

# QSAS - Certified Green Professional 3days training workshop ends

July 16 - 2009



**Barwa Real Estate Company (Barwa) and Qatari Diar Real Estate Investment Company (Qatari Diar), has finished Qatar Sustainability Assessment System QSAS - Certified Green Professional training workshop conducted by the T.C. Chan Center for Building Simulation and Energy Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, headed by Dr Ali Malkawi, on 12, 13 & 14 July at Millennium Hotel - Doha.**

Selected candidates will now be offered the opportunity to sit the official exam to become accredited as QSAS - Certified Green Professional.

By organizing this workshop distinguished by prominent private and public sectors attendance and participation, Barwa and Qatari Diar demonstrate their full commitment and ability to support the accomplishment of the objectives of Qatar Vision 2030, represented by

Mr. Ghanim Bin Saad Al-Saad, Chairman & Managing Director of Barwa and CEO of Qatari Diar.

developing the human asset to play major role in achieving a developed sustainable environment; In addition, to leading Qatar's real estate sector based on new concepts of sustainability development derived from QSAS which was introduced as the 'Middle East's first performance-based sustainability rating system.'

In the 37th session of the Shura Council, HH the Emir of the State of Qatar issued the resolution of Qatar Vision 2030, confirming that it is not the end, and the stage of putting the necessary strategies will come to accomplish the goals in the various fields of economy, society, education and environment. On the environmental level, and through launching of QSAS, establishing the Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute and organizing professional training workshops; Barwa and Qatari Diar support the policy of HH the Emir in enhancing the role of the private sector to achieve the goals of Qatar Vision 2030.

Through his position, Mr. Ghanim Bin Saad Al-Saad, Chairman & Managing Director of Barwa and CEO of Qatari Diar said:

'We at Barwa and Qatari Diar are committed to Qatar Vision 2030 and the goals of sustainable development. We work to on establishing quality initiatives that offer us leading the real estate development sector in Qatar and the region, and to encourage professionals and engineers in Qatar by providing them with suitable tools and practices for developing and implementing the concept of sustainability.'

'The organization of QSAS workshops is part of our participation in knowledge dissemination and shifting from theory to application to further provide real estate professionals with the latest advancements in sustainability development or green building through facilitating interaction between local and international expertise.' added Al Saad.

Al Saad continued: 'There are four major basics for the national vision for comprehensive development 2030: human, social, economic and environmental. When looking at the latter, environmental, Barwa and Qatari Diar are fully committed to supporting Qatar's actions to protect the natural environment. The careful balance between economic and social needs and the conditions of preserving the environment is a national duty that identifies our strategic options in this regard. The basics of our environment will become more important when we support QSAS through legislation which will contribute in transforming the sustainability concept from being optional to becoming mandatory.'

The recommendations of the United Nations Environmental Program (UNEP) directed to all countries of the world, encourages developed countries to support developing ones by offering policies which reduce the negative carbon emissions of buildings and developing indicators and metrics to report on emissions from buildings and to establish national baselines to enable reporting of achieved emission reductions.

QSAS - Certified Green Professional workshop offers participants the opportunity to become officially certified

QSAS - Certified Green Professional training workshop aimed at providing industry professionals and engineers with the necessary tools and means of sustainable development.

### **The workshop provided participants with:**

- the latest knowledge and understanding of green building practices and principles, and how they are applied in Qatar.
- training for the participants to become QSAS - Certified Green Professional. This will include an introduction to the certification procedures, tools, and the process of successfully guiding consultants through QSAS application and assessment requirements.
- the necessary educational materials that support them during their practice.

QSAS workshop focused on empower industry professionals, senior consultants and engineers about 'how to create sustainable building projects which minimize ecological impact while addressing the specific sustainable needs of the region.'

One of the basics of Qatar Vision 2030 that QSAS will tackle is how Qatar deals with local environmental issues such as scarcity of water and the impacts of hydrocarbon pollution and coastal urban development on the environment, as well as dealing with global environmental issues such as global.

Dr. Youssef Al Horr, Chairman and Managing Director of Barwa Knowledge, stated: 'I thank all QSAS workshop attendees for their participation and interaction with the lecturers from T C Chan Center for Building Simulation and Energy Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, USA'.

'QSAS was introduced as the 'Middle East's first performance-based sustainability rating

system' at the Global City sustainable urban development forum in Abu Dhabi in April 2009. Today, we assure our commitment in continuing this March and enhancing Qatar's role as 'the capital of sustainable development in the Middle East', allowing Qatar to take the lead in addressing regional and national energy efficiency policies, reducing carbon emissions, minimizing ecological impacts, and ensuring high indoor environmental quality,' Dr. Al Horr added.

'I congratulate the delegates for passing this course, and praise their vital interactivity, asking them to benefit from QSAS training workshop and take the opportunity to attend and succeed in the Professional Accreditation Exam to be accredited as an official 'QSAS - Certified Green Professional.'

