



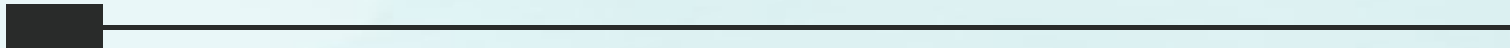
# REIMAGINING URBAN LAKES

A GUIDE FOR INCLUSIVE AND HOLISTIC LAKE VISIONING

## LAKE VISIONING DOCUMENT

This document has been made to be used as a community resource and is meant to evolve with the contributions and experiences of everyone working to protect lakes.

Please write to us with your contributions. Please feel free to use, share and disseminate this document. We would appreciate being informed about how it has been used. Please write to us at [water@biome-solutions.com](mailto:water@biome-solutions.com) or find us on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/biome.environmental.trust/>





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# WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THIS PRESENTATION?

This presentation guides you through the process of creating a holistic and inclusive 'Lake Vision Document'. It discusses the potential 'Stakeholders', 'Functions', 'Physical Elements', and 'Rules' that could comprise the 'Lake Vision Document' created. The presentation also includes a methodology that provides guidance on how to prepare for, conduct, and arrive at a vision for the future.

# WHY IS LAKE VISIONING IMPORTANT?

The future is an exciting space ripe with possibilities. To make working towards it meaningful, it is essential to make the process of imagining it inclusive and holistic. This presentation guides you in creating a 'Lake Vision Document' that includes the components (functions, physical elements, stakeholders, and rules) that need to comprise the envisaging of a comprehensive and balanced lake ecosystem.

Initially, one or two formal meetings are certainly required to set the 'Lake Visioning' process in motion and discuss critical details. However, the exercise does not stop here. 'Lake Visioning' is intended to be an ever-evolving process amongst various stakeholders. The 'Lake Vision Document' helps capture and communicate the outcome of the initial as well as iterations discussed in ongoing meetings and conversations.

The document thus created is flexible to evolve and adapt to changing contexts. This presentation seeks to make the journey of envisaging a lake joyful, equitable, and empowering for the various stakeholders involved.



A vision without a plan is just a dream. A plan without a vision is just drudgery. But a vision with a plan can change the world.

# OBJECTIVES







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## 01

To communicate the collective imagination for the lake to lake authorities and citizens groups - after consulting with all stakeholders.

## 02

To serve as an input to the Detailed Project Report (DPR) in cases where the DPR has not been developed. In cases where the DPR already exists, the lake vision can be used to incorporate changes into the DPR.

## 03

To reflect a holistic and inclusive vision that the lake group can refer to over a period of 10-15 years while making any decisions for the lake.

## 04

To share and uphold the thinking of diverse stakeholders-their concerns, and their hopes, to ensure that the lake design, development, maintenance reflects them.



# WHAT LAKE VISIONING INCLUDES



# WHAT IT INCLUDES

01

List of STAKEHOLDERS of the lake whom were included in coming up with this lake vision.



02

The imagined PHYSICAL vision of the lake in the form of a sketch that includes the PHYSICAL ELEMENTS deemed necessary and beneficial.



03

The FUNCTIONS that this lake will serve and to what extent. For example, idol immersion, wastewater treatment, livelihood, etc.



04

RULES that are expected to be applicable at the lake.





# WHAT LAKE VISIONING EXCLUDES



# WHAT IT EXCLUDES

01

Identification of the legal boundary of the lake.

02

A worked-out budget to achieve the vision of the lake.

03

Rules that are already enforced by the BBMP. For example, the lake is accessible to all, lake timings, etc. It is assumed that those rules will have to be complied with in any case.



The functions, physical elements, rules, and stakeholders that comprise a holistic lake vision.

# ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE



# STAKEHOLDERS

## 01: GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

BBMP, BDA, KTCDA, MID, BWSSB, Forest Department, Fisheries Department

## 02: CITIZEN AND CITIZEN GROUPS

Citizen groups, citizens around the lake, and any ward committees

## 03: THOSE DEPENDENT FOR THEIR LIVELIHOOD

Grass cutters, Fishermen, Dhobis

## 04: POLITICAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE LEADERS

MLA, MP, Panchayat





# FUNCTIONS

## Ecological

- 01 Flood Control
- 02 Biodiversity Conservation

## Livelihood

- 03 Grass-cutting
- 04 Fishing
- 05 Dhobi Ghat / Washing clothes

## Community

- 06 Educational Services
- 07 Religious services
- 08 Recreational and Lung space

