



THE PUBLIC CARPET

renewal of post-conflict transitioning districts

an inclusive urban design
approach to public life

MSc thesis urbanism
Thomas Victor Vink

Colophon

MSc thesis

The Public Carpet - renewal of post-conflict transitioning districts

an inclusive urban design approach to public life

April 2017

Thomas Victor Vink
thomasvink@gmail.com
+31613577863
student number #4088808

MSc Architecture, Urbanism and Building Sciences

Delft University of Technology, department of Urbanism

chair of Spatial Planning & Strategy / Urban Design
research group Complex Cities

First Mentor
Second Mentor
Board of Examiners delegate

Luisa Calabrese
Roberto Rocco
Christan van Ees

MSc3 First Mentor

Marta Relats Torante

THE PUBLIC CARPET

renewal of post-conflict transitioning districts
the case Prishtina, Kosovo

department of



research group of

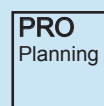


with extensive assistance of



Kosovo's
Architecture
Foundation

&



Content

[illegible]

Design part

Reflection part

5.0 Design Research

Priorities concept	76
Spatial requirements	78
Socio-Spatial Patterns	78
Design content	79
Design Interventions	80
Spatial Integration	82
Actors	106
Timeplan	108
Financial side	109
Public domain	110
Conditions of public design	111
Feasibility	112
Applicability in Prishtina	112

6.0 Conclusions

Conclusions	116
-------------	-----

7.0 Reflection

Personal Reflection	118
---------------------	-----

8.0 References

Literature	124
Interviews	125

9.0 Appendices

Written interviews	128
Local survey	137
Survey results	144



1



2

Acknowledgements

This MSc thesis is the result of the work I have done during the last year and a half of my graduation for the master of Urbanism at the Delft University of Technology. This graduation project started as part of the program 'Happy Cities', conducting research on the quality of urban life and its livability. This aim, which everybody is designing for in the end, has always been in my mind. My first mentor Marta helped me a great deal in adding this focus and element to my project. Unfortunately she could not continue as my mentor but I was very satisfied with Luisa stepping in. I believe the projects development of a new public realm and accompanying spaces for the local populations public life is contributing to their happy living environment and the larger city. The undefined borders and aim for bold ideas gave me the opportunity to explore my personal interests. Together with my fascination for the world beyond the borders of The Netherlands I discovered a fantastic place: Prishtina in Kosovo. This started a journey on a topic which has a broad range and several levels of difficulties and challenges.

Without the help and support of a number of people the completion of this thesis would not have been possible. First and foremost, I would really like to thank my mentors, Luisa and Roberto. Luisa, a student cannot wish for a more inspiring and positive person as mentor. Your endless patience, stimulating words and texts and similar character have helped me a great deal. I hope you have enjoyed all the afternoons discussing what great things could happen in cities with crazy circumstances. Roberto, as my second mentor for half of the project, thank you for your good advice, making my project tangible and realistic and stimulating me to look for more and other possibilities.

Important moments were the three trips to Kosovo. Absorbing and infiltrating in the local urban culture and spending weeks in the city has been the best teacher about what a city transitions to after a war. This experience could not have happened without the great help of PRO Planning the office for urban research and KAF the Kosovo Architecture Foundation. Both companies offered me a place to work, gave me access to their network of professionals and experts in Prishtina and endless talks about the living conditions in the city.

I would like to give special thanks to Vjollca, the many hours that she helped translating the survey in Albanian, conducting interviews in the neighborhood and aiding me in local conversations. I wish to express my great appreciation to TU Delft friends: Eva, Laura and Lisa for their many moments listening to my project, recording comments during presentations and lots of happy coffees and teas. My parents deserve a special thanks, supporting me during the years at university and always being there in difficult times. Last, I am particularly grateful for the never ending support and positive energy of Mitch. You have helped me every day and got me through the most difficult of times.

Finally, to all of you: go out there and explore.

Thomas Victor Vink
Amsterdam, the Netherlands
20th of April 2017



3



4

Preface

Why Kosovo? As Tim Judah (2008) describes: "if location is all when it comes to property then geography counts when it comes to people and countries". Kosovo is a tiny place in Europe and was the center of attention in 1999. A devastating 78 days of NATO bombing in order to end the Serbian dictatorial regime and its powerful position in its southern province, Kosovo. A disastrous end of years of unrest among the Kosovo Albanians and Serbian forces. Both parties have had their share in the unsafe and critical situation it had turned into. Look at the map why this all happened in this area and why the International Community needed to step in. Kosovo and the rest of the Western Balkans are countries that are surrounded by the territory of two of the most important and powerful organizations on the planet. On every side of the region it is bordered by the European Union and NATO and in direct surroundings of Russia. So as Tim Judah (2008) wrote in his book: Kosovo, what everybody needs to know, Kosovo and its direct surroundings are not just some place out there in the Europe's backyard, but rather situated in the inner courtyard of Europe. Nobody wants trouble there anymore.

"A turbulent history and impossible to underestimate the chaos of Kosova/o in the wake of the war in 1999. Albanians returning, Serbs fleeing, unsecure situations among minorities and enormous number of 120.000 houses either destroyed or damaged. Most significant however was the collapse of all law and order. As the administration of Kosovo had been in Serbian hands, simply vanished, or rather, it vanished from those parts of Kosovo where Albanians lived, which was of course most of it" (Judah, 2008).

It is that Kosovo mentality and spirit that describes a three day period before life starts again. Constantly being in transition over the past 100 years can provide great adaptable qualities to a nation. Despite that, Kosovo needed help on practically every level of society.

The installation of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1244 was part of the deal after bargaining between the Russians and the Americans. On June 10, 1999, the bombing of Yugoslavia ended and the Serbian army was replaced by the NATO-led KFOR force and the newly created United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) which came out of the Resolution 1244 (United Nations Security Council, 1999). This administration unit gained the jurisdiction in Kosovo and it had to rebuild Kosovo. The aim of the mission was to form a "transitional administration while establishing and overseeing the development of provisional democratic self-governing institutions to ensure conditions for a peaceful and normal life for all inhabitants of Kosovo" (United Nations Security Council, 1999). Former prime minister, Agim Çeku speaks about the UN mission, "we are thankful for the difference they made in Kosovo between 1999 and 2008. They rebuild this society and did it well." Failings of the mission were the illegal building, which now is a general problem in Kosovo. The importance at first seemed smaller and did not get the attention which it should have gotten. "For two or three years, no one cared about that but now it has become a habit and a big problem" says Çeku.

All in all, a very interesting location and of great importance in order to understand processes and conditions in the aftermath of a war.



Abstract

Unregulated development is one of the core problems in post conflict areas. Current rebuilding and city planning face tremendous challenges regulating rapid development of the urban environment and reserving and preserving space for the public domain. The latter one has been often disregarded its importance. It has been found that public space and social places are part of the basic needs especially in developing countries. Integrating that public dimension within current contexts of post conflict conditions have great challenges. Those challenges related to social-cultural, political, economic, environmental and physical-urban contexts. This thesis focuses on Dodona, a neighborhood in capital Prishtina, Kosovo. The neighborhoods urban fabric changed rapidly in the aftermath of the conflict and the limited quality spaces are in decay and affect livability of the area. In order to design (spatial) interventions for the Public Carpet Dodona, 6 urban strategic themes are developed that aim to create synergy on political, social and cultural level and 25 patterns of post-conflict development are found through socia-spatial analysis of the neighborhood. An integrated approach has resulted in a 3 level priority design concept, the minium level, the desired level and the maximum level. That concept results in the design of 7 public domain interventions for Dodona. These interventions act on existing problems and challenges found in the context and integrate the renewed public focus of the government. The design proposes a basic interventions, innovative ideas for space use, reserves space for an public-private interaction, offers space to new public activities and tries to create synergy between spatial and social on different scales. The design showed that there are 5 conditions that contribute to the development of Dodona's public network: the available space, entrepreneurial spirit, transition to comfort, range of development and scale. The interventions in Dodona can provide interesting urban program, contribute to the urban quality of the area and create a new public domain. Various neighborhoods and their public space quality are challenged by the post conflict processes. The interventions proposed in for this neighborhood could be used in different contexts when adapted to the local situations. We have to think and act different when it comes to challenging urban conditions. These conditions ask for innovative thinking in order to create space for living, working and public life. A good approach and integration of all its actors need to be part of any spatial intervention. However, this thesis showed that interventions in the public domain can be integrated in an urban area, can bring urban quality and in that way can contribute to the achievement creating a livable neighborhood.

key words - post conflict processes, unregulated development, public space network, social dimension, urban design, Prishtina, Kosovo

1.0 Introduction

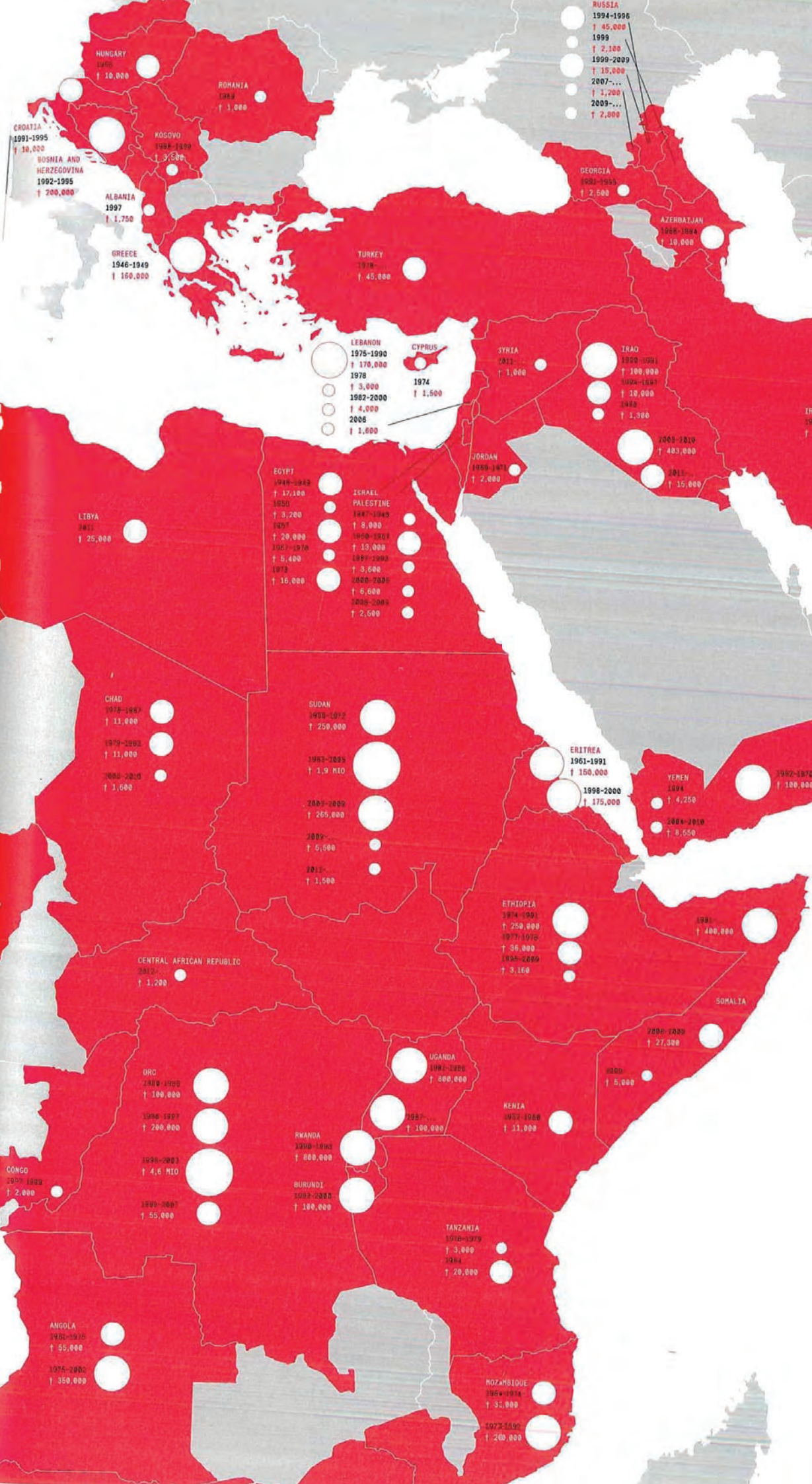
THE STREET | *Louis Kahn*

In a city a street must be supreme. It is the first institution of the city. The street is a room by agreement, a community room, the walls of (a city) which belong to the donors, dedicated to the city for common use. Its ceiling is the sky. Today, streets are disinterested movements not all belonging to the houses that front them. So, you have no streets. You have roads, but you don't have streets.

1.0 Introduction

towards livable cities

The transition of civil unrest towards armed conflicts in the contemporary world has causes one or more of the following: the emergence of nationalism and the political legacies of colonialism and the Cold War; unresolved cultural, religious, or ethnic conflict; the enduring presence of illegitimate, corrupt, authoritarian or repressive regimes and, most importantly, persistent inequalities over access to critical resources (Pedersen, 2002). It is a global phenomenon, and since the WWII more than 140 armed conflicts have changed lives of hundreds of thousands of people (Volume, 2010). Conflicts set in motion processes as: migration and human displacement, destruction of the environment, the breakdown of the social dimensions, family loss and disruption of daily life, lack of shelter and food shortages, the dismantling of basic services and destruction of the local infrastructure all contribute to extreme forms of suffering and disability (Pedersen, 2002). Once the civil struggle is over, a period of rebuilding, reconstruction, reconciliation and renewed resilience starts (Suri, 2015). This is a critical period due to the fact that in 44% of all post-conflict areas war restarts in the first 5 years (World bank, 2004), and in even more than half of the situations in the first 10 years (Collier et al., 2003). In the transition towards a healthy country, the international community plays more and more an important role due to the relocation of the conflicts towards the global south. Main focus of organizations can be divided into peacebuilding, emergency help and long-term development (Jonne & Verkooren, 2005), and in the end, are aimed at preventing future violence, satisfy basic human needs and create structures that promote long-term sustainable growth and social stability. The situations in these countries are in need of special attention when it comes to development strategies. Usual development strategies (market orientation, liberalization, privatization, etc.) cannot just be implemented with the conditions those countries are emerging from. In general, focus has been largely on restoring economy, post-conflict humanitarian help, rebuilding deteriorated urban areas and supporting the renewed governments. Fewer attention has been given to the processes that accompany a period of instability, in urban terms: the development of neighborhoods in an unplanned and unregulated way. The results of these development processes, which happen individually leave limited space for the public domain. Besides that, it is certainly accelerated due to poor governance and planning, which have not planned for the public goods. Those urban elements are of great importance to the public domain and livability certainly in developing countries. The point is now to act in order to prevent further decrease of the urban quality. The streets are one of the remaining open areas left and needs to be addressed as such.



2.0 Problem Statement

2.0 Problem Statement

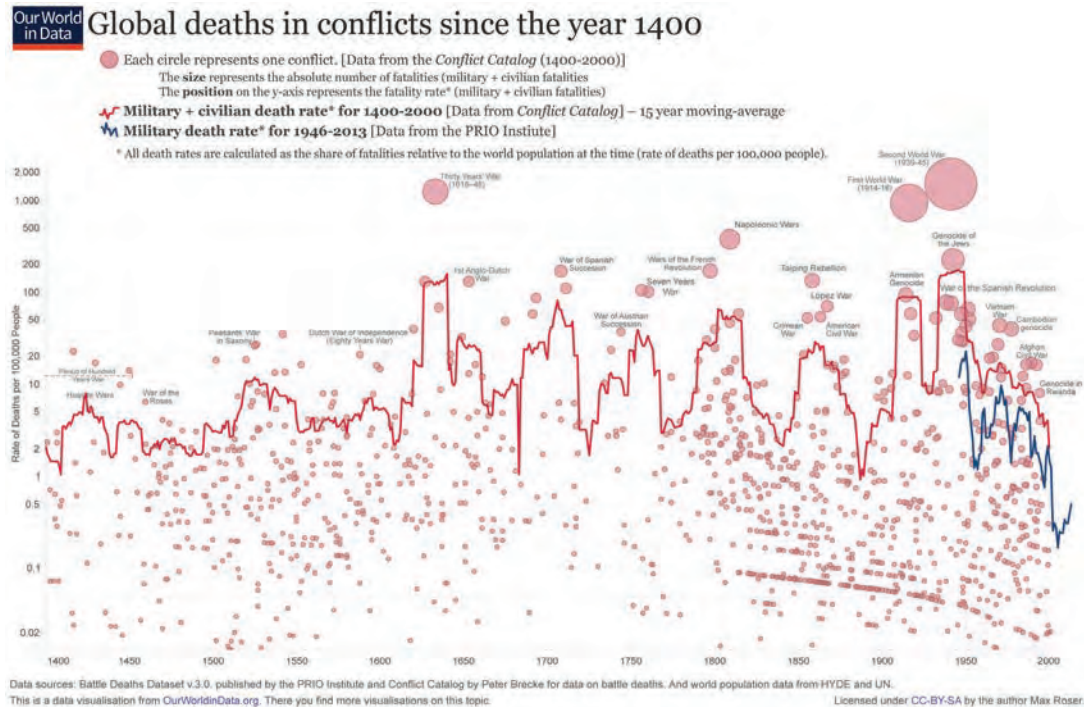


Figure 7: Casualties in was
resource: www.oneworldindata.org

Post-conflict circumstances

The topic of post-conflict development and processes is a complex one. It involves: restoring the governance system or even build one from scratch, the influence and support of the international community, reconstruction of the build environment and providing shelter, ensuring at least basic needs for returning refugees and the ones that stayed behind, reconciliation of the society, the high risk of corruption with suddenly new powers, restoring the economy and employment opportunities, and the societal issues formed through years of ethnic and nationalistic clashes. Nonetheless, even if actual open warfare has come to an end, post-conflict development is still dealing with high risks of returning or change of violence and unrest (Junne & Verkoren, 2005). Different organizations have had a variety of reasons to give little attention to the problem of post-conflict development. For example, as mentioned by Gert Junne, "organizations that specialize in conflict prevention and conflict resolution have seen their hopes shattered by war and may find it too early to work with a highly-traumatized population. Humanitarian organizations rush in but are neither interested in the causes of the conflict nor in long-term development. Development organizations see these situations as an exception and may find the situation too unstable to resume their work".

Development strategies generally used in any country are involving market orientation, liberalization, privatization, which are seldom enough in the transitional countries emerging from civil conflict (cf. Moore, 2000). Economic development is central in the reduction

of conflict but it does not mean that it is sufficient to address the problem (Collier et al., 2003). Development strategies should look different in countries facing a high risk of conflict and have unique backgrounds. In addition, other or extra policies and measures have to be taken which are normally not part of a development strategy. Policies involving the new co-working system between local and international organizations and the design of political institutions (Collier et al., 2003).

Development is more than just looking at economic growth, development is about increasing and improving standard living and quality of life of all people in developing countries. Such development include improvements of health, education, environment, political participation, general well-being, equality and social justice (Junne & Verkoren, 2005).

Post-conflict development is highly related to the planning situation of the state or area. The unique situation in the country which demands a tailor-made approach to planning, makes it difficult for a ready to use approach to planning in countries emerging from conflict (Suri, 2015). Until now, planning in the aftermath of a conflict does not work the way it should. A range of circumstances are causing difficulties in order to create a solid base for the planning institutes: the context, it's unpredictability, the vacuum of governance, the breakdown of institutions and rule of law, the impossibility of dialogue, the absence of trust. All of those are requirements for a working planning process that is taking care of needs of all



Figure 8: Conflicts in Europe in the last 30 years

concerned (Suri, 2015).

Another difficulty involved around planning is the long list of actors active in post-conflict situations. Where it was mainly the state which was involved in planning and rebuilding after a conflict in the previous century, for example after the destruction of WWII. Today, it is a puzzle of players involving: the 'international community', UN agencies, donor countries, international NGOs, private contractors, networks and associations, religious organizations, foundations and researchers. These variety of actors have various approaches and ideals about reconstruction and which according to ISOCARP president Shipra Suri do not include planning.

Post-conflict in European context

My personal fascination to this subject is driven by a constantly shifting global attention on deprived and vulnerable areas around the world as opposed to the neglect and ignorance of similar places but overshadowed by these global focuses. I do acknowledge the problems and challenges in global cities in China, India and South-America regarding the living conditions of citizens of immense large urban areas. Despite that the ignorance of developing places in European contexts are largely overlooked (Garstka, 2010). Living circumstances are not on sufficient levels at every corner of the European continent mainly due to conflicts and ongoing tensions on the economic and political level. Awareness of the situation in the aftermath of a conflict or war is required. The period after a conflict and its rehabilitation is significant to the way a nation will prosper

in the future. The falling apart of Yugoslavia with as final conflict the Kosovo War is a very recent example of conflict in the European context. Post-conflict development processes need close examination in order to understand situations in the aftermath of a war. The most visual one is the transformation level of the urban dimension. A variety of issues related to the re-establishment of a state can be observed in the physical environment. Most prominently is the clash of the immense rapid urbanism and the lacking care for the re-establishment of social infrastructure. The existing social dimension, which has been a natural asset of southern cultures, is suffering when it comes to finding its renewed place within the city.

Post-conflict urban processes

Migration flows after the conflict accelerated a free construction boom in order to house all these returning refugees, rural-urban migration and international aid workers. Without a good governance and planning system development cannot proceed as a system that serves the greater societal goods. Individualism will get the upper hand and public elements will decrease in quality or even existence. In Prishtina, Kosovo, the doubling of its population demanded construction which became the main economic driver of the country. In a time after a war, the country's economic characteristics are evident to not fall in renewed conflicts. A viscous circle that the country was in for many years. The political unstable situation could not do something significantly in the decreasing conditions of the public domain at that time. Today, 17 years after the conflict the situation is in need of change. Change in public



Figure 9: Destruction of War, Kosovo 1999
resource: www.thinklink.com



Figure 10: Migrating refugees, Kosovo 1999
resource: www.noorfoundation.com

policy, individual mindsets, communal sense and reconstruction of the public domain. The way the development changed the urban fabric, now involves many challenges in order to re-establish a livable public environment.

Public life and domain in post-conflict areas

The element that is important in a city is the social dimension as Lewis Mumford (1938) mentioned about cities: "A city is a social institution before it is a physical structure". That social dimension is that one that plays an important factor in a qualitative life. It is now the issue of how space can adapt and deal to these rapid transformations occurring after a conflict and facilitate the public life for a sustainable social future.

Access to adequate public spaces and basic services is an essential human right and to ensure the availability of these resources wherever but specially in developing countries, the importance lays in preserving and protecting public spaces and room for the future. This was pointed out to be fundamental for quality urban life according to New York University Professor Paul Romer during the New Cities Summit in 2014 in Dallas, Texas.

In Kosovo, the establishment of the Municipal Spatial Planning Support Program (MuSPP) in 2005 has been working on capacity building and training of planners in the different municipalities and Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. Implementation of UN-Habitat of the objectives had the aim to promoting the concept of inclusive, strategic and action-orientated spatial and urban planning in Kosovo, besides that civil society and local governments are becoming aware of the need for participatory planning (UN-HABITAT, 2014). One of their projects was "Turning spaces into places", which acknowledged changes in society, need for greater sustainability and people's increased expectations in relation to new public spaces that create opportunities for citizens to enjoy social life outside. The project's aim was to increase aware-

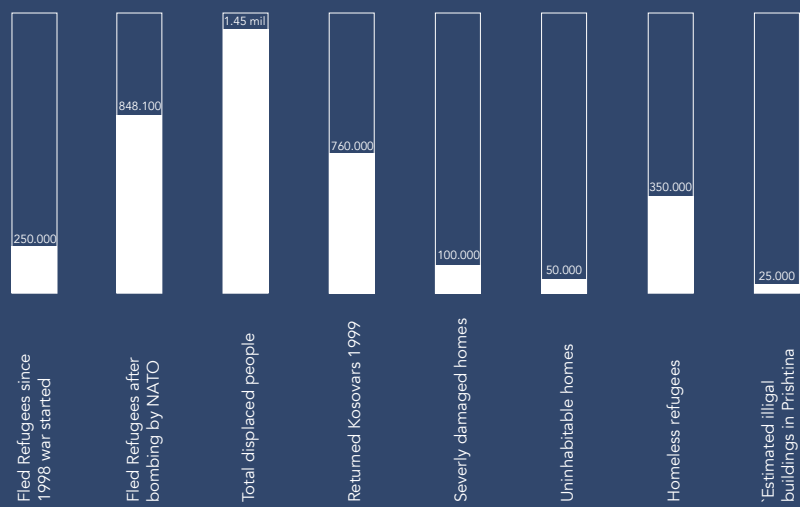
ness, by those who govern and economically develop the place, of the quality and importance of public space (UN-HABITAT, 2011). Research on developing countries increasingly suggests that quality streets are even more critical to well-being of the poor and the development of their communities, who often do not have spacious homes and gardens to retreat to (World Bank, 2015). This quality streets focus is highly recommended to be implemented by planning and urban development agencies and should see public space and the street as a basic need (UN-HABITAT, 2013). Greater awareness of the importance of quality public spaces is growing but implementation without projects as these is still rare. Essential are ideas for the dense neighborhoods that were affected the most with the unregulated development after the war.

the problem statement

Post-conflict individual development processes and city planning circumstances have changed the urban fabric of areas in Prishtina drastically. With a total neglect to the social domain and public life, an essential element in urban environmental prosperity and an important ingredient in the society's interaction, communication and cohesion. Neighborhoods show poor and limited facilitation of public amenities. The quality of urban life has not increased due to ignorance and absence of the community sense. The rapid transition has increased fragmentation and exclusion due to a missing social infrastructure dimension in the urban fabric. In addition, the poor relationship between the public bodies and the private sector is creating limited understanding of actual contextual problems, transparency of planning goals, and individual objectives. This gap in the society is showing difficulties economic, environmental, societal and cultural dimensions. In that sense, Kosovo is showing characteristics of a developing country in the theme of public life, awareness of the quality public spaces and place bring to the urban environment and good public policies and planning decisions in reserving and maintaining public goods.

Figure 11: Kosovo in numbers

Disrupted daily lives and urban conditions in Kosovo in 1999



United States Institute of Peace, 1999
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees UNHCR, 1999
Municipality of Prishtina, 2015

3.0 Project Framework

3.0 Project Framework

Main Research Question

How can spatial interventions improve the quality of living in post conflict Dodona and how could those contribute to a cohesive socio-spatial environment.

sub research questions

01. What is post-conflict development in Prishtina and how can public policies react on that?

02. What effects public life?

03. Which are the social-spatial aspects that characterize Post-Conflict Dodona?

04. What are the social-spatial qualities and potentials of Post-conflict Dodona?

05. How is the urban environment evaluated by the population?

06. How can we design (spatial) interventions that facilitate public life and serve the larger urban system in post-conflict Dodona?

07. How can we apply the outcome of the design to other post conflict situations?

3.1 RESEARCH APPROACH

The research approach has formed itself during the project. In: part A: exploration study

Sub questions one & two can be answered through a combination of techniques that form a cohesive study. By literature study, interviewing local professionals, perform observations and collecting maps and data, a complete picture can be formed. The aim is to create insights: to identify, define and illustrate relevant phenomena, to explain specific characteristics and effects and (inter) relationships. Besides that, it defines the measures that need to be taken which will be spatially addressed in the development of a design. An hypothesis is formed that will be used to develop a public domain design. The techniques used to answer sub research questions one & two are a literature study, interviewing, mapping and data analysis.

part B: analyzing Dodona on life - form - performance

Sub questions three, four & five are answered through a method that focuses on the relationships between the social life, spatial environment and the local evaluated performance of the socio-spatial conditions. The analysis of the life and the form combined result in socio-spatial qualities and potentials that can be used in the development of the design. The survey is making contact with the population in order to develop a design that takes care of the requirements of the society. The techniques used to answer sub research question three, four and five are interviewing and survey,

mapping and data analysis, observation, counting and tracking.

part C: development of a public domain design for Dodona

Sub question six can be answered by design research. The outcomes of part A: the measures in the form of themes need to be translated into an spatial agenda. The socio-spatial analysis provides the potentials and qualities of the neighborhood. Combining these will lead to a post-conflict design strategy, the priorities concept. This will eventually position the spatial agenda to the socio-spatial ground in order to develop a design. The techniques used to answer sub research question six are interviewing, design, simulating and testing.

part D: reflecting and concluding.

Sub question seven can lead towards further research and the applicability of the project outcomes and possible design. It is the moment that improvements of the project will be highlighted and missing links can be addressed. Besides that, it is worth to check the projects outcomes that can address similar problems and challenges in the field of public life and post-conflict processes. The techniques used to answer sub research question seven are reflecting and concluding.

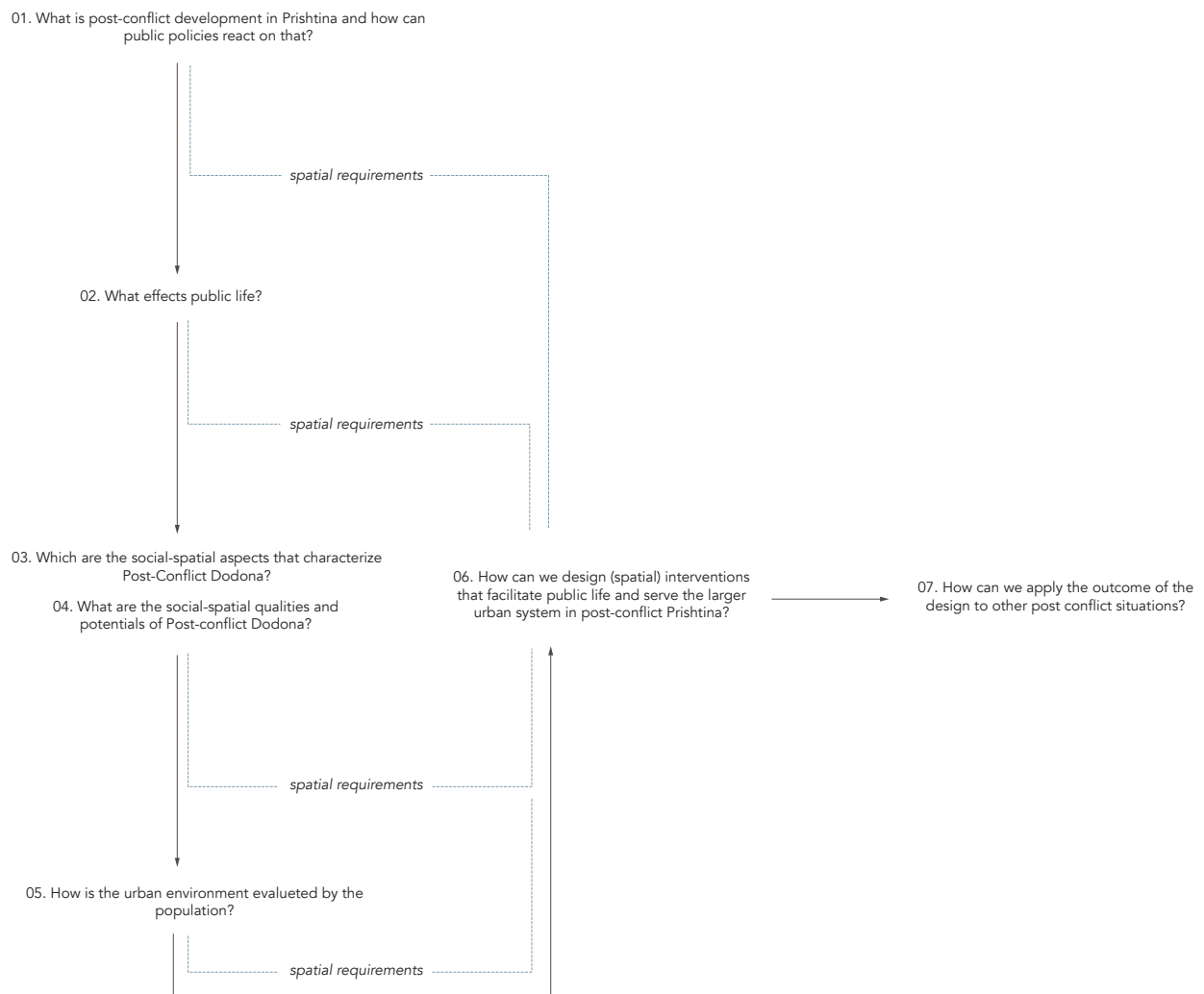


Figure 12: Project Research Framework



Fig. 12 Raising awareness of the conditions of public space in Kosovo.
Source: Periodical megazin Kosovo 2.0, Issue #5, 2013

3.2 RELEVANCE

As estimated by the WHO (2016), urban population will grow to more than 50% in less developed countries. This is especially emerging in Kosovo where rural prospects are considerably lower as opposed to urban centers. The influx of people since the war has densified central neighborhoods unregulated and decreased the ratio of build to open space. Prishtina shows difficulties that an urban area faces in the aftermath of a war, if emphasis on the importance of societal rebuilding is lacking. This is relevant today with conflicts around the globe that soon will start rebuilding.

social relevance - In this project the physical issues and ethical dimension are very related to the societal relevance. The three are affecting each other. The effects of unregulated post-war development, spatially in dense populated areas, are affecting the living conditions of areas. Around 75% (Vöckler, 2008) of the urban area of Prishtina has changed due to private and illegal construction. This, in combination with institutional failures, has caused severe damages to the public sphere of the city. Public facilities, public spaces, maintenance of streets which facilitate the social infrastructure, have suffered. Moreover, levels of daylight, fresh air and safety have decreased for many residents living in older buildings within the blocks. This is especially severe in dense neighborhoods where multistory residential buildings harm the surroundings. It means that lack of space and accessibility to good living conditions and the public domain is influencing the social life of the city. It is even necessary to note, that unregulated development affects the environment and in particular the health issue as related to the human beings. The decrease of the social life can lead to isolation and feelings of exclusion. By creating urban conditions, which adapt to the priorities of dense neighborhoods in a transition society, new infrastructures for the social, sustainable and healthy living environment can increase city life.

scientific relevance - Urban planning in reconstruction of post-con-



Fig. 13 Symposium with international speakers about challenges and problems in post-conflict development
Source: <http://isocarp.org/post-conflict-planning-inclusive-resilient-cities/>

flict situations has to put emphasis to its strategic and systematic way of its usage, in order to play a role in the rebuilding and reconstruction of the society (Garstka, 2010; Suri, 2015). That role can take part in building peaceful, resilient, inclusive and reconciling societies. In recent Post-conflict urban planning theory an important refocus is seen towards rebuilding civil society, through the reconstruction, building, and urban planning of the build environment (Charlesworth, 2007). The understanding of the urban narratives, seeing critical issues in the social landscape and being aware of existing frustrations of the past, are key elements to take in consideration after a conflict (Bevan, 2006; Ghandour, 2002 as cited in Charlesworth, 2007; Woods, 1997). This project therefore tends to explore the altered urban landscape after the war and observe the social landscape, in order to gain new knowledge of social and spatial drivers of the urban area. A better understanding of post conflict processes and experimental methodology can lead to new possibilities in the transitional landscape.

3.3 ETHICAL DIMENSION

The function of this paragraph is to disclose the necessary concern for values and norms related to the public domain. The objective is the exploration of ethics around public space – the value and moral status of our behavior and the position as urbanists in this field. The main focus will be on the contemporary moral status of the localities towards public space and its consequences.

The ethics involved around public space are complex systems with a variety of actors, culture and historical backgrounds. In this particular context, the one of a dense neighborhood developed unregulated, the multiple bodies that share a confined physical space form a social ethos. Professor of Geography, Ash Amin (2008) argues that the situation of multiplicity or surplus of humans and therefore, actions and movements, in a limited space, produce social effects. Surplus in this sense means the different uses of



Fig. 14 Poor quality public domain in neighborhoods
Source: photograph by author



Fig. 15 Quality spaces are limited to the center
Source: photograph by author

different actants space, which changes constantly. Related to the context, the unclear policies and official rules, make this space an even more complex system. Its surplus in space – the localization and experience of that place, is besides small impacts on urban public culture a whole system of rhythms of invention, order and control generated by multiplicity (Amin, 2008). This view of Ash Amin in relation to ethics, is coming from writings of pragmatists as William James (2003) and theorist of pluralism exploring the relational dynamics and self-regulating properties of complex systems (Connolly, 2005; Delanda, 2000, 2006). He points out that ethical uses and activities in public space appear 'pre-cognitively and reflexively rather than rational or consciously, guided by routines of neurological response and material practice, rather than by acts of human will'. Its mixture of the crowd, the happenings, functional interpretation, its livability and vitality together are a constrained group of action and orientation (Amin, 2008). A constant negotiation of the space in relation to others and the individualism is part of this ethical dimension, which is dominating and controlling the public space. Moral standards and values are undoubtedly infected by ethical influences originated from the past of citizens living there. The social ethics, its consciousness of need and orientation to the social dimension in order to live together is a process involving all actants. According to Amin (2008), the mixture of the crowd generates 'social pathologies of avoidance, self-preservation, intolerance and harm' particularly if diversity of power and exclusion is playing part in the space.

