

ATHAR



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An aerial, wide-angle view of a desert city at sunset. The scene is bathed in the warm, golden light of the setting sun, which is visible on the horizon over the sea. The city is built on a sandy dune, with several large, rectangular buildings featuring flat roofs and arched windows. Some buildings have rooftop gardens with palm trees and other desert plants. The streets are paved with cobblestones and are lined with more palm trees and smaller desert vegetation. In the background, the sea is visible with several sailboats and small boats. The sky is filled with soft, orange clouds. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

1.Site location & Analysis

2.Concept

3.Landscape & Elevation studies

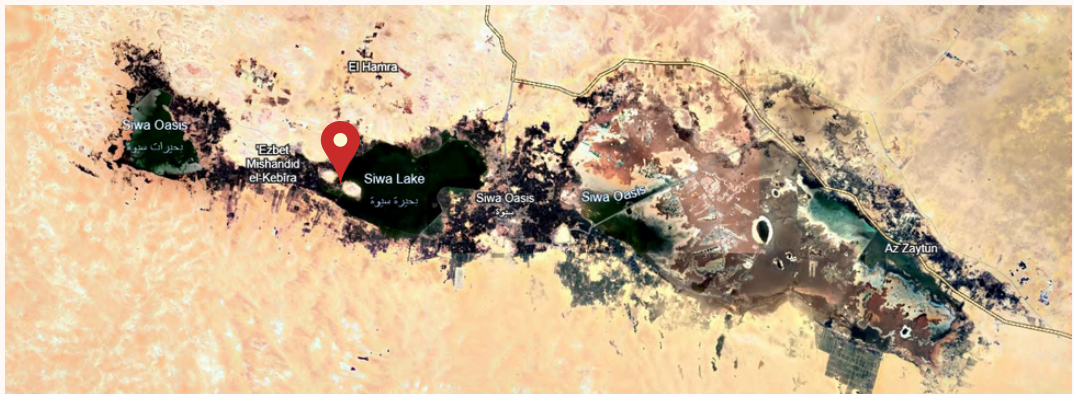
4.Visuals & Renders

5.Future Vision

1. SITE ANALYSIS

Selected site why?

- The presence of the mountain (Jabal Ja'far) offers a unique topographical element.
- Terrain gives good potential for viewpoints, terraced public spaces, and strong visual identity.
- Directly overlooking the Salt Lake and surrounded by water on three sides, creating an exceptional natural setting where land, water, and mountain meet in harmony.





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|---------------|-------------------|-----------|
| Selected site | Residential areas | Resorts |
| Gardens | Mountains | Salt lake |



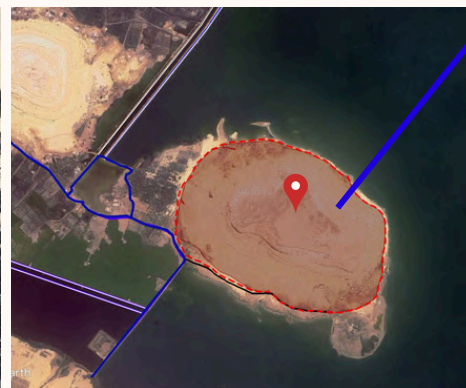
Mountain Gaafar



Adrère Amellal eco-lodge



Marco scale



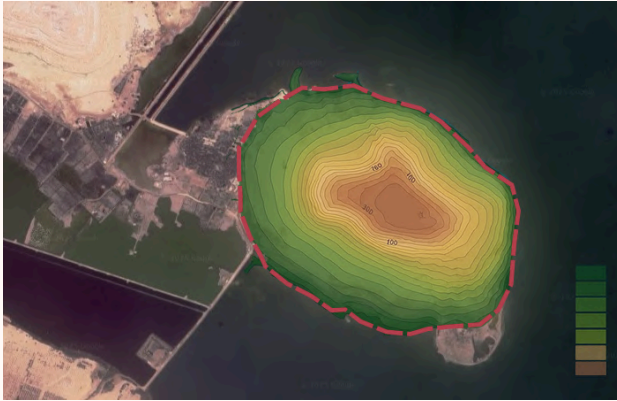
Mirco scale

Conclusion

- Site location is 17 km away from siwa town and 25 minutes by car
- Mobility is mainly by 4x4 cars, lodge shuttles and private cars
- Accessibility to site through an arterial road "Marsa Matrouh-Siwa" that is connected to Marsa-matrouh siwa highway and then from it a secondary road 15 minutes by car to gabal gaafar which leads to adrere amellal

