

Redevelopment of Ya'ahowu Park With Creative Placemaking in Gunungsitoli City

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ABSTRACT

One of the key elements of a city that is considered capable of supporting the quality of the environment and the quality of urban life is public open spaces. Ya'ahowu Park in Gunungsitoli Municipality is a public open space that serves social, cultural, and economic functions. As an area that is continually developing, issues arise due to the increasing intensity of its use as a coastal tourism destination and culinary centre. The current arrangement of the site is still partial, purely aesthetic, and lacks a master plan as a guide. Therefore, if its development is not properly planned, it is feared that it may exacerbate problems and worsen the site's quality. This thesis aims to design the development of Ya'ahowu Park as a public open space for tourism, using the waterfront concept and a placemaking approach. These theories are employed because they are relevant to the physical conditions of the design site, with the hope of creating a quality and meaningful public space for its users. The focus of the development is on the waterfront redevelopment, as an effort to reorganize the waterfront area along with the facilities that can still be utilized. The previous facilities are restored and/or reactivated during the planning process, but with new roles that lean more towards public interests, with the objective of improving the environmental quality. Creative placemaking is the central approach, aiming to enliven the place, stimulate the economy, and provide a platform for creativity with local wisdom.

Keywords: Gunungsitoli, placemaking, public space, waterfront.

1. Introduction

Presently, cities in Indonesia are earnestly engaged in the creation and redevelopment of social interaction spaces, particularly Public Open Spaces (Ruang Terbuka Publik or RTP), as part of a broader initiative to preserve and enhance environmental quality, including Gunungsitoli Municipality. This municipality is located in Nias Archipelago cluster to the west of Sumatra Island, characterized by geographic coordinates of 00°12'-01°32' North Latitude (NL) and 97°00'-98°00' East Longitude (EL), with an average elevation ranging from 0 to 600 meters above sea level. Gunungsitoli Municipality is currently undergoing comprehensive enhancements across various fields, including infrastructure, social, and economic aspects, driven by its municipal status. In accordance with The National Government Law Number 26 of 2007 concerning Spatial Planning, every urban area in Indonesia must allocate a minimum of 30% of its area for Green Open Spaces (Ruang Terbuka Hijau or RTH). Regrettably, data from the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing in 2021 indicated that only 13 out of 174 cities in Indonesia complied with this Green City program and met the 30% RTH requirement. The adverse effects of this situation include a decline in productivity, partly attributed to the limited availability of public spaces for social interaction and relaxation. Within the context of urban development, the presence of public spaces and expanses of greenery is crucial to enhancing urban management performance, fostering the creation of livable cities, addressing issues of poverty and social vulnerability, reinforcing the internal and external functions of the city, and promoting synergy in urban development [1].

In accordance with the Regional Spatial Plan (Rencana Tata Ruang Wilayah or RTRW) of Gunungsitoli Municipality for the period 2011-2031, the city has committed to allocating 20% of its total area as public open spaces, with one such location being the Ya'ahowu Park Site. This area serves as the epicenter of the city's economic growth and was originally a site for debris disposal following the 2005 earthquake. Subsequently, it underwent reclamation and transformation into a functional area to meet the social and recreational needs of the community. Despite various physical developments implemented by the government in this site segment, such as pedestrian arrangements, road shoulder parking lanes, streetlights, physical barriers, and standard drainage systems, the development and arrangement lack uniformity across the entire area. Infrastructure, public facilities, and land connections within the site still require improvement. Additionally, the local identity of the area is not prominently manifested in the developed segment. Furthermore, it is crucial to acknowledge that this site lacks full accessibility for individuals with disabilities. Consequently, inclusive and disability-friendly planning should be a priority to ensure that all citizens can safely and comfortably enjoy the facilities and activities on this site. With meticulous planning and stringent enforcement of regulations, these issues can be effectively addressed, resulting in the creation of a better and more sustainable environment for the entire community. The phenomenon of public space in developing countries is often associated with inconsistency and informality [2] This planning focuses on three fundamental theories: (1) public open space, (2) redevelopment, and (3) creative placemaking.

2. Method

This study employs a rationalistic approach that integrates both qualitative and quantitative aspects to delve into the conceptualization of architectural design for waterfront recreational spaces. An exploratory approach was selected to deepen the understanding of architectural design theory pertaining to waterfront recreational spaces. This study seeks to elucidate the interaction between humans and their environment, with a particular focus on how placemaking attributes impact the design of these spaces. The design methodology embraces qualitative methods, necessitating the identification of relevant issues for investigation, the framing of these issues for exploration, the generation of appropriate data, and the establishment of a logical relationship between the identified problems, generated data, analysis, and conclusions [3]. Primary and secondary data were collected through a mixed-methods approach that incorporates both qualitative and quantitative elements for exploration. This encompasses direct observation through surveys, interviews with pertinent stakeholders, and a comprehensive review of relevant literature. The collected data consists of digital media, including photos, videos, audio recordings, and printed media such as notes and writings as valid evidence. The objectives of data collection include: (1) Identifying the components that shape the identity of the design site, (2) Identifying government policies that influence the design site, (3) Identifying the design site in macro, meso, and micro contexts, (4) Drawing conclusions from the conducted data analysis.

The theories used to achieve the study objectives include studies on Public Open Spaces, study on Waterfront Development, and the principles of Creative Placemaking. Additionally, precedent studies of similar functions were conducted to establish parameters for quality spaces. Field data were analyzed to comprehend both physical and non-physical conditions, thereby informing the formulation of architectural programs and activities aligned with the specific needs of the design site. The outcomes of this analysis will lead to the development of design concepts. The process of data analysis and processing will utilize Descriptive Narrative methods, integrating previously studied theories to articulate successful design parameters, criteria, and principles. Subsequently, these insights will be applied in design simulations aimed at addressing the study objectives. The presentation of simulation results will incorporate 2D and 3D visualization techniques, providing a profound understanding of the design's ambiance and atmosphere. The study commences with the documentation of the design site's location, serving as the primary context for comprehending human interactions with the environment. The data collection methodology of surveys, interviews, and participant observation. Observation methods are employed to observe natural occurrences without interference, with the goal of hearing, seeing, and understanding participant-related behaviours. Through these observations, the intention is to record and analyze concealed ethical meanings inherent in participant actions. Various human actions and behaviours in the observed environment are then meticulously documented using digital tools.

Data collection begins by gathering information about visitors, their place of residence, motivations for visiting, and other relevant basic data. Subsequently, semi-open-ended questions are used to evaluate the place based on placemaking theory. Interviews are conducted concurrently with digital recording to obtain more detailed data, especially when involving multiple cases or participants. The applied interview technique is semi-structured, allowing for question adjustments according to field needs and conditions. In the analysis phase, both quantitative and qualitative data collected are visualized to understand the data representation from the observed sample.

3. Result and Discussion

3.1 Green Public Open Space

Urban open spaces are places to celebrate human diversity, culture, nature, and preserve memories. They serve as a venue for the general public to gather and a place where one can enjoy the bustle or become anonymous in urban space. City parks will continue to play a crucial role in the lives of communities [4] As part of the urban environment, public open spaces play a vital role in facilitating social interactions within urban society. Trancik (1986), as cited in [5]), defines open space as the comparison between the area covered by buildings and the open area within the urban space.