In order to proceed and form a precise opinion about ethics of public space, local definition is in order. During interviews with researchers in the field of urban planning and urban sociology, a better understanding of the situation can be composed.

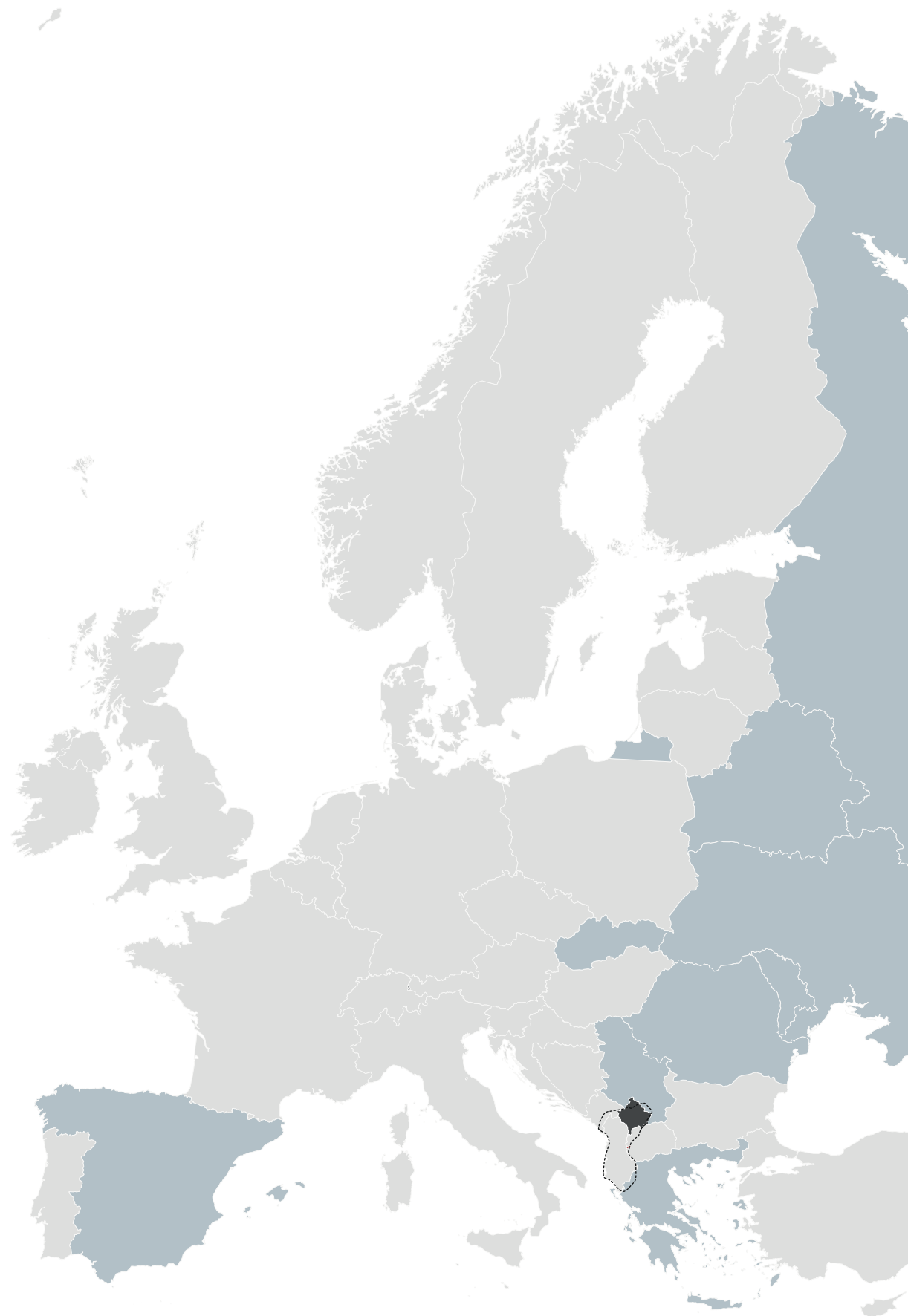
The contemporary relation to public space has changed over time. Moral standards and appropriate behavior towards public space and life were common in the Ottoman period. A general responsi-

bility among the citizens, towards the street was a part of the daily lives. Unwritten rules were alive regarding the public space as a space of everyone and citizens took care of it. This continued in a large part of the 20th century. With the change in system, the municipality became responsible for the public spaces and streets. The public is not the public anymore for certain nationalities. A rejection or exclusion of a group of people by a power that is suddenly transforming the public into private. A decay in freedom in a basic form; not aloud anymore to act and use in the public. Over time, the value of public spaces becomes insignificant if you cannot take part in it and the moral standards turn into negative ones because the public in this case represents the enemy. This experience, which has been awful has continued until today, though the system changed and the public is public again. It is the reinvention of the public to serve as public for everyone.

3.4 OBJECTIVES

The development of the design project is aiming to provide insights in conditions, processes and challenges that signifies post conflict situations. Important is the good understanding of the situation. Research of other post conflict areas is useful but the context makes the situation unique. In that case, not all general strategies and approaches can be used. A tailor-made design project will be the goal of the project. It will search for solutions for the limited space, governmental approach, socio-spatial conditions and gap in the public - private relationship. It aims to integrate a renewed public space network that offers the public domain quality places and encourages the local society to be active and participate in that new domain. It is about taking care, be active and show transparency in doing which can result in an increased sense of citizenship and restored relationships. The development of the design can in the end be evaluated about its usefulness in other situations.

4.0 Research Results



Map of Europe
Kosovo's location in the southern Balkan

- Kosovo with mostly Albanians
- Recognizing independence of Kosovo
- Not recognizing independence of Kosovo

Figure 16: Kosovo

4.0 Research Results

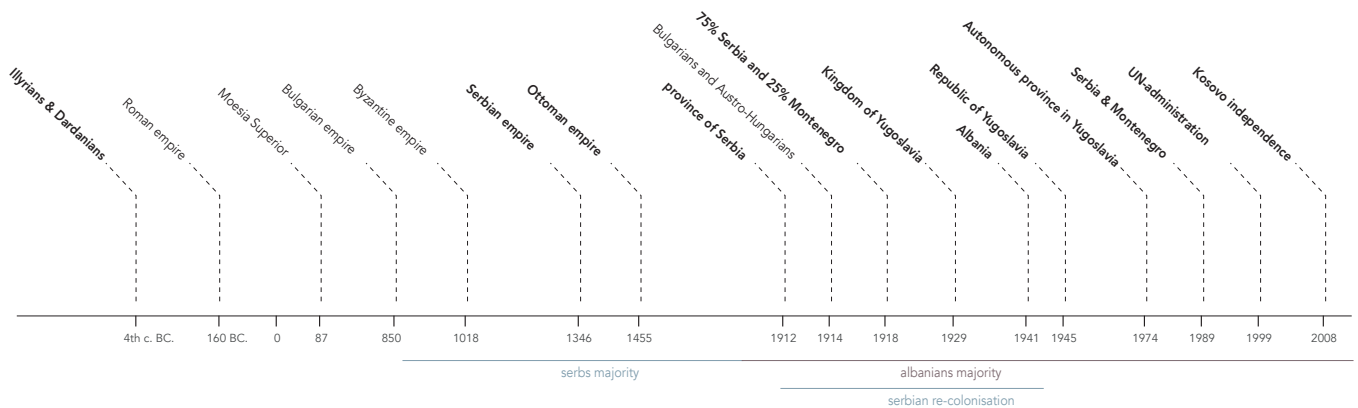


Figure 17: Kosovo timeline

4.1 POST CONFLICT CONDITIONS

Preceding the conflict - In order to understand what preluded the violent clash between two nations in 1999 which led to a war over the region both nations shared in South-Eastern Europe, a short historical overview can provide the necessary information. Both sides, Serbs and Albanians consider the Kosovo grounds to be the origin of their national identity. These views on both origins date back to the early 4th century BC and 12th century. Albanian nationalists consider their descent from the Illyrians and their location of living in the 4th century BC. on today's Kosovo grounds. Eventually, mentioned as Albanians in the 12th century, but their exact place of origin is still disputed. From the point of view of the Serbian nationalists, Kosovo territory is seen as the birthplace of their Orthodox Church and the medieval Serbian state. Historical monasteries and orthodox churches, such as the Gračanica Monastery, Patriarchate of Peć and Visoki Dečani dating back as earliest as the 12th and 13th century are seen as important buildings in the Serbian Orthodox Church. It comes down to an complex and difficult history between the two nationalists for a full understanding. Why did it lasted until the 1990s before it resulted into the Kosovo War. This is because in history the territory of Kosovo has been occupied by a variety of nations. As earliest being part of the Illyrians and Dardanians, then the Byzantine empire ruled over the area, after that Slavic migrations from the north settled in Kosovo and Metohija. Both stories of the Albanians and Serbs are even more disputed when the by the battle of the blackbird field against the Turks in 1389. The Ottoman empire ruled over the area for 500 years and left a rich mark on the area. Besides orthodox churches the area is mainly dominated by Mosques and most inhabitants are Muslim. The Period of the 20th century is marked by extensive conflicts over territory and power not just in the Southern Balkans but in the larger European continent. Nevertheless, considerable more conflicts took place in the Balkan. In the preface of the WWI, two Balkan wars took place. First, the Ottoman empire was forced out of the territory of Kosovo by the Serbs and Montenegrins, second, the attempt of the Albanians to make Kosovo part of Albanian territory

without luck. After the murder of Franz Ferdinand in neighboring Sarajavo resulted in the WWI, Kosovo territory was close to the center of the conflict and got hit severely in the war. In the end the birth of Yugoslavia as a new Kingdom including Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia, Croatia, Slovenia and Macedonia made Kosovo part of the Serbian state. Kosovo remained part of Serbia as a province in the period of Yugoslavia until in 1974 the province was granted autonomy and started to have a voice on federal level. Later, with the Yugoslavian wars and the fall of the federation into separate countries, Serbia takes Kosovo and its leader Milosevic dictates the nation. The situation of the Albanians living in Kosovo worsened and in the years before the war in 1999 several groups of Kosovo-Albanians emerged and led to the founding of the Kosovo Liberation Army, the Ushtria Çlirimtare e Kosovës (UCK). With their limited capacity, they tried to draw international attention to the situation of Albanians in Kosovo. The intensity of unrest and small conflicts worsened, despite of strong efforts of international organizations. As of 1998, the conflicts became a military struggle and with it the deterioration of the living conditions of the civilian population. The international community and the NATO, intervened by attempting the parties to negotiate by threat of military intervention. When the Rambouillet agreement was rejected by the Serbs in March 1999, the attack of the NATO on the Serbian powers seemed the only way out. Without full understanding of the history the 1999 clash was a disagreement about to whom Kosovo territory belongs to.

The conflict - The Kosovo War as how we remember it, is the 78-day bombardment of Serbia, including Kosovo and Montenegro. The period after the failure of Rambouillet agreement in march of 1999, with the NATO intervening is only the final part of the long struggle between the Serbs and Albanian-Kosovar. The prologue to this tragic moment in Kosovo history: the preceding year of conflict between the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), the Ushtria Çlirimtare e Kosovës (UCK), and Serbian Forces. Two key events were to change everything in Kos-

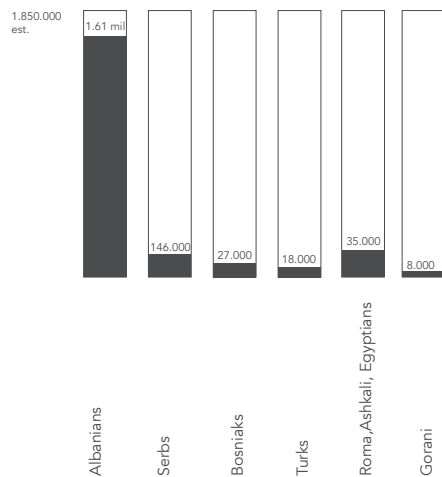


Fig. 18 Demographics Kosovo
Heritage Kosovo

ovo, those on political and strategical level. First, the in 1995 agreed Dayton peace agreement that ended the Bosnian War. The recognition of Bosnia as a separate state by the European Union turned out to be a huge trauma for the Kosovo's Albanians. The Dayton agreement did not mention Kosovo at all and soon the realization of peaceful resistance would not get Kosovo its independence from Serbia. Second, the sudden fall of Albania in complete anarchy all to do with the governmental supported financial pyramid, results in a leaving behind a great number of armories by the military and security forces. Suddenly a large number of weapons became available to the battle of the Kosovo Albanians (Judah, 2008). These, and a series of other events made the situation precarious and the international community intervened. Unfortunately, when the 'talks' in France failed the NATO did not see another option then to intervene with military forces. On March 24 1999, the bombing started, factories and military bases were hit but unfortunately many civilians lost their lives too.

The actual destruction - In the aftermath of a war or conflict several processes emerge. Returning refugees find their ways back to their home country, restoring houses if damaged, funds and donors start to put money into the economy, the international community in the form of emergency help, peacebuilding and long-term development projects arrive, activating the governance system and to develop plans in order to work a way forward. In general, all developments and actions are done with the aim to prevent future violence and restoring safe daily life. The dark side is that the renewed freedom can trigger illegal and unfair constructions in rebuilding, governance and receiving funding. In the end, all not for the better of the society as a whole. The actual situations and ongoing processes are unique to its context and can differ much.

In all of Kosovo but explicitly in capital Prishtina, Kosovo Albanians saw the marching of the NATO-led KFOR troops (Kosovo Force) as an act of liberation. A newly found sense of freedom or independence was physically expressed in an immediate madness of construction (Vockler, 2006). An eruption of construction of housing and apartments was an expression of that sudden freedom. Second, the long oppression of Yugoslavia and Serbia later triggered a large act of violence against Serbian orthodox churches and monasteries in Kosovo. In the period between 1999 and 2004, 155 cultural institutions were destroyed by Albanian activists. Riots in 2004 by Albanian hooligans left many dead and injured Serbs (Vockler, 2006). The political situation was also not one that was spreading stability

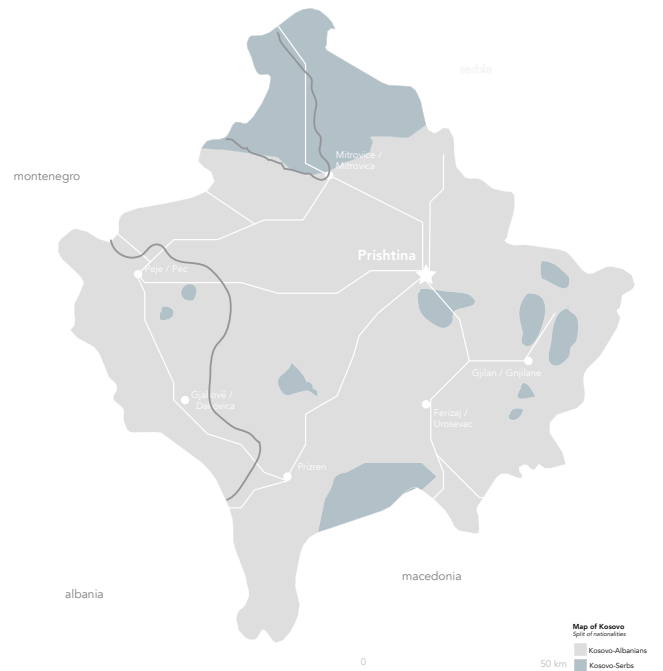


Fig. 19 Kosovo's divided landscape
Heritage Kosovo

and trust. The placement of Kosovo under the control of a provisional international administration with UN entering with a number as high as 2000 employees, paid by Western standards from money set aside for aid did not felt well by the locals. These salaries triggered rents skyrocketing in Prishtina. Last, the change from being a province of Serbia to a separate area left major gaps in administrative capacities and other people were suddenly equipped with power. Corruption was and is a very common element in Kosovo. Unclear relations between government and construction companies gave power to the large firms. For a time, the construction industry was the largest player on the economic market. The incapacities of the government and municipal institutions made free way for all-round development in the private sector and second failure of plans in the years after the war extended this period of unclear urban and regional development. Last, the period of great oppression by the Serbian regime between the 1990's and the beginning of the war has caused damage to the Albanian society in their feeling of common sense or care for the public.

In the following pages these processes after the war will be described in more detail. The conditions after the war all contribute to the contemporary poor quality of public spaces and its public domain. Public life in Prishtina is active and social and nowadays seeks for more comfortable places. The society is slowly getting back on track and is rapidly catching up with the Western style of living when it comes to behavior and needs. Nevertheless, the required spaces and qualitative good urban conditions for this to happen not available. This is especially a serious problem in the neighborhoods that have seen big urban changes in the aftermath of the conflict. For that matter, the different processes and situations after the war are being researched on their impact on the quality of the urban environment. The construction boom, failure of administrative planning and plans, the change of economy and the inherited aversion to the public domain are the important factors that have led to the deterioration of public spaces and its domain. Their impact on the spatial organization will be reviewed and preliminary conclusions will be drawn. Those conclusions are first steps in developing priorities for the government that increase the quality of the urban conditions. Those strategic priorities of the public bodies need to focus on building public-private relationships and integrate the whole society in the renewed public domain. They need to be introduced in future policy making and spatial planning of the entire city and for the local neighborhoods.

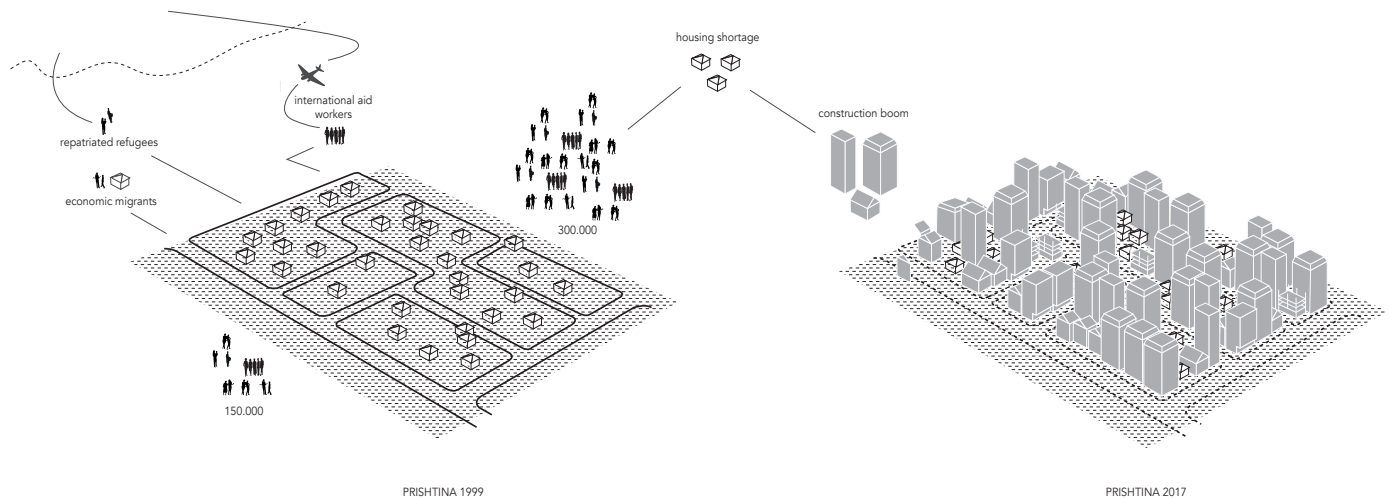


Fig. 20 Post Conflict challenges

The construction boom - Rapid population growth in cities is characteristic of post-conflict situations (Vockler, 2006). Migration flows towards cities and particularly to Prishtina include repatriated refugees, rural to urban movement and establishment of the large international community generated a housing shortage. In the conflict period over 200.000 refugees went to Western Europe and much came back after the war due to revoked asylum by hosting countries. What they found were destroyed villages and towns and many decided to migrate to the bigger cities which had been saved mostly during the war and are offering better prospects. All these new residents had to find a way to settle in the city which led in situations to conflicts. The high demand for housing in the city accelerated the construction of buildings. The result was a construction boom to house all these newcomers in Prishtina. The direct aftermath regarding the government and administrative institutions were unable to regulate the development due to incapacities and were dysfunctional. This construction boom which proceeded eventually without permits and sufficient standards has resulted in a drastic change of existing urban fabric of Prishtina. Multistorey housing apartments popped up every day in Prishtina, small houses suddenly disappeared and made way for maximizing structural volume, public spaces and municipal land was taken to build and at moments the city just one big construction site. Unique constructions between investors, construction companies and property and land owners together dominated the construction sector and rapidly urban areas changed. Intentions were clear: maximizing profit from selling and renting out new property and investing those profits in new construction.

Money was primarily invested in the construction sector and it soon became the most important part of the economy. Funds for this came partially from the international donors or from the estimated 400.000 Kosovo-Albanian diaspora. Relatives of Kosovo Albanians living in western countries. That economy was to shrink as soon as the housing shortage was declining and plans for other sectors of the economy were not made. Today, Kosovo has one of the lowest per capita incomes in South-Eastern Europe (World Bank, 2014). This has led to a wave of economic migrants towards Western Europe (Kosovo Stability Initiative, 2014).

Everyone except the socially disadvantaged were able to profit and be part of the construction boom and the real-estate sector. Construction companies, land and building owners, foreign investors, skilled laborers, builders owning materials were engaged in the new economy of Prishtina. Besides that, the local

inhabitants with savings invested in housing for their families and the new migrants in housing in order to start a new life in Prishtina. The socially disadvantaged or vulnerable were left to cope with their problems on their own. Today, for example only a handful of social projects and housing initiatives are provided coming from the government. In Prishtina that comes down to 198 apartments.

As Kai Vockler mentions, the spontaneous, uncontrolled urban development was to regulate itself. Self-regulation, he writes, is essentially determined by each of the individual parties dealing with one another in constructions projects. All these interests do not directly serve the interests of the society as a whole. This is clearly seen in the total neglect of public affairs. It is mainly led by individual interests which tend to lead to conflicts with neighbors. The negative results are very obvious in areas where the government should have intervened with accurate planning and regulations from the beginning: supplying a functioning technical and social infrastructure, and reserving and maintaining public space and places that support public daily life.

Comparing city situations before the war and the rapid development years after indicates that the overbuilding of the city and expanding informal edges has changed the area for 75% (Vöckler, 2008, p. 39). It was not the actual conflict that changed the city but rather the post-conflict processes that led to destruction of the place (Vöckler, 2008, p. 42). It was a continuation of the destruction of the city which had its origin in the Yugoslavian period when the modernistic concepts were applied and historic places as the town bazaar and religious buildings had to make way for new ideas.

It is possible to identify three different directions the development after the war took. The specific circumstances and conditions of the developments is closely related to the location in Prishtina. Likewise, the impact the developments have on the urban fabric of the city and its direct urban environment depends on the location. Expansion of the city happened on the outskirts of the urban area. In this case, it is mostly private parties that own land which was used formerly as agriculture land. Existing families developed their land for personal use or in limited cases sold parts of their land. In that case, the development was still in relation with their own development of the land. In most cases, this suburban development are single family houses. Limited commercial buildings have been build. Neighbors generally know each other and only sporadic



Fig. 21 Unregulated development in Prishtina

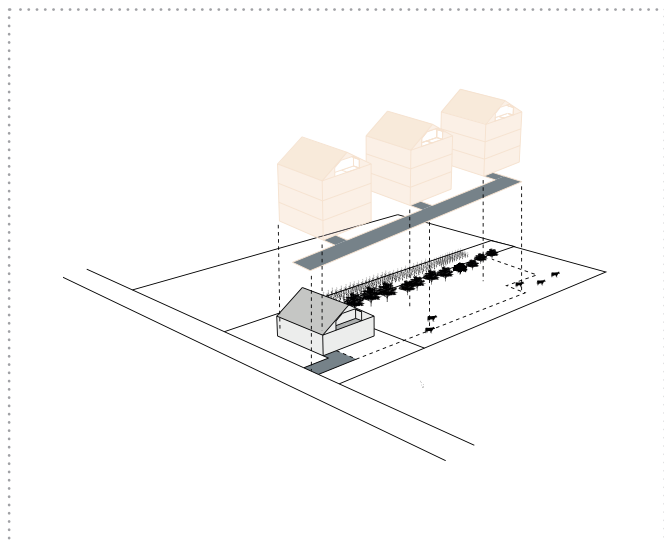


Fig. 22 Urban extensions

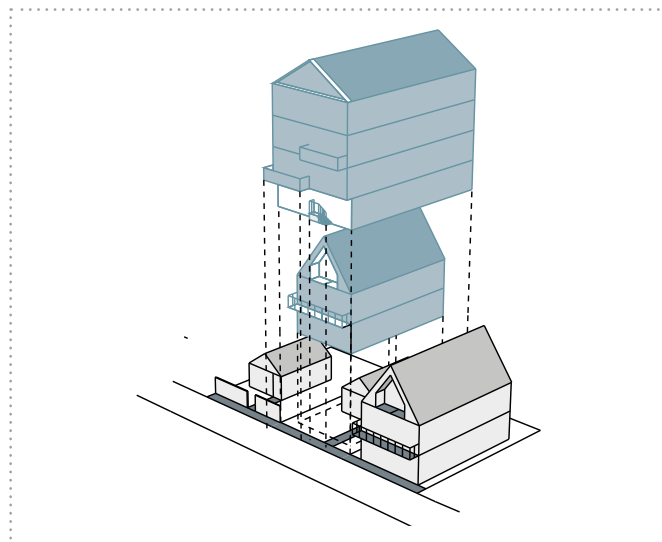


Fig. 23 Private densification

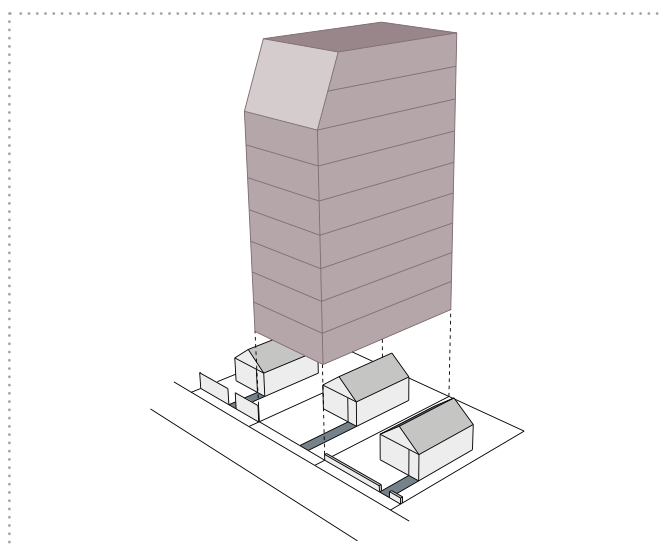


Fig. 24 Investors densification

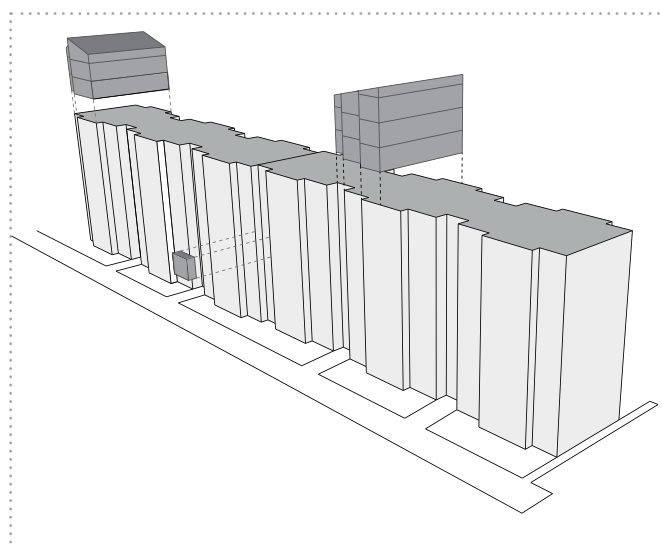


Fig. 25 Urban parasites

conflicts have occurred. For those areas, no plans existed and supply of basic infrastructure was not available. Public amenities are generally lacking, such as public transport and paved roads.

This type of development has enlarged the boundaries of urban Prishtina drastically. Later, with the strategic plans that were formed these areas were designed as urban extensions with only apartment buildings of 4-10 stories and did not include family homes.

The second type of development happened within the city and densified the urban fabric enormously. Within this development there are two ways: enlargement of buildings done by the owner of the land and enlargement of buildings done by investors that bought the land. The parcels have already been divided into smaller plots and the areas are more attractive due to existing infrastructure. The intention is to gain as much profit by maximizing buildings up to plot sizes.

In the first case, the owner had a permit for a single-family house but extends this development up to 6-7 floors. It is also possible that multiple land owners work together when constructing a building. Eventually the final buildings exceed maximum gross floor size for the site and the number of floors aloud by the regulatory neighborhood plans. The ground floor is usually designed for commercial purposes. Conflicts arise between property owners due to blocked sunlight and distance to existing properties. Lack of care for existing urban fabrics and historical do not exist and extensions on public grounds

decrease public space and safe street life.

The second case is maximizing the property up to its parcel limits by investors which are not part of the neighborhood community. The intentions are only profit by maximizing its property value and do not care for public areas and existing neighboring properties. Generally, the ground floors can be used for commercial purposes while the upper floors are for office space or apartments. These buildings are more or less according to URP's, including a permit, but they show limited care for social infrastructure, apartment size and sidewalks.

The last type of development is urban densification on top and sides of existing building. The municipality was allowing flat roofs to change into pitched roofs with an extension of one floor. In practice, up to four floors have been added to buildings. Small extensions on sides and balconies are often illegal and build without permits. These extensions are generally made on former Socialist apartment blocks which have been privatized during the transition towards a market economy. This form is mostly performed on large modernistic high rise buildings in the south of the city.

The core issue visible in the build environment today is the neglect of importance related to building standards and regulations, concerning the development after the war. The uncontrolled urban development permitted landowners to maximize the value of their land in inner city areas. Clearly is the individual interests and conflict with one another and this eventually will affect property value. Second, care and lack towards the street,



Fig. 26 Architecture timeline including contemporary free architecture

public spaces and historic value did not exist. Buildings have been constructed up to and over the plot level taking space from streets and sidewalks. The streets are a chaotic mixture of uses and the variety of facades and spaces in front make this an undefined place. Within the city limits, self-regulation and uncontrolled development results in overburdened infrastructure, light and clearance in buildings, emergency lanes space, public space. On the urban periphery, there is a lack of social institutions and supply of technical infrastructure as sewers and water supply. Ultimately, these examples demonstrate that self-regulation in a society reaches its limits when it fails to take into consideration the society as a whole. This results in problems, such as inadequate or lacking connections to infrastructure and utilities.

The last element of self-regulation and uncontrolled development is maybe even the most visible one: the style of the buildings. The style of buildings that belong to an international urban culture marked by media which presented the 'good life' from all over the world. The new 'Turbo Architecture' as

Srdjan Jovaovic Weiss calls it, can be found everywhere in the western Balkan regions. He calls it a mish-mash of styles and references to 'tradition' but that tradition comes from elsewhere now. It is imitating styles of buildings seen in international media in a way demonstrating modernity but not the modern architecture that Kosovo and other Balkan regions experienced in the previous century during the Socialist Yugoslavia period. It is an international style that rejects everything that is tradition and regional architecture. Old Prishtina, which is typically housing historic houses or single-story houses have made way for overbuilt enormous high-rise office and commercial buildings. Adopted styles as classical, oriental, free-style coming from the US, Dubai mixed with structures that have no specific style at all make the streets of Prishtina a unique place. It incorporates hope to become part of the modern western culture (Vockler, 2006 p. 52).

All these elements have changed the urban profile of the city. It is basically the deregulated situation that resulted in the informalization of urban space.

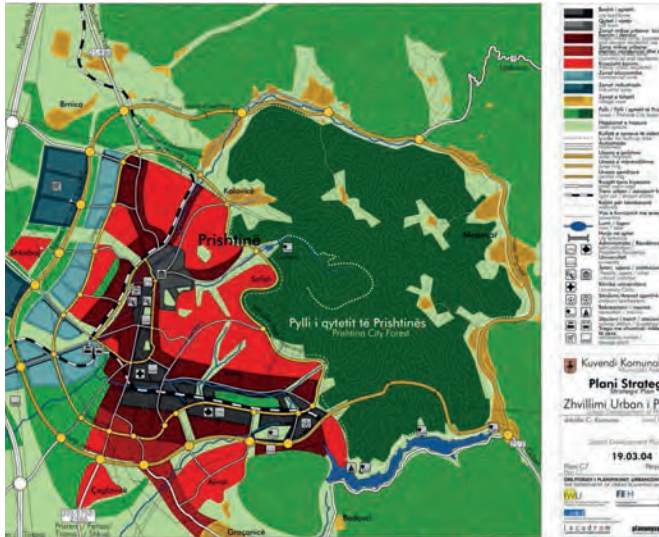


Fig. 27 Strategic Plan 2020
Municipality of Prishtina, 2004

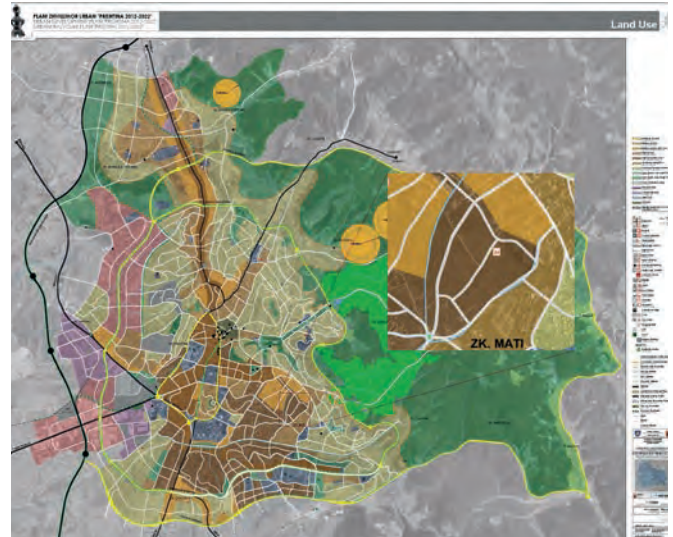


Fig. 28 Urban development plan 2012-2020
Municipality of Prishtina, 2011

Failure of administrative plans - The unregulated development and many illegal constructions were a matter of failure of administrative plans and institutional incapacity. The case of Kosovo as a post-conflict situation had an extra dimension in the form of a dysfunctional and weak governance system. Directly after the war, the international community decided to place Kosovo under the control of a provisional international administration. With the establishment of the UNMIK (United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo) aimed at foreseeing the new nation with a "transitional administration while establishing and overseeing the development of provisional democratic self-governing institutions to ensure conditions for a peaceful and normal life for all inhabitants of Kosovo" (United Nations Security Council, 1999). The change of being part of Yugoslavia and later Serbia as a province of a larger state towards a new control of UN mission has been a difficult one. In the Yugoslavian period, the city was under Belgrade control and plans were made mostly outside Kosovo. After the war the Serbian employees in most parts of the governmental institutions left, a large incapacity of the institutional system was the result. The mission of the UN, aiming at giving the new state a transitional administration, when in the meantime perform capacity building for a future democratic government which would be self-sufficient in organizing the country, has been a complex process. Together with the UN the OSCE (organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe) and the EU (European Union) the goal was to structure a provisional self-government (Provisional Institutions of Self-Government – PISG). Already in 2002 elections the authority over the country was transferred to the PISG. Nevertheless, the UNMIK stayed and still had lot of influence the years after.

