Giant dome to play home to cool plants

One of CPG Consultants’ projects, Gardens by the Bay, has been reported in The Straits Times.

Located in downtown Marina Bay, the 1.2ha glass dome in the construction site of the Gardens by the Bay is set to become Singapore’s newest tourist attraction. 38m high and its interior cooled to temperatures between 17 degrees Celsius and 25 degrees Celsius, the atmosphere in the dome replicates the cool-dry climate of the Mediterranean and semi-arid subtropical regions as such South Africa and part of Europe. It will house varieties of plants, ranging from olive and bottle trees to tulips and grape vines.

As reported, National Development Minister Mah Bow Tan said the completion of the dome’s exterior was a milestone for “the crown jewel of the downtown Marina Bay”.

The first opening of the dome will be during the World Orchid Conference in November. Its official opening will be in June next year, along with the Bay South Gardens, one of the parts that make up Gardens by the Bay. The official opening will only be six months after the dome is ready to allow time for the plants to mature and settle in their new environment.

The news article “Giant dome to play home to cool plants” also highlights that a second dome that replicates a cool-moist climate found in high-elevation areas such as South America, is also on track to open in June. In addition, both domes will house about 226,000 plants from every continent except Antarctica.

Source: Jessica Lim. “Giant dome to play home to cool plants” The Straits Times. 16 February 2011: Prime A3.