

Publication: CNN Arabic

Publication Date: 10 November 2019

Headline: An Ancient World Wonder but with a Modern Twist in Dubai “Hanging Gardens Bridge“



Dubai, United Arab Emirates (CNN) - Seeing the “Hanging Gardens of Babylon” may be just a distant dream, but you may see a modern version of it in Dubai in the near future as the city plans to create a new project called “Hanging Garden”.

Towards the end of 2018, RTA has approached architectural practice LWK + PARTNERS, expressing its desire to work on several projects to create mobility & public spaces across Dubai.

The Authority stated that it would like to build several pedestrian bridges in several areas, including Dubai Creek.

In a telephone interview, LWK + PARTNERS Design Director and Principal Designer of the “Dubai Hanging Garden” Project, Kourosh Salehi, told CNN Arabic that they were planning to design an ordinary pedestrian bridge only. However, the idea changed as they looked at the future location of the project.

Speaking about the Dubai Creek, Salehi pointed out that it is one of the most interesting areas in Dubai because of its historical role in bringing commerce to the city, in addition to its vibrant beauty. He also added “We thought that we should seize the opportunity, and that is why we decided to create what we can call living Bio Footbridge”.

Inspired by an old marvel, but with a modern character

During the design phase, the design team realised that the project had become a "Hanging Oasis" after they decided to incorporate green spaces, especially as it was hanging over the Creek; At the point it came to their mind one of the seven wonders of the ancient world, Hanging Gardens of Babylon.

"Having a re-enactment of this as a concept would be great," Salehi said.

The bridge will not be just a way to move between the sides of the Dubai Creek, it could become a destination in itself.

"People may go to it because it's a place to visit, to meet each other, and to spend time there," Salehi said.

The bridge will not only be for pedestrians, as it will include special trails for cyclists and those wishing to run.

How will the hanging garden in Dubai be environmentally friendly?

One of the objectives of LWK + PARTNERS is to design sustainable solutions for different communities around the world and this is reflected in the design of the Bridge.

Green spaces on the bridge are not the only aspect that reflects sustainable design principles.

The design of the project includes two sails, each about 20 meters long, directing cold air from top to bottom for natural cooling.

Salehi added that the sails will be made of special fabric that can disperse sun light and tone down heat.

Salehi believes that the suspended park will positively impact tourism in Dubai, pointing out that this bridge is the first of its kind in the city.

Salehi explained that there are currently no pedestrian platforms in Dubai where they can enjoy the beautiful water canals throughout the city, sustainability will be another factor to attract visitors to enjoy spectacular views cautiously.

Link: <https://arabic.cnn.com/style/article/2019/11/10/hanging-garden-bridge-dubai-inspiration>