QSAS is the safe path for Qatar and the region's architectural identity in harmony with our environmental needs

'As part of our commitment to Qatar Vision 2030, we analyzed the real estate industry in the region from a sustainability development point of view and concluded the need for an assessment system that is built on our needs and not simply imported and imposed. QSAS was established with a range of benefits that are not offered by other systems applied in the region. For instance, QSAS responds to protecting Qatar's architectural identity in parallel to providing modern and developed solutions. For instance, QSAS identified the type of plants needed for Qatar as a solution for the scarcity of water.' Said Dr. Al Horr

Dr Al Horr continued:' QSAS differs in the foundation essence, which correspond to the environment and needs of this region, from the other practiced methods in the region that depend on imported systems that were developed to address different environmental climates.'

QSAS training workshops have engaged individuals with extensive engineering/ construction backgrounds, whose backgrounds and experiences in buildings designing and constructions meet with required qualifications. The attendees were represented by a number of prominent companies and leading organizations in Qatar: Qatar University, Qatar Public Authority for Standards and Measurements, Public Works Authority, Public Institution for Electricity and Water (Kahramaa), Public Authority for Urban Planning and Development, Ministry of Environment, Qatar Engineers Society, Qatar Project Management, consultancy company 'COWI', IQI, AED, PROJACS, Gulf Company for Engineering and Industrial Consultancies, Hill International, Hyder Consultancy, Qatari Diar, Barwa Real Estate, LUSAIL, Supreme Council for Communications and Information Technology, MiCA, AECOM, GHD, and QP.

QSAS and the role of Barwa and Qatari Diar research institution

Future QSAS workshops and research will take place at the recently announced Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute, to be established in Qatar Science and Technology Park (QSTP). Providing educational opportunities and state of the art construction concepts and solutions to industry professionals through teaching and research partnerships, the research center will offer several QSAS - Certified Green Professional workshops each year aiming to transfer the latest knowledge and inventions from across the globe to the state of Qatar.

The Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute will focus its work on three specific areas: Knowledge creation in sustainability systems, Research Applications, Services and dissemination of information and sciences.

## **The Institute will work to achieve the following overall objectives:**

- engage in research that is related to the development of basic knowledge and processes in urban construction. Among the studies and subjects on which the institute will focus are the study of building data energy, where it will seek to collect building energy related data to set the ground for fact-based and benchmarking studies leading to further advanced studies
- study building design and analysis tools to develop computing standards that promote performance analysis, as well as software comparison and applicability to the local environment
- deal with building technologies and material research related to a desert climate and low-energy construction solutions
- concentrate on studies related to Energy planning by relying on Energy driven Infrastructure Planning and research and developing decision making tools such as integrated GIS systems for energy use as well as onsite measurement of the micro climate
- engage in research-based consultancy and testing services for existing and new buildings which will include computer simulations throughout the lifecycle of the building, in addition to providing advice on optimal systems integration
- provide educational opportunities to introduce professionals to state of the art concepts and models in the field through teaching and research partnership, engaging students and faculty from Qatar Foundation & Qatar University and other regional universities in collaborative research and training. Several seminars/workshops will be offered yearly targeted at engineers, architects and policy makers.
- hold an annual meeting and publish all research outcomes.

Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute has short, medium and long-term objectives to strategically identify its future direction. In the short term, the institute will focus on the deployment and expansion of QSAS and associated standards (in Qatar) and development of a comprehensive Regional Sustainability Assessment System for GCC & the Middle East by working intensively in three areas: Strategic Needs which include long term objectives and benefits for the State of Qatar, the organizational structure, operation model and governance which includes the role, responsibilities, authority and relationship between various functional entities, for example research, certification, enforcement, legislation, technology; and thirdly the process of expansion through incorporation of building codes, mandatory sustainability rating targets, mandatory energy performance targets, target setting and future updates of the Code.

In the medium and long-term, Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute will focus on applying policies in areas such as material ratings, emissions capping, waste disposal, water resource management, urban planning, transportation, underground networks and services. It will enhance development opportunities in areas such as recycling and renewable material and product manufacturing.

'Barwa and Qatari Diar have worked on the development of Qatar Sustainability Assessment System (QSAS), the first ever in the Middle East, with the aim of reducing negative carbon emissions. QSAS and the research institute will strengthen the national direction towards achieving Qatar's Vision 2030 and the UN Environmental Program. I would like to take this opportunity to stress on the necessity to support QSAS with legislations to further strengthens the State's role in positioning Qatar as a major regional and global player in sustainability development.' concluded Dr. Yousef Al Horr.

The establishment of Barwa and Qatari Diar Research Institute is one main, important step in the policy of the gigantic Qatari Diar Real Estate company to develop QSAS, which is mainly

directed towards local needs as it will deal with crucial issues like desertification, water scarcity, pedestrians, and cultural identity.

(AME Info)