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# REVITALIZATION OF NON-GREEN OPEN SPACE AS A WATER TOURISM AREA IN NORTH MEDAN (CASE STUDY: LAGUNA LAKE OF PERUMNAS MARTUBUNG I MEDAN)

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The importance of Non-Green Open Space in urban areas is regulated in the Regulation of the Minister of Public Works Number 12/PRT/M/2009 dated June 24, 2009, concerning Guidelines for the Provision and Utilization of Non-Green Open Space in Urban Areas/Urban Areas. The main function of non-green open space is a socio-cultural function that acts as a forum for community socio-cultural activities such as social, cultural and community activities, as disclosure of local cultural/cultural expressions, as a communication medium for city residents with facilitates city residents in social interaction, as a facility a place for sports and recreation with various facilities. This study aims to map the use of Laguna Lake as a non-green open space and the revitalization process by the Government into a water tourism area. Primary data includes data and photos obtained through direct observation and interviews with speakers. Also, secondary data includes revitalization plan designs obtained from the Public Works Department of Medan City, then analyzed using descriptive analysis techniques. The findings of this study provide information for the community that the Medan City government will realize a water tourism area in the North Medan area through the revitalization of Laguna Lake. So, it can be enjoyed by low-income people living in Perumnas Martubung I and the people of Medan city in general.

**KEYWORDS**: revitalization, open space, non-green open space, water tourism.

#### 1. INTRODUCTION

The increasing population growth is one of the factors in increasing housing development [10]. The construction of subsidized housing is a government program that is expected to meet the needs of low-income people [11]. Perumnas Martubung I Medan is one of the subsidized housing units built by the government since 1995 with 3,729 residential units and facilities and infrastructure (including non-green open spaces). According to UU Number 26 of 2007, Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) is a space that is not overgrown with plants or areas with a porous surface such as pavement [12].



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Several definitions of Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) according to the Regulation of the Minister of Public Works Number 12 of 2009 are (1) Non-natural areas (disturbed land); (2) Concrete curb (curb); (3) The strip or trench is an elongated shape that uses Bioretention cells material; (4) access lanes, which are vehicle circulation spaces in the parking area; (5) Paving is a hard ground cover; (6) Permeable paving, which is a water-permeable or porous pavement [13]. According to this regulation, the functions of the Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) are (1) As a forum for the community to carry out socio-cultural activities and a place for discussion; (2) As a gathering place for local community traditions/cultures; (3) As a means of communication for the people in the city; (4) As a place that provides sports and recreational facilities; (5) As a means of education, research, and training in studying the nature and values of the area. In general, the goals of Non-Green Open Space (NGOs), are (1) for the welfare of the community; (2) for visual enhancement of an area; (3) for environmental improvement; (4) economic development; and (5) improved impression [1].

Development is the main target of a country. Countries are said to be developing and advanced judged by their development, both in the development of the economic, socio-cultural, legal and security sectors [3]. People need public open spaces to maintain their quality of life [2]. The availability of open space in an area can solve environmental problems because open space is useful for user activities with the availability of parks, parking areas, and other facilities that support community activities [8]. The concept of landscape design along Tukad Badung as a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) with the concept of spatial planning, circulation, planting, pavement, and lighting. The design concept is to solve the problem of garbage on the banks and rivers by providing bins and nets. The design of selecting the shape of the rice terraces and beach waves Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) on the banks of Tukad Badung to be refreshing, open, and recreational [4].

Prawesti, Purnomo, and Hadiwijoyo (2021), in their research, examine the changes in non-green open space (Zero Point) that occur in the Pancuran area [5]. The Pancuran area originally was for youth to carry out negative activities in a slum situation, but after being revitalized became an organized, clean, and quality area. Zero Point is currently a non-green open space (NGOs) symbol of change in the Pancuran area, Salatiga City.

Safriana (2021) conducted research on the Revitalization of Sigli City Park as a Public Space with several revitalization processes for Sigli City Park, i.e.: (1) The revitalization process was carried out in stages, starting with the relocation of garbage dumps around the park; (2) Cleaning the area around the park and the river in front of the park; (3) Renovation of public facilities around the park; (4) Placement of the fountain; (5) Planting trees and ornamental plants with lots of colour elements; (6) Placement of a safe and comfortable seat as an area for social interaction and contemplation; (7) Provision of bins with the concept of waste separation; (8) Adding to the characteristics in the park, such as in one corner of the Sigli city park has endemic birds [6].



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The concept of using open space in Puspitasari's research, in the Semarang Old Town Area is the optimization of the Jl. Mpu Tantular (south side) is directly connected to the Semarang River, so it has a connection/linkage between buildings on Jl. Mpu Tantular with Semarang River [7]. Also, other research about non-green open space in the Ciputat flyover, which has no function, can be used as a public open space because of its position between commercial buildings in the middle of the main traffic lane of Ciputat [9].

The results of field observations and interviews with the community as business actors in Lake Laguna stated that in 2006-2007 Lake Laguna as a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) was very crowded with visitors to enjoy water tourism. However, after a fire accident in 2007, Lake Laguna was closed. Then in 2018, the manager handed Laguna Lake as an asset to the Medan City Government. This study aims to map the use of Laguna Lake as a non-green open space and the revitalization process by the government to become a water tourism area. The findings of this study provide information for the public that the Medan City government will revitalize Laguna Lake. The government will create a water tourism area in the North Medan area to enjoy it by low-income people who live in Perumnas Martubung I and the people of Medan city in general.

#### 2. METHODOLOGY

This research uses qualitative methods with descriptive analysis techniques. The sampling technique of this research used purposive sampling. The sample of this research is Laguna Lake as a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) at Perumnas Martubung I, Medan.

The stages in the research are:

- a. Field observations and deep interviews with key informants, i.e. (1) the community as business actors in Laguna Lake; (2) representatives from the Public Works Department as the budget manager;
- b. Perform visual observations or photos of the situation in Laguna Lake to collect primary data;
- c. Secondary data includes the planning design of Laguna Lake obtained from the Medan City Public Works Department.
- d. All data collected from observations and interviews were analyzed and adapted to the theories used.

### 3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Laguna Lake (artificial lake) has an area of  $\pm$  9 Ha. As a non-green open space contained in Perumnas Martubung I, it has the potential to be used as a water tourism area in northern Medan if it is well organized and managed (Figure 1).





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#### Map of Medan City



Map of the Perumnas Martbung I Medan Area

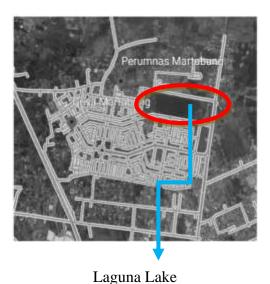


Figure 1: Map of the research site, Laguna Lake, Perumnas Martubung I Medan.
Source: Analysis Results, 2020

Based on information obtained through in-depth interviews with key informants (Appendix 1) as community leaders, in 2006 and 2007, this recreation area was very crowded with visitors from various regions. Artificial Lake has water bike facilities, small boats carrying 30 people as a fleet to surround the beauty of Artificial Lake, floating restaurants, toilets, photo spots, and other water games. The resource person is a business actor who owns a floating restaurant with 30 employees and sales of up to 7 million rupiahs per day. The crowds of visitors attracted the attention of private companies to manage this Artificial Lake. Still, they did not get approval from the community because, according to the community, the company would monopolize by not involving the community as business actors.



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In 2007 the entire facility around the Artificial Lake caught fire. Since the fire incident, business actors such as the community and private companies are not allowed to do business in the Artificial Lake area. The entire assets of the Artificial Lake at Perumnas Martubung I Medan was handed over by PT. Perumnas as the owner of Griya Martbung Housing to the Medan City Government as a manager in 2018. The Medan City Government wants to restore the function of this Artificial Lake as a water catchment area and a water tourism area. Therefore, on January 20, 2020, the Medan City Government excavated and cleaned the Artificial Lake area. The main purpose of this excavation is to restore the hydrological function of the Laguna Artificial Lake, which is located at Perumnas Martubung I Medan.

According to information from the relevant agencies, the Artificial Lake can hold around 80,000 cubic meters of water. In addition to the hydrological function, the Medan City Government plans to make the Artificial Lake area became water tourism area that can attract visitors' attention to increase economic growth in the Medan Labuhan District and the North Medan area in general. However, after the excavation, there was no follow-up from the Medan City Government as the manager of the Artificial Lake, so the current situation of the Artificial Lake is again overgrown with water hyacinth and weeds, as well as community waste that has accumulated (Figure 2).



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In this Artificial Lake area, it becomes a public garbage dump that causes odours, crowds of flies, and dirt



The Artificial Lake area is mostly overgrown with water hyacinth

and is very poorly maintained.



People who have houses facing the Artificial Lake take advantage of the location that should be a recreation area to be a place for washing trains by building bamboo huts.



