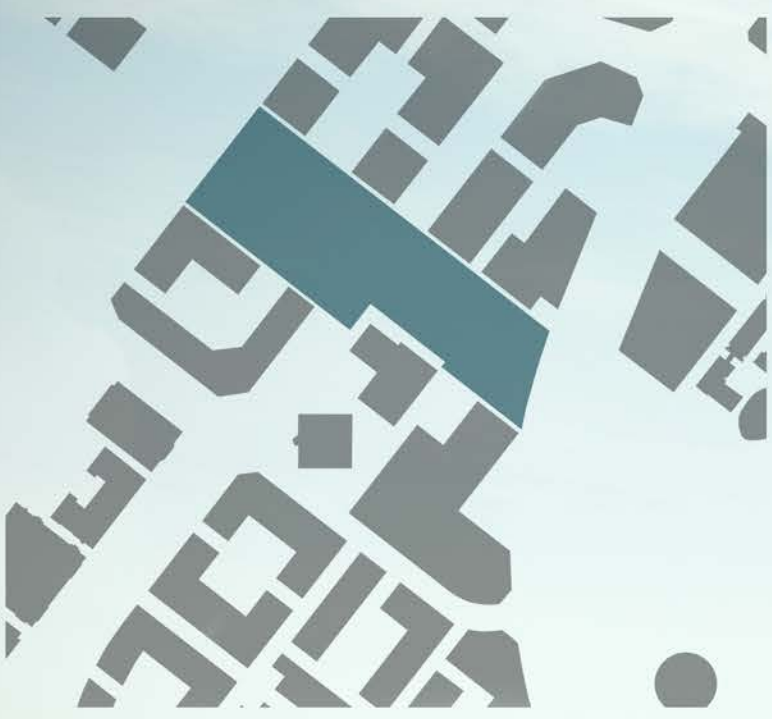


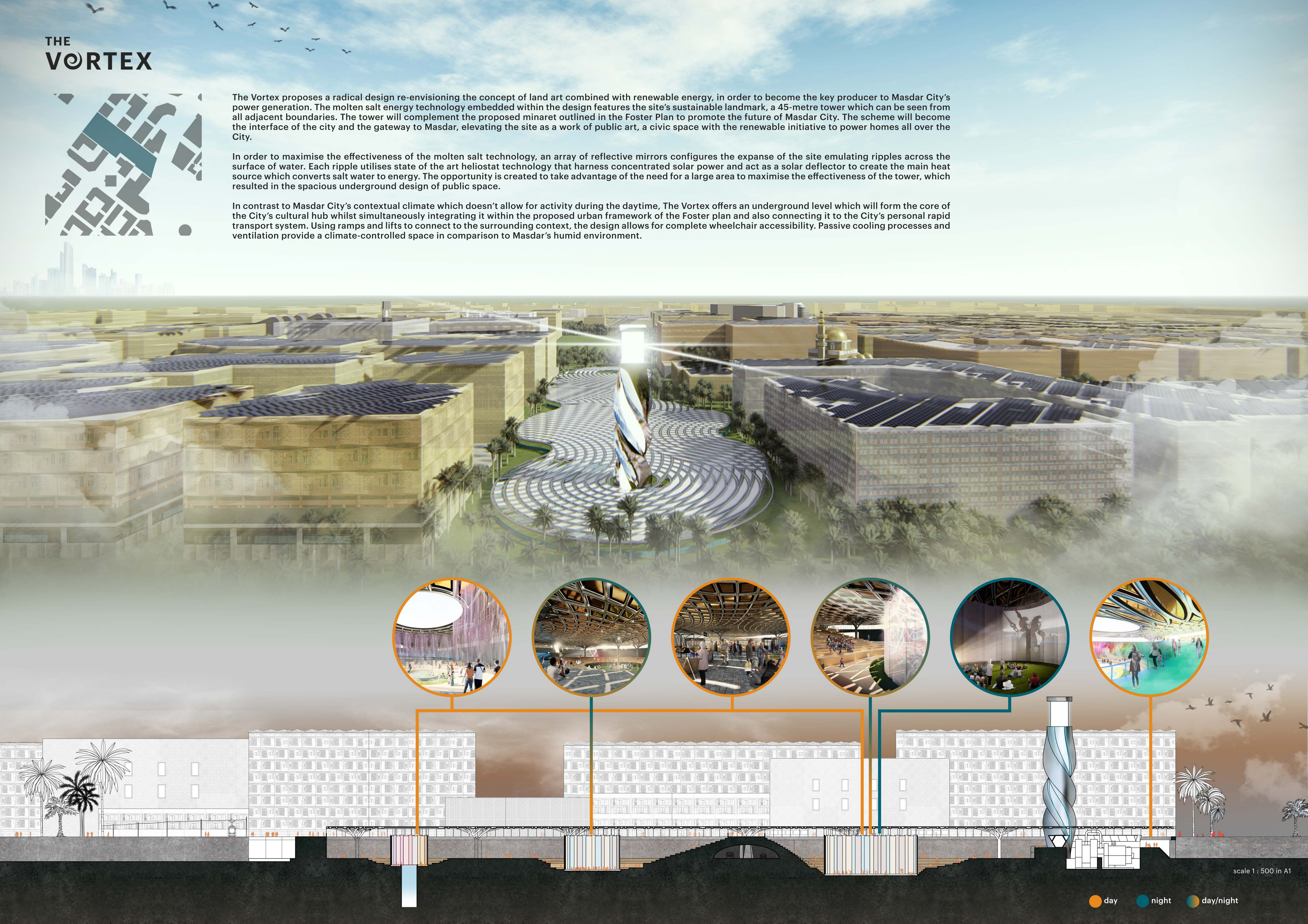
THE  
VORTEX



The Vortex proposes a radical design re-envisioning the concept of land art combined with renewable energy, in order to become the key producer to Masdar City's power generation. The molten salt energy technology embedded within the design features the site's sustainable landmark, a 45-metre tower which can be seen from all adjacent boundaries. The tower will complement the proposed minaret outlined in the Foster Plan to promote the future of Masdar City. The scheme will become the interface of the city and the gateway to Masdar, elevating the site as a work of public art, a civic space with the renewable initiative to power homes all over the City.

In order to maximise the effectiveness of the molten salt technology, an array of reflective mirrors configures the expanse of the site emulating ripples across the surface of water. Each ripple utilises state of the art heliostat technology that harness concentrated solar power and act as a solar deflector to create the main heat source which converts salt water to energy. The opportunity is created to take advantage of the need for a large area to maximise the effectiveness of the tower, which resulted in the spacious underground design of public space.

In contrast to Masdar City's contextual climate which doesn't allow for activity during the daytime, The Vortex offers an underground level which will form the core of the City's cultural hub whilst simultaneously integrating it within the proposed urban framework of the Foster plan and also connecting it to the City's personal rapid transport system. Using ramps and lifts to connect to the surrounding context, the design allows for complete wheelchair accessibility. Passive cooling processes and ventilation provide a climate-controlled space in comparison to Masdar's humid environment.



scale 1 : 500 in A1

day night day/night