The existing development plans dating from the Yugoslav period were existing on paper but left largely aside during this period. The release from the Yugoslavian domination made those plans insufficient. A vacuum of a period with no planning instrument in charge and so, no legal binding document gave freedom to property developers in the widest sense of the word. At that time, it was not even possible to get a permit for a development. Second, property ownership within Prishtina had many difficulties caused by unclear legal status of property. It was not a custom for building without legal bindings in the Socialist period but caused by the situation and the increasing housing need, that people went their own way. Illegal development was present before the war but was limited to building one and two-story houses as opposed to multi story apartment buildings after 1999. Houses were taken over after the war including city property. Development in the city boundaries and over the edges went on without regulation and had solely economic factors and private interests.

Already in 2000, the director of the planning agency, Rexhep Luci recognized the situation as problematic and tried to establish a document to regulate the illegal development, as a reaction he was murdered. UNMIK regulation 2000/53 acknowledged this issue but incapacities and the yet non-organized Kosovo police force failed in regulating the illegal construction and to enforce building codes (Vöckler, 2008, p. 43). Moreover, plans had to be drawn first to establish a legal basis.

In the period between 1999 and 2003 the vacuum of spatial plans and laws has been disastrous for the urban environment of Prishtina. It is very clear now, that planning and good governance after a conflict is essential. Irreversible situations now create excessive problems regarding the urban quality. Eventually the "Urban Strategic Plan 2020" was made in 2004 in just a few months. An unrealistic plan based upon unreliable information, as proved by the European Stability Initiative (2006) which made clear that 500.000 inhabitants was twice the amount living in Prishtina. At the point when this plan was made, it should have focused on actual situations that happened rather than proposing a worldly great vision. No strategy in the "Strategic Plan" was specified regarding problems concerning destroying historic elements, safety of buildings, water supply and wastewater infrastructure and social problems related to the unregulated development.

Based on the strategic plan, which had no legal binding and was not detailed at all, smaller regulatory plans for different neighborhoods were developed. Based on a wrong census and individually from each other, they were a complete failure. Failure due to absence of a Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and an Urban Development Plan (UDP) which were required according to the Law on Spatial Planning (2003). Second, due to absence of administrative ordinances and approved construction regulations (Hasimja, 2012). These plans found difficulties on the ground when reserving space for public amenities and spaces for public life. Besides the streets, no land was owned by the municipality to generate public facilities. No real public standards were included in the plans and besides that, implementation of public projects had difficulties, related to expropriation of spaces and compensation abilities of the municipality, to acquire land. However, the development process was still rising until 2010. It was super problematic, the local government and all the people around it was focusing on what they call higher priority issues, like asphalt, provide access, employment, attracting business, investment, and that was their excuse. Build whatever you want with your land from high-rise and low-rise to front of the plot or central in the plot.

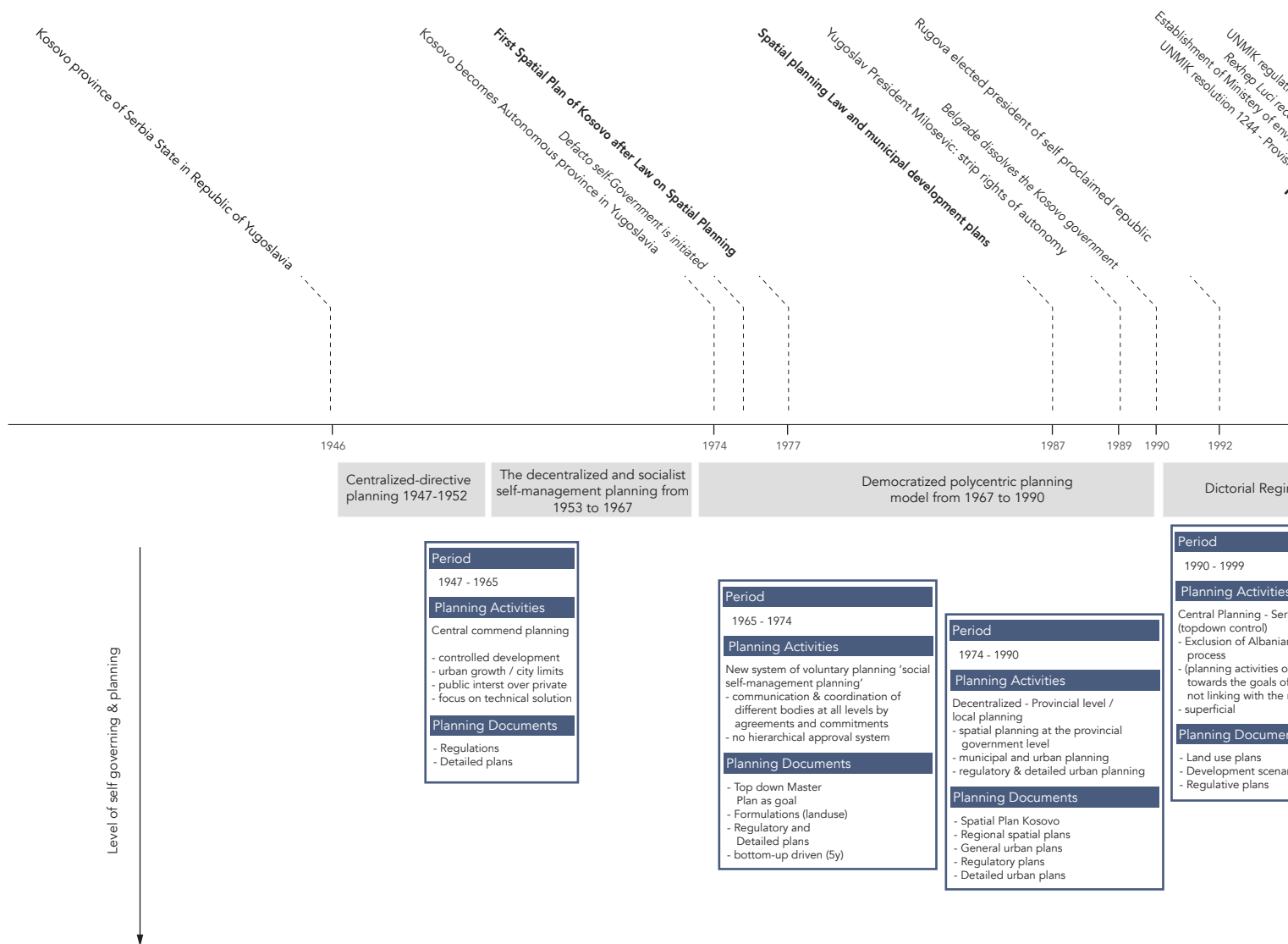


Fig. 29 Kosovo and Planning since 1946

In 2011, the Urban Plan 2012-2020 was introduced. The plans are not very specific and clear. The urban development plan indicates the strategies within the urban boundaries and are separated in smaller regular plans for each neighborhood. There are different problems now because even this Urban development plan is not harmonized with actual situation and actual regulatory plans in some places.

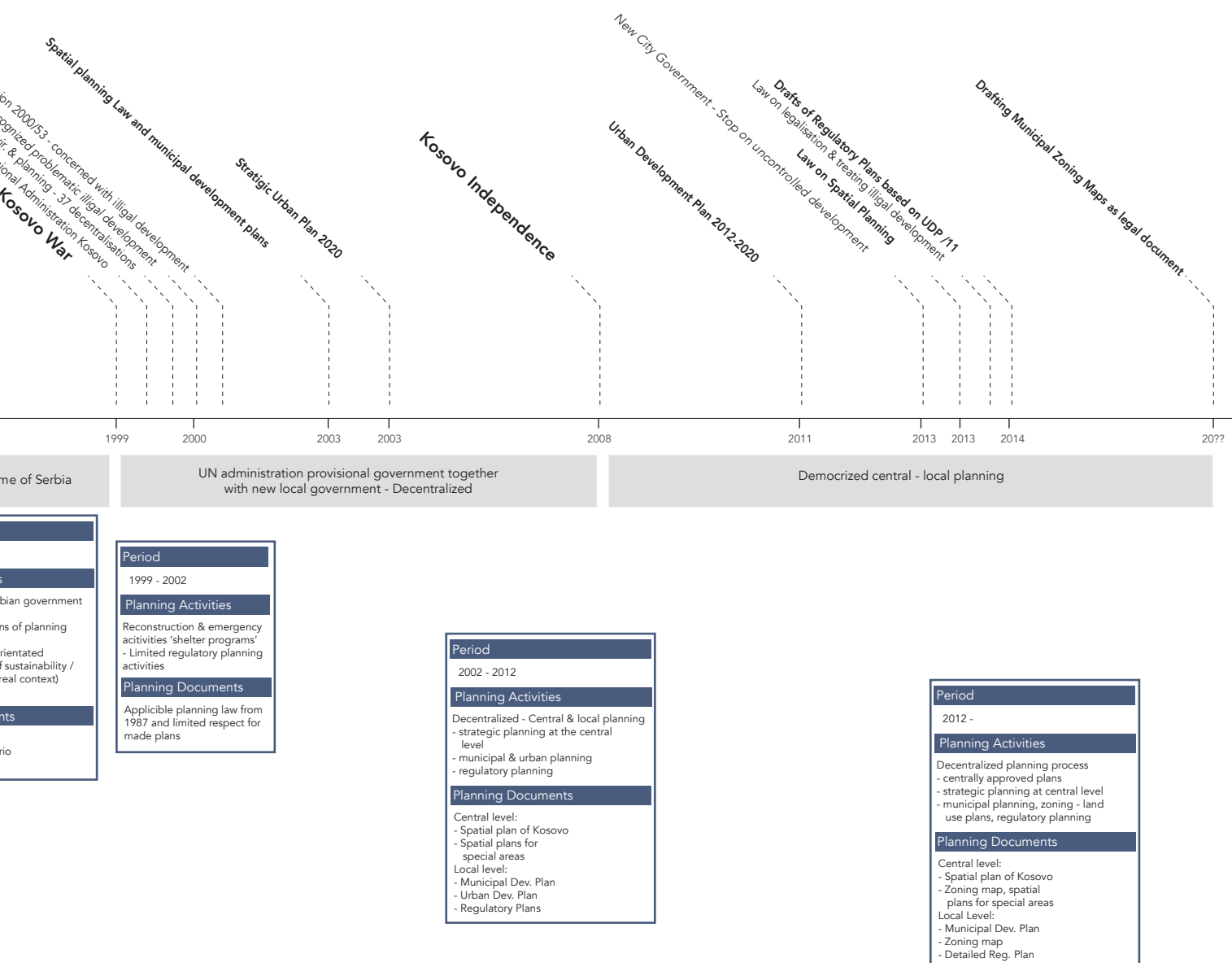
With the new Law on Spatial Planning 2013, a Zoning Map is introduced as an instrument between the MDP and UDP/URP. It indicates a new system, this means that the recent Urban Development plan 2012-2020 was replaced immediately after finishing. This was at the time still in progress and not approved, reliance is still on the old plans and Law of 2003. A total new system, with its origin in American spatial planning, that now needs understanding and a way of using.

These processes continued until the Law in 2013 came that put a hold on these constructions. In a timeframe of 13 years more or less there was no regulation and standards on construction. The Law on legalization is made and will legalize almost all illegal buildings build after the war. The Law provides low standards and does not demand adjustment of buildings in order to increase street, sun and air, safety problems related to the buildings. The challenge now is how to proceed further with the processes in the build environment that exist.

The international community has also done its bit, mostly led by UN-HABITAT. In Kosovo, UN-HABITAT ran successive programs that focused on institutional reform and capacity-build-

ing, training a veritable army of planners who are now embedded across national and local government institutions there (Suri, 2015). The aim was to teach them how to do planning, i.e. to prepare those plans, while creating the conditions to support their implementation. Unfortunately, the emphasis on the process meant that development proceeded apace in the meantime, and changed the face of Kosovo's towns, newly emerged from conflict, in an irreparable manner – illegal constructions covering the hillsides, building material depots and fuel stations abutting the highways, huge warehouses dotting the landscape.

In some areas, where streets are still similar in layout to the situation of the 1950's, the building boom and density does not match with the capacities of the streets. The narrow streets, which are the few remarkable survived elements form the historic periods, have great difficulties related to increased car dependency, a wide variety of uses and giving pedestrians space for safe walks. The use of car and its function to the Kosovar society is of high importance. Besides as a status symbol, the car is part of many movements and preferable parking needs to be in front of destinations. Rules and regulations on parking on sidewalks, blocking entrances and payment for inner city parking on public land is not existing. The scarce private parking charges limited numbers of money. The fact that the car is of great importance is also due to the limited accessibility by public transport. A couple of bus routes run through the town but schedules are unclear as well as location of stops. The walkability in sense of size is not the real problem, it has more a geographical issue with the number of steep hills and the



pedestrian accessibility in a physical sense. The pedestrian has limited space to use freely without concern of safety related to heavy traffic, the quality of pavements, obstacles on ground and façade and general level of attractiveness of the place.

In Kosovo, the establishment of the Municipal Spatial Planning Support Program (MuSPP) in 2005 has been working on capacity building and training of planners in the different municipalities and Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning. Implementation of UN-Habitat of the objectives had the aim to promoting the concept of inclusive, strategic and action-orientated spatial and urban planning in Kosovo, besides that civil society and local governments are becoming aware of the need for participatory planning (UN-HABITAT, 2014). One of their projects was "Turning spaces into places", which acknowledged changes in society, need for greater sustainability and people's increased expectations in relation to new public spaces that create opportunities for citizens to enjoy social life outside. The project's aim was to increase awareness, by those who govern and economically develop the place, of the quality and importance of public space (UN-HABITAT, 2011). Greater awareness of the importance of quality public spaces is growing but implementation without projects as these is still rare. Recent examples are the pedestrianizing of Mother Theresa Boulevard, new pavements around part of the center, renovation of public spaces around religious buildings and small green spaces in selected neighborhoods. Structural and strategic visions on facilitation of public life throughout the city are still steps to take. Essential are ideas for the dense neighborhoods that were affected the most with the unregulated development after the war.

At the moment, with the upcoming new system with zoning maps and new plans on municipal and local level, the task is there to design plans derived from actual situations and urban environmental needs. Various problems and challenges need answers, but more important is the changed attitude and transparency of the government about the plans and strategies. Eventually, it is the local citizen who has to deal with the decisions on central, municipal and local level. A renewed policy towards the quality of urban life needs to be incorporated. From governmental level, the will and care for a quality urban environment has to be clear. Many sectors of the urban environment have been neglected and ignored in plans and policy. The environment, heritage, culture, social dimensions, public facilities, accessibility and mobility, local (informal) economies, quality education and space and strong local representation and transparency are themes that desperately need attention and part of the planning process.

Esther Charlesworth (2007), Associate Professor at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, researched many conflict affected places in the previous decade. She indicates a necessary shift in post-conflict urban planning, by making the planning process an instrument for establishing peace and rebuilding a sustainable society. It is rebuilding of the build environment with emphasis on the social life to reconcile. It is the shift towards the reconstruction of the society. In order to achieve this, she points out three principles that can guide the planning process towards an improvement of the situation in a more strategic way with long term establishing fundamentals.

The following principles are described here briefly.

Political and Ethnic collaboration- Establishing a frame for collaboration between different actors is essential in planning situations in general. In the case of post-conflict planning, this collaboration is even more critical due to different ethnic groups living in close proximity to each other. Minorities, from different backgrounds have various ethical standards and norms. Understanding of the different social groups is essential in avoiding new conflicts. The political power, which normally presents the major ethnic group, should act to the needs of all concerned. It asks professionals to seek relation with 'non-spatial' experts in order to tackle other problem fields by reconstruction the spatial environment.

Public consultation - Democratic planning has as core element, involving and engaging the public in the planning process. The public is the one recognizing the problems and needs and what should have priority. 'Bottom-up' processes are there to see the essential needs of society and to create a legitimate sustainable plan. Involving the public and making them part of the planning process, creates a basis for a successful implementation and long term functioning of a project.

Pilot projects - For the last element, Charlesworth is saying: "The successful merging of theory with practice in the post-recovery field is a rare phenomenon, an enormous gap still exists between academic critiques and any visible improvement of their physical environment". A counteraction is the introduction of pilot projects in order to bridge the gap between the academic critiques and the actual situation. It can bring the planning process to an outcome and test it, besides that it can be a showcase to the public.

The second expert on post-conflict development is Gert Junne (2011; 2005), Professor at the University of Amsterdam. He explains that the focus for the urban development should be aimed at facilitating the society in order to create social cohesion. The development process in the aftermath is characterized by a mainly private development with an individual perspective in mind, this is due to political re-establishment of the governmental institutions which have been severely damaged. Junne (2011) makes clear that the urban environment should refocus on the social dimension that can be channeled with psychical placement of buildings and spaces. Which means that spatial planning on the small scale has a lot to do with the planning process, although not always directly has a visible physical feature. Besides that, in the spatial organization of post-conflict areas public spaces and buildings are often lacking in urban areas in the aftermath of a conflict. Rebuilding and construction takes spaces that before were used by the public and were part of the social infrastructure of the city. A few of his visions on the urban landscape of a post-conflict area are concrete spatial ideas.

Make places adaptable - A more multipurpose of buildings are urgent in order to adapt to the changing society and should be put on the agenda of organizations involved in supporting cities after conflict. The character of an urban area in contemporary form, is the rapid changing of priorities and needs, which need to be accommodated. A flexible use of new buildings and spaces constructed is in order.

Destruction possibilities - The destruction that has taken place also gives possibilities for new public spaces where people can interact. See the altered landscape as an opportunity for future new social systems and cherish places that at first sight seem difficult to change.

Multilayer inclusive network - The multilayer embeddedness of urban and spatial planning is necessary to bring together the individual efforts of actors and ideals. Include the changed multicultural society into the different layers of the urban system.

'Free' market economy - Post-1999 Turbo / fast urbanism, with its typical self-regulation process is not just an element resulting from the accelerated overbuild city planning with its foundations in lack of state regulations. It is also the result of the specific economic situation. A major change in the economic system is equally responsible for the informal way the development process happened. The old planned Socialist economy transformed into a market economy.

Market economy is described by the following definition of The American Heritage New Dictionary of cultural literacy:

'An economy in which the greater part of production, distribution, and exchange is controlled by individuals and privately owned corporations rather than by the government, and in which government interference in the market is minimal'.

The international intervening administration supported neoliberal economic principles after the war in 1999, that experienced weak formal structures due to the organization processes of those new state institutions. This triggered an economy essentially dominated by informal networks of local investors. It was only in the first few years that Kosovo was experiencing growth by the expanding economy. However, the economy depended upon international donors and the Kosovo-Albanian diaspora. Today, still many families survive on support of the diaspora living in Western Europe. An estimated 400.000 - 700.000 Kosovo-Albanians live in countries like Germany, Switzerland and Austria, that is between one fifth to one third of the population. According to estimates from the Kosovar Ministry of finance and Economy, transferred money from diaspora counts for up to 50% of the house hold incomes in Kosovo in 2002.

Money was mostly invested in the construction sector (Voecker, 2006). Soon many people wanted to participate in this economy and tried to gain some profit or at least an income out of it.

This development, which Edward Luttwak call 'Turbo Capitalism', can be characterized by a type of capitalist economics aiming for pure efficiency and maximum profit on a global scale. The deregulation corresponds to the rising emergence of 'informality,' happening specifically in the labor sector, which adapts to new conditions.

In the direct aftermath and lasting until the governmental decision to stop all construction in 2013, the construction sector gave a majority of the Kosovars a chance to achieve financial gain. The decision in 2013 has increased the number of unemployment which rose towards 35% and even up to 60% with young adults (World Bank, 2000-2014, UN-habitat, 2016). This is a serious issue and economic migration is very present these days (FES, 2015). In that case, it becomes a moral topic, improving situations in the urban environment or ignore and let constructions continue which give employment to a large part of society.

Public aversion / lack of care - The situation regarding the urban conditions in addition to the previously mentioned post-conflict processes and situations is also socially embedded in the system. In order for planning process and policies to achieve positive outcome they need to be adapted to the specific social context. This social context: the behavior of people within the urban environment, the social and communal responsibility is worth mentioning. The largely individual processes as opposed to a process that incorporates the society as a whole, but mainly the attitude towards the public or communal is inherited from the period in the 1990s. The period between 1991 and 1999, Serbia conducted an almost dictatorial regime. This contained strict rules and restrictions for all Kosovo-Albanians regarding the performance in the public sector. In an interview with Eliza Hoxha, teacher at the University of Prishtina, she explains the situation she and her family and with her many others experienced in that period.



Fig. 30 SWOT- results

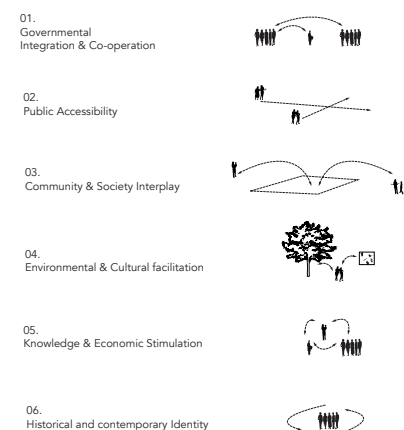


Fig. 31 The renewed public policy

'Most of Albanians had to leave their jobs in the period around 1991. They had to because they did not sign the documents that agreed on a certain language to be the main language in education and information, namely Serbian. My father was working for a radio broadcasting company and my mother in a kindergarten. First the professors, higher education professionals and people in the media were kicked out of their jobs. In this time, more and more Albanians had to leave their jobs. So, most of Albanian families were left without jobs and income in the time between 1991-1999. In this time, the Albanian Diaspora, which are relatives living abroad in countries as Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium and Netherlands clustered. In that time, almost every family had a relative abroad who was sending money home. They organized this parallel system of education in order for their family and its children to continue with an education. Which was funded for 3% by the diaspora, it was called the diaspora fund for education and health. This kept the Albanians in Kosovo practically alive in this period. I was following my education in one of the schools hosted in a private house and got education from voluntary teachers. The faculties were in the different private houses and areas of the city. The city at that time had a different meaning to ethnicities. The public institutions were not belonging to the people anymore and the new public life was taking place now in the private houses in the edge area of the city'.

The public, and so the streets were not seen as theirs and not ours anymore. This was seen as the state, Serbia and so the enemy. In the contemporary city, this is not the case anymore but these offensive ideas about the public are not gone. They do not care about these spaces. It is a habit, a broken link of public and the collective good is not there. This is still very visible in parts of Pristina. You will see people taking care of space not further than their threshold. They define it, wall it, put up fences. So, you have all these nice spots or islands in Prishtina and in between a lot of unwanted spaces. How can we change the situation for people to open their mind and change a little of their behavior and become more open to the public? Everybody contributes to that in different ways, but if you do nothing at least do not destroy it or litter. This is an urban mentality and this should be reshaped bit by bit explains Eliza Hoxa.

The family based traditions is a well-shaped system but lacks

in a more community sense and responsibility for surrounding conditions.

An important factor in this for the future is the re-establishing of the public-private relationship. The transparency, public policies and general state responsibility belong in a future strategy and planning concept. Government and public bodies need to demonstrate their renewed interest in the public and the quality urban environment first, but this needs to be taken to the neighborhoods on a local scale.

Conclusion towards the public goods focus

Processes in the aftermath have changed the urban fabric drastically in Prishtina. The negative effects are challenging the development of a city towards a livable and maybe even sustainable future. The problems to tackle have grown over the years and solutions to change the situation have been minimal. Clear is that from all sides of the society a change is in order to prevent further decrease of the situation and maintenance at least of survived history. Meanwhile, appreciation of the period should make peace with the past. It formed the city as it is, which is a quality too. From this study, priorities within the public domain from a policy and governance level can help change the situation in the future. These will guide the development of the design and are tested on the situation of Dodona neighborhood.

The following six themes need to be addressed within the development of the design and within their reach are of substantial influence regarding the public life and realm of a neighborhood.

The public life focus has the following strategic themes:

- Governmental integration & Co-operation
- Public accessibility & mobility
- Knowledge & economic stimulation
- Community & Society interplay
- Historical & future Identity
- Environmental & Cultural facilitation

These items should be key focus themes due to their direct relation to public domains of an urban environment. Their implementation/integration within the urban areas can be as ac-

tual physical design or either a first step in the change of the planning political landscape working on the public grounds.

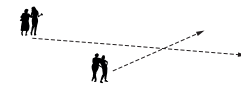
Governmental integration & Co-operation

The planning and development department on municipal and urban scale is in need of thinking in a co-operative way. The privatized processes of the past 17 years have made a gap between the society and the state. On the urban scale a variety of policy and spatial interventions need to happen in order to decrease the gaps and poor situations for its inhabitants when it comes to livability of the urban environment. Topics as social and cultural fragmentation, limited transparency in policy making and urban development, poor urban district co-operation and integral thinking and decision making. Smaller decision making levels on neighborhood level need to be represented locally and work on integration of bordering areas. Moreover, the governments objective should work towards generating a cohesive space.



Public accessibility & mobility

The decreasing quality level of public accessibility and mobility demands a renewed plan and strategy for the city to transition towards a public friendly space. Physical access to streets, buildings and public spaces is of poor quality. Blocking access due to car parking, stairs on sidewalks and broken pavements do need a strategy. Functional access to services and utilities on walking distance need better representation. General mobility of all social groups is desired.



Community & Society interplay

In a drastically changed social situation and a recent conflict between more groups demands intervening in order to make a plan to move forward. Extensive programs should always be part of policy in such situations. Strengthening the sense of community and the feeling of belonging is urgent. The individual development has decreased this issue. Stimulation of triangulation on a cross-neighborhood level but as well on smaller scales can enhance a multi-social community.



Environmental & Cultural facilitation

Access to healthy-non-build areas such as parks and gardens within the urban fabric can give a sense of free breathing. Existing places need revitalization and further the extension of those space within the fabric. The compensation of the overbuild and solid grounds need to be addressed in order to create a livable fabric. On cultural grounds, more space is in order to perform the societies assets and history. New activities can enrich the local life.



Knowledge & economic stimulation

In one of the poorest countries of Europe, the economy on the smallest scale need to be supported. Besides that, the upcoming workforce need to be prepared for the professional life. Supporting the informal and micro economy by knowledge, spaces and networks can enhance the public livability. Co-working places and student-professional networks can stimulate neighborhood economies.



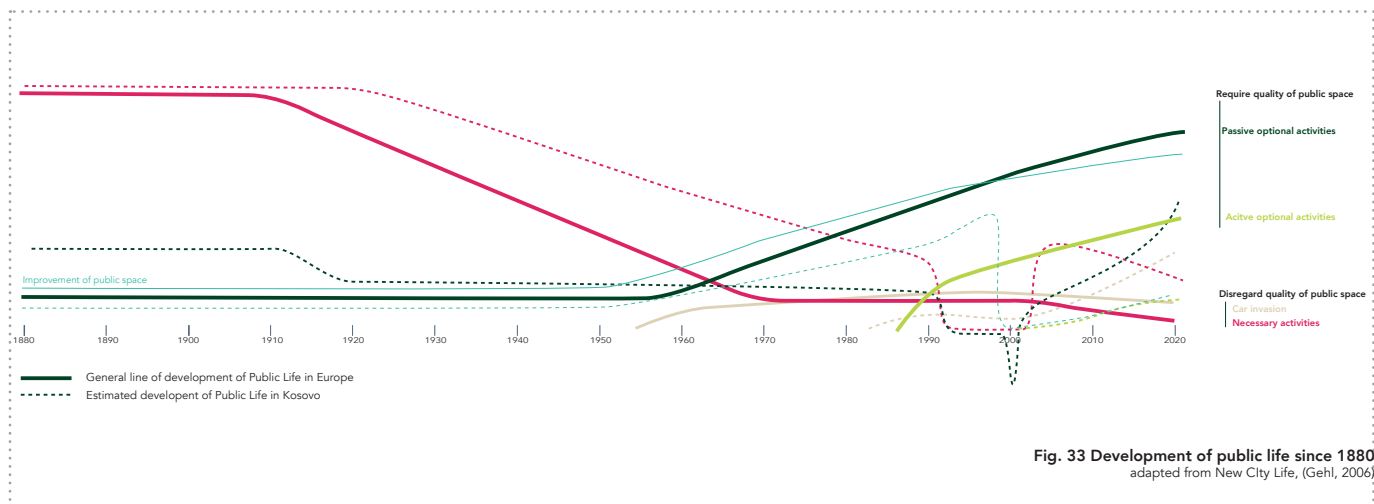
Historical & future Identity

With the several transitions over the years' identity is a problem. The image of post-conflict places is not attracting most of the population. A renewed thinking and marketing of the unique urban landscape and life can transform the negative view of these locations. Besides that, it creates a sense of belonging to a place which they are proud of. The public spaces and life can shape a new public domain and its recognizable level. Repetition of elements, basic shapes and colors and clear vision can attract everybody within the process.



These 6 themes will guide the development of the design and will be translated into a spatial agenda which can be implemented within the neighborhood.

Fig. 32 Developed strategic themes



4.2 PUBLIC THEORY

Renewed public policy? - Post-conflict development processes in the build environment show a clear neglect for the public domain and good planning instruments for establishing social infrastructure and public services. Those cities and specific certain neighborhoods, exposed to unregulated developments with solely economic reasons, show difficult situations in urban living environment. This raises the question of how to implement and which qualities a renewed social infrastructure should have to cope with ongoing development processes? Strategies concerning the public life concepts can put emphasis on the importance of the social dimension and its prospects for a neighborhood and the larger city. Thus, the main aim of this chapter is to investigate the potential of the "public life" concepts in post-conflict urban design. It is a search into applicability of the concepts, which are aimed at improving quality of urban living, as a driving force in rebuilding a cohesive sense in a dense post conflict area.

Origin of the concept - In the period towards the 1960's a criticism arose around the world related to design and planning of the urban environment. Modernistic ideals of that time were criticized for its neglects of life in the city. Nobody seem to take care of the public life and the interaction between life and space. Interest was in designing good mobility programs, great landscapes and parks and buildings by important architects. The large picture was looked at but what happened at the human scale was unknown (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). It was not just professionals that criticized the lacking livability and vitality of new areas but also the residents began to have a strong opinion. Among critics were researchers that were interested in what we're driving forces for rich public life and urban spaces. According to them, the monotonous buildings, fragmented functions of cities and the scale were decreasing street life in the new developments. The life between buildings had been forgotten, it was ignored due to the focus on cars, large scale masterplans and ideals and rationalizing the processes in the city. This criticism started by Camillo Sitte in the end of the 19th century, when Sitte pointed out what the qualities of the traditional city were and gave criticism to the rational planning to be to straight and formal. He was not directly focused on public life studies but did made clear the importance of creating space for people (Sitte, 1889).

Since the 1960's the field of public life studies started to develop critical elements for good human life in cities. The beginning were statements of critics on the variety of un-human ways the city was evolving and presenting the focus points that would lead to better human life. This was the start of the public life studies with works of Jane Jacobs, Jan Gehl, Christopher Alexander and William H. Whyte questioning what was needed to introduce life in the new neighborhoods as

was for centuries in the historic cities (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). During the 80's and 90's, the studies became a strategic tool when (re)developing cities. Even though, the rise of the individual architect and its iconic buildings left the space between the buildings untouched, in a number of cities public space planning was now part of the cities policies. Present day, studies of public life are essential in planning good cities. Including directly the citizens in projects today, brings the public life studies closer to the society, when they are involved in the transformation process. With more people living in cities, knowledge about the life and interactions with space in cities is priority in making good living places for everyone, especially in the developing countries (Gehl & Rogers, 2013).

With the expression of Gordon Cullen's (1961) about the multifaceted city, inspired by the traditional city, signifies the opposite direction of where post-war planning was going to. His book was a manifest of qualities of the traditional historic city layout. How can planning of new neighborhoods be transformed towards the idea of the human as central element again of a thriving urban area?

Over time different meanings and topics have joined the scope of the public life studies. New circumstances and changing human priorities have enlarged the notion due to increased car dependency, new technologies, varieties of cultural opinions and urban migration. It has always been the aim for public life studies to make notion of the importance of the study of human behavior as important as study physical urban environment (Gehl & Svarre, 2013, p. 13). The first to manifest herself and her believes was Jane Jacobs (1961). Her protest against the decreasing life of humans caused by the car and its accessibility throughout the city, united a lot of voices in New York City. Her written manifest, the death and life of great American cities (1961), made clear in which inhumane circumstances places were changing. Since then her visions were used as fundament to many other researchers interested in public life throughout the years.

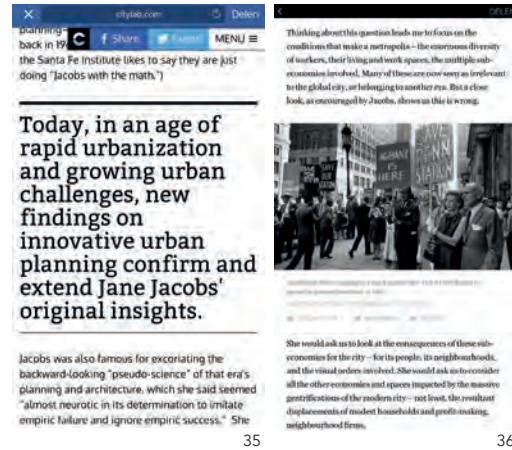
The public life notion has a wide variety of topics and concepts. According to theory, fundamental elements are interaction (Alexander, 1977; Gehl, 1987; J. Jacobs, 1961; Sennett, 1977; Whyte, 1980b), diversity of functions and spaces (Appleyard, 1981; A. B. Jacobs, 1985; J. Jacobs, 1961; Marcus & Francis, 1990), human scale (Gehl, 1987; J. Jacobs, 1961; Tibbalds, 2002), density of population (Appleyard & Jacobs, 1982; J. Jacobs, 1961), social dimension (Gehl, 1987; J. Jacobs, 1961; PPS, 2000), activities & uses (Gehl, 1987; Tibbalds, 2002), citizens engagement (Appleyard & Jacobs, 1982; J. Jacobs, 1961; PPS, 2000). Judging the level of quality of public life of a neighborhood, is looking critical at the state and situation of the human being in relation to space and buildings. Are citizens able to perform and act naturally and feeling the comfort that they usually find in private domains.



34

As Jane Jacobs (1961) said: "there is no logic that can be superimposed on the city; people make it, and it is to them, not to buildings, that we must fit our plans". People will use space and it should be accessible to different social groups and citizens from different cultures (Low, 2000). This space in dense places comes mostly down to the street (Gehl & Rogers, 2013). The street in most cases is a multipurpose place where car, pedestrian, biker, and others are sharing the space. Important is the pace in which everything happens in order to establish a lively street scape. Fast moving traffic is decreasing street-crossing friendships and sense of street community (Appleyard, 1981; Tibbalds, 2002). Generating safe streets for everybody is in order to nurture the heterogeneous coexistence and diversity of people in space (Madanipour, 2003). It is the relations between the public and private spheres that create a safe place (Madanipour, 2003), or as Jane Jacobs calls it: 'eyes on the street'. This is the ground floor edges of buildings and its functions that make relation possible and are part of the attraction of the place (Alexander, 1977; Gehl, 1987; Sennett, 1977). Besides the different edges, variety of details experienced in the street, the staying possibilities count for the amount of people that uses the space (Alexander, 1979; Whyte, 1980b). William H. Whyte (1980a) recognized the following related to the amount of people in space: 'What attracts people most, it would appear is not the physical, environmental, economical state of a place, it is other people'. This can appoint us towards creating sense of community and giving people space to interact will increase the amount of people and create awareness of the importance of a space to interact. The social dimension of a space is a critical element for spaces in order to foster social sense of place. It is the tolerance and responsibility to all the social groups in order to become a public space for public life (A. B. Jacobs, 1985; PPS, 2000). Citizens engagement and using participatory strategies can help to build the sense of community and place. Involving, activating and informing local residents and stakeholders, can and is necessary to transform spaces into places of quality (J. Jacobs, 1961; PPS, 2000), it is becoming aware of the needs and priorities of the users (Alexander, 1977; Gehl, 1987). Last, in the fast-changing societies and needs of people, a certain level of adaptability and examining of the human processes is necessary to create spaces that can evolve over time (Gehl & Svarre, 2013). The temporary use of spaces and level of flexibility of buildings is now very present with fast transforming societies.

