Kahn Riverfront Development Project, Indore, India

Area: 530 sq. km.
Population: 1.9 million

Background

The riverfront development for Kahn River is one of the projects envisaged by the Indore Municipal Corporation (IMC) under government of India’s SMART Cities Mission.

River Kahn has a total length of 21 km in the city of Indore, out of which 3.9 km abuts the Rajwada. This stretch has been taken up for rejuvenation under the area-based development of the Rajwada. The river, once an urban heritage, has now been transformed into channels which carry sewage, becoming a dumping site for municipal solid waste and construction waste; has been encroached upon by unauthorized development; and has also become a source of groundwater contamination. A total of 33 slums exist along the river, a total of around 12,000 households.
Strategies and Interventions

Key project features:
- Provision of water retention projects by means of check dams and rainwater harvesting to ensure availability of water for longer periods.
- Development of landscaping and open spaces for city-level recreational space.
- Interlinking public and religious places along the river for effective use as recreational space.
- Development of a fruit and vegetable market to accommodate shops and hawkers in the area.
- Treatment of wastewater and diversion of sewer network away from the river to uplift water quality.
- Improvement of bridges, footpaths and hawkers zone.

Expected benefits:
- Visual improvement of surrounding areas and clearance of encroachment.
- Urban rejuvenation and environmental improvement of the city.
- Groundwater recharge and improvement of water quality in wells/pumps.
- Cleaning of water and riverbed promotes aquatic life.
- Creation of a city-level recreation space making the riverfront accessible to all people
- Enhanced opportunities for tourism purposes.

Additional/ Further information:

- Riverfront Development – Indore: [https://smartnet.niua.org/content/e3236777-2cb8-4177-a8c1-368c02eae4a9](https://smartnet.niua.org/content/e3236777-2cb8-4177-a8c1-368c02eae4a9)