



The Organisation for Quality and Innovation Strategies ([Qualies](#)) is the single certified distributor of the Waterboxx in the Sultanate of Oman. Qualies was founded in Salalah, south of Oman, in 2002. From the outset, Qualies embraced the vision that Oman and the Middle East needed a creative and innovative free-standing organisation devoted to sustainable development, while capable of linking research, technology, innovation, human resource management, and enterprise development.

Qualies collaborated closely with Pieter Hoff and Groasis from 2013 in testing and validating the best means of planting with the Waterboxx under the harsh climate conditions present in Oman. Following the initial stages of preparations and examination, large scale plantations were planned since 2018 with execution starting in early 2019. Since then, Qualies have planted in a number of different locations, in collaboration with various organisations, public as well as private and also representing civil society. Most plantations have been with Omani native species, which are naturally adapted to the local environment. Survival rates generally exceed 85% after 2-3 years, and the estimated water savings, compared to conventional irrigation, are estimated at 98 %.

The map below marks out areas that have been planted with the Waterboxx as of early 2022.

PLANTING IN OMAN
WITH WATER-SAVING TECHNOLOGY



Map marking the main locations of waterboxx use in Oman

Main plantations with the Waterboxx in Oman, since 2019

Region	Organisations/ Sites	Time planted	Challenges to overcome	RESULTS
Dhofar	Mirbat	April – Oct 2019	Flooding, June 2019	85 % survival
	Madinat al Haq	Nov 2019 – Mar\Apr 2020	-	95 % survival
	Teetam	Oct-20	Damage by rodents	90 % survival
	Hokkum	April 2021	Fence broken for goats and camels	89 % survival
Sur	OLNG	Oct-2021	Rocky soil	To be evaluated
	MADAYN	Oct-2020	Flooding June 2021	90 % survival until flooding
Sohar	Sohar Port	May 2021	Planting too close to hot season Seedlings not sufficiently well cared for at the time of plantation	70 % survival (very high for those surviving first weeks)
Muscat	MUSCAT Municipality/ Al Amerat Park	June 2021	Planting too close to hot season, followed by Shaheen flooding Wadi	Following flooding, 35 % survival
Samail	Farms	January 2022	Planting with fruit trees, highly water and soil-dependent	n.a.

Examples of Native Species Planted with in Oman

Acacia Senegal (Qataba)	Acacia Tortilis (Simr)	Allophyllus Rubifolius (Zarkeen)	Azadirachta Indica (Neem)
Blepharispermum Hirtum (Khfoot)	Boscia Arabica Pestal (Seef)	Delonix Elata (Arear)	Moringa Peregrina (Shu'ban)
Prosopius Cineraria (Ghaf)	Sterculia Africana (Kthorah)	Tamarindus Indica (Subar)	Ziziphus Spina Christi (Sidr)

TREES PLANTED IN MADINAT AL HAQ, DHOFAR



TREES PLANTED IN HOKUM , DHOFAR



MIRBAT, DHOFAR



TREES PLANTED AT SHAROOQ SCHOOL, SUR



PLANTED 5 YRS. AGO, IN QANTAB FISHING VILLAGE, OMAN



NURSERY ACTIVITY, DHOFAR



BRIEF ON **SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REFORESTATION COOPERATION (SERC)**

In the Social and Environmental Reforestation Cooperation ([SERC](#)) project, plantations undertaken with the Waterboxx in Dhofar have been accompanied by a range of social and educational activities, including plantations with some 2000 school children. The SERC project has been possible thanks to sponsorship by BP Oman and undertaken in close collaboration with the environmental authority (EA) of Oman, which has provided fenced areas and arranged with long term-maintenance and monitoring support.

شركة ميناء صحر الصناعي ش م ع م
Sohar Industrial Port Company SAOC



Date: 26th January 2022

Mr. Thomas Andersson
Chief Executive Officer, Qualies
Muscat, Sultanate of Oman

After compliments

Subject: Expression of Gratitude for completing the tree planting project in Sohar Freezone using Waterboxxes.

Dear Mr. Andersson

As you are aware, Sohar Port and Freezone is investing heavily in innovative initiatives to improve the sustainability of our Port and Industrial areas. Today, I am writing you thanking you and your valuable team members for your great efforts and support in ensuring Sohar Freezone becomes a greener, clearer and climate-friendlier location for industries to conduct business.

By using the innovative Waterboxxes, and through your valuable cooperation with Sohar University, we are pleased to announce that a large number of the local trees planted in early 2021 are healthily growing within our concession without the support of an active irrigation system.

The ingenuity of the Waterboxxes proves to be crucial for the planted trees to grow and develop with minimal amounts of water in the early stages of planting.

On behalf of our organization, colleagues and industries operating within Sohar Freezone, I thank you for your efforts to promote the planting of trees in the Sultanate of Oman. I look forward to hearing more success stories from the deployment of this valuable innovative technology in my beloved country.

Yours sincerely,

Omar Al Mahrizi
Chief Executive Officer
Sohar Freezone

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