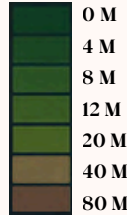
- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| | Site boundaries |
| | Regional roads |
| | Arterial roads |
| | secondary road |

TOPOGRAPHY



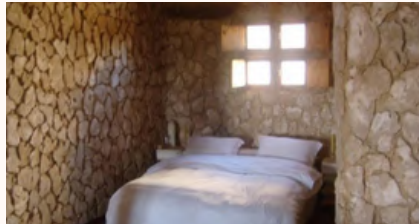
Conclusion

- Area around the mountain has an average slope of 1/12 (250m horizontal per 20m vertical)



SUSTAINABILITY PRACTICES

- No electricity used
- Use of local materials — Constructed from **Kershaf** for sustainability and authenticity.



- Light-colored walls reflect sunlight, reducing heat absorption and **reduce thermal gain.**
- Kershaf use provides natural insulation and climate control
- Passive cooling is achieved through an open-air atrium and cross-ventilated window placement.

URBAN REGULATIONS

Heights:

- Maximum 2 floors (Ground + First).
- Overall height not exceeding 7–8 m .

Built-up Ratio:

- 10–20% of total land area may be built.

Setbacks:

- Minimum 3–5 m between buildings.

Materials:

-  Local: kershef (salt + mud), limestone, palm trunks.
-  Prohibited: reinforced concrete, red brick, reflective glass, aluminum cladding.

Mobility:

- Limit car use inside site.
- Encourage walking, cycling, or traditional carts .

Facade:

- Style: vernacular Siwan architecture (thick load-bearing walls, palm-beam roofs, courtyards).
- Facade Composition: Low-rise, horizontal emphasis.
- windows: Small, irregular, high-set (no glass, shaded with palm fronds).
- Doors: Wooden recessed , handcrafted, simple detailing.
- Finishes: Earth-toned, matte, natural textures (ochre, sand, salt-white).
- Ornamentation: Minimal; beauty comes from shadow and proportion.
- Integration: Buildings must visually merge with mountains, dunes, or palm groves.

Environmental & Sustainability Regulations

Water &

Wastewater:

- Natural spring water use allowed.
- Greywater must be treated and reused for irrigation.
- On-site bio-treatment units required.
-  No discharge into lakes or salt marshes.

Energy:

-  No diesel generators.
-  Use solar energy and passive design strategies.

2.CONCEPT

ATHAR

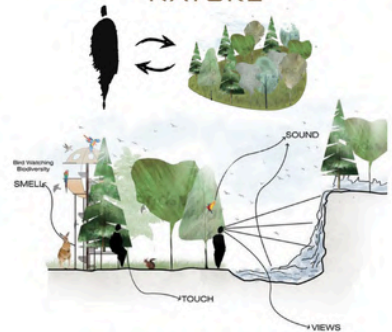


ATHAR is a sensory project rooted in the land of Siwa, where architecture is not an object to be seen, but an experience to be felt and remembered.

The project is built on the idea that places remain in memory through the traces they leave on our senses.

Through engaging the five human senses allows visitors to connect with Siwa in a deep and personal way, creating an invisible yet lasting أثر that stays with them beyond the physical visit.

RECONNECTING WITH NATURE



Achieving SDGs



Improving the financial condition of the people of Siwa through supporting local crafts, creative activities, and sustainable job opportunities



The project will provide job opportunities and support skilled local handicrafts and creative practices.



Siwa is characterized as a green and sustainable spot in the middle of the yellow desert, and the project reinforces this identity.

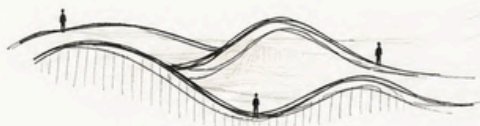


The project will contribute to protecting and improving the wildlife and natural ecosystem of the oasis.

CONCEPT

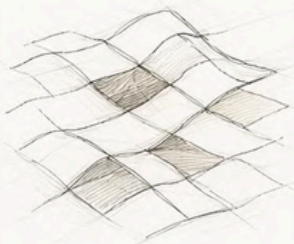
SHIFTED TOPOLOGY

Inspired by the desert environment and its shifting sand dunes, the concept of elevation and depression is reflected in both the building masses and the varying levels of the floor spaces.

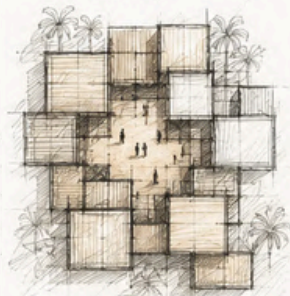


DESERT DUNES TOPOGRAPHY

ABSTRACT

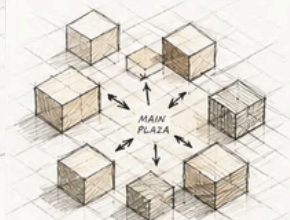


SKETCH



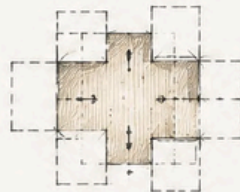
CENTRAL PLAZA LIKE A BEDOUIN BASE CAMP

DIAGRAM



SHIFTED GRID CREATES LEVELS AND SPACES

3. MAIN PLAZA FORMS



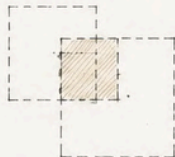
THE INTERSECTION BECOMES THE MAIN PLAZA, THE HEART OF THE PROJECT.

1. TWO SQUARE GRIDS

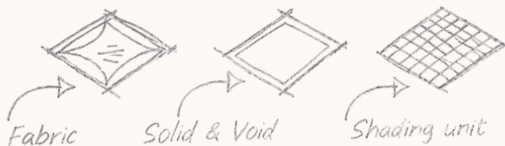


TWO IDENTICAL SQUARE GRIDS ARE SHIFTED RELATIVE TO EACH OTHER.