Others argue that RTP (Public Open Space) is a space within the urban network that is visually and physically accessible, shared in an atmosphere of freedom and equality, and flexible in function. City parks, town squares, road/access networks, pedestrian areas, playgrounds, green lanes, atriums or markets, and waterfront locations are examples of public open spaces [6].). Meanwhile, according to [7], public open space is an area designated for public activities and interests that evoke the emotions of those who encounter or utilize it. [8] outlines the principles and criteria of a successful public open space, which are as follows: (1) Ease of Accessibility: Ensuring that the space is easily reachable and accessible, (2) Diverse Activities: Promoting a wide range of activities to cater to diverse interests and needs, (3) Comfort: Creating a comfortable environment for users, (4) High Social Interaction: Encouraging high levels of social interaction among users, (5) Flexible and Inviting Spaces: Providing flexible and inviting spaces for various activities, (6) Amenities: Offering necessary facilities and amenities, (7) Event Programming: Hosting events, celebrations, performances, festivals, concerts, or other activities, (8) Management and Maintenance: Efficiently managing and maintaining the public area, (9) Sustainable Community Engagement: Ensuring sustainable community engagement and involvement, (10) The presence of children, the elderly and people with disabilities: The presence of children, the elderly and people with disabilities who can socialize comfortably is an indicator of the livability of a public open space site. These principles and criteria serve as a guide for the development and assessment of successful public open spaces.

According to Law Number 26 of 2007 on Spatial Planning, Article 29 defines Green Open Space (Ruang Terbuka Hijau or RTH) as a linear or clustered area, primarily open in nature, where plants, whether naturally grown or intentionally planted, thrive. The proportion of RTH within the total city area is mandated to be 30%, consisting of 20% public and 10% private spaces. Public Green Open Space refers to green spaces owned and managed by the local city government for the general benefit of the public. These spaces include city parks, public cemeteries, and green corridors along roads, rivers, and coastlines. On the other hand, private Green Open Space includes gardens or yards of privately-owned homes or buildings that are planted with vegetation. The minimum 30% RTH requirement serves as the minimum standard to ensure the ecological balance of the city, including hydrological and microclimatic systems, as well as other ecological systems. This, in turn, enhances the availability of clean air required by the community and simultaneously improves the city's aesthetic value. To further enhance the function and proportion of green open spaces within the city, the government, communities, and private entities are encouraged to cultivate vegetation on top of their buildings. Meanwhile, the minimum 20% proportion of Public RTH provided by the city government is intended to ensure that the minimum proportion of green open space is more readily achieved, allowing for widespread utilization by the community. The function of green open space in general is: (1) Ecological, (2) Aesthetic, (3) Education, and (4) Economical.

When considering the positioning of Green Open Spaces (RTH) within urban areas, the site of Ya'ahowu Park in the Municipality of Gunungsitoli is deemed suitable to be designated as a Green Open Space, combined with Residential Green Open Space (RTNH), serving as a social area. This aligns with the government's projections outlined in the City Spatial Plan (RTRW) for the Municipality of Gunungsitoli for the period 2011-2031.

3.2 Redevelopment Waterfront

In the most literal sense, waterfront areas refer to the outskirts of a city or regions bordering water, or port areas [9]. According to [10] waterfront areas are dynamic locations where land and water intersect. The development of waterfront areas is the best illustration of a city's resilience in terms of its ability to adapt to change, adjust to the times, seize opportunities, create a new cityscape, and enhance the living environment of its residents [10]. The development of waterfront areas begins with the repurposing of defunct pier areas. Subsequently, these pier areas transform into business, recreational, and even residential spaces. Eventually, the decommissioned pier lands become ideal spaces that stimulate the growth of the surrounding areas. Waterfront locations are now utilized for various purposes worldwide, including commercial, industrial, transit ports, recreation, and housing [10]. The development of waterfront areas, known as "waterfront development," is currently on the rise in Indonesia. Several places, such as Manado, Makassar, and other regions bordering bodies of water, have begun developing their waterfront areas with waterfront concepts. The challenge for waterfront development lies in how to maintain and enhance its benefits [11].

According to [12] in [13] there are 10 principles for Waterfront Development that have been endorsed during the Global Conference on The Urban Future (URBAN 21). These principles are as follows: 1) Preserving Water and Environmental Quality: Ensuring the preservation of water quality and the environment, 2) Integration into the City Structure: Becoming an integral part of the city's structure, 3) Local Identity as Character: Embracing the local identity as a defining characteristic, 4) Priority on Mixed-Use: Making mixed-use functions a top priority, 5) Public Accessibility as a Vital Requirement: Ensuring public access as a vital requirement, 6) Public-Private Collaboration: Encouraging collaboration between the private and public sectors, 7) Public Participation for Sustainability: Considering public participation as a sustainability aspect, 8) Long-Term Project Development: Viewing development as a long-term project, 9) Continuous Revitalization: Ensuring that revitalization remains an ongoing process, 10) Benefits from Good Relations with Stakeholders: Benefiting from a strong relationship with various stakeholders.

Meanwhile, the criteria according to Project for Public Space as cited in [14] are as follows: (1) Public Interest and Activity-Oriented: Focused on public interests and activities, (2) Alignment with Local Character: The vision for the area should align with the local character, (3) Optimal Use of Water Bodies as Key Attractions: Leveraging water bodies as the primary attraction, (4) Variety of Activities, Facilities, and Functions as Supporting Attractions: Offering a variety of activities, facilities, and functions to support the attraction, (5) Optimal and Connected Access to Other Public Spaces: Ensuring optimal and connected access to other public spaces, (6) 24/7 Utilization by the Community: Making it available and utilized by the community 24/7, (7) Connecting Spaces Between Zones or Buildings: Creating connecting spaces between different zones or buildings, (8) Building Design Incorporating Open Spaces: Designing buildings that incorporate open spaces, (9) Prioritizing Pedestrian Access and Restricting Vehicle Access: Prioritizing pedestrian access while limiting vehicle access, (10) Commercial Spaces as Economic Catalysts and Attractions: Including commercial spaces as economic catalysts and attractions.

According to [15], the types of waterfront development are divided into three categories: (1) Conservation: This involves efforts to preserve and protect existing waterfront areas that have fallen into disrepair and restore them for public benefit, (2) Redevelopment: This entails reorganizing the waterfront area along with its usable facilities. The previously existing facilities are restored and reactivated during the planning process, but with new roles that are more oriented toward the public interest, aiming to improve environmental quality, (3) Development: This is an endeavour to create entirely new waterfront areas to meet the demands of urban interests. At the city scale, the focus of these areas is on public functions. Efforts to reorganize the existing government-designated land with various provided facilities are carried out through waterfront redevelopment. In this planning concept, the existing facilities will be renovated, expanded, and reactivated with new roles that emphasize the local identity. The aim is to ensure that the selected site development can provide broader benefits to the community, with a focus on attractive recreational tourism functions that capture public interest.

3.3 Creative Placemaking

This study will emphasize the relevance of the creative placemaking approach to the potential of the site and the need to stimulate the economy while enhancing the cultural industry in a small, emerging town undergoing significant structural changes. Creative placemaking solutions offer revitalization by breathing life into the place and utilizing local wisdom as its creative elements. The benefits of this type of placemaking include improvements in livability, diversity, and support for the cultural industry, in line with the potential and expected outcomes for the planning area. In the theoretical frameworks used, there are various principles and success criteria that share similarities. Therefore, the design process will integrate these principles and criteria to create a more effective theoretical foundation.

