

Holistic river conservation through river front development measures

Problem statement: Protection of riverbanks is an integral part of river conservation. In particular, during monsoon, regular floods affect the structures created on the riverbanks, habitations and cause soil erosion in adjacent lands. Hence, riverbank protection is needed for holistic river conservation.

Intervention: Sabarmati riverfront project in Ahmedabad under which the Sabarmati riverfront has been beautified and developed as a tourist attraction.

Impact:

- Protection of riverbank and retention of water flow
- The abandoned land of riverbed and nuisance at the centre of the City was converted into people's attraction; tourist destination; creation of infrastructural and recreational facilities
- The capex spent could be recovered through direct revenue collected via tourist footfalls and indirect revenue in the form of taxes.

Replicability: The model is replicable for any river front and can be adopted as a measure to protect the riverbanks especially during floods.

(Reference: KII with Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation)