban Planner & Architect

10:45
to 11:05
20 MIN

TALK

Beyond Architecture: Building Community, Creating Value

Davide Angeli, Managing Director, AMDL Circle

11:10
to 11:30
20 MIN

TALK

Sustainable Communities: Rooted in Memory, Designed to Belong

Amedeo Schiattarella, Founder and Chairman, Schiattarella Associati

11:35
to 11:55
20 MIN

TALK

Seeing the Future: Digital Tools for Better City Storytelling

Dimitar Rashkov, Founder, Red Vertex

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Afternoon

12:00 - 16:55

12:00
to 12:45
45 MIN

GBD INNOVATION CLUB PANEL

The New Global Face of Business Districts. New Places. New Thinking. New Opportunities

Chen Dai, Deputy Mayor, Chaoyang District, Beijing
(recorded message)

Bill Addy, Chief Executive, Liverpool BID Company

James North, Primera, London

Richard Guiney, Former CEO of DublinTown, GBD IC

Tom Nancollas, Assistant Director, City of London Corporation

MODERATOR Paul Kallee Grover MBE, Founder,
Ki Partnerships

12:50

Entertainment Break · 1 hr - Competitions & Prizes

13:50
to 14:30
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Business of Being Together: Clustering for Productivity

Aisha Al Sarihi, Economic Expert, Ministry of Economy

Salim Al Dhuhli, CEO, Khazaen Economic City

Dr Said Al Quraini, DG, Investment Development Sector, OPAZ

MODERATOR Nasser Al Sayegh, Technical Director, GMSP

14:35
to 14:55
20 MIN

TALK

The Art of Representation: Designing Oman's Pavilion - Osaka Expo 2025

Ammar Al Kiyumi, Studio Kiyumi, Omani Architecture, Art and Product Design Studio

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15:00
to 15:20
20 MIN

TALK

Sustainable Urban Development Guidelines for Historic Oasis Landscapes of Oman

Soumyen Bandyopadhyay, Professor & Chair of Architecture, University of Liverpool

15:25
to 15:45
20 MIN

TALK

Middle-income Trap – How Do Cities Escape the Middle?

Anirudh Rajashekar, Senior Advisor, Consults for The World Bank and Asian Development Bank

Esen Caglar, Managing Partner, Policy Analytics Lab, PAL Global

15:50
to 16:10
20 MIN

TALK

City Waterfronts. From Metropolitan Icons to Coastal Destinations

Ian Simpson, Founding Partner, Simpson-Haugh Architects

Javier Gonzalez, Associate, Simpson-Haugh Architects

16:15
to 16:55
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

Why Is Good Regeneration So Hard?

Colin Sinclair, CEO Sciontec & Knowledge Quarter, Liverpool Innovation District

Ahmed Bucheeri, Managing Director, Principal Architect, GHE

Dr Hanan Al Jabri, DG of General Planning, MoHUP

Mark Lawler, Founder, People-Place-Property Consultants

MODERATOR Talal Al Shahri, Oman FM

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Evening

17:00 - 22:00

17:00
to 17:20
20 MIN

CULTURE
Live Oman (TBC)

18:45
to 20:15
1 HR 30

FORUM
Investment Forum – Creating Value at Home

20:15
to 20:45
30 MIN

CEREMONY
Signing Ceremony for Development Agreements

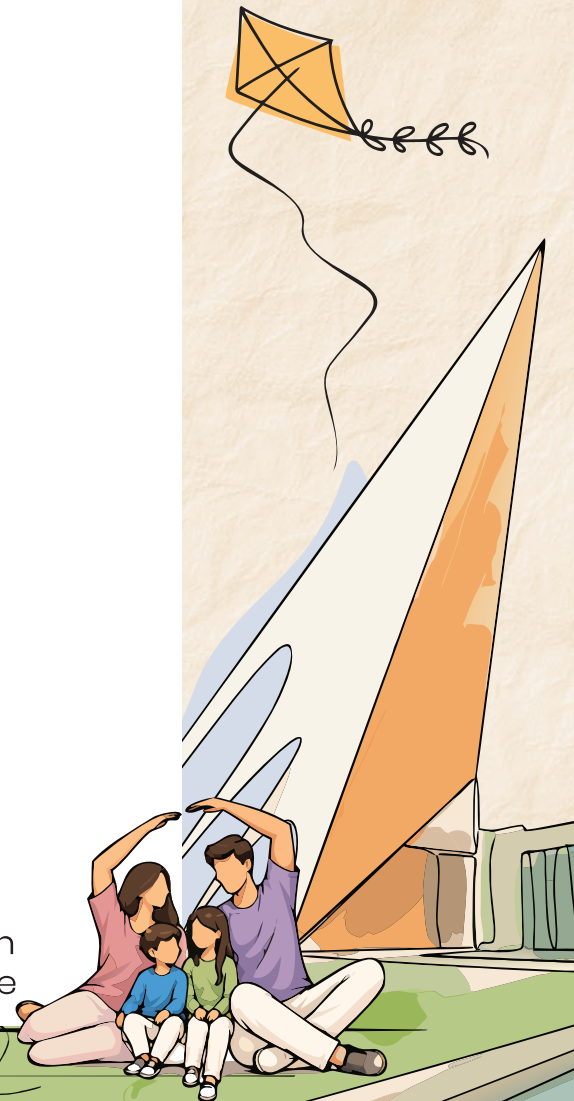
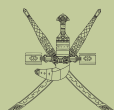
21:00
to 22:00
1 HR