## Water Security

- 09 Groundwater Recharge
- 10 Wastewater Treatment and Reuse



# PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

01

Water Body

02

Wetlands

03

Islands

04

Inlet, Filters, and Silt Trap

05

Trees and Gardens



LAKE VISIONING DOCUMENT





## ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE

# PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

**06**

Bund - walkway

**07**

Overflow and Sluice gate

**08**

Kalyani

**09**

Solid Waste Management systems

**10**

Gates



# PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

11

Fence

12

Security Cabin

13

Toilets

14

Pet Area, Gyms, Amphitheatre

15

Cycling Track







## ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE

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# PHYSICAL ELEMENTS

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**16**

Gazebo

**17**

Fishing Jetty

**18**

Diversion drain and Diversion mechanism

**19**

Sewage Treatment Plant

**20**

Electricity

**21**

Community and Conservation Zones



## ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE

# RULES

## 01: RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Will yoga classes, dance classes, marathons, picnics, visits by school groups, kere habbas, be allowed?

## 02: PETS

What will be the policy on the entry of pets?

## 03: TIMINGS

What will be the timings for people to enter and exit the lake? (normally BBMP timings are adhered to)





# RULES

## 04: CYCLING

Will cycling be allowed on the lake periphery?  
Will there be a separate track?

## 05: TRAFFIC

Will motorized vehicles be allowed to use the lake path to get across to the other side of the lake? Does the lake allow thoroughfare through the lake boundaries?

## 06: ACCESS TO INSTITUTIONS

Will there be institutions monitoring the lake? Are they allowed to check water quality and conduct other experiments for water quality? Whom should they take permission from and who all should be involved?





Thinking beyond designing a lake system that can adapt to not just present but also future circumstances.

# THINKING BEYOND





# THINKING BEYOND

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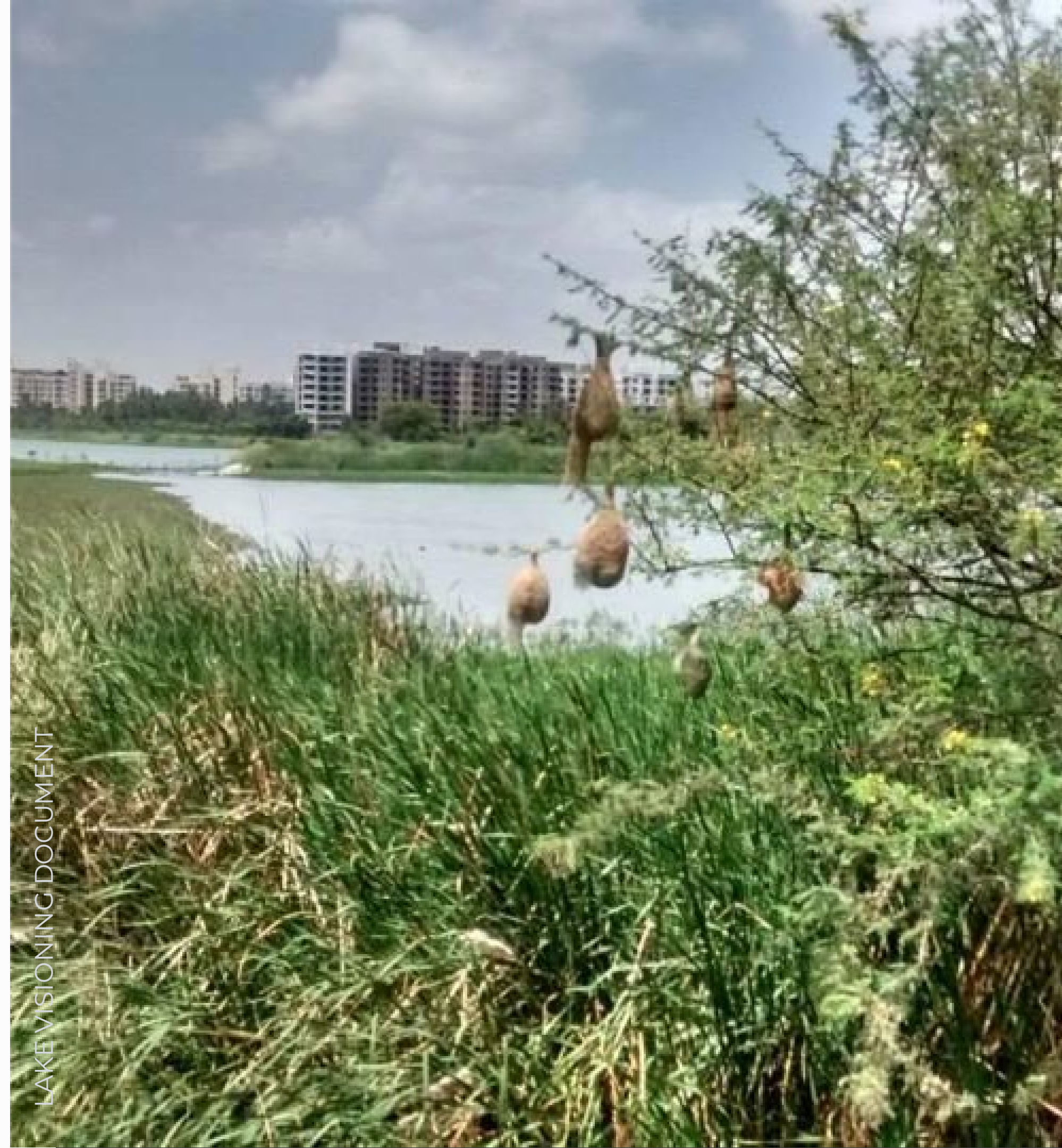
The above articulation of the components of a 'Lake Vision Document' has been in terms of various choices that have already been made at lakes either by citizen groups or the BBMP.

