

## **Akaash Open Enterprise Center**

53 East Park Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Between 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup> cross, Malleswaram,  
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## **Planning “Zen gardens”**

- A SMART Cluster proposal

### **D. Zen gardens**



A “Zen garden” helps one connect to the different elements of nature at the location, possible in the space available. A “Zen garden” can help people sit in a place that helps them refresh or heal themselves by finding harmony, balance and a sense of consciousness.

### **Will a Zen garden mean a considerable investment of time, energy and money?**

No, the plan is to develop different illustrations that suit a person’s and business’ or institution’s budget & expectation to practice inner healing.

### **Planning a Zen garden**

1. Draw a plan of the site or location or garden area to scale on a grid paper as per the template, or illustration or function to be served
2. Plan the focal point, natural systems interface, high or low maintenance options, geometrical layouts, eye to view or eye to seating arrangements, height elements, color schemes, elements to be enhanced, elements to be disguised, routes for “watering, waterfall or pond area, utility area or needful allotment of space area, compost heap area or waste collection area, flagging & edging, on the basis of the size of the garden – the route for irrigation, the climate change mitigation strategy, the route for the play area, the paving, the hedging, the fencing or picketing

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3. Evaluate the plan or template for design or theme success and continual attributes like “inner healing, sensory appeal, culinary appeal, flower appeal, household use, medicinal benefits, cosmetic worth, e-Craft use, procreation and/or restoration programmes”
4. Transpose it to the bed or allotted area by using sand, garden-lime, landscape marking paint where this depends upon the size of the garden
5. Use string lines for straight line layouts. Use stakes, pencils or match sticks with string lines for scribing circles, shapes, compact layouts.
6. Incorporate hedging, picketing or fencing as suitable to the garden
- 7 – 10. Will follow as per the templates or illustrations used



### **What is a Zen garden? Is it different from a landscape, fountain or waterfall?**

A Zen garden is a miniaturized garden with pebbles and rocks, (running or stagnant) water elements, suitable trees, bonsais, bamboo shoots, colorful cacti, shrubs, statues of Buddha, suitable Pagodas, oil or candle lit illuminations, sand or gravel with patterns that represent ripples of water.

Yes, a Zen garden is different as it integrates different elements of nature and an image of divinity to help find harmony, balance and a sense of consciousness that can improve quality of life.

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**What will be the focal point for AOEC's Zen gardens?**

(a) Creation or Recreation and (b) Procreation or Restoration

**What will be the focal points for creation or recreation?**

Templates for the creation or recreation of the Green wonders of the world, Top island themes, Conscious Leaf schemes, e-Craft schemes

**What will be the focal points for procreation or restoration?**

Templates for the procreation or restoration of Food Pyramids, Formal and Informal Herb Gardens, SMART Site schemes, Relief schemes

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**E. Elements of a Zen garden**

AOEC proposes to use the following elements in its designs for Zen gardens

Serial No	Zen element	Zen description
1	Colored pebbles	
2	Colored rocks	
3	Colored sand or gravel	
4	Stagnant water elements	
5	Running water elements	
6	Bonsais / Short trees	
7	Larger Trees/Tall plants/Tall herbs	
8	Colorful Seasonal plants	
9	Colorful Cacti	
10	Shrubs, Herbs	
11	Bamboo shoots	
12	Statues of Buddha, Ganesha, divine forms	
13	Pagodas (small sized or as suitable)	
14	Oil lit lamps	
15	Candle lit lamps, Candle holders	
16	Pieces of sandalwood	
17	Hedging material, Flagging, Edging	
18	Picketing, Fencing	
19	Templates for inter-linked garden schemes or study system schemes	
20	Templates that enhance existing landscapes	

The pricing for these elements on an illustration, theme or template basis will be tabulated in the next version of the document.

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**F. AOEC's toolkit offerings**

AOEC has included details on improving awareness, sensitization and preparedness for SMART Site/Cluster practices in its toolkit offerings on Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation.

You can ask for a toolkit offering by calling the consultant on +919342867666 or by emailing [venkataoec@gmail.com](mailto:venkataoec@gmail.com)