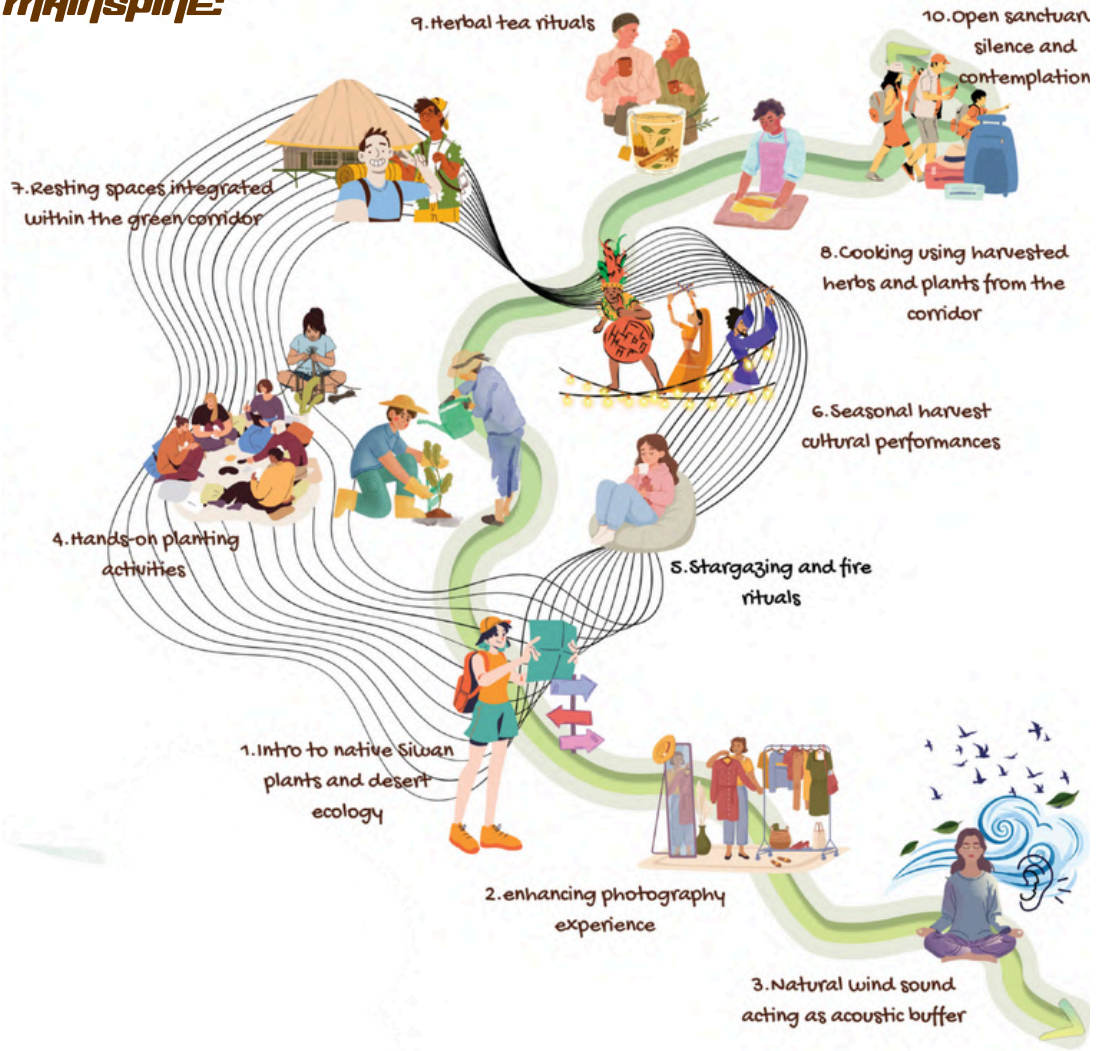
2. SHIFTED INTERSECTION



THE SHIFT CREATES AN INTERSECTION IN THE CENTER.

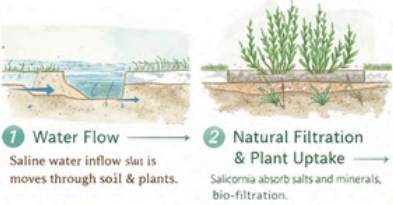
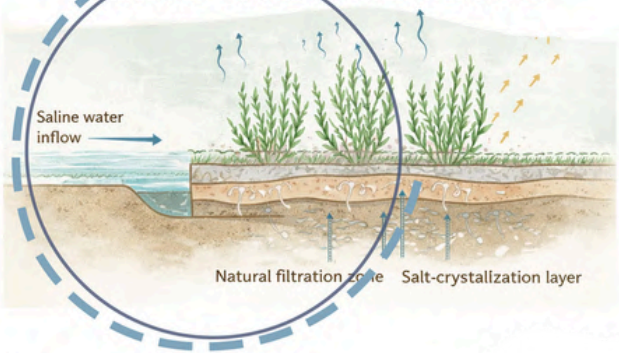


JOURNEY EXPERIENCE THROUGH main spine

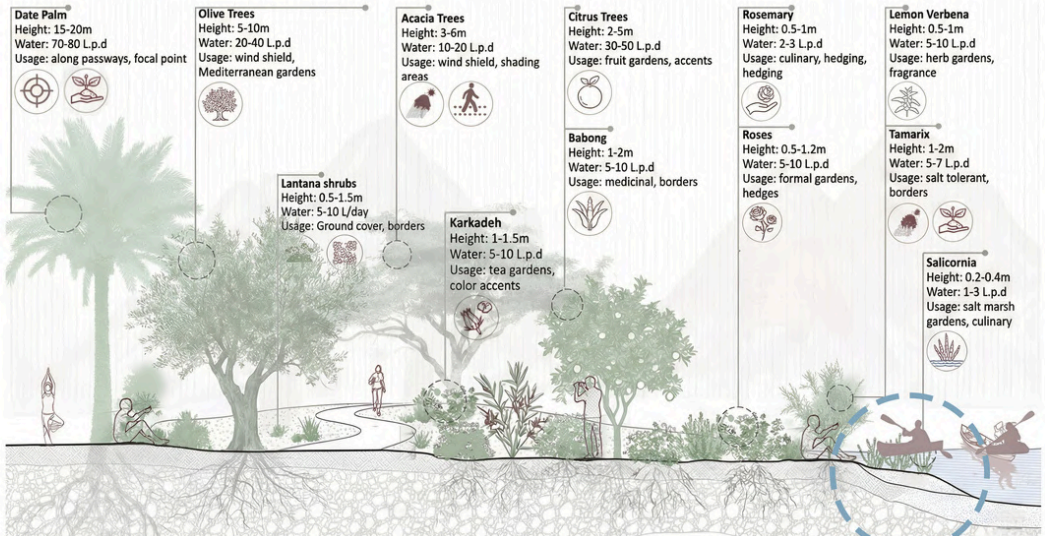


3.1 LANDSCAPE STUDY

NATURAL SALINE WATER TREATMENT USING HALOPHYTE PLANTS



ECO-GREEN CORRIDOR PLANTATION TYPES



A detailed architectural rendering of the 'Main spine landscape'. The scene depicts a wide, paved pedestrian walkway flanked by lush greenery. On the left, a large, spreading tree stands next to a modern, glass-walled structure. In the center, a small, rectangular water feature with a blue pool is surrounded by low walls and plants. To the right, a long, covered walkway with a metal frame and glass panels runs alongside the path. People are shown walking, sitting on benches, and using a bicycle, adding a sense of scale and activity to the design. The background features more trees and a clear sky with birds flying.