CULTURE
Choral Al Saltana

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OCTOBER 2026

DAY FOUR THURSDAY

Housing Beyond the Home

Morning

10:00 - 12:15

10:00
to 10:20
20 MIN

TALK

City as a Gym - Building the Healthiest Communities

Guy Perry, Senior Advisor, McKinsey

10:25
to 10:45
20 MIN

TALK

Net Zero Oman: From Ambition to Action

Mohsin Al Jabri, DG, Oman Net Zero Centre, Ministry of Energy & Minerals

10:50
to 11:30
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

Shaping the Future of Housing in Oman

Balqis Al Hinai, Director, Research and Innovation Authority

Dr Mohammed Al Shayeb, Associate Dean of Continuous Education, King Khalid University

Dr Fatma Al Hamad, Assistant Professor, College of Engineering, University of Bahrain

Rihab Al Mayyahi, Director General of Social Housing, MoHUP

Dr Amna Al Saadi, Principal of the Strategic Research Projects, GCET

MODERATOR Ahmad Hussini, Associate Dean of Continuing Education, GCET

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11:35
to 12:15
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

No One Left Behind - Designing Inclusive Oman

H.E. Dr Mohammed Al Mutawa, Undersecretary of Urban Planning, MoHUP

H.E. Dr Abdullah Al Harthy, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Social Development for the Affairs of Persons with Disabilities

H.E. Dr Ahmed Al Ghassani, Chairman of Dhofar Municipality

Prof Salim Hamoud Al Harthi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Community Services, Sultan Qaboos University

MODERATOR Hafsa Al Balushi, Acting Director of Urban Projects, MoHUP

Afternoon

12:20 - 16:45

PANEL DISCUSSION

12:20
to 13:20
1 HR

Housing Beyond the Home: Creating Complete, Connected and Liveable Communities

Dmitry Ivanoff, Head of Architecture & Urban Planning, VA Group

Roman Kapinos, Managing Partner, VA Group

Mohamed Al Shaqsi, Executive Director, GCC Region, VA Group, Oman

Mohammed Al Salmi, GM, Al Erfan Development, OMRAN Group

Mundhar Al Moosawi, Director of Business Development, OMRAN Group

Khalid Al Mahrezi, GM, Four Seasons Development, OMRAN Group

MODERATOR Hajer Al Rahbi, Development Lead, OMRAN Group

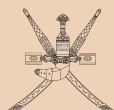
13:30

Entertainment Break - 1 hr 30

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14:50
to 15:10
20 MIN

TALK

Shaping Cities, Sustaining Identity: Bahrain as a Case Study

Marwa Nabil, Chief of Permits and Engineering Services,
Bahrain Authority for Culture and Antiquities

15:15
to 15:35
20 MIN

TALK

Beyond Four Walls: Rethinking Housing as a Complete and Livable Community

Mazin Al Jamoud, Development Manager, Alraed
Investments

15:40
to 16:00
20 MIN

TALK

Planning, Building and Infrastructure Development for Industrial Cities: The Madayn Development Guideline (Emarah)

Haitham Al Hinai, Project & PMO Lead, Madayn

16:05
to 16:45
40 MIN

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Art of Possible - City Regeneration and Lessons Learned for Muscat

David Howarth, Director, DRDH Architects

Ali Mangera, Founding Director, Mangera Yvars Architects
(MYAA)