What if we could newly imagine lakes? What would that look like? While this has not been explicitly covered in this document, it is useful to get the group thinking on those lines as well.



# THINKING BEYOND

If felt important enough, this could modify our imagination of the lakes. The imaginations could include aspects such as a lake with no fences, open all the time, allowing for people to walk/swim across it, or even having educational centers at the lake.





# METHODOLOGY



# BEFORE THE MEETING

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## 01: SEEK INSPIRATION

- Visit some of the rejuvenated lakes and engage with the associated lake groups to understand how they achieved their goals and what challenges need to be kept in mind while doing so.

## 02: IDENTIFY PARTICIPANTS

- Identify the list of people to invite - ensuring that all possible stakeholders have been covered.
- Walk around the lake at various times, identify as many stakeholders as possible, speak to them.
- Also, invite the people living around the catchment of the lake, as it is their activity that will affect the functions and water quality of the lake. If possible bring them all onto a WhatsApp group. Send an invite email/WhatsApp message to invite them to the Lake Visioning meeting.
- Reach out to FriendsOFLakes organization so you can have some people from other lakes join in.



# BEFORE THE MEETING

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## 03: APPOINT DOCUMENTERS

- Appoint a scribe/s to take minutes of the meeting (preferably video record the meeting as well).
- Invite an artist who can make a visual representation of the group's imagination of the lake.
- Give the scribe and artist some background information about the lake and its physical map.

## 04: CONTEXT SETTING

- Create a "context setting" presentation that includes the current status of the lake, the issues, the stakeholders, information about the catchment, any key points about the lake, information on the lake series - if the lake is a part of a series, etc.
- If possible get some naturalists to visit the lake and point out species that are present. In some lakes, certain rare species are observed. It will be essential to retain them post revival of the lake and naturalists will help identify them.
- Recognize and uncover if the lake has some historical significance and any records like inscription stones have been maintained for the same.

# DURING THE MEETING

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## 01 : SET THE CONTEXT

- Showcase the "context setting " presentation that gives a sense of the current status and history of the lake.
- Note that this can also be shared as pre-reading material.

## 02: PRESENT

- Make a presentation to share details on the different lakes that have been rejuvenated and maintained. Also, share what can be learned from other's experiences.
- This can also be shared as pre-reading material

## 03: BUILD THE VISION

- Using the "ELEMENTS OF THE LAKE" section get inputs from all "STAKEHOLDERS" on "FUNCTIONS", "PHYSICAL ELEMENTS", and "RULES".
- Figure out upfront how the inputs will be collected since several choices will have to be made and time will always be insufficient. If possible, some of the points that most people agree on can be decided upfront and only the contentious points can be discussed during the meeting. Be realistic in terms of the functions and rules that can be enforced at the lake.



# DURING THE MEETING

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## 04 : CONSOLIDATE THE VISION

- Consolidate and share all inputs that have been collected for "PHYSICAL ELEMENTS", "FUNCTIONS", "RULES".
- This can be done on a whiteboard or a document that is maintained live during the Lake Vision meeting.

## 05: COMMUNICATE THE VISION

- Artist can translate as many inputs as possible into a sketch.
- The artist should already have a map of the lake and have some sense of the inlets/outlets to the lake.

# AFTER THE MEETING

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## 01: REFINE AND ITERATE

- Create and share with all stakeholders the draft 'Lake Vision Document' with all the points agreed upon and the final visual representation of the lake. Ask for feedback on the same.
- The core group will have to spend some time to put together all inputs as well as work with the artist.

## 02: SHARE

- Incorporate all feedback and share. If required call for another meeting.
- Make sure that the documents are available as publicly as the group sees fit.



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FOR QUESTIONS OR  
FEEDBACK