Main spine landscape



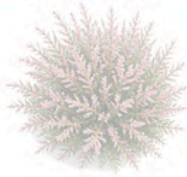
3.1 LANDSCAPE STUDY



AGAVE



DESERT ROSE



TAMARISK



AROMATIC HERBS



PALM TREE



OLIVE TREE



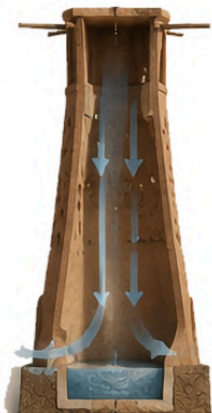
CACTUS (PRICKLY PEAR)



3.2 ELEVATION STUDY

HOW IT WORKS

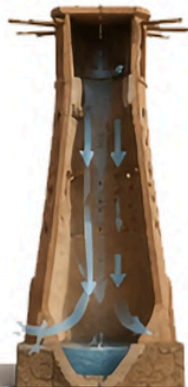
- 1 Wind is captured from the prevailing direction
- 2 Air is funneled down through the tower
- 3 Air passes over water elements / wet surfaces
- 4 Cool, humid air is released at pedestrian level



TOWER DESIGN



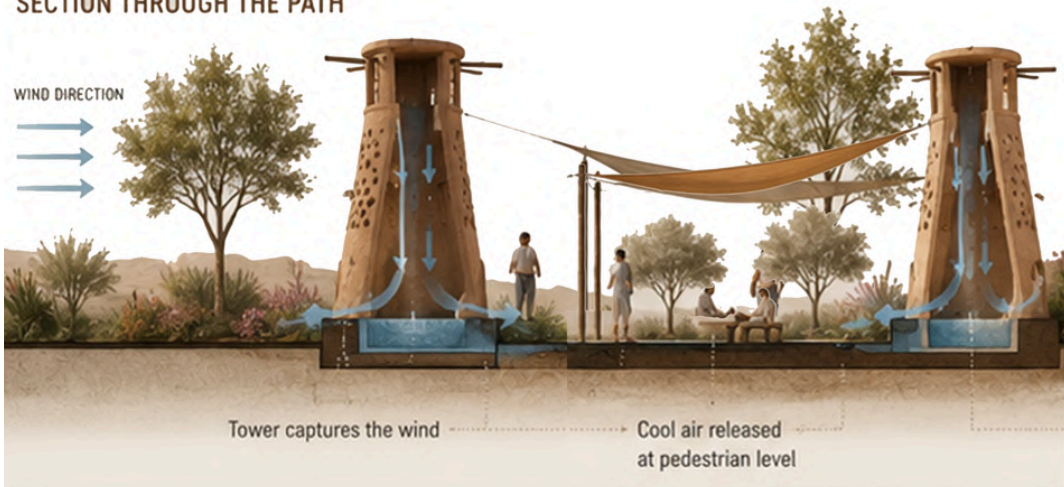
FRONT ELEVATION



SECTION

SECTION THROUGH THE PATH

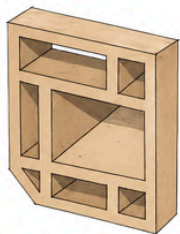
WIND DIRECTION



Tower captures the wind

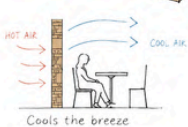
Cool air released
at pedestrian level

This architectural section drawing illustrates a building with a curved roofline. The structure features a series of arched openings on the right side, supported by a dark, solid base. The interior spaces are defined by vertical lines, and the roof is shown with a light, textured surface. The drawing is set against a background of stylized trees and a light sky.