In the two photos above, you can see a row of cafe tents owned by local people who sell their wares by providing seats.





In the two photos above, it can be seen that local people use part of the Artificial Lake area to grow rice, corn, and bananas.



The photo above shows the Artificial Lake area, which the local community uses as a fishing location. This fishing pond is open from morning to night.



The photo above shows that the Artificial Lake area is clean of water hyacinth and is used by the community as a tent cafe with seating facilities, toilets, and a parking area. This tent cafe is open from 10 am until night.

Figure 2: Current Situation Map of Utilization of Lagoon Lake as a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs)

Source: Analysis Results, 2020

The initial function of Laguna Lake since 2006 is not only used as a recreation area but also as a water catchment area. Accordance to the Regulation of the Minister of Public Works No.12/PRT/M/2009 concerning Guidelines for Provision of Non-Green Open Spaces in Cities/Urban Areas, there are additional functions of Non-Green Open Spaces (NGOs), i.e. ecological, economic, architectural and



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emergency functions. In ecological function, Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) plays a role in creating good air & water circulation as well as helping to absorb rainwater so that flooding does not occur [13].

Following the UU of the Republic of Indonesia No. 26 of 2007 article 28, which states that City/Regency Governments in their regional spatial planning must provide and utilize green and nongreen open spaces along with pedestrian network infrastructure and facilities, public transportation, informal sector activities, and disaster evacuation rooms [12]. It's needed to carry out the function of the city area as a centre for socio-economic services and a centre for regional growth. Therefore, through the Medan City Public Works Development, the Medan City Government revitalized Lake Laguna.

The Medan City Public Works Development, specifically the Head of UPT North Medan, stated that this Artificial Lake had the potential as a water tourism area. Also, the Planning Consultant of the Medan City Public Works Development stated that the Laguna Lake was planned as a retention pond (water infiltration) and a tourist pool that can be enjoyed by all levels of society (Figure 3).







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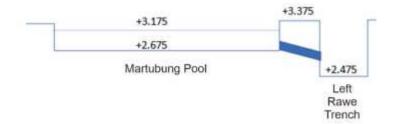
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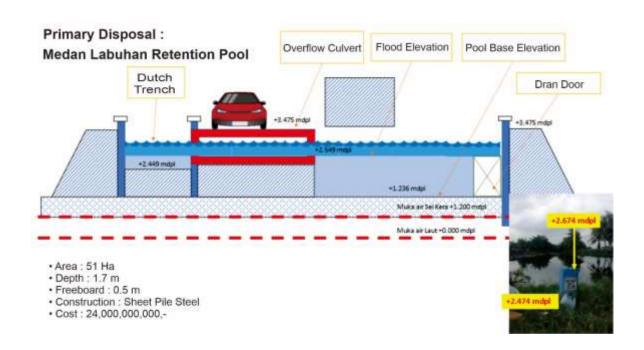


# REHABILITATION OF MARTUBUNG POOL

Retention pool
 Area: 10 Ha

•Depth : 1.2 m (1.0+0.2) •Cost : 8,000,000,000.00









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Figure 3: Design Plan for Revitalization of Laguna Lake as a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) at Perumnas Martubung I Medan

Source: Medan City Public Works Consultant

#### 4. CONCLUSION

This study concluded that Laguna Lake is a Non-Green Open Space (NGOs) covering an area of  $\pm$  9 Ha located on Jl. Laguna Lake at Perumnas Martubung I Medan is used by the community as (1) a garbage disposal site; (2) a place to plant short-lived crops such as rice, corn, bananas, and others; (3) paid private fishing pond; (4) the place for selling such as a tent café with seating facilities, toilets, as well as a parking lot; (5) paid private car wash station; (6) most of the area of this Artificial Lake is not utilized and is overgrown with water hyacinth and weeds.

In accordance with the UU of the Republic of Indonesia No. 26 of 2007, article 28 states that City/Regency Governments in their regional spatial planning must provide and utilize green and nongreen open spaces along with pedestrian network infrastructure and facilities, public transportation, informal sector activities, and disaster evacuation rooms. It is needed to carry out the function of the city area as a centre for socio-economic services and a centre for regional growth. Therefore, through the Medan City Public Works Development, the Medan City Government has revitalized air infiltration and ponds in Laguna Lake. This action is expected to fulfil the needs of low-income people who live in government-subsidized housing, especially Perumnas Martubung I Medan and the people of Medan in general.



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