Lama Al Khudhuri, Senior Urban Planner, MoHUP

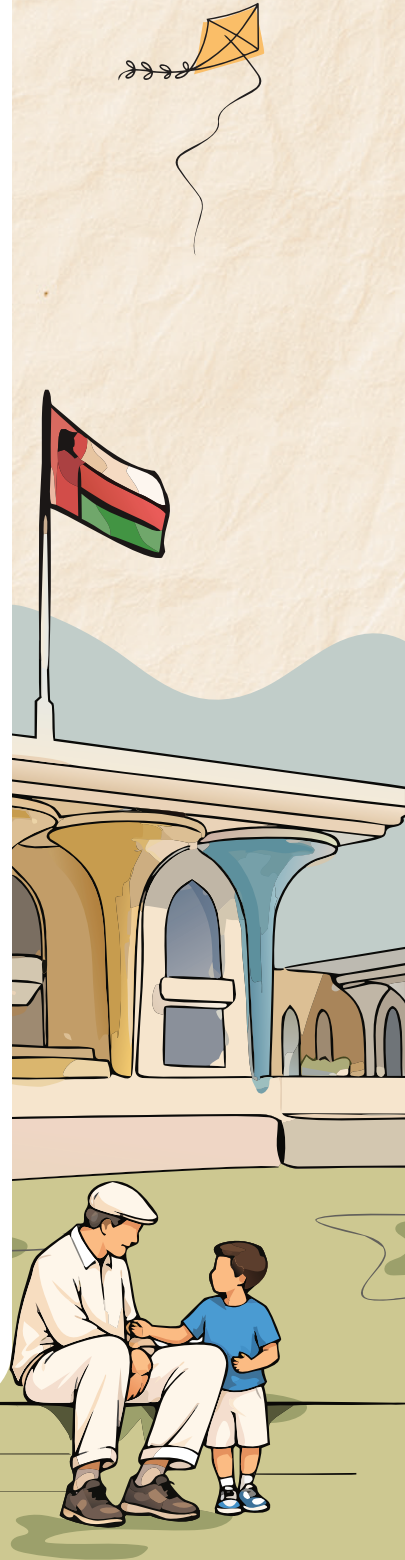
Leila Al Suhaimi, Head of Sustainability Business
Development, Retal

MODERATOR Julia Solodova, Project Manager, GBD
Innovation Club

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Evening

17:00 - 21:00

17:00
to 18:00
1 HR

CULTURE

Poetry Evening

18:00
to 18:30
30 MIN

CULTURE

Movie TBC

19:30
to 21:00
1 HR 30

CLOSING CEREMONY

Urban October Closing Ceremony

RIBA/OSA Hackathon Awards

Rafid Graduation Ceremony

All day

CITY STAGE · IN PARALLEL

09:00
to 16:30
7 HR 30

WORKSHOP · CITY STAGE

Design Hackathon - RIBA & OSA

09:00–15:00, Design sessions (closed)

15:10–16:30, Presentations & Jury questions (open to public)

JURY CHAIR Ian Simpson, Founder, Simpson-Haugh Architects

HONORARY JUROR H.E. Dr Khalfan Shueili, The Minister (TBC)

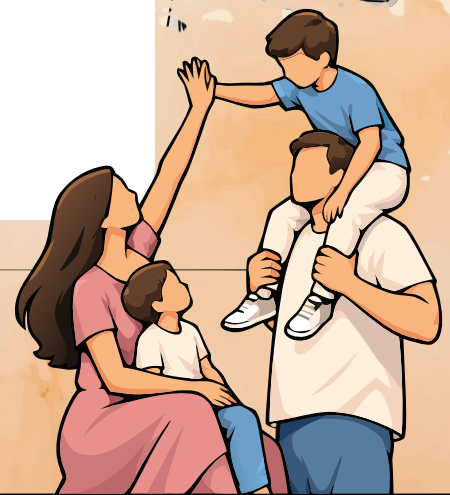
JUDGE Mohammed Al Asfoor, Senior Designer, Royal Court Affairs (RCA)

JUDGE Maryam Al Sharji, Director, Oman Real Estate Centre, MoHUP

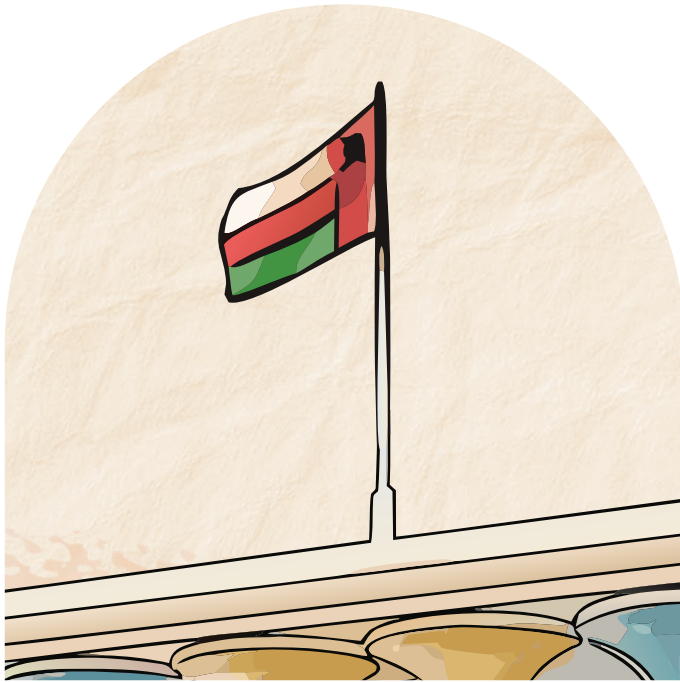
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