In the application of creative placemaking, strategic partnerships between public, private, non-profit, and community stakeholders come together to shape the physical and social character of an environment, city, or region around arts and cultural activities. Creative placemaking is generally understood as the strategic use of arts and cultural elements by diverse partners to shape the physical and social character of a place to stimulate economic development, drive progressive social change, and enhance the physical environment [16]. Creative placemaking is often closely tied to local culture, art, and creative content, accommodated within built spaces as its attractions. The principles of creative placemaking include: (1) Utilization of Arts and Culture: This involves professionals such as painters, musicians, sculptors, historians, architects, or other forms of artistic and cultural expression. Projects can encompass a variety of things, including murals, street festivals, street musicians, or public art sculptures related to the place's history. Artists are involved in planning, implementation, and activities, (2) Diverse Partnerships: Partnerships can include churches, government agencies, the general public, and others. These partners invest time, talent, and/or financial support to strengthen the project and take greater ownership in its long-term maintenance and management, (3) Shaping the Place: The combination of art, culture, and diverse partners can transform underutilized spaces into something useful, safe, beautiful, and vibrant, (4) Stimulating, Promoting, and Qualifying: Successful creative placemaking designs will attract new businesses, housing, schools, and other facilities. It serves as a catalyst for further improvement and development. In the planning process, the implementation of creative placemaking harnesses the local wisdom and resources through collaborative schemes with partners.

Some potential partners who can collaborate include art institutions, relevant government departments, educational institutions, and community groups invited to participate in incorporating artistic and cultural elements into the site. It provides a platform for expression and gathering, with a common goal of enhancing the quality of space and making the site a welcoming recreational destination for children, the elderly, people with disabilities, and the general public. By examining precedent studies, principles and success criteria are formulated as the foundation and reference in the design, outlined in table 1 as follows:

Table 1 Principles and success criteria for theory review		
No.	Theory	Criteria
1.	Green Public Open Space	Accessibility convenience
		Diversity of activities
		User comfort
		High social interaction
		Visually appealing
		Comprehensive facilities and amenities
		Open to the public
		Recreational functionality
		Expansive green spaces
		Diverse transportation options
2.	Redevelopment Waterfront	Concept
		Theme
		Function
		Activities
		Water conservation
3.	Creative Placemaking	Integration with the city's structure
		Creating emotional connections
		Proportional mass
		Human scale
		Pedestrian orientation
		Local identity character
		Mixed functionality
		Collaboration with private and community sectors
		Active public participation
		Long-term development
		Sustainable revitalization
		Preservation of historical buildings
		Accommodating art, culture, and creativity

3.4 Site Location

The planning site is located in the Municipality of Gunungsitoli, approximately 23.1 kilometres away with a travel time of approximately 42 minutes from Binaka Airport when using four-wheeled transportation. It is situated from southeast to northwest in the eastern coastal area of the Municipality of Gunungsitoli. The site covers an area of approximately 11,000 square meters (1.1 hectares) with main road access extending approximately 475 meters along Pelabuhan Lama Street, divided into three development zones by the government. According to the Spatial Planning Data of the Municipality of Gunungsitoli (RTRW), this park site falls under the category of Public Green Open Space (RTH) in a strategically central area for the city's economic growth.

Based on data from the Gunungsitoli Tourism Department, the number of visitors enjoying the site in 2021, particularly during peak hours (late afternoon to evening), ranged from approximately 500 visitors, both actively engaging in activities and passively enjoying the space. However, during the morning and early afternoon hours, the site remains quiet and inactive, creating a negative image and failing to stimulate activities and maximum utilization throughout the day. This is a phenomenon that poses one of the challenges in the design process to maximize usage and vibrancy within the site. The site has a regulation such as: Land Area 1.1 hectares (11,000 square meters), Maximum Building Coverage (KDB) = 10%, Maximum Floor Area Ratio (KLB) = 0,1, and Minimum Green Open Space (KDH) = 80. The physical boundaries of the design site are explained in figure 1.

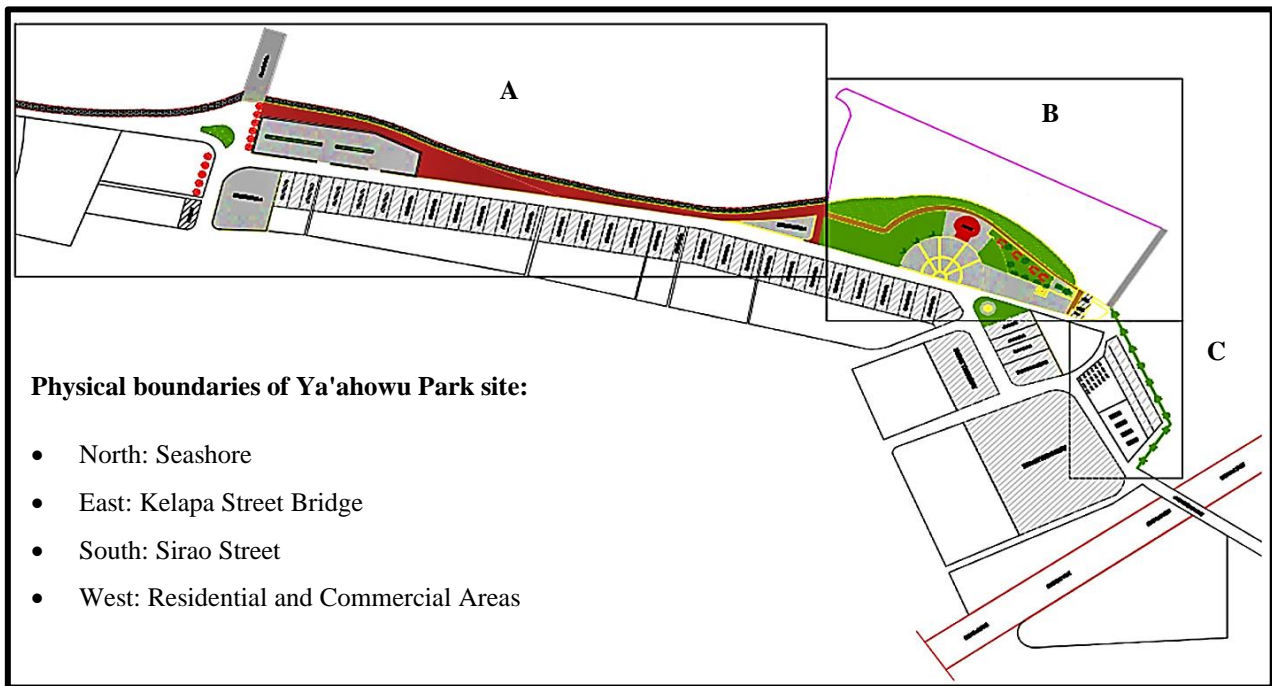


Figure 1 Site location and zoning

3.5 Land Use

The planning site is located in the central region of Gunungsitoli Municipality, surrounded by bodies of water, commercial, and residential zones. A comprehensive analysis of land allocation reveals numerous potential economic partners available for collaboration in the development of culinary and souvenir tourism. Consequently, a dedicated retail area will be constructed to accommodate these economic and culinary aspects. The Ya'ahowu Park site can be accessed via Jl. Pelabuhan Lama, spanning approximately ± 475 meters from West to East. Additionally, access to this site can also be obtained from Sirao Street through small lanes that cut through the commercial area. In the context of circulation and accessibility, issues arise when peak hours arrive, leading to congestion at the main entrance due to the accumulation of street vendor stands and roadside parking, thereby increasing access time. To enhance accessibility and create a better environment, the site area will be oriented towards pedestrians by restricting motor vehicle circulation within the site and optimizing bicycle lanes.