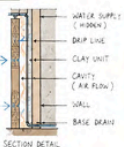
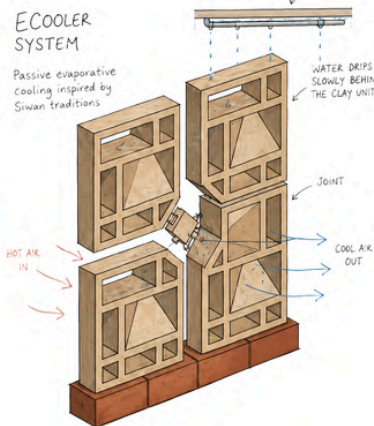


Passive evaporative cooling inspired by Siwan traditions

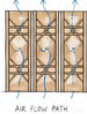
Passive evaporative cooling inspired by Siwan traditions



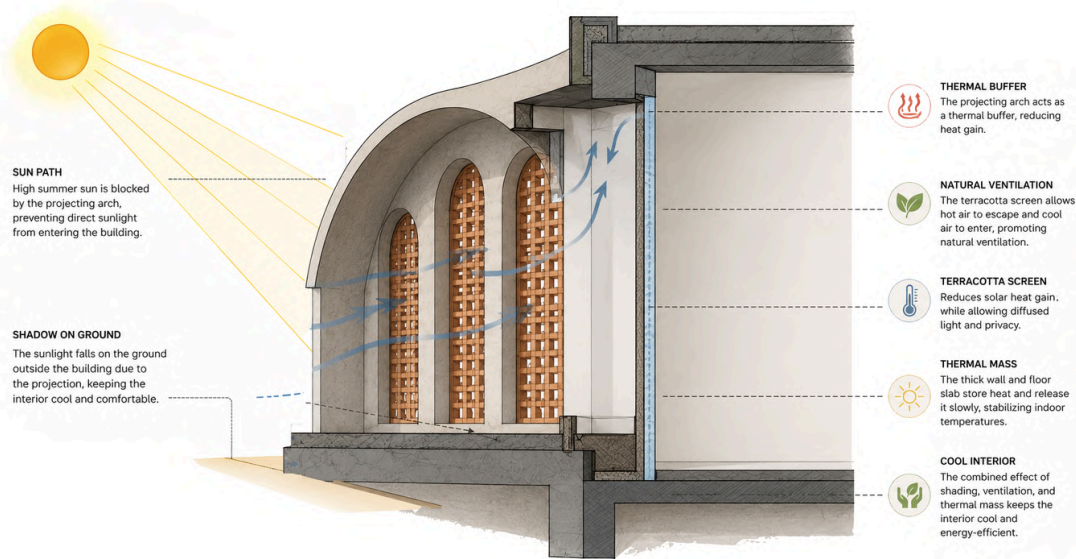
- ① Hot air passes through the wetted clay surface
- ② Water evaporates, removing heat from the air
- ③ Cool, fresh air circulates inside the space



INSPIRED BY
CLAY JUGS
(NATURAL
EVAPORATIVE
COOLING)



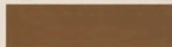
3.2 ELEVATION STUDY



4. VISUALS & RENDERS



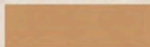




#7A5A3A
CLAY BROWN



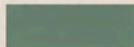
#B86D4A
TERRACOTTA



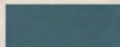
#D4A373
SAND



#C1873D
OCHRE



#6B8E7D
SAGE



#4A6F7A
TEAL



#E7D7B1
WARM CREAM

STRUCTURE

FABRIC CANOPY



MURAL & BACKDROPS

FLOORING & GROUND



PLANTS

RUGS & TEXTILES







5. FUTURE VISION

KEY



Proposed Bus Stops (BRT)

Proposed BRT Path
Into and from the site

Pedestrian & Cycling Networks
(Along main spine & Around the Jebel)

Ecological Corridors
(Green Network)

Green Connection to Palm Groves
& Agricultural Landscapes

Promenade Overlooking the Jebel
with Activities & Light Structures

View Corridors
(Sea, Lakes & Oasis)

Cultural & Community Hubs
(Plazas, Markets, Gathering Spaces)

Knowledge & Research Hubs
(Technical School & Research Center)

Secondary & Technical School
Circle of service (600 m radius)

Research Center
Circle of service (1000 m radius)

Future Expansion Areas
(Phase 2 & Beyond)



+



+



+



+



=

ECOLOGICAL CONNECTION

Green corridors protect and restore ecosystems, connect palm groves, farms, lakes and the Jebel.

SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

BRT and active mobility networks reduce car dependence and improve accessibility for all.

TOURISM INTEGRATION

Ecotourism, attractions and cultural routes create a unique, year-round and responsible tourism loop.

CULTURE & COMMUNITY

Plazas, markets and cultural spaces celebrate Siwa's heritage and strengthen social cohesion.

KNOWLEDGE HUB

Schools and research centers drive innovation, conservation and local economic opportunities.

A RESILIENT OASIS COMMUNITY

A living landscape where nature, culture, knowledge and economy thrive together for current and future generations.