In the Socialist countries, large parts of the urban land was publicly owned. The state was the owner of streets, buildings and facilities. The public space in Socialist countries has great range of land in public use, different space distribution and networks and other functional dimension, as opposed to western European public space (Stanilov, 2007). In order to develop streets and public spaces, expropriation of land happened in the name of the public need (Gjinolli, 2015). Institutional buildings, on public land, faced the open spaces. A strong link between the public life and the government was



35



36

Fig. 34 Attractive spaces, City Park Prishtina
Photo by author
Fig. 35 & 36 Jane Jacobs ideals are alive

visible. Commercial activities like marketplaces were limited, these were more often present in the neighborhoods, which decreased the vitality of centers.

"The Ideologically charged monumentality of the central squares, decorated for the proper "celebrations" of the Communist Party's glorious leadership, stood in stark contrast with the abundance of desolate, unkempt, and undifferentiated open space characterizing the majority of the urban landscape in the socialist city. Under these circumstances, social interaction remained the only viable function of public space" (Stanilov, 2007)

The public space was a controlled space during the Socialist time. Public gatherings and activities that would speak about items not in line with the Socialist Society were not allowed. No freedom of speech and outings against the state could happen in public space. Later in the socialist state, public spaces were used for public demonstrations against mostly the government. In Prishtina alone, large demonstrations were in 1981, 1982, 1988, 1989, 1990 (Gjinolli, 2015).

The period between 1990 and the war in 1999 was a particular difficult one. The Serbian government used an authoritarian way of ruling in Serbian lands. In Kosovo this came down to the banishing of Albanians from all institutions and by making all the socially owned companies state owned large numbers became unemployed. In this period, Albanian life happened in the private premises, including schools, daycare, and medical service. The public life changed location, and was mostly happening inside people's houses and café's owned by Albanians. This resulted in an aversion to the publicly owned streets and spaces and a start of a new way of public life. Today, this results in a great culture around coffee and the coffeehouse as a place for all sorts of gatherings. In this period, the limited construction that happened was on private lands, in the form of small extensions on private land for businesses (Gjinolli, 2015). In a way, today this aversion is still happening. The lack of care for the public space seems like a descent from the idea that it is state owned and no responsibility for it is needed.

Since the war ended a new transition period started, whereas transition in theory is mostly a political thing, in Kosovo this includes also economic, social and transformations of urban morphology (Gjinolli, 2015). The nature of public spaces after Socialism is transforming functionally and socially. The new market economy has introduced a new energy reflecting clearly in the private initiatives in the urban fabric and public space. In some cases, commercialization of public spaces was in favor of the public interest but mostly the privatization has not been good for public spaces in general. According to Kiril Stanilov (2007), the changes in post-socialist transformation of public spaces are harmed and suffering due to privatization and commercialization. The transformation of streets and public policies has not been positive for the public spaces.



Fig. 37 Limited public spaces in the city

In the case of Kosovo, this has not happened in that extent, although no planning regulations and laws on spatial planning give definitions to public space (Gjinolli, 2015). In this way, selected neighborhoods suffer the amount of open space due to no regulations, standards and public rights, which is not in line with the EU regulation that defines what public space means (European Commission, 2003).

As explored in this chapter, the state of facilitation of the public life (facilities, spaces, accessibility, quality, involvement) is largely overlooked in the aftermath of the conflict. Even though, new political approaches are aimed at improvement, the physical situation in dramatic situations makes this improvement a great challenge. First, as Esther Charlesworth (2007) points out, it is more than just providing new spaces for public life, it is the process towards these new spaces that needs a different focus. In order to create quality spaces, collaboration, consultation and showcasing possibilities to the public

is necessary. Second, exploration of contemporary ethical views and past visions of aversion to the 'public' are in order. Creating quality spaces and public bodies in providing street life can only be a success story if a renewed communal sense is formed and a general awareness of the responsibilities as an urban citizen. Third, approaching the topic from a public life studies concept, can put emphasis on reviewing the urban situation from a different angle. Reflecting the strengths and weakness of the urban area against the public life concepts and its corresponding properties provides a completely new view on the actions to take. Last, and most important is don't underestimate the existing public bodies and their strengths. In difficult times, human beings are the most innovative and creative in order to foresee their needs in life. The private public life that existed in the years before the war, people came up with creative ideas to live a life as normal as possible.



Fig. 38 Dodona neighborhood situation, 1961
source: Poetic Memories of Prishtina, 2009



39



40



41



42

Fig. 39,40,41,42 Dodona neighborhood in 1961
source: Poetic Memories of Prishtina, 2009

4.3 POST CONFLICT & DODONA

History of Dodona - Within the Ottoman period the city of Prishtina experienced a natural organic growth, like so many historic cities in Europe. This period ended in 1912. Around the important buildings like the mosque, bathhouse and bazar the settlement developed. The grand mosque of Prishtina located on east corner of the former bazar, forms the northern border of the neighborhood. Parts of that bazar were located in Dodona but during the 60's modernization the bazar has been destroyed. The terrain of the bazar part in the north-west corner of Dodona is now an empty space used for parking. The development of Dodona connected the historic center in the north with the southern villages of the city. On Kelmendi street, in the heart of the neighborhood the largest river flowed, which has been put underground as part of the sewage system in the '60s. With the growth of the city in the previous century, the neighborhood became a central place in the city. It connects the Socialist modern area with the historic center and the only urban park of Prishtina.

The original buildings are the traditional single/double story and pitched roof surrounded with walls to protect the private from the public. In that time the division between public and private was strictly done through walls. Mostly the women were belonging to the inside, the private life and the public life was mostly men. Dodona as neighborhood was part of that historical Ottoman pattern. Small houses were situated on the plots

surrounded with walls to divide the public from the private houses and gardens. The situation behind the walls was a different world compared to the one on the public streets, especially for women. Behind the walls, they lived freely on the plots of land and doors gave access to neighboring plots and houses, mostly relatives living next door. The live on the street, where there was trade and movement of people it was mostly men. That was the system at that time. A very closed typology towards the streets. Even though the situation has changed since, especially within the blocks and the plots, the streets show identical forms as in Ottoman times. In the historical times, people cared for those streets more. They were having a shop or a trading place and the street in front of those places was the trading area and so, important. It was an unwritten rule to keep your space in front of the houses tidy. This idea stayed after the war and even until 1991. This changed, when the Albanian population was no longer part of and taking part in the public society. The above shown photographs collected from the book: Poetic memories of Prishtina are showing Dodona neighborhood in 1961. Unpaved streets, religious buildings, vernacular architecture but mostly a quiet atmosphere. These images are today almost disappeared and only a handful of these buildings has survived the process of development after the conflict. The narrow streets remain in the contemporary situation but were built for the above streetscape.



Fig. 43 Dodona, Prishtina

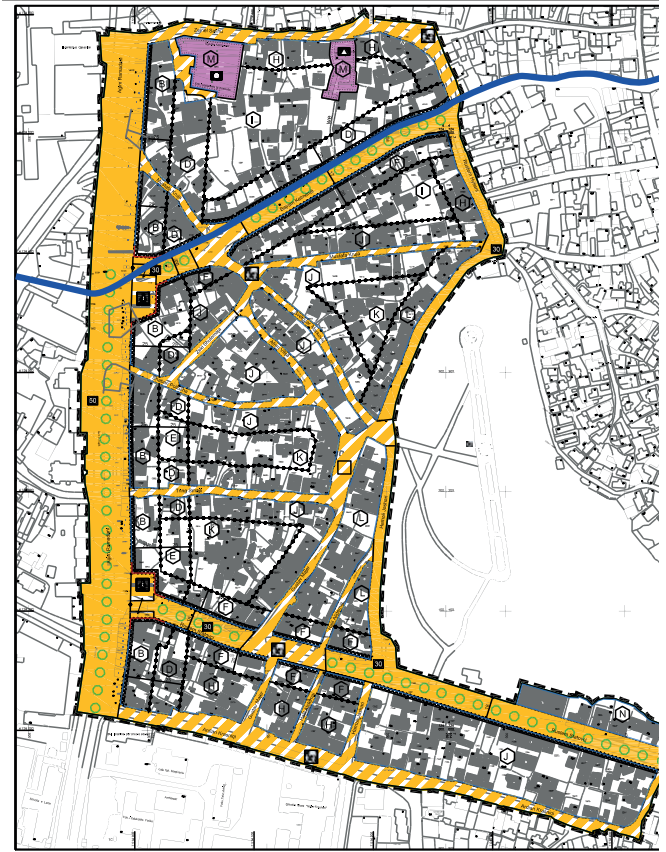


Fig. 44 Dodona neighborhood Urban Regulatory Plan, 2006
Municipality of Prishtina, 2006

Dodona and post conflict development processes - Today, only limited historic qualities of the old neighborhood can be seen. The development processes did change the neighborhood completely. Occasionally you can have a glimpse of the old houses within the blocks behind high rise apartment buildings. The heart of the neighborhood, Kelmendi street is now a large paved dessert with cars parking everywhere and broken pavements on your way towards the east. This is in most of the neighborhood which is open to cars. The exact number of residents is unclear but numbers talk about a population of 5000 on a service of 0.2km². The density you experience very well if walk to the smaller streets. The City Park is a well experienced area just east of the neighborhood and stands in stark contrast with the overbuild area of the neighborhood. Limited entrances and informal made ones give access to this hilly park. Informal economics in the lush pine tree park offers rest and relaxation of the daily visitors.

After the war, Dodona as central area experienced a large income of people and many developments. The former cultural mixed neighborhood is now only inhabited by limited numbers of minority groups. Those groups that could not profit from the new building economy. The densification process and construction boom is today experienced as a wild variety of architecture styles, overbuild plots, lacking sunlight to smaller houses, damaged pavements, wild parking of cars, occupied public property, safety situations, low electricity wires, difficulties for disabled people, many properties for rent, unfinished constructions and abandoned buildings. The whole neighborhood cannot be give the label attractive as a place and livable space. Despite that, the neighborhood has a rich business and commercial dimension. Many different shops and companies are based in Dodona as well as multiple mosques, schools, theaters. Coffeehouses and small restaurants complete the private sector of ground floors. Public services and organizations are lacking. A neighborhood building or community area is not available. Most striking is the place where children have to play and on which bench the elderly can have rest. The limited

greenery and trees make it a hot area without places of shading in the summer. Squares, parks, front yards, plaza's, clear sidewalks make it difficult to spend time in the neighborhood which is not part of necessary activities. The coffeehouses and its culture area part of the general public domain today. Clear planning systems and good public governance has been limited in the past years as can be seen in other neighborhoods of Prishtina. Difficult situations have emerged due to the historical layout of the streets which have not been developed and changed in order to provide adequate access and safe traffic flows. Pedestrians have many difficulties walking properly through the neighborhood.

Opposite of the poor conditions of the public domain, available public spaces, greenery and natural elements, good access and walkability of Dodona, is the public life. Even though spaces do not meet the basic quality levels, life is bustling. With the availability of diverse shops, offices and restaurants, Dodona is an attractive area for visiting and living. A high variety of dwellings offer space to live for people for various backgrounds.

Fig. 44 shows the urban regulatory plan of 2006. It was made in after the strategic urban plan of 2004. As mentioned before, that plan consisted mostly utopian ideas and failed in offering solutions to the problems and challenges at that time. Writing a spatial plan on local scales is difficult if there are no quality guidelines offered by planning administration and urban plans. The regulatory plan did acknowledge the pressing situation regarding the public spaces and facilities but did not created any solution to the problem. The plan was only showing the urban situation at that time.

In the following pages, the analysis of Dodona is described. The maps of the physical environment zoom in on different topics that try to explain the rapidly changed urban situation. In addition, the development is compared with the remaining public grounds and limited ecological level of the neighborhood.

Historical Building Development

- Heritage
- Pre-1999 development
- Demolished 1999 - 2013

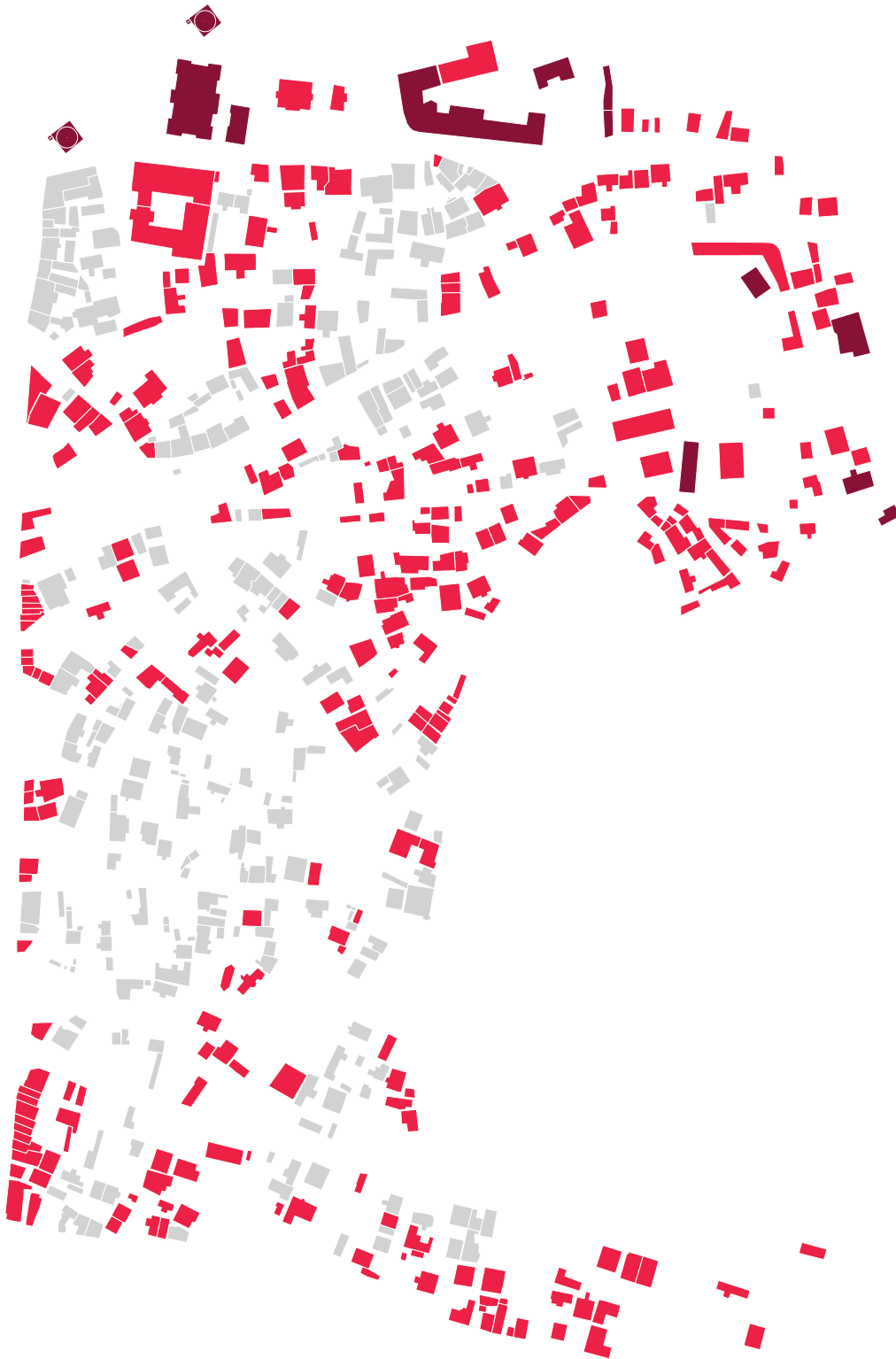


Figure 45 Historic buildings and houses Pre-War build

Historic & pre-war building development - Dodona has grown historically as southern extension of the historic center. Curved streets and alleys, one-story-pitched roof houses, and institutional and governmental buildings were the largest represent Dodona's historical background. The map shows that an estimated 230 buildings have disappeared since the end of the war. This counts for almost 50% of the total pre-war housing and buildings. The middle area changed most visible in terms of destroyed buildings. The north-west corner displays the destroyed part of Dodona's part of the Ottoman period Bazar. More towards the east side of the neighborhood, streets have

partly saved their image of buildings. The missing element is the exact location of historic houses, the period within the Socialist time, a wave of modernism already changed neighborhoods and their historic image. Similar to the new center and boulevard Mother Theresa, which is a central area build in the 50's and 60's. Walking through Dodona, immediately shows its radical change but the historic buildings can be seen everywhere in between. The mostly poor conditions ask for a municipal strategy in order not to lose the remaining pre-war buildings with historic value. The ethnographic museum is a good example of transforming historical buildings in a public place.

Post-Conflict Building Development

- Heritage
- Pre-1999 development
- 1999 - 2006 development
- Post - 2006 development
- ▨ 2013 - under construction

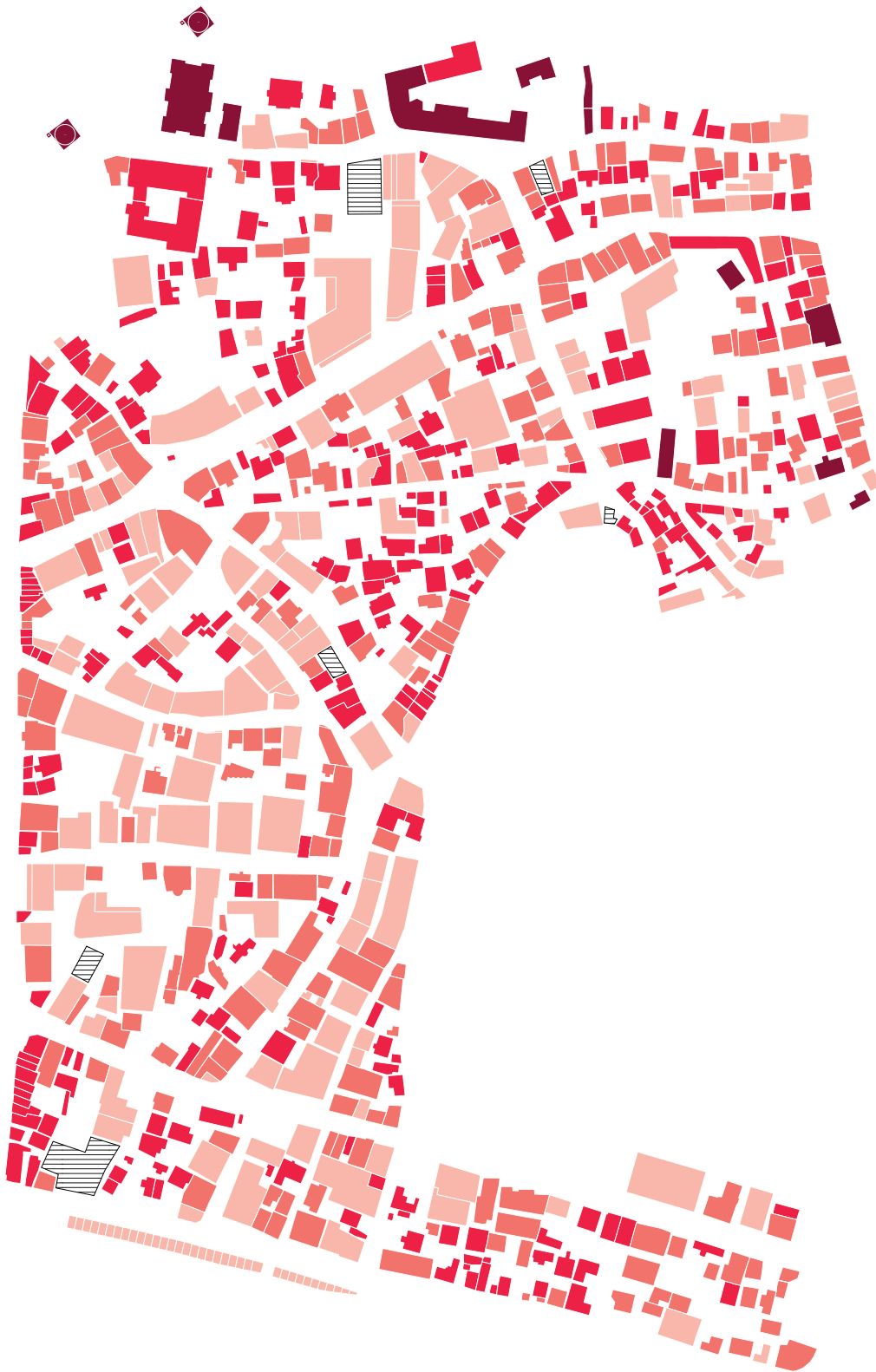


Figure 46 Building development process after the conflict, Dodona

Post-war building development - The change towards a free market economy and the migration flows that pressured all neighborhoods in Prishtina related to new construction. Dodona, due its central location, privatized parcels and large change in ethnic population, was affected as one of the most severely. The map indicates building development directly after the war, development in the second period and the ongoing construction until the hold in 2013. This change of development has drastically transformed the urban fabric of the neighborhood. Buildings on plots have been maximized, floors have been added without permit, the slope demands small stairs which often

are placed on public grounds, sunlight has been taken away for neighboring plots, plots have been connected to build larger property, mixture of international styles and unfinished facades are interesting but confusing, public spaces and sidewalks have disappeared, weak condition or fully parked during the day by visitors. All make a chaotic streetscape and a very crowded and dense situation. The earlier mentioned narrow historical streets do not have the capacity for this type of densification. The number of cars used within the city is putting pressure on the safety and quality of the streets. This is particular critical related to public spaces which clearly do not exist anymore in Dodona.



Figure 47 Build and Geographical heights

Stories build in Dodona - The excessive development of the post-conflict years have changed Dodona from a pitched single story and small modern housing neighborhood into a high rise residential area with many more people living then before. It is easy to identify the areas with low rise housing, which have kept their sort of identity. Other areas show clear medium size and high rise development. Those development have emerged in between the pre-conflict development but there are areas with almost new development. Besides these new development, which has up to eleven floors, it is also the size of the development. Multiple parcels have been combined in order

to develop a larger building, sometimes in strange forms and situations. The slope of the hill on which Dodona is located demands specific solutions for the entrance of properties. The slope at some points is up to 8m height difference on 100m length. Up to the north this slope decreases and up to the east it increases within the City Park.



Figure 48 Public space and green areas

Public grounds of Dodona - Dodona is a very dense neighborhood and centrally located in the city. Its public domain and spaces do stretch further than just their own inhabitants. The map shows clearly the limited public spaces and lacking greenery within the neighborhood. The poor planning situation has been difficult for the quality and quantity of public spaces in the neighborhood. The park is an excellent escape of the built area but these qualities should be even closer to the residents. Besides the City Park, limited green in the form of trees can be found, the couple of green spaces on the map are either private or poorly maintained. Most critical the situation

for the pedestrians, poor quality sidewalks, informal parking on sidewalks and private objects as stairs are blocking safe movements. Focusing on children, which can be found throughout the neighborhood, have limited space to play. The streets are not organized as such and not offer any safe space for children. If you leave the City Park out, the amount of public space in the neighborhood is low and of poor quality. In order to change this situation a variety of new conditions are needed such as: stronger governance, clear and accurate plans, co-working and transparency of municipality and local offices, involvement of the local population and changed setting of inhabitants.



Fig. 49 Physical context mapping

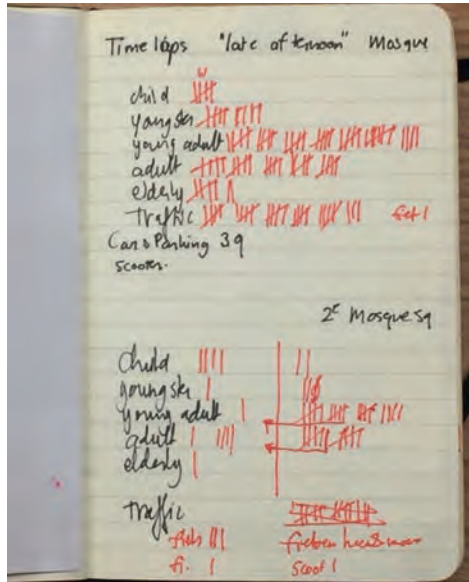


Fig. 50 Timelaps analysis notes



Figure 51 Programme analysis map

Method of Analysing - During this research, strong importance is given to the field of analysis. A fundamental concept of the research is, as Bernardo Secchi said, "*l'urbanistica si fa coi piedi*" that means that urbanism is only possible on foot, so that observations and fieldwork are strongly necessary. The field-work focuses on the physical traces and on the environmental behavior of users (Zeisel, J. 2006). This method is intended to "systematically look at physical surroundings to find reflections of previous activity" (Zeisel, J. 2006) and to "systematically watch people use their environments: individuals, pairs of people, small groups and large groups" and to understand "how a physical environment supports or interferes with behaviors taking place within it" (Zeisel, J. 2006).

Dodona and other neighborhoods in Prishtina, have been mapped not as accurate and periodically as in The Netherlands. During the process of analysis the most up to date map dates back to 2006 made by the municipality for the urban regulatory plan of the neighborhood. A detailed map is required in order to perform analysis on the very local scale. With this knowledge the first part of this analysis is a clear identification of the physical environment and conditions. With days of mapping and observing the situation on the street and the new developments after 2006 a more precise map has been composed. With this research of the environment the analysis of the social-spatial common ground can be done. With the research on post-conflict processes, it is becoming clear that the relation between the social and spatial element is an interesting field of research. Individual minds and lack of communal initiatives and top-down but poor planning creates an interesting area of study. In order to develop a design which is focused on the public domain, it is necessary to observe closely the socio-spatial environment and the place where it hits each other: the common ground. This type of study zooms in on the street scale of the neighborhood and preforms research of the social environment of the neighborhood and combines this with its spatial conditions.

For this analysis 3 types of angles can be identified: the social, the spatial and the composition. The social angle is composed of the following maps: time-lapse maps, Hägerstrand movement maps and activity map. These maps try to identify, through observation, tracking and tracing, the social dimension of the neighborhood. The spatial angle is composed of: programme map, publicness map and openness map. These maps try to identify the ground floor activeness of the neighborhood and its functional and user friendly areas. Last, the maps at the beginning of this chapter try to identify the main post-conflict character and conditions of the physical environment. These maps are the composition maps like: *historical and development maps, building and geography maps and green and public space maps*. These last group has already been showed in the beginning of the chapter. The social and spatial maps are presented in the following pages. The result of these maps is a cross mapping method in order to identify the spatial qualities and potentials of the neighborhood. But also to identify problems and challenges in the form of patterns of post conflict development processes.

Social angle:

Time Laps maps
Hägerstrand movement maps
Activiy map

Spatial angle:

Programme map
Publicness map
Openness map

Composition angle:

Development map
Building layers map
Green and Space map

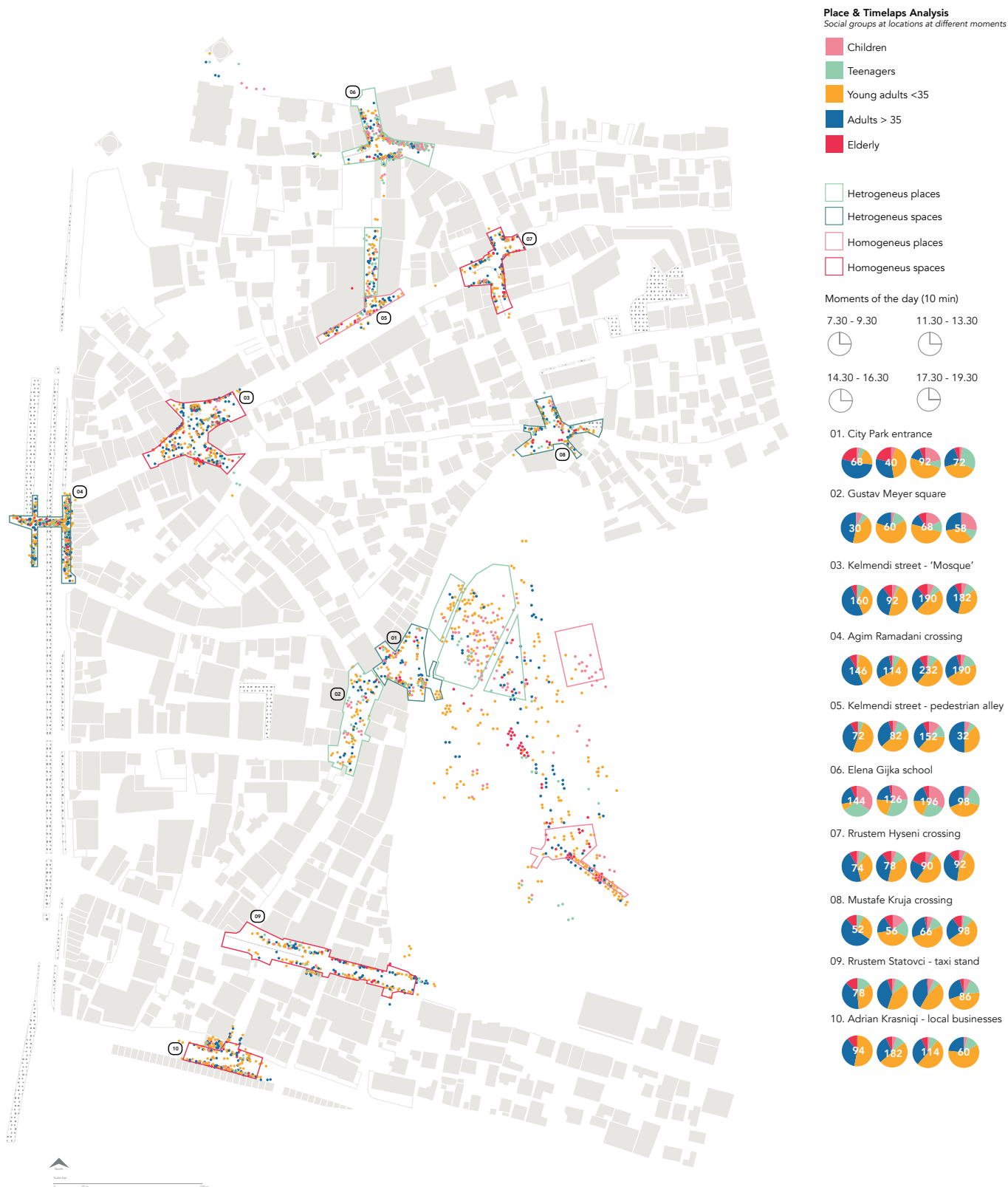


Figure 52 Time laps analysis map

Time Laps analysis map Dodona - This map describes the position of various social groups on 10 locations of special interest in Dodona. On 4 moments of the day people have been observed for 10 min. The intensity of human activity is mapped and the more heterogeneous or homogenous character of the places are discovered. Observing different social groups can create a clear picture of the neighborhoods social activity. By choosing 10 locations which are related to an attraction point the neighborhoods active places are mapped. Other areas are of less importance, low activity or cannot show numbers that are significant to work with. The analysis is of 5 social groups

namely: children, youngsters, young adults (21-35), adults (35-55) and elderly. The very young population (av. 27 years) of Kosovo can be traced back in the division of social groups in the neighborhood. Elderly and Children are not represented well in the neighborhood and only occur on specific areas: the city park and around the primary school. After this observation in the neighborhood, a division is made between a space and a place. A 'space' is just an open area where people do occur but which are not specifically designed for its users today and 'places' are more designed as an area of belonging to its users.



Figure 53 Explanation of Hagerstrand map Dodona

Hägerstrand Tracking map Dodona - Tracking and tracing routes of people can give insight in chosen streets and streets left aside. The map shows these routes of individuals for a period of 10 min. It shows the time, a person is spending in the neighborhood and if side activities are happening like making stops. On different moments of the day a person from every social group is followed on its way through the neighborhood. Some people have Dodona as their (temporary) destination but most of them are on their way towards areas around Dodona and are using the neighborhood to get their shortly. In the above shown map, is the Hägerstrand is explained. I have followed a person on its

way through the neighborhood. I placed myself on a position on the edge of the neighborhood in order to follow somebody that came from one of the following areas: *City Park, historical center, main city boulevard, university campus or neighboring Vellusha area*. The graph shows the route the person takes and the vertical axes the period of 10 min. In many cases the person spends less then 10 min in the neighborhood. This is due to the limited size of the neighborhood.

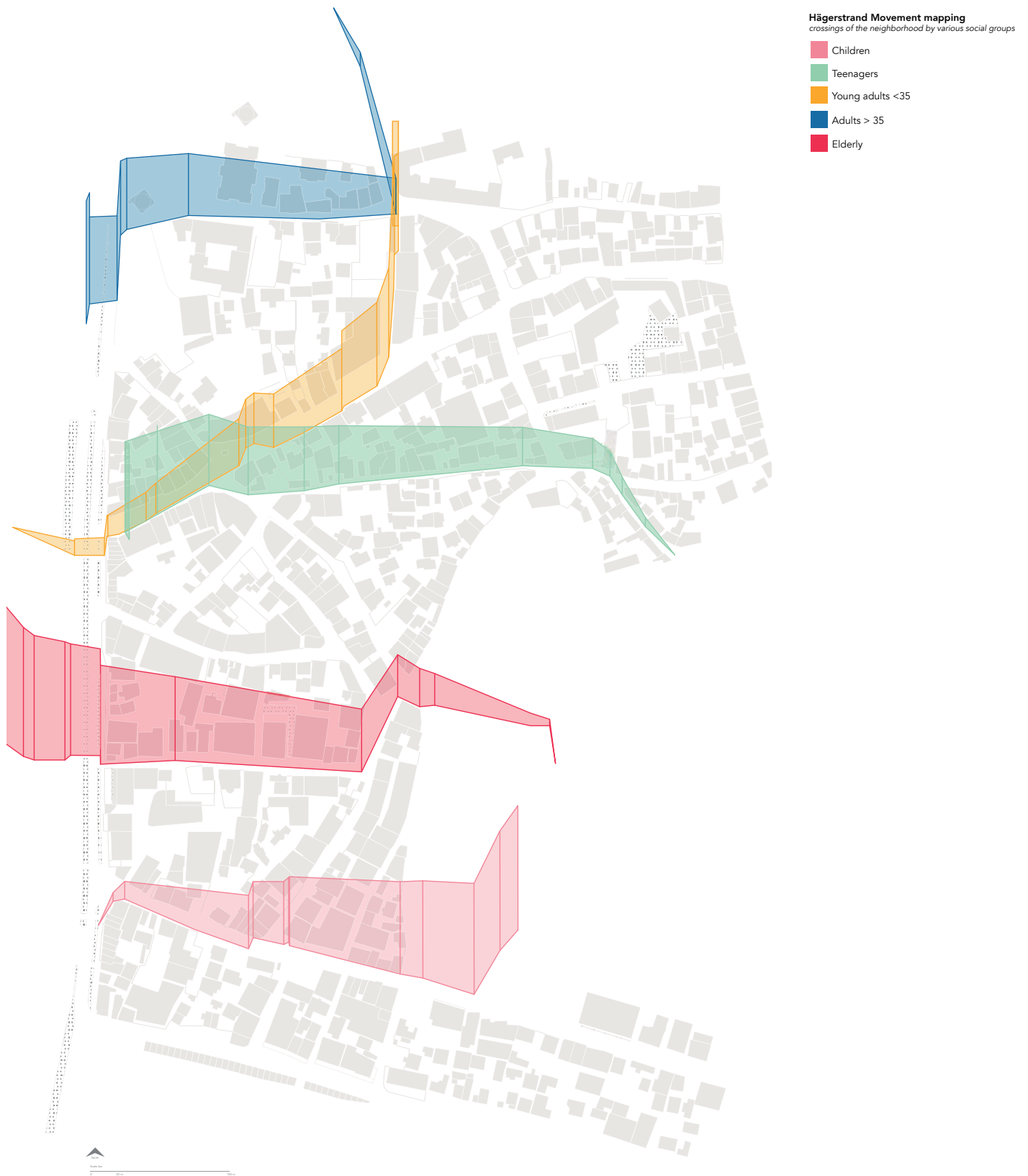


Figure 54 Hagerstrand map 'morning time laps' tracking social groups between 7.30 - 9.30

Hagerstrand Tracking map Dodona (morning) - This map is the result of the morning period tracking of different social groups. On their way to work or school, people cross the neighborhood and using the shortest routes to the destination. Sometimes a short stop in a bakery is done. A variety of streets is used and destination can be in and beyond the neighborhood.