Previously serving as an ex-reclamation site for the disposal of construction debris following the 2005 earthquake disaster, the planning site has undergone a transformative process, emerging as a city-owned public space after years of sedimentation. Since 2017, the government has been gradually planning its redevelopment. Zone B has been designated as a public open area aligning with the land zoning and arrangement. Meanwhile, Zone C is currently undergoing land leveling for further development into the Gunungsitoli City Park and Recreation Center.

3.6 Design Concept

Visioning

Vision: "Vibrant and Meaningful Public Space". From the statement above, it can be literally interpreted as follows: 1) Vibrant: The development of the design site will offer space for open activities and maximize existing potentials, such as bodies of water, diverse attractions, and various activities, thus creating an inviting and unique atmosphere for visitors, 2) Meaningful: The site development accommodates local community activities and local potential to create a space cherished and utilized by the general public, 3) Public Space: The design site is optimized as a public open space. This is then transformed into a unique element that integrates architectural design within the site.

Programming

The spatial dimension defines the measurable size of the place where the ongoing functions take place within it. Based on the data, the number of visitors during peak hours ranges from approximately 500 people; therefore, the programming is detailed in Table 2 as follows:

Table 2 Programming

No.	Area	Programming
1.	Public Open Space (523 m ²)	Vegetation Area, Greenway, and Seating Zone (green area)
		Coastal Promenade Pedestrian Path (promenade)
		Car, Motorcycle, and Bicycle Parking Area (parking)
		Child-Friendly Integrated Public Space (RPTRA)
		Reflection Garden Area
		Skateboard Park Area (skateboard area)
		Jogging Track
		Fishing Spots
		Amphitheatre
		Plazas
		Bench, Table, and Shade Furniture (pergola)
		Signage
		Physical Barriers (buffer, border, bollard)
2.	Supporting Buildings (656 m ²)	Vendor Stalls (vendors)
		Multipurpose Pavilion Building (pavilion)
		Security Posts
		Observation Deck/Tower (observation tower)
		Public Restroom Facilities and Janitorial Services (public restroom)
TOTAL		1.180 m ²

The results of the analysis of the selected spatial parameters will be reviewed in accordance with government regulations related to land planning. In this review, the types of spaces that form the basis of calculations are supporting buildings and management buildings, which are elaborated as follows:

- Land Area: ± 1.1 hectares (11.000 m²)
- Maximum Building Coverage (KDB): $(1.180 : 11.000) \text{ m}^2 \times 100\% = 9\%$
- Maximum Building Intensity (KLB): $(1.180 : 11.000) \text{ m}^2 = 0.09$
- Minimum Green Open Space (KDH): $11.000 \text{ m}^2 - 1.180 \text{ m}^2 = 9.820 \text{ m}^2 = (9.820 : 11.000) \text{ m}^2 \times 100\% = 90\%$

Spatial Relationships and Movement Patterns

The relationship between spaces and patterns of movement defines the overall layout of the floor plan. The characteristics, functions, and activities within the spaces consider their proximity to other spaces, determining zoning that will impact access to the areas, measurable spatial dimensions, and the functions that will take place within them. Public zones are easily accessible and not confusing, while private zones are exclusively intended for occupants. To optimize the uniqueness of the Ya'ahowu Park Site in the Municipality of Gunungsitoli, which spans approximately 1.1 hectares, the design must ensure that each zone within the site is comprehensively and holistically connected, thus creating a meaningful site unity for the community. Therefore, the design between zones and spaces should approach it well and logically in terms of function and nature, to achieve maximum utilization. Consequently, the design should optimize the distinctive and unique form of the site to create a meaningful site unity for the community. To achieve this goal, the design between zones and spaces should be approached in a good, simple, and logical manner in terms of function and nature, making it easier to achieve and maximize usage.

The design process plays a central role in integrating all analyses and data, serving as a solid foundation. Design concepts are derived as solutions from specific field data abstractions (contexts) that emerge from current problem analysis. With these concepts, the steps to create a design can be elucidated, and the vision to be achieved by the design can be realized. Furthermore, the proposed design process in this thesis aims to address the issues previously raised in the earlier chapters. Thus, the design process becomes a primary pillar in achieving the proposed design objectives. The design of Ya'ahowu Park Site in the Municipality of Gunungsitoli presents a proposal for the development of a waterfront-themed RTP site with a creative placemaking approach and Nias architectural values implemented in various design strategies, including tangible and intangible values. Tangible values are visually represented in building elements (head-body-feet, materials, colours, ornaments, and others). Intangible values are presented invisibly, such as the application of vernacular concepts, building orientation, zoning, and others. The site development will be carried out through collaboration among relevant stakeholders. The government, as the landowner, will ensure the sustainability of the development, while the private sector, as investors, will guarantee the availability of funds and promote the site.

Therefore, the development and site expansion scenario is as follows: 1) The first stage involves the revitalization of the coastal area and city infrastructure, including roadways and existing reclamation, 2) The second stage encompasses the construction of buildings and recreational facilities, particularly in zones A and C, 3) The third stage focuses on organizing commercial and public facilities, with a tourism function as a key attraction, 4) The fourth stage prioritizes promotion and service functions to maintain site activity throughout the day, 5) The fifth stage involves regular maintenance and evaluation of performance and benefits achieved, adjusting targets, and executing necessary improvements and advancements.

Concept

The design theme will incorporate a waterfront concept for redevelopment, featuring various relevant facilities and amenities based on the analysis of literature studies and precedents. This waterfront theme adds value to the design site from the aspect of diversity of activities and attractions, thus creating a unique and memorable place meaning for users. In accordance with the previous type of waterfront re-development, this concept is represented in figure 2. In the site development, the functions and activities of the water body will be utilized to create an active attraction. The design site embraces an integrated waterfront concept based on 10 principles and criteria for waterfront areas. It focuses on public interests and activities, creating communal and flexible spaces such as plazas, jogging tracks, a green promenade along the water's edge, and a mini amphitheatre. The primary emphasis on utilizing the water body as a main attraction is reinforced through the provision of small boat rental facilities (banana boats), rental docks, and fishing spots, as well as observation buildings to maximize the enjoyment of the water body's scenery. Several existing facilities will be further developed and activated to support activities and the common interests of tourism functions that highlight the local identity to align with the community.

Zone A, a site designed with the aim of becoming an attractive and green public area, is located on the edge of an existing water body. The concept of continuity is applied by making Zone A the centrepiece of a public plaza and pedestrian pathways leading to the area. In this area, the local art community can install art objects, creating an intriguing melting point. The first area encountered by visitors, Zone A, will have open space facilities and amenities that ensure continuity between zones, safety, comfortable walking, and a pedestrian-friendly environment. Additionally, this zone also provides creative spaces for visitors to improvise, use, and create meaning in the space according to their preferences.

