

The adoption of sustainable practices will blend some aspects of the planning and development of Al Marai development, and importantly, they will be able to positively influence the lifestyles of those who live there. As per the scope of this case study, sustainable practice will be apparent in mainly four different areas, namely:

Site planning: Proposals made even at the earliest stages of the planning of Al Marai can be important in setting parameters, within which sustainable development can take place. Sustainable practice in site planning is apparent in aspects such as: coordinated land-use planning and the efficient use of space.

Infrastructure and building design: Infrastructure including utilities and services, should be planned to avoid waste and inefficiency, and the large size of the development will be advantageous in this regard, in that it will be able to achieve economies of scale and management, and the use of common and coordinated systems.

Construction: There are many ways in which sustainable techniques can be used during the construction, such as, the recycling of materials used in construction, the reduction of waste at different levels, insulation and, importantly, the quality of construction.

Lifestyle: The lifestyle of residents represents in many ways the ultimate demonstration of the effectiveness of the planning and development process. Examples of the beneficial effects of successful sustainable planning on lifestyles may include: efficient and attractive parks and pedestrian paths and cycle networks, all of which will encourage healthy living and increased life satisfaction. An attractive and engaging home environment which can reduce the need to travel away for recreation. A natural environment, even in a dense urban area, will support nature and is known to encourage positive mental wellbeing. Places designed to encourage personal meeting and community interaction, as well as active residents' groups, also encourage social cohesion, well-being and a sense of community belonging.



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