

# Sponge Park Framework for Resilient Open Spaces - Greater Chennai Corporation

Final Workshop | April 26, 2024



Chennai | Bengaluru  
Kolkata | Lyon



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## **Project Objective and Significance**

- **Assess institutional gaps within GCC on understanding of Sponge City and evaluate current implementation practices of Sponge Parks**
- **Develop a spatial framework for prioritising Sponge Parks using pre-existing datasets and providing a Zone-wise summary of prioritised OSRs for Sponge Park upgrading**
- **Design toolkits and guidelines for planning, designing, finance, procure, implement, and maintain Sponge Parks for typological size and conditions**



# Agenda of Final Workshop

## 1 Project Significance and Framework

- Why Chennai needs Sponge Parks
- Sustainable Infrastructure Lifecycle

## 2 Gap Assessment and Sponge Park Manual Structure

- Institutional Gap Assessment
- Structure of the Manual

## 3 Spatial Framework for Prioritising Sponge Parks

- The Potential of OSRs in Chennai
- Priority Wards and OSRs for Sponge Parks

## 4 Overview of Sponge Park Manual

- Strategic Planning for Sponge Parks
- Designing Sponge Parks
- Implementing Sponge Parks
- Maintaining Sponge Parks
- Improving Sponge Parks

## 5 Workshop



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## Project Significance and Framework

- **Why Chennai needs Sponge Parks?**
- **Sustainable Infrastructure Lifecycle**

# Why does Chennai need Sponge Parks?

Flooding and  
Water Logging



Water Scarcity



Heat Wave



Water Pollution

# Climate change is increasing the intensity and recurrence of extreme flooding, drought, and heat in Chennai

Catalysts for Integrated Storm Water Drainage Projects in Kosasthalaiyar, Cooum, Adyar and Kovalam Basins

Ongoing CMDA Stormwater Plan, Blue-green Infrastructure Study, and Third Master Plan

Greater frequency of cyclones making landfall during 2002 and 2021 as compared to 1982-2001

(Hindustan Times, 2022)

Projected annual water deficit in the year 2050 is 4872 MCM

(Strengthening Climate Change Resilience in Urban India, ADB, 2019)

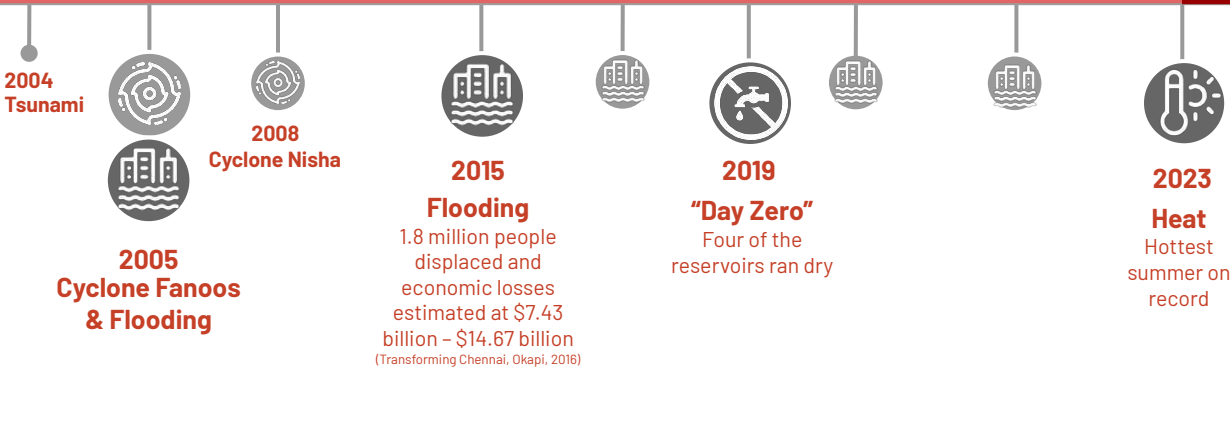
2023 - 2046

2.4°C - 2.5°C rise of temperature predicted by 2041-2070

(Challenges in Chennai City to Cope with Changing Climate, CDDM, 2020)

21.75 km<sup>2</sup> is under the threat of inundation to 0.5m sea-level rise

(Challenges in Chennai City to Cope With Changing Climate, CDDM, 2020)





# The loss of green cover and water bodies to urban development reduces aquifer recharge in increases runoff

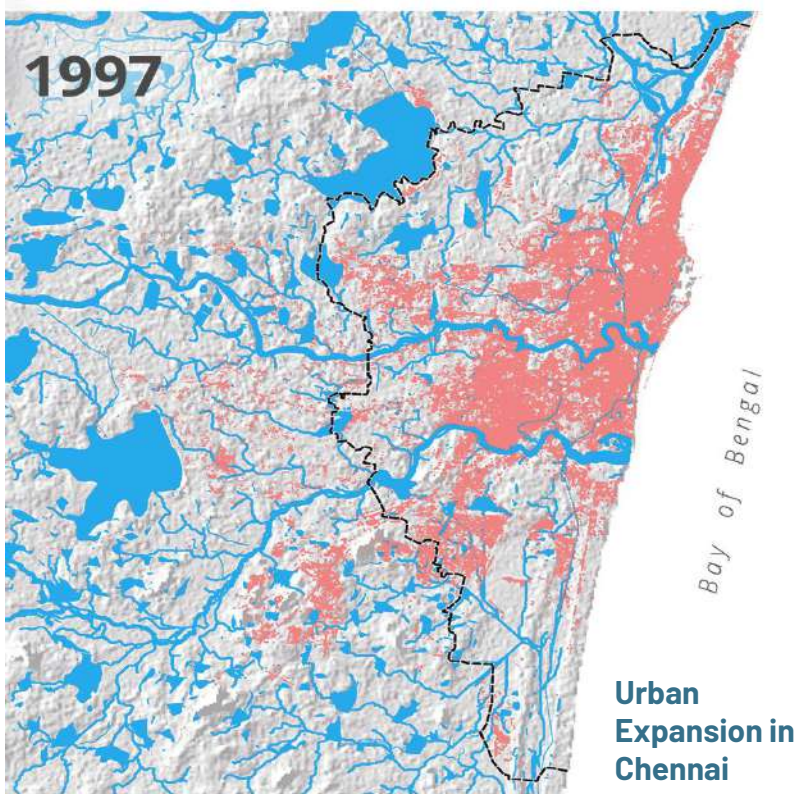


Image Credit : CARE Earth / Scroll.in

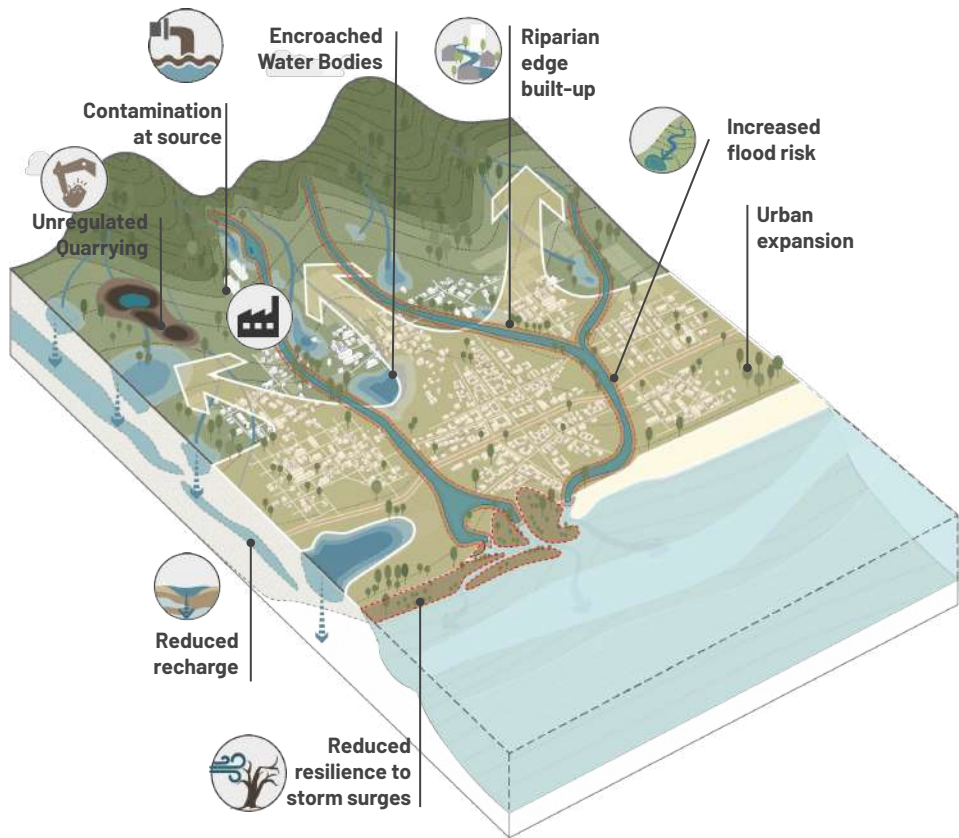


Image Credit : Sponge Collaborative

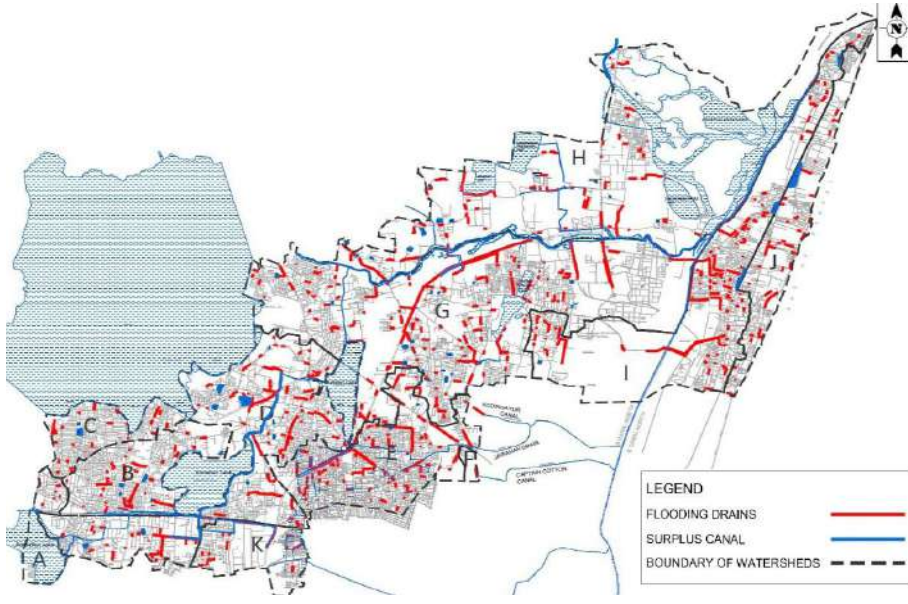


# Stormwater drains in India are designed to handle 2 and 5 year storms. This degree of resilience will not be sufficient in a changing climate and increasingly urbanised catchments

## 9.26. ANALYSIS OF FLOOD OCCURRENCE UNDER VARIOUS SCENARIOS

The adequacy of the proposed sections, which have been designed for 2 years return period, in respect of the drains, have been checked for the storm return periods of 5 year, 10 year, 20 year, 50 year and 100 year (extreme event) and analyzed. The reaches that will get flooded have been marked for each drain.

The table below shows the reaches where flood occurs in various return periods at the drains.



Map from Kosasthalaiyar ISWD showing flood occurring sections during 5 year storm

### Likelihood of Experiencing 2-year return period storms

In any given year	<b>50%</b>
Over 2 years	<b>75%</b>
Over 5 years	<b>97%</b>

### Likelihood of Experiencing 5-year return period storms

In any given year	<b>20%</b>
Over 2 years	<b>36%</b>
Over 5 years	<b>67%</b>

### Likelihood of Experiencing 10-year return period storms

In any given year	<b>10%</b>
Over 2 years	<b>19%</b>
Over 5 years	<b>41%</b>

### Likelihood of Experiencing 25-year return period storms

In any given year	<b>4%</b>
Over 2 years	<b>8%</b>
Over 5 years	<b>18%</b>

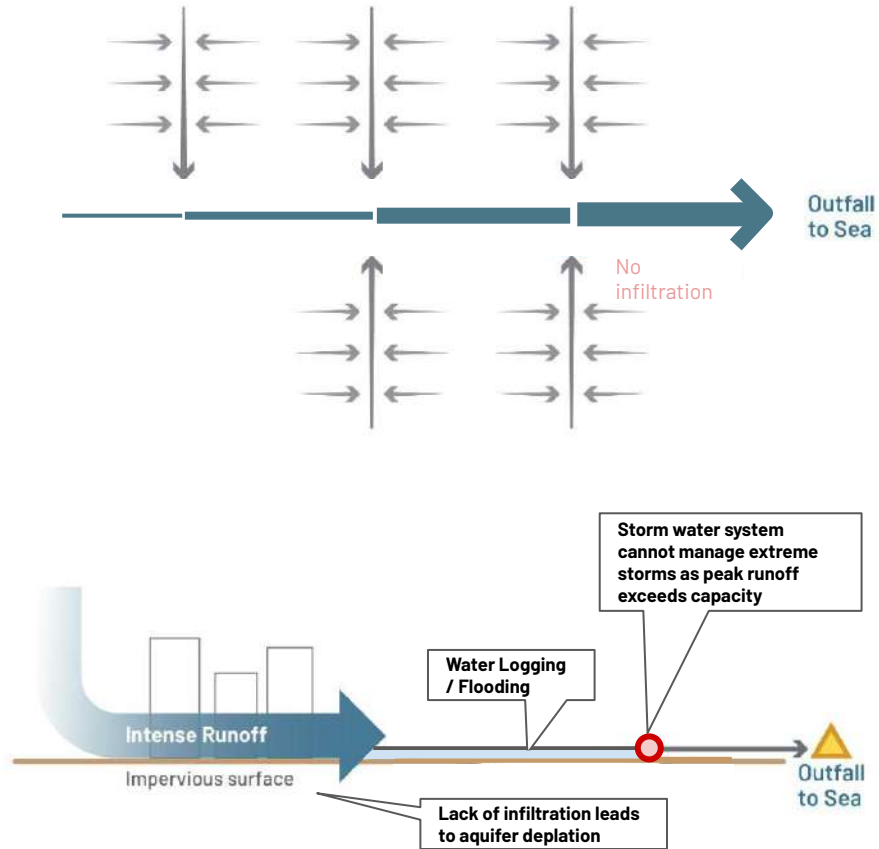
Stormwater drains have a 20 - 50% chance of failing during a storm event in any given year



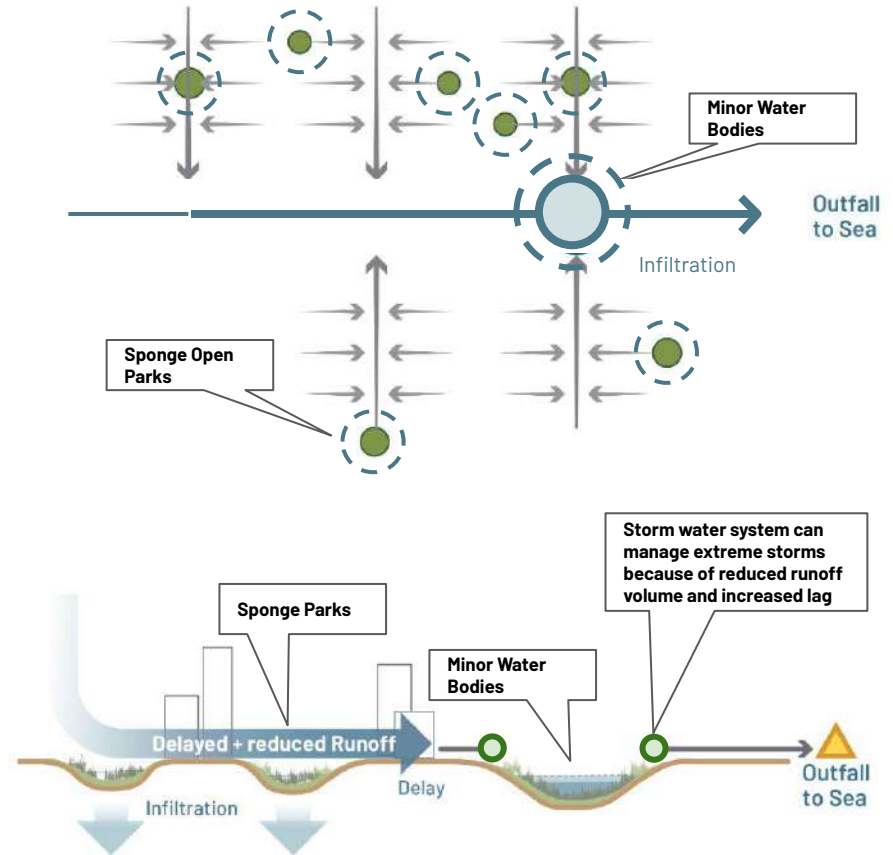
Blue-green infrastructure or Sponge Parks can cost effectively increase the capacity of gray infrastructure and make cities more resilient to extreme storms

# Sponge Parks can help limit flooding and create opportunities for recharge as an urban blue-green network

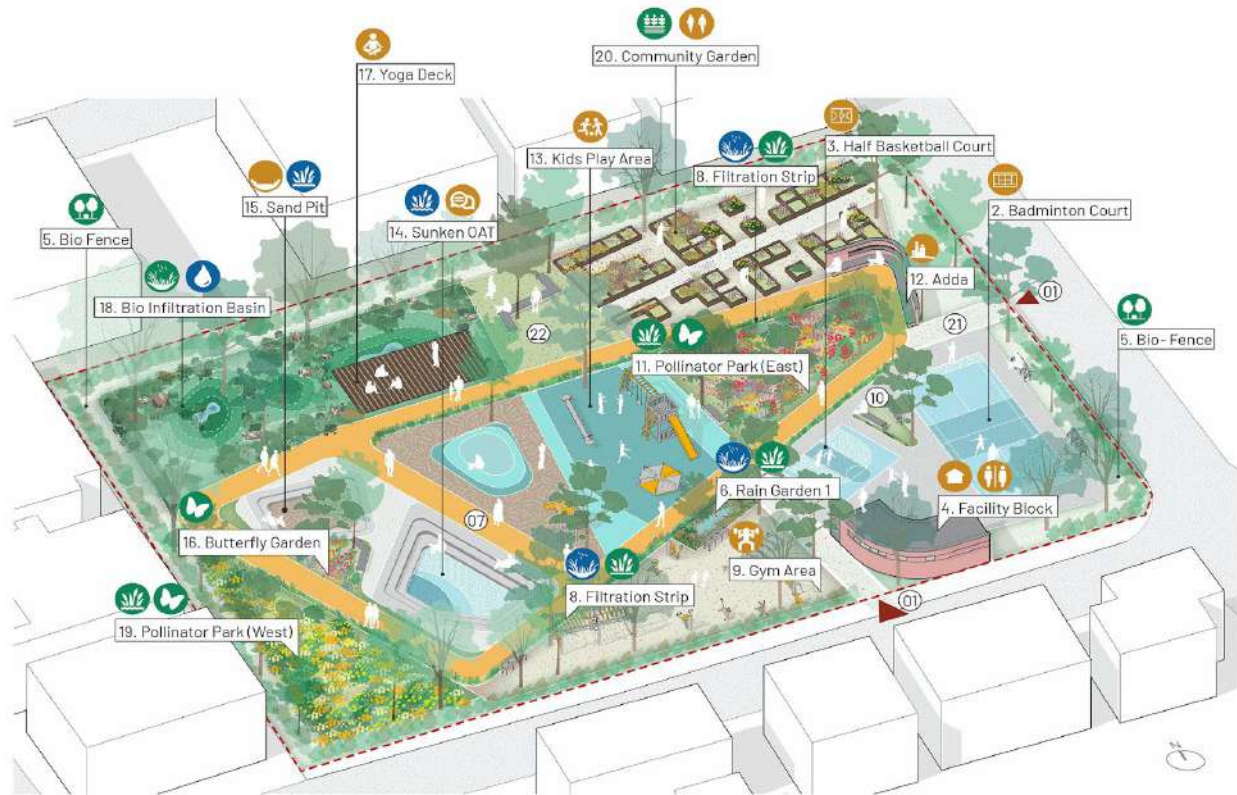
## The Gray Infrastructure approach to flood mitigation



## The Sponge City approach to flood and drought mitigation



# Sponge Parks mitigate climate risks detain stormwater, recharge aquifers, and reduce ambient temperatures while providing social amenities to residents and a habitat for urban wildlife





# In Kosasthalaiyar Basin, we designed a Sponge Park pilot following a detailed feasibility study for the area



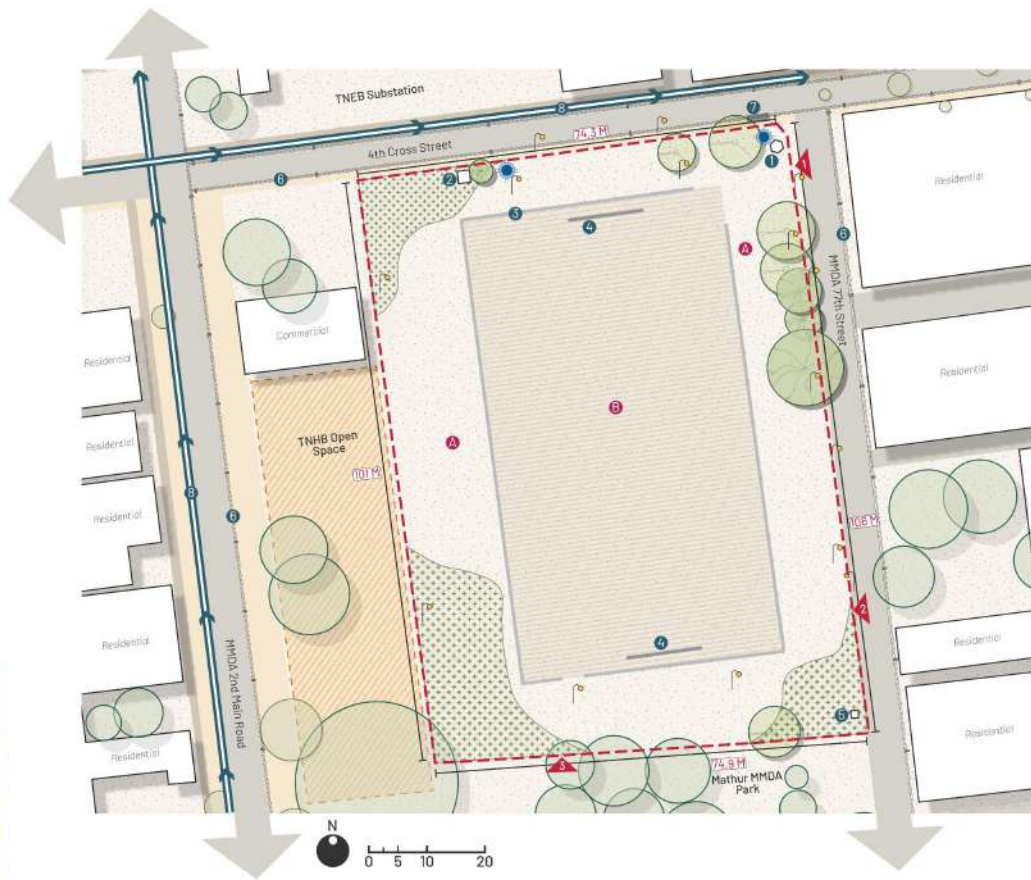
MMDA Playground - Football Pitch



North Side Compound Wall



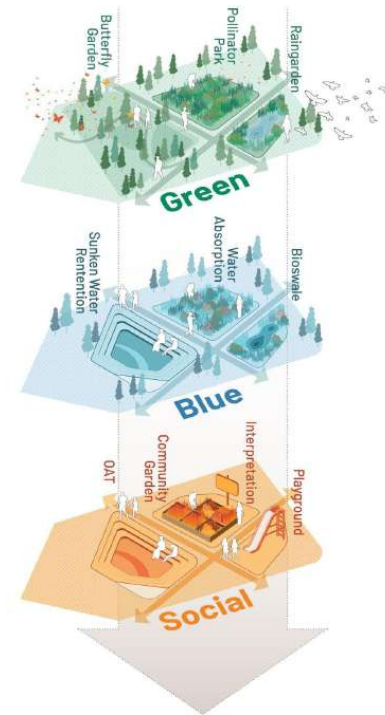
Adjacent TNHB Open Space



## LEGEND

- |                 |                      |                  |
|-----------------|----------------------|------------------|
| ① Motor Room 1  | ⑤ Toilet             | Ⓐ Sandy Area     |
| ② Motor Room 2  | ⑥ High Tension Lines | Ⓑ Football Pitch |
| ③ Curb Wall     | ⑦ Transformer        | ⌚ Lamp Post      |
| ④ Football Post | ⑧ Proposed SWD       | ● Borewell       |

Pilot project will improve open space by integrating more social amenities with blue-green infrastructure





# We engaged the community of Mathur Colony so the Sponge Park is customised to meet local social and recreational needs



“ Happy to see a park like this in our community which has no breathing space for old people and women like us

-Elderly man & Woman from the RWA

# The design of the Integrated Sponge Park improves public spaces and biodiversity while mitigating multi-hazards



**Neighbourhood Commons  
for Vibrant Social Life**



**Green Park for Healthy  
Living**



**Habitat for Flora and  
Fauna**



**Infrastructure to Reduce  
Flooding and Raise  
Aquifers**

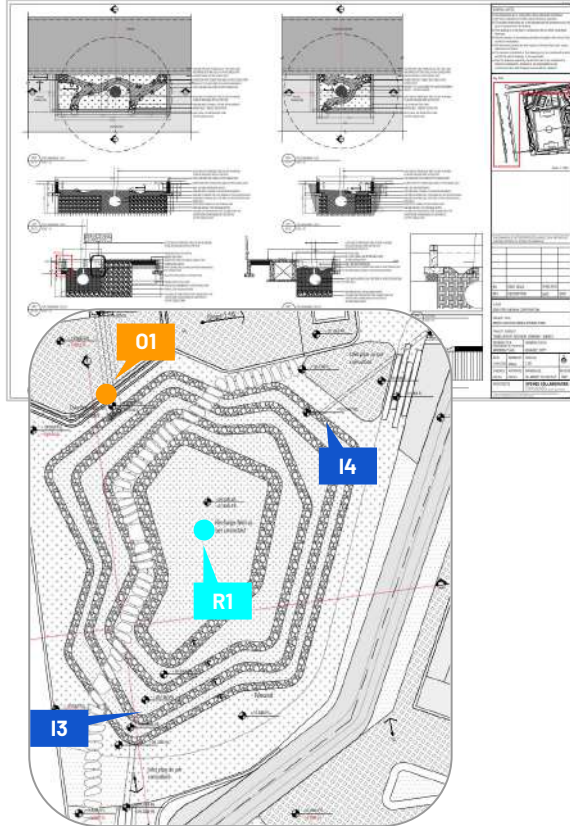




# Sponge Park is graded to temporarily detain runoff from extreme storm events while keeping streets and buildings safe



## Infrastructure to Reduce Flooding and Raise Aquifers

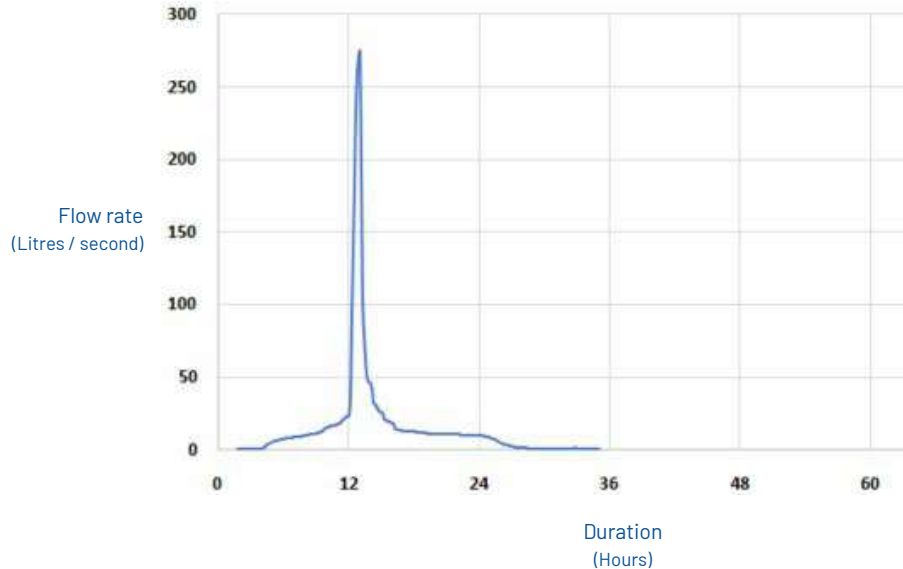


# Hydrological modelling of the Sponge Park quantified runoff storage and infiltration volume achieved in extreme storms

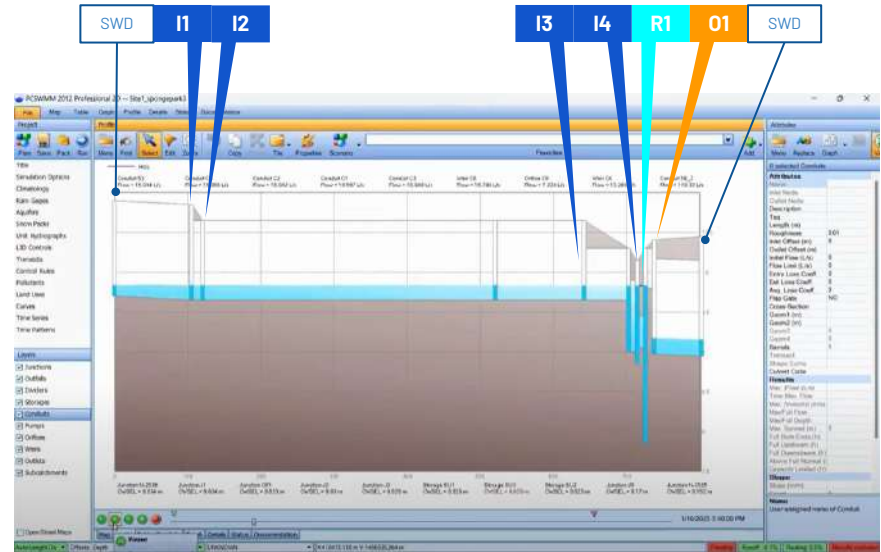
- The total inflow over 24 hours during a 25 year return period storm through inlet I1 is **1,992 m<sup>3</sup>**, which is contributed from west of sponge park.
- The total inflow through inlet I2 is **545 m<sup>3</sup>**, which is contributed from east.

Sponge City Park and Street Benefits	
Water Storage Volume (in m <sup>3</sup> )	1,657 m <sup>3</sup>
Infiltration Volume (over a 24 hour period during a 25 year storm in m <sup>3</sup> )	3,797 m <sup>3</sup>
Open space and Recreational Amenities	4,060 m <sup>2</sup>

Total Inflow Volume into Sponge Park through I1 during 25 year R.P. storms



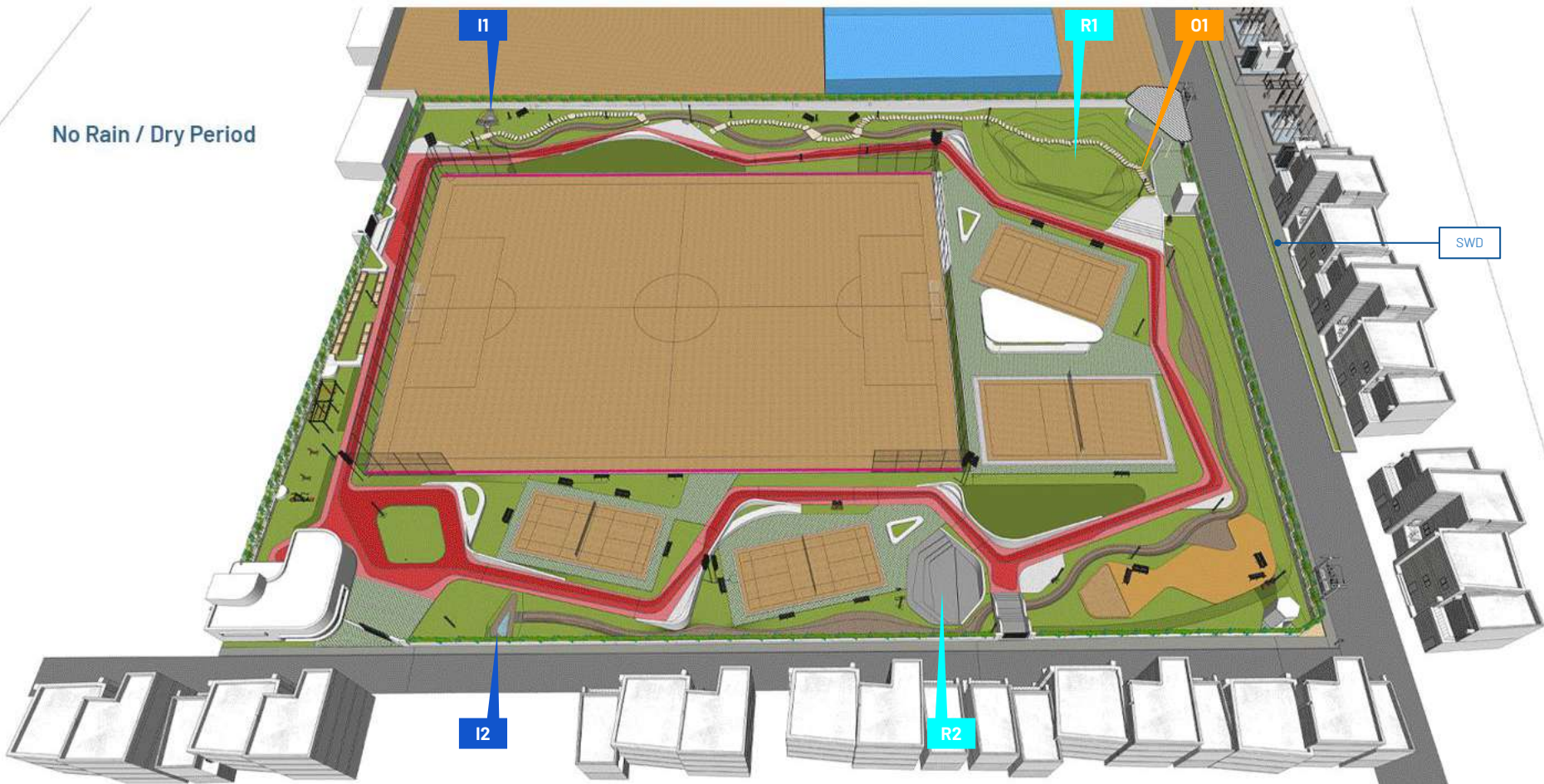
Dynamic Simulation of 25 year R.P. storm over 24 hour period





# The Sponge Park helps the neighbourhood withstand flooding from 25 year storms and improves aquifer health

No Rain / Dry Period



# GCC has committed to the Sponge City approach by implementing Sponge Parks across various Zones and Wards



Sponge Parks by the GCC are created by the construction of pits of varying depths to store water draining into wells to recharge the aquifer



In Vartha park (sponge park 41 in zone 11), the recharge pit was constructed in a playground and then fenced, rendering the middle of the park inaccessible for social uses



