

# SMALL TOWN DEVELOPMENT IN SABAH: ISSUE AND CHALLENGES

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## INTRODUCTION



- Infrastructure development - basic physical and organizational structure that provided support to the economy and society to function.
- Regional development - a region improves the economic, political and social wellbeing of its people.
- Infrastructure contributed by facilitating mobility and communication and providing the physical and social underpinnings

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## METHODOLOGY

- Observations gathered from various resources.
- Review of past literatures/findings.



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## ISSUES



### PHYSICAL ASPECTS

- **Issue of poorly planned small town planning**

Small urban areas in Sabah such as Kota Marudu, Kota Belud, Tuaran, Ranau, and Kudat. Poorly planned small town planning in Sabah causes difficulties in urban planning and makes it difficult for communities without vehicles to carry out their affairs.

- **Developmental marginalized issues. Government**

created a new road route to reduce congestion in Kota Belud and Tuaran.

- **Issues of terrain and placement location**

The terrain of the site in the mountainous Bandar Ranau Sabah which is located in the highlands has made it difficult for development to develop such as the town of Kota Marudu.

- **Land use competition issue**

Kota Marudu town is experiencing rapid development as the demand for land use in small thriving urban areas is high. the issue of urban land use competition with agricultural areas.

### ECONOMIC ASPECTS

- **Economic development issues**

Kota Belud, Kota Marudu, and Lahad Datu are all dependent on agriculture for economic development but the manufacturing sector is lacking in Sabah's economic development.

- **Issue of lack of job opportunities**

causing the migration of people from Sabah to the states of Peninsular Malaysia in search of better job opportunities.

### SOCIAL ASPECTS

- **Issue of decreased quality of life.**

Small-town residents experience discomfort due to inadequate housing, infrastructure, and public facilities, leading to flash floods, public health problems, and vandalism.

- **The issue of security deteriorates.**

High unemployment in small-town areas causes poverty, crime, and influx of foreign migrants.

### ENVIRONMENTAL ASPECTS

- **Environmental quality degradation issues**

Due to increased development, pesticide use for agricultural purposes, and area exploration, Kundasang has suffered an increase in temperature. The impacts of oil palm waste from the mill and the use of pesticides and chemical fertilisers in the oil palm fields in the vicinity are what cause the pollution of the river between Sungai Kinabatangan, Segaliud, and Segama.

- **Flash flood issue.**

Residents and property damaged in Keningau town flash while, flooding caused by urban drainage system failing to cope with increased runoff due to municipal activities.



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## DISSCUSSION



- Recognising the importance of Sabah's small towns in fostering balanced regional development is essential. The tiny town today offers more than simply the essentials; its function and role are starting to change.
- Due to the fact that Sabah's small towns are now starting to develop their industrial and service sectors, they are no longer only dependent on the agriculture sector. The study in this article claims that
- Sabah's predominately mountainous topography poses a variety of challenges to the expansion of small towns, including those connected to small-town governance and economic development.

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## CONCLUSION

In conclusion, there are a variety of reasons why small town growth, particularly in Sabah, encounters difficulties, including physical, economic, social, and environmental considerations. These elements all had an effect on the region's growth and made it challenging to form a nation.

