**AL AIN WILDLIFE PARK & RESORT PROJECT – SHEIKH ZAYED DESERT LEARNING CENTER**

**Client:** Chalabi architects & partners ZT GmbH  
**Country:** United Arab Emirates  
**Duration:** from September 2008 to December 2010  
**Services:** Assessment of energy efficiency, building physics, conceptual design, design of electrical facilities, design for statutory procedures, design of mechanical facilities, detailed design, environmental consulting, plant design, tendering

**Project objectives**  
The innovative building design is completed by a corresponding engineering design, an integrated and alternative energy supply concept as well as building system automation and IT infrastructure design.

**Project description**  
Within the master plan for the Al Ain Zoo, the Visitor Centre (Sheikh Zayed Desert Learning Centre – SZDLC) will be the first building to be developed. Furthermore, the master plan comprises a safari area, hotels, a shopping centre and residential areas.

**Project data**  
Usage: Exhibition area, theatre/cinema, café, office area  
Peak visitor numbers: 2,750 pax per hour  
Usable Area: 7,500 m², one interconnected space  
Investment: 50 million EUR

**Project specifics**  
The Centre is located in the Arabian Desert. The aim was to achieve the highest building certification levels available for LEED TM (Platinum) and the local reference System Estidama (5 Pearls), and so emphasis was also put on the building physics design of the building.

**Services**  
iC was responsible for the overall building services engineering design, the development of the integrated and alternative energy supply plan (incl. solar cooling) as well as of building system automation and IT infrastructure design. Furthermore iC supported the general planner in developing an innovative building design.