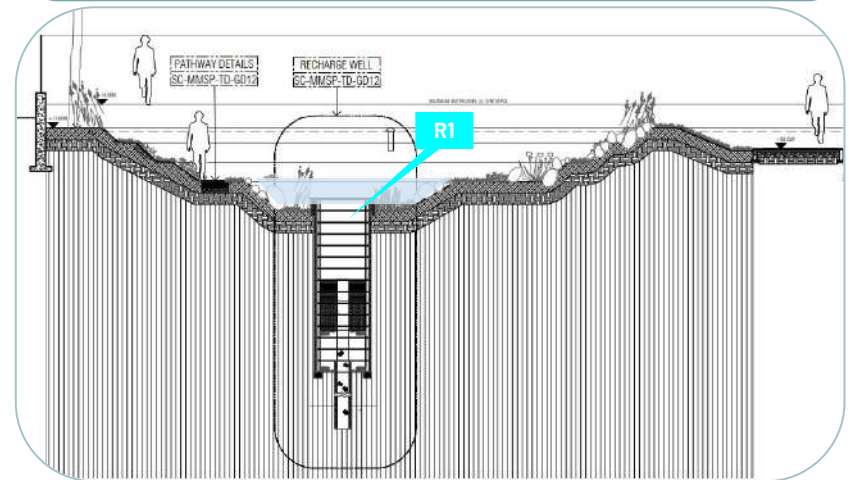
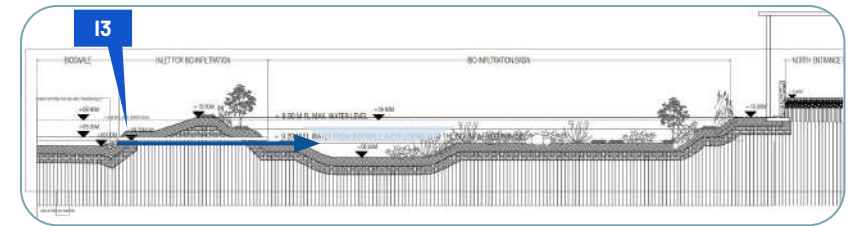
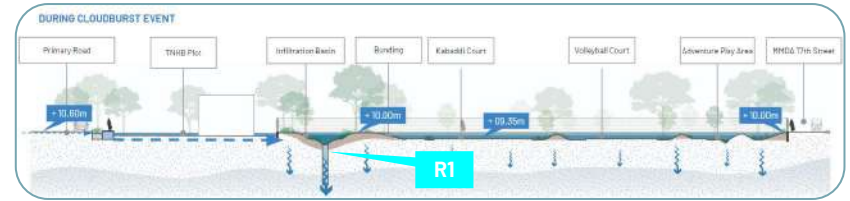
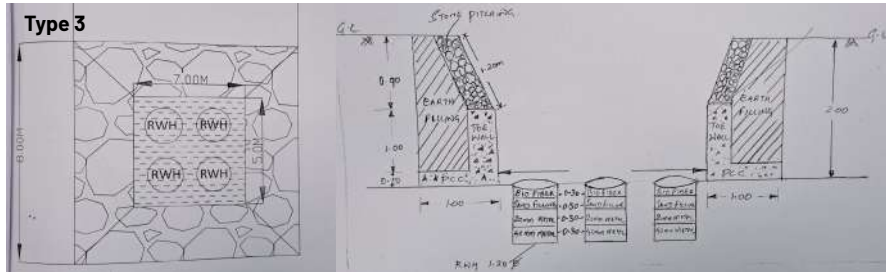
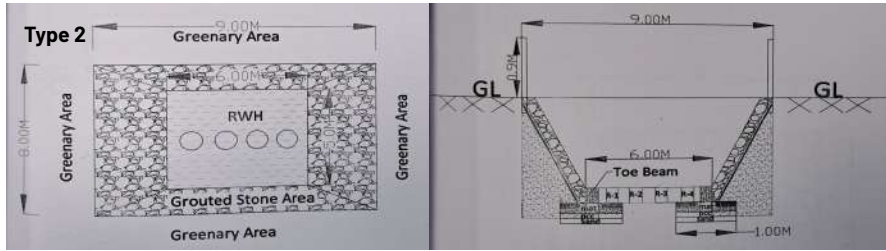
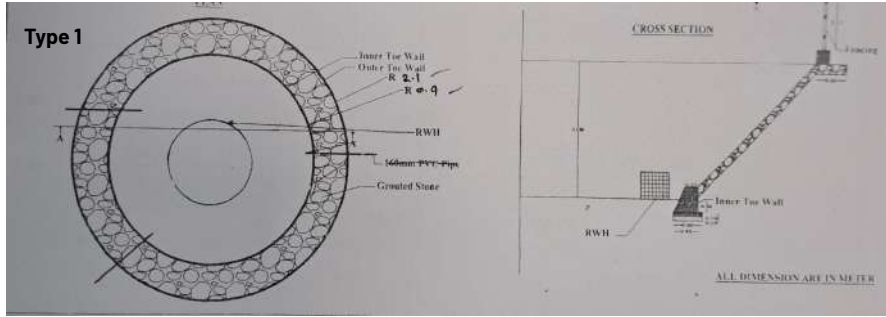
In Mayor sundar Rao park (sponge park 21 in Zone 5), the recharge pit did not drain the water after more than 10 days since the December floods. Leaf litter was seen collecting around recharge wells



In Vartha park (sponge park 41 in zone 11), the construction of the pit disrupted the jogging trail and led to an observed decline in users



# We compared our technical drawings and spoke to engineers to understand how Sponge Parks could be improved



Sponge Park detail and schematic drawings from GCC

Integrated Sponge Park details by Sponge Collaborative

# Sustainable Infrastructure Framework is used to assess capacity and structure the manual for Sponge Parks



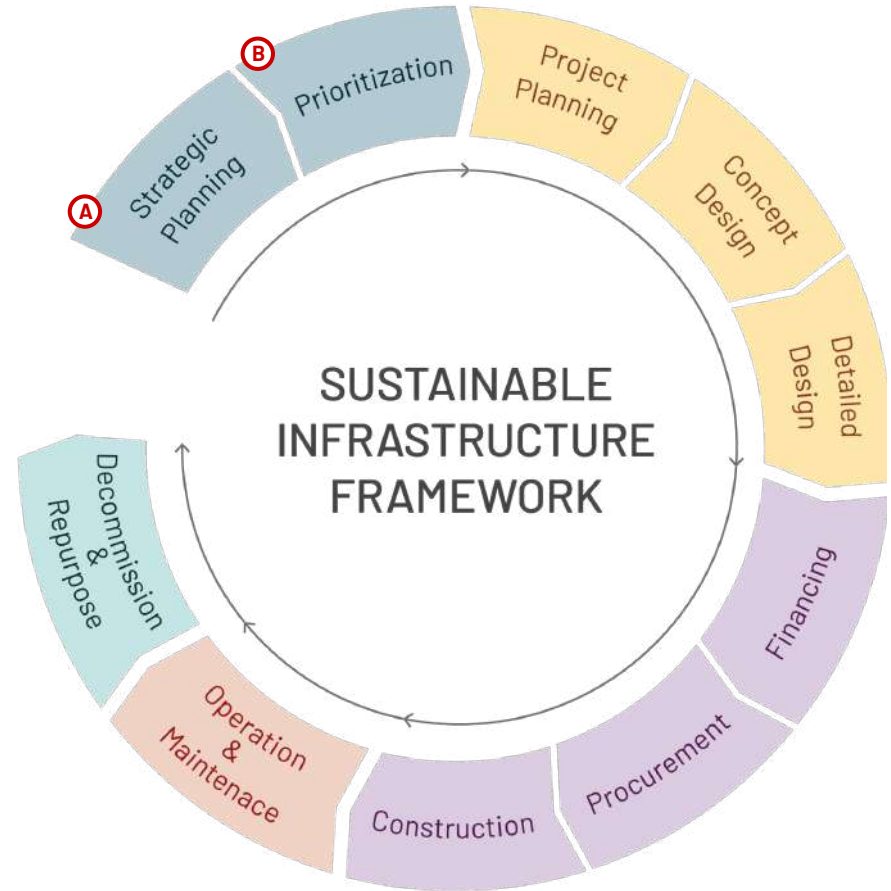
“Sustainable Infrastructures are built or natural systems that provide services in a manner that ensures economic and financial, social (including gender), environmental (including climate resilience), and institutional sustainability in line with the Global Goals and over the entire infrastructure lifecycle, from strategic planning all the way to decommissioning.” (GiZ, UNEP 2018)

## A. Strategic Planning (Understanding Need)

- How does GCC identify the hydrological, infrastructural, and social need for Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC make data-driven decisions or engage communities to determine the need for transforming open spaces?
- Is there a city-level, metropolitan, or basin scale framework for how Sponge Parks are planned as a network to mitigate disaster risks?

## B. Prioritization (Prioritising Need)

- How does GCC prioritize which open spaces are upgraded into Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC use social environmental pre-screening mechanisms, multi-criteria decision criteria, or geospatial tools to select open spaces?
- Is there adequate city-level, zonal level and ward level data to select priority open spaces for Sponge Park upgrading?





# Sustainable Infrastructure Framework is used to assess capacity and structure the manual for Sponge Parks

## C. Project Planning (Feasibility and Sizing)

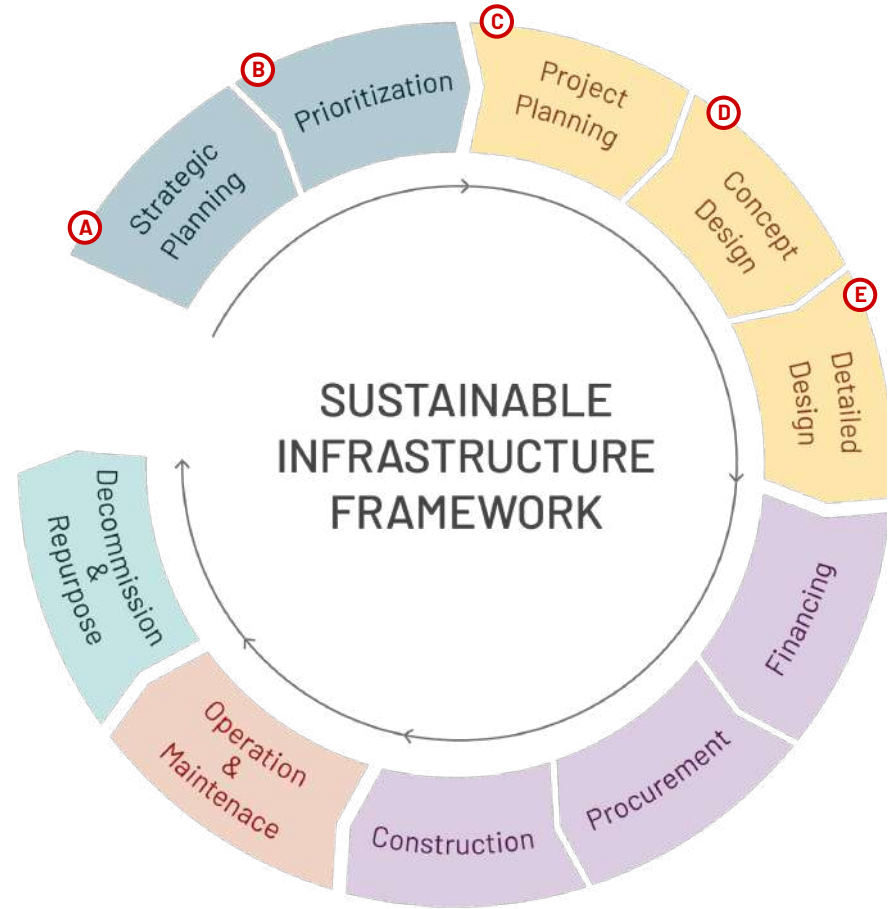
- How does GCC determine the feasibility, community need, social / environmental impact, and technical requirements of Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC use flood modelling, soil and water testing, cost benefit analysis, and life cycle studies to determine infrastructural requirements from open spaces?
- Is there adequate technical and administrative capacity within GCC or academic/practitioner networks to determine the storage and recharge capacities required from Sponge Parks?

## D. Concept Design (Programming and Siting)

- How does GCC design the layout, blue-green infrastructure components, and social amenities of Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC use high performance landscape standards, best management practices, and placemaking principles towards improving open spaces?
- Is there adequate technical and administrative capacity within GCC or consultant networks and adequate information to design Sponge Parks?

## E. Detailed Design (Hydrology and Specifications)

- How does GCC detail the grading, planting, blue-green infrastructure, social programs, and placemaking components of Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC have design guidelines and specifications to ensure quality and implementable detailed design by consultant or contractor?
- Is there adequate administrative capacity within GCC and technically qualified providers for design and construction documentation towards tendering of Sponge Parks?



# Sustainable Infrastructure Framework is used to assess capacity and structure the manual for Sponge Parks

## F. Finance

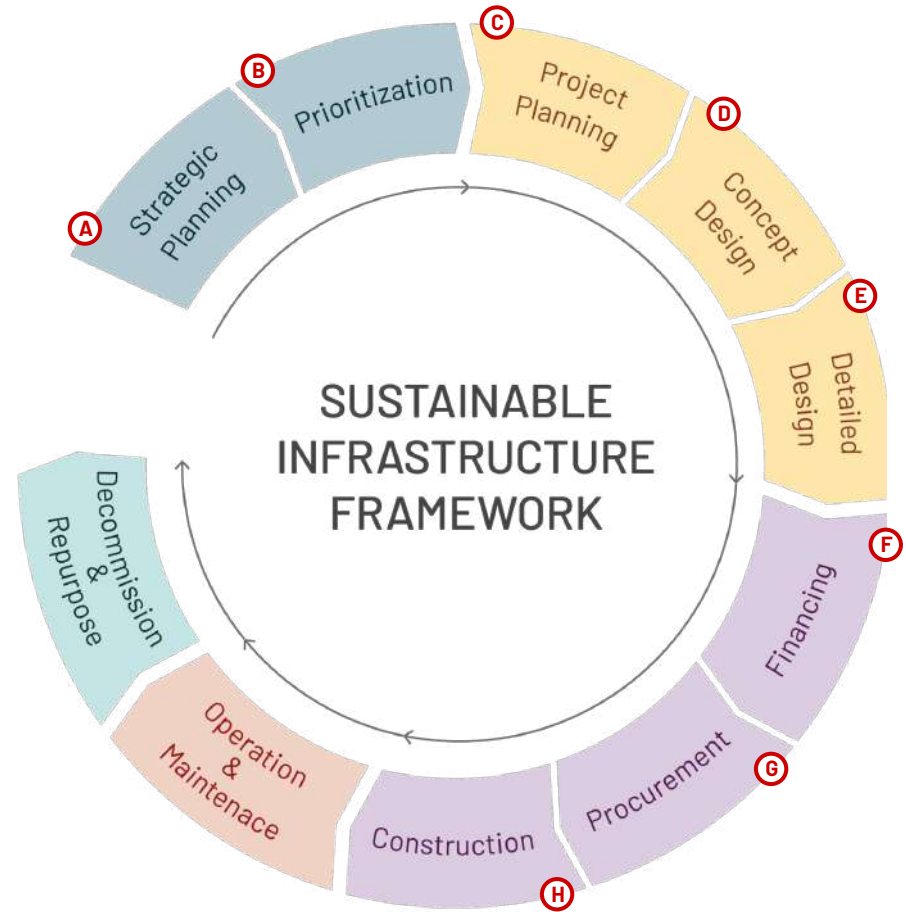
- How does GCC arrive at costing and identify sources for financing the construction and maintenance of Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC utilise sectoral budgets, special state programs, intergovernmental grants, multilateral financing, PPP or CSR funding to finance projects?
- Is there adequate administrative capacity within GCC to make budgetary proposals, multilateral grant requests, or private sector partnerships to finance Sponge Parks?

## G. Procurement

- How does GCC procure consulting services for design, contractors for construction, and vendors for products and operations to implement Sponge Parks?
- Does the GCC use quality-based criteria for the selection of goods and services or empanelment of consultants required to transform open spaces?
- Is there adequate administrative capacity within GCC and technically qualified providers to ensure timely and effective implementation of Sponge Parks?

## H. Construction

- How does GCC ensure construction of Sponge Parks in line with design documentation, budget, and schedule?
- Does the GCC promote best practices in construction site management, use of sustainable materials, local sourcing of products, and native planting?
- Is there adequate technical and administrative capacity within GCC to ensure high quality construction of Sponge Parks within budget and schedule?



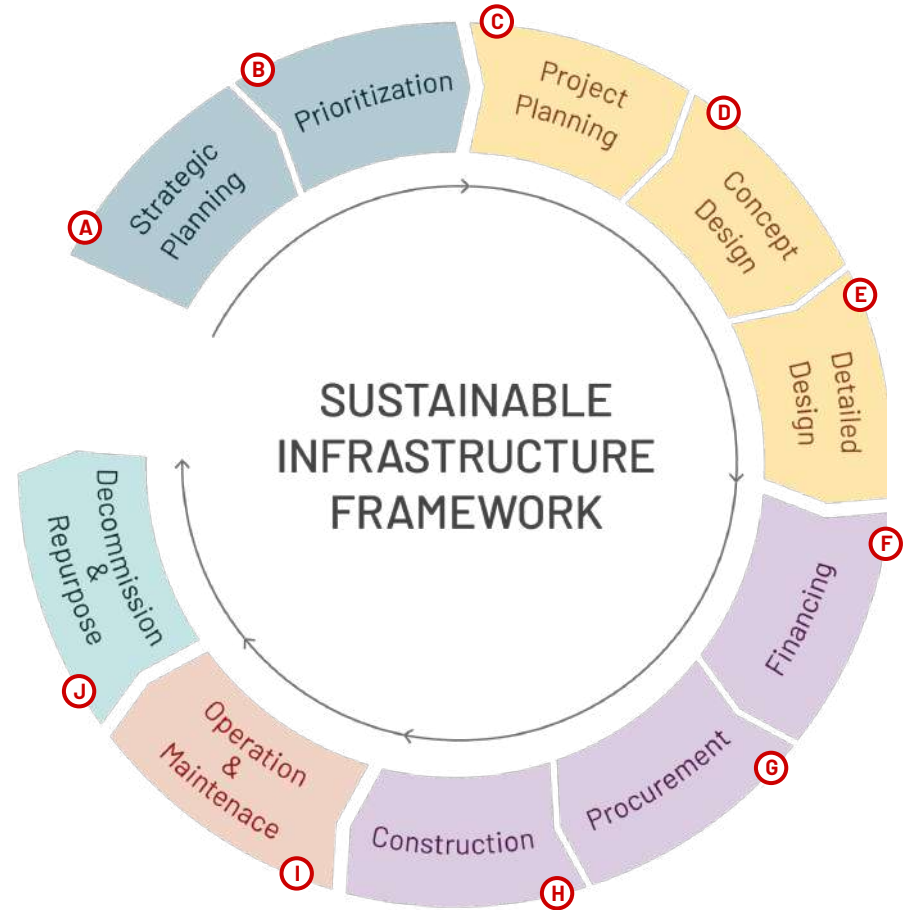
# Sustainable Infrastructure Framework is used to assess capacity and structure the manual for Sponge Parks

## I. Operation and Maintenance

- How does GCC ensure continued operation of Sponge Parks and specific maintenance of blue-green infrastructure and planting?
- Does the GCC have clear guidelines, allocated budgets, and trained staff for the continued maintenance of Sponge Parks over its lifecycle?
- Is there adequate technical and administrative capacity within GCC or trusted service providers to ensure efficient operation and maintenance of Sponge Parks?

## J. Decommission and Repurpose

- How does GCC monitor the performance of Sponge Parks and determine the need for decommissioning, upgrading, and repurposing?
- Does the GCC have infrastructure lifecycle considerations for the continued maintenance and eventual decommissioning or repurposing of Sponge Parks?
- Is there adequate technical and administrative capacity within GCC to monitor aquifers, tree health, and climate risks to determine new infrastructure lifecycle for Sponge Parks?





## Gap Assessment and Sponge Park Manual Structure

- **Sustainable Infrastructure Lifecycle:**  
Strategic Planning > Prioritization > Project Planning > Concept Design > Detailed Design > Finance > Procurement > Construction > Operation and Maintenance > Decommissioning and Repurposing
- **Data Collection and Inception Report**

# We conducted a validation workshop to present project approach and gather initial feedback on capacity gaps

**Which infrastructure lifecycle of the Sponge Park has the highest need for capacity building?**

*(Respondents could select multiple options)*

<b>Strategic Planning</b> (Understanding Need)	<b>48%</b>	<b>Financing</b>	<b>33%</b>
<b>Prioritisation</b> (Prioritising Need)	<b>48%</b>	<b>Procurement</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Project Planning</b> (Feasibility and Sizing)	<b>57%</b>	<b>Construction</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Concept Design</b> (Programming and Siting)	<b>33%</b>	<b>Operation and Maintenance</b>	<b>62%</b>
<b>Detailed Design</b> (Hydrology and Specifications)	<b>62%</b>	<b>Decommissioning and Repurposing</b>	<b>19%</b>

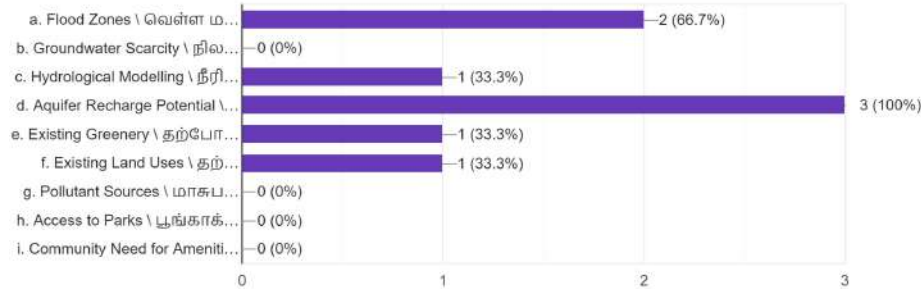


# We interviewed Administrative Heads and Zonal Engineers to identify how GCC implements Sponge Parks

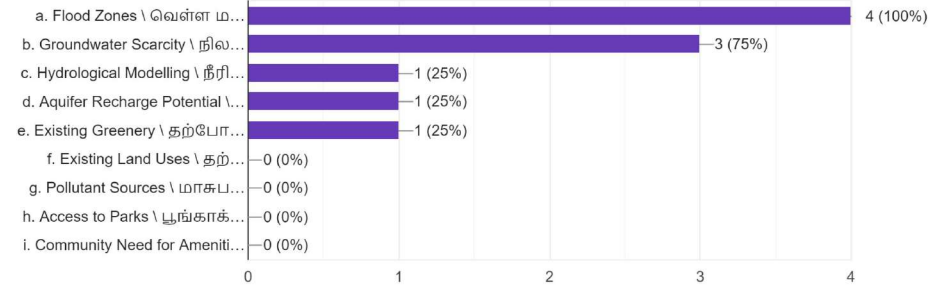
## A. Strategic Planning (Understanding Need)

What factors did the GCC consider when planning for Sponge Parks? ஸ்பான்ஜ் பூங்கா திட்டமிடும்போது GCC என்ன காரணிகளைக் கருத்தில் கொண்டது?

### Department Heads



### Zonal Engineers



**Flooding** and **Aquifer Recharge Potential** are the two biggest factors considered in the planning of Sponge Parks

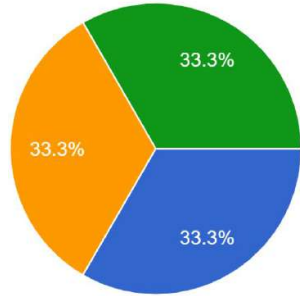
**Lack of technical understanding within the department** and **lack of data / information** were considered main gaps for why factors are not properly considered



## B. Prioritisation

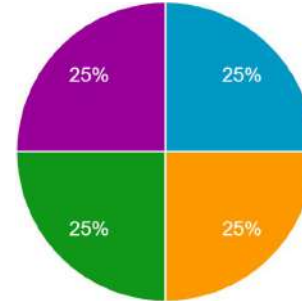
Do you know on what basis the location for 57 Sponge Parks were determined by the GCC? 57 ஸ்பான்ஜ் பூங்காக்கள் எந்த அடிப்படையில் GCC ஆல் தீர்மானிக்கப்பட்டது தெரியுமா?

Department Heads



- a. No \ இல்லை ( உறுதியாக தெரியவில்லை
- b. Yes ( if so, provide resasons) \ ஆம் (அப்படியானால், தயவுசெய்து விளக்கவும்)
- Aquifer recharge
- Flood prone areas

Zonal Engineers



- a. No \ இல்லை ( உறுதியாக தெரியவில்லை
- b. Yes ( if so, provide resasons) \ ஆம் (அப்படியானால், தயவுசெய்து...
- To raise ground water table and to store rain water in surrounding areas
- Space, flood, water storage,data's based on requirement
- When area is more, sponge park done
- Area of the osr land

**Aquifer recharge, flooding, and size** are the some of the factors considered in the prioritisation of Sponge Parks

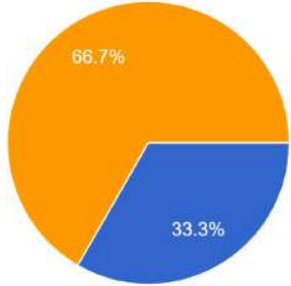
**Lack of data / information, lack of technical understanding within the department** and **lack of budgets** were considered main gaps for the lack of a clear prioritisation framework



## D. Concept Design

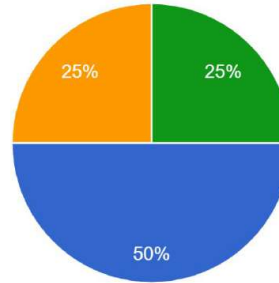
Does the GCC follow any open space design guidelines, landscape standards, or best management practices to design Sponge Parks? G... மேலாண்மை நடைமுறைகளைப் பின்பற்றுகிறதா?

Department Heads



- a. No \ இல்லை
- b. Unsure ( if so, sho can provide the information within the GCC) \ உறுதியாக தெரியவில்லை (அப்படியானால், GCC க்குள் இந்தத் தகவலை யார் வழங்க முடியும்)
- c. Yes ( if so, what guidelines and standards) \ ஆம் (அப்படியானால், என்ன வழிகாட்டுதல்கள் மற்றும் தரநிலைகள்)

Zonal Engineers



- a. No \ இல்லை
- b. Unsure ( if so, sho can provide the information within the GCC) \ உறுதியாக தெரியவில்லை (அப்படியானால், GCC க்குள் இந்...
- c. Yes ( if so, what guidelines and standards) \ ஆம் (அப்படியானால், என்ன வழிகாட்டுதல்கள் மற்று...
- No, Trying to tally within budget, no standards for sponge parks

**Open Space design guidelines or standards** are not followed in the majority of Sponge Park concept design process

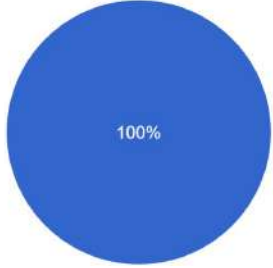
**Lack of technical understanding within the department** and **lack of guidelines** were considered main gaps for the concept design of Sponge Parks



## E. Detailed Design

Does the GCC follow design guidelines and standard specifications to size and detail blue-green infrastructure in Sponge Parks? ஸ்பான்...யான விவரக்குறிப்புகளை GCC பின்பற்றுகிறதா?

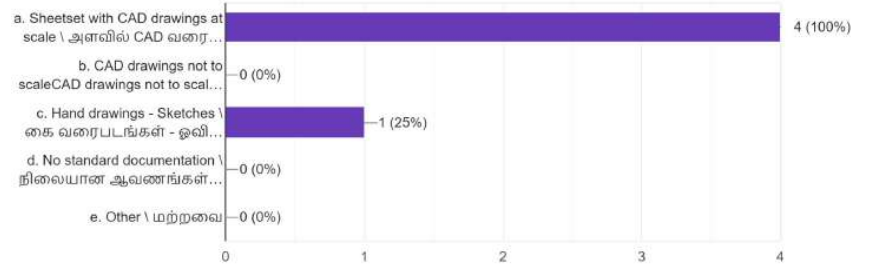
Zonal Engineers



- a. No \ இல்லை
- b. Unsure ( if so, who can provide this information within GCC ) \ உறுதியாக தெரியவில்லை (அப்படியானால், GCC க்குள் இந்தத் தகவலை யார் வழங்க முடியும்)
- c. yes (If so, what guidelines and standards) \ ஆம் (அப்படியானால், என்ன வழிகாட்டுதல்கள் மற்றும் தரநிலைகள்)

How did the GCC produce the design documentation for costing and tendering for contractors? GCC எவ்வாறு ஒப்பந்தத...கான வடிவமைப்பு ஆவணங்களை தயாரித்தது?

Zonal Engineers



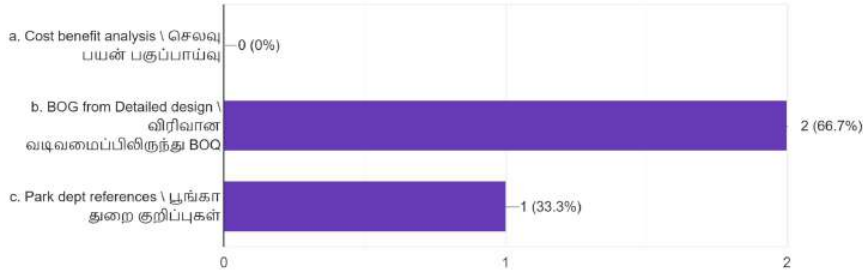
**Design guidelines or standards** are not followed in the detailed design of Sponge Park

**Lack of standards / guidelines** and **lack of technical understanding within the department** were considered main gaps for why factors are not proper considered

## F. Financing

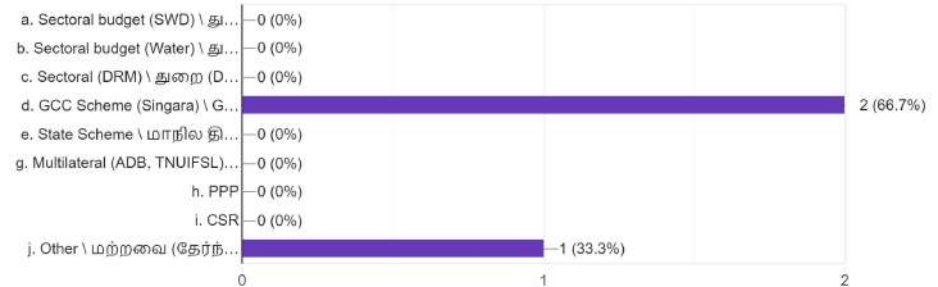
How does GCC determine the cost of Sponge Parks in terms of initial capital investment and recurrent operation and maintenance expenses? ங்கா விலையை GCC எவ்வாறு தீர்மானிக்கிறது?

### Department Heads



What source of funding has been utilised by the GCC in the planning, design, and implementation of Sponge Park so far? இதுவரை ஸ்பாஞ்ச் ப...ந்த நிதி ஆதாரம் பயன்படுத்தப்பட்டுள்ளது?

### Department Heads



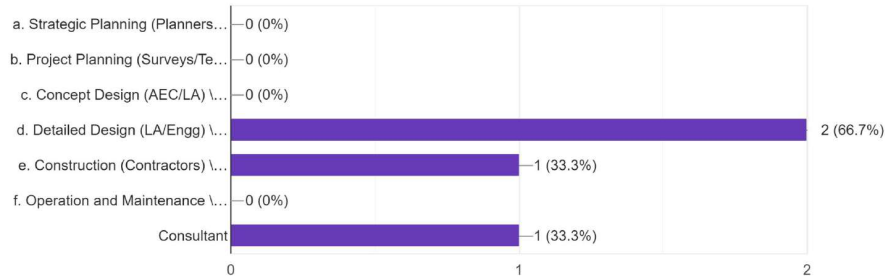
**Cost benefit analysis** is not conducted to evaluate Sponge Park investments. While GCC schemes have been utilised so far in the implementation of Sponge Parks, there is interest in exploring **Central / State schemes** and **Climate / green financing**

**Sectoral funding from SWDs** has not been utilised in the construction of Sponge Parks so far

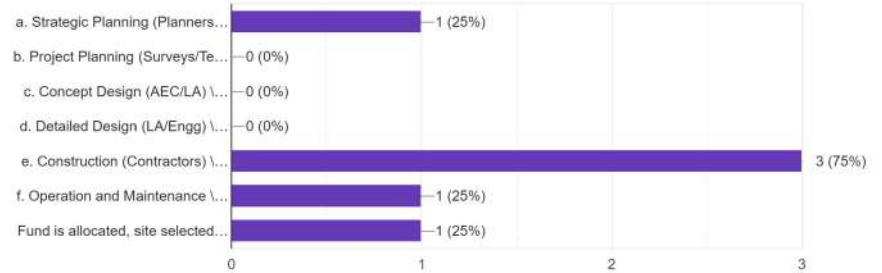
## G. Procurement

At what stage of the Sponge Park infrastructure lifecycle does GCC procure external technical services ஸ்பான்ஜ் பூங்கா உட்கட்டமைப்புற தொழில்நுட்ப சேவைகளை வாங்குகிறது

### Department Heads



### Zonal Engineers



**Construction, Maintenance and Detailed Design** services were procured for Sponge Park implementation by GCC

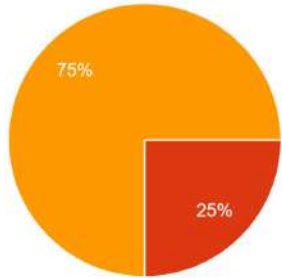
**Lowest Cost (Open Bid)** was the most common method of selection followed by **Quality and Cost Basis (Open Bid)**. GCC does not have empaneled consultants or contractors specialising in Sponge Parks



## H. Construction

How long did it take to construct the Sponge Park - from the first equipment arriving on site to park opening? ஸ்பான்ஜ் பூங்கா கட்டுவதற்கு ... உபகரணத்திலிருந்து பூங்கா திறப்பு வரை?

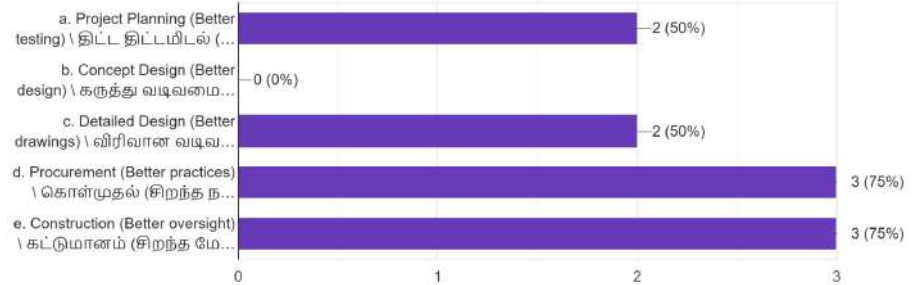
Zonal Engineers



- a. Less than 1 month \ 1 மாதத்திற்கும் குறைவானது
- b. 1-3 monthss \ 1-3 மாதங்கள்
- c. 3-6 months \ 3-6 மாதங்கள்

What stage of the Sponge Park infrastructure lifecycle should be the focus to improve construction quality and outcomes? select one or mor...களை மேம்படுத்த கவனம் செலுத்த வேண்டும்?

Zonal Engineers



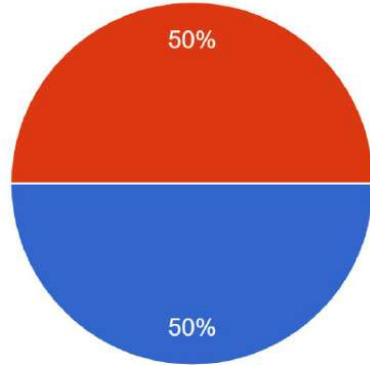
Construction of Sponge Parks mostly take between **3-6 months of site work**

**Better oversight during construction** and **better procurement practices** were considered important to improve construction quality and outcomes

## I. Operations and Maintenance

How would you evaluate the maintenance requirements and O&M costs of the implemented Sponge Parks? please explain your response...லவுகளை நீங்கள் எவ்வாறு மதிப்பிடுவீர்கள்?

Zonal Engineers



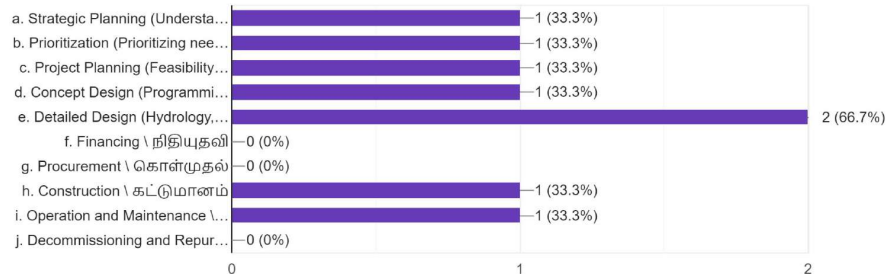
- a. Very high maintenance requirements and O&M costs \ மிக அதிக பராமரிப்பு தேவைகள் மற்றும் O&M செலவுகள்
- b. Somewhat satisfied \ ஓரளவு திருப்தி
- c. Somewhat dissatisfied \ ஓரளவு அதிருப்தி
- d. Highly dissatisfied \ மிகுந்த அதிருப்தி

Maintenance of Sponge Parks is evaluated to be **very high O&M costs** or **satisfactory**.

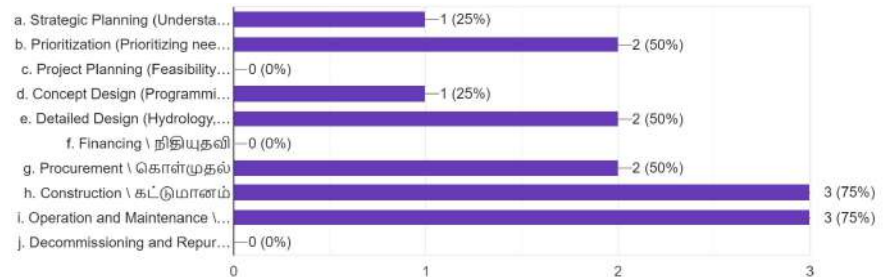
**Removal of weeds and leaf litter** are new maintenance practices in Sponge Parks which require **labour** and design decisions such as **leaf litter catchers** and **sedimentation ponds**.