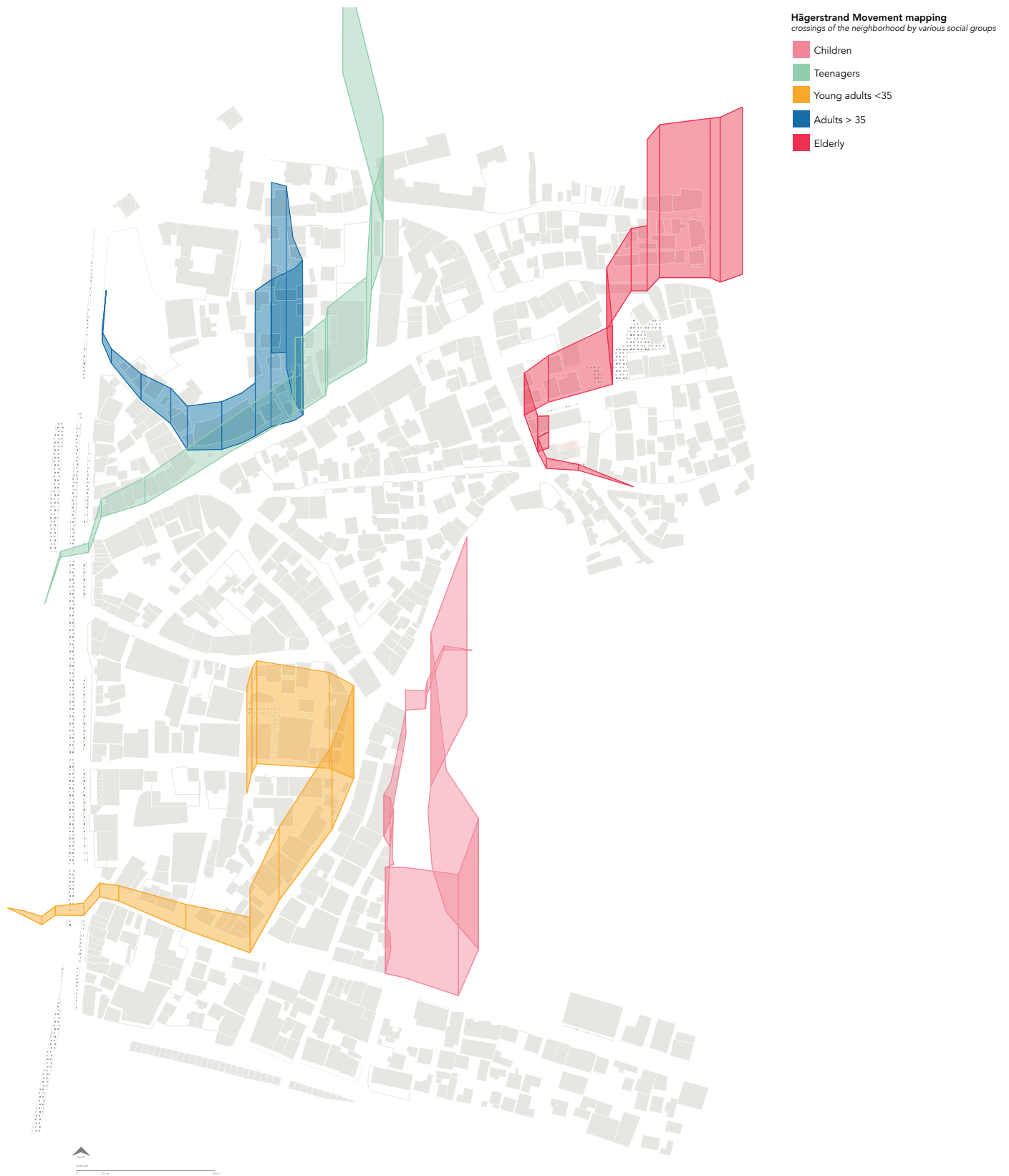


Figure 55 Hagerstrand map 'lunch time laps'
tracking social groups between 11.30 - 13.30

Hagerstrand Tracking map Dodona (lunchtime) - This map is the result of the lunchtime period tracking of different social groups. Clear is that people make stops on their way to the destination. Going in a supermarket, walking up and down a street to a specific shop or crossing the mosque area and stop for a prayer before continuing their way through the neighborhood.

Hägerstrand Movement mapping
crossings of the neighborhood by various social groups

- Children
- Teenagers
- Young adults <35
- Adults > 35
- Elderly

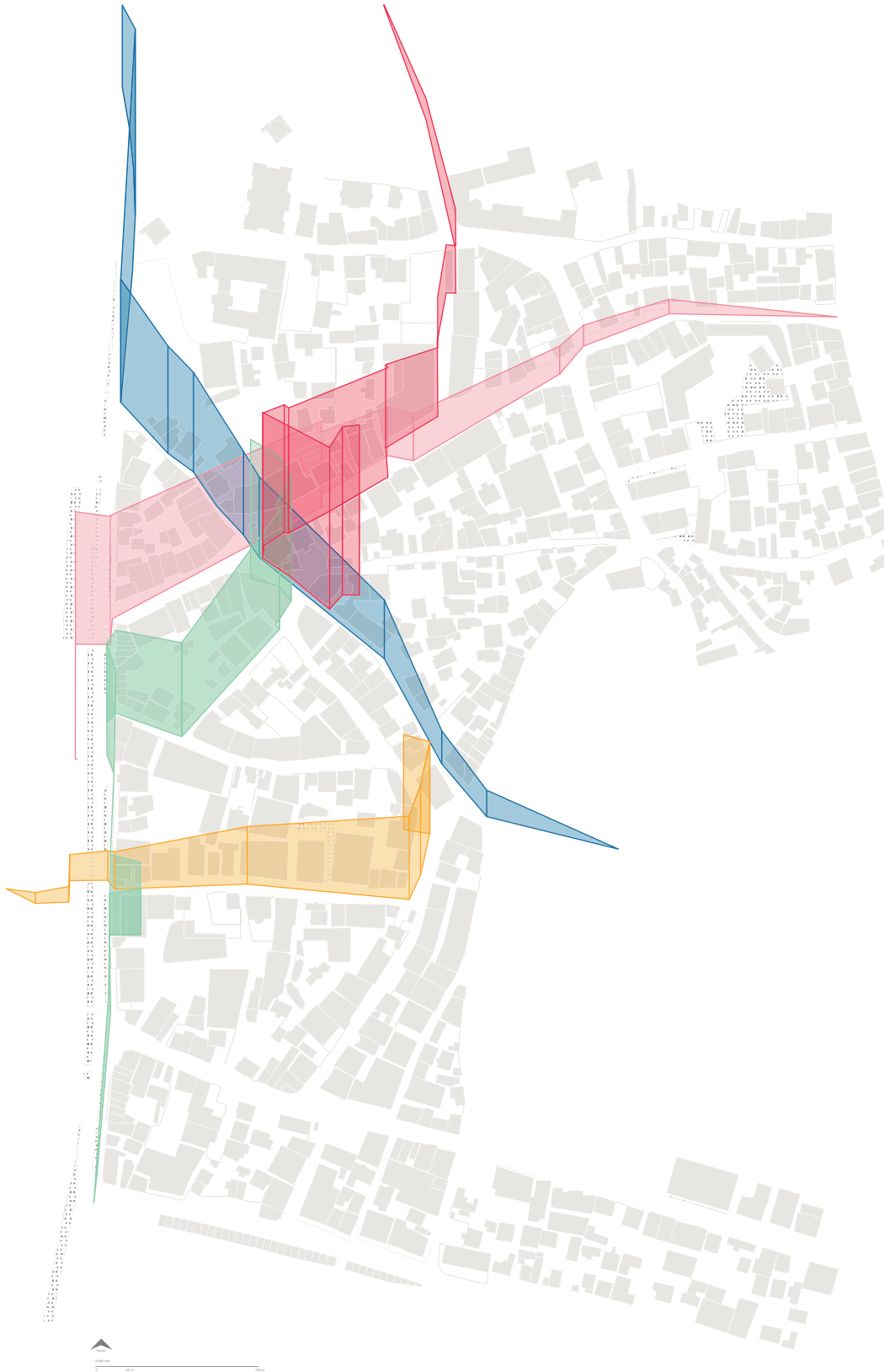


Figure 56 Hagerstrand map 'afternoon time laps'
tracking social groups between 14.30 - 16.30

Hagerstrand Tracking map Dodona (afternoon) - This map is the result of the afternoon period tracking of different social groups. In this picture it is clear that many people cross the busy Kelmendi street. That street is probably the one most people know of, thinking of Dodona and therefore a clear point of orientation together with the local mosque placed on the busy corner.

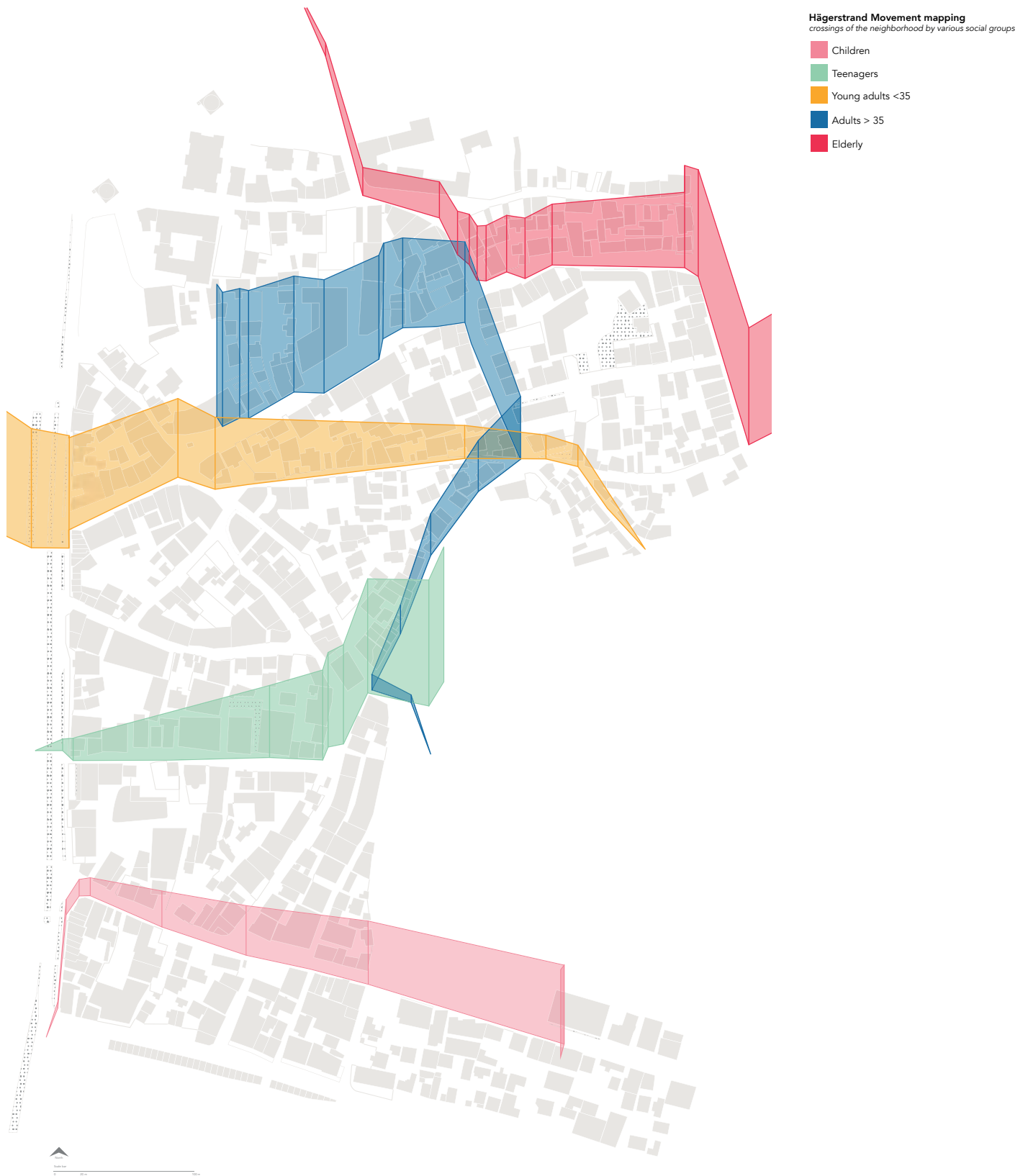


Figure 57 Hagerstrand map 'afternoon time laps'
tracking social groups between 17.30 - 19.30

Hagerstrand Tracking map Dodona (evening) - This map is the result of the evening period tracking of different social groups. New routes are clear and less stops are made in the evening.

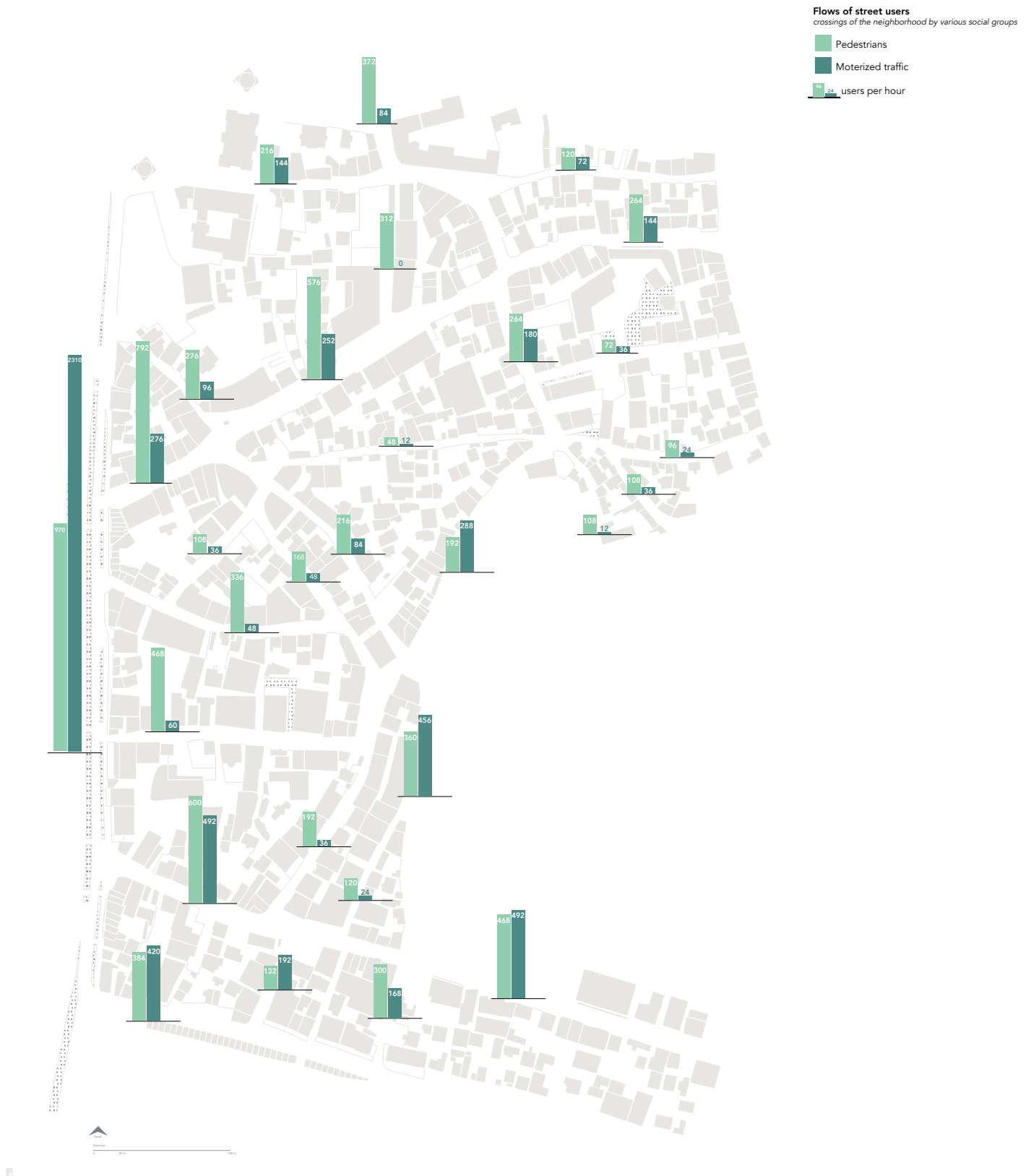


Figure 58 Flows of traffic and pedestrians Dodona

Flows map - Counting flows of traffic and pedestrian provides insight on heavily motorized roads and quiet streets. Counting on rush hour the street activity provides insight of intensity of street use. Most streets are open to all traffic even though the streets have narrow profiles and unclear scenes. Nevertheless, a large number of streets see few cars per hour and are good streets for pedestrian use. The main streets as Kelmendi street and the inner ring road have both motorized traffic and pedestrians but space is often limited for all these users and crossings are busy.

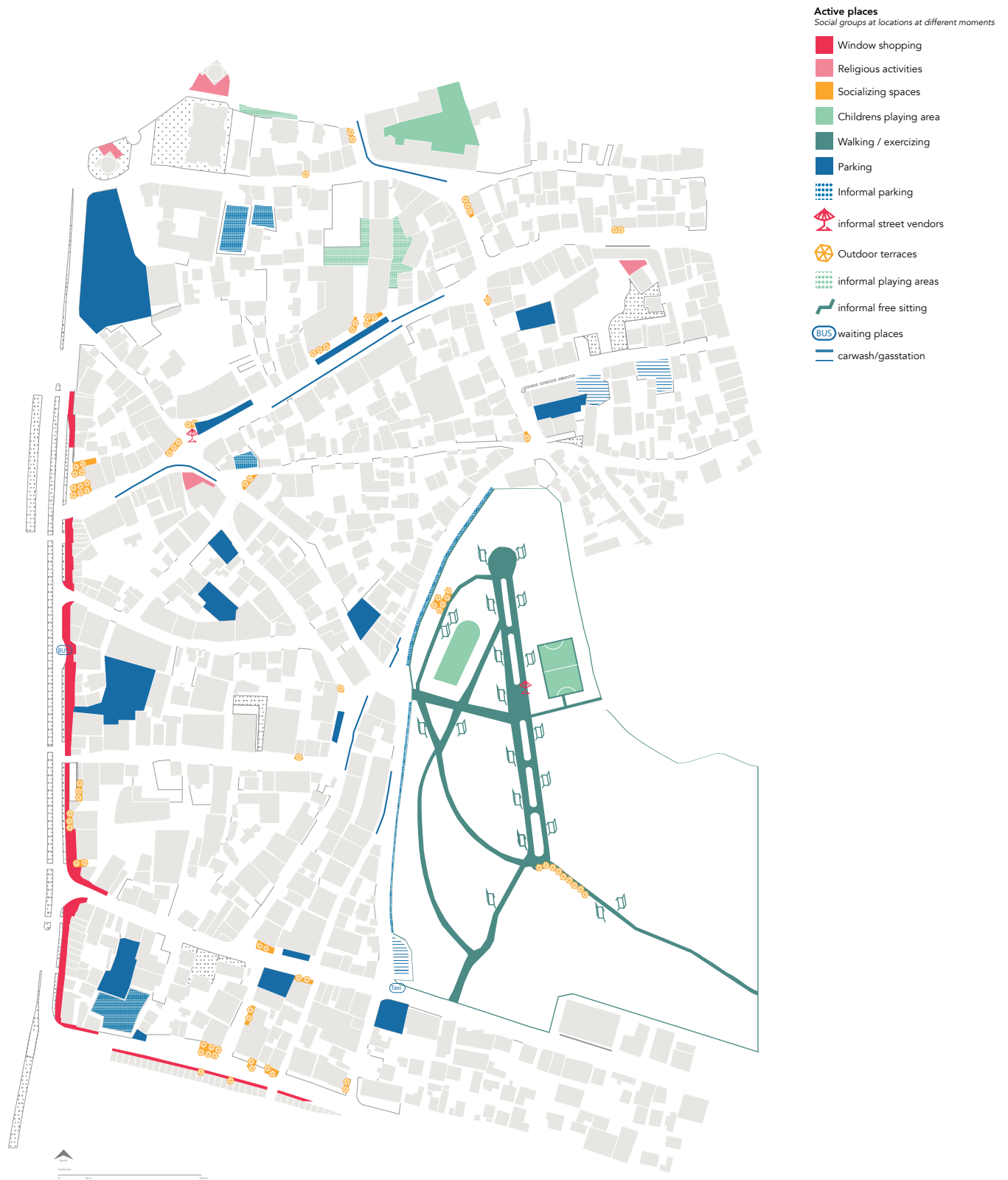


Figure 59 Activity map Dodona

Activity map Dodona - The map shows the various activities of the population. The main points of activity are the shopping area of the inner ring road and stretches into Kelmendi street which has a variety of outdoor activities. The places are not particularly designed for the activities, they just occur because of the local initiatives. The park offers more space for all kinds of activities. People exercise, walk and meet, children have their local playground and coffee places offer informal meetings in the shade. In the neighborhood a limited number of informal terraces offer places for sitting. All in all, the neighborhood is poor of quality for any activity in the public domain.



Figure 60 Programme map Dodona

Programme map Dodona - The map shows the extensive broad network of ground floor use in Dodona. Many different private companies, retailers, service shops make Dodona a destination for a range of shoppers and visitors. On the other hand, the public sector and services are generally lacking and a great part of ground floor spaces are vacant. Besides that, some interesting streets like the one surrounding the park offers limited active ground floors. Most interesting are Kelmendi street, the inner ring road and the local shops in the south of the neighborhood.

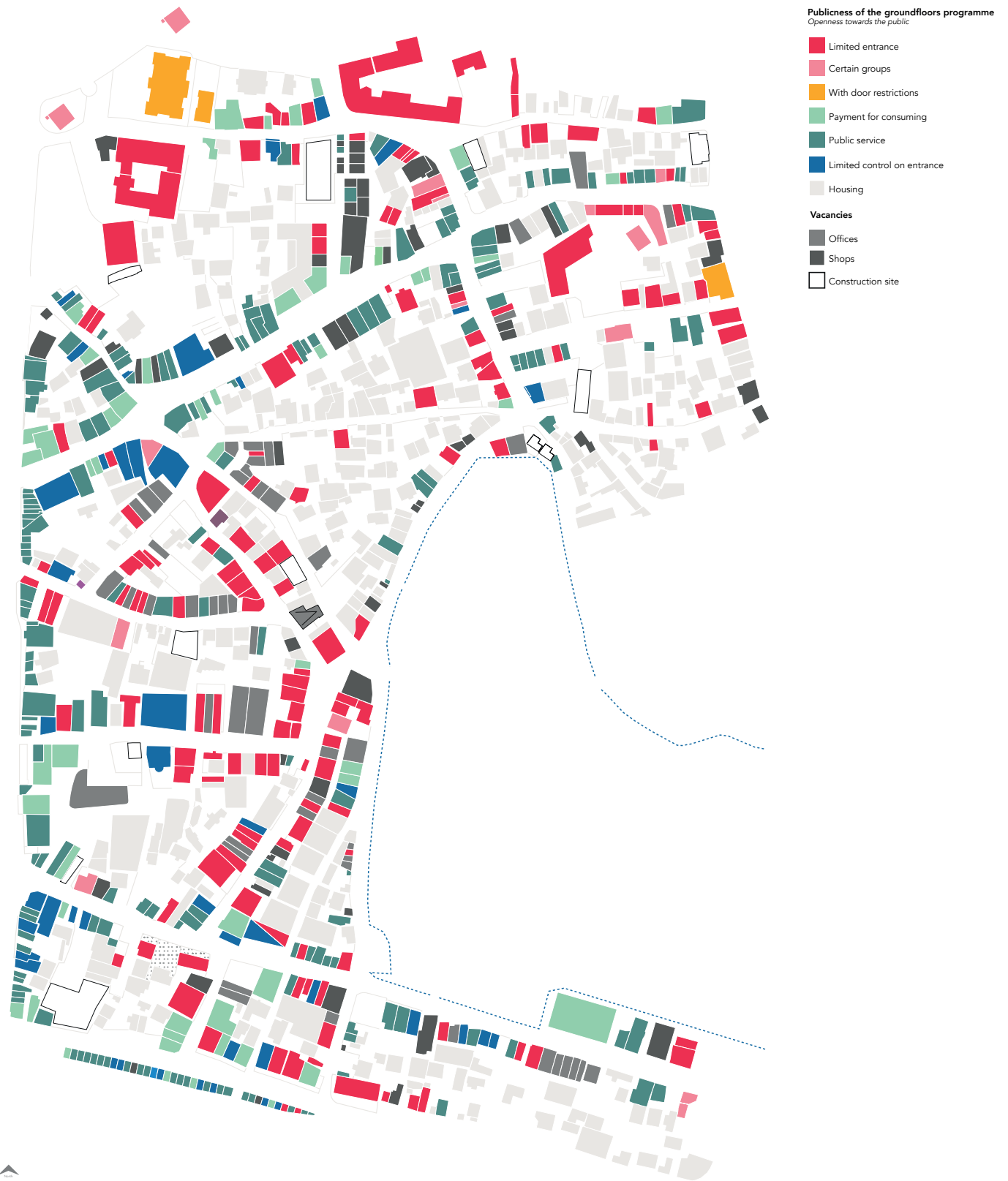


Figure 61 Publicness map Dodona

Publicness map Dodona - The publicness of the ground floor research places the variety of groundfloor in groups of public entrance. The blue and green groundfloors are open to most people and are functionally part of the public domain of the neighborhood. On the other many groundfloors are offices or only open to certain people and have strict entrance policies. Last, in certain streets the public domain is limited to the street due to many vacancies and construction sites.

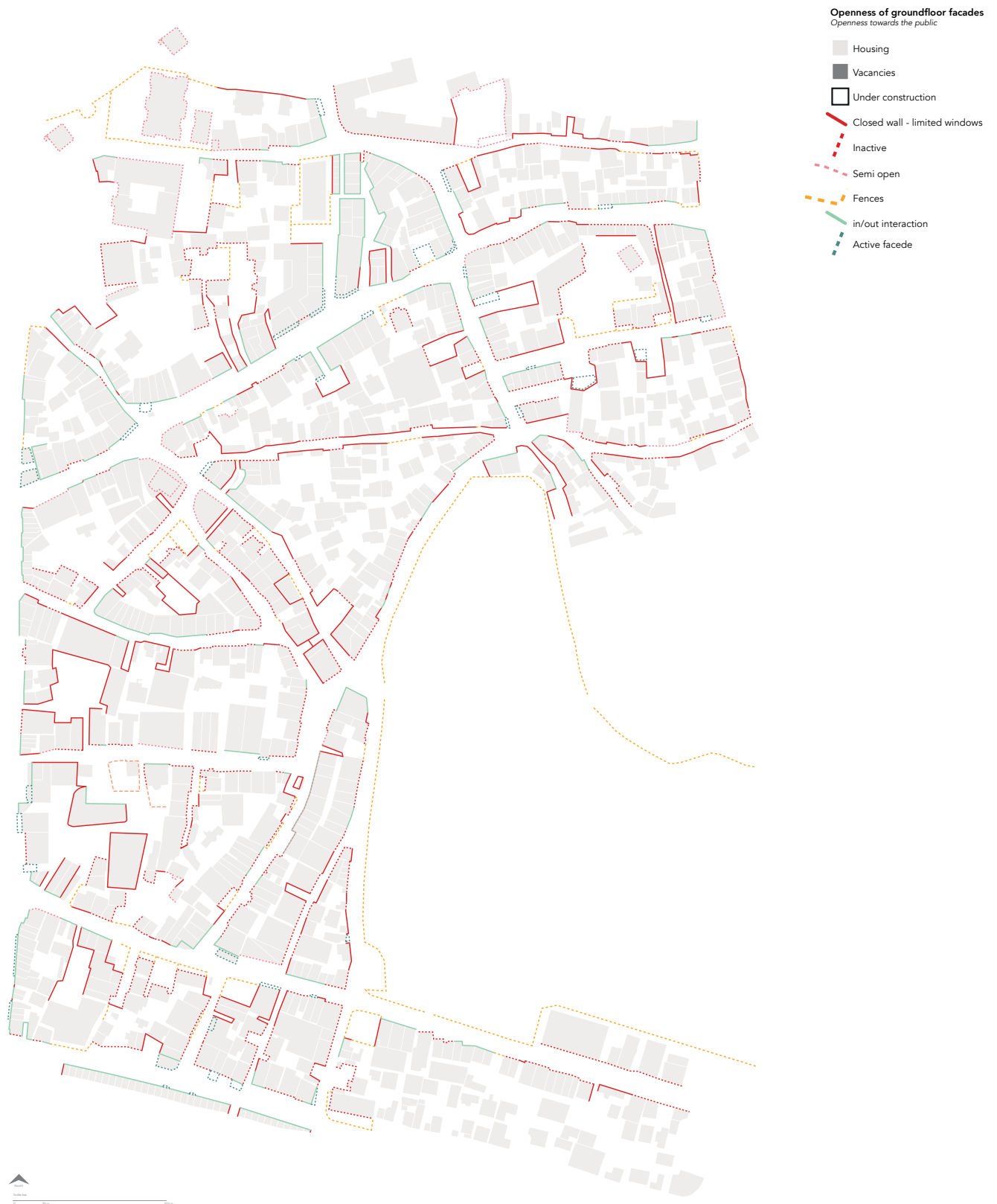


Figure 61 Openness map Dodona

Openness map Dodona - The map indicates the type of facade of the groundfloor which is closing off the public domain from the private areas. This map does not look at the facade as style or if those are in good condition but only to the openness of the facade. Blind walls do have a negative effect on its public surroundings and do not offer an attractive street scape. The map shows clearly the many inactive and blind facades which and the limited number of attractive streets.

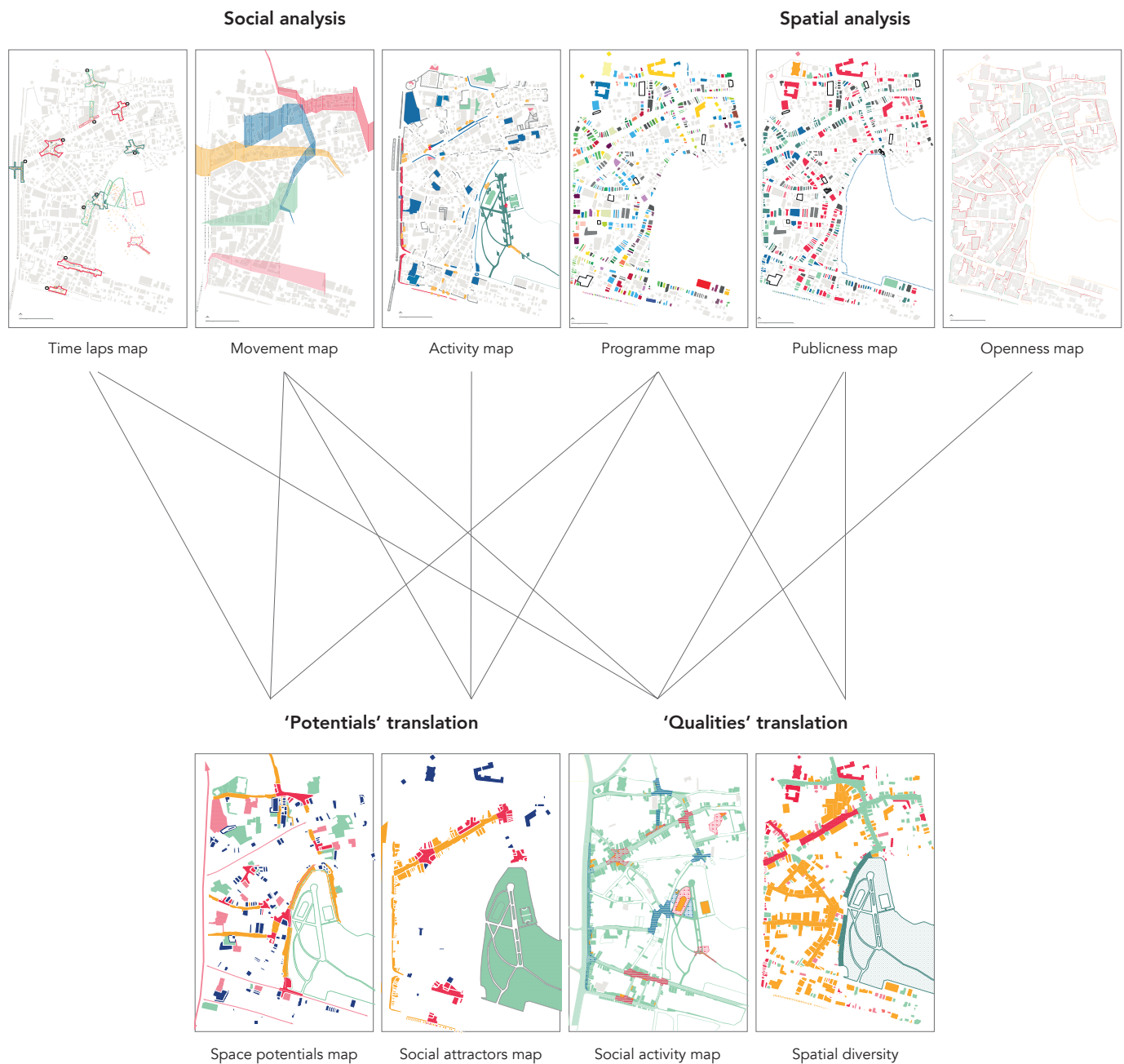


Figure 62 Method of socio-spatial common ground

Socio-Spatial common ground - Within the translation, social maps and spatial maps are merged together in order to understand social situation – the community identity areas – the diversity of the area – where the social groups intertwine – and the socio-spatial potentials of the space.

For the development of the design, qualities and potentials can be used in creating synergy between the social and spatial environment. Qualities need to be given space and be enhanced and potentials are possibilities for a future transformation and renewal of the area. By combining these maps synergy is researched between the social and spatial angle. In order

to place everything the composition maps mark the physical area and places. In the following pages the four potential and quality maps are shown namely: *space potentials map*, *social attractors map*, *social activity map* and *spatial diversity map*. These maps are part of an explorative research if this approach can give answers about the socio-spatial common ground and provide insight in the patterns of a post conflict neighborhood. This approach aims to showcase the local patterns that can be identified through this research. In order to use this method as a good base for design research more extensive data is needed.

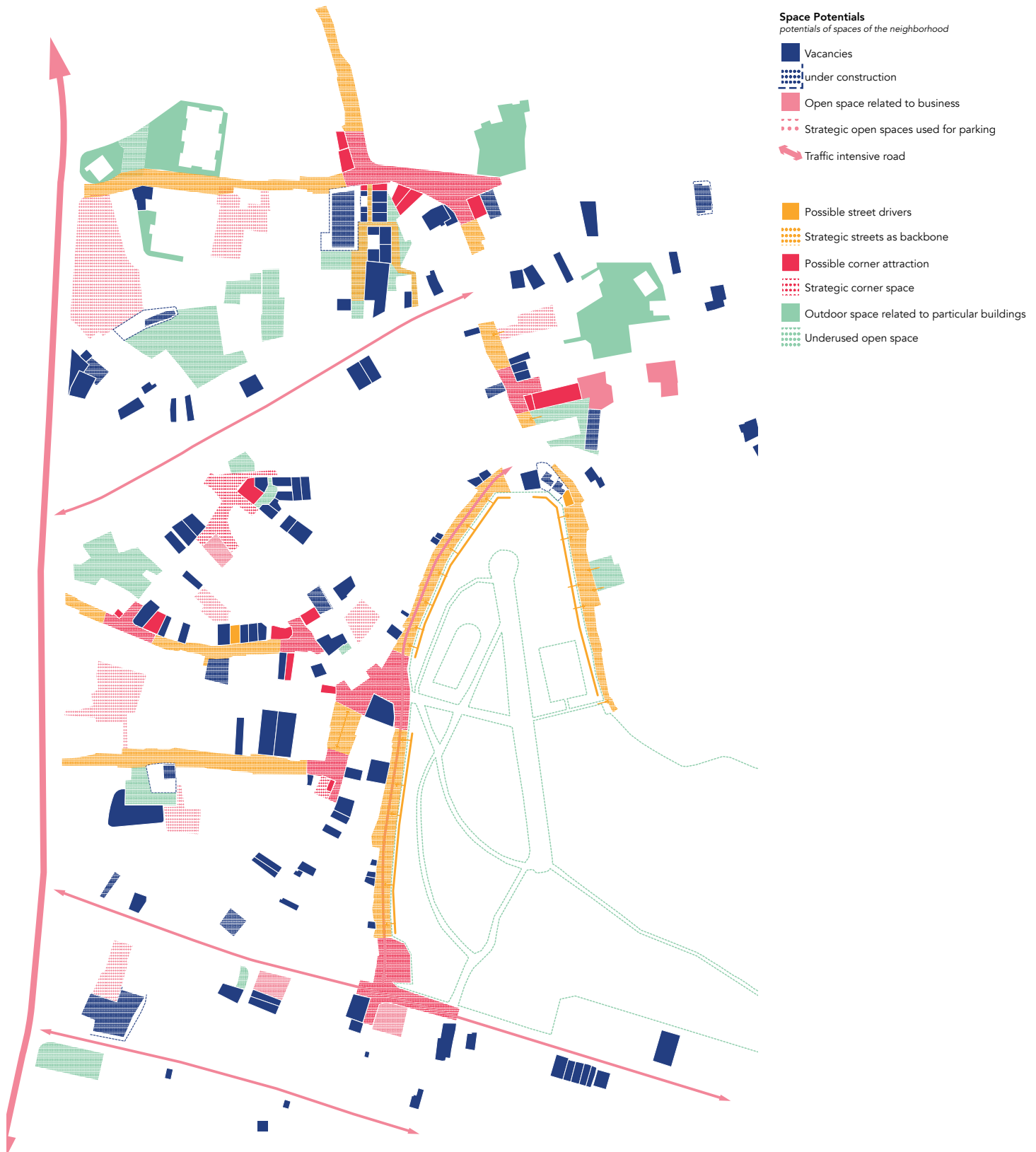


Figure 63 Spatial Potentials map Dodona

Spatial Potentials Dodona - Combining the composition maps of the neighborhood with selected social and spatial maps provides insight in the spatial potentials of the area. Combining the time-lapse maps, movement maps and program map spaces with potentialities for future public function and common use. The dense neighborhood with at first sight limited space for public spaces, does have a variety of spaces suitable for public use. This map provides important information for future development of public design. It becomes clear that if the public domain wants to expand new innovative thinking is required to transform these spaces into public places.