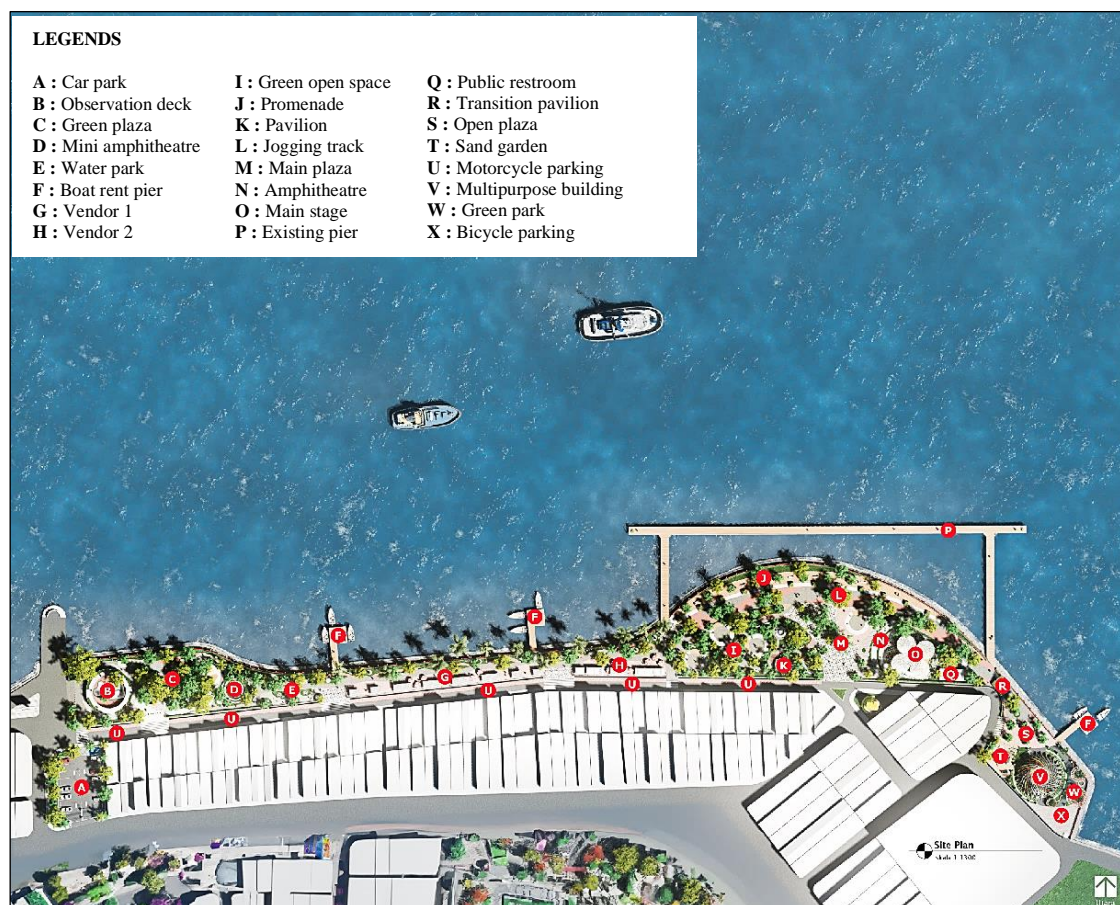


Figure 2 Designed site plan

Zone A is designed as an open public space for sports and tourism, as well as a gathering place for the skateboarding and art communities. Prioritizing green space development, this area is equipped with supporting facilities such as an observation deck building and a skatepark, all of which contribute to the variety of activities for site visitors as seen in figure 3. One of the main elements is the observation deck building, which serves a dual purpose as a central viewing point for observing the skateboard community's activities at the available skatepark and as a platform for enjoying the scenery in Zone A as seen in figure 4.

A variety of vegetation serves as visually appealing boundaries and creates an inclusive space for users within. Car parking is strategically located near Zone A and the observation deck building, ensuring smooth and swift access for visitors to immediately enjoy the various attractions and activities offered by this location. Zone A is an area that ensures the culinary needs of visitors are well met. One of the biggest attractions for visitors is food and snack tourism; therefore, the long and narrow area within Zone A is specifically dedicated as a culinary area. All of these implementations are real-life examples of applying the concept of creative placemaking while considering the needs of the community and flexibility. The design of Zone A's layout prioritizes pedestrian safety and comfort as the topmost concern. Spacious and well-organized pedestrian paths have been constructed around the site, allowing visitors to easily take leisurely strolls.



Figure 3 Zone A site axonometry and activities diagram

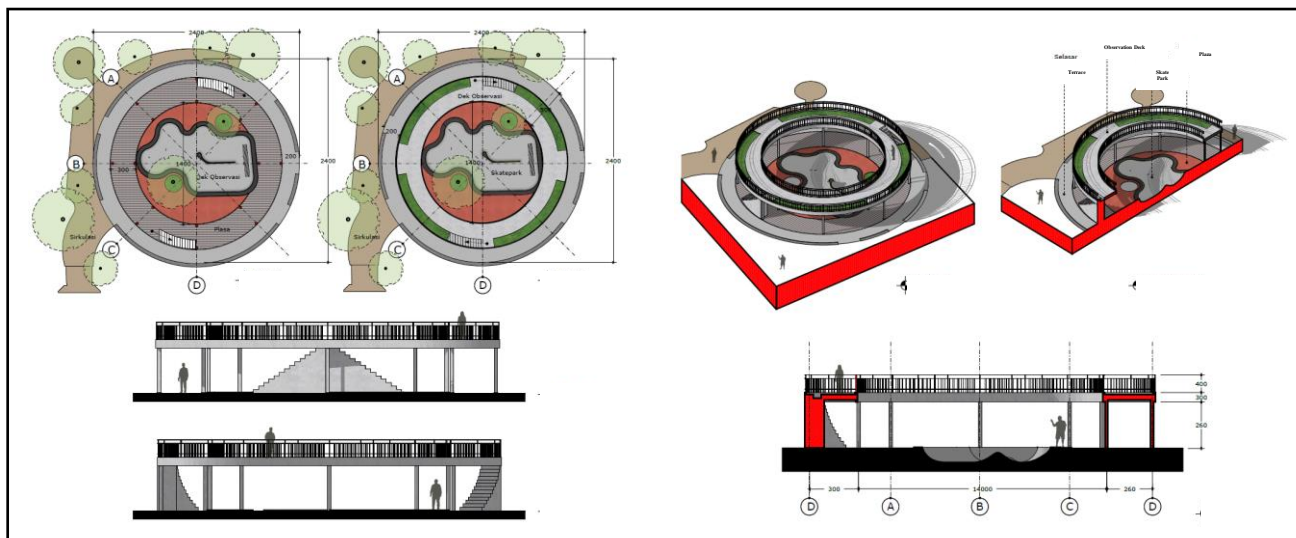


Figure 4 (a) Observation deck floor plan and views (b) Sections and axonometry

The design also ensures that road crossings are well-planned to facilitate visitors in crossing the surrounding roadways. These crossing areas are situated in close proximity to the expansive and beautiful green promenade, providing a peaceful ambiance for walking without the need to worry about disruption from motor vehicle traffic. A variety of vegetation types serve as visually appealing boundaries and create an inclusive space for its users. The car parking area is strategically located near Zone A and the observation deck building, ensuring smooth and quick access for visitors to immediately enjoy the various attractions and activities offered by this location. This zone will also showcase creative installations such as cultural sculptures and outdoor exhibition objects along the promenade route. Furthermore, visitors

will also have access to a pier to rent various watercraft, thus offering more entertainment options and exciting activities for them.

Zone B is a designated area designed as an extension of Zone A, with the aim of providing the widest open space experience possible. Located on the edge of the existing body of water, this site offers beautiful views and fresh air that can enhance the quality of life for visitors and have a positive impact on the surrounding environment. Zone B serves as the hub of activity for the site because it provides a wide range of public facilities and amenities. Functioning as a melting point and the largest public green space, this area becomes an attractive destination for visitors. Additionally, Zone B is equipped with an open-air stage ready to host music events, theatre performances, or other public activities. This way, visitors can experience joy and diversity while enjoying and adding meaning to this area.