For the training exercise with GCC Department Heads and Engineers, which infrastructure lifecycle of the Sponge Park has the highest need for...ல் திறன் மேம்பாட்டிற்கு அதிக தேவை உள்ளது?

### Administrative Heads



### Zonal Engineers



**Detailed Design, Construction, Operation and Maintenance** were considered areas with highest capacity building needs in realising Sponge Parks. **Prioritisation** was also considered a training need over other stages of the Sponge Park lifecycle



# Structure of the Manual: Organised around the Sustainable Infrastructure framework

## INTRODUCTION

- ❑ Letters
- ❑ Executive Summary
- ❑ How to Read the Manual
- ❑ Project Background

- ❑ Why Chennai needs to be a Sponge City
- ❑ Sponge Parks in Chennai
- ❑ Sustainable Infrastructure Framework

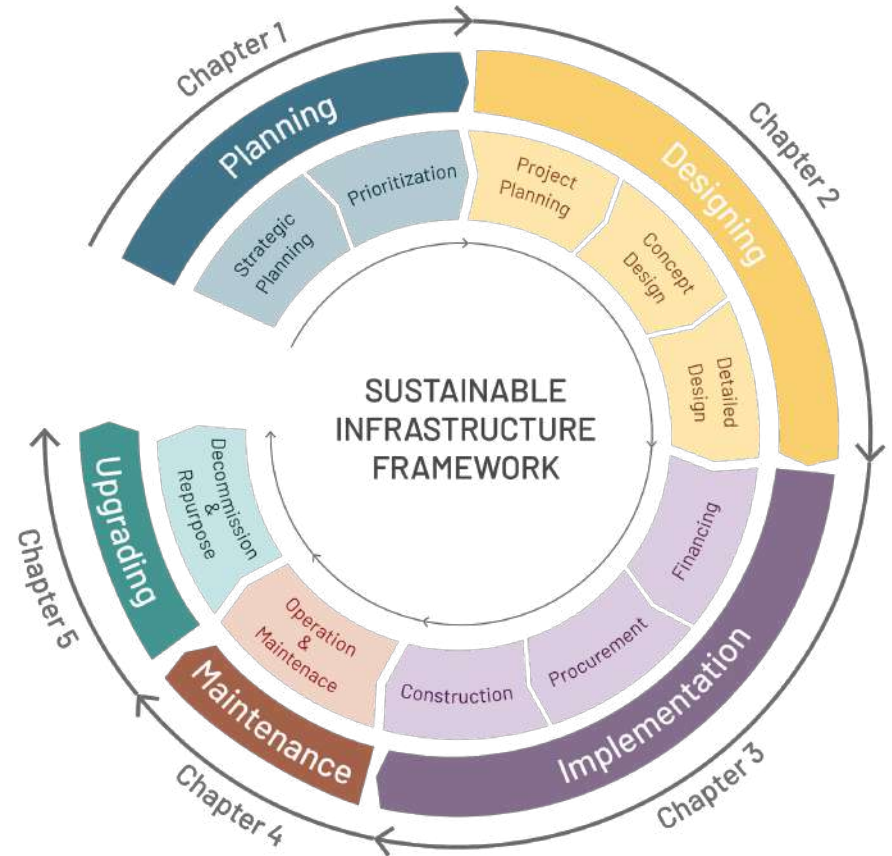
## 1. STRATEGIC PLANNING OF SPONGE PARKS

- ❑ Spatial Analysis for Strategic Planning of Sponge Parks
- ❑ Priority OSRs for Sponge Parks

## 2. DESIGNING SPONGE PARKS

- ❑ **Design Criteria: Soil and Grading, Blue-green Infrastructure, Planting, Social Amenities**
- ❑ **Guidelines for S, M, L, XL Parks**

- ❑ **Detailed Guidelines and Toolkits: Assessments**
- ❑ **Blue-green Infrastructure**
- ❑ **Planting**
- ❑ **Social Amenities**



# Structure of the Manual: Organised around the Sustainable Infrastructure framework

## 3. SPONGE PARK IMPLEMENTATION

- ❑ Financing Sponge Parks
- ❑ Procurement for Sponge Parks (S, M, L, X)
- ❑ Constructing Sponge Parks

## 4. MAINTAINING SPONGE PARKS

- ❑ Framework for Maintaining Sponge Parks
- ❑ Maintaining BGI
- ❑ Maintaining Planting

## 5. UPGRADING SPONGE PARKS

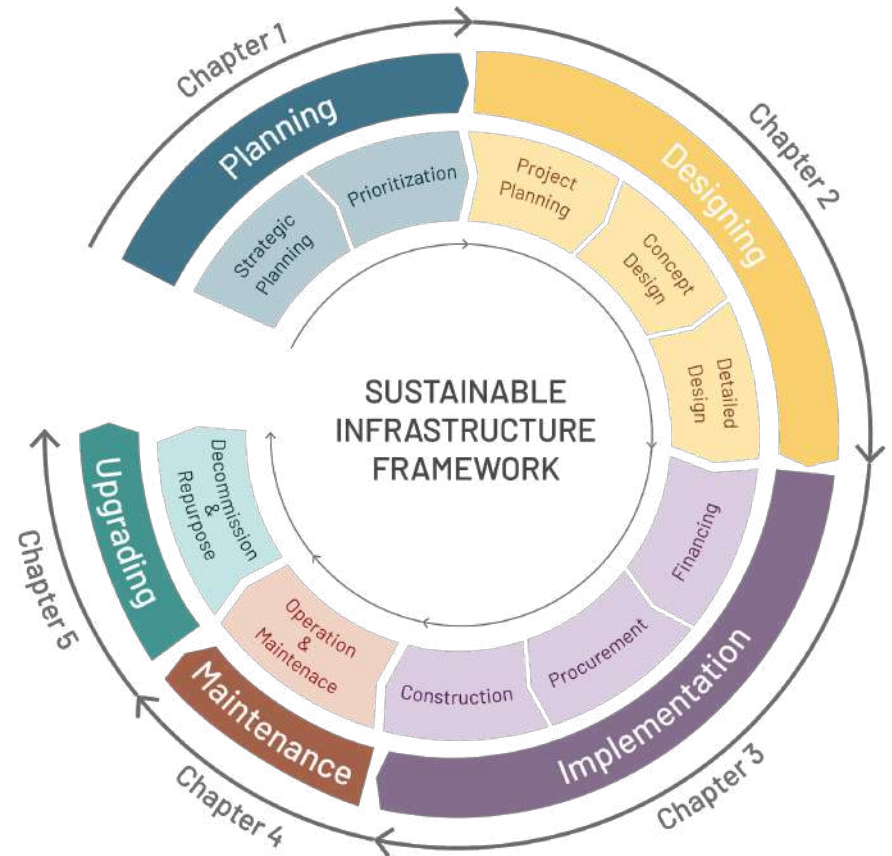
- ❑ Monitoring Sponge Park for Climate Change
- ❑ Repurposing Sponge Parks

## ❑ Concluding Notes

## ANNEX

- ❑ A. Priority OSR by Zones
- ❑ **B. Detailed Guides**
- ❑ C. Interviews
- ❑ D. Workshop Proceedings

- ❑ Hydrology for Sizing BGI
- ❑ Planting Guide
- ❑ Amenities Guide
- ❑ Detailed Maintenance Manual

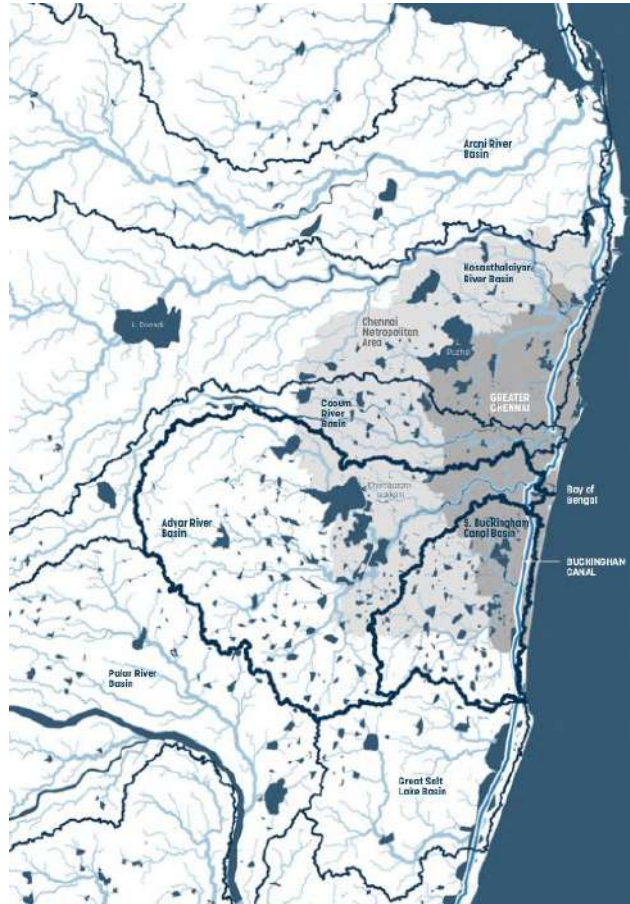


## Spatial Framework for Prioritising Sponge Parks

- **Prioritisation Methodology**
- **Priority OSRs for Sponge Park Upgrades**



# Spatial Framework guides Sponge Park investments towards building systemic resilience as sites are identified based on socio-ecological attributes. It also helps package Sponge Parks as a large investment



**Blue Green SOLUTIONS**

**Cooperating Contractors Formula**

STEP	DESCRIPTION	KEY OUTPUTS
STEP 1	DATA & INVESTIGATION	Final design, Land Use, Urban Form, Urban Form
STEP 2	MODELING & MAPPING	Model to identify flooding, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form
STEP 3	COST OF CORRECTING	Final design, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form
STEP 4	DESIGN & QUALITY	Conceptual design, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form
STEP 5	INVOLVEMENT & ITERATION	Client participation, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form
STEP 6	ECOLOGIST ECONOMICS	Local, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form, Urban Form

**FLOOD PREVENTION THROUGH PLANNING WATER QUALITY LOCAL COMMUNITY**

**INTERDISCIPLINARY PLANNING FOR WATER QUALITY LOCAL COMMUNITY**

The bottom part of the image shows a detailed map of a city area with various infrastructure markers, including roads, buildings, and green spaces. It includes a legend and a scale bar.

# The extensive network of OSRs in Chennai has the potential to transform the open space access for residents and function as a resilient infrastructure system to mitigate flood, drought, and heat risks

There are **1,126 OSRs** in Chennai ranging in size from 0.003 acres to 17 acres.

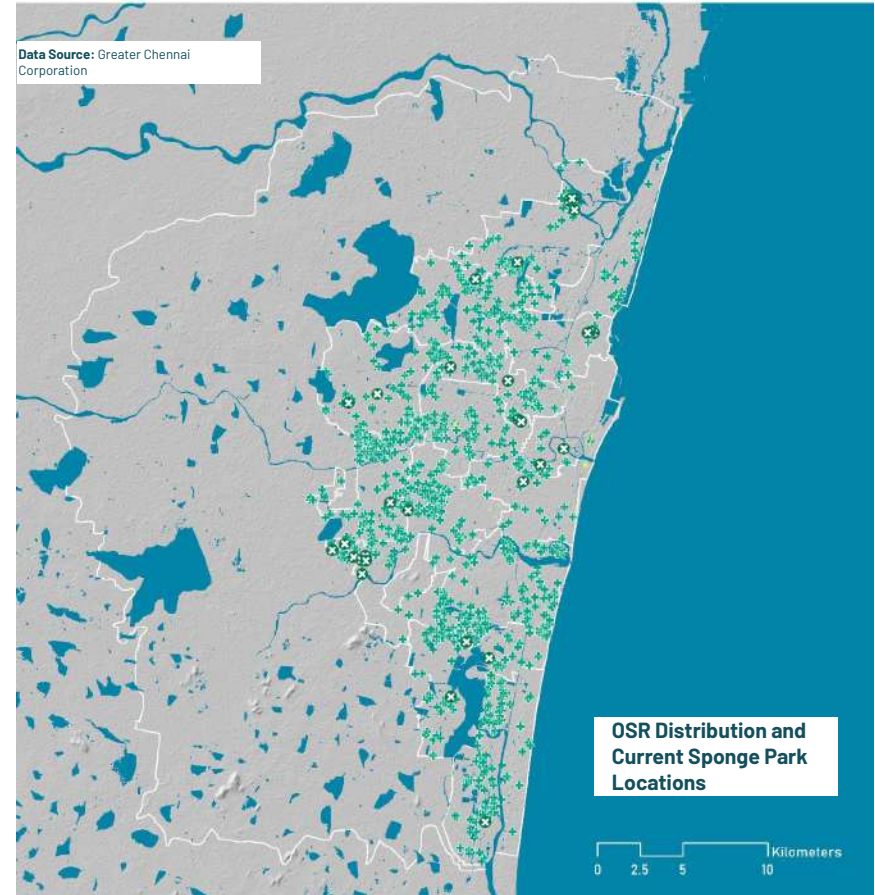
The manual will develop typological condition of OSRs based on the four size categories. The table below summarises how many OSRs fall within each category:

Category (Size Range)	# of OSRs
<b>S</b> (Less than 0.2 acres)	481
<b>M</b> (Between 0.2 - 1 acres)	538
<b>L</b> (Between 1 - 5 acres)	100
<b>X</b> (Above 5 acres)	7

In total, OSR's add up to **515 acres** or **2 km<sup>2</sup>** of land

In comparison, *all* the parks within GCC add up to 400 acres. The transformation of all OSRs into Sponge Parks could more than double Chennai's inadequate park acreage per capita.

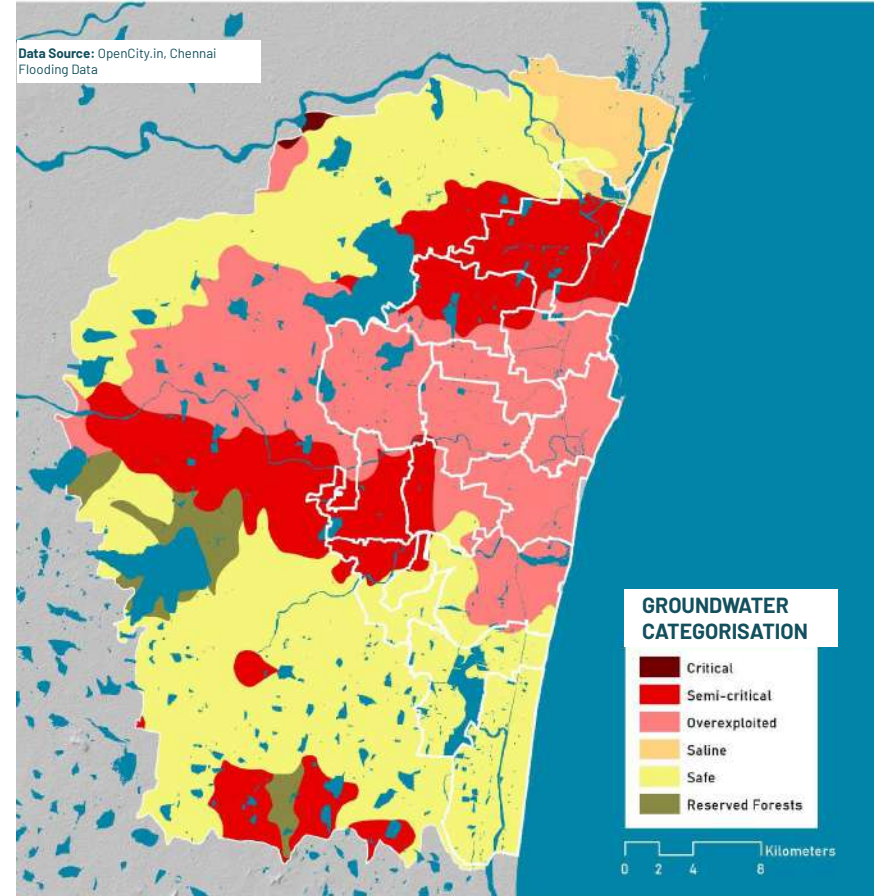
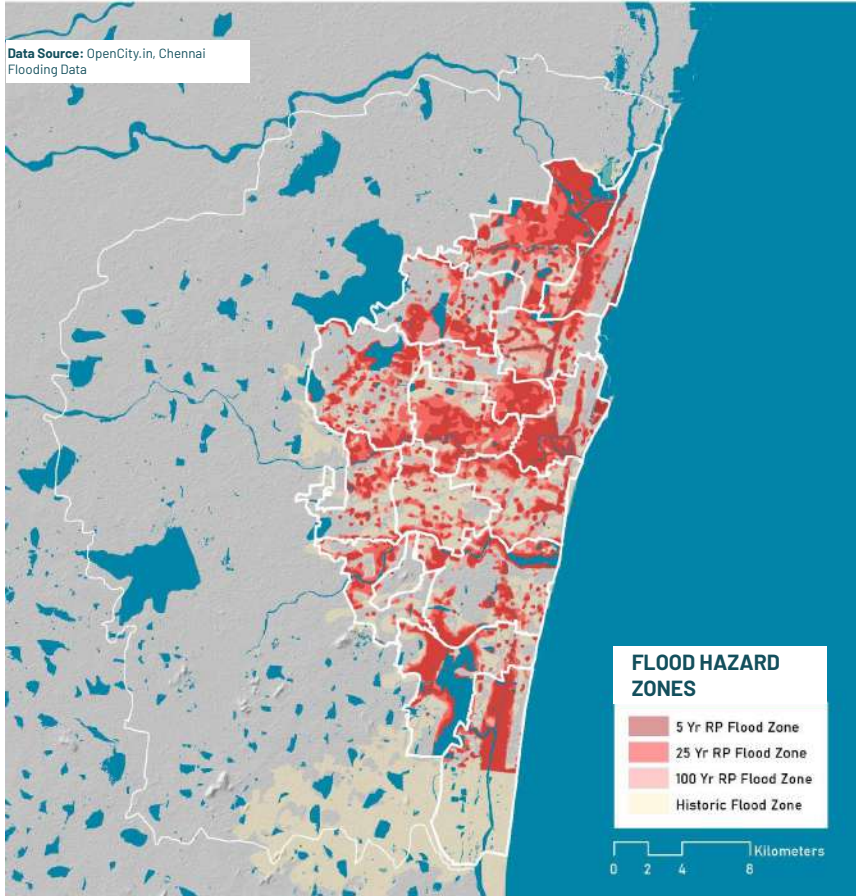
Thus, upgrading OSRs into Sponge Parks will fulfill social needs while building resilience to water risks.



The loss of water bodies and green cover that can regulate stormwater and the increased recurrence of extreme events have increased flood risk in Chennai

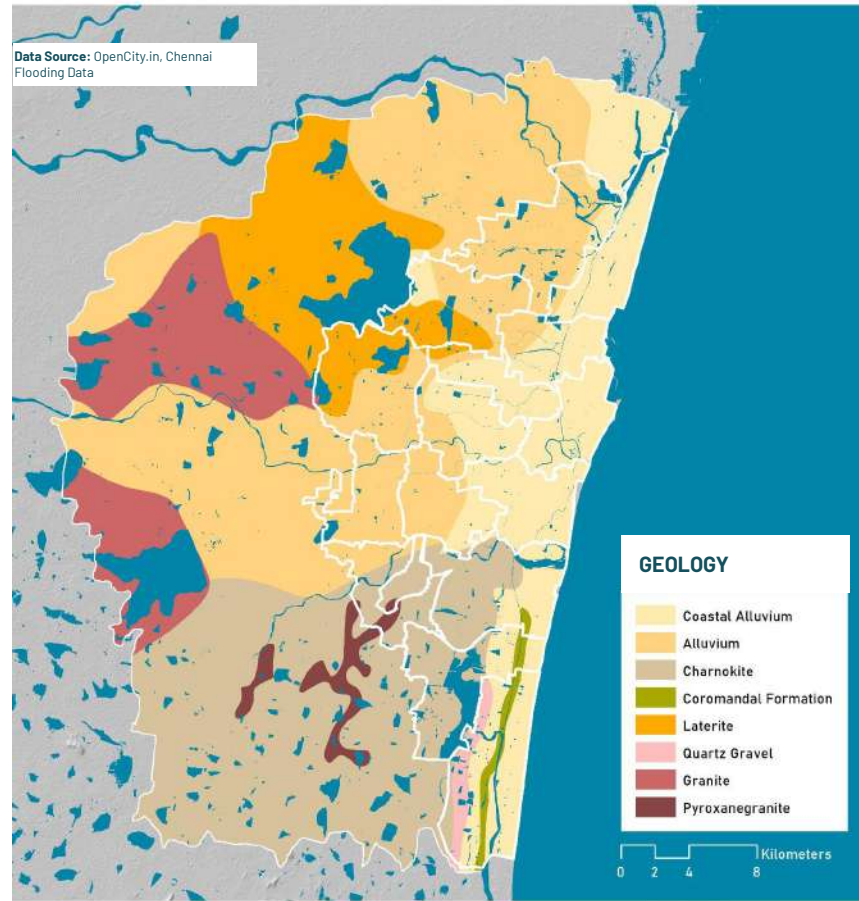
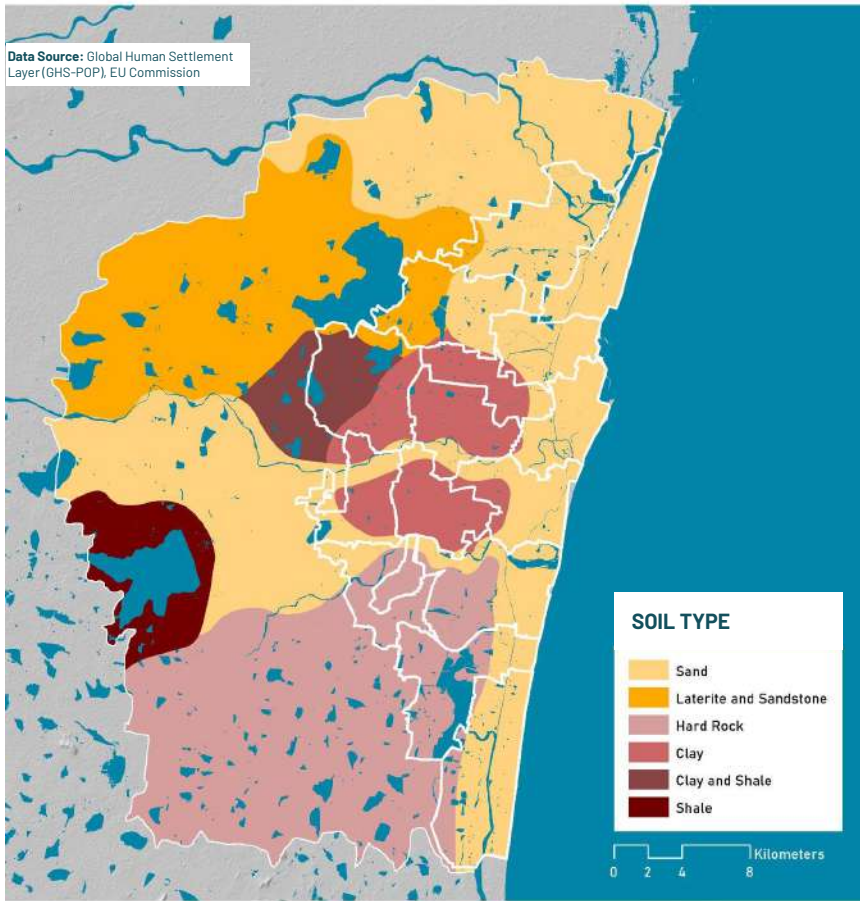


# The prioritization framework uses spatial multi-criteria to identify OSRs that are environmentally optimal for Sponge Parks. OSRs located in flood-prone areas and areas with semi-critical or overexploited aquifers are ranked high

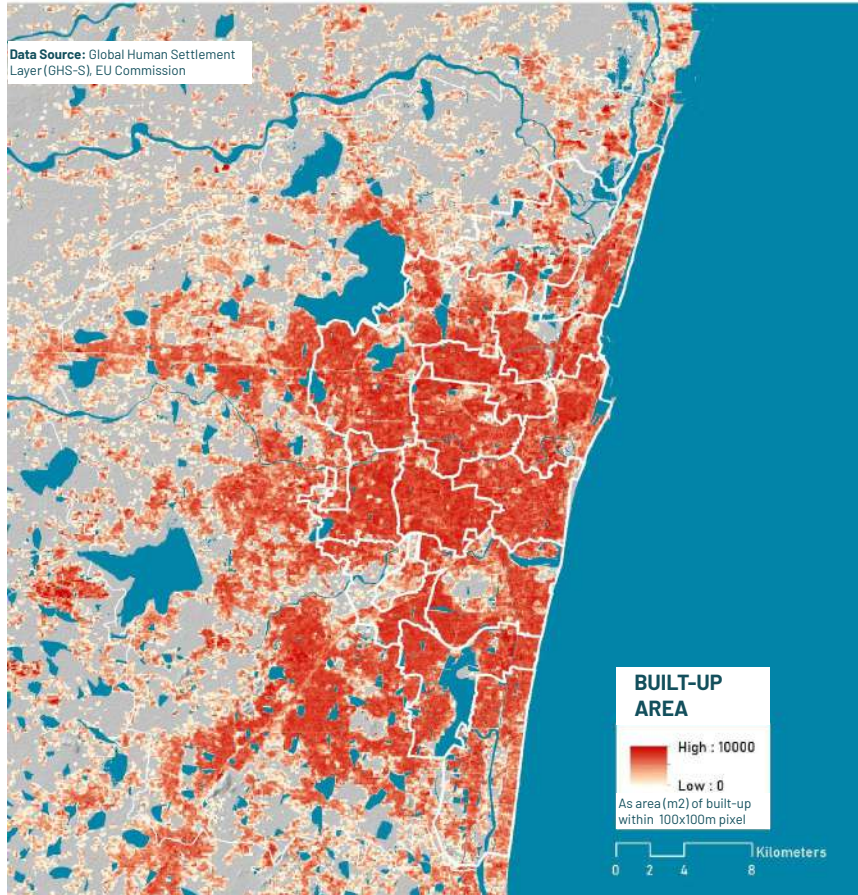




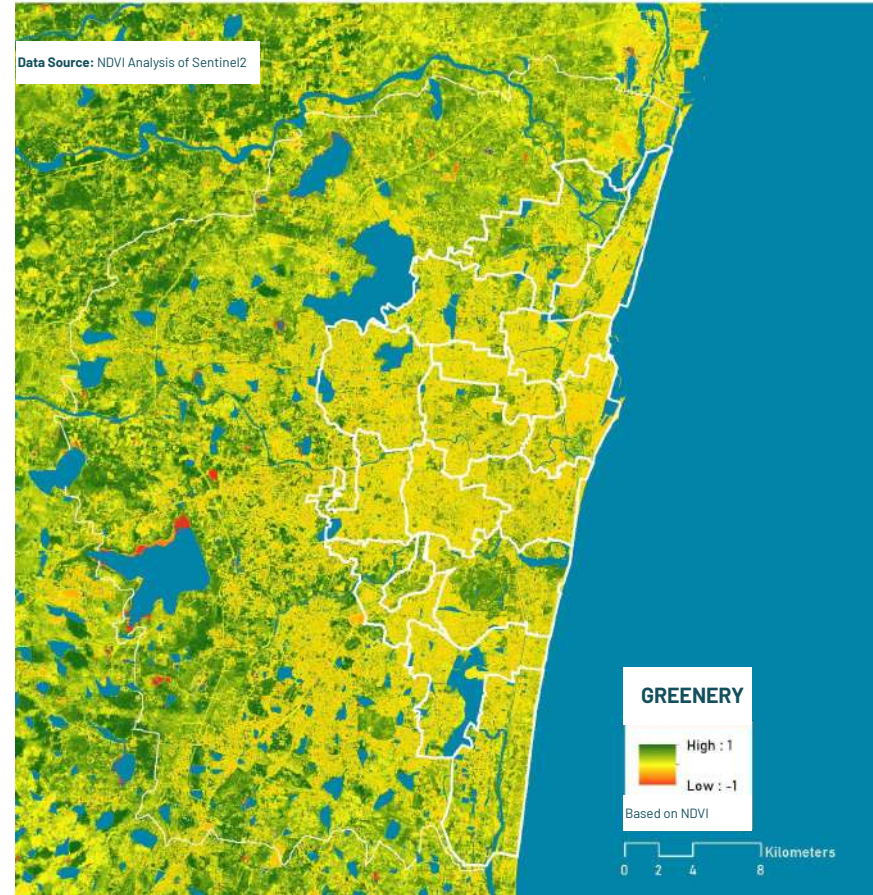
**OSRs are further ranked based on their location over more porous soil and geology types. OSRs over sandy soil and alluvium geology are assigned the highest scores with lower scores for clay or shale over granite**



# In parallel, Chennai's wards are scored on a multi-criteria assessment of parks need. Wards with high share of built-up and low greenery have higher risk of urban heat island effect and in greater need of open spaces



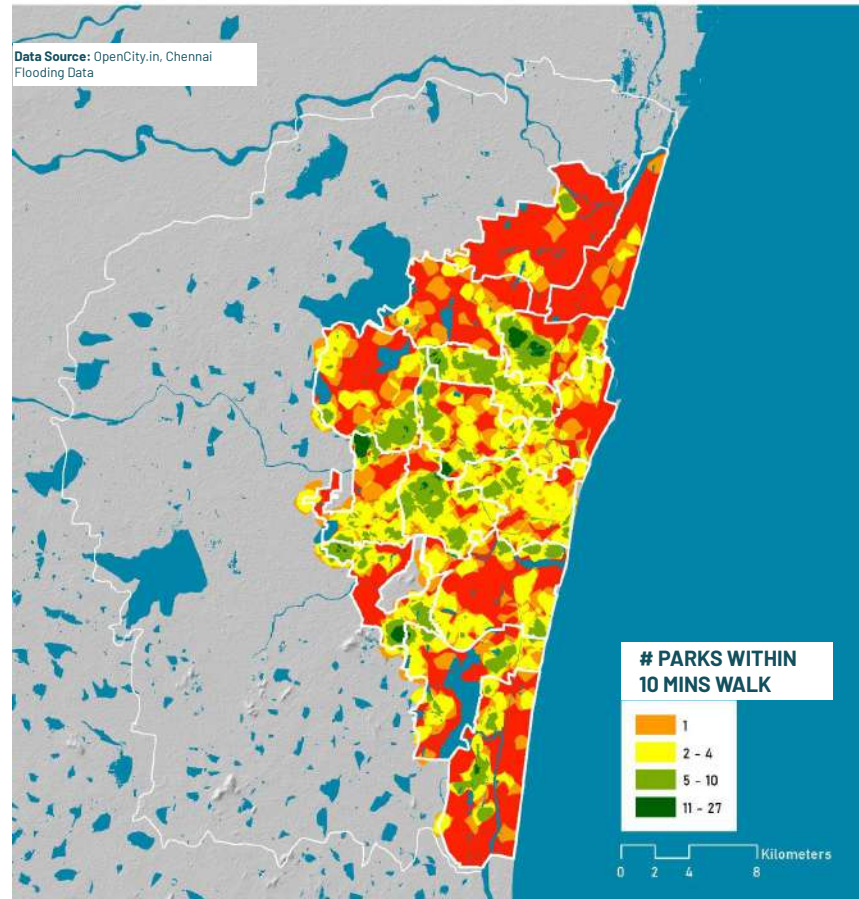
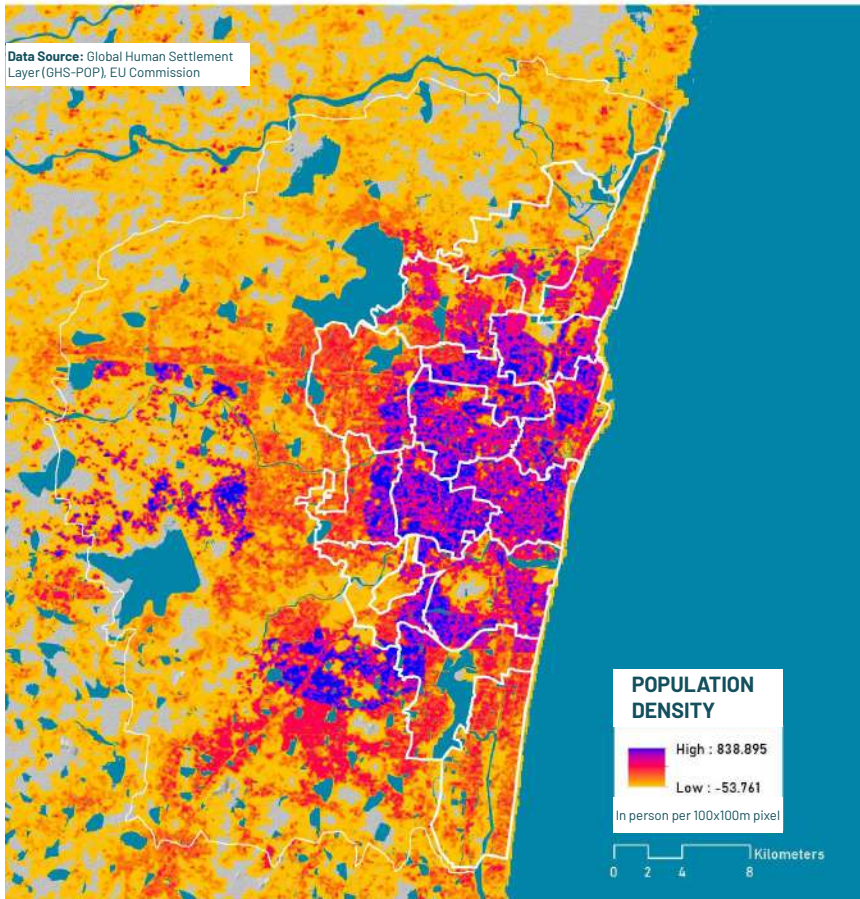
The built-up area of Chennai has rapidly expanded in the past decade with settlements growing beyond the peripheral wards of the GCC