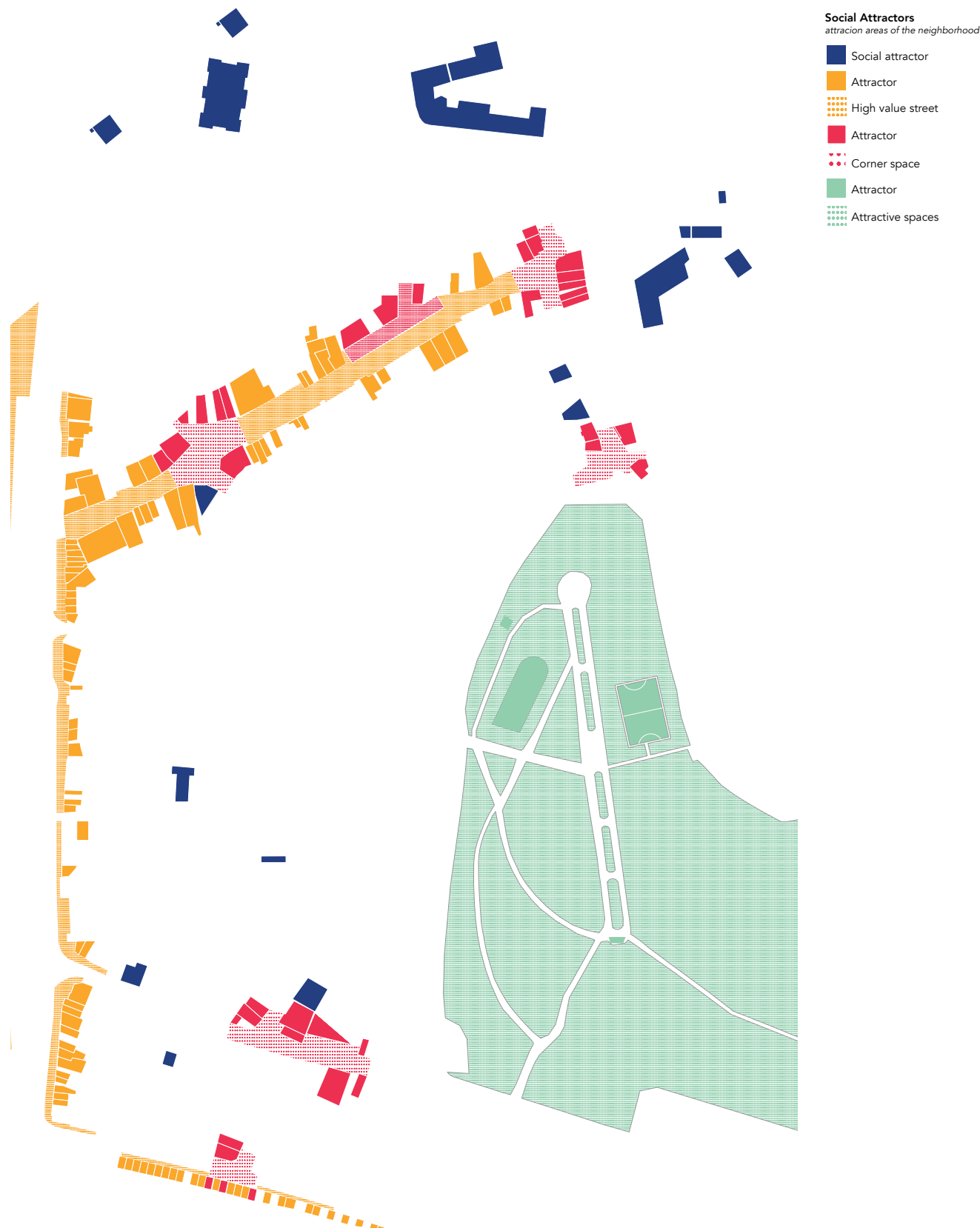


Figure 64 Social Attractors Dodona

Social Attractors - Combining the composition maps of the neighborhood with selected social and spatial maps provides insight in the social attractors of the area. Combining the movement maps, activity map and program map can showcase the social attractors of the neighborhood. Immediately it becomes clear that selected streets have attractive social functions including space for walking and staying. The blue spots are social attractors but do not necessarily provide outdoor space that opens up the social venue to the larger public. The only social attractor which is open to the larger public is the City Park. nevertheless its function as host for diverse uses is somehow

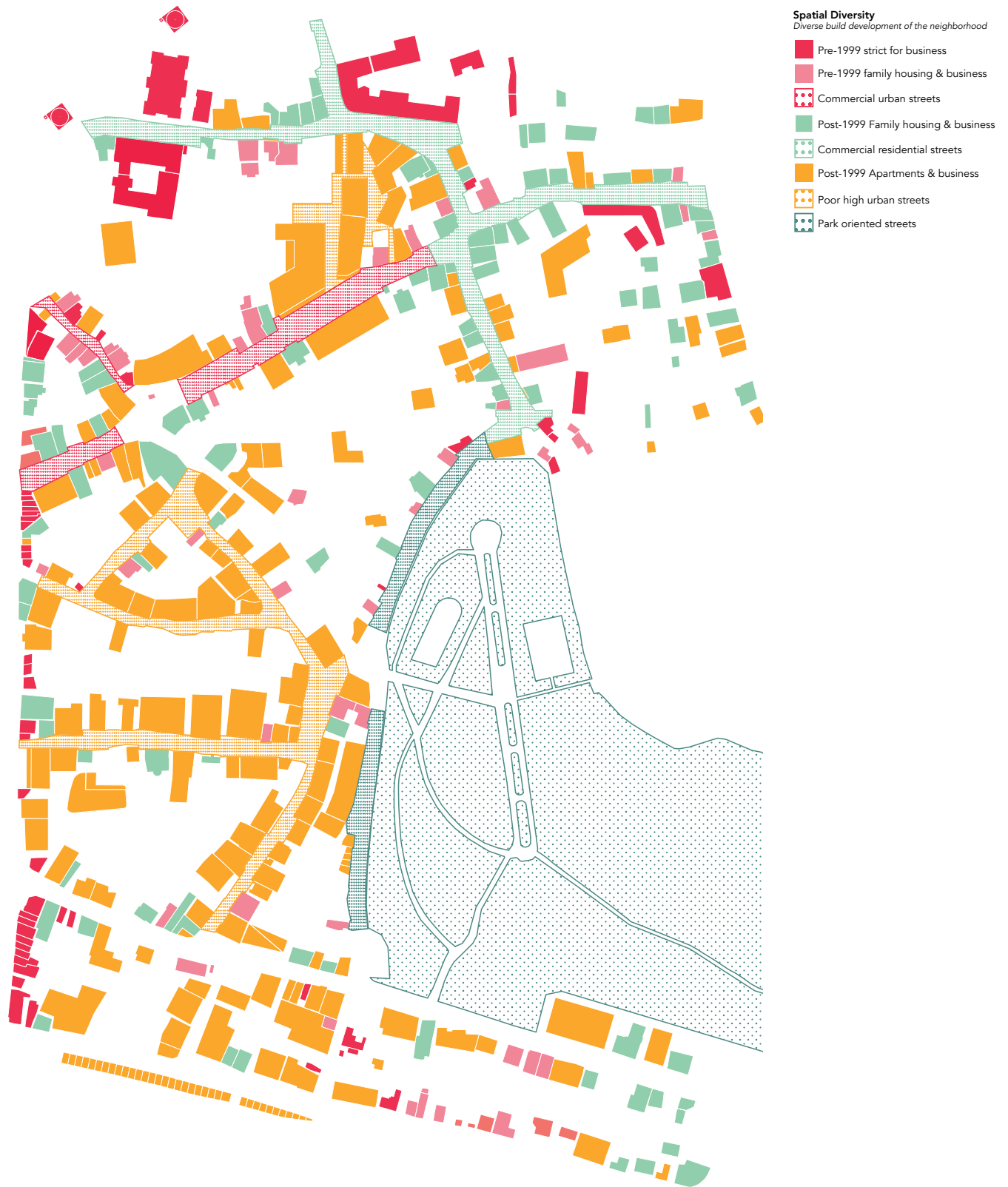
limited. If social activities take place in the park, it is mostly on local initiative. Only for children a basic playground is provided but seeing the City Park as the larger green venue within the city limits its of poor quality. The accessibility and visibility is a problem and need to be improved. But the Park attracts people and has potential as a social attractor within the scale of the neighborhood but also in the larger context.



Figure 65 Social activity map Dodona

Social Activity map Dodona - Combining the composition maps of the neighborhood with selected social and spatial maps provides insight in the social qualities of the area. Combining the time-lapse maps, movement maps, publicness maps and openness maps the qualities of the social dimension can be made clear. Selected streets see high intensity pedestrian users. These streets have high social activity through its functions or through their location on pedestrian routes through the neighborhood. The social activity on the 10 locations is higher than other areas but often are only providing space for selected social groups or the space is not directly is designed

for its uses. Nevertheless the map shows various areas with interesting social activity but increased quality of place is desired. Next to this map a more intensive research is required about local behavior and social networks.



Spatial Diversity of Dodona - Combining the composition maps of the neighborhood with selected social and spatial maps provides insight in the spatial diversity of the area. Combining the program and openness map together with the composition maps and visual research of the area provides a map that shows the neighborhoods spatial diversity. The different areas have different characteristics. The yellow areas show a high degree of build diversity and limited cohesion in the space. The green areas have been less affected by the development after the war and have a more 'common' feeling of the space.

Figure 66 Spatial diversity of Dodona

Patterns of Dodona - The variety of common ground maps and the method of researching the socio-spatial dimension of the neighborhood identifies patterns of Dodona. These are qualities and potentials but also challenges and problems which occur in the area and partly describe the situation and condition after the development processes. The diverse patterns all could be part of the development of the design of the increased quality of the public domain. Fig. 67 provides a list of spatial and social elements in Dodona. These can be positive or negative for the future public domain. Some have an attractive power but do not have good and clear space for its use. Others are left over spaces in the process of development and now create dead and unattractive spaces in the area. Last, local elements are part of the neighborhoods image and uniqueness but are not creating a common quality space yet. Within the development of the design in the next chapter selected patterns can be chosen which together shape a new public domain and enhance the neighborhoods identity. For a complete design, all these patterns need to be incorporated which needs to be done on various levels. It is important for the design to search for synergy between the existing urban environment, the local social dimension and the possible new interventions. It is important to create a basic level for the public domain which includes quality spaces, green and good accessibility to the variety of program and functions. This level needs to search for a base of the public domain to start growing. After that more innovative extensions of the public domain can be added to the basic level. eventually this can create a new public network in the neighborhood and beyond which incorporates the green environment, social networks, existing attractive powers, the pedestrians walkability and the local new synergy between the public and private domain.

patterns of post conflict

01. crossing social groups
02. community identity
03. traffic intensive road
04. urban park
05. existing commercial street
06. potential attractors space
07. dense urban development
08. mixed commercial streets
09. residential areas
10. residual spaces between buildings
11. abandoned buildings
12. space under construction
13. building under construction
14. strategic open spaces used for parking
15. underused open space
16. inner block space
17. space related to specific buildings
18. vacancies
19. social attractor
20. attractors corner
21. activity concentration points
22. enclosed green
23. variety facades
24. build diversity
25. diverse street profiles
26. public facility

Fig. 67 Patterns of Dodona

4.4 THE PUBLIC SURVEY

Objective of a survey - Next to understanding the larger scale challenges of the processes and governance of an urban area in the aftermath of a war and absorbing the views of urban professionals, a survey would open up a conversation about local, views, needs and opinions about the living conditions in the neighborhood. The situation or condition at local level is often unknown at the central level but very important knowledge in order to understand the context. Besides that, in cases which show a high level of lack of skills in the planning institute and in cases where several transitions have followed up in short timescales, knowledge of local views is essential in developing good public strategies.

So, next to the socio-spatial analysis of Dodona I was eager to perform a public survey within the neighborhood for a more complete understanding of the socio-spatial urban fabric.

The type of survey is a combination of questionnaire and interview. The type of questions has been adjusted to the knowledge level of urbanism and architectural terms but in many cases I and Vjollca needed to explain certain questions more in dept. Besides that, people could give longer answers than asked in order to explain their vision on the topic asked. With face-to-face interviewing with prepared questions the number of interviews stayed limited but the quality of the results is better. For the future a combination of this type of interview in combination with visual surveys and physical model brainstorming can enhance the local's participation and increasing the results of the research. Better understanding can arise if the survey is done in bigger numbers.

The public survey included questions in the following themes:

- General questions of the living situation
- Questions on the quality of urban life
- Evaluation of the satisfaction with the physical context
- Exploration of the local public life
- Questions about the urban needs

In order to gain information about urban qualities and conditions from a range of social groups the survey was translated in Albanian by Vjollca Podvorica who is an independent architect working in Prishtina. In order to reach a wide variety of inhabitants, from working class to elderly to different ethnicities we made contact with the so called "Baskish Lokale" Who is the local neighborhood representative. In theory a branch of the local government who is appointed to oversee the neighborhood and support the local society. With his help, a wide range of inhabitants was reached with the survey. In theory a survey needs a minimum amount of respondents in order to show a reliable frame of results in practice we reached 25 inhabitants. The limited time, detailed content of the survey and the cultural settings of performing a survey made it difficult to reach a larger number of residents. Nevertheless, the survey resulted in a rich experience of both me and Vjollca, when going door to door in the neighborhood. It is a good way to get in contact with your context and increase the understanding of the human behavior. The results of the survey show an initial view of local opinions and need to be seen as interesting points of view rather than use it as official academic research.



Fig. 68 Survey of Dodona's urban quality



Fig. 69 Visual survey of Dodona's needs

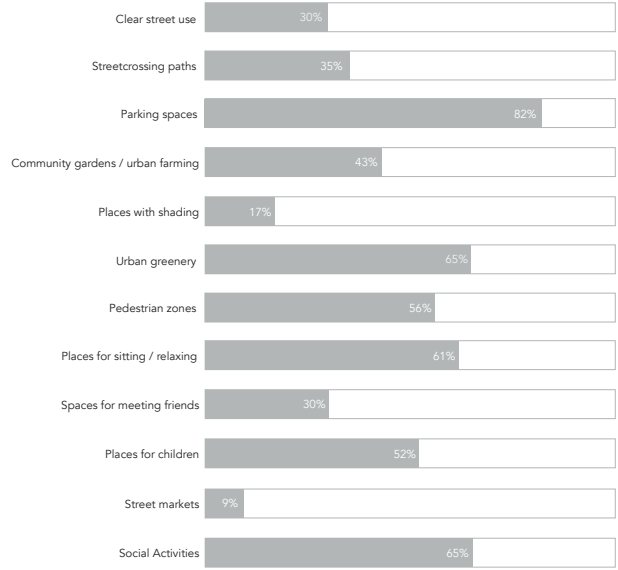


Fig. 70 Visual survey results



Fig. 71 Participants of the questionnaire

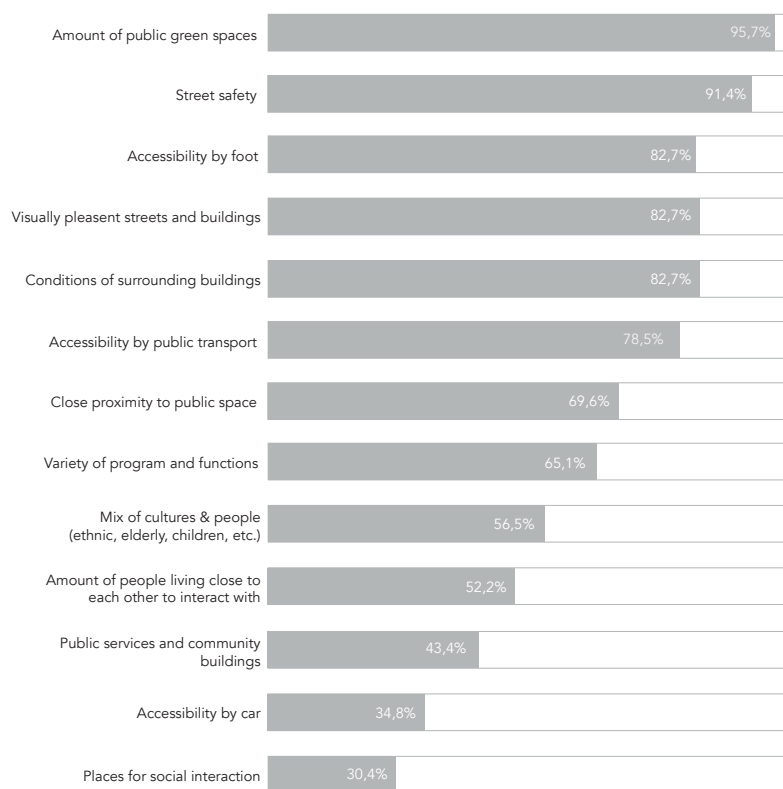


Figure 72: Important elements in a quality of urban life - What is the importance of the following (urban) properties and conditions in your direct living environment? The results show that the amount of (public) green and green spaces is an important quality of urban environments and the accessibility by car least important.

Figure 55 Evaluation of the satisfaction with the physical context

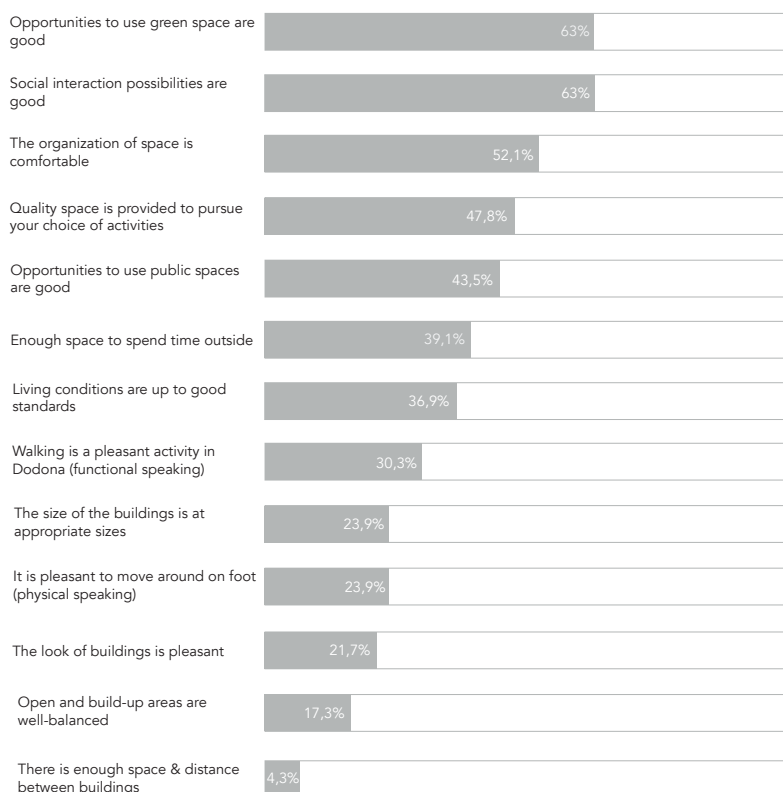


Figure 73: Evaluation of the satisfaction with the physical context - This diagram explains the local satisfaction with the physical context. Different amenities have been evaluated in order to calculate local satisfaction. People in this case are most positive about possibilities to use green space and least positive about the amount of space left between buildings.

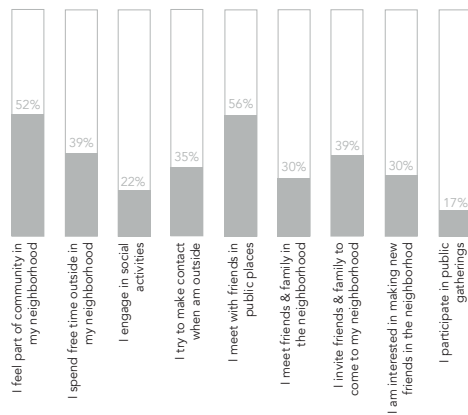


Figure 74: Exploration of the local public life - This small exploration is a start towards understanding what local public life consists of.

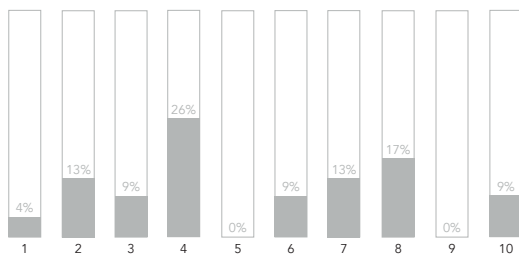


Figure 75: Satisfaction with place of living - How satisfied would you say you are on a scale from 0-10 with your current place of living? Overall, what is the satisfaction level of the neighborhood?

Figure: 58 Reasons for leaving Dodona neighborhood

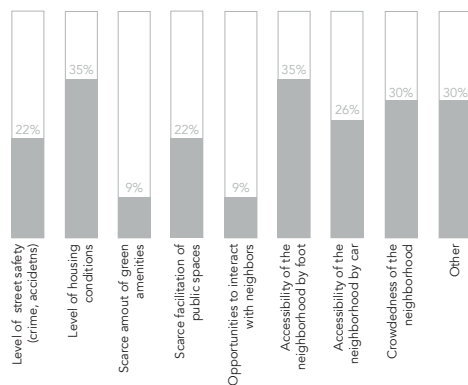


Figure 76: Reasons for leaving Dodona - What are possible reasons for leaving Dodona related to the public life (more answers possible).

Use of the survey in the project - The outcomes of the survey tell us what urban characteristics are important and are less important to focus on and which elements are evaluated as imperfect and should be adjusted. It also inspires to develop a design slightly different than I would do for a different place that has a different socio-cultural background. It is good to take in consideration the opinion of the public because in the end they are the experts on living comfort in their direct environment. During the design process, I will periodically test the interventions with the needs and priorities of the public. This should always be done during a design project to my opinion. Although the number of respondents is small the information that is collected does give us new knowledge on the local satisfaction. Many answers on public questions in the survey are not directly surprising when it comes to what is and what is not important in a quality neighborhood but with the knowledge of the individual development in the past you would expect

less interest in the public domain. This is than a positive result, which makes clear that inhabitants of Prishtina do not differ that much from inhabitants from western cities. They do want a comfortable and safe neighborhood with plenty of greenery, space to breath and places to meet-up with friends and family. This also came out of the interviews with local professionals when we were talking about the contemporary population's needs and desires for the public domain. Most important element of this survey is the need for incorporation of the public in any future decision. The little satisfaction with the physical environment and its conditions is critical and needs a strategy to change it. Within this project and the development of the design I will try to influence the different interventions by the new knowledge from the survey. At the end of the design phase I will evaluate the design together with the survey results in order to see if it has worked coherent with the local answers.

5.0 Design Research

5.0 Design research

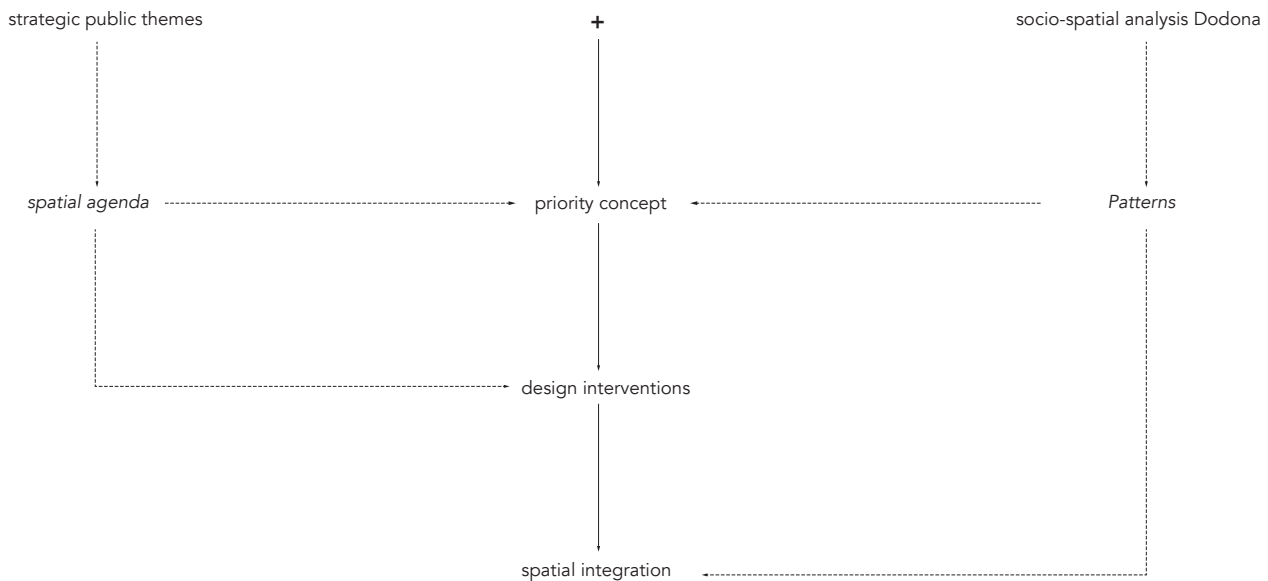


Fig. 77 Design Research Framework

The public carpet design is developed for Dodona, a post-conflict affected neighborhood in central Prishtina. The starting point of the public carpet design is the conclusion from the post conflict conditions (see pag. 42), and the aim of renewing the socio-spatial common ground into a rich public realm that networks all levels of society and opens up the neighborhood to neighboring areas. The development and design of (spatial) interventions that integrate in the urban layout of Dodona and start the transition of the neighborhood towards a more livable urban environment for its residents and beyond are then the main design task. In order to develop and design interventions for Dodona I use the design research framework, see fig. 59. I started with the socio-spatial analysis of Dodona and parallel worked on the strategic public themes. I use the strategic themes in combination with the analysis of Dodona to search for synergies and possibilities for Dodona. The priority concept is developed in order to place the spatial requirements into patterns of post-conflict. It organizes the design interventions into 3 groups which stand for the line of designing. The minimum are the basic interventions, the desired are the wanted interventions and the maximum are the wished interventions. The content of the design interventions is a combination of the spatial requirements coming from the strategic themes and the context or placement comes from the patterns found in the analysis of Dodona. Development of the design leads towards 3 minimum interventions, 3 desired interventions and 1 possible maximum intervention. In the following pages the design research framework is explained by the elements that influence the interventions.

5.1 PRIORITIES CONCEPT

The priorities concept serves as the base of the design project. The concept is guiding the development of the design. In the situation and with the conditions of a post conflict affected neighborhood there is a need for dividing the development of public domain interventions into 3 levels. Research has shown that the public domain does not have solid base, the so called basic public amenities. These needs to be addressed within the design of the public domain. They have priority within the development of the design in order to create a basic level for a quality public domain. This level describes the space which in basic terms already belongs to the public domain but its quality does not match basic requirements. The socio-spatial dimension is not showing a cohesive space. The space needs renewal in physical and spatial terms. If this level has a sufficient base then the second and third level of the design can develop as part of that first levels public network. Whereas the first level is already owned by public bodies like the municipality or state, the second level is space that is in private or unknown ownership and the third level space that is a general good and so needs extensive consultation. The second level is transforming spaces in order to enlarge the limited public space network create in the first level. The third level is adding elements to public and private domain which will increase the quality of the space and create ultimate synergy between social and spatial dimensions of the neighborhood. In addition, it aims to cross neighborhood borders and social segregation it brings with it. The content and placement of the interventions comes from the local found patterns and general municipal strategic themes on public domain development. Within the concept those will serve as the base for the future design interventions.

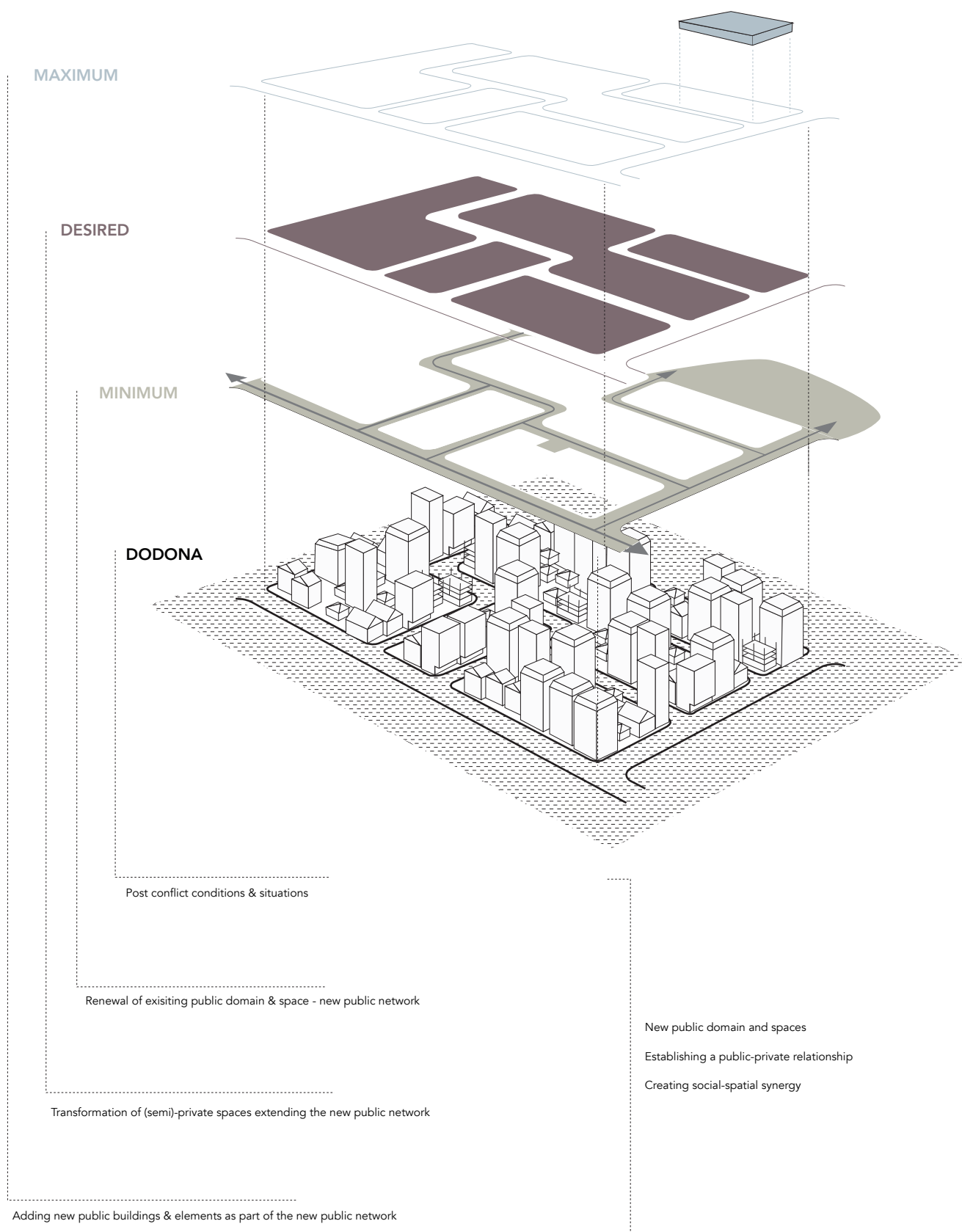


Fig. 78 Strategic spatial agenda

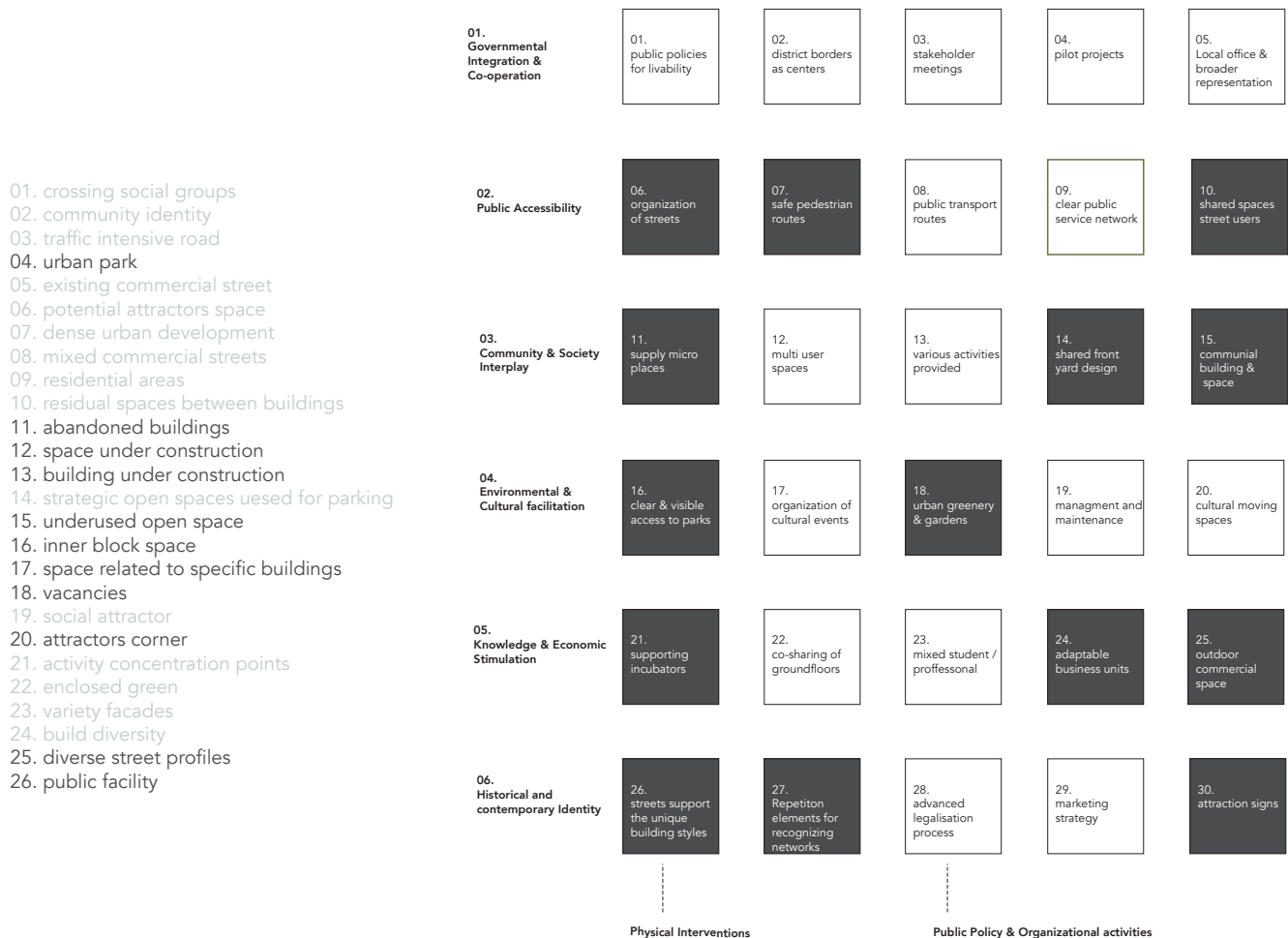


Fig. 79 Patterns of post conflict

Fig. 80 Patterns of post conflict

5.2 SOCIO-SPATIAL PATTERNS

Through extensive research of the post conflict situation in Dodona neighborhood. A list of patterns is the result of that research that describe the neighborhood's socio-spatial condition. Those patterns are positive or negative elements in the neighborhood and are part of the public domain. As part of the development of the design, 10 critical patterns are chosen. Those show spatial design potential in order to create a renewed public domain and shape a public space network but also to provide good space for the existing social qualities. Those 10 patterns are: the urban park, abandoned buildings, space under construction, buildings under construction, underused open space, inner block space, space related to specific buildings, vacancies, attractors corners, diverse street profiles and public facility. These patterns will be the locations for the design interventions and become the physical public network. They are in poor condition, have limited connection with the public domain, are difficult to enter or create unattractive areas in the neighborhood. Within the development of the design these patterns will be renewed, transformed or added as part of a quality public space network. For the development of these spaces as part of the new public domain, the content needs to be added to the design framework. From the research, new strategic themes have been formulated in order to add the right elements to the new public domain. Those have a spatial content and that needs to be integrate in the design interventions in order to give the design meaning. In the end, the socio-spatial common ground of the area needs embraced and shape a quality space.

