

News/Press Release from COWI Consult

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DANES BEHIND THE WORLD'S LONGEST FIXED LINK

The world's longest fixed link becomes a reality when Qatar and Bahrain in the Middle East become connected in 5 years' time. The 45-km long connection will link the West Coast of Qatar near the Zubarah fortress with the East Coast of Bahrain south of its capital Manamah. The link is expected to consist of a number of bridges combined with roads constructed on embankments and will be a natural extension of the King Fahd Causeway that connects Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, thus linking the entire region.

COWI has just signed a DKK 60 million contract for the first phase of the project with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Agriculture in Qatar. Together with Sund & Bælt, DHI Water & Environment and the architects Dissing+Weitling, COWI is to conduct a pre-study of the link. The project comprises environmental and engineering studies to determine the siting of the link. Furthermore, the project team will prepare a pre-study of toll stations, customs and immigration facilities, pull-ins and junctions to the existing infrastructure on both shores.

This project once again places COWI on the world map when it comes to fixed links. In Denmark COWI has been involved in the Great Belt and Øresund links and has recently been involved in the feasibility studies for a bridge over the Fehmarn Belt between Denmark and Germany. Internationally COWI is presently involved in the construction of the world's longest cable-stayed bridge in Hong Kong and the Chacao suspension bridge in Chile.

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