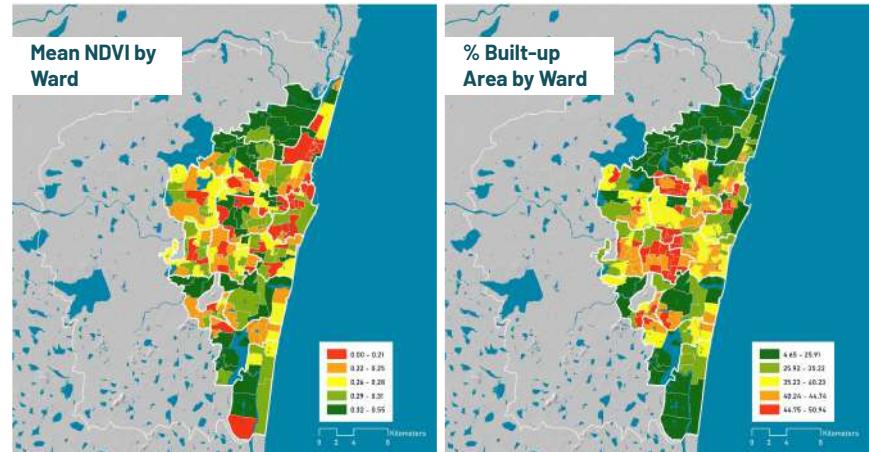
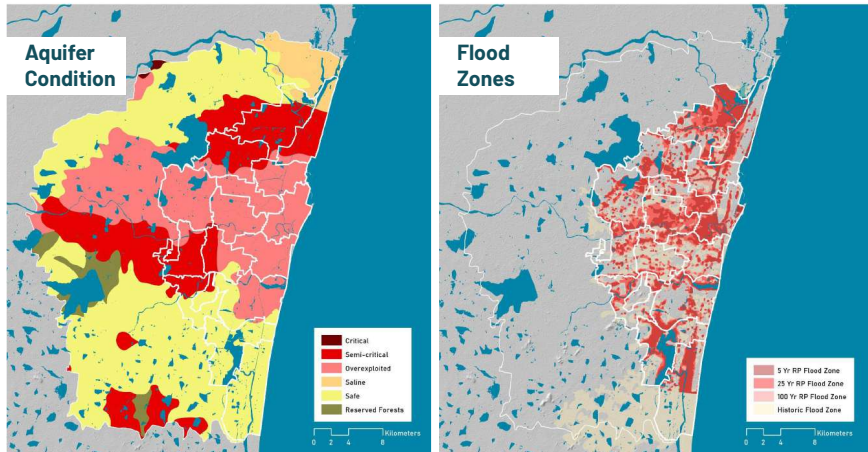
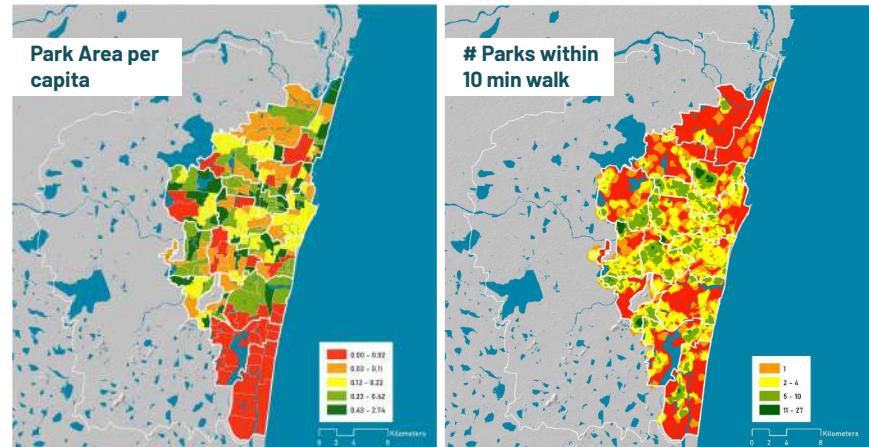
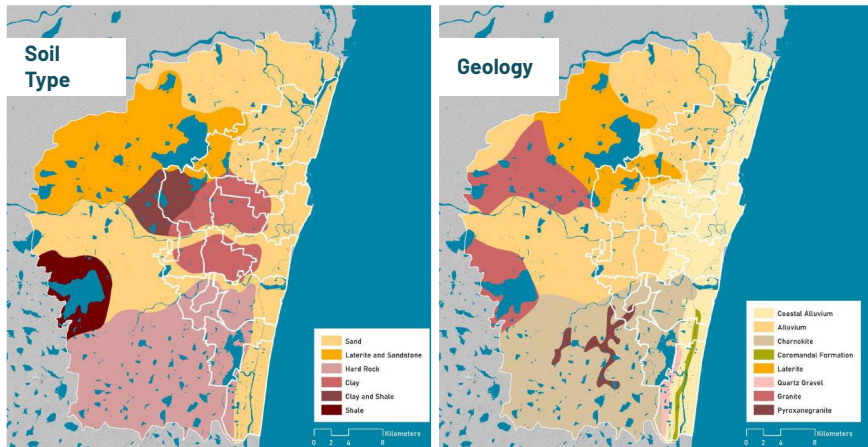
NDVI is an openly available proxy for "greenery" and reveals only pockets of Chennai city with lush vegetation that can intercept rainfall and help recharge



# Densely populated areas with limited access to existing parks have higher need for Sponge Parks as open space. An isochrone analysis shows which parts of Chennai do not access to any parks within a 10 minutes walk



# OSRs will be prioritized for upgrading into Sponge Park in wards that have the greatest social need for park and in places where the functions of groundwater recharge and flood mitigation are most feasible and required

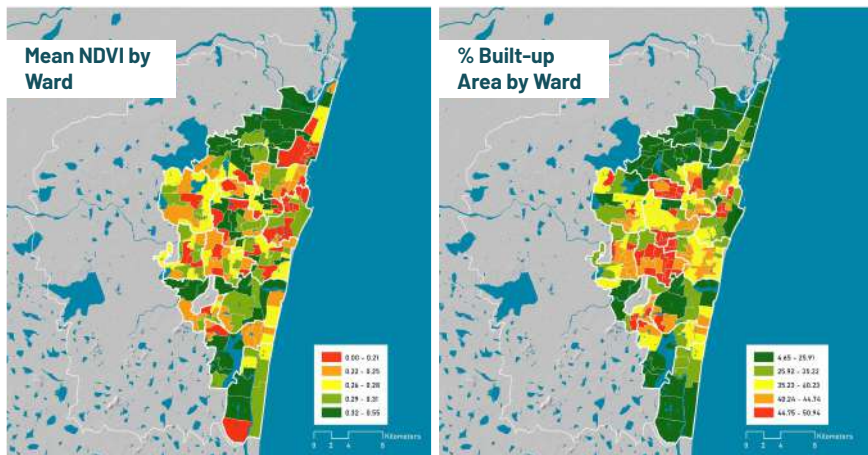
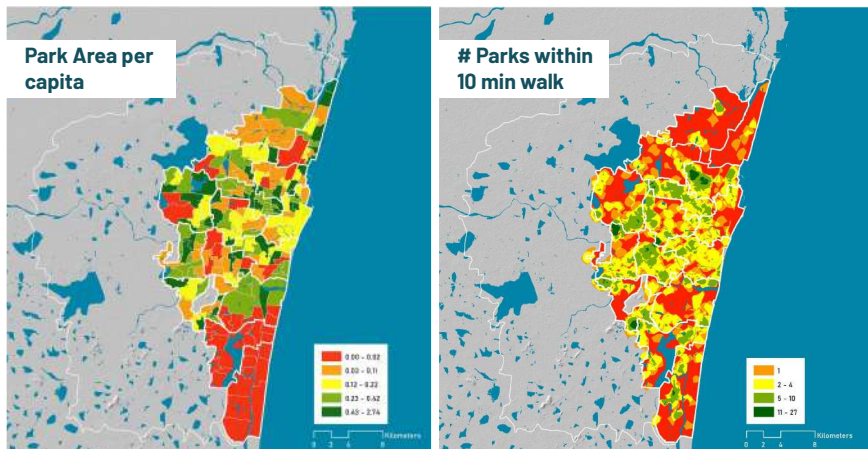


Geospatial variables for Environmental Suitability

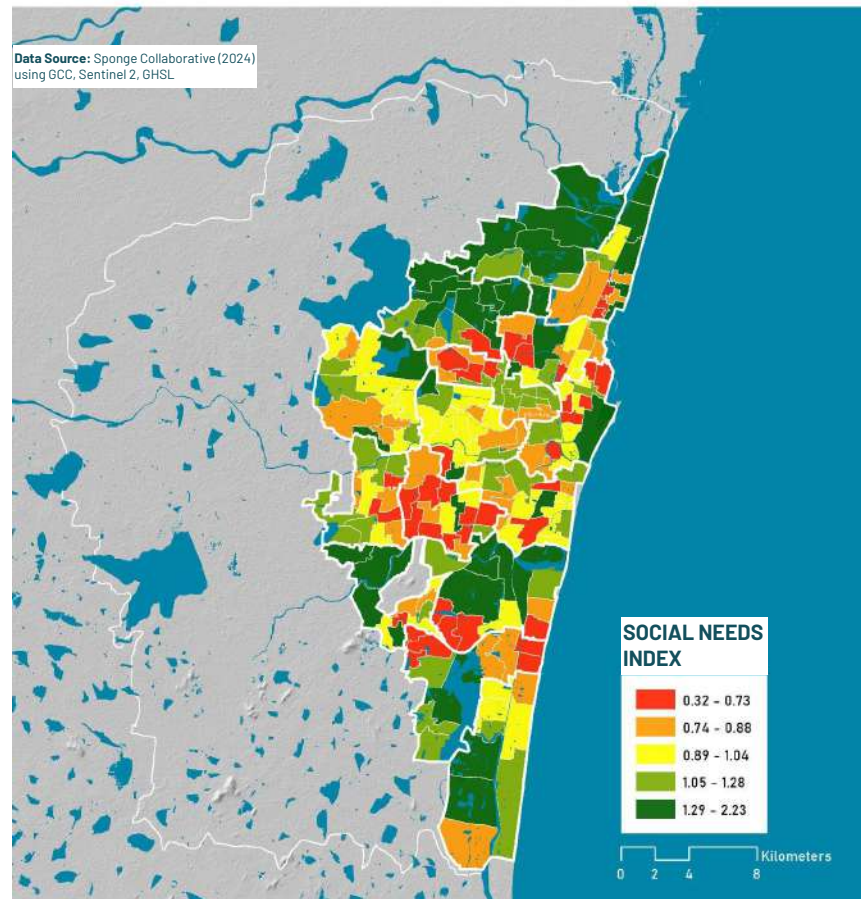
Geospatial variables for Social Need



A number of park need metrics are developed and summarised at ward level to generate a Social Needs Index per ward. This index is classified into quantiles to identify which ward's social needs are relatively unmet (in red)

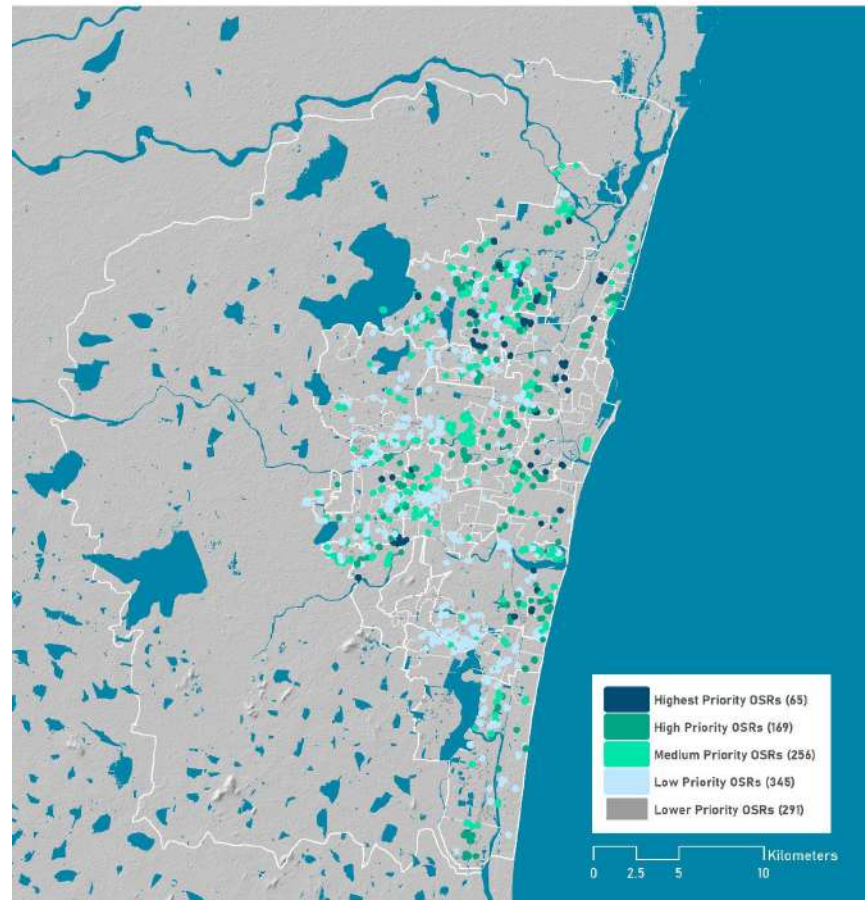
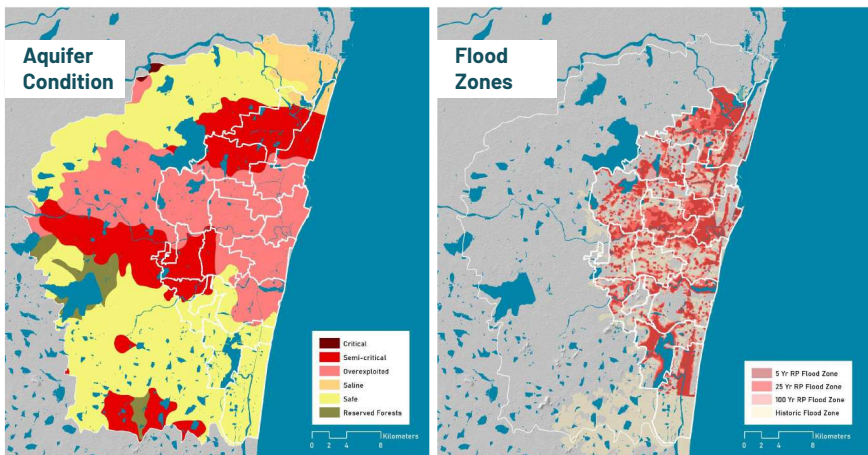
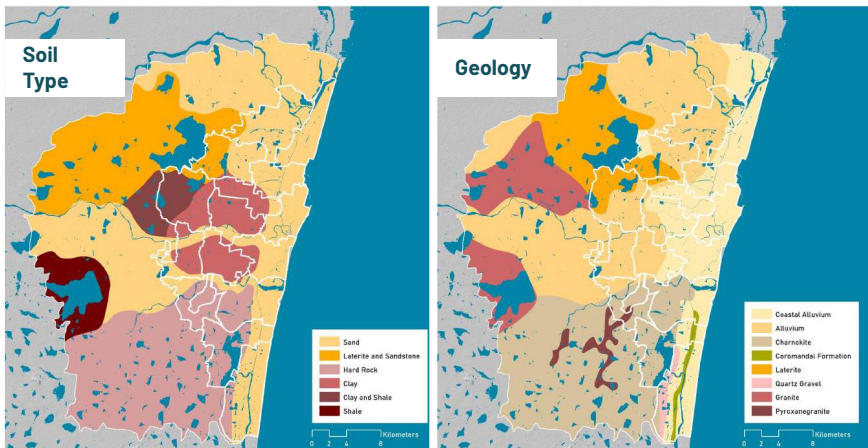


Geospatial variables for Social Need



Densely populated wards with low greenery, high built-up, low acreage of parks per capita, and low access to parks show up as red and orange

# OSRs will be prioritized for upgrading into Sponge Park in wards that have the greatest social need for park and in places where the functions of groundwater recharge and flood mitigation are most feasible and required



Geospatial variables for Environmental Suitability



# Using a non-weighted summation of normalized variables, all OSRs are given a score based on which they can be prioritized by Zones within Wards that demonstrate higher levels of need

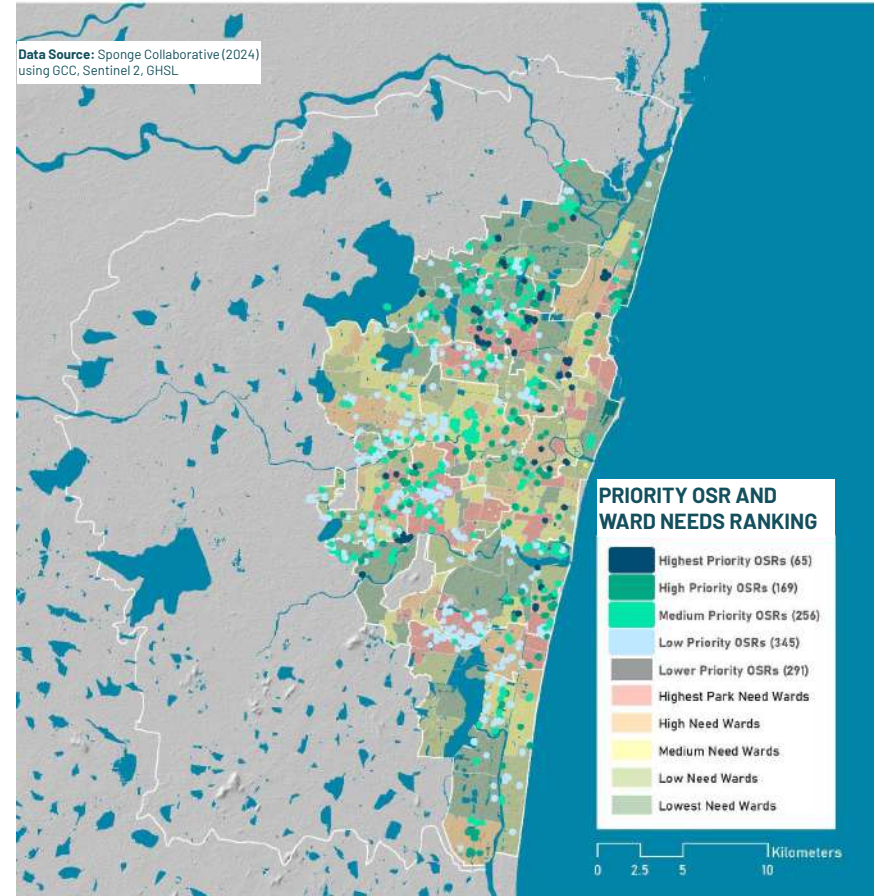
Based on the scores assigned to **1,126 OSRs** using social and environmental variables, the table below summarises the priority levels and number of OSRs at each level:

Priority (Score Range)	# of OSRs
Highest (24 - 28)	65
High (22 - 23)	169
Medium (20-21)	256
Low (18-19)	345
Lower (9-17)	291

Each OSR has their individual score and they can be evaluated within each Zone based on the Social Needs Index of each Ward, their respective stormwater drainage network, and community inputs.

**Highest and high priority OSRs within Wards of Highest and High park needs should be the top candidates for upgrading into Sponge Parks**

**Neighbourhood level feasibility studies need to be conducted to validate this framework developed using high-level datasets**



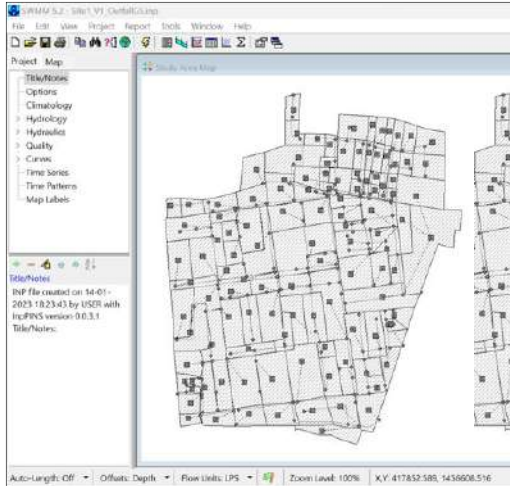
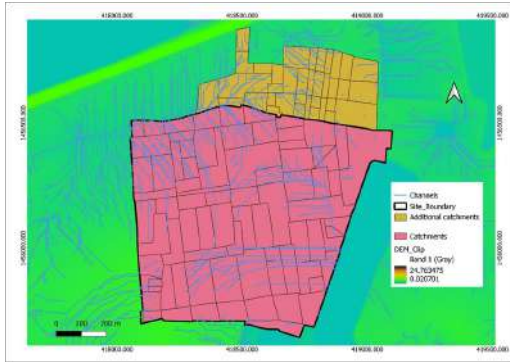
## Overview of the Sponge Park Manual

- **Strategic Planning for Sponge Parks**
- **Designing Sponge Parks**
- **Implementing Sponge Parks**
- **Maintaining Sponge Parks**
- **Improving Sponge Parks**

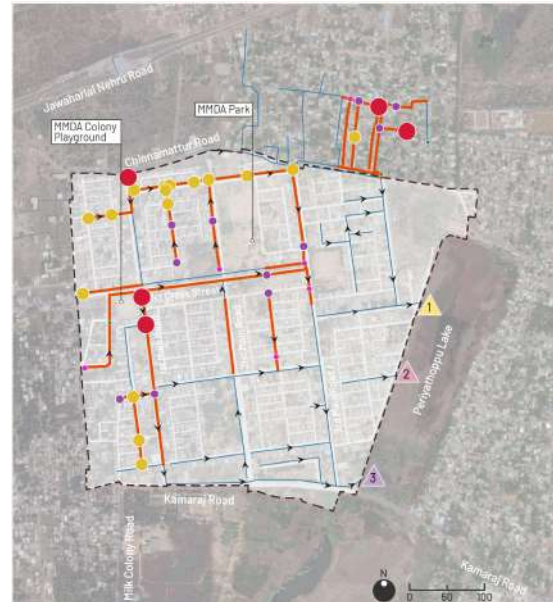
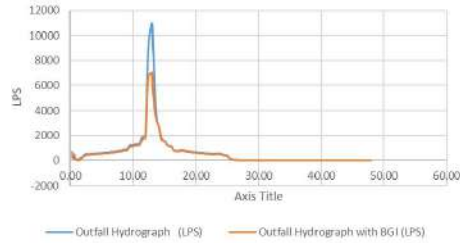


# STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR SPONGE PARKS

## Delineate contributing catchments



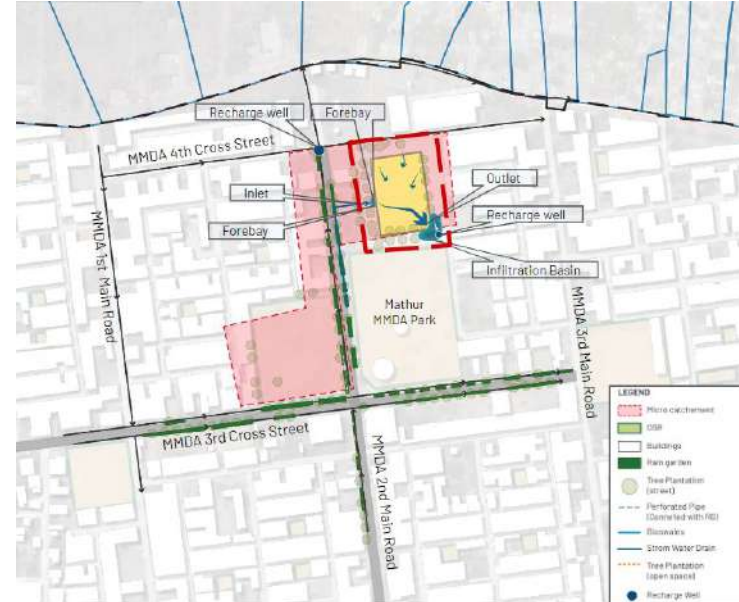
## Calculate flood mitigation potential




## Assess aquifer recharge potential and risks



Study adjacent land uses and social uses to identify project site within catchment area



# Strategic Planning Checklist to ensure Sponge Park can fulfill multiple functions

 சமூக வாழ்க்கைக்கான பூங்கா

 ஆரோக்கியமான வாழ்க்கைக்கான பசுமை பூங்கா

 வெள்ளத்தைக் குறைப்பதற்கும் நிலத்தடி நீர் உயர்த்துவதற்கும் உள்கட்டமைப்பு

 தாவரங்கள் மற்றும் பல்லுயிர் வாழ்விடம்



## Aquifer Recharge and Water Quality

- ❑ Assess soil infiltration rate and depth to groundwater table to estimate aquifer recharge benefits
- ❑ Ensure catchment area has no point pollution sources and Sponge Park has adequate filtration to prevent aquifer contamination

## Flood Mitigation

- ❑ Calculate contributing catchment area and runoff volume for 5, 10, 25 year RP storms to size BGI components in Sponge Park

## Community Needs

- ❑ Engage community to understand social and climate needs that can be fulfilled by Sponge Park programming or planting

## Urban Ecology

- ❑ Study ecological corridor, habitat Potential, and heat island effect

# DESIGNING SPONGE PARKS

## Sponge Park Systems



### S.1. SOIL & GRADING

This comprehensive checklist for site surveys can help engineers collect the vital data needed to direct the planning and execution of a park project to direct finish.

- Grading
- Amendment
- Enhance
- Infiltration

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>

**Strategies**

- Grading
- Infiltration
- Survey
- Enhance
- Soil Amendment

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>



### S.2. HYDROLOGY & BLUEGREEN

This comprehensive checklist for site surveys can help engineers collect the vital data needed to direct the planning and execution of a park project to direct finish.

- Delay
- Store
- Filter
- Recharge

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.


Fig <3>

**Strategies (SBI Toolkits)**

T1. Bioretention	T6. Infiltration Basin
T2. Recharge Pit	T7. Stormwater Court
T3. Rain garden (Building)	T8. Water Plaza
T4. Rain garden (Streets)	T9. Constructed Wetlands
T5. Retention/Pond	

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>



### S.3. VEGETATION & PLANTING

This comprehensive checklist for site surveys can help engineers collect the vital data needed to direct the planning and execution of a park project to direct finish.

- Biodiversity
- Maintenance
- Aesthetics
- Resilience

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>

**Strategies**

Buffer Mix	Biowave Mix
Grass Mix	Lawn Mix
Patio Mix	Wetland Mix
Pathway Mix	

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>



### S.4. AMENITIES & SOCIAL FACILITIES

This comprehensive checklist for site surveys can help engineers collect the vital data needed to direct the planning and execution of a park project to direct finish.

- Inclusion
- Accessibility
- Safety
- Services

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>

**Strategies**

Entrance	Seating
Cycling	Lighting
Signage	Jogging/Walking
Kids Play Area	Toilets
Gym	Play courts

Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.

Fig <3>

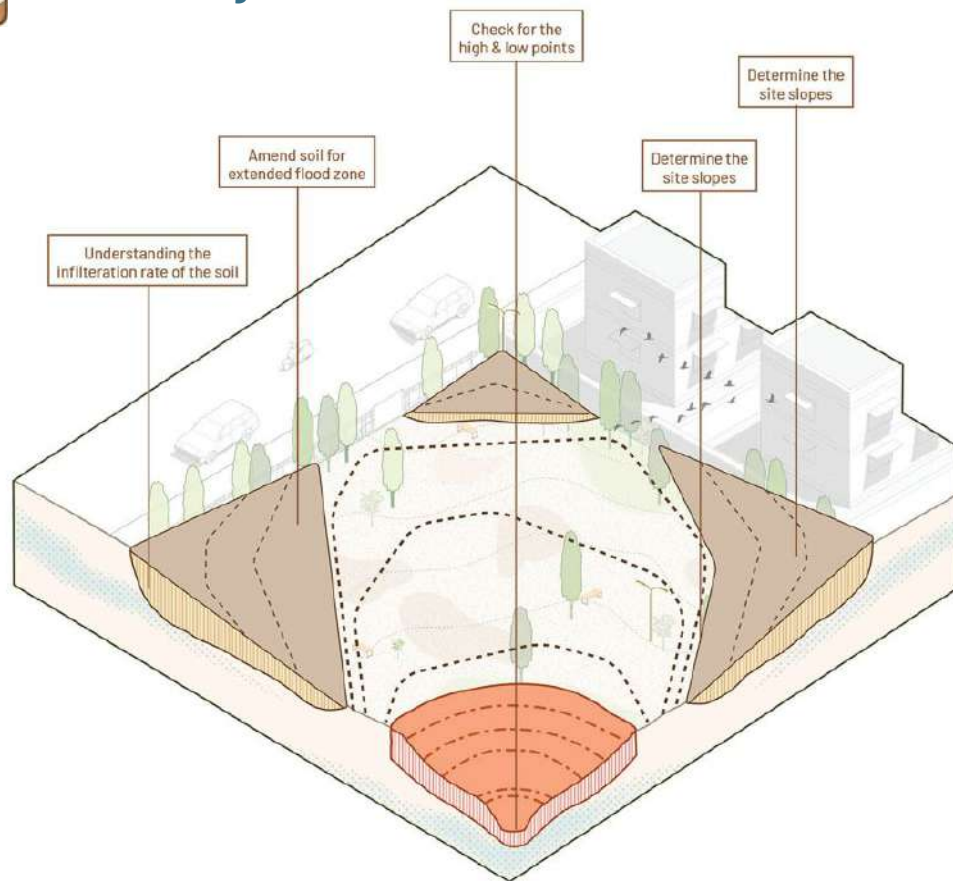
## Typologies of Sponge Parks

 <p><b>SMALL SPONGE PARK</b> Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.</p> <p>Fig &lt;3&gt;</p>	 <p><b>MEDIUM SPONGE PARK</b> Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.</p> <p>2.3.1</p>	 <p><b>LARGE SPONGE PARK</b> Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.</p> <p>2.3.1</p>	 <p><b>SPECIAL CASE</b> Non et accumsan elit. Quis rem quis egestas vel.</p> <p>2.3.1</p>
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## Soil and Grading



### Grading

- ✓ Determine the site's elevation, slopes, and natural drainage patterns.
- ✓ Identify areas of high and low points that may influence stormwater management and landscaping.
- ✓ Evaluate surface water flow patterns and potential sources of stormwater runoff.

### Amendment

- ✓ Conduct soil tests to assess soil type, texture, compaction, and permeability.
- ✓ Conduct soil profile test
- ✓ Amend the soil to create extended flood zone areas

### Enhance

- ✓ Ensure that filtering components are designed with safety in mind, such as avoiding steep slopes and providing adequate barriers or signage around water features

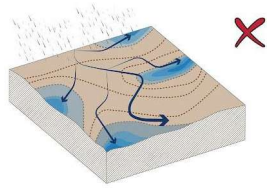
### Infiltration

- ✓ Understand the infiltration rate of soil is critical for designing effective stormwater management
- ✓ Do water Aquifer and analyze depth of water table

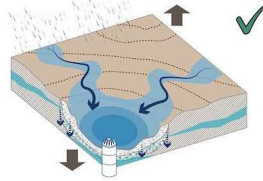




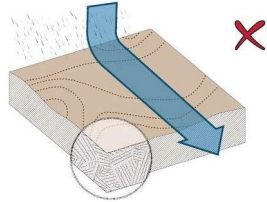
## Do's and Don'ts



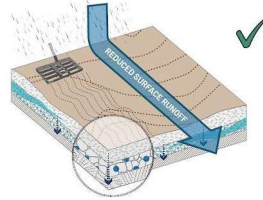
**Don't** incorporate sponge park in the existing topography which leads to water stagnation



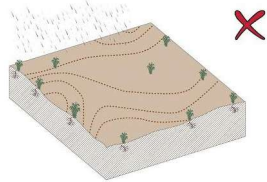
**Do** amend the soil and effectively place BGI components in the low points of the site



**Don't** use the existing soil condition as it has lower rate of absorption



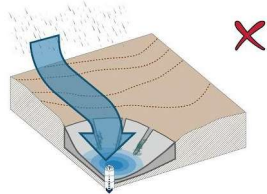
**Do** grading of the soil to increase the rate of percolation



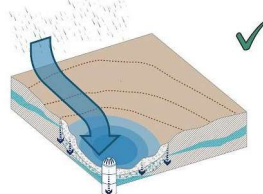
**Don't** use the existing soil condition as it has lower rate of absorption



**Do** grading of the soil to increase the rate of percolation



**Don't** implement planting randomly in the selected site



**Do** planting in the high points of site selected

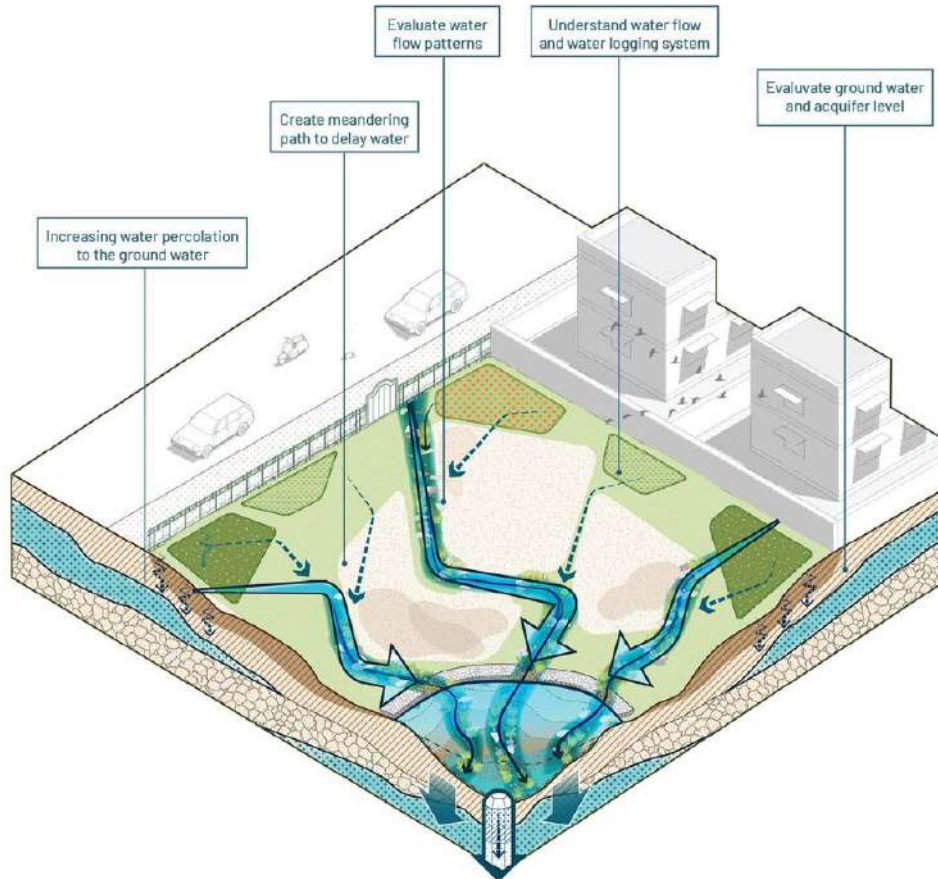


## S.1. SOIL & GRADING

- Soil amendment is done in the designated high planting zones
- Land is graded to create an extended flood zone
- Natural grading of the site is used to incorporate BGI (Sponge) toolkits to capture runoff from all zones



## Hydrology and BGI



### Delay

- ✓ Evaluate surface water flow patterns and potential sources of stormwater runoff.
- ✓ Place bioswals and raingarden in the direction of water flow

### Store

- ✓ Understand high points and low points to place the retention ponds in low points
- ✓ Take proper measures towards mosquito breeding if the retention pond has accumulated water for a certain period of time

### Filter

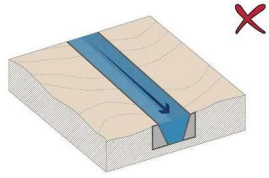
- ✓ Schedule periodic inspections and monitoring to assess performance and address any maintenance needs.
- ✓ Ensure that filtering components are designed with safety in mind, such as avoiding steep slopes and providing adequate barriers or signage around water features

### Recharge

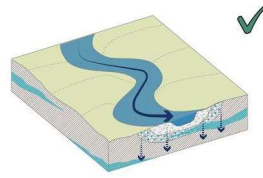
- ✓ Conduct a comprehensive site assessment to identify suitable locations for recharge wells based on soil conditions, hydrology, and proximity to runoff sources.



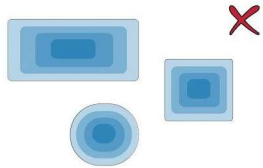
## Do's and Don'ts



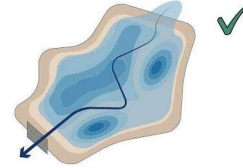
**Don't** implement sponge park without channelling as it delay the water flow



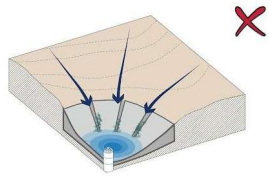
**Do** create channelling of water to make advantage in the delay flow of water



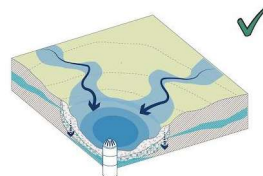
**Don't** execute BGI of sponge park with simple shapes



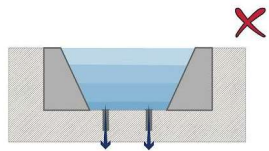
**Do** organic shaped BGI components to attain maximum benefit



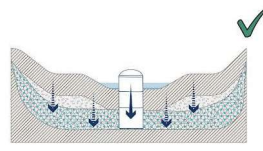
**Don't** make direct pit for the water to percolate into the groundwater



**Do** construct the retention basin with recharge well to reduce to filter leaf litter and percolate water soon



**Don't** execute sponge park with sharp slope of 1:1 or 1:2



**Do** slope of 1:3 with curved base for the BGI components



## S.2. HYDROLOGY & BLUEGREEN

- Understanding water flow helps determine the capacity and design BGI to manage stormwater runoff.
- Designing BGI with appropriate water depths ensures that surfaces remain accessible and safe for maintenance activities.



# Detailed Design Criteria (in Report Annex)

### 3.3.2 System Function

GSi system function can be categorized into the following types: Infiltration, detention/slow-release, and disconnection.

**Note:** Some guidance presented in the Infiltration section is relevant for systems that are not fully lined with an impermeable geomembrane liner, even those designed for detention/slow-release.

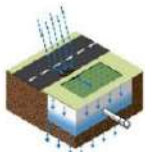


Figure 31: Infiltration

#### Infiltration

Infiltration systems are designed to infiltrate stormwater into the existing subgrade, as shown in **Figure 31**. The first priority for all projects is infiltration as it removes volume from the combined sewer system and provides the maximum water quality benefits. Systems should be designed to maximize opportunities for infiltration.