In addition to a continuous jogging track connecting Zones A, B, and C, Zone B also offers a restored dock area for rental boats and open fishing spots for the public. With its calm water nature, this area can also serve as a safe swimming spot for the public, complete with accompanying safety features. The Plaza, apart from being a gathering and socializing place for visitors during large and public events, also functions as an assembly point and melting point for the general public. Various spacious facilities are provided to accommodate a large capacity of users. This zone serves as the main hub for ongoing activities and boasts extensive and dominant green open spaces, as seen in figure 5 and 6.

There is a green promenade designed here to accommodate areas for enjoying the sea view and daily sunrise-sunset phenomena. Equipped with an amphitheatre as a shaded seating area, visitors can comfortably enjoy the plaza and its various activities. Serving as a hub for tourism and a public open space, this plaza site offers shaded vegetation in the outdoor seating area overlooking the sea, allowing visitors to enjoy the beautiful sea view all day long. Broad-canopied vegetation, such as the Sea Almond tree, takes the lead in providing shade from the scorching sun during the day.

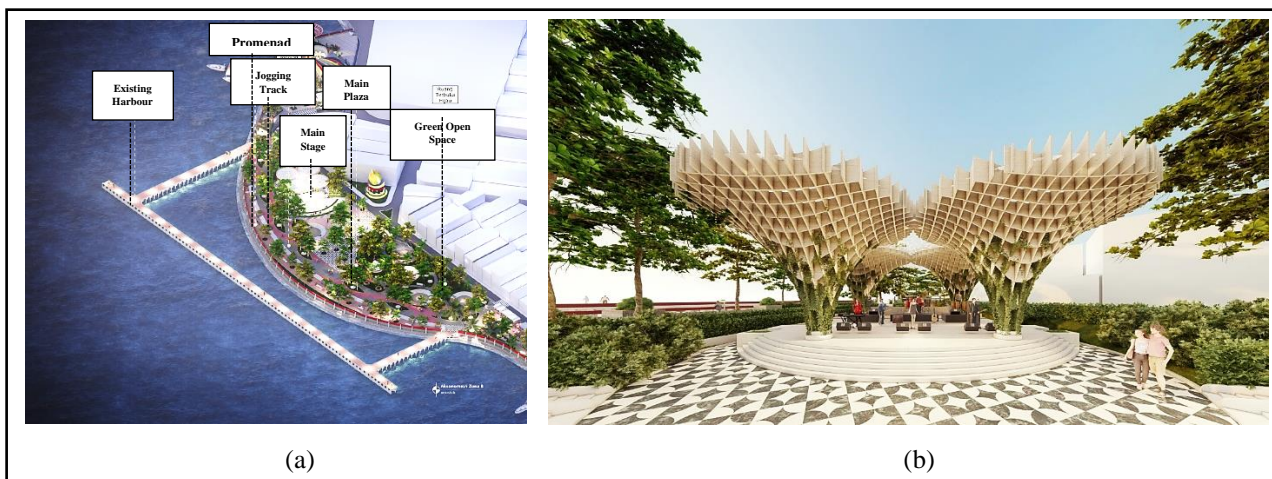


Figure 5 (a) Zone B axonometry (b) Open main stage facade

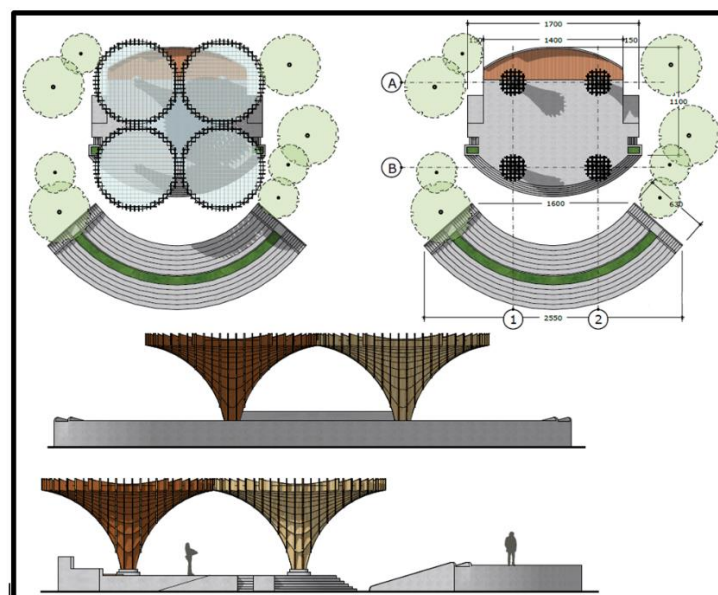


Figure 6 Open main stage plans

Zone C offers a variety of enticing facilities for visitors. There is a multi-purpose building that provides flexibility for various indoor activities, such as meetings, seminars, exhibitions, and social events. With its modern design and sophisticated glass façade, the building maximizes the influx of natural light. Furthermore, there is a children's sand play area that offers a range of play facilities, allowing parents to comfortably supervise their children. This way, visitors can enjoy activities like fishing by the sea at the rental pier, participate in outdoor events, and provide a safe and enjoyable space for children to play. Zone C is designed as a versatile area focused on children's play, education, and indoor community activities as seen in figure 7 and 8.

With comprehensive building facilities, a charming observation deck, comfortable transition pavilions, as well as plazas and piers for renting watercraft and fishing spots, visitors can easily access Zone C through Zone B or via the main road, ensuring broad access for those who want to explore this area. Meanwhile, endemic shade vegetation is placed along the water's edge, serving as a buffer and ensuring that the sustainability of green open spaces remains the primary focus in the design of Zone C's site. The transition area to Zone C is formed from a narrow site point, which is then utilized as a marker of the zone change, marked by the presence of a transition pavilion. Additionally, there is outdoor seating in this area, providing a common facility for visitors to enjoy the atmosphere at this transition site.

Zone C will feature a variety of child-friendly activities such as a sand playground and green park, along with supporting structures like the multi-purpose building. These buildings provide a safe and comfortable space for children and their parents to supervise and socialize. Community needs and indoor events will be accommodated in the multi-purpose building, which includes a children's public library and rentable indoor spaces for users in need of indoor facilities together. Furthermore, the summary of the concept and design approach is presented in table 3.