5.3 SPATIAL AGENDA

The spatial agenda is the content of the strategic themes that have been formed through extensive research of Pristina's governance and planning situation. The 6 strategic themes, that have been formulated on p. 44 of the report, are the objectives the municipality's spatial planning department should have in order to renew and transform the public domain and spaces into quality areas. The 6 strategic themes are: *Governmental Integration & Co-operation*, *Public Accessibility*, *Community & Society Interplay*, *Environmental & Cultural facilitation*, *Knowledge & Economic Stimulation* and *Historical and contemporary Identity*. These themes are all focused on a better public-private relationship and improvement of the public domain and spaces. The spatial agenda are the policy changes, organizational actions and physical elements related to the different strategic themes. Every theme, includes a variety of social-spatial requirements in order to improve the public domain and its spaces. Besides that, it aims for an improvement of the relationship between the public institutions and private companies and organizations and local inhabitants. Fig. 80 shows an overview of the different elements related to the themes. Within the development of the design and its design interventions different points from the agenda can be combined in an intervention. The before mentioned patterns, offer space which needs renewal or can be transformed as part the new public network. The spatial agenda points become the content of those interventions within the chosen patterns. The total design intervention aims at realizing the renewed public focus.

MINIMUM INTERVENTIONS

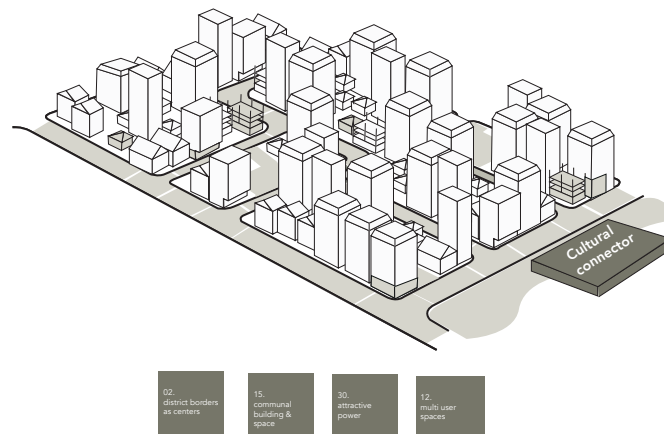
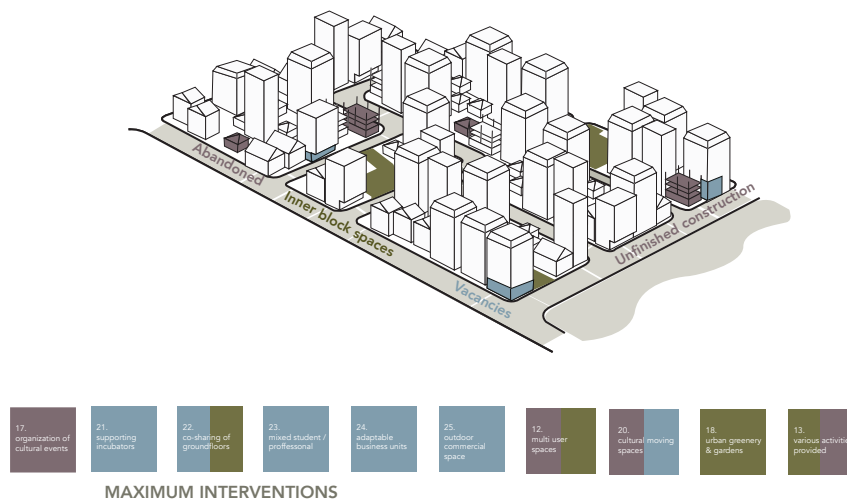


Fig. 81 Content of the Priorities concept

5.4 DESIGN CONTENT

The actual design content of the design interventions is a combining the spatial agenda with the 10 critical patterns of post conflict and position them in the priorities concept. Connecting the two has been done carefully but also a natural development. The found patterns have been divided into levels of priority within the development of the public domain design. After this, the variety of spatial agenda points have been assigned to the patterns. Assigning and dividing the patterns and agenda points is all concerned with upgrading the existing public domain, create a public space network and create synergy between the social and spatial. But, the interventions and its approach has also a different aim namely: establishing a relationship between the private domain and local society and the public bodies of the city. It is extremely im-

portant in this environment to create good connections between both in order to change the previous period of individualism. A renewed sense of community and citizenship is the ultimate goal within this project.

Within the first level, the minimum, 3 interventions are developed. On public grounds a variety of spatial agenda points will be integrated and renew the existing space. Within the desired level, spatial agenda points can be addressed and enrich the public network. On the maximum level, adding a new public building can become the connecting public element between neighborhoods and its content a combination of public services.

5.5 DESIGN INTERVENTIONS

The design concept helped me to define the design interventions which will change the public domain in an area affected by the urban transitioning processes after a conflict. These interventions are organized in three categories. First, the public basics which is the renewal of the poor condition of the existing public domain. These have three urban elements: large urban spaces, streets and corners. The desired is the step up in order to enlarge the limited public domain. It is different due to its owner, mostly a private company or it is unknown and due its process to make it part of the public domain: transformation. Included in this category: inner block space, unfinished construction / left behind buildings and vacancies. Last, the maximum category is the type: adding space to the public domain. This can be freely interpreted. I choose now that it will be adding a building of with public purpose but it can also be making art in the residual spaces between buildings or extending the park in terms of vertical and rooftop gardens.

minimum

- 01. The isolated ecological / city space
- 02. Disordered streetscape
- 03. The concrete crossing

desired

- 04. The inner block & Corner voids
- 05. The sleeping construction & abandoned public buildings
- 06. Planned vacancies

maximum

- 07. The social/cultural connector

extra

(08. Invisible public service - part of minimum)

(09. The residual spaces & concrete jungle - part of maximum)

minimum

01. The Isolated ecological/attraction space

Existing urban spaces with a public or semipublic function need to be enhanced as clear places for the entire community. With their size and strategic locations on borders of different districts their potentials as common shared space need transformation in order to function properly. It is also the first step in the state-community dialogue in giving quality space to the society and enhance the lacking communication between both. The following adjustments through interventions complement the aim to open up existing spaces and change them into places where a great variety of the community will find their needs when it comes to public spaces. With the following smaller interventions /elements the spaces can bridge a larger context in the urban fabric and serve as a place within the dense urban environment. This is focused on the edges of the space and its surroundings by creating synergy on the build-space border. Last, spaces which would be able to serve the larger urban environment show isolation due to limited accessibility by public transport, its geographical conditions, visibility, entrances and poor pedestrian sidewalks.

02. Disordered streetscape

The streets and urban pattern in the northern part of Dodona have been an expansion or natural grow of the historical center in the north. The narrow streets show clearly difficult situations with the contemporary uses and intensity. Even though the neighborhood is on a close distance to most of Pristina's functions the car is a well-used transportation device. The changing building plinth, the diverse architectural styles, building quality car parking behavior and the narrow street profile and condition make the streets look unorganized and far from pleasant places. The pedestrian has limited space for walking, public transport lines do not reach the neighborhood, greenery and natural elements do not exist, places for staying are not facilitated, access to buildings due to its location on a slope puts objects as stairs on public grounds. The focus for streets which have different conditions, purposes, intensity of traffic, sizes, will be on shaping a coherent space. In basic terms, give the users access to the spaces and in quality

terms make space for enjoying the street as a place. It is the organization of the streets in order to serve its purpose in general terms: a space for movement but further due to conditions of the larger context and conditions of limited public space: as a place. In order to do so, repetition is in order to calm the disordered streets. On the other side, new networks of community start at that same street. Providing space for the direct ground floor function or home opens up the border between public and private. Reserved personalized space I will call that, the space between the building and the sidewalk. Neighbors with similar thoughts can share this space and develop together. The size of the space depends rather on the position of the building. Minimum sizes for traffic and sidewalk are reserved. Last, with growing space on profiles, small micro places can exist. From a small flower bed to public benches around a tree.

03. The concrete crossing

The corners and crossings are generally a chaotic assembly of uses, users, traffic, attractions and building typology. The corner now all paved, mostly asphalt and the closer you get to the corner the more space for cars and motorized traffic. This is not what a corner or crossing should be. It is in general terms a riskier area of the streets and so decrease in speed is accepted. The corners and crossings will be either transformed in places with strict edges for dividing traffic from all other uses or the corner will transform into a square, a place where the car is guest and the space is used freer. In both, more space is there for pedestrians, corner attractions, public domain and greenery. The corner becomes a place.

desired

04. The inner block & corner voids

By means of history, the original development of Dodona has been related to other types urban and architectural typology. See appendix 1 interview with Eliza Hoxha about the historical past. The blocks were not rectangles but more triangular and organic forms. This meant that houses could be placed in the middle and would have a path leading towards the main road. With the development after the war those inner houses have been built-in, maintained poor or left behind by minority groups. These hidden gaps can offer the neighborhood new public grounds, new networks of economy, new community spaces. It can be as normal as a pocket park towards urban farming or children's playgrounds. The safe and secured environment is good for small scale places.

05. The sleeping construction & abandoned public buildings

In 2013, the municipality of Prishtina put on hold on construction. This means today, that many buildings are unfinished and left to wait for a plan that incorporates their building. Until then, these sometimes ultra large apartment high-rise can become part (temporary) of the public domain. Organization of events, art shows, meetings, gardening, social activities etc. could have that place used. This is immediately effecting the lively level of the street related to the building. Some sort of transition is in order between the street and the new public space.

06. Planned vacancies

The many vacancies of ground floors are almost designed. The owner of the building is smart enough to reserve the ground floors for other use then residential but forgets to design specifically for that. This result sometimes in very large vacant spaces. New economies can have a start here, an incubator can support start-ups, meetings between professionals and students can prepare them for the future market and give space to both in their need for work space.

maximum

07. The social/cultural connector

The connector is a new building which blends naturally in with the environment but is very specific and will be seen. It is the indoor/outdoor space for all social/cultural gatherings all for the public domain. It is strategically located on edges of districts and connects several social groups.

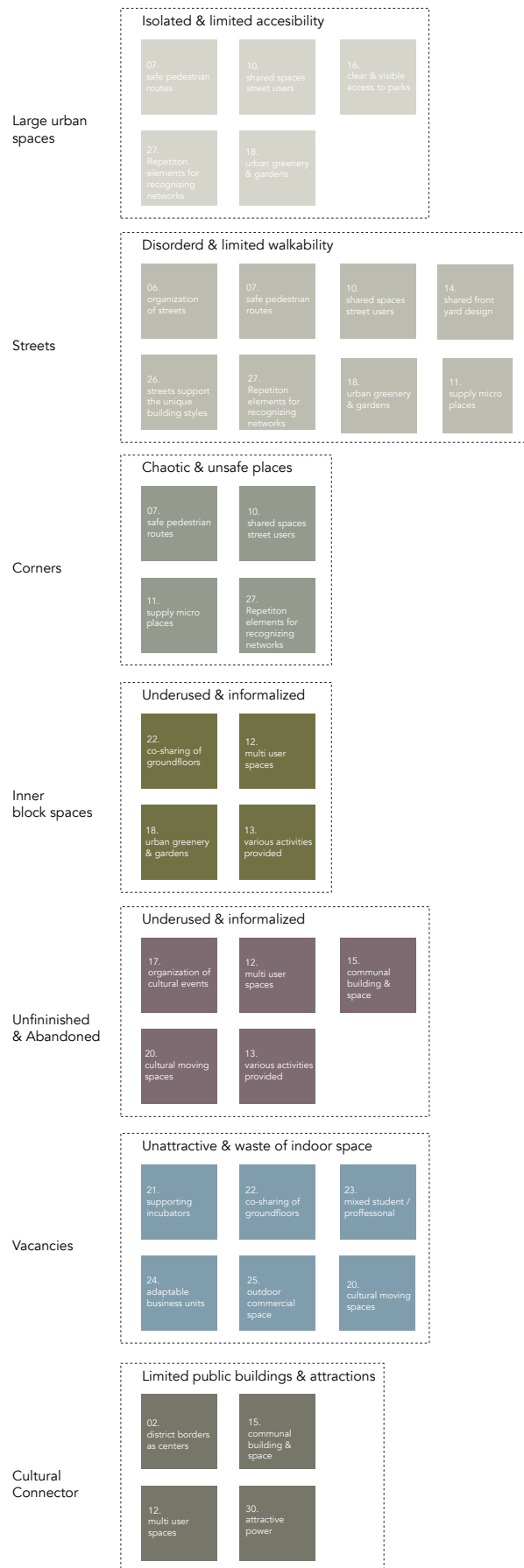


Fig. 82 Design Interventions



Fig. 83 Spatial integration of the project "The Public Carpet Dodona "

5.6 SPATIAL INTEGRATION

Fig. 83 shows the spatial integration of the public carpet interventions in Dodona neighborhood. The 7 design interventions of the public carpet Dodona are showing the new public network and domain. In the following pages the different layers of the design are shown individually. The design interventions are shown and explained and selected places show the possible new public domain and spaces. They are showing the design intervention in more detail and try to explain the urban quali-

ty and impact the intervention has on the urban environment. With collage images within the existing situation the design tries to indicate the positive change it brings to the space and how it creates a place for and with its residents and visitors.

01.The isolated space



02. Disorderd streetscape



03. The concrete crossing



04. Inner block spaces



05. Sleeping construction



06.Planned vacancies



Fig. 84 Design Interventions visible in actual context

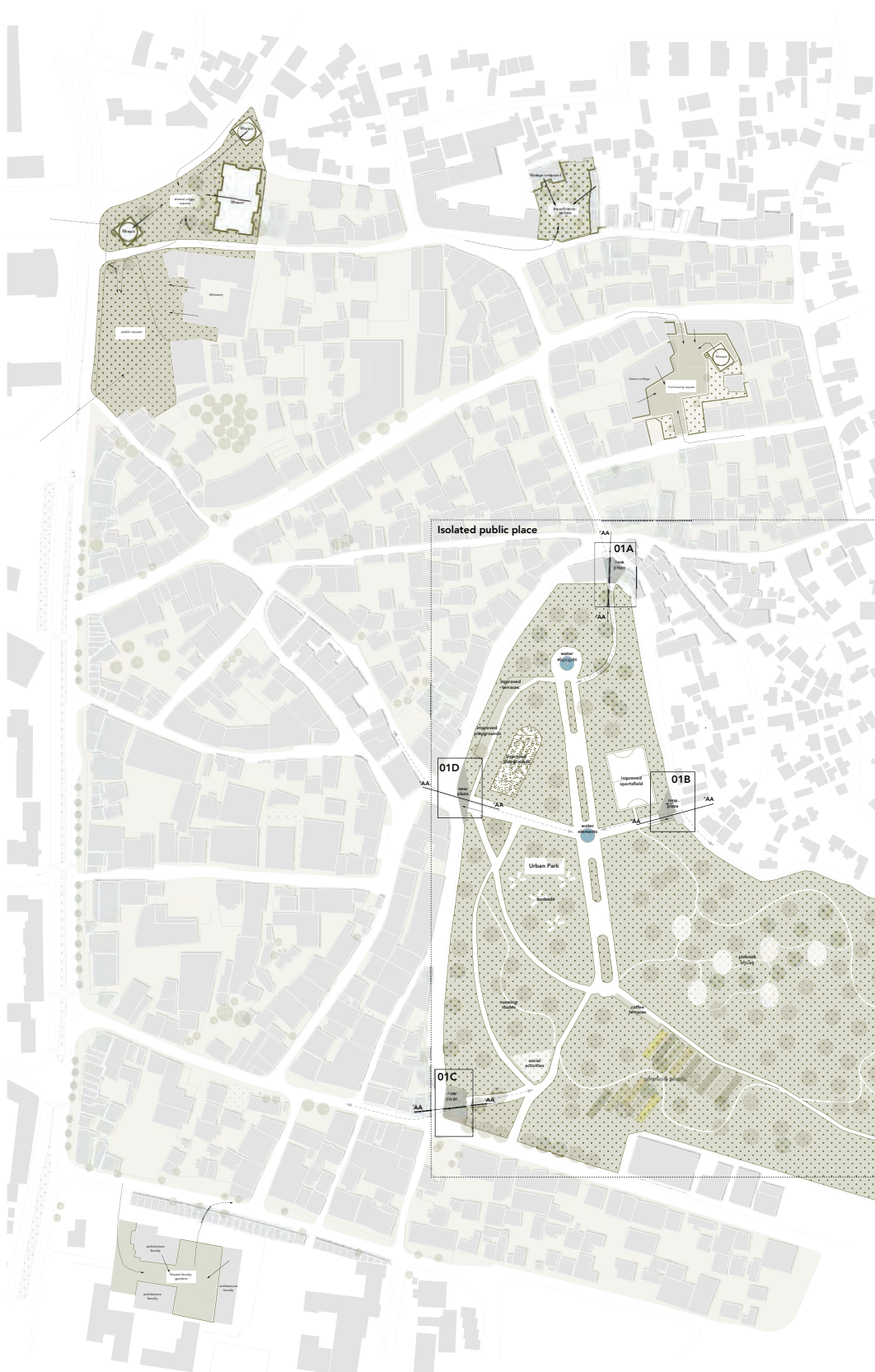


Fig. 85 Overview of large urban spaces as public places

The Isolated public place

Within the design framework and concept, the large urban spaces are the first to be renewed. Their potential, location, size and existing attraction are base for the new public network. At the moment, they represent the non-build spaces of considerable size but with poor accessibility, visibility, program, public level and lack of belonging. Those spaces can serve as drivers and public hubs within the neighborhood. They should provide space and program for a broad range of social groups.

By their size and location, they will attract and serve the inter neighborhood scale. In the priorities concept these spaces come first because of their existing quality. Within the concept, they demand limited transformation and do serve as pilot for the entire public carpet project. The spaces are divided into publicly owned and semi-private institutional. With increasing the quality of public places and add the semi-private places to the public domain the project has its public hubs realized. They will be public, green and safe locations for a variety of users and programs.

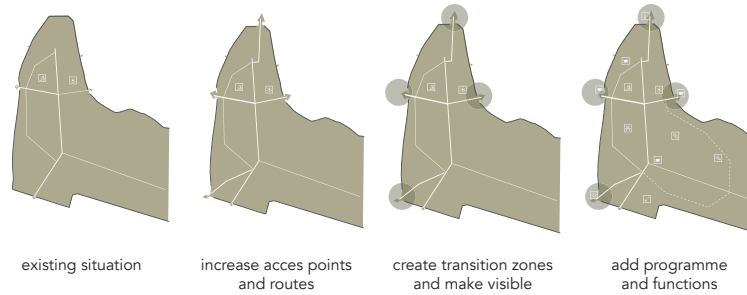


Fig. 86 concept for entire park 's placemaking
 Fig. 87 existing situation location 01A
 Fig. 88 existing situation location 01B
 Fig. 89 existing situation location 01C
 Fig. 90 existing situation location 01D

01A



87

01B



88

01C



89

01D



90

The isolated ecological space - As part of this design intervention and the entire project, the existing City Park, will play an important role. Its existing quality and attractive power can be used and improved. The park can serve as driver for the change of the entire neighborhood. The park is situated on the borders of multiple neighborhoods and has the capacity to act as large social place. Challenges and problems are related to the visibility of the quality and entrances, accessibility from multiple directions, its lack of connections with its direct urban environment, the parks management and maintenance, the good but limited facilitation of program and its diversity. The design will

aim for increased quality and equal access to the new program and functions of the park. The design transforms poor entrances in new places of interest and clear visible routes. As pilot of the entire design project, it is starting with involving all different stakeholders in the project and explain the positive new public focus of public bodies. Its intention is to shape a new relationship among the individual actors and show the public its renewed care and feeling of responsibility for quality public spaces and places.

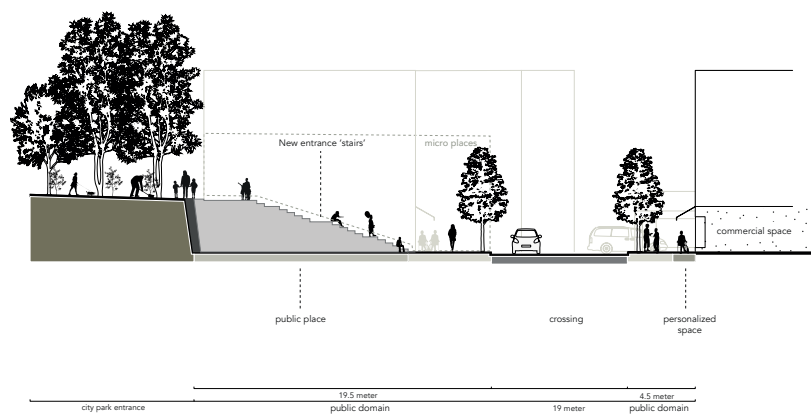
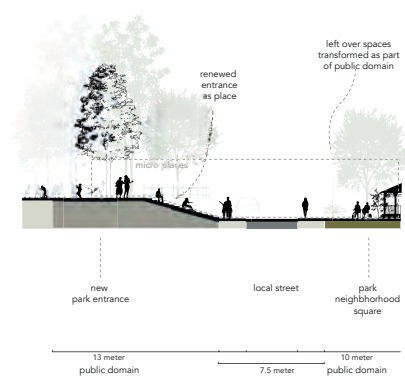


Fig. 91 section 01A - New stairway and entrance point to City Park from the north
 Fig. 92 Impression of entrance and surrounding corner as place
 Fig. 93 section 01B - improved entrance as place of belonging on the east side



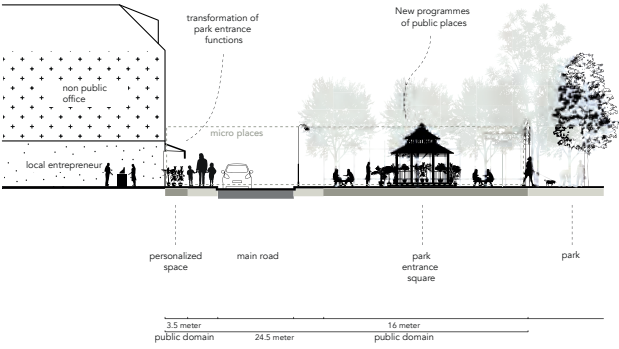
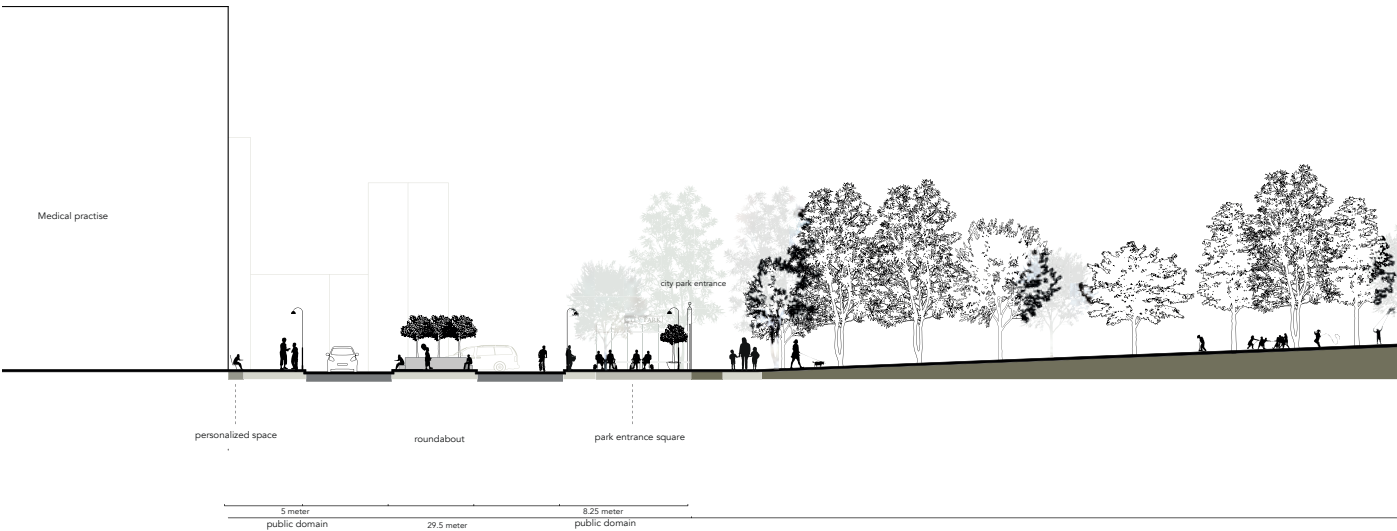


Fig. 94 section 01C - New square and entrance to the city park from the south
Fig. 95 Impression of main entrance and connection with surrounding crossing
Fig. 96 section 01D - improved main entrance as place of belonging



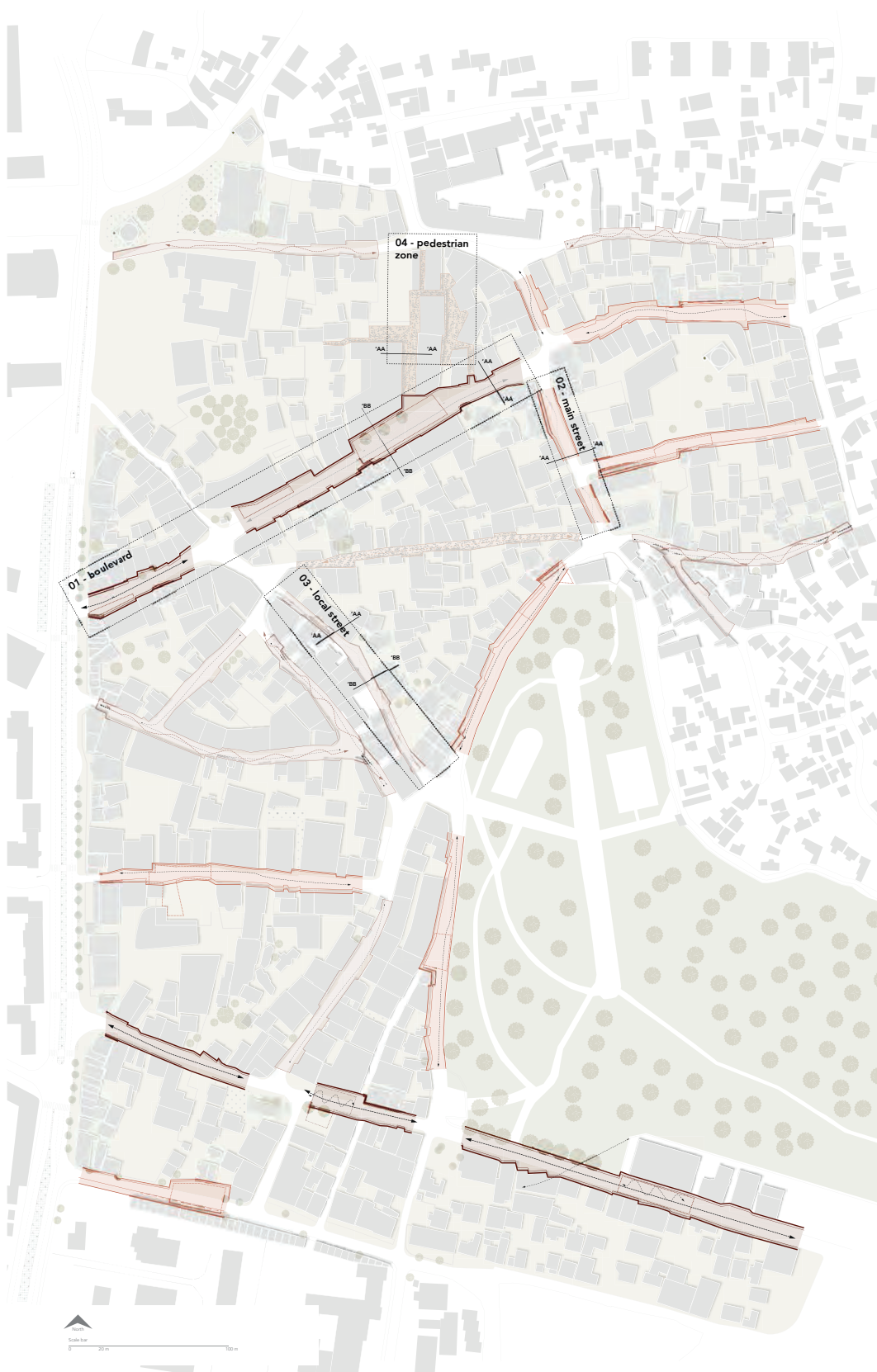
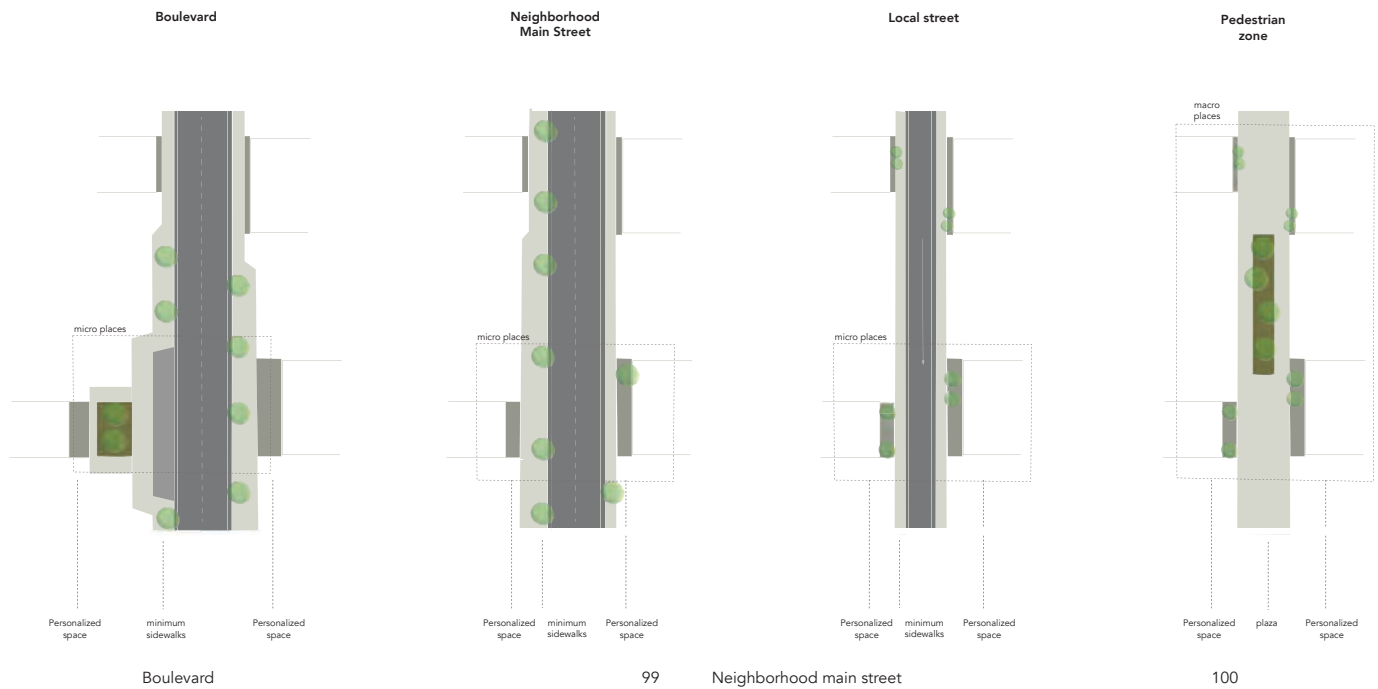


Fig. 97 Overview of 4 street typologies as public places

The Disorderd public backbone

Within the development of the new public network and quality public domain, the streets play an important role. They are connecting the new public places described in the previous intervention with the local inhabitants and companies. They also connect the neighborhood in the larger system of city. Very important in the renewal of the street profiles is the clear separation of (motorized) traffic and pedestrians. At the moment, the street profiles are unorganized spaces which do not

offer good walkability of the neighborhood and do not create synergy between the individual developments and properties and the public streets. In order to change this, the new profiles offer place for traffic but more important enough space for sidewalks, urban green and facilities and space for creating public-private synergy. The streets in Dodona are divided into 4 typologies that serve as basis for all the streets. All streets except the pedestrian zones have the 3 before mentioned spaces included in their profile (fig.98) The interesting and challenging part of the design of the profiles is the nonlinear building lines. In some cases, the profiles are very small and sometimes very



Local one-way street

101



Pedestrian zone

102

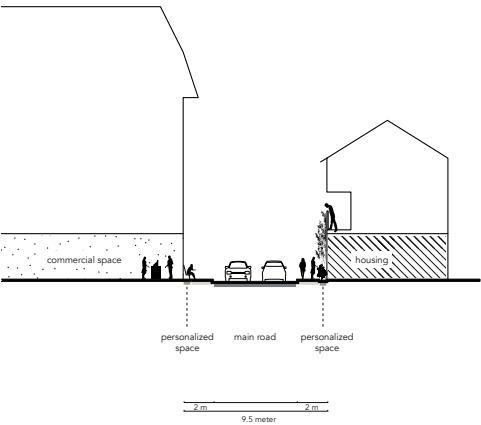


Fig. 98 Steettypologies
Fig. 99,100,101,102 existing situations

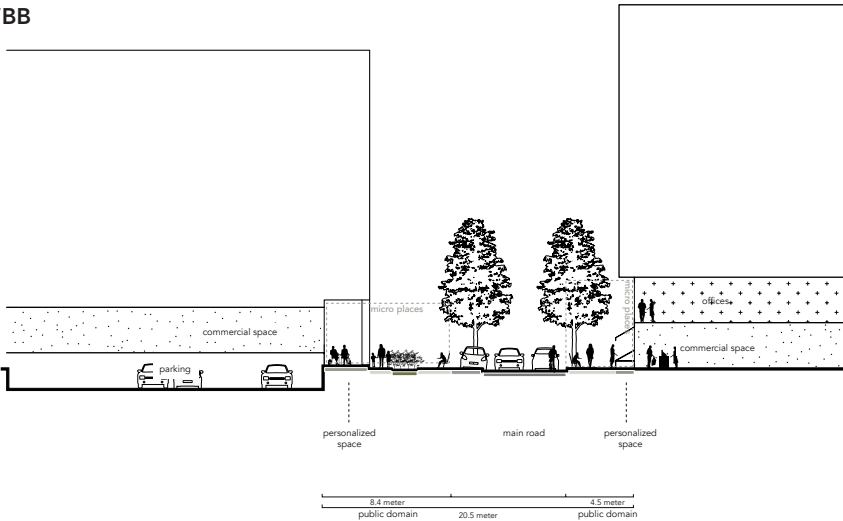
wide within 1 street. A basis profile is creating good space to even the smallest profile. **The boulevards** are relatively wide streets in which also is space for parking and micro social places. The street offers within the public network extra hubs of for social activity when the profile allows. **The neighborhood main streets** have similar traffic intensity but smaller profiles. In this case, a asymmetric profile is made which allows at least good sidewalks and urban greenery at one side of the street. These first two streets are main routes in the public network and therefore need to include urban green and public micro places to guide pedestrians on their way to the parks and new

plazas. **The local streets** are transformed into one-way streets. These see fewer traffic and pedestrians in the current situation. The change of profile need to activate the streets on the local scale by providing good walkways and interesting personalized spaces or front yards. This change can integrate them in the larger public network and increase its attractive power. Last, **the pedestrian zones** are the upgrade of existing pedestrian areas, including new routes within the urban blocks and changing selected local streets into pedestrian areas. These will have space reserved for personalized space, walking zones and space for greenery, playgrounds and sitting places.