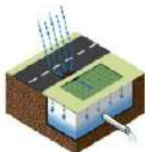


Figure 32: Detention/slow-release

#### Detention/slow-release

Detention/slow-release systems are designed to capture, detain, and treat stormwater and then slowly release it at a controlled rate to the sewer, as shown in **Figure 32**. If systems are not wrapped in an impermeable geomembrane liner, then some infiltration may still occur.



Figure 33: Disconnection

#### Disconnection

Disconnection is designed to divert impervious areas from the stormwater collection system, as shown in **Figure 33**. Draping is the most typical form of disconnection in PWD GSi projects. Disconnection may also be used to categorize re-routing inlets to the separate or non-contributing sewer system.

### Infiltration Systems

#### Guidelines

**3.3.2.1** If measured infiltration rates are found to be greater than or equal to 0.25 inches per hour, then the system should be designed for infiltration.

- a. Where measured infiltration rates are less than 0.25 inches per hour, but soil profiles show layers of greater permeability beneath the impermeable layer, infiltration columns or over-excavation and soil replacement should be considered to promote infiltration. The PWD project manager can provide guidance on a project-by-project basis.
- b. Soils with highly variable infiltration rates or with infiltration rates in excess of 10 inches per hour may require over-excavation and soil replacement, amendment, reinforcement, or an impermeable geomembrane liner.

**3.3.2.2** Where there is more than one infiltration test for a given system, the infiltration rate should be calculated using the geometric mean. See 3.3.7f (Geotechnical Testing Guidelines) for more information on obtaining infiltration rates.

**3.3.2.3** Infiltration loading ratios (contributing impervious drainage area to infiltration area) should be minimized as feasible.

Table 3: Maximum Loading Ratio for Subsurface and Surface Systems

SYSTEM TYPE	MAXIMUM LOADING RATIO
Subsurface Systems	10:1
Surface Systems	25:1

- a. These loading ratio maximums are guidance for stabilized drainage areas. Designs should consider the amount of sediment loading expected, factoring in ground cover and sand use.
- b. Higher loading ratios may be evaluated on a case by case basis in consideration of the geotechnical conditions and at the approval of the PWD project manager. Additional pretreatment should be considered for systems with higher loading ratios.
- c. Loading ratios for the total contributing drainage area, which includes pervious and impervious contributing areas, should be designed to consider overall site conditions.
- d. Rainfall that has been filtered through the surface should not be counted towards the subsurface loading ratio.

**3.3.2.4** For surface features, it is recommended that ponding areas drain completely in less than 24 hours. Drain down time for infiltration systems should be calculated using the following equation. Model calculations, where available, may be used in lieu of the equation below.

$$t = \frac{\left(\frac{V}{I}\right) + T2}{1}$$

Where:

- t = Time (hrs)
- V = Storage Volume (ft<sup>3</sup>)
- A = Infiltration Footprint (ft<sup>2</sup>)
- I = Infiltration Rate (in/hr)

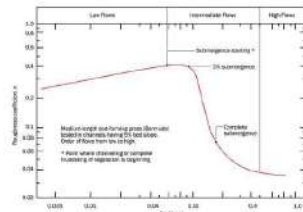


Figure 31: Impact of the depth of the infiltration system on infiltration rate (from King, 2000)

**3.3.2.5** The optimal strategy beneath the surface can provide increased flow and storage capacity, with infiltration performance, a reduced risk of localized ponding and monthly areas developing where groundwater is not, and improved conditions for infiltration (where ground conditions allow).



Figure 32: City made with low-lying flow capacity, London Hydroponics Greenhouse, Peabody City Council

The velocity limits for regular and extreme events related for convergence results are relevant here but as these systems are used to regularly fill areas or short lengths, the design concern is normally its conveyance and storage performance, rather than velocity. The underdrain should supply flow the capacity of at least 2.0 in/hr where the system can deal with rainfall events. If 8.0 in/hr in the underdrain will occur faster than the required rate of discharge, then a flow control on the underdrain will be required.

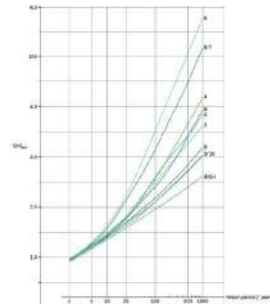
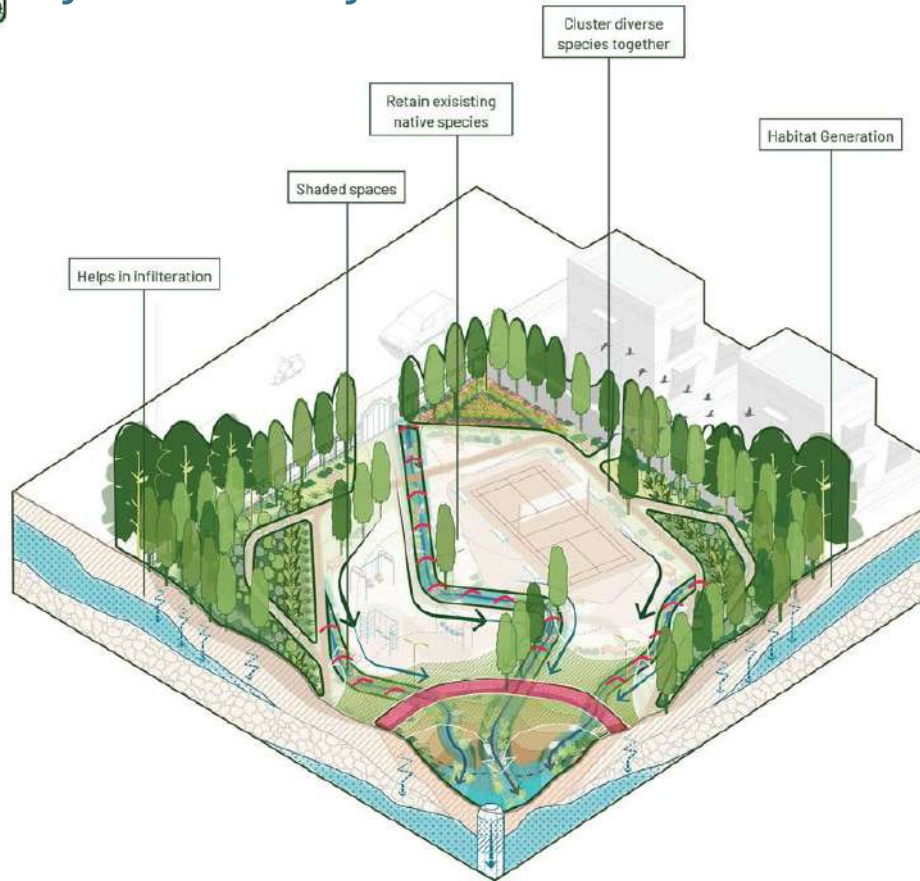


Figure 33: 0.25 and 8.00 in/hr infiltration rates (from King, 2000)





## Vegetation and Planting



### Biodiversity

Create diverse habitats within the park, including meadows, wetlands, and riparian areas creating home for many species.

- ✓ Use native plant species in park landscaping to support local wildlife and pollinators.



### Resilience

Use native plant species which are heat tolerant, drought tolerant and flood resistant



Control and minimize spread of invasive species

### Aesthetics

Try to create visual attractiveness of the park by using a variety of textures, offering year-round interest, and establishing a plant hierarchy.



### Maintenance

Check in and proper maintenance should be done to the plants near BGI components



Plants should be properly cut and trimmed



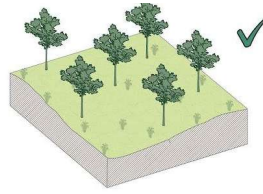
Proper measures to be taken to control pests and diseases



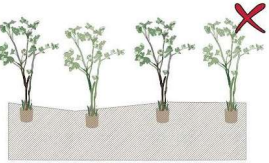
## Do's and Don'ts



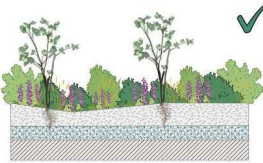
**Don't** remove existing vegetation while upgrading the OSR with sponge parks



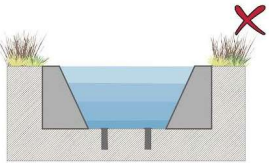
**Do** conserve the existing species and in some cases try to relocate the vegetation instead of removal



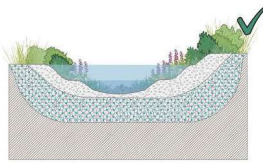
**Don't** Incorporate of the single type sampling can be avoided



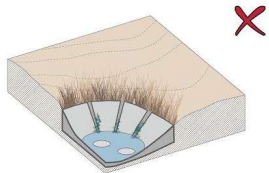
**Do** diverse of the species can be incorporated in the hierarchy like trees, shrubs and ground cover



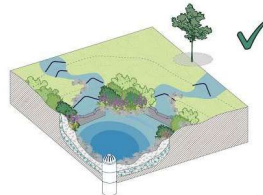
**Don't** implement steep sponge park with more depth



**Do** hierarchy of levels while implementing BGI components



**Don't** construct sponge parks without filtration otherwise it leads to accumulation of leaf litter



**Do** integrate filtration infrastructure which helps with easy conveyance of water through the site and filters the litter

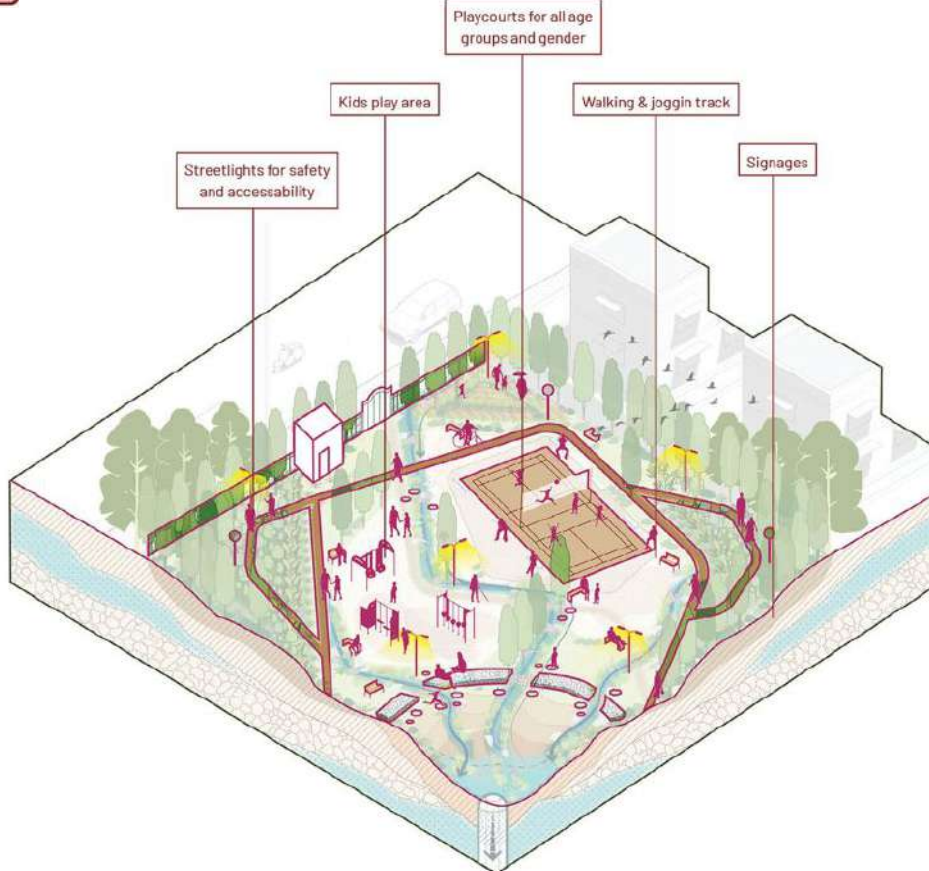


## S.3.VEGETATION & PLANTING

- Based on the audits conducted various zones like urban forest, pollinated garden & ground cover with native species are created
- Speed areas of greenery is created with native species
- 7 types of planting mixes were incorporated in the



## Amenities and Social Facilities



### Inclusion

- ✓ Include amenities and recreational features that cater to children with diverse abilities.
- ✓ Incorporate sensory-rich play elements and inclusive play surfaces to encourage interaction and engagement among children of all abilities

### Safety

- ✓ Ensure clear sightlines, adequate lighting, and well-maintained pathways to promote a sense of security

### Accessibility

- ✓ Ensure that the park is accessible to everyone, including individuals with disabilities.  
Try to integrate features like wheelchair-friendly surfaces, accessible seating, and signage with Braille elements.  
Provide accessible pathways, ramps, and entrances/exits

### Services

- ✓ Provide a variety of amenities to meet the needs of different park users
- ✓ Provide toilets and changing areas that are gender-neutral to accommodate people of all gender identities.

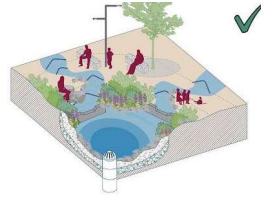




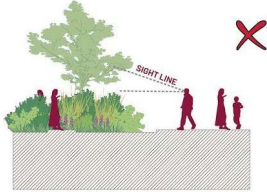
## Do's and Don'ts



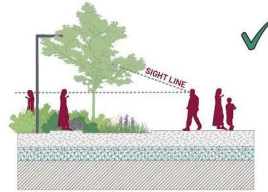
**Don't** randomly place seating and amenities in the park



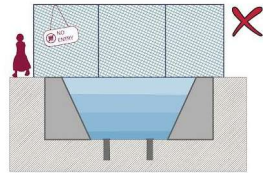
**Do** placement of amenities and relaxation spots near the BGI components



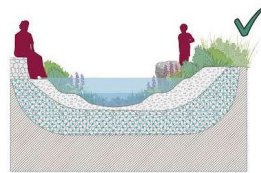
**Don't** do massing of the species without hierarchy



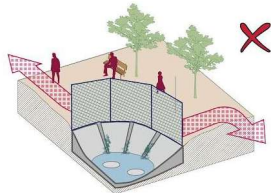
**Do** hierarchy like trees, shrubs and ground cover around the boundary to have proper sight lines



**Don't** implement sleep sponge park with more depth



**Do** hierarchy of levels while implementing BGI components



**Don't** plan social amenities and BGI components separately



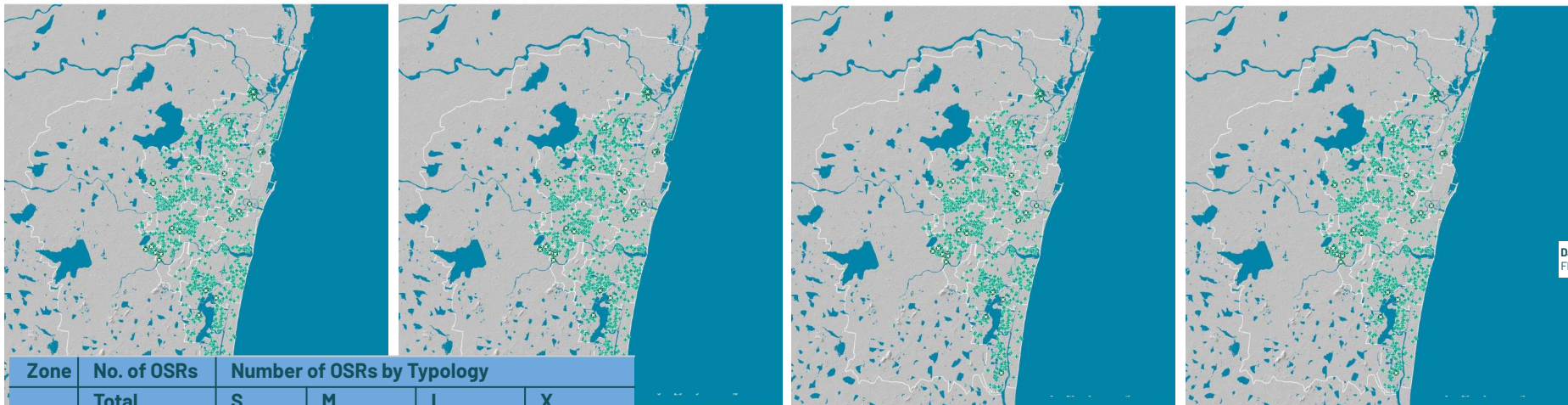
**Do** blend bgi components and social amenities coherently



## S.4. AMENITIES & SOCIAL FACILITIES

- Continuous jogging and walking trail is incorporated compatible with BGI components
- Playgrounds were provided with different sizes and ground mix.
- Proper seatings, signages, sightlines and lighting are provided to feel safe.

# 1,126 OSRs are categorised into 4 typologies based on size as a defining factor for design and implementation



Data Source: Flooding

Zone	No. of OSRs	Number of OSRs by Typology			
		Total	S	M	L
1	481				
2	538				
3	100				
4	7				
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

## 2.3.1. Small Sponge Park

### How to assess the site ?

Small sponge parks, usually under 0.2 acres in size, require careful attention to project objectives and site conditions during their design and implementation. Often, the existing conditions of these locations do not align with the park's goals of integrating community-focused activities and green-blue infrastructure. Conducting comprehensive site surveys becomes crucial to

bridge this gap. These surveys encompass detailed topographical assessments, thorough soil analysis, hydrological evaluations, geotechnical investigations, catchment analyses to understand water flow patterns, and comprehensive assessments of the entire site.

#### Checklist For Site Assessments For Sponge Park Systems

<p><b>SOIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site survey to examine any depressions in the site.</li> <li>Identification of high and low points.</li> <li>Conduct a soil and geotechnical survey to analyze the soil type. Also conduct chemical and granular profile test below ground level.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.1. Soil and Grading" - pg 50.</p>	<p><b>HYDROLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After selecting the OSR land, understand the local catchment and hydrology model.</li> <li>Understand water flow and water logging system.</li> <li>Analyzing the depth of water and quality of aquifer.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.2. Hydrology and Blue Green Infrastructure" - pg 52.</p>	<p><b>VEGETATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey the number of trees in the site.</li> <li>Audit to measure tree caliper (DBH) above 6" to 12" tree ground line level to maintain trees without relocating.</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "S.3. Vegetation and Planting" - pg 54.</p>	<p><b>AMENITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check for the entry and exit points.</li> <li>Analyze onsite and offsite safety concerns.</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species.</li> <li>Research on the user desires and history of the site.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.4. Social and Inclusive Amenities" - pg 56.</p>
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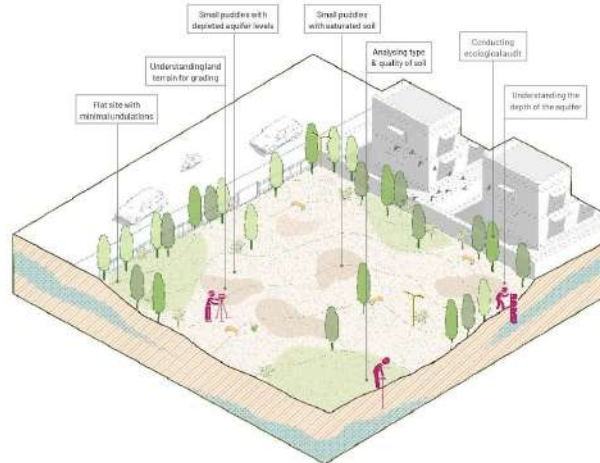


Fig. 2.9. Aerial showing the Existing scenario of small-scale lands

### How design small sponge parks ?

Based on the findings of conducted surveys, sponge parks are strategically planned according to specific criteria, organized into various systems or components. These criteria typically involve understanding soil characteristics and optimizing grading, designing features to effectively manage stormwater (such as bioswales, recharge wells or retention basins), constructing

components to improve water quality and minimize runoff, selecting suitable plant species that can thrive in diverse soil and moisture conditions to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, and incorporating recreational amenities that prioritize the safety and comfort of women and children.

#### Design Criteria For Sponge Park Systems

<p><b>S.1. SOIL &amp; GRADING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil amendment is done in the designated high planting zones.</li> <li>Land is graded to create an extended flood zones.</li> <li>Natural grading of the site is used to incorporate BiG (Sponge) trails to manage runoff from all zones.</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.2. HYDROLOGY &amp; BLUEGREEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding water flow helps determine the capacity and design BiG to manage stormwater runoff.</li> <li>Designing BiG with appropriate water depths ensures that surfaces remain accessible and safe for maintenance activities.</li> </ul> <p>For more "S.2. Bluegreen Infrastructure (Sponge) Toolkit" - pg 54.</p>	<p><b>S.3. VEGETATION &amp; PLANTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the audits conducted various zones like urban forest, pollinated garden &amp; ground cover with native species Pg 162 are created.</li> <li>Species areas of greenery is created with native species.</li> <li>7 types of planting mixes were incorporated in the site "S.3.3. Types Of Plant Mixes" - pg 106.</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.4. AMENITIES &amp; SOCIAL FACILITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous jogging and walking trail is incorporated compatible with BiG components.</li> <li>Playgrounds were provided with different sizes and ground mix Pg 169.</li> <li>Proper seating, algroops, sightlines and lighting are provided to feel safe.</li> </ul>
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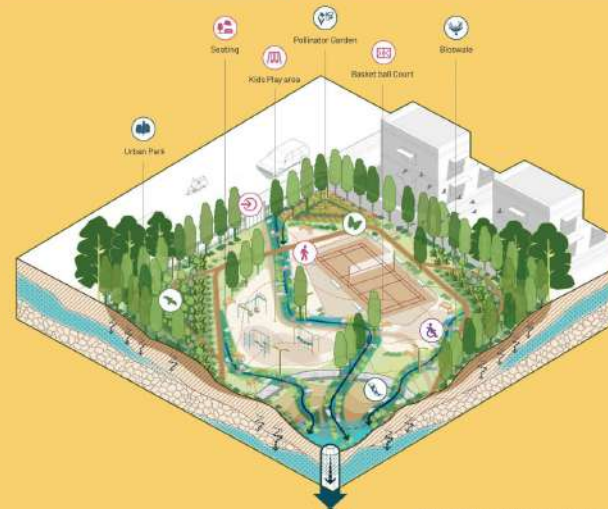


Fig. 2.10. Aerial showing the proposed scenario of small sponge park



## Functions of Small Sponge Park

The concept of sponge Parks offers a promising solution to Chennai's water challenges by incorporating four key principles: Delay, Store, Filter, and Recharge. These principles are essential for effectively managing stormwater and closing the water cycle in urban environments. Chennai's water issues are complex and exacerbated by rapid urbanization, which has drastically altered the natural hydrology of the region. Implementing Sponge Parks

in Chennai's urban fabric requires strategic interventions that mimic natural ground cover conditions. This involves designing park landscapes with features that promote water absorption, infiltration, and retention. These interventions can include selecting appropriate vegetation, incorporating permeable paving materials, and integrating engineered systems for stormwater management.



### Delay

By incorporating features like swales, permeable surfaces, and vegetation buffers, Sponge Parks can delay the flow of water, allowing more time for infiltration and reducing peak flows during heavy rainfall events.



### Filter

Through natural filtration processes facilitated by vegetation, soil, and engineered media, pollutants and sediments are removed from stormwater runoff before it enters groundwater or surface water bodies.



### Store

Sponge Parks are designed to temporarily store stormwater runoff. Features such as rain gardens, retention ponds, and infiltration basins capture excess water, reducing pressure on drainage systems and preventing flooding downstream.



### Recharge

By promoting infiltration and allowing water to percolate through soil layers, these parks replenish recharge wells and contribute to sustainable water management.

Table 1. Performance Ability of BGI toolkits in Large Park

BGI Toolkits	Delay	Filter	Store	Recharge
T.1. Bioswales	●	●	○	○
T.2. Recharge Pit	○	○	○	●
T.3. Raingardens - buildings	●	●	○	○
T.4. Raingardens - Street			N/A	
T.5. Retention pond			N/A	
T.6. Infiltration basin			N/A	
T.7. Sunken court			N/A	
T.8. Water plaza			N/A	
T.8. Constructed wetlands			N/A	

Performance ability of BGI Toolkits: ● High ● Moderate ○ Low

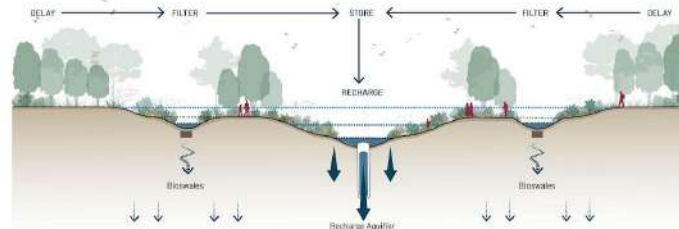


Fig. 2.11 Schematic section of small sponge park

MODERATE RAINFALL  
6 year return period

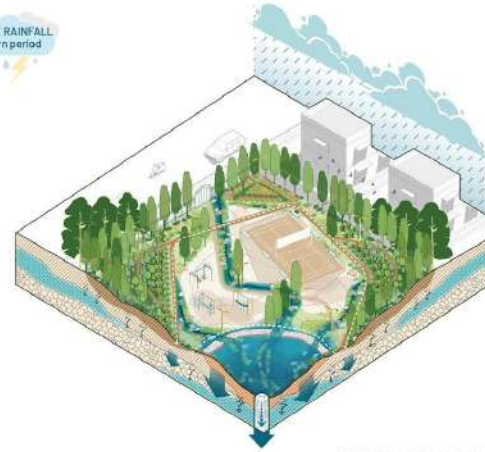


Fig. 2.12 Axis showing the small sponge park during moderate rainfall

HEAVY FLOOD  
25 year return period

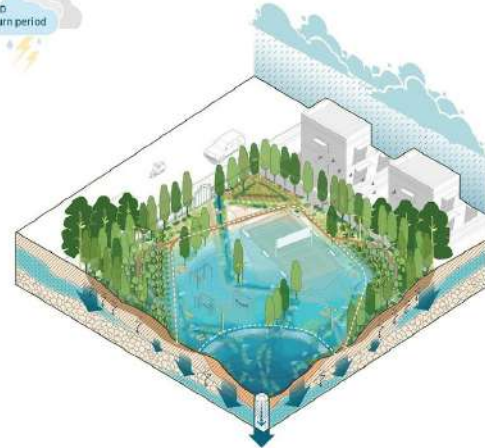


Fig. 2.13 Axis showing the small sponge park during peak floods

# Case Studies

## 1 - Sankt Kjelds Square and Bryggervangen

Sankt Kjelds Square and Bryggervangen are urban redevelopment projects showcasing innovative approaches to sustainable urban design, green infrastructure, and community-oriented development. These projects are part of Copenhagen's broader efforts to create vibrant, livable neighborhoods while addressing environmental challenges and enhancing quality of life for residents. Sustainable drainage features were integrated to capture and treat rainwater, reducing runoff and mitigating urban flooding.



Area - 34,600 sqm  
 Designed by - SLA  
 Highest temp month: 21.1°C in July  
 Lowest temp month: 13.3°C in July  
 Highest rainfall:



Fig. 2.14 Various sustainable drainage systems

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Sankt Kjelds Square now features pedestrian-friendly pathways, seating areas, recreational spaces, and public art installations.
- The square features rain gardens, which are planted areas designed to capture and absorb rainwater runoff from paved surfaces.
- The square includes an abundance of vegetation, including trees, shrubs, and native plants selected for their ability to thrive in urban conditions.
- Sustainable drainage systems are integrated into the square's design to manage stormwater in an environmentally friendly manner.
- Sustainable drainage systems features may include bioswales, infiltration basins, and detention ponds that slow down and treat stormwater runoff before it enters the sewer system or local water bodies.



Fig. 2.15 Aerial view of Sankt Kjelds Square

## 2 - Gowanus Canal Sponge Park

The concept of the Gowanus Canal Sponge Park represents an innovative approach to storm water management and urban revitalization centered around the restoration and enhancement of the Gowanus Canal area. The park is designed to function as a "sponge," absorbing and filtering storm water runoff to mitigate flooding, improve water quality, and create valuable green space within the urban landscape. The park incorporates extensive green infrastructure elements, such as rain gardens, bioswales, vegetated areas, and permeable surfaces.



Area - 167,228 sqm  
 Designed by - SASAKI



Fig. 2.16 Various sustainable drainage systems

### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The park acts as a "sponge" by absorbing and storing rainwater during storm events, reducing the volume and velocity of runoff entering the Gowanus Canal.
- This sponge effect helps prevent combined sewer overflow (CSO) events and alleviates pressure on the city's sewer system by retaining and slowly releasing stormwater.
- Stormwater captured by the park's green infrastructure features undergoes natural filtration processes as it percolates through soil and vegetation.
- Pollutants, sediments, and contaminants are removed or reduced, leading to improved water quality in the Gowanus Canal and nearby water bodies.
- In addition, Park supports ecological restoration and habitat creation.



Fig. 2.17 Aerial view of Gowanus canal park



## 2.3.2. Medium Sponge Park

### How to access the site ?

Medium-sized sponge parks, which typically range in size from 0.2 to 1 acres, necessitate close consideration of site characteristics and project objectives throughout the design and construction phases. The current state of these areas frequently conflicts with the park's objectives of combining community-focused programming

with green-blue infrastructure. It becomes essential to perform site surveys. These surveys include in-depth examinations of the topography, soil, hydrology, geotechnical studies, catchment studies to comprehend patterns of water movement, and full evaluations of the entire site.

### Site Assessment Criteria By System

<p><b>SOIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site survey to examine any depressions in the site.</li> <li>Identification of high and low points.</li> <li>Conduct a soil and geotechnical survey to analyse the soil type</li> <li>Also conduct chemical and granular profile test below ground level.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.1. Soil and Grading" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>HYDROLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After selecting the DSR land, understand the local catchment and hydrology model.</li> <li>Understand water flow and water logging system.</li> <li>Analysing the depth of water and quality of seepage.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.2. Hydrology and Blue Green Infrastructure" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>VEGETATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey the number of trees in the site</li> <li>Audit to measure tree caliper (DBH) above 6" to 12" tree ground line level to maintain trees without relocating.</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "S.3. Vegetation and Planting" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>AMENITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check for their entry and exit points</li> <li>Analyse onsite and offsite safety concerns</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species.</li> <li>Research on the user desires and history of the site</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.4. Social and Inclusive Amenities" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>
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Fig. 2.18 Area showing the Existing scenario of medium size lands

### How design medium sponge parks ?

Sponge parks are arranged into several systems or components and strategically developed based on the results of surveys that are done. These requirements usually include knowing the properties of the soil and grading it effectively, designing stormwater management features like bio-swales, raingardens recharge wells,

or retention basins to enhance water quality and reduce runoff, choosing appropriate plant species that can perform well in a wide range of soil and moisture conditions to promote biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, and incorporating recreational amenities that put women's and children's safety and comfort first.

### Design Criteria By System

<p><b>S.1. SOIL &amp; GRADING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil amendment is done in the designated high planting zones</li> <li>Land is graded to create a extended flood zones</li> <li>Natural grading of the site is used to incorporate to BGI (Sponge) basins to capture runoff from all zones.</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.2. HYDROLOGY &amp; BLUEGREEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding water flow helps determine the capacity and design BGI to manage stormwater runoff.</li> <li>Designing BGI with appropriate water depths ensures that surfaces remain accessible and safe for maintenance activities.</li> <li>For more "S.2. Bluegreen Infrastructure (Sponge) Toolkit" - pg &lt;?&gt;</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.3. VEGETATION &amp; PLANTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the audits conducted various zones like urban forest, pollinated garden &amp; ground cover with native species Pg 162 are created.</li> <li>Species areas of greenery is created with native species</li> <li>7 types of planting mixes were incorporated in the site "S.3.3. Types Of Plant Mixes" - pg 104</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.4. AMENITIES &amp; SOCIAL FACILITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous jogging and walking trail is incorporated compatible with BGI components</li> <li>Playgrounds were provided with different sizes and ground mix Pg 169</li> <li>Proper seating, signage, sightlines and lighting are provided to feel safe</li> </ul>
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Fig. 2.19 Area showing the proposed scenario of Medium sponge park



## Functions of Small Sponge Park

The concept of sponge Parks offers a promising solution to Chennai's water challenges by incorporating four key principles: Delay, Store, Filter, and Recharge. These principles are essential for effectively managing stormwater and closing the water cycle in urban environments. Chennai's water issues are complex and exacerbated by rapid urbanization, which has drastically altered the natural hydrology of the region. Implementing Sponge Parks

in Chennai's urban fabric requires strategic interventions that mimic natural ground cover conditions. This involves designing park landscapes with features that promote water absorption, infiltration, and retention. These interventions can include selecting appropriate vegetation, incorporating permeable paving materials, and integrating engineered systems for stormwater management.



### Delay

By incorporating features like swales, permeable surfaces, and vegetation buffers, Sponge Parks can delay the flow of water, allowing more time for infiltration and reducing peak flows during heavy rainfall events.



### Filter

Through natural filtration processes facilitated by vegetation, soil, and engineered media, pollutants and sediments are removed from stormwater runoff before it enters groundwater or surface water bodies.



### Store

Sponge Parks are designed to temporarily store stormwater runoff. Features such as rain gardens, retention ponds, and infiltration basins capture excess water, reducing pressure on drainage systems and preventing flooding downstream.



### Recharge

By promoting infiltration and allowing water to percolate through soil layers, these parks replenish recharge wells and contribute to sustainable water management.

Table 2. Performance Ability of BGI toolkits in Large Park

BGI Toolkits	Delay	Filter	Store	Recharge
T.2. Bioswales	●	●	○	○
T.2. Recharge Pit	○	○	○	●
T.3. Raingardens - buildings	○	○	○	○
T.4. Raingardens - Street	○	○	○	○
T.5. Retention pond	○	○	●	○
T.6. Infiltration basin	●	○	○	●
T.7. Sunken court	○	○	●	○
T.8. Water plaza			N/A	
T.8. Constructed wetlands			N/A	

Performance ability of BGI Toolkits: ● High ● Moderate ○ Low

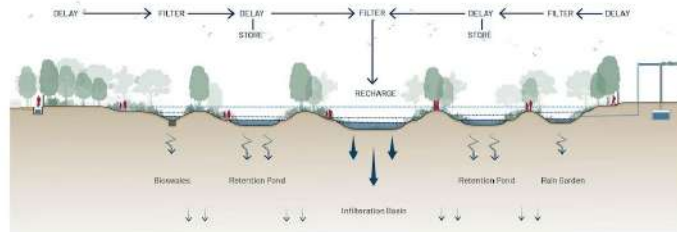


Fig. 3.20 Schematic section of Medium sponge park

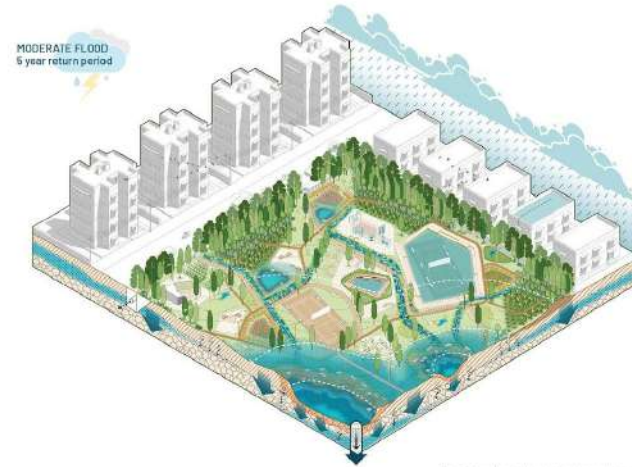


Fig. 3.21 Aerial view showing the medium sponge park during floods



Fig. 3.22 Aerial view showing the medium sponge park during moderate rainfall

## Case Studies

### 1 - Tanners Springs Park

Nestled in Portland, Oregon's Pearl District is Tanner Springs Park, a singular urban green space. Tanner Springs Park is an excellent example of how urban planning, ecological restoration, and community involvement can come together to create dynamic, sustainable public spaces that benefit locals and tourists alike by raising awareness of environmental issues and improving quality of life. Tanner Springs Park incorporates a central wetland area which emphasizes the restoration of natural hydrological processes in an urban context, showcasing sustainable stormwater management techniques.



- Location - Pearl District, Portland
- Area - 0.82 acres
- Designed by - Atelier Dreizehnt



Fig. 2.23 Includes permeable paving, vegetative and biofiltration basins

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The wetland serves as a constructed ecosystem that captures and treats stormwater runoff from surrounding streets and buildings
- Water is circulated through the park, mimicking natural processes of filtration and purification, before being discharged back into the city's stormwater system.
- Native plant species were carefully selected to enhance biodiversity and create a resilient urban ecosystem.
- The park showcases innovative stormwater management strategies, demonstrating how urban green spaces can contribute to water quality improvement and habitat conservation.
- The park reflects Portland's commitment to environmental stewardship, green infrastructure, and the integration of nature into the urban fabric.



