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MELODY OF CHUKAI, RETROFITTING CHUKAI URBAN WATERFRONT AS AN  
INCLUSIVE PUBLIC SPACE THROUGH INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM  
RECLAMATION OF KEMAMAN, TERENGGANU.

This academic project is submitted in partial fulfilment of the  
requirement for the Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (Hons.)

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## **ABSTRACT**

Nowadays, concerns for creating a public space for community by considering environmental management is a critical importance to the future growth of cities throughout the world. Some of the urban areas located along river corridors, lakes and coastal waterways are of greater concern as human migration to these areas have increased over the last several decades. Water acts as the natural edges that separated to different places where both are very contrast in landscape setting. Urban watercourses have a close relationship with urban development, such as significant connectivity, ecological values and recreational opportunities

Unfortunately, development of urban waterfronts is not given much attention many cities in Malaysia. Rapid developments in Malaysia usually are lack of environmental awareness. Ecosystem importance has been neglected. People and authorities cannot see the importance of symbiosis between human and ecosystem. The spirit of the place is rarely seen in today's landscape setting. The tourists and local residents themselves cannot feel the genius loci. Thus, this thesis focuses on strategies of reclaiming back the degraded ecosystem and preserve them in form of urban park that focuses on lively spaces at the riverfront to create an active exciting public space.

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## CHAPTER 01: INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

In this 21st century, many cities have developed from, and are located near, the waterside. Public realized the representative and a spatial contextualizing importance of water in planning a physical development. Water creates spaces with great conditions to decelerate and stroll. It enlivens and structures urban spaces, without creating spatial borders.

According to Project for Public Space article, in any planning for a waterfront development, authorities or a developer should begin by envisioning a network of well-connected, multi-use public spaces that fit with the community's shared goals. By orienting waterfront revitalization around public spaces, new construction will enhance the quality of existing destinations and result in a whole that is greater than the sum of its parts.

A public space at the waterfront in an urban area is important to be a gathering spot or part of a community within the public realm that helps promote social interaction and a sense of community. Nowadays, many manmade and physical buildings are constructed within the greenery in the urban area. This phenomenon causes the residents to lose their space for social activities which is important in promoting human interaction among the community.

### 1.2 PREVALENT ISSUES

#### 1.2.1 Physical Issues

The 20<sup>th</sup> century become the period of technology and also advances in building construction and landscape development. The awareness about the benefit of nature and culture started to disappear where waterfront designed more towards urban approach without considering the needs of ecological application. Therefore, the waterfront today looks very urban and lost its genius loci. The design basically does not symbolize the identity of the place itself. Other than that, the dominant physical issue within an urban waterfront is that they do not provide enough facilities for people such as shelters and seating thus does not encourage users to visit the waterfront park.