

REANIMATING OF SMALL STAGNANT WATERBODIES OF CHITTAGONG: CASE STUDY ON ASKER DIGHI AND RANIR DIGHI

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ABSTRACT

Within a process of rapid urbanization, Chittagong city is faced with the constant threat of encroachment of land and Waterbodies like ponds, dighis, canals and rivers by the public and private sectors to accommodate housing and commercial facilities to the growing population. This phenomenon is changing the landscape of the city in to a mixed use pattern. Therefore, this study aims to raise the level of attention on revitalizing the threatened small stagnant Waterbodies and bring them into planning framework to regenerate. This paper is based on a comprehensive study on the area including field survey; public- specialists' interviews and secondary data has been collected from different online resources, Chittagong development authority, published documents and books. After a depth analysis, it indicates that the uncontrolled and unauthorized growths of different urban amenities are rapidly diminishing this Waterbodies. There has no visual connectivity; illegal settlements are encroaching by grabbing the pond. This paper will finally propose an appropriate revitalization strategy based on SWOT analysis of these dighis (large pond) which might be helpful for the planners and policy makers to articulate sustainable urban development policies.

KEYWORDS: Encroachment, Revitalization, Regenerate, Stagnant, Urban Amenities, Urbanization