Fig. 2.24 Image Of Central Wetland Area Surrounded By Buildings

### 2 - Dr. Shivarama Karanth Park - Rainwater harvesting park

The park's design incorporates various rainwater harvesting structures, including rooftop harvesting, surface runoff collection, and groundwater recharge systems which were aimed at promoting rainwater harvesting techniques and raising awareness about sustainable water management practices among residents and visitors in Bangalore, India. The park serves as a demonstration site for various rainwater harvesting methods and technologies, showcasing how urban landscapes can integrate water conservation strategies while providing recreational and educational amenities.



- Location - Bangalore, India
- Area - 1.2 acres
- Designed by - Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSB) in collaboration with the Karnataka State Council for Science and Technology (KSCST).



Fig. 2.25 Various water filtration methods

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The park features interactive exhibits and demonstrations that educate visitors about different rainwater harvesting methods and technologies.
- The park showcases sustainable landscaping practices, such as native plantings, permeable surfaces, and biofiltration features.
- Vegetated swales, rain gardens, and water-efficient irrigation systems demonstrate how green infrastructure can enhance water infiltration and reduce runoff.
- The park serves as a hub for community engagement and environmental education, hosting workshops, seminars, and outreach programs on rainwater harvesting and water conservation.



Fig. 2.26 Overall view of Rainwater harvesting park



## 2.3.3. Large Sponge Parks

### How to access the site ?

Large-scale sponge parks typically span an acre or more, and their design and implementation need close consideration of project goals and site conditions. Frequently, the location's present condition breaks below of the park's objective of combining community-focused events and green-blue infrastructure. It becomes essential to carry out comprehensive site surveys

to address this disparity. These surveys include full topographical assessments, in-depth soil analysis, hydrological evaluations, geotechnical investigations, catchment analyses to comprehend patterns of water flow, and comprehensive assessments of the entire site.

### Site Assessment Criteria By System

<p><b>SOIL</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Site survey to examine any depressions in the site.</li> <li>Identification of high and low points.</li> <li>Conduct a soil and geotechnical survey to analyze the soil type</li> <li>Also conduct chemical and granular profile test below ground level.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.1. Soil and Grading" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>HYDROLOGY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After selecting the OSR land, understand the local catchment and hydrology model.</li> <li>Understand water flow and water logging system.</li> <li>Analyzing the depth of water and quality of aquifer.</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.2. Hydrology and Blue Green Infrastructure" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>VEGETATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Survey the number of trees in the site</li> <li>Audit to measure tree caliper (DBH) above 6" to 12" tree ground line level to maintain trees without relocating.</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species</li> </ul> <p>For more details "S.3. Vegetation and Planting" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>AMENITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Check for their entry and exit points</li> <li>Analyze onsite and offsite safety concerns</li> <li>Conduct species audit to remove the invasive species.</li> <li>Research on the user desires and history of the site</li> </ul> <p>For more details "DC.4. Social and Inclusive Amenities" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>
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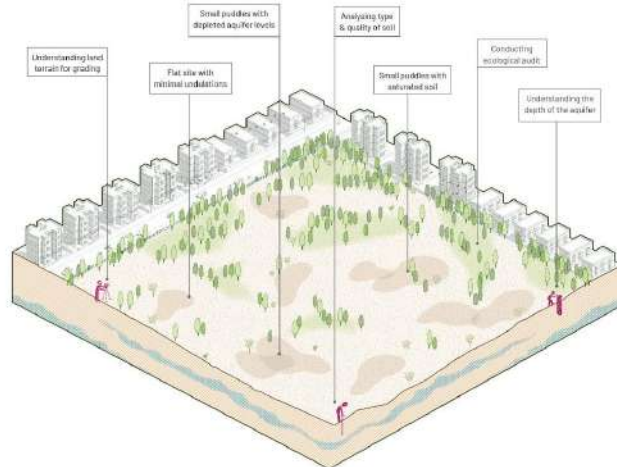


Fig. 2.27 Axon showing the Existing scenario of Large OSR

### How design Large sponge parks ?

Based on the insights from conducted surveys, sponge parks are strategically designed according to specific criteria, organized into different systems or components. These criteria typically include Understanding soil characteristics and optimizing grading. Designing features that manage stormwater effectively, such as bioswales, rain gardens, or retention basins, constructed wetlands, sunken court, water plaza to enhance water quality and reduce runoff, selecting appropriate plant species can thrive in varying soil

and moisture conditions, contributing to biodiversity and ecosystem resilience, incorporating recreational amenities where women and children feel safe. The process of designing sponge parks involves a holistic approach that integrates ecological, hydrological, and social considerations. This comprehensive approach ensures that sponge parks not only mitigate urban challenges like stormwater runoff but also provide valuable green spaces that benefit both people and the environment.

### Design Criteria By System

<p><b>S.1. SOIL &amp; GRADING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Soil amendment is done in the designated high planting zones</li> <li>Land is graded to create a extended flood zones</li> <li>Natural grading of the site is used to incorporate to BGI (Sponge) basins to manage runoff from all zones</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.2. HYDROLOGY &amp; BLUEGREEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding water flow helps determine the capacity and design BGI to manage stormwater runoff.</li> <li>Designing BGI with appropriate water depths ensures that surfaces remain accessible and safe for maintenance activities.</li> </ul> <p>For more "S.2. Bluegreen Infrastructure (Sponge) Toolkit" - pg &lt;?&gt;</p>	<p><b>S.3. VEGETATION &amp; PLANTING</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Based on the audits conducted various zones like urban forest, pollinated garden &amp; ground cover with native species Pg 162 are created</li> <li>Species audit of greenery is created with native species</li> <li>7 types of planting mixes were incorporated in the site "S.3.3. Types Of Plant Mixes" - pg 104</li> </ul>	<p><b>S.4. AMENITIES &amp; SOCIAL FACILITIES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuous jogging and walking trail is incorporated compatible with BGI components</li> <li>Playgrounds were provided with different sizes and ground mix Pg 169</li> <li>Proper seating, algroops, sightlines and lighting are provided to feet safe</li> </ul>
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Fig. 2.28 Axon showing the proposed scenario of Large sponge park



## Case Studies

### 1 - Qunli Stormwater Wetland Park

The Qunli Stormwater Wetland Park, is an innovative park serves as a model for integrating ecological restoration, stormwater management, and public recreation within an urban setting, represents a paradigm shift in urban design, demonstrating how landscape architecture can contribute to ecological restoration, stormwater management, and community well-being in rapidly growing cities. The primary objective of the Qunli Stormwater Wetland Park is to manage and treat stormwater runoff from the surrounding urban area.



- Location - Qunli New Town, Harbin, China
- Area - 84 acres
- Designed by - Turenscape



Fig. 2.32. Integrals vegetated swales that capture and filter stormwater.

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The park incorporates a series of constructed wetlands, detention basins, and vegetated swales that capture and filter stormwater, reducing peak flows and improving water quality.
- Wetland ecosystems within the park support a variety of plant and animal species, contributing to the overall health of the urban environment.
- The park is designed to retain and infiltrate stormwater through natural processes, reducing the burden on conventional drainage infrastructure.
- Permeable surfaces, such as wetland soils and vegetated areas, facilitate groundwater recharge and minimize surface runoff.
- The park's design promotes resource conservation, resilience to climate change, and integration with the natural landscape.



Fig. 2.33. Aerial view of Qunli Stormwater Wetland Park

### 2 - Houtan Park

Houtan Park, is a renowned example of innovative urban design that integrates ecological principles, sustainable practices, and public amenities within a densely populated urban area. Houtan Park is characterized by its focus on ecological restoration, transforming a former industrial site into a vibrant urban green space. The park's design incorporates native vegetation, wetland habitats, and naturalistic landscapes that mimic the region's natural ecology and is designed to enhance the resilience of the urban environment to climate change and extreme weather events.



- Location - Shanghai, China
- Area - 14 hectares
- Designed by - Turenscape



Fig. 2.34. Series of swales of low water is filtered in the park.

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- One of the central features of Houtan Park is its innovative stormwater management system, which utilizes ecological principles to capture, treat, and recycle rainwater.
- The park includes constructed wetlands, bioswales, and permeable surfaces that filter and purify stormwater runoff, reducing pollution and mitigating flooding.
- The park's water features, such as ponds, channels, and waterfalls, help regulate local microclimates, improve air quality, and support biodiversity.
- Park provides a range of recreational and cultural amenities for visitors, including walking paths, viewing platforms, art installations, and outdoor gathering spaces.



Fig. 2.35. Aerial view of Houtan wetland park

### 1-Urban wetland park

The proposed park is intended to be an Integrated Public Space development that would restore an Urban Wetland that is in danger of disappearing and allow biodiversity to flourish in addition to serving as a community learning and enjoyment area. The general guidelines for landscape design includes natural biodiversity, nature-based recreation, low-impact development, and environmental education. The wetland's interpretation as an urban infrastructure, social amenity, and habitat for biodiversity is on display in the park.



- Location - Porur, Chennai, India
- Area - 26 acres
- Designed by - Sponge Collaborative



Fig. 2.30 Series of images of Entrance way, boardwalks on the wetlands

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The Chettiyar Agraram Lake is preserved in the Wetland Zone, which also improves the water body's edge by adding wetland plant species to support biodiversity and build an ecosystem. The lake viewing platform offers a comprehensive perspective of the lake as well as information on plant and wildlife species.
- The Flowering Avenue features a lawn that people can use for play areas and seating as well as a rammed earth pathway that winds through a dense stand of red pomarrias and mature trees.
- The Boardwalk is a raised path that offers access to multiple activity zones, covered lounging areas, and a range of wetland vegetation, including grasses and flowering shrubs.



Fig. 2.33 Masterplan of urban wetland park

### 2. Kilambakkam climate interpretation park

One of the major public infrastructure projects that the Chennai Metropolitan Area's CMDA undertook is the Kilambakkam Climate Park and Archaeological Interpretation Centre. To cope up with climate change in Chennai, it will highlight the significance of regional landscapes and blue-green infrastructure. Critical regional landscapes, proving BGI for climate adaptation strategies, and raising community education and understanding about climate change are all taken into account in the proposed design. As a multipurpose infrastructure, the proposed park is meant to be a destination for culture, recreation, urban ecology, archeological interpretation, and community building in the surrounding area.



- Location - Kilambakkam, Chennai
- Area - 16.8 acres
- Designed by - Sponge Collaborative



Fig. 2.40 Series of images of Entrance way, boardwalks on the wetlands

#### KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The purpose of sponge park infrastructure, a sustainable approach to water management, is to generate an integrated solution through the use of vegetation and natural solutions to store, filter, and recharge water.
- Parks are an excellent means of enhancing resilience, habitat, and wildlife surrounding the park.



Fig. 2.41 Masterplan of Kilambakkam climate interpretation park





# Blue-green Infrastructure Toolkit

Table 4. Performance Ability of BGI toolkits across Sponge Parks

BGI (Sponge) Toolkits		Principles				Typologies			
		Delay	Store	Filter	Recharge	Small	Medium	Large	X-Special
	T.1. Bio-swales	●	○	●	●	●	●	●	●
	T.2. Recharge Pit	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●
	T.3. Rain garden (Buildings)	○	○	●	○	●	●	●	●
	T.4. Rain garden (Streets)	○	○	○	○	●	●	●	●
	T.5. Retention Pond	○	●	○	○	●	●	●	●
	T.6. Infiltration Basin	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	●
	T.7. Sunken Court	○	●	○	○			●	●
	T.8. Water Plaza	○	●	○	○			●	●
	T.9. Constructed Wetlands	●	●	●	○			●	●

Performance ability of BGI Toolkits : ● High ○ Moderate ○ Low



Fig. 2.48 Reference - Bio-swales



Fig. 2.58 Reference - Recharge Wells



Fig. 2.53 Reference - Rain Garden



Fig. 2.55 Reference - Retention Pond



Fig. 2.52 Reference - Infiltration basin



Fig. 2.63 Reference - Sunken Court



Fig. 2.54 Reference - Water plaza



Fig. 2.55 Reference - Constructed wetlands



## T.1. Bioswales

The purpose of planted and managed swales, or bioswale channels, is to transmit stormwater at a low velocity and encourage natural treatment and infiltration. Stormwater from roads and other impervious surfaces can be efficiently conveyed and treated via bioswale channels. When the drainage area, terrain, soils, slope, and safety considerations allow for their implementation, they can be used on medians or beside roads. Most swales are kept as lawn areas and planted with turf grass.

### Indicators To Consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 1.5 to 3m</li> <li>Slope - 0.5% - 4%</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - F-67/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - sand + loam + compost</li> <li>Planting mix - Bioswale mix "Bioswale Mix" - pg 108</li> <li>Maintenance lvl - Low</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ●</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>● Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>○ Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>if slope of existing bioswale is higher than 3%, the slope must be decreased using check dams or a sequence of terraced bioswales.</li> <li>6" should be the maximum amount of ponding in the swale.</li> <li>Typically, amended soil in the bioswale should be between 12"-18" thick</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of debris/litter from the system</li> <li>Clearing of inlets, culverts and outlets from debris and sediment.</li> <li>Check "A.2.1. General Site Maintenance" - pg 130 for more details</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 88 for more details</li> </ul>

Table 5. Schedule Of Rates - 1M x 1M x 1M

Components	SQR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate	Components	SQR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Excavation		0.8	Cmt	Rs 230	Shrub		1	Sqm	Rs 1,600
curb		3	Rent	Rs 750	Soil		0.3	Cmt	Rs 2,000
Water inlet grating		0.5	Nos.	Rs 450	Gravel		0.1	Cmt	Rs 1,200
Water outlet grating		0.25	Nos.	Rs 450	Perforated pipe		1	Rmt	Rs 800
Boulder		0.25	LS	Rs 150	overflow pipe		1	Rmt	Rs 200



Fig. 2.58 (a) In-situ Images of Bioswales

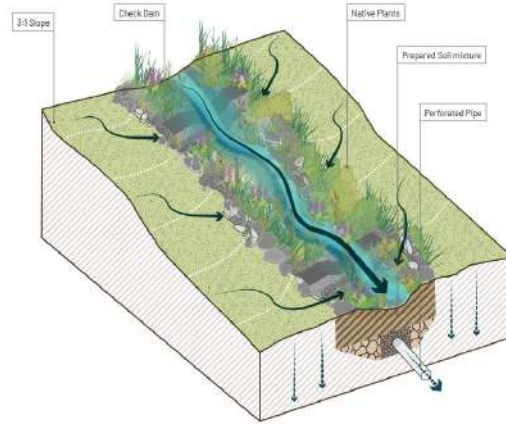


Fig. 2.57 Axon showing Bioswale Details

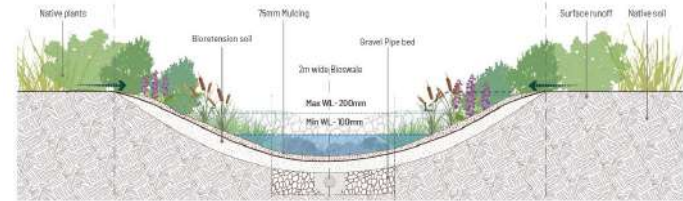


Fig. 2.68 Section of Bioswales

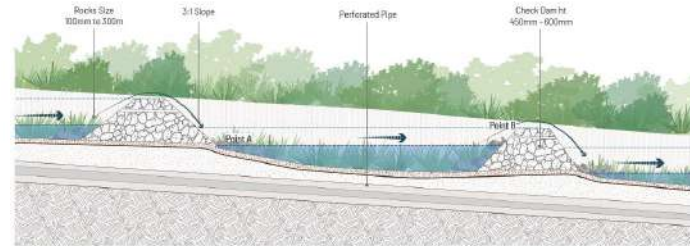


Fig. 2.69 Checkdam Details

## T.2. Recharge Wells

Recharge wells are artificial groundwater recharge methods that release water directly into zones of deep water holding capacity. The aquifer covering material can be used to casing recharge wells. A screen can be inserted into the well at the injection zone if this material is not well-consolidated. Since subsurface groundwater recharge requires wide regions for infiltration, they are also beneficial in places with limited land. This technique can achieve a comparatively high rate of recharge.

Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 6m</li> <li>Infiltration Rate -</li> <li>Soil mix - sand + loam + soil texture</li> <li>Planting mix - Ricewise mix "Ricewise Mix" - pg 108</li> <li>Maintenance IV - Medium</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ●</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>● Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>○ Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Description needs details</li> <li>also facts on cost, time taken</li> <li>legend for indicators</li> <li>autem qua si am ipid</li> <li>quibus eos et qui conset ex</li> <li>overferis odicula ut quibus</li> <li>sequa quodita florem quast.</li> <li>Rit. corrmis alit, cupia</li> <li>enidiae floremis hincempe</li> <li>distentendae in modum</li> <li>commoditas at ex exare</li> <li>aliquid quid unum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of debris/litter from the system</li> <li>Clearing of inlets, culverts and outlets from debris and sediment.</li> <li>Check "G.E.I. General Site Maintenance" - pg 130 for more details</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 88 for more details</li> </ul>

Table 6. Schedule Of Rates - 0.5m diameter

Components	SOR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate	Components	SOR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Recharge well		1	Nos.	Rs 70,000	overflow pipe		1	Rest.	Rs 1,200
Excavation		11.4453	Cum	Rs 230					
Recharge with perforation		2.4021	Sqm		Recharge Well provided in Open Spaces		15	Nos.	Rs 70,000
Perforated RCC cover slab		1	Nos.						
Gravel		2.5434	Cum	Rs 1,200					



Fig. 2.80 Reference image of Recharge wells

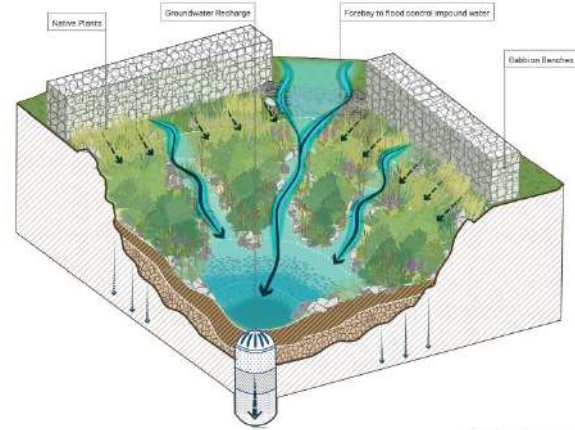


Fig. 2.81 Area showing recharge wells Details

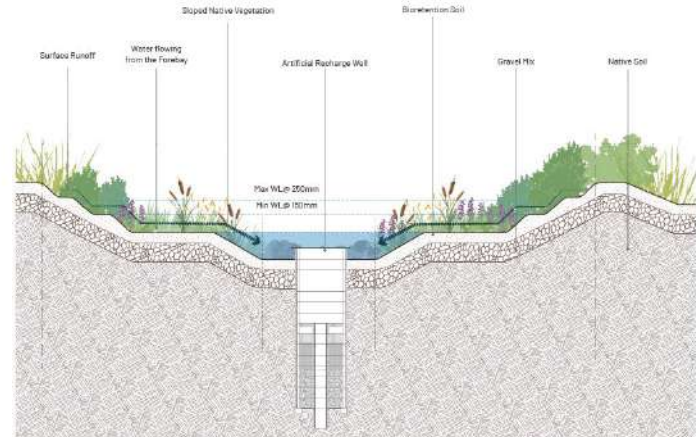


Fig. 2.82 Section of Recharge wells



### T.3. Raingarden - Buildings

Rain gardens are vegetated areas created to collect runoff from impermeable surfaces like parking lots, walkways, and roofs. In case of runoff from the roofs, water from the buildings are slowly released back into the existing sewer system via underdrain pipe conveyance through vegetation, and infiltrated into the ground. Rain gardens are small, often planted spaces that blend in with the surrounding landscape elements. They are typically filled with a range of native grasses and plants.

#### Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 3" to 8"</li> <li>Slope - 4% to 12%</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - 5"/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - sand + topsoil + compost</li> <li>Planting mix - Bioswale mix "Bioswale Mix" - pg 108</li> <li>Maintenance lvl - Low</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ●</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of rain gardens is not advised in the site with steep slopes or insufficient rainfall.</li> <li>Additionally, sites with high groundwater tables and polluted areas should not be used for rain gardens.</li> <li>Highly susceptible to clogging if the surrounding vegetation is neglected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of debris/litter from the system</li> <li>Clearing of inlets, culverts and outlets from debris and sediment.</li> <li>Immediately after the monsoon is over, take out the stagnant water in the settling chamber</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE QIP" - pg 85 for more details</li> </ul>

Table 7. Schedule Of Rates - 1.5M x 1M x 1M

Components	SQR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Excavation		1.80	Cmt	Rs 281
Kerb		3.50	M	Rs 2,848
Water Inlet Grating		0.75	Nos.	Rs 538
Water Outlet Grating		0.375	Nos.	Rs 189
Shrubs		1.80	Sqm	Rs 2,700
Soil		0.45	Cmt	Rs 2,838

Components	SQR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Boulder (300-450mm)		0.38	LS	Rs 66
Gravel		0.80	Cmt	Rs 1,080
Perforated Pipe		1.50	M	Rs 900
Overflow Pipe		1	M	Rs 200
Trees		2	Nos.	Rs 12,000



Fig. 2.53 Reference images of Raingarden (Buildings)

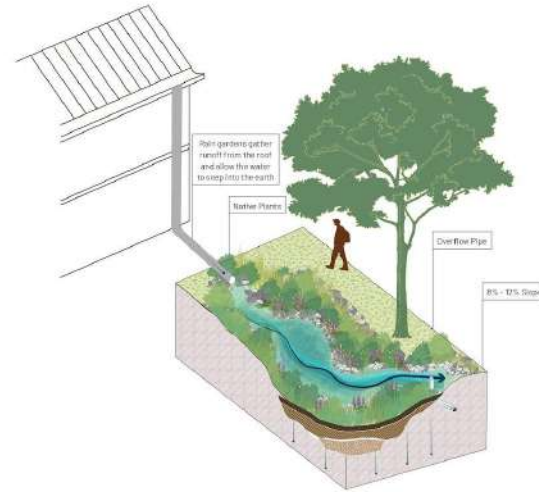


Fig. 2.54 Axon showing Raingarden (Buildings)

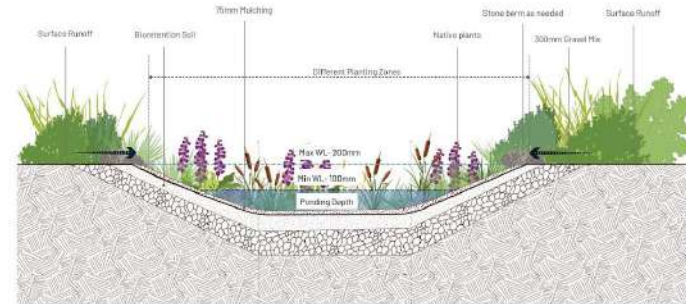


Fig. 2.55 Section showing Raingarden details





#### T.4. Raingarden - Streets

Rain gardens are vegetated areas created to collect runoff from impervious surfaces like parking lots, walkways, and roofs. Surface Runoff is the overland flow of water resulting from rainfall before it reaches a water course. It is generated because impervious areas do not allow water to soak into the ground. Rain gardens are usually generated over various impervious surfaces of sponge parks. The runoff water from the streets are channeled in the raingarden and entered through the pipes and used as source water for artificial groundwater recharge.

##### Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 3" to 8"</li> <li>Slope - 4% to 12%</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - 5"/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - sand + topsoil + compost</li> <li>Planting mix - Bioswale mix "Bioswale Mix" - pg 108</li> <li>Maintenance Int - Low</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium Int of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ○</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>● Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>○ Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use of rain gardens is not advised in the site with steep slopes or insufficient rainfall.</li> <li>Additionally, sites with high groundwater tables and polluted areas should not be used for rain gardens.</li> <li>Highly susceptible to clogging if the surrounding vegetation is neglected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Removal of debris/litter from the system</li> <li>Clearing of inlets, culverts and outlets from debris and sediment.</li> <li>Manage the implemented vegetation.</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 66 for more details</li> </ul>

Table 8. Schedule Of Rates - 1.5M x 1M x 1M

Components	SCR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Excavation		1.90	Cmt	Rs 381
Kerb		3.50	M	Rs 2,948
Water Inlet Grating		0.75	Nos.	Rs 336
Water Outlet Grating		0.375	NOS.	Rs 189
Shrubs		1.50	Sqm	Rs 2,700
Soil		0.45	Cmt	Rs 2,838

Components	SCR number	Quantity	Units	UnitRate
Boulder (300-450mm)		0.38	LS	Rs 66
Gravel		0.90	Cmt	Rs 1,080
Perforated Pipe		1.50	M	Rs 900
Overflow Pipe		1	M	Rs 200
Trees		2	Nos.	Rs 12,000



Fig. 2.68 Pictures of images of Raingarden (Streets)

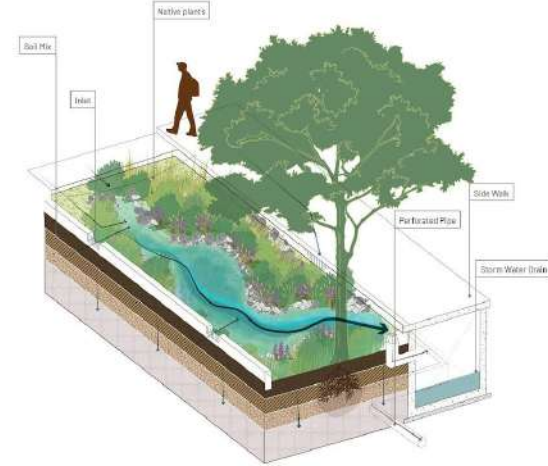


Fig. 2.67 Avon showing Raingarden (streets)

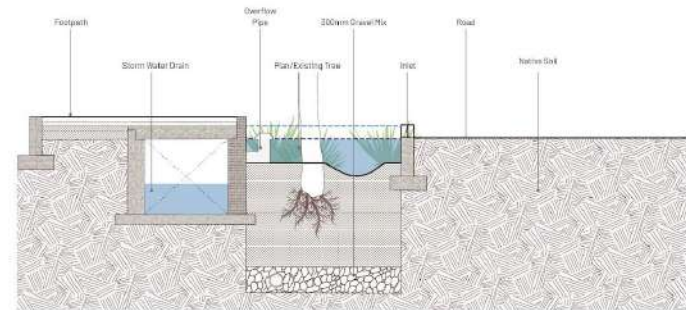


Fig. 2.68 Section showing Raingarden (Streets) details

## T.5. Retention Pond

Even though retention ponds might seem like basically another water feature, it has far more benefits. Permanent components designed to contain water flow for a specific amount of time are called retention ponds. In response to a flood, the pond's water level fluctuates, reducing risk and protecting the neighborhood from flood damage and expensive repairs. By temporarily retaining water during strong storms, retention ponds help reduce peak stormwater runoff rates and enhance the quality of urban runoff.

### Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 1m to 2.5m</li> <li>Slope - &lt;math&gt;\leq 3\%&lt;/math&gt;</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - 0.5 to 3"/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - Clayey + Loam</li> <li>Planting mix - Bioswale mix "Bioswale Mix" - pg 109</li> <li>Maintenance lvl - Medium</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ○</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>● Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>○ Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Due to the need for high embankments, it might not be appropriate for steep sites.</li> <li>Land take could limit utilization in areas with high densities.</li> <li>No decrease in the amount of runoff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Examine the vegetation in the pond and on the banks and slopes nearby.</li> <li>If decaying vegetation in the pond is clogging pipe openings, it should be removed in the spring.</li> <li>Eroded areas should be repaired. Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 88 for more details.</li> </ul>



Fig. 2.88 Retention Images of the amenity pond

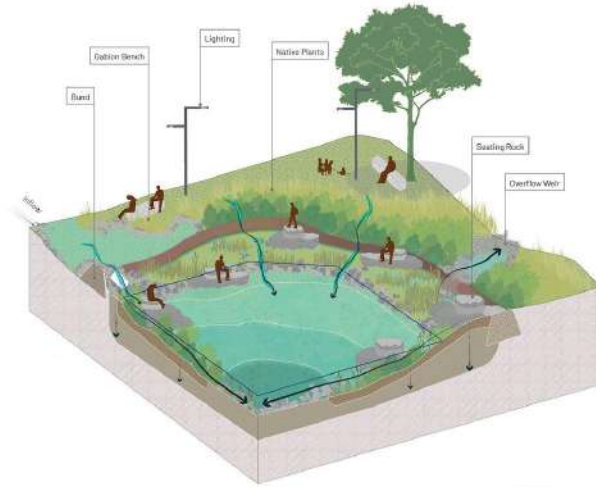


Fig. 2.70 Aerial showing Retention pond

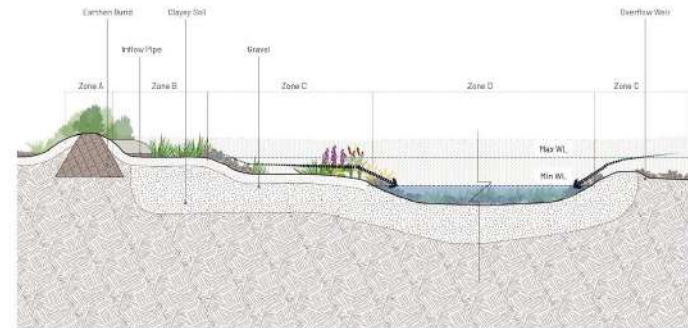


Fig. 2.71 Section showing Retention ponds details



## T.6. Infiltration Basin

An infiltration basin is a type of shallow pond where rainfall penetrates through the ground. In addition to helping to remove pollutants from stormwater, this control is effective in boosting groundwater recharge, which in turn increases baseflow to neighboring flows. Certain underlying soil requirements of infiltration basins may make them impractical in certain places. To make sure they don't fail, pretreatment design and routine maintenance and inspection protocols are essential. Onsed quo non cum qiaeratus.

Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 1m to 2.5m</li> <li>Slope - &gt;3%</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - 0.3" to 3"/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - Clayey + Loam</li> <li>Planting mix - Bioswale mix "Bioswale Mix" - pg 108</li> <li>Maintenance lvl - Medium</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ●</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ●</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ●</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>● Moderately/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>○ Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Areas with compacted or poorly infiltrating soils are not suitable for infiltration basins.</li> <li>Sites with a high groundwater table should not use them.</li> <li>An infiltration basin may attract mosquitoes if it gets clogged and takes longer than three days to empty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>When necessary, replace the topsoil of pea gravel.</li> <li>Make that all debris, including silt and oil/grease, is removed from the inlets.</li> <li>Patch up erosion-prone inflow &amp; outflow structures be repaired</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 88 for more details</li> </ul>



Fig. 2.22

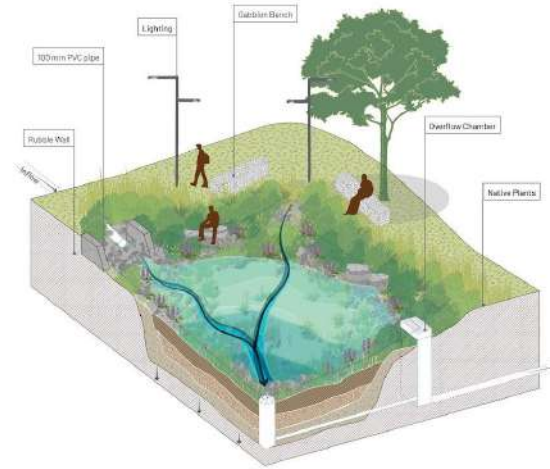


Fig. 2.23 3D view showing Infiltration Basin

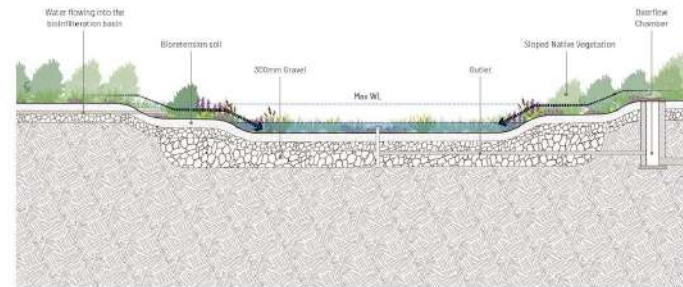


Fig. 2.24 Section showing Infiltration Basin details



## T.7. Sunken Court

A sunken plaza, also known as a sunken courtyard or sunken square, is a unique architectural feature where a portion of the ground level is excavated or lowered to create a depressed area within an outdoor space. Sunken plazas offer distinctive design opportunities and functional benefits, often serving as gathering spaces, performance venues, or landscaped areas within urban environments.

Indicators to consider

Suitability	Performance Ability	Limitations	Maintenance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Water depth - 1m to 2.5m</li> <li>Slope - &lt;math&gt;\leq 3\%&lt;/math&gt;</li> <li>Infiltration Rate - 0.3" to 3"/hr</li> <li>Soil mix - Sand-gravel</li> <li>Planting mix - wetland mix</li> <li>Maintenance lvl - Medium</li> <li>Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance</li> </ul>	<p><b>DELAY</b> ○</p> <p><b>STORE</b> ○</p> <p><b>FILTER</b> ●</p> <p><b>RECHARGE</b> ●</p> <p><b>LEGEND</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Highly Effective in all conditions</li> <li>Modestly/Conditionally Effective</li> <li>Not Effective / Not Applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Areas with compacted or poorly infiltrating soils are not suitable for infiltration basins.</li> <li>Sites with a high groundwater table should not use them.</li> <li>constructed wetlands may attract mosquitoes if it gets clogged and takes longer than three days to empty.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Make that all debris, including silt and oil/grease, is removed from the inlets.</li> <li>Patch up erosion-prone inflow &amp; outflow structures be repaired.</li> <li>Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 86 for more details</li> </ul>



Fig. 2.75 Reference images of Sunken plaza

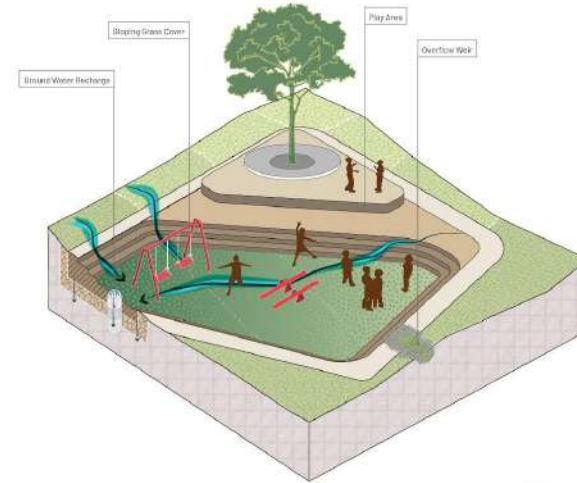


Fig. 2.76 Diagram showing Sunken Plaza

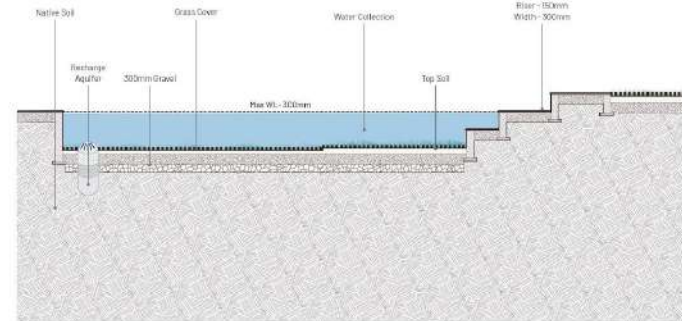


Fig. 2.77 Section showing Sunken Plaza Details



## T.8. Water Plaza

Water plaza is a type of public space or urban feature that incorporates water elements as a central design element. It typically consists of an open area or plaza where water features such as fountains, pools, or interactive water installations are integrated into the landscape. Water plazas serve multiple purposes, including aesthetic enhancement, recreation, stormwater management, and ecological function.

### Indicators to consider

#### Suitability

- Water depth - 1m to 2.5m
- Slope - >3%
- Infiltration Rate - 0.3" to 3"/hr
- Soil mix - Sand-gravel
- Planting mix - wetland mix
- Maintenance lvl - Medium
- Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance

#### Performance Ability

**DELAY** ●

**STORE** ●

**FILTER** ●

**RECHARGE** ●

#### LEGEND

- Highly Effective in all conditions
- Moderately/Conditionally Effective
- Not Effective / Not Applicable

#### Limitations

- Areas with compacted or poorly infiltrating soils are not suitable for infiltration basins.
- Sites with a high groundwater table should not use them.
- constructed wetlands may attract mosquitoes if it gets clogged and takes longer than three days to empty.
- Requires longer treatment times.

