

MIKE SHARROCKS CONSULTANCY

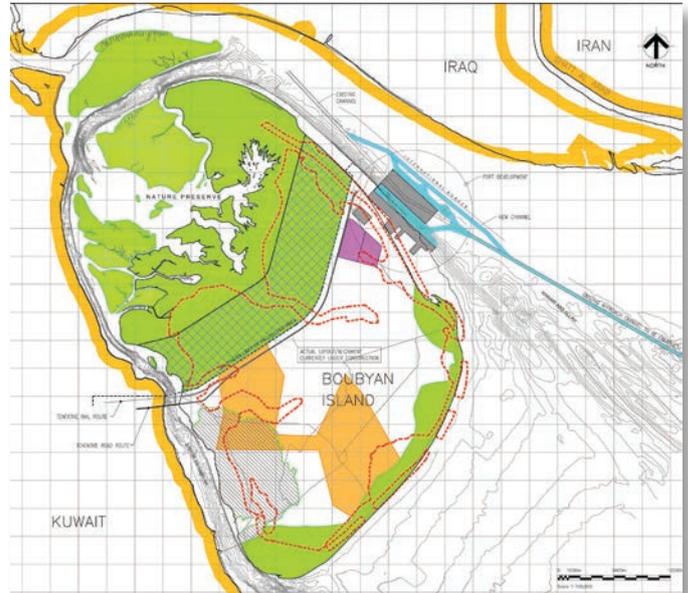
Tourism Feasibility • Development Planning • Urban Design • Urban Regeneration • Environmental Appraisal

Kuwait

PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT SERVICES TO ASSIST MEGA PROJECTS SECTOR – BOUBYAN ISLAND DEVELOPMENT

**For the Ministry of Public Works (Mega
Projects Sector), 2011**

Boubyan Island is located at the northern end of Kuwait and close to its borders with Iran and Iraq. It covers 850sq.km, is uninhabited and militarily sensitive. The northern half of the island is subject to wildlife and nature conservation area status. Boubyan is very flat with low-lying sand dunes and much of the island is flooded during high tides. There is a major bridge crossing to the mainland and a second bridge link is being built to serve a port that is also under construction. The purpose of the project was to review the possibilities for some development in the southern part of Boubyan Island, especially close to a proposed major new satellite city, Subiya (Silk City), on the mainland.



Mike Sharrocks was commissioned by Egis International, the lead consultants for the project, to prepare tourism proposals as part of a new Boubyan Island Master Plan. This work assessed the overall tourism situation in Kuwait and tourism prospects for Boubyan Island. A tourism vision for the area was outlined together with conceptual development ideas for the southern part of the island. This incorporated the possibilities for small-scale heritage resorts as well as the potential for major water-based recreational attractions that could compete with similar facilities in the Gulf region and could be used throughout the year.

Potential visitor attractions included marina facilities (for which demand was high in Kuwait), a dhow harbour, indoor aqua parks and leisure centres, an oceanographic and research centre (focusing on local marine and terrestrial ecosystems), biosphere attractions and a small-scale but high quality traditional coastal resort, health spa and luxury camping facilities. These facilities would be oriented towards the domestic market. They would also, however, need to have a low carbon footprint and be a leading example of global environmental sustainability. In general, there should be a 'wow' factor impact derived from a combination of imaginative architectural design, unique thematic features and from a 'first of its kind' profile.



Tourism Feasibility • Development Planning • Urban Design • Urban Regeneration • Environmental Appraisal

www.mikesharrocks.com