

Western Morning News

Eden project to advise on creating the world's largest indoor garden

Experts from Cornwall's Eden Project are giving essential advice on the creation of the world's largest indoor garden in Saudi Arabia.

The garden will be part of a £100 million project to be constructed on a 360 acre site near Riyadh.

Named the paleobotanic building, the indoor garden will be formed by two interlocking crescents with a sequence of environments which will allow visitors to travel through time in recreations of previous ecosystems.

The giant crescents will occupy a 20 acre site, about four times the size of the Eden biomes.

Scientists and experts from Eden and the Natural History Museum in London have been brought in for advice.

A spokesman for Eden said: "We were approached some time ago by the managers behind this project near Riyadh and asked if we would offer horticultural advice.

"We felt it important that an environmentally-focussed project of this scale in the Muslim world should be championed and to that end we have been exploring how best to collaborate with them and bring our experts to the table."

Eden has been successful in attracting millions of people to its site at Bodelva near St Austell since its opening in March 2001.

The project in Riyadh, due to open in 2010, will be called the **King Abdullah International Gardens** and has been funded by contributions from businesses and individuals in the city as a gift to the king.

16th August 2007