#### Maintenance

- When necessary, replace the topsoil of pea gravel.
- Make that all debris, including silt and oil/grease, is removed from the inlets.
- Patch up erosion-prone inflow & outflow structures be repaired
- Check "MAINTENANCE OF" - pg 88 for more details



Fig. 2.78 Reference images of Water plaza

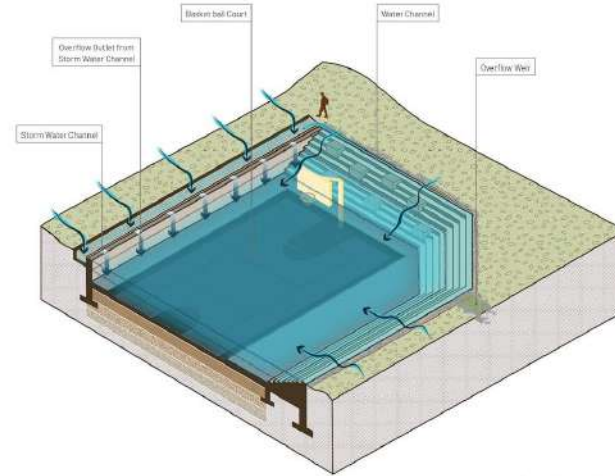


Fig. 2.79 Axon showing Water plaza details

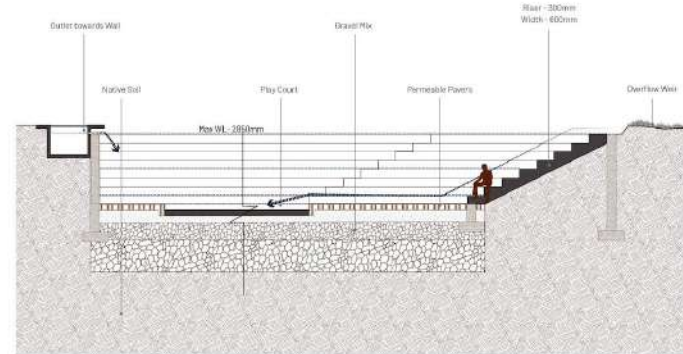


Fig. 2.80 Section showing water plaza details



## T.9. Constructed Wetlands

Constructed wetlands are engineered systems designed to mimic the natural processes of wetlands for the purpose of wastewater treatment, stormwater management, and ecological restoration. These systems use a combination of vegetation, soil, and microbes to remove contaminants and improve water quality. Constructed wetlands typically include a substrate layer consisting of sand, gravel, or organic material where beneficial microbes can thrive.

### Indicators to consider

#### Suitability

- Water depth - 1m to 2.5m
- Slope - >3%
- Infiltration Rate - 0.5" to 3"/hr
- Soil mix - Sand-gravel
- Planting mix - wetland mix
- Maintenance lvl - Medium
- Community engagement - Medium lvl of acceptance

#### Performance Ability

**DELAY** ●

**STORE** ●

**FILTER** ●

**RECHARGE** ●

**LEGEND**

● Highly Effective in all conditions

● Moderately/Conditionally Effective

○ Not Effective/ Not Applicable

#### Limitations

- Areas with compacted or poorly infiltrating soils are not suitable for infiltration basins.
- Sites with a high groundwater table should not use them.
- constructed wetlands may attract mosquitoes if it gets clogged and takes longer than three days to empty.

#### Maintenance

- When necessary, replace the topsoil or pea gravel.
- Make that all debris, including silt and oil/grease, is removed from the inlets.
- Patch up erosion-prone inflow & outflow structures be repaired.
- Check "MAINTENANCE OP" - pg 85 for more details



Fig. T.8 Reference images of constructed wetlands

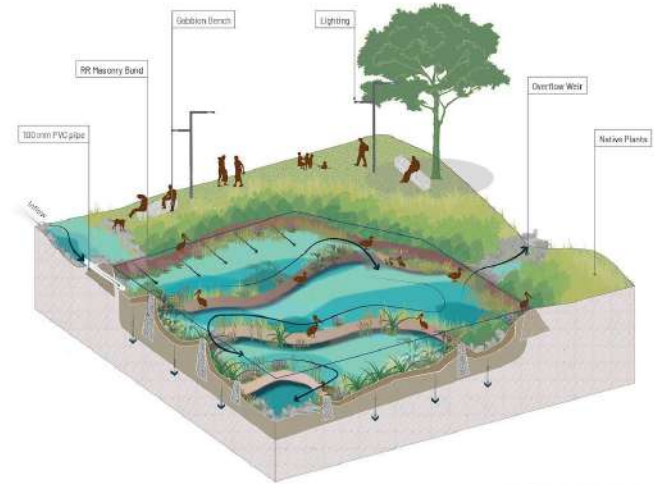


Fig. 2.82 Axon showing Constructed wetlands

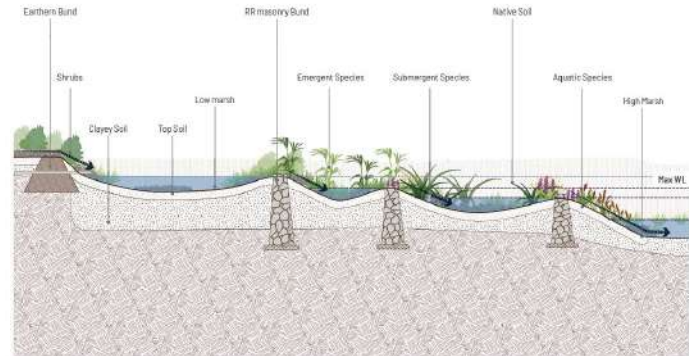


Fig. 2.83 section showing construct wetlands details





## Vegetation and Planting

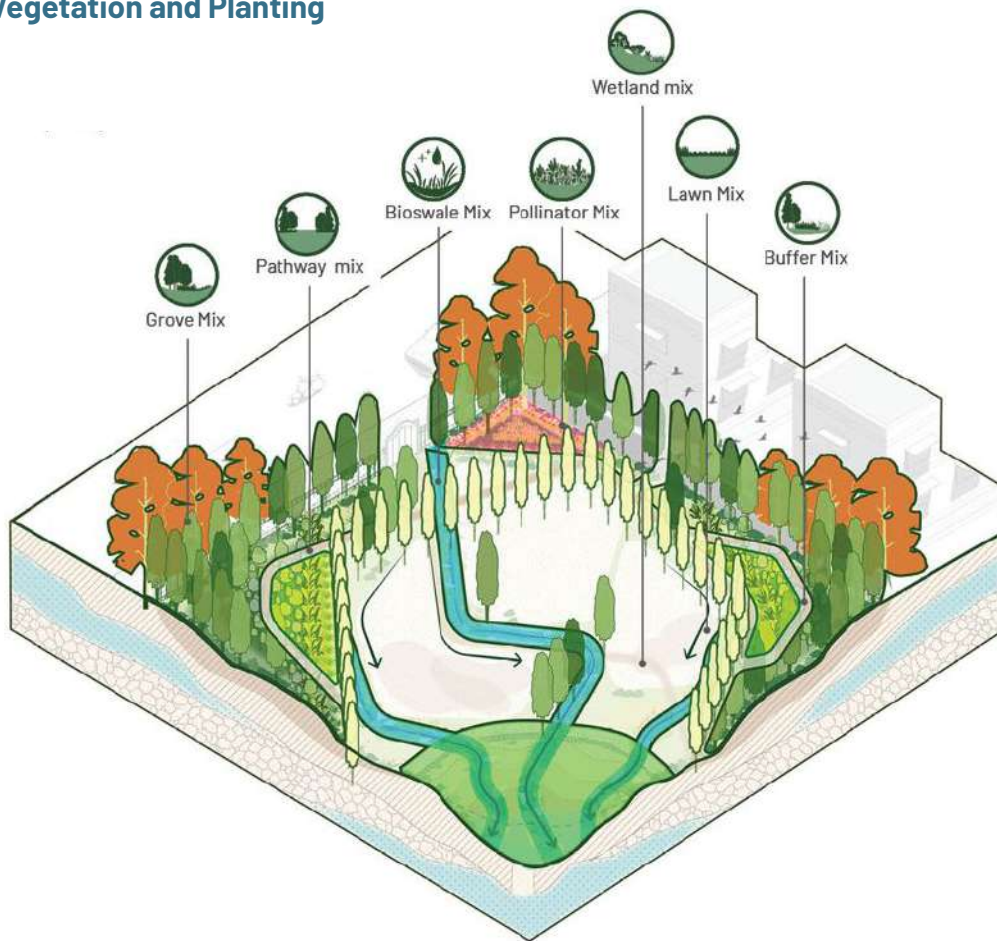


Table 6. Different Planting mixes








Planting Mix	Description
 Buffer Mix	A robust, multi-layered, densely planted species in combination of trees, shrubs & creepers to buffer from the noise & air pollution.
 Pathway Mix	A multi-layered combination of Indigenous trees of different species helps establish a viable community through the trails
 Grove Mix	A planting mix consisting of old growth climax stage species with different understorey species. The species present are distributed in two ways - they occupy different areas of ground (they are distributed horizontally) and their canopies occupy different levels above the ground (they are distributed vertically).
 Pollinator Mix	An intense combination of diverse flowering plants creates one-of-a-kind sensory experiences in certain public spaces. This planting mix can have non-invasive exotic plants, which require supplementary maintenance.
 Lawn Mix	Throughout the sponge park, a multilayered mixture containing multiple grass species is dispersed to facilitate easy water percolation towards groundwater during floods.
 Bioswale Mix	A diverse array of moist soil-loving plants arranged in layers, chosen for their individual soil moisture tolerance levels
 Wetland Mix	A diverse range of species that are tolerant to drought and love water, mostly marking the locations of seasonal water bodies.

Table 5. Planting Strategy

Strategy	Description
<b>Massings</b>	Plant grasses, perennials, and shrubs in groups or massings, with members of the same species, for easier maintenance and a powerful visual impression.
<b>Edge Techniques</b>	A traditional way to indicate the change in terrain for the users of the park to analyse the pedestrian and vehicular entry of the park.
<b>Diversity of species</b>	A multi-layered combination of indigenous trees of different species helps establish a viable community and enhance habitats.
<b>Sightlines</b>	To preserve public safety and sight lines, the landscape plan should choose a variety of species while also keeping the park safe.
<b>Microclimate</b>	Within a system, a single plant or massing can influence nearby plants or massings and provide a small-scale microclimate.
<b>Sunlight</b>	The three light conditions that a plant prefers are full sun, moderate shade, and full shade. It is typical to have full sun in an urban setting.
<b>Hydrology</b>	Different plants can tolerate different amounts of drought; some can sustain prolonged periods of flooding, while other plants react negatively to prolonged flooding.



Fig. 2.05 Reference Images of Planting

## How to read Plant mixes ?

**Name of the Plant Mix**

- This section gives the clear description of the titled plant mix.
- This provides an in-depth explanation regarding how to plant the specified mix.
- This gives detailed instructions on where to plant the designated combination.
- Chapter to be read with maintenance chapter & annexure

**ii. Typical Planting Plan**

**Zones**

Annotation (Cluster type / specific name)

Typical Planting Plan

Plant legend in Plan

Tree, Cluster, Shrub, Opposite, Strimulifer, Aquatic Grasses

**iii. Typical Planting section**

Plant legend in Section

Upper storey (Consist of Trees & Tall Shrubs)  
Mid storey (Consist of shrubs and grasses)  
Under storey (Consist of groundcover)

Tree, Cluster, Shrub, Opposite, Strimulifer, Aquatic Grasses

<b>Composite of species</b>	Percentage of various species combination % Trees + % Shrubs + % Lawn (Annexure pg no.)
<b>Maintenance level</b>	Maintenance needed for plant mix (Maintenance pg no.)
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	Amount of watering needed for the plant mix
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	Lighting required that is adequate for humans & less harmful to the flora & fauna
<b>Plant Species</b>	Required species for the mix. To be refer with plant list (Annexure pg no.)

## Types of Plant mixes

**Buffer Mix**

A robust, multi-layered, densely planted species is a combination of trees, shrubs & creepers. It is used exclusively along the periphery of the park to provide a climatic buffer (heat mitigation, noise & air pollution) that comes from the neighbourhood. Its width varies from 9 - 8 m. It provides visual connect with park but it blocks physical accessibility for safety. It not a public amenity but serves as an ecologically rich continuous green corridor. It has spike lights along the periphery for safety. This mix needs maintenance due to dense shrub cluster.

3m min. distance between the pathway & tree

6m C/C distance between trees

Spike Light Creeper

Dense Shrub Cluster

Upper storey

Creepers

Mid storey

Under storey

**Pathway Mix**

A layered combination of indigenous trees of different species helps establish a viable community through the trails. Plantation of avenue trees with shrubs to shade the pathway & add to the aesthetic. This mix needs maximum maintenance and will have pole lights alternately placed between the trees. A minimum of 3m distance has to be left from the pathway so that the tree growth can spread without harming the pathway. This mix also has irrigation requirement.

3m min. distance between the pathway & tree

6m C/C distance between trees

Shrub Planting along pathway

Pole Lights

Avenue planting

Upper storey

Mid storey

Under storey

**Grove Mix**

A planting mix representing the climax vegetation with different understorey species as a grove. The Ficus species forms the main species with native small trees and understoreis supporting its growth. It creates a community through evoline planting where vertically & horizontally incremental layers form a dense case. Minimal lighting is suggested at the entrance & centre to lit the trail but also provide dark patches for the habitats to thrive. This mix needs minimal irrigation since the species chosen are native (requires less water) & the soil will retain moisture due to dense planting.

3m min. distance between the pathway & tree

6m C/C distance between trees

Shrub Planting along pathway

Pole Lights

Avenue planting

Upper storey (Tree)

Mid storey (Med. Shrub)

Under storey

Climax stage species

Intermediate stage species

Flowering species

Bolard

<b>Composite of species</b>	30% Trees + 50% Shrubs + 20% Creeper
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ○ ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ● ○ ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Trees at min. 6m C/C
<b>Lighting</b>	Lighting the biofence edge for safety
<b>Plant Species</b>	Pongamia pinnata, Murraya paniculata, Passiflora edulis

<b>Composite of species</b>	40% Trees + 30% Shrubs + 30% Grasses
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Trees to be planted at 6m C/C
<b>Lighting</b>	Pole light along the pathway
<b>Plant Species</b>	Azadirachta indica, Aliphia purpurra

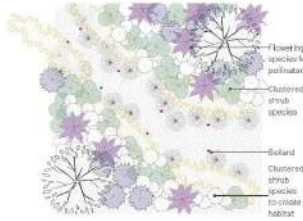
<b>Composite of species</b>	40% Tree + 40% Shrubs + 20% Grasses
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ○ ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	Bolard lighting at the entrances and centre
<b>Plant Species</b>	Ficus religiosa, Senecio auriculata, Ocimum sanctum

## Types of Plant mixes



### Pollinator Mix

An intense combination of diverse flowering plants creates one-of-a-kind sensory experiences in certain public spaces. This planting mix can have non-invasive exotic plants, which require supplementary maintenance. This plant mix will attract a lot of pollinators due to their colours & fragrances. This mix is dominated by various shrubs planted in different levels based on their height & aesthetic. This mix might require extensive irrigation & maintenance. Lighting is suggested using bollards to lit the pathway but leave dense pockets as dark for habitats to thrive.

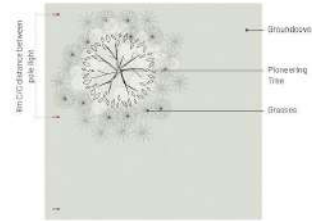


<b>Composite of species</b>	25% Trees + 50% Shrub + 25% Grasses
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	Bollard light along the pathway
<b>Plant Species</b>	Hibiscus (Roses), Berberis cristata



### Lawn Mix

Throughout the sponge park, a multilayered mixturo containing multiple grass species is dispersed to facilitate easy water percolation towards groundwater during floods. This mix is the most useable area for the public. It would show a seasonal character where the grasses will become dry during summer & regenerate during monsoon. It will also need maintenance to avoid any successive species from growth so as to maintain its character. This mix also has intermediate clusters of small trees to provide shade.



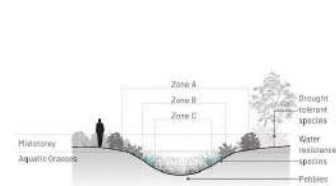
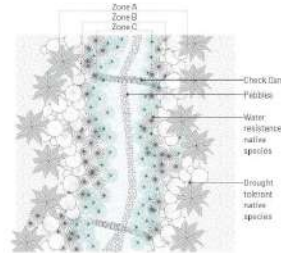
Typical planting Mix section

<b>Composite of species</b>	20% Trees + 20% Shrubs + 60% Lawn
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ● ● ○ ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	Pole light on the periphery of the lawn area
<b>Plant Species</b>	Cynodon dactylon



### Bioswale Mix

A diverse array of moist soil-loving plants arranged in layers, chosen for their individual soil moisture tolerance levels. It has 3 zone - Zone A has drought tolerant species that has minimal impact from water inundation. Zone B has water resistance species that can survive during flooding, while zone C are species that thrive in high moisture areas. This mix need high maintenance especially during pre monsoon & post flooding (Refer Maintenance manual).

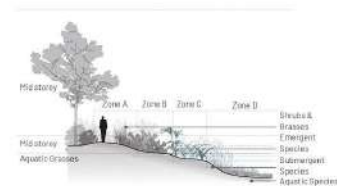
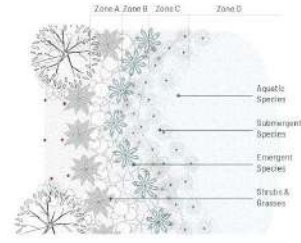


<b>Composite of species</b>	10% Trees + 40% Shrub + 40% Grasses
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	-
<b>Plant Species</b>	Canva indica, Elypta prostrata



### Wetland Mix

A diverse range of species that are tolerant to drought and water inundation, mostly marking the locations of seasonal water bodies. This mix has 4 zones with shrubs & grasses on ground level, emergent, submergent & aquatic species in the water body. These species filter & stores the stormwater, creates habitat for aquatic species & a community amenity. It needs high maintenance pre monsoon & post flooding for efficient functioning.



<b>Composite of species</b>	15% Trees + 25% Shrubs + 60% Grasses
<b>Maintenance level</b>	● ● ● ● ○ ○
<b>Irrigation Demand</b>	● ○ ○ ○ ○ ○
<b>Spacing &amp; Massing</b>	Plant spacing is depends on a number of variables
<b>Lighting</b>	Bollard light along the band edge
<b>Plant Species</b>	Nymphaeas spp., Canva indica, Vetiver



### c. List of Native Plant Species



#### BUFFER MIX

HABIT	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	SPREAD	N	D	F	SOR	I	E	M
TREE	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	Pungam Tree	25	15	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	○
	<i>Polyalthia longifolia</i>	False Asoka	10-25	2.4	✓	✓			☔	☀	○
SHRUB	<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>	Henna	2-6	2-6	✓	✓			☔	☀	○
	<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	Orange Jasmine	2-7	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	◎
GROUNDCOVER	<i>Cuphea hyssopifolia</i>	Mexican heather	0.6	0.9	✓			✓	☔	☀	○
CLIMBER	<i>Possifera edulis</i>	Passion Flower	8	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	◎

#### NOTES

The mix consist of trees, layers of shrubs & climber along the compound wall.

Soil - The top soil needs to be ploughed well and the cleared soil shall be treated suitably with farmyard manure or vermicompost.

#### LEGEND

N- Native  
D- Drought Tolerant  
F- Frost Resistance  
SOR- Schedule of Rates  
I- Irrigation  
E- Exposure  
M- Maintenance



*Pongamia pinnata*



*Polyalthia longifolia*



*Lawsonia inermis*



*Murraya paniculata*



*Cuphea hyssopifolia*



*Possifera edulis*



#### PATHWAY MIX

HABIT	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	SPREAD	N	D	F	SOR	I	E	M
TREE	<i>Azadirachta indica</i>	Neem Tree	30	20	✓	✓		✓	☔	☀	○
SHRUB	<i>Alpinia purpurata</i>	Red Ginger	2-4	1			✓		☔	☀	◎
HERB	<i>Mimosa pudica</i>	Shame Plant	0.5-1	0.5-0.5	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	◎

#### NOTES

The mix consist of shaded giving avenue trees with aesthetically pleasing shrubs and groundcover.

Soil - The top soil needs to be ploughed well and the cleared soil shall be treated suitably with farmyard manure or vermicompost.

#### LEGEND

N- Native  
D- Drought Tolerant  
F- Frost Resistance  
SOR- Schedule of Rates  
I- Irrigation  
E- Exposure  
M- Maintenance



*Azadirachta indica*



*Alpinia purpurata*



*Mimosa pudica*



#### LAWN MIX

HABIT	BOTANICAL NAME	COMMON NAME	HEIGHT	SPREAD	N	D	F	SOR	I	E	M
TREE	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	Palash	5-15	9-12	✓	✓		✓	☔	☀	○
GRASS	<i>Bouteloua dactyloides</i>	Buffalo grass	0.15-0.3	0.15-0.45	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	◎
GROUNDCOVER	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Durva	0.15	0.05-0.15	✓	✓	✓	✓	☔	☀	◎

#### NOTES

The mix consist of grasses & herbs that are smaller than 300mm alongwith a deciduous tree that provides shade within the vast open space creating a habitat for perching birds.

Soil - The top soil needs to be ploughed well and the cleared soil shall be treated suitably with farmyard manure or vermicompost.

#### LEGEND

N- Native  
D- Drought Tolerant  
F- Frost Resistance  
SOR- Schedule of Rates  
I- Irrigation  
E- Exposure  
M- Maintenance



*Butea monosperma*



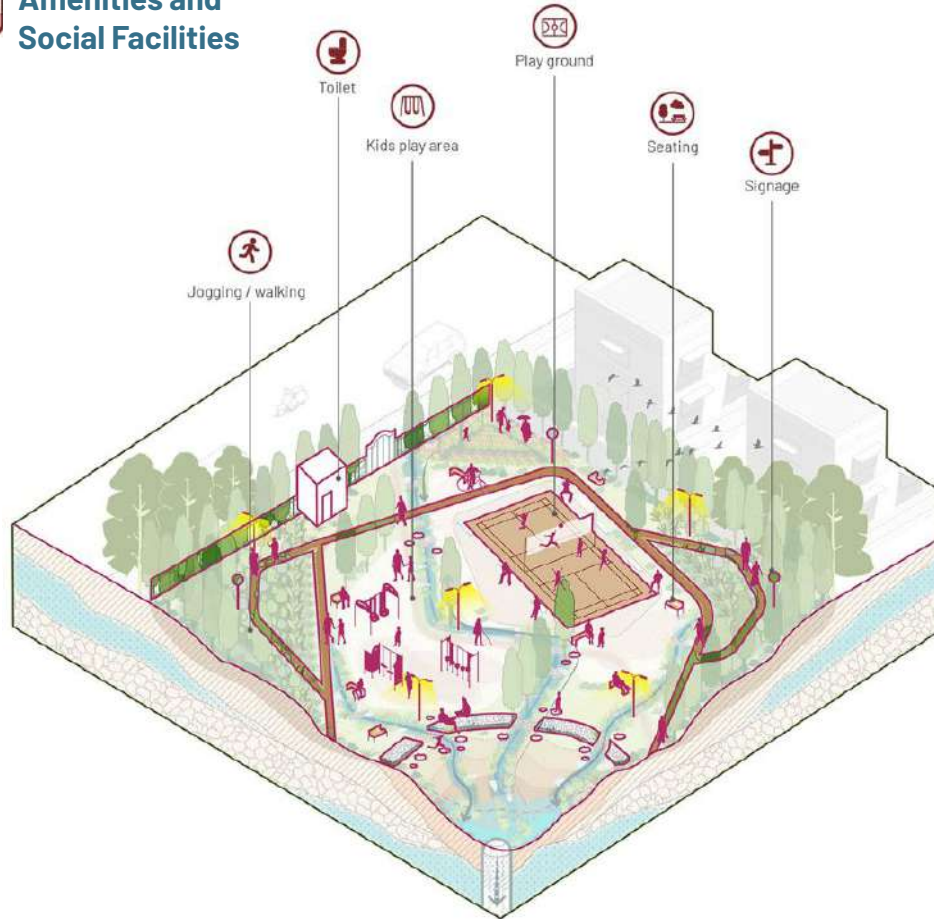
*Bouteloua dactyloides*



*Cynodon dactylon*



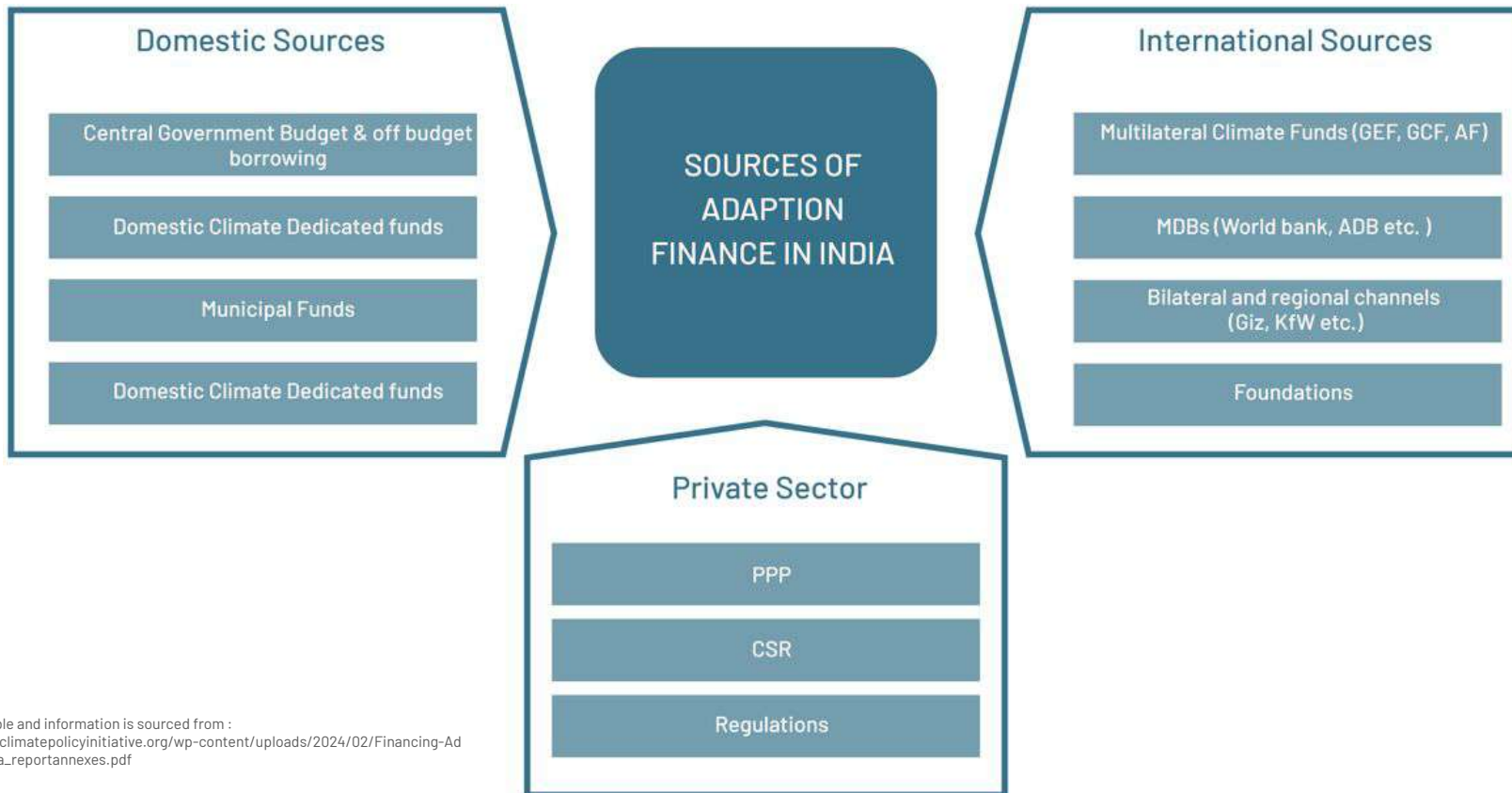
## Amenities and Social Facilities



Amenities	Typology	Descriptions	Advantages
Entrances		Entrances are the portals to nature play and learning, with naturalized entrance designs can convey positive messages to attract visitors and put them at ease.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Creates sense of arrival and departure</li> <li>Acts as transition zone</li> <li>Serves as a gathering and socializing setting</li> </ul>
Pathways		Pathways function as a space's arteries, regulating human energy flow along primary, secondary, and tertiary scales navigating throughout the sponge park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide flat terrain that is easy to navigate and has an accessible surface.</li> <li>Offer less direct, narrow routes.</li> <li>Slanted enough to retain a sense of exploration</li> </ul>
Signage		A key aspect of pathway settings can be signage. They facilitate a sense of inquiry and revelation by offering hints and data to improve the learning process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide communication system of information that can be easily read and understood by people</li> <li>communicating clear directions inside the park.</li> </ul>
Kids Play area		A play area is a space created, usually outside, to give kids an environment that encourages play.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improves the physical, social and emotional wellbeing</li> <li>Enhances and attracts more children to come to the sponge parks</li> </ul>
Gym		The gym is a free time where community members can use the gym to run legs, and engage in fitness stations, and other activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Exercises in an open gym provide you greater flexibility and freedom during your workout, which can help you get fitter and feel better overall.</li> </ul>
Seatings		Seatings in the park draw people and activity while improving people's sense of social comfort.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seatings provide social comfort.</li> <li>It can aid in promoting impromptu social gatherings and activities.</li> </ul>
Lighting		Lighting in parks plays a crucial role in enhancing safety, accessibility, usability, and aesthetics, especially during evening hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aids safety and security to the park</li> <li>Brings in clear accessibility through the sponge park even during nights</li> </ul>
Jogging Walking Trails		Pathways for recreational activities such as running, walking, jogging, and biking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brings in more interaction among the people</li> </ul>
Toilets		Seatings in the park draw people and activity while improving people's sense of social comfort.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seatings provide social comfort.</li> <li>It can aid in promoting impromptu social gatherings and activities.</li> </ul>
Play grounds		Seatings in the park draw people and activity while improving people's sense of social comfort.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seatings provide social comfort.</li> <li>It can aid in promoting impromptu social gatherings and activities.</li> </ul>

# IMPLEMENTING SPONGE PARKS

## Financing Sponge Parks



The above table and information is sourced from :  
[https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Financing-Adaptation-India\\_reportannexes.pdf](https://www.climatepolicyinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Financing-Adaptation-India_reportannexes.pdf)



# Financing Sponge Parks

## Summary of Benefits from Blue-green Infrastructure

Task	Description	Climate Resilience Benefits	Carbon Sequestration And Air Quality Benefits	Water Management Benefits
Bioswales	Vegetated linear depression or trench designed for the collection, conveyance, infiltration and filtration of stormwater runoff.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Reduced heat island effects from grey infrastructure</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Improved biodiversity and wildlife habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon sequestration from vegetation</li> <li>Reduced energy needs for managing stormwater (e.g., pumping, treatment)</li> <li>Removal of air pollutants such as ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter</li> <li>Water pollution abatement through filtration of stormwater runoff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced runoff from precipitation</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced erosion during storms</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Reduced sedimentation of streams and rivers</li> <li>Water pollution abatement through filtration of stormwater runoff</li> </ul>
Bioretention areas	Stormwater treatment process for removing pollutants and sediment from stormwater using a system of ponding areas with vegetation, soil, sand gravel and organic materials.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Reduced heat island effects from grey infrastructure</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Improved biodiversity and wildlife habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon sequestration from vegetation</li> <li>Reduced energy needs for managing stormwater (e.g., pumping, treatment)</li> <li>Removal of air pollutants such as ozone, nitrogen dioxide, sulfur dioxide and particulate matter</li> <li>Water pollution abatement through filtration of stormwater runoff</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced runoff from precipitation</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced erosion during storms</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Reduced sedimentation of streams and rivers</li> <li>Water pollution abatement through filtration of stormwater runoff</li> </ul>
Native Landscaping	Landscaping that uses native plants - including trees, shrubs, groundcover and grasses - indigenous to the geographic area being planted. Particularly important in dry or drought-prone areas (see-landscaping in key terms).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced heat island effects from paved areas</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced water demand for irrigation</li> <li>Improved biodiversity and wildlife habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carbon sequestration from planted materials and vegetation</li> <li>Reduced energy needs for managing stormwater (e.g., pumping, treatment)</li> <li>Reduced energy needs for irrigation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Reduced water demand for irrigation</li> </ul>
Urban Wetland	Urban or periurban transitional areas between terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems where the water table is usually at or near the surface or the land is covered by shallow water.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved watershed management</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced heat island effects from paved areas</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Improved biodiversity and wildlife habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improved watershed management</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Flood mitigation</li> <li>Reduced heat island effects from paved areas</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Improved biodiversity and wildlife habitats</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced erosion during storms</li> <li>Reduced flooding from storm surges</li> <li>Improved watershed management</li> <li>Increased groundwater infiltration</li> <li>Reduced pressure on existing water management infrastructure</li> <li>Water pollution abatement through filtration of stormwater runoff</li> </ul>

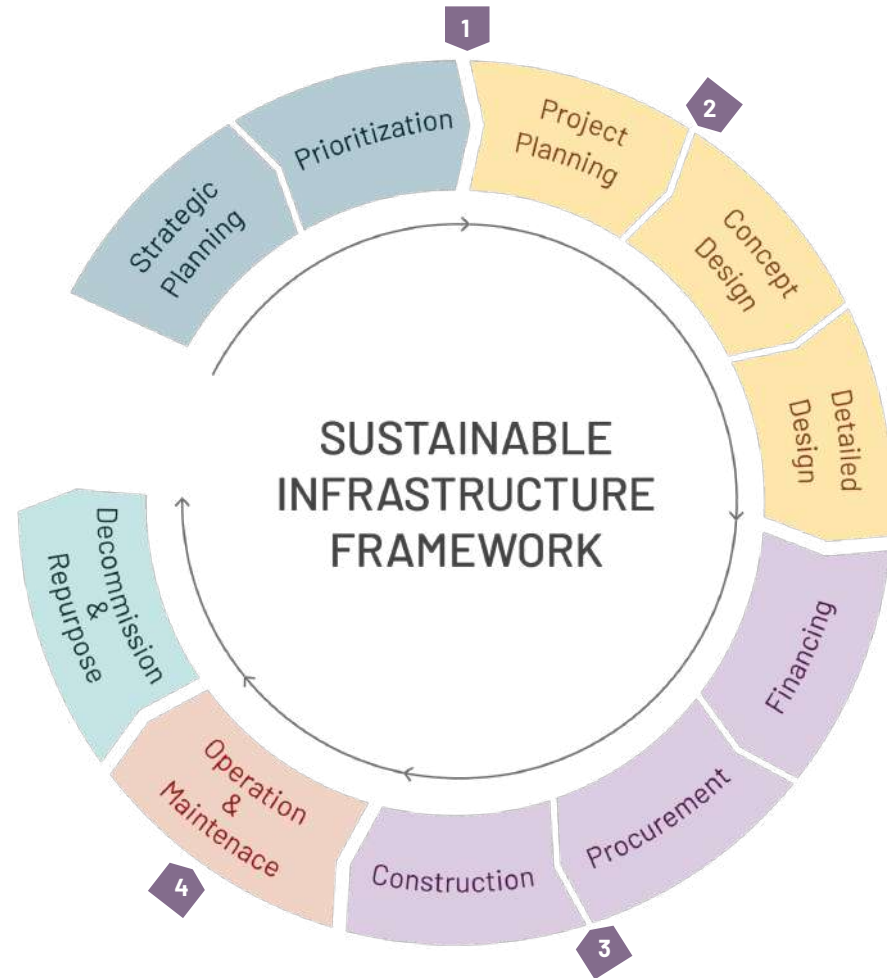
## Evaluation of Creative Funding and Financing Models

Creative funding & financing models	Potential Generate Revenue and attract capital	Technical and Political Feasibility	Fairness and Efficiency	Equity
Multilateral Bonds	High	Medium	Low	Low
Municipal Bonds	High	Medium	High	Low
Central government Grants	Medium	Medium	Low	Medium
State grants	Medium	Medium	Low	Low
Green / Climate bonds	Medium	High	Low	Low
TIF	Medium	High	High	Low
P3s	High	Medium	High	Low
Regional Resilience trust funds	High	Medium	Medium	High
Impact development fees	High	Medium	High	Medium

The above table and information is sourced from [https://ash.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/financing\\_climate\\_resilience\\_final\\_report.pdf](https://ash.harvard.edu/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/financing_climate_resilience_final_report.pdf)

## Procuring for Sponge Parks

Lifecycle	Expertise	Open Tender		Empanelled / Invited	
		LCS	QCBS	LCS	QCBS
<b>1. Project Planning</b>	Surveyors, Hydrologists, Geologists, Field Engineers, CAD Engineers	S, M	S, M, L, X		
<b>2. Concept Design through Detailed Design</b>	Landscape Architects, Architects, Urban Designers, Hydrologist, Civil, MEP, Drafting		L, X		M, L, X
<b>3. Construction</b>	Contractor, Field Engineers, Site Manager, Landscape Architect, Project Manager, Construction Workers	S	M, L, X	S	M, L, X
<b>4. Operation and Maintenance</b>	Contractor, Horticulturist, Field Engineers, Gardeners, Cleaners, Repair			M	M, L, X

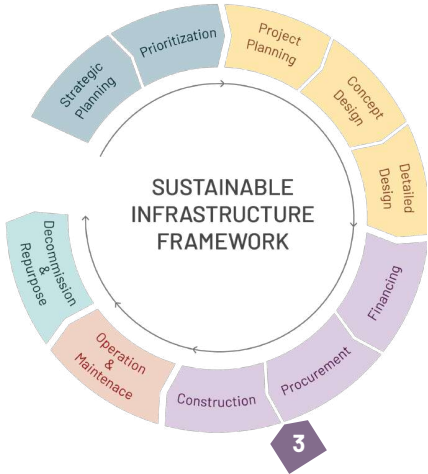


# Procuring by Sponge Park Typology



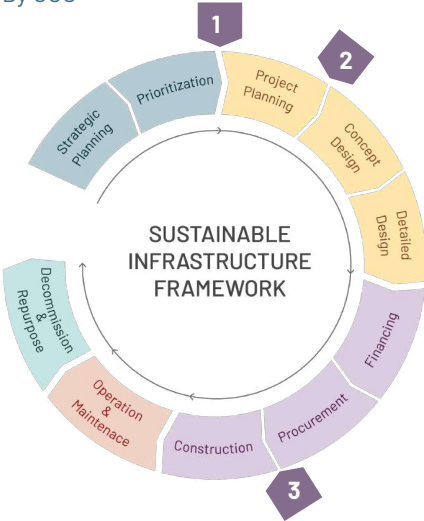
## Small Sponge Parks (S)

By GCC



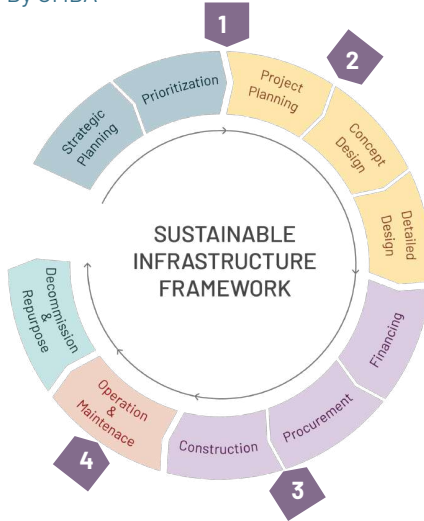
## Medium Sponge Parks (M)

By GCC



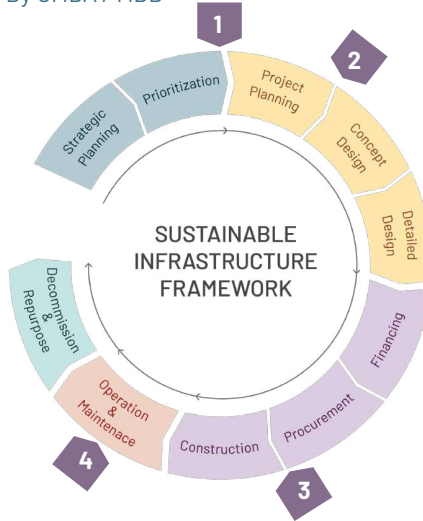
## Large Sponge Parks (L)

By CMDA



## Special Sponge Parks (X)

By CMDA / MDB





# Constructing Sponge Parks

## 4. Erosion Control

The importance of erosion control during construction activities, outlining factors influencing erosion, erosion control procedures, and specific erosion protection techniques to mitigate soil disturbance and maintain SuDS effectiveness.