'AA



'BB



'AA

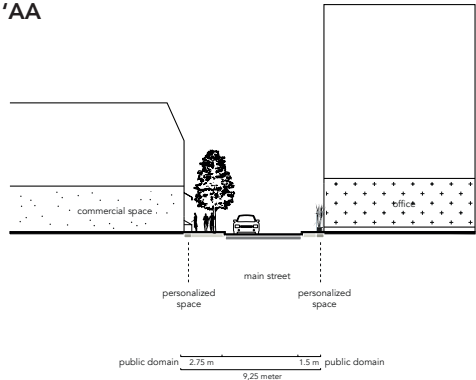


Fig. 103 Section 1:500 smallest street profile on the boulevard 'AA Kelmendi street
Fig. 104 Section 1:500 micro place on widest street profile 'BB Kelmendi street
Fig. 105 Impression neighborhood main street
Fig. 106 Section 1:500 asymmetric street profile 'AA on Rustem Hyseni street

03 - Local one-way streets

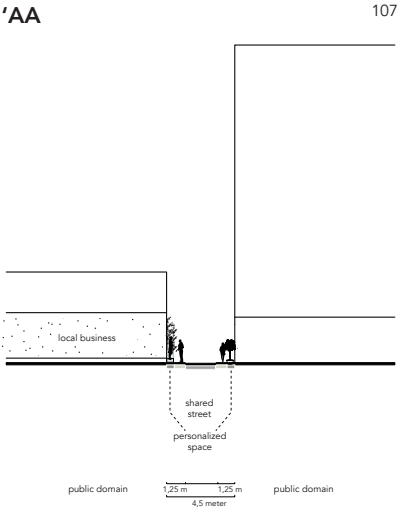
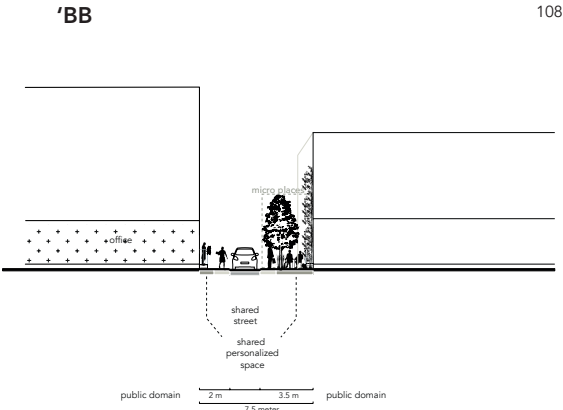
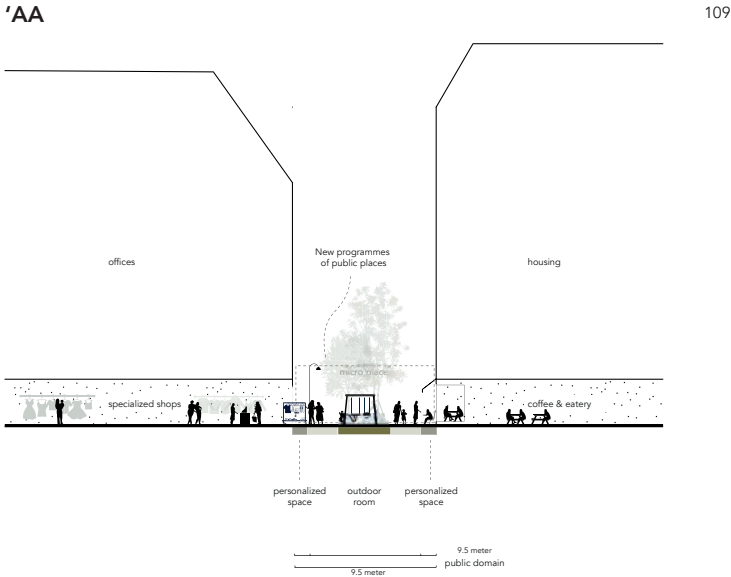


Fig. 107 Section 1:500 smallest profile on one way street 'AA' on Svetozar Marković str.
Fig. 108 Section 1:500 personalized space on street profile 'BB' on Svetozar Marković str.
Fig. 109 Section 1:500 new pedestrian zones with functions and program
Fig. 110 Impression of new pedestrian zones



04 - Pedestrian zones



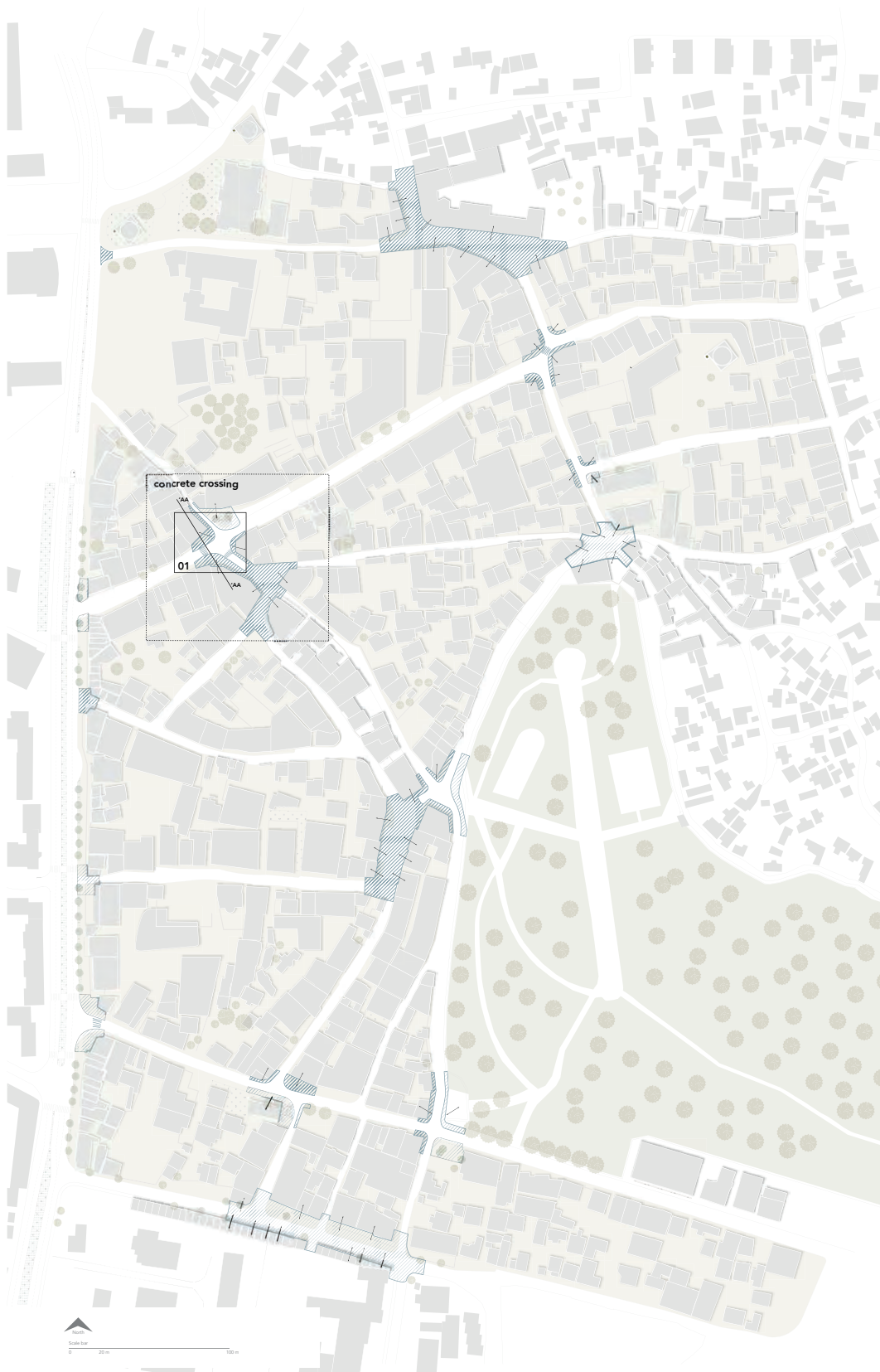


Fig. 111 Overview of 2 types of crossings as public places

The Concrete crossing

The last intervention in the minimum level, the crossings take an important role. These are in general and after the socio-spatial analysis places of interest. Attractive functions like religious buildings, schools and coffee places attract inhabitants and passing pedestrians. Street crossings do have a higher level of unsafety and need to be design carefully. The crossings will include similar as the streets clear space for pedestrians, traffic and personalized space in front of the buildings. Those spaces

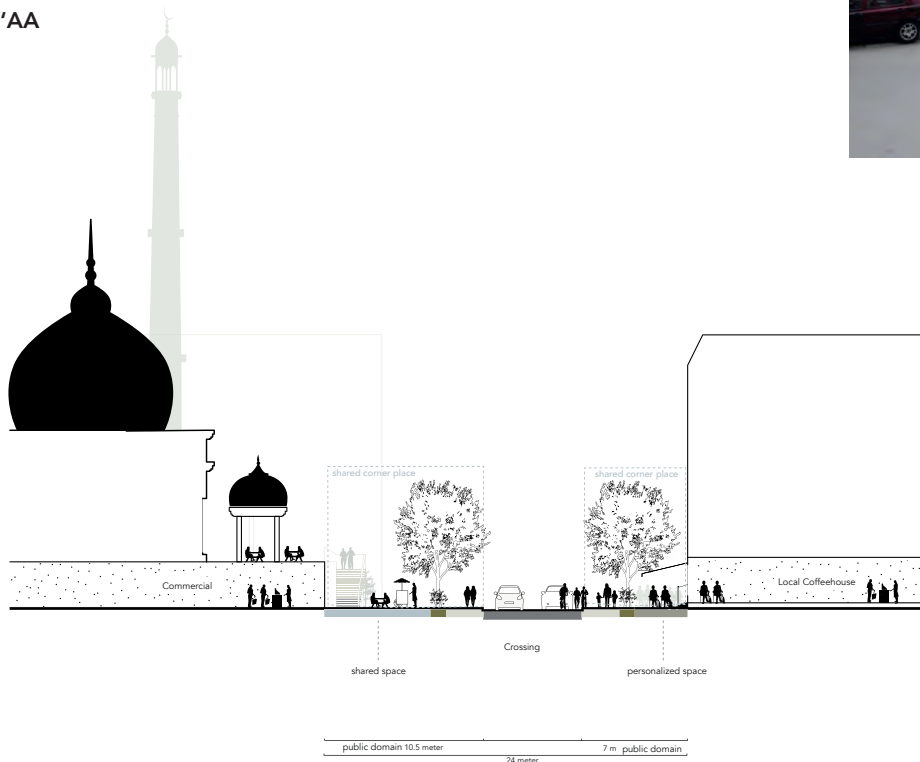
will be part of the public network. The crossings have 2 typologies. On traffic intensive corners the corners will become places and on crossing with fewer traffic the crossing will be design as a shared square. The car will be guest and the entire square will be part of the public network.



113

corner typology 01 - corner places

'AA



114



Fig. 112 impression of new crossing

Fig. 113 existing situation

Fig. 114 Section 1:500 micro corner places related to corner specifics

Kelmendi crossing - The crossing of Kelmendi street and Markovic street is the most important and busiest crossing in the neighborhood. The variety of functions and location in the neighborhood attract many pedestrians and is on route connecting the inner ring road with the eastern neighborhoods. The design creates clear spaces for car traffic on the corner but more space is given to the pedestrian's walkability including crosswalks. In addition to the public domain, good space is given to the surrounding functions in order to create a life atmosphere.

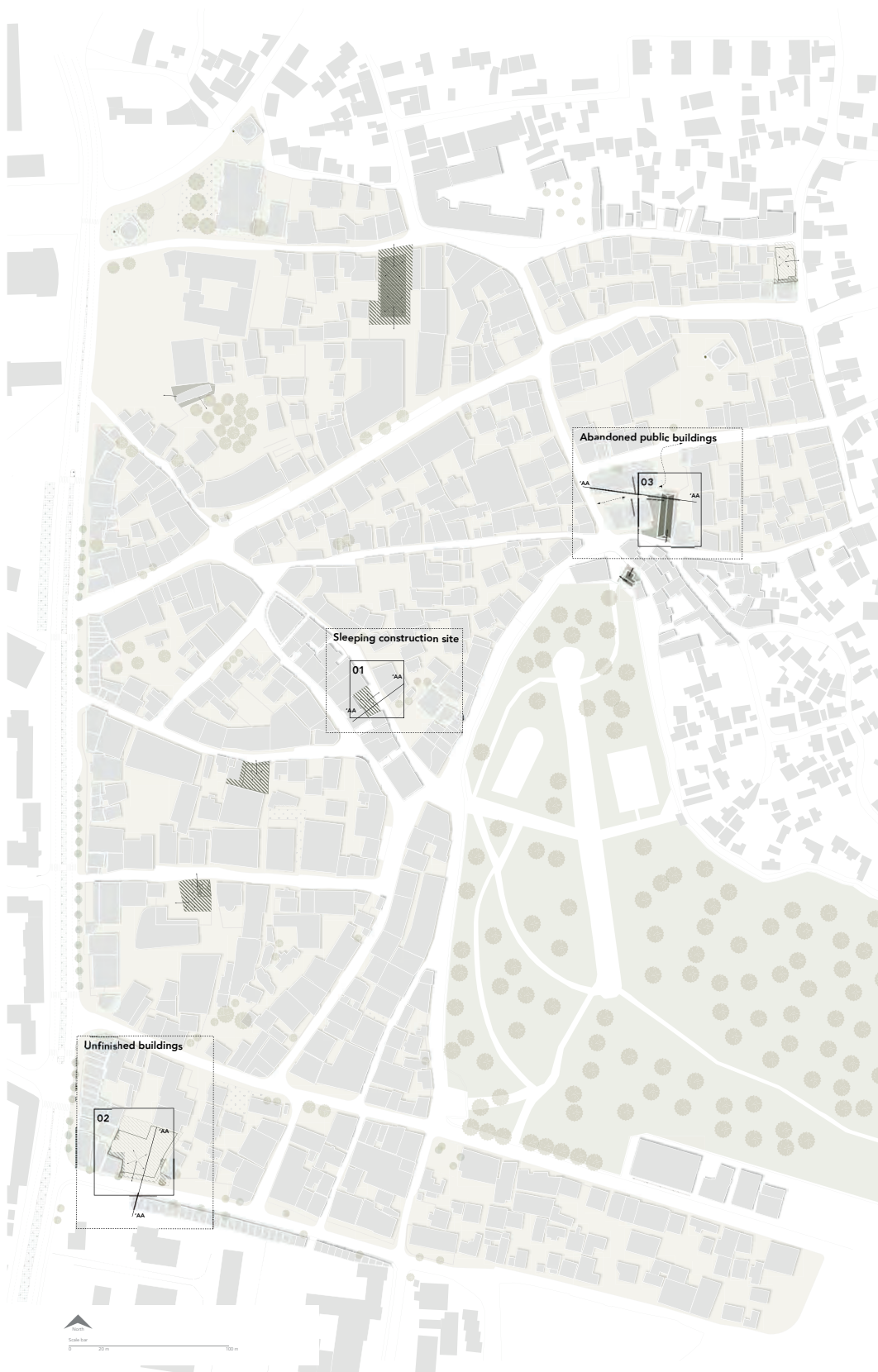


Fig. 115 Overview various construction sites and abandoned municipally buildings since 2013

The sleeping construction & abandoned public building

Since 2013 no unauthorized construction can continue within the city limits of Prishtina. The municipality did put a hold on that in order to prevent further decay of the urban environment. The areas under construction are now awaiting the urban development plans in order to continue construction. This is still an ongoing process due to the new system that needs to be incorporated in the municipal planning framework. Never-

theless, these sites remain unfinished and through their uncompleted state or largely fenced not positive for the direct urban quality. In that same area, a number of abandoned buildings in poor state are equally waiting an unclear future. The municipality have claimed not to have areas within their ownership to develop as part of a new public domain but they most certainly do. Within this desired intervention level new areas are there to be found that could become part of the new public network and domain by transforming. These three indoor/outdoor public/private space that currently are underused could be added (temporary) to the public with multiple functions.

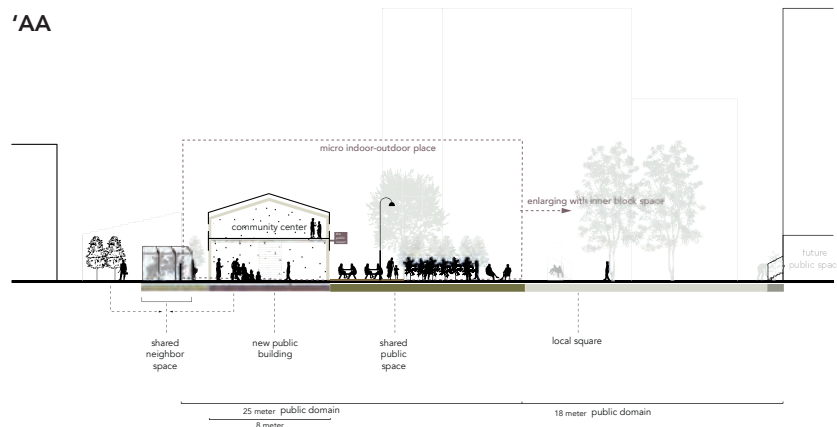
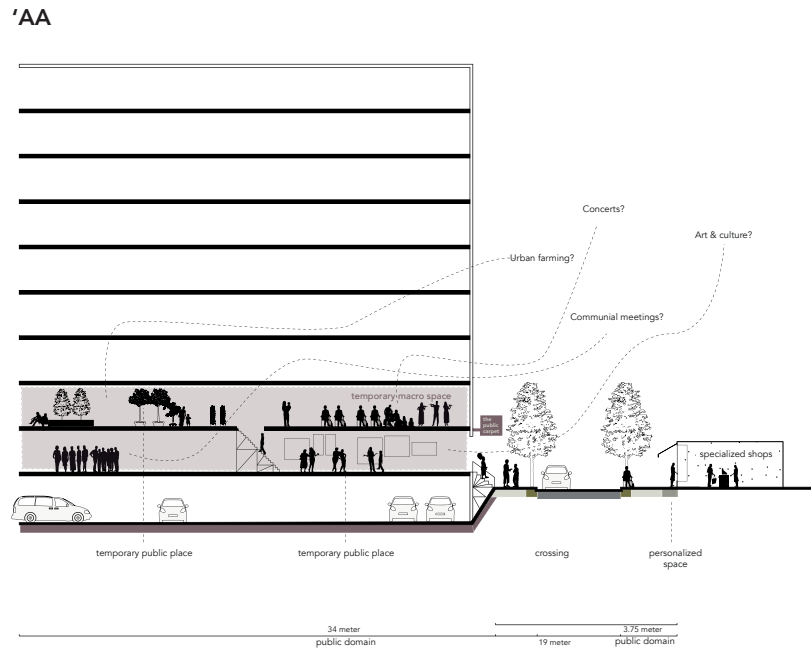
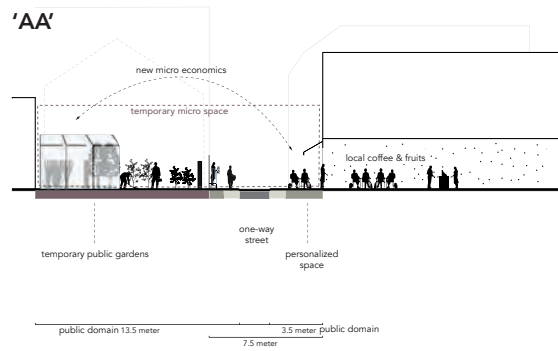


Fig. 116 Section 1:500 temporary use of an sleeping construction forming an urban farm
Fig. 117 Section 1:500 temporary multifunctional community use of building in construction
Fig. 118 Section 1:500 new use of public abandoned building as community center

construction sites - Different construction sites are located in Dodona. From small single house scale parcels up to large apartment block sizes. In this design, a local site with not more than a view concrete columns is transformed for temporary period into a local productive yard with small glass house. This can happen by initiative of a local grocery shop that wishes to produce more sustainable or a group of residents that would co-work the space. By doing so the direct public street increases its attractive power and number of people in the street.

unfinished apartment buildings - With the limited availability

of public buildings and centers for public gatherings throughout the year, unfinished apartment buildings could (temporary) transform into centers for a variety of public communal functions. With basic interventions as an entrance stairs, safety measures within and adaptable interiors the area could transform in short time in a community center.

abandoned historic buildings - Upgrading the public buildings as small indoor communal centers or support centers for social groups to gather gives space to the public. Immediate surroundings can become the outdoor transition space's.



Fig. 119 Overview neighborhood inner block space for new public domain extensions

Inner block & corner voids

Inner block spaces have emerged through the unplanned development of the neighborhood. The original urban pattern of Dodona is a historical one, with odd shaped parcels and organically grown street layouts. Houses were placed on parcels within the blocks with little alleys connecting them with the main roads and streets. By the development of the neighborhood, areas became low of living quality or original inhabitants have left their houses after the war (minorities). These

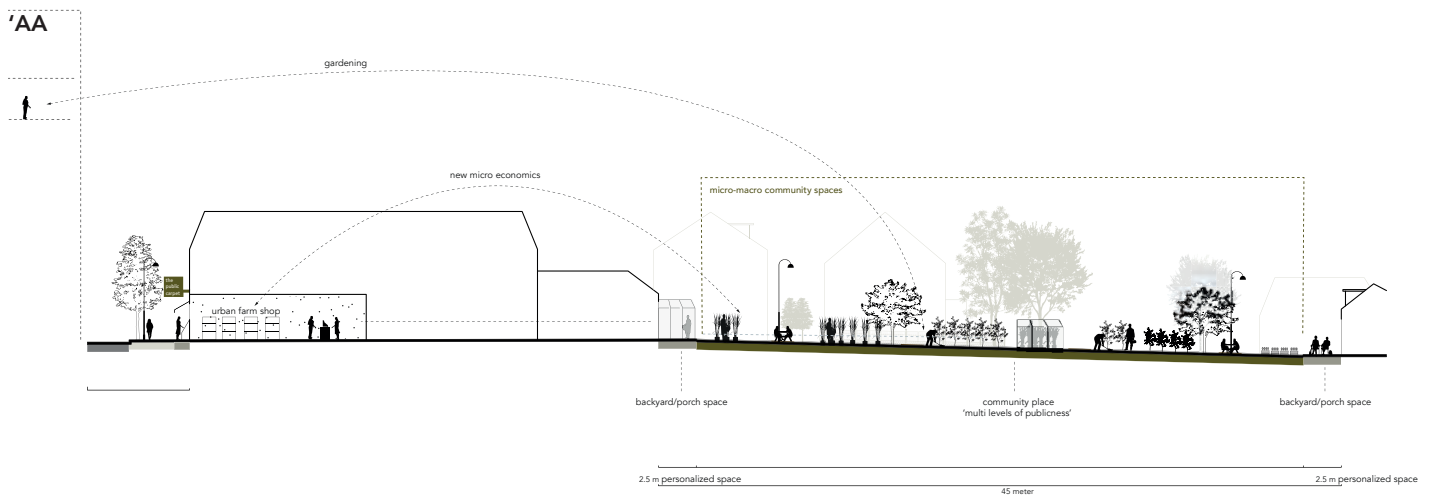
spaces are now the voids of the neighborhood with limited informal use and low quality. Within the desired intervention level, possible public area extension are found which could be transformed and become part of the new public network. The inner block spaces are one of them. Transforming them on a low scale in community gardens, pocket parks, playgrounds, or squares the new public network will enrich and infiltrate within the smaller (semi private) spaces of the neighborhood. New local places of belonging can arise and renew streets that have limited quality and attractive power. Besides that, it opens up a new area to the public domain and offers new routes for



Fig. 120 Existing urban farm in Prishtina-West
 Fig. 121 Existing situation of unused spaces
 Fig. 122 Impression of new community farm
 Fig. 123 Section 1:500 micro place 01 community urban farming possibility



inner block 01 - community urban farming example



particularly pedestrians. Development of these spaces is highly related to the local situation. A more public area such as a pocket park is easier to design if the void is not related to any neighbor and a semipublic area is appreciated if local residents have their backyard overseeing the space. In the design, local participation about the function and the level of intimacy needs to be researched in order for the space to become a success.

community garden/farm - The local atmosphere at this inner block space surrounded by local, mostly pre-war houses could be changed in a shared productive garden. The intimacy of

the space and the immediate bordering entrances and private gardens ask for a particular design. The important aspect within this level is transforming spaces to become part of the public network but this has different levels of openness. In this particular example reserving space for local residents as private border space prevents the public network to overrun the local atmosphere of the area. Designing the space as a productive garden can offer local residents to cultivate their own vegetables or even organize it as a community urban farm. Besides that, it opens up new routes through the block. This new space offers new relations and brings people together.

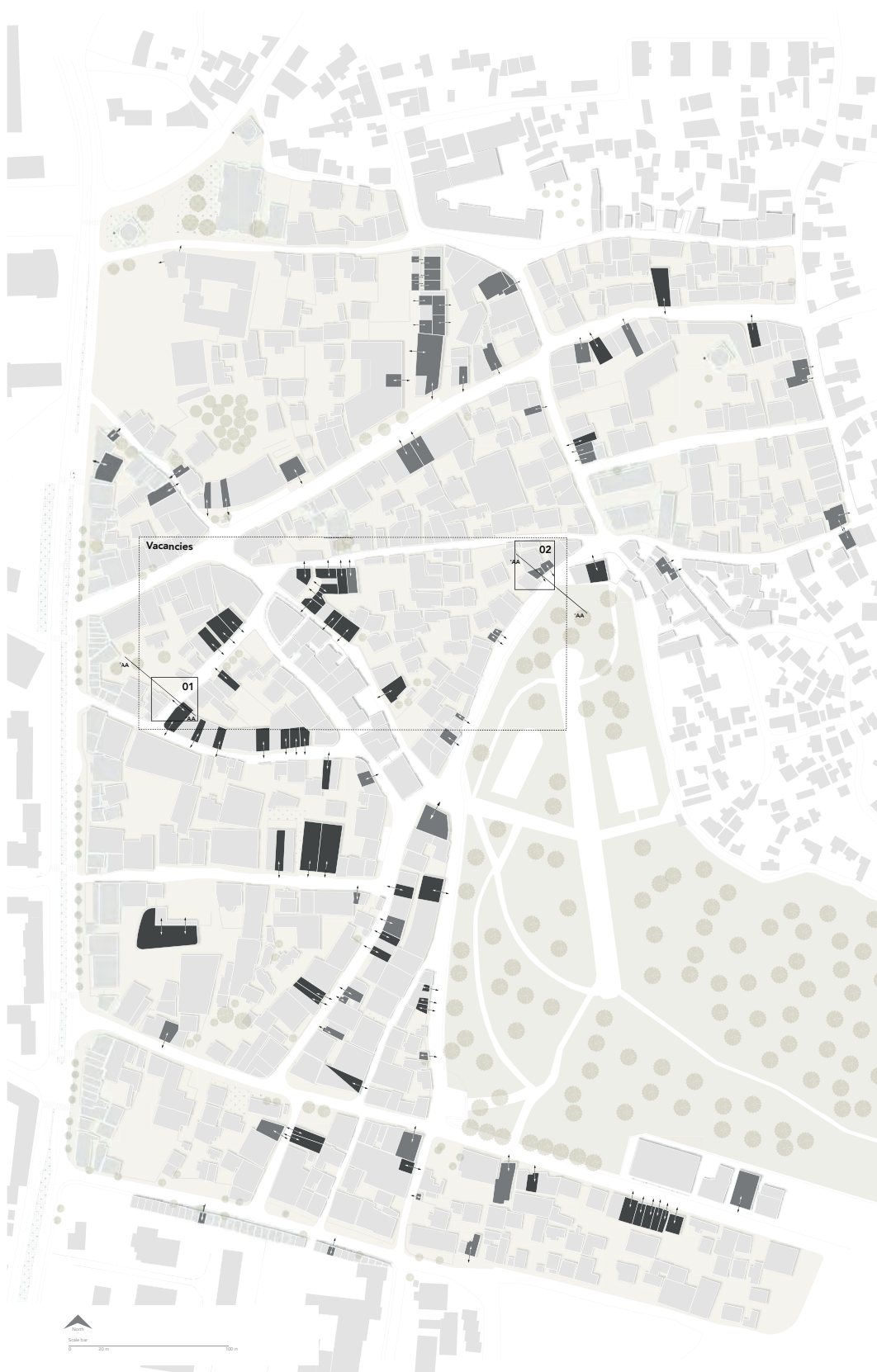


Fig. 124 Overview of office and shops vacancies as of summer 2016

Planned Vacancies

Vacancies of groundfloors can have a negative impact on an active street life and attracting people towards an area. The development of particular large high rise buildings in the second half after the war have considerably more vacancies. These large spaces have a limited planning due to the fact that the upper residential floors were the priority. Those floors generate income and not particularly the public groundfloors. Limited planning and designing make those spaces not attractive to

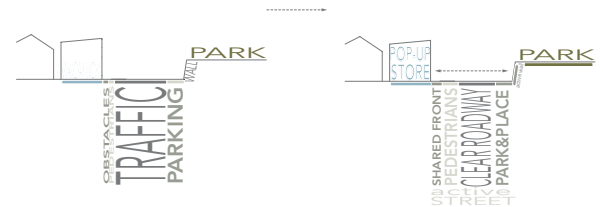
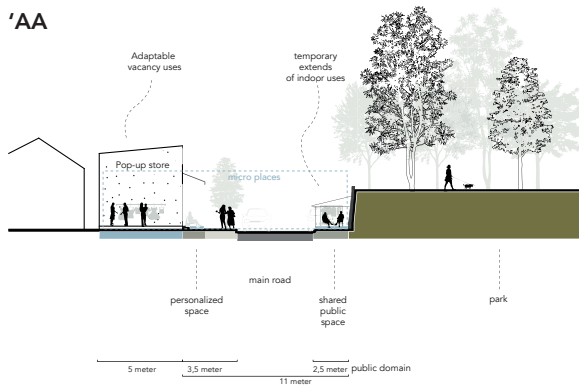
every business. With opening up those vacancies permanent or temporary to local businesses, studying students, pop-up stores, as exposition hall or as incubator can increase street qualities and attract a diverse population. Most important, as part of the municipality and government bodies is decreasing the populations unemployment rates. By supporting micro businesses, facilitating student-experts' networks and providing adaptable work stations and business units, new creatives and unemployed can increase their position on the market. Low rents and adaptable interior designs can open-up doors for a variety of micro economics.

Fig. 125 Impression of PoP-up store and spaces
 Fig. 126 Section of temporary commercial space use
 Fig. 127 Change of space uses
 Fig. 128 Section 1:500 adaptable space use as economic stimulator and networking
 Fig. 129 Change of space use



vacancies 01 - commercial groundfloor space

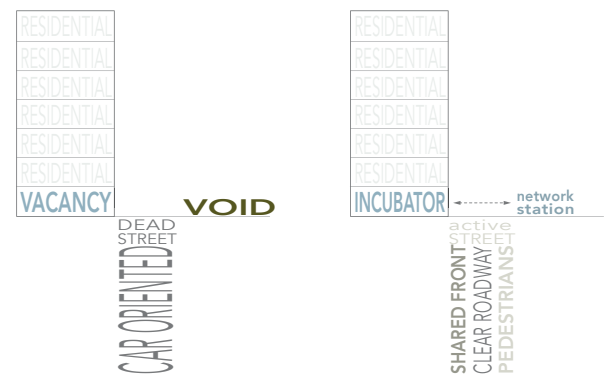
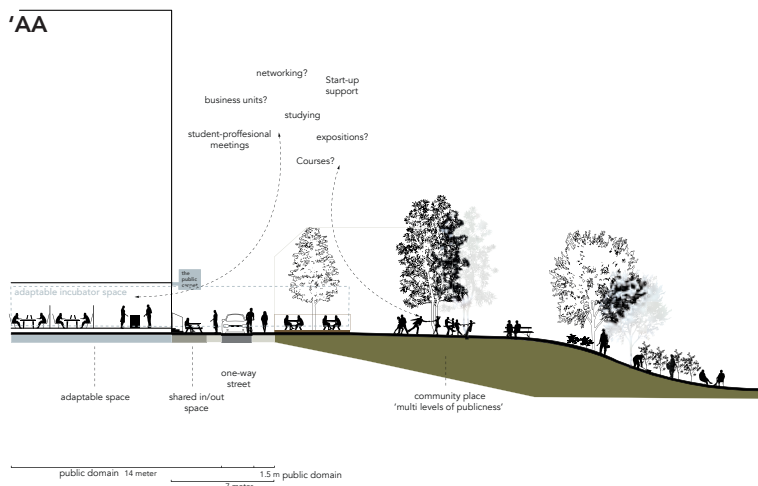
126



127

vacancies 02 - office groundfloor space

128



129

pop-up store - The many commercial vacancies could be temporary housing functions which have a very public nature. For example, pop-up stores that offer spaces to local entrepreneurs to showcase their products. These new 'public' rooms have front door spaces as indicated within the street profile intervention to bridge the border of the facade. In addition, and in areas where the profile offers space, outdoor temporary store elements can be placed in the public. As example of the pop-up store design in fig. 126 is located in front of the park-wall and temporary the parking lot could become part of the store. It activates locally the street profile and creates micro places.

knowledge incubator - A second economic temporary public intervention is using vacant office groundfloors as incubators. From the municipality, these spaces could support small businesses and the micro economy. These incubators could attract professionals and students and help them within their career and offer space for new networks and co-working. These 'dead' streets become new attractions especially if again the front door spaces are used as part of the new program. If the local fabric offers outdoor spaces for temporary use, these could be transformed as part of the public network and function as outdoor workspaces. New local street attractions can start here, arise here.



Fig. 130 Plan of cultural connector and spaces within Dodona

The Cultural Connector

Within the design framework the maximum level discusses design interventions that contribute to the neighborhood on a larger scale and with increasing attractive power for the area. These interventions are bold, modern and almost utopian of character but feasible in the contemporary urban design practice. It is about adding elements to the existing urban fabric by using that particular fabrics circumstances. This level is not immediately providing new space to the existing public network

but mostly adding a more interesting program or function. It is about enriching the public networks domain. It is aimed at increasing the attractive power and image of the neighborhood but certainly also the networks infiltration within the urban fabric and cross border capacities of the design. In this phase the neighborhood is seen as possible social-cultural-environmental attraction which is offering the neighborhood an imago and identity. Within this level, a variety of creatives and innovative ideas should get room to explore possible new vibrant additions to the public network. Following intervention 'the cultural connector' is a possible intervention. Its integration within the ur-

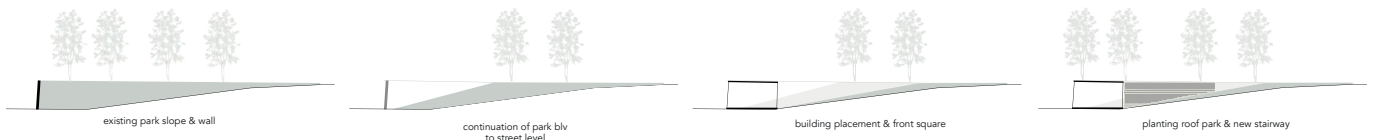


Fig. 131 Project Intervention concept