Figure 7 (a) Zone C site axonometry (b) Multipurpose building

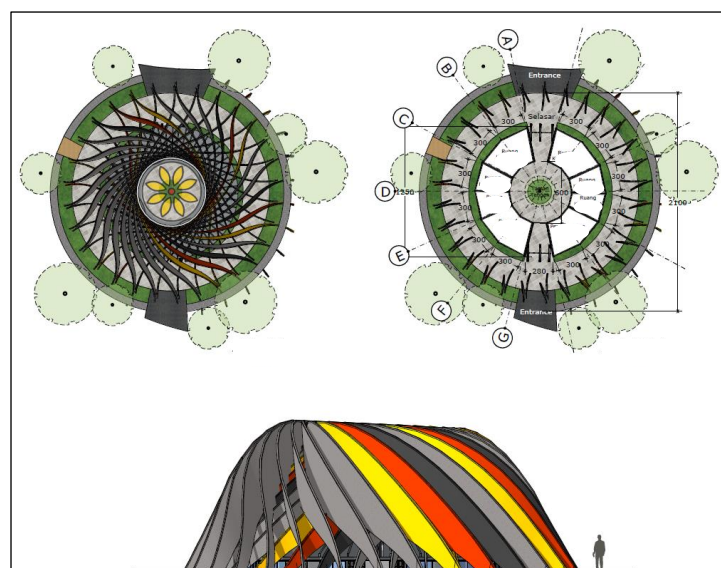
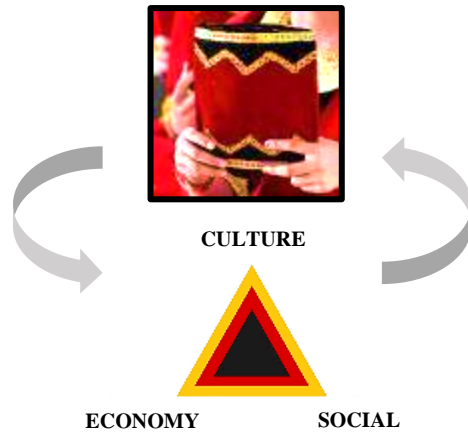
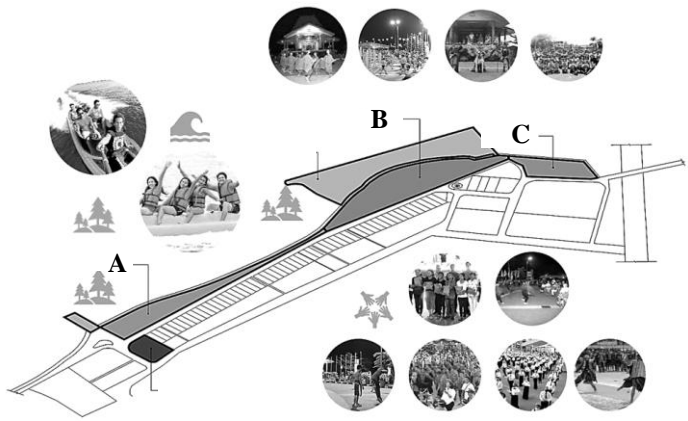
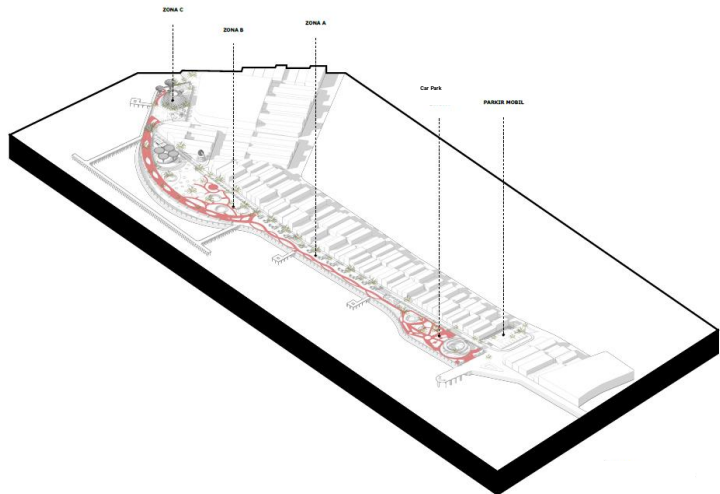

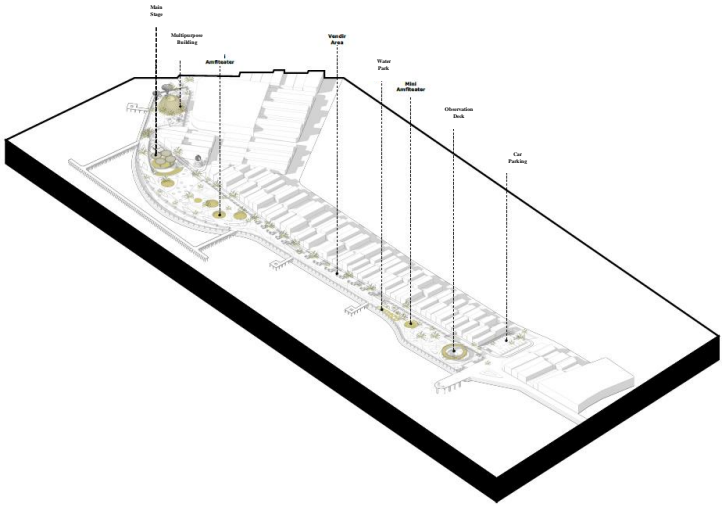
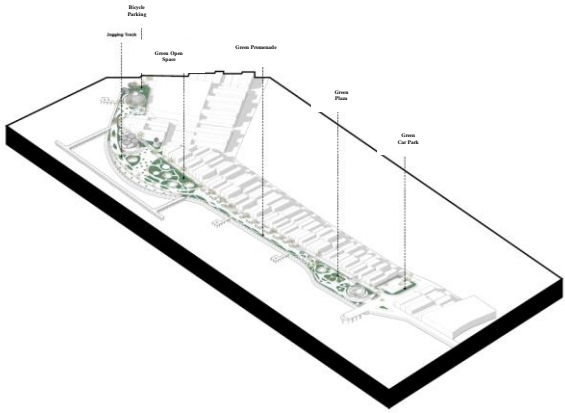


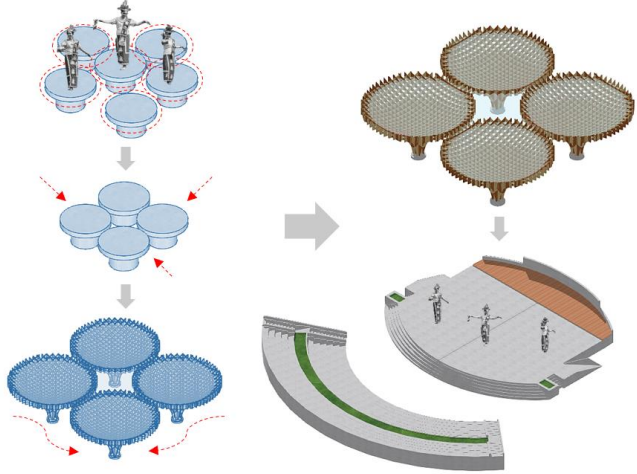
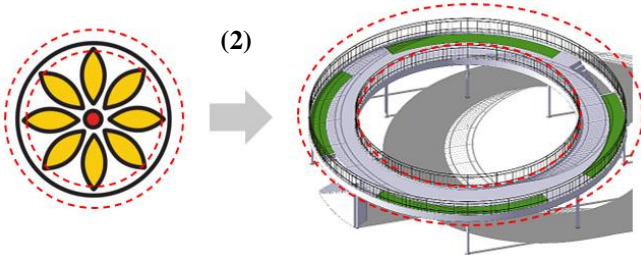
Figure 8 Multipurpose building plans and view


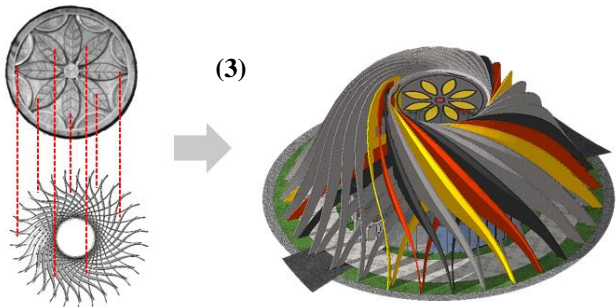

Table 3 Concept design summary

Concepts	Descriptions	Visualizations
Ni'Ohaluyo	As the main concept, this concept originates from the abstract symbols of the Nias tradition, which take the form of a triangular shape resembling the tip/blade/end of a spear, and this pattern symbolizes the spirit of heroism among the Nias people. The symbol serves as a representation of the three values encompassed in the design, namely: social, cultural, and economic.	
Zoning	<p>1. Zone A serves as a sports and retail hub. Within this area, a green promenade corridor will host a variety of outdoor art exhibitions and green-themed seating. Additionally, there is a waterfront rental dock for activities related to the sea.</p> <p>2. Zone B functions as a melting and assembly point. This zone serves as the central hub for public activities, featuring an amphitheatre, main stage, jogging track, etc.</p> <p>3. Zone C is designated as the community area. It includes a multipurpose indoor hall to accommodate community events and gatherings</p>	
Redevelopment Waterfront	The site theme will incorporate a waterfront area theme, involving redevelopment with the addition of various relevant facilities and amenities. In the site development, the functions and activities of water bodies will be integrated and serve as active attractions.	