- a. Factors Influencing Erosion During Construction:**
  - **Soil Disturbance:** Any disturbance of natural soil and vegetation can increase erosion due to exposed loose soil.
  - **Erosion Factors:** Soil type, geology, vegetative cover, topography, climate, and land use influence erosion potential.
  - **Role of Vegetation:** Roots bind soil, leaves reduce raindrop impact, and ground cover traps rain, reducing runoff velocity.
  - **Water Erosion Factors:** Runoff velocity, volume, soil type, vegetative cover, machinery, and de-watering outlets affect land erosion.

- b. Erosion Control Procedures:**
  - **Objectives:** Limit erosion amount and rate on disturbed areas to maintain SuDS effectiveness.
  - **Surface Treatments:** Stabilize exposed soil with temporary or permanent covers and water conveyance facilities.
  - **Key Activities:** Conduct land disturbing activities to reduce soil erosion and sediment movement.
  - **Minimize total exposed soil and duration of accelerated soil erosion during construction.**
  - **Establish cover on disturbed areas promptly after final grading.**
  - **Design water conveyance facilities to limit flow to non-erosive velocities.**
  - **Remove sediment from runoff water before leaving the site.**
  - **Stabilize disturbed areas with vegetative cover quickly.**
  - **Erosion Protection Techniques:**

- c. Erosion protection techniques**
  - Use vegetation to reinforce soil and reduce runoff velocity.
  - Employ geotextiles, geocellular confinement, and erosion control fabrics.
  - Implement reinforced grass systems to protect against erosion and traffic loading.
  - Utilize gravel trenches to intercept runoff and infiltrate or divert it.
  - Design flat sites or slack gradients to reduce runoff velocity.

## 5. Sediment Control

Sediment control techniques such as straw bale barriers, silt fences, and sediment basins are employed during construction to manage sediment runoff effectively, based on site characteristics like catchment area and slope.

- a. Principles of Sediment Control:**
  - i) Runoff and Sediment:**
    - Sediment in runoff tends to settle as runoff rates decrease during rainfall events, but it can be resuspended and moved downstream with subsequent runoff.
  - ii) Erosion Control Impact:**
    - Effective erosion control can reduce sediment supply on site, but sediment trapping and management are still necessary.

- b. Sediment Control Techniques:**
  - i) Common Controls:**
    - Include straw bale barriers, geotextile silt fences, and sediment basins during construction.
    - **Selection Criteria:** The choice of control system depends on catchment area size and site slope.

- ii) Straw Bale Barriers and Silt Fences:**
  - Used for smaller sites.
  - For larger areas, runoff should be directed through diversion ditches to temporary sediment basins. Proper installation and maintenance are crucial for performance.

- iii) Geotextile Silt Fences:**
  - Act as temporary barriers along contours at the base of disturbed areas. Durable if installed and maintained correctly. Not suitable for concentrated flow paths; consider more robust filters if concentrated flow conditions exist.

- iv) Sediment Basins:**
  - Designed to trap sediment and facilitate easy removal.
  - Proprietary systems or other facilities may also be used.
  - Consideration should be given to sediment resuspension during storm events.

- v) Maintenance and Rehabilitation:**
  - Sediment basins and treatment systems require complete clean-out and rehabilitation post-construction.
  - Permanent features in BGI design need careful management to prevent sediment contamination and maintain effectiveness.

## 6. Pollution Control

- a. Pollution Prevention:**
  - Detailed guidance from Masters-Williams et al (2001) and EA (2012) emphasizes controlling pollution loads from surface water runoff and managing materials and fuel spills with containment techniques.
  - Pre-planning of construction site layout to minimize impacts on water bodies, including proper waste disposal, storage, and fueling areas. Environmental pollution protection plan outlining drainage routes, discharge systems, spillage kits, and incident response.

- b. Construction Pollution Sources and Controls:**
  - i) Sediment:**
    - Address sources like eroded or exposed ground with measures such as silt fences, runoff diversion, and interception devices.
    - Manage stockpile erosion through protective coverings and proper location away from drainage systems.
    - Control giant and wheel washing to prevent contaminated discharge into watercourses.
    - Design haul roads to minimize runoff and manage dust through regular spraying and sweeping.
    - Limit excavation in riverbeds, employing diversion strategies and protective booms.
    - Implement techniques like grass areas or gravel strips to reduce suspended solids in dewatering operations.

- ii) Oils and Hydrocarbons:**
  - **Mitigate hydrocarbon pollution through machinery maintenance, drip trays, and regular inspections for leaks.**
  - Use designated refueling areas with spill kits and proper storage facilities.
  - Secure tanks and install booms along watercourse to prevent oil and hydrocarbon contamination.

## Erosion Control

- ❑ Assess soil infiltration rate and depth to groundwater table to estimate aquifer recharge benefits
- ❑ Ensure catchment area has no point pollution sources and Sponge Park has adequate filtration to prevent aquifer contamination

## Sediment Control

- ❑ Calculate contributing catchment area and runoff volume for 5, 10, 25 year RP storms to size BGI components in Sponge Park

## Community Needs

- ❑ Engage community to understand social and climate needs that can be fulfilled by Sponge Park programming or planting

## Pollution Control

- ❑ Study ecological corridor, habitat Potential, and heat island effect

Table 3.x. Maximum Allowable velocities based on soil type

Soil Type	Maximum allowable velocity (m/s)	
	Seeded	Turfed
Sand	0.6	0.9
Silt loam, sandy loam, loamy sand	0.6	0.9
Silty clay loam, sandy clay loam	0.35	1.2
Clay, clay loam, sandy clay, silty clay	0.3	1.5

Table 3.x. Sediment control system design criteria

Sediment control facility	Allowable Maximum Limits		
	Drainage catchment area (hectares)	Drainage catchment slope length (m)	Drainage catchment slope gradient
Silt fence	0.0-1.2 per 100 linear metres	50	1:12 (8%)

Table 3.x. Maximum Allowable velocities based on soil type

Sources	Potential Problem Indicators
Storage tanks	removal of waste, refuelling, leaking pumps, blowers, generators, plants, machinery disposed of waste oil
General operation and maintenance	spillage/greatest risk at refuelling/blowdown tanks and blowdown mechanical failure, any rupture of pipes, inadequate bunded area, vandalism
Accidents/incidents	



Table 4.1: Daily and Monthly Maintenance Activities

Schedule	Task	Applicable Toolkits	Descriptions	Preconditions	Protocol
Daily	General Care	Applied to all BGI	Clear SMP surfaces (such as sidewalks, gutters, tree pits, etc.) of debris and/or silt.	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	4.3.1
			Remove organic debris (e.g. leaves, feces, etc.) from BGI surfaces	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	
			Wipe down signages	Dust, grime or residue on signs.	
			Remove tags, strings, and expired no parking signage	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	
	Wetlands, Bioswales, Rain gardens	Remove settlement of debris from basin and forebay areas	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits		
Monthly	Erosion Repair	Applied to all BGI	Fill eroded areas, place erosion fabric, and, if necessary seed	If minor (<20 square), nonrecurring erosion is present within BGI components	4.3.2
	Concrete repair	Applied to all BGI	Repair hairline/cosmetic cracks	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	4.3.3
			Replace loose, missing or displaced brick, stone or paver	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	
	Settling	Applied to all BGI	Fill in sinkholes or silt with stone, then fill with dirt and mulch, if needed.	If sinkholes within BGI components are 24 inches deep or less	4.3.4
	Weeding	All vegetated BGI	Use a combination of mechanical and chemical weed removal techniques.	If present within BGI (sponge) Toolkits	4.2.1
	Mowing	Rain garden, Retention basin, wetlands, Bioswale	Mow turf grass	As directed by owner/operator	4.2.2
			Mow grasses to a height of 3-4 in.	If height of vegetation is > 4 in above ground surface elevation	
	Dead & Damaged Vegetation Removal	All vegetated BGI	Remove dead vegetation, trees or shrubs from BGI area as well as prune the vegetation	If damaged, diseased, and/or dead branches; suckers present within the BGI (sponge) Toolkits	4.2.3
	Cutting Back Vegetation	All vegetated BGI	Cut back dense vegetation	If the height of the dense vegetation at sidewalks is > 4', as measured from the top of the curb elevation	4.2.4
	Pest & Disease Management	All vegetated BGI	Treat vegetation to remove, destroy, or minimize pests and disease	If harmful insects (e.g., bag worms, wax scale, caterpillars, aphids, etc.), galls, mildew or fungus are present	4.2.5
			Remove small animal carcasses	If small animal (e.g., rat, bird, cat, etc.) carcasses are present within the BGI (sponge) Toolkits	
	Mulching	Tree trench, greengutter	Apply mulch to tree pits	If gap between top of sidewalk and top of mulch is > 1 in.	4.2.6
			Move mulch away from a tree's base or a shrub with woody stems.	If mulch is within 3 in. of trunk	

Table 4.2: Semi-annual and annual maintenance

Task	Applicable Toolkits	Description	Conditions	Frequency	Protocol
General care	Applied to all BGI	Remove trash and/or sediment from all BGI surfaces & wipe down signage	If trash and/or sediment is present within the BGI area	3 times per year in April, July, and October	4.3.1
Weeding	All vegetated BGI	Remove weeds using one or more of the mechanical or chemical methods.	If weeds are present within the BGI area	3 times per year in April, July, and October	4.2.1
Structural pruning	All vegetated BGI components	Complete selective pruning to improve tree architecture	none	Annually during the period from December to the end of February	4.2.4
Cutting Back of Vegetation	All vegetated BGI components	Cut back herbaceous vegetation from previous growing season	If the height of herbaceous vegetation exceeds 6 in.	Annually during February and March	4.2.4
Dead & damaged vegetation removal	All vegetated BGI	Remove dead herbaceous vegetation or shrubs from the BGI area	If dead vegetation is present within the BGI area	3 times per year in April, July, and October	4.2.3
Mulch Care	Tree trench, stormwater tree	Remove existing mulch from tree pits and replace with fresh mulch	none	Annually during February, March and April	4.2.6
	Rain garden/ Retention Basin	Apply mulch to the perimeter of landscaped beds > 2 years old and to entire bed for soft sites < 2 yrs old	none	Annually during February, March and April	
Pest & Disease management	All vegetated BGI components	Treat vegetation to remove, destroy, or minimize pests and disease and Remove animal carcasses	If harmful insects galls, mildew or fungus are present within the BGI	As needed	4.2.5
Soil Amending	All vegetated BGI components	Tree/shrub appears unhealthy, unrelated to drought; soil issues observed. Amend soil as needed following annual nutrient test performed by the owner/operator	Soil tests report the need for soil amendment; Consult owner/operator	Depending on soil test results	4.2.7
Planting & Seeding	All vegetated BGI components	Bare areas in planted beds > 20 sqft during the growing season	Consult landscape architect or horticulturist and owner/operator for plant selection	Replace plant(s)	4.2.8 & 4.2.8
	Rain garden/ basin, wetland, swale, green gutter	Bare areas in meadow areas or seeded areas (> 20 sqft) during the growing season		Perform seeding in spring (March 1 - May 15)	
Vacuum Cleaning	All BGI components with subsurface features	Vacuum clean trash sediment/ organic debris from subsurface access	If trash/sediment/organic debris present within structures	Once a year. Most preferably post monsoon	4.3.6
Inlet Pretreatment Device Maintenance	All BGI components with subsurface features	Empty and clean surface pretreatment devices	If trash, sediment, and/or organic debris is present in pretreatment devices	Once a year. Most preferably post monsoon	4.3.6
		Install permanent pretreatment devices	If pretreatment devices are not present		
Bolt & lock care	All BGI components with subsurface features	Clean and grease appurtenances	When bolts or locks is opened	Once a year. Most preferably post monsoon	4.3.5
Trees	All BGI components with the trees	Place water bags) on unhealthy tree	If tree leaves appear brown or wilted	Annually in April, or after planting	4.2.10
Herbaceous vegetation	All BGI components with the trees	Water herbaceous vegetation and shrubs	If there has been a period of 4 or more days without rain	Every 4 days from April to end of October	



# DECOMMISSIONING AND UPGRADING SPONGE PARKS

## Monitor Runoff Conveyance and Storage for Flood Mitigation Capacity

- How much runoff does the Sponge Park handle without overflow in a 2, 5, 10, 25, 50, and 100 year RP storm?
- Are storm events exceeding designed capacity due to climate change?

## Monitor Depth to Water Table for Aquifer Recharge Capacity

- What is the depth to water table around Sponge Park relative to other areas after monsoon and during peak summers?
- Does the Sponge Park need to infiltrate more water due to climate change?

## Monitor Groundwater Quality

- What is the quality of the groundwater?
- If pollution is detected, immediately seal recharge wells and infiltration basins

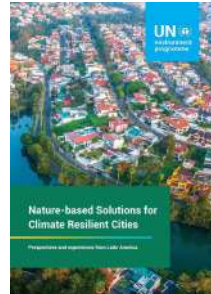
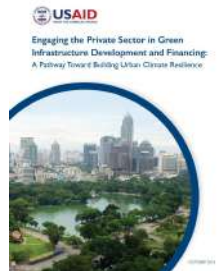
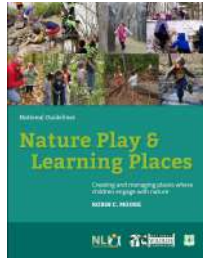
## Audit Park Activity

- Has park attendance, programming, and recreational activity increased or decreased after upgrading into Sponge Park?
- If activity has decreased, decommission and rebuild BGI components for increased social activity and visual engagement

## Monitor Ambient Temperatures

- Has urban heat island effect and heat waves increased in the neighbourhood of the Sponge Park?
- If so, increase green canopy cover in Spone Park

# References



5

## Workshop

- **Sponge Park Manual and OSR Geodatabase**
- **GCC North Region Demonstration Site**
- **GCC Central Region Demonstration Site**
- **GCC South Region Demonstration Site**
- **Feedback on Improving Sponge Parks**



# Sponge Park Prioritisation Geodatabase of OSRs

# Sponge Park Manual

Street	AREA_ac	Soil Type	Typology	Geology	Flood_Zone	ParkAccess	Ward Need	GW Firks
RED HILLS ROAD	2.34541	Clay and Shale	L	Laterite	Very Low	None	Medium	Overexploited
V G N NAGAR	1.01531	Clay and Shale	L	Laterite	Very Low	None	High	Overexploited
14th Main Road	1.08623	Clay	L	Altiplano	Very Low	None	Medium	Overexploited
Brocklin Road	1.39676	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	High	Overexploited
C S Nagar Park Street	1.97265	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	5-10	High	Overexploited
Paranbar Barracks Road (Veda Vinayagar Salai)	1.20193	Sand	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	5-10	High	Overexploited
Crescent Road	4.55429	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Medium	Overexploited
6th Avenue Road	2.75326	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Medium	Overexploited
DR. AMBEDKAR COLLEGE ROAD	4.70764	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Low	Overexploited
Englons Road	3.7076	Sand	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Low	Overexploited
New Farnace Road	2.39547	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Low	Overexploited
New Farnace Road	2.32843	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	2-4	Low	Overexploited
New Farnace Road	1.26511	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	5Y RP	5-10	Low	Overexploited
Serayar Nagar 4th Street	1.11587	Clay	L	Coastal Alluvium	Low	5-10	Highest	Overexploited

OSRs will be prioritized if they are inside Wards with high social needs and located in flood prone areas with high recharge potential and need

**2.1. How to read this chapter?**

- 2.1.1. SOIL & GEOLOGY**
- 2.1.2. HYDROLOGY & BLUEGREEN**
- 2.1.3. VEGETATION & PLANTING**
- 2.1.4. AMENITIES & SOCIAL FACILITIES**

**2.5.2.2. Medium Sponge Park**

**4.1. Schedule of Maintenance**

# GCC can consider OSRs with high rankings located within wards of high park need as ideal candidates to scale up the Sponge Park program

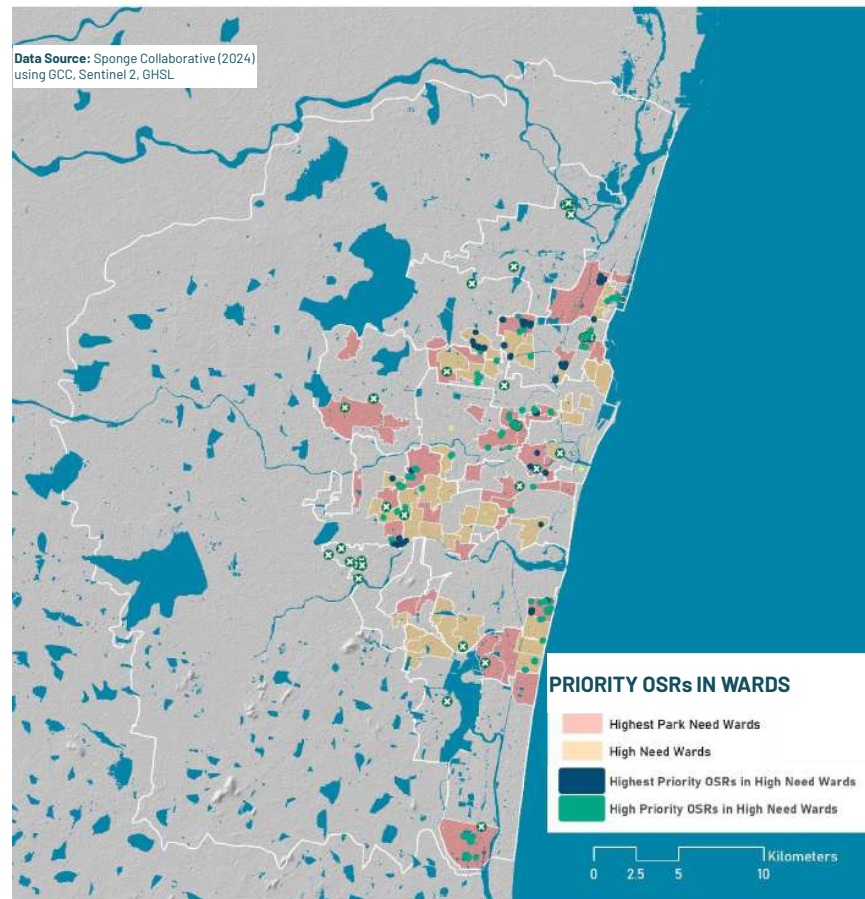
**112 OSRs** with high ranking because of their location in flood-prone areas and over permeable soil and geology are also located in wards with highest or high park needs.

These OSRs are distributed across 12 Zones and all 3 regions

**49** of these are **Small OSRs** less than 0.2 acres

**57** are **Medium OSRs** between 0.2 - 1 acres

**6** are **Large OSRs** between 1 - 5 acres



Densely populated wards with low greenery, high built-up, low acreage of parks per capita, and low access to parks show up as red and orange



# In the Chennai North Region, we zoom into Zone 3 where a number of high priority OSRs are found within wards of high park need

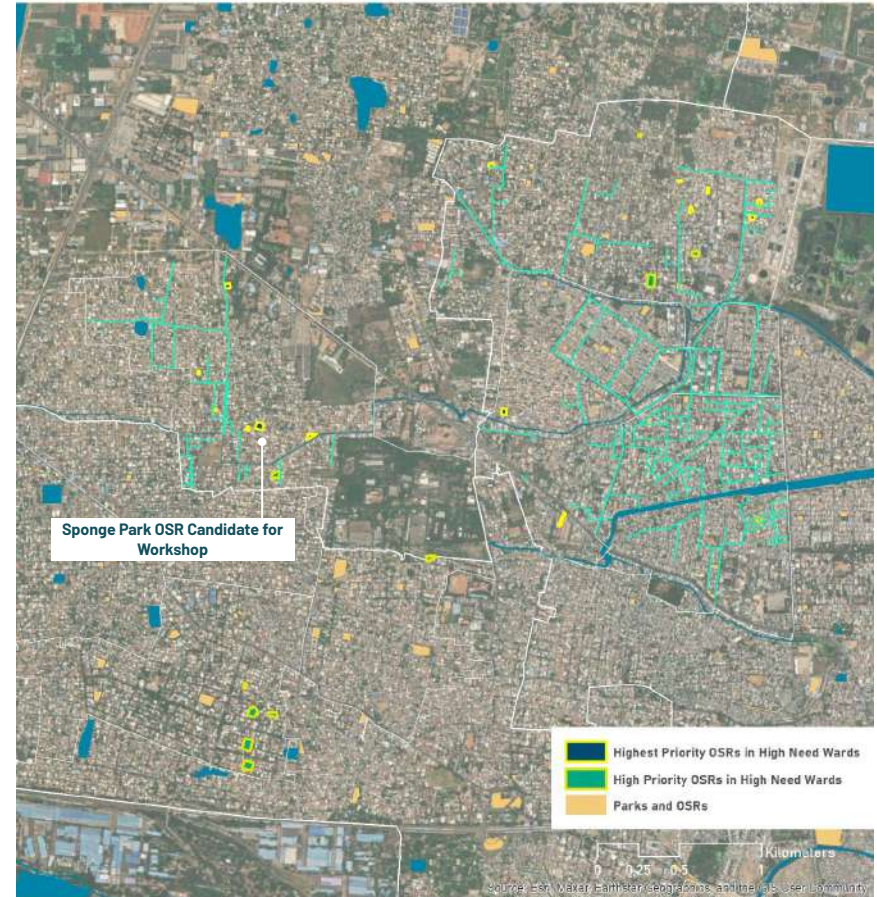
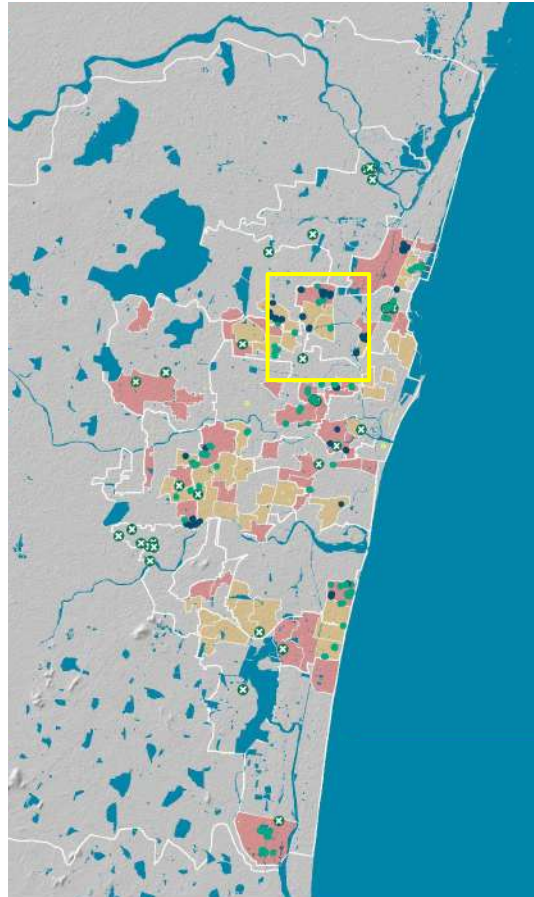
## SITE 1

Ward 29

Ward 34

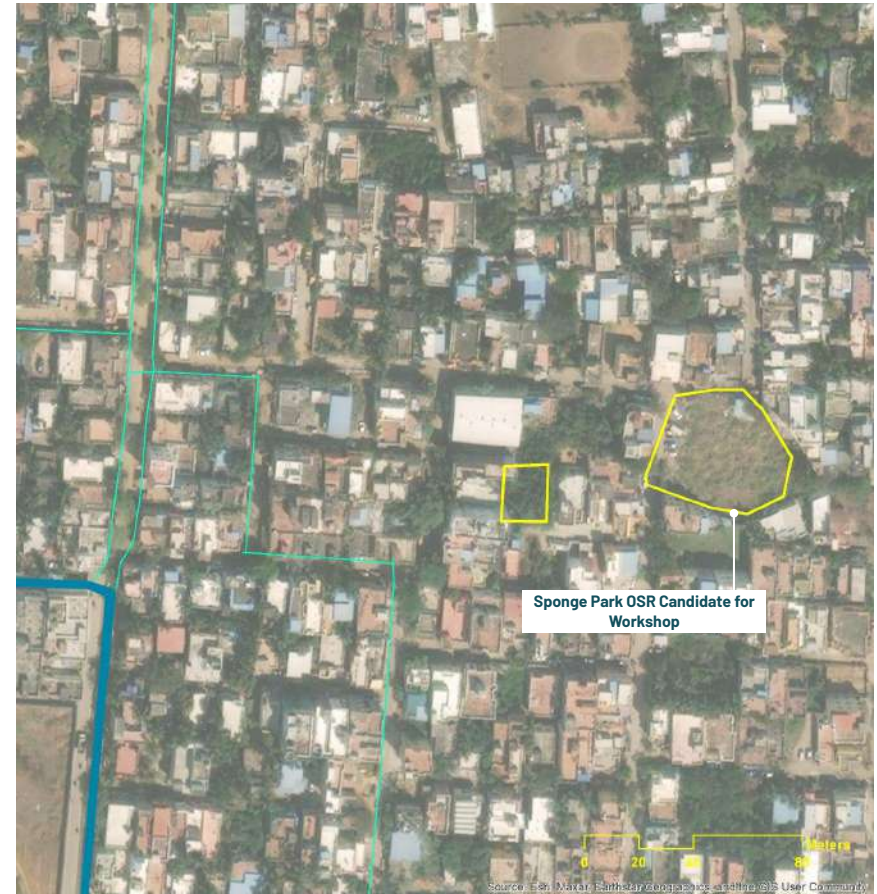
Ward 35

Ward 39





# What assessments are needed at the catchment and site level before moving onto Concept Design of the Sponge Park?



Zone	Ward	Ward Pop.	Ward Need	Soil Type	Aquifer Category	Geology	OSR Area
3	29	52,239	Highest	Sand	Overexploited	Laterite	0.44 ac

# How should the Sponge Park systems of soil, hydrology, vegetation, and social amenities be considered on this site? Which BGI toolkits would we use in this site?





# In the Chennai Central Region, we zoom into Zone 8 where a number of high priority OSRs are found within wards of high park need

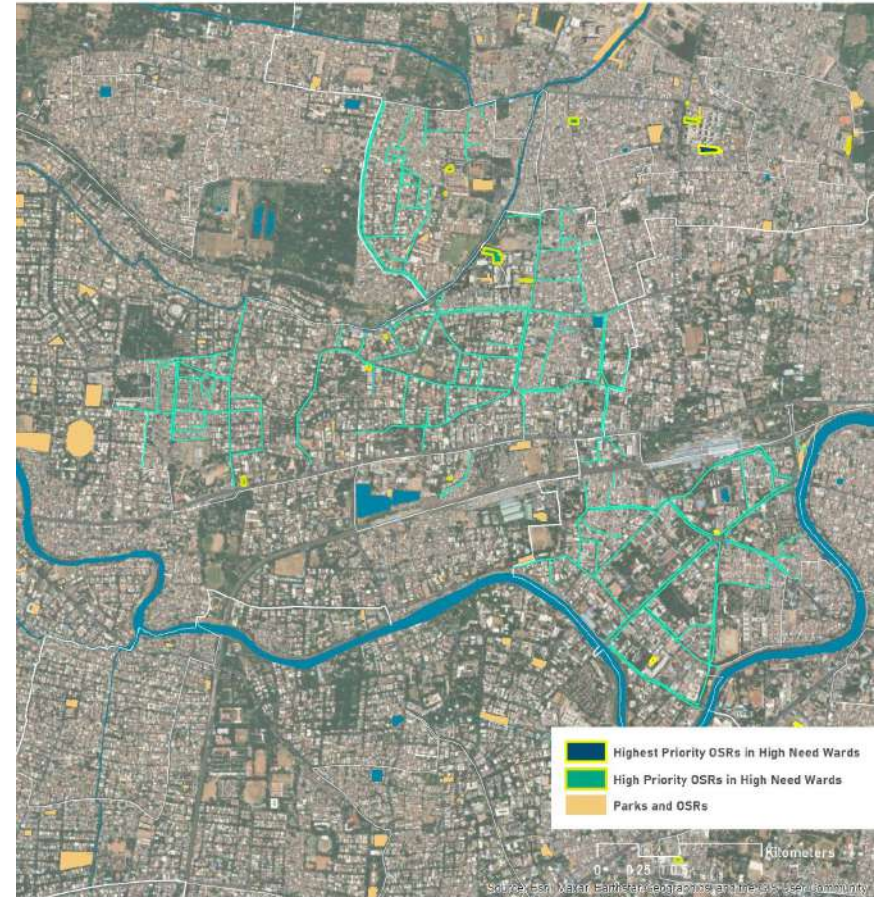
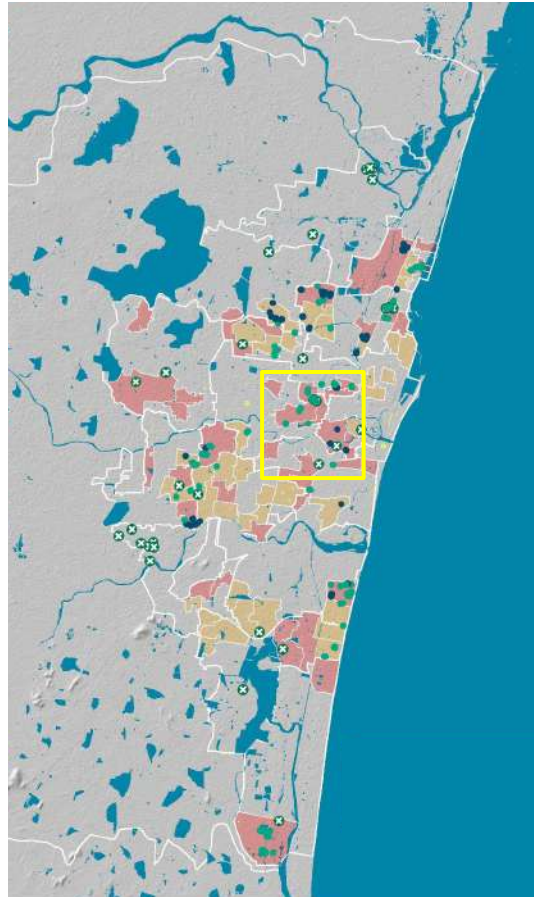
## SITE 2

Ward 61

Ward 75

Ward 99

Ward 100





# What assessments are needed at the catchment and site level before moving onto Concept Design of the Sponge Park?



Zone	Ward	Ward Pop.	Ward Need	Soil Type	Aquifer Category	Geology	OSR Area
8	99	34,309	High	Clay	Overexploited	Coastal All.	1.39 ac

**How should the Sponge Park systems of soil, hydrology, vegetation, and social amenities be considered on this site? Which BGI toolkits would we use in this site?**





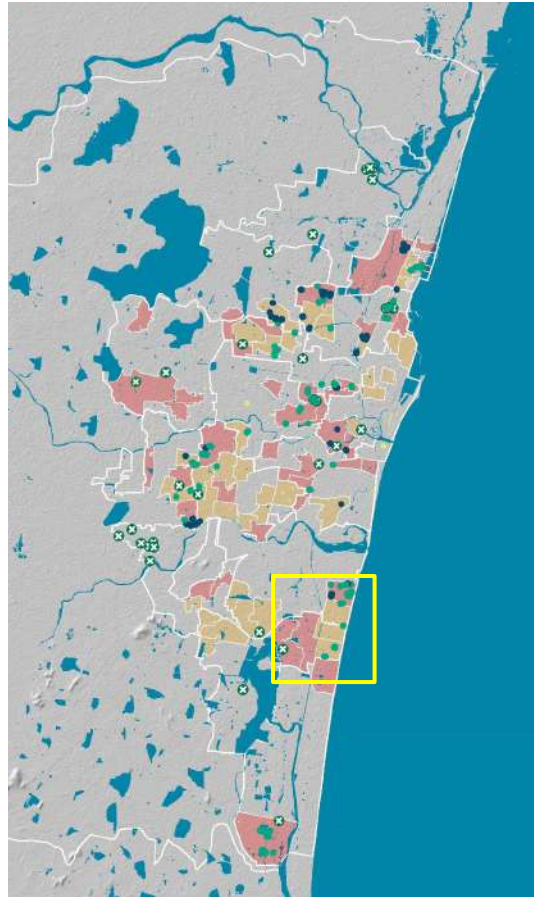
# In the Chennai South Region, we zoom into Zone 3 where a number of high priority OSRs are found within wards of high park need

Ward 29

Ward 34

Ward 35

Ward 39



Densely populated wards with low greenery, high built-up, low acreage of parks per capita, and low access to parks show up as red and orange