Concepts	Descriptions	Visualizations
Circulation and Accessibilities	<p>The circulation and achievement of motor vehicles are designed not to disrupt pedestrian circulation by restricting them to the entry points of zones A and zone C. To create a smooth traffic flow and reduce the frequency of vehicle stops, the design proposes several redesign changes.</p>	
	<p>The car circulation route will be directed from Gomo Street to Old Port Street, providing a pleasant experience for road users. At the beginning of the circulation, the design will offer parking areas, a result of collaboration with PT. Pelindo, the landowner, and other stakeholders.</p>	
Function and Activities	<p>1. The major open spaces, dominated by open areas equipped with public art facilities, serve as active, flexible, and communal spaces. These spaces include plazas, children's play areas, waterfront promenades, and public walking strips.</p>	
	<p>2. Minor open spaces, acting as transitional areas with specific functions for support and services, encompass features such as parking areas, culinary vendors, mini amphitheatres, and more.</p> <p>3. The green belt comprises both passive and active green spaces, providing shade, oxygen production, and water absorption capabilities. These areas are distributed throughout the site with specific plant/vegetation categories.</p>	

Concepts	Descriptions	Visualizations
Green Vegetations	<p>The design layout will incorporate a vegetation zoning system to serve as an attraction and accommodate relevant activities within it. The green spaces will function as areas that intricately organize the site's zones, utilizing various local vegetation types to provide shade and pollution buffering.</p> <p>The arrangement of diverse vegetation is implemented with the following functions in mind, Coconut palms, Ketapang trees, a mixture of vegetation will form a vegetation cluster for green areas, serving as oxygen producers and mitigating air and noise pollution (buffer).</p>	

Architectural	<p>1. Main Open Stage</p> <p>There are Megalithic sites scattered across various regions. Thanks to their function, the configuration of the stones, and their unique shapes, the concept of this site has been adopted as inspiration for the main stage design mass. The building is inspired by cultural elements that play a role in the entertainment aspect.</p> <p>The traditional stone configuration serves as a place for dancers to entertain the king during cultural festivities. This traditional function seamlessly integrates with the role of the main stage as a performance venue.</p> <p>2. The Observation Deck</p> <p>The shape of observation deck building is a circular, donut-like shape. The central part of this building serves as a skatepark, providing thrilling action for the skateboarding community and spectators.</p>	<p>(1)</p>  <p>(2)</p> 
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Concepts	Descriptions	Visualizations
	<p>The design of this building takes inspiration from a Nias cultural symbol called "Ni'ogölilimö," which symbolizes the inner part of a fruit with different segments, yet the outer skin holds it together, much like Nias culture unites its people.</p> <p>3. Multipurpose Building This Multi-Purpose Building is also influenced by the distinctive Nias motif known as "Ni'ogölilimö."</p> <p>Its central form represents the core of a fruit, revealing the essence of the flesh and seeds, while the surrounding leaf silhouette depicts the protective skin of the fruit. The meaning in this ornament represents the spirit of cooperation and collaboration that strengthens the Nias community in achieving common goals.</p> <p>A famous proverb from the Nias Islands teaches: "<i>Aoha nörö nilului wahea, aoha nörö nilului waoso, alisi tafadaya-daya, hulu tafawolö-wolö</i>" (tasks united by cooperation will be much lighter to accomplish).</p>	  

4. Conclusion

The Creative Placemaking approach in the architectural design of the Ya'ahowu Park Redevelopment project in Gunungsitoli Municipality has successfully created a waterfront destination and open public space that benefits the general public and remains relevant to the local community. The triumph of this design is rooted in meticulous observation and analysis of several key factors. The Ya'ahowu Park Redevelopment project has created new and more strategic location that has now become an icon and a desired destination for many. The application of strategic placemaking principles, is based to the Placemaking Theory components outlined by the Project for Public Space, and has resulted in the creation of a space that prioritizes the comfort, safety, sustainability, and aesthetic appeal for its visitors.

Moreover, this design has augmented its intrinsic value through the incorporation of artistic elements, creativity, and aesthetic allure, specifically by integrating parameters related to creative placemaking and waterfront redevelopment. The utilization of art elements, including visual arts, art installations, and the revitalization of existing features with new and engaging functions, has significantly heightened the appeal of this locale. In addition to a focus on physical attributes, this project places a paramount emphasis on cultivating community participation by establishing high-quality

public spaces and facilitating a spectrum of participatory activities. The provision of open stage areas, children's playgrounds, flexible open spaces, and culinary zones exemplifies the dedication to fostering community engagement.

Furthermore, the inclusion of social programs, such as music festivals, art markets, and exhibitions, contributes substantially to encouraging active community involvement in utilizing this site. Another key to success is the development of artistic elements that can be integrated with the aspirations of the community. Various mural paintings and art sculptures depicting the history of the City of Gunungsitoli, natural landscapes, and the social life of the local community are expected to capture the attention and interest of the public in loving this area. Through the successful implementation of the Creative Placemaking approach, the Ya'ahowu Park Redevelopment project in the City of Gunungsitoli has established itself as a strategic locale. This development goes beyond the mere emphasis on comfort and beauty; it serves as a noteworthy platform for artistic expression and community participation. Emerging as a symbol of success, this place stands as a testament to the creation of meaningful public spaces for its users.

The Ya'ahowu Park Redevelopment project has further distinguished itself by incorporating key success factors, particularly in its construction strategy, which diligently ensures the realization of a strategic and purposeful space. Furthermore, the project involves the local community by providing opportunities for participation. By engaging the community, the project becomes a catalyst for activities and businesses in the surrounding area, involving them in local cultural performances. Through this approach, the Ya'ahowu Park Redevelopment project in the City of Gunungsitoli sets a good example in the development of sustainable and inclusive strategic places for the city.

5. Acknowledgements

This study is about designing Redevelopment of Ya'ahowu Park with Creative Placemaking in Gunungsitoli Municipality, with a specific emphasis on the tourism aspect of the city. The authors express their gratitude to the School of Architecture, Planning, and Policy Development (SAPPD), Institut Teknologi Bandung, for the invaluable guidance provided during the writing process of this study.

6. Conflict of Interest

The authors hereby affirm that the manuscript is devoid of any conflicts of interest.

Declaration of Generative AI and AI-Assisted Technologies in The Writing Process

During the preparation of this work the authors used ChatGPT-3.5 to enhance language and readability. Following the use of this tool/service, the authors meticulously reviewed and edited the content as necessary, assuming full responsibility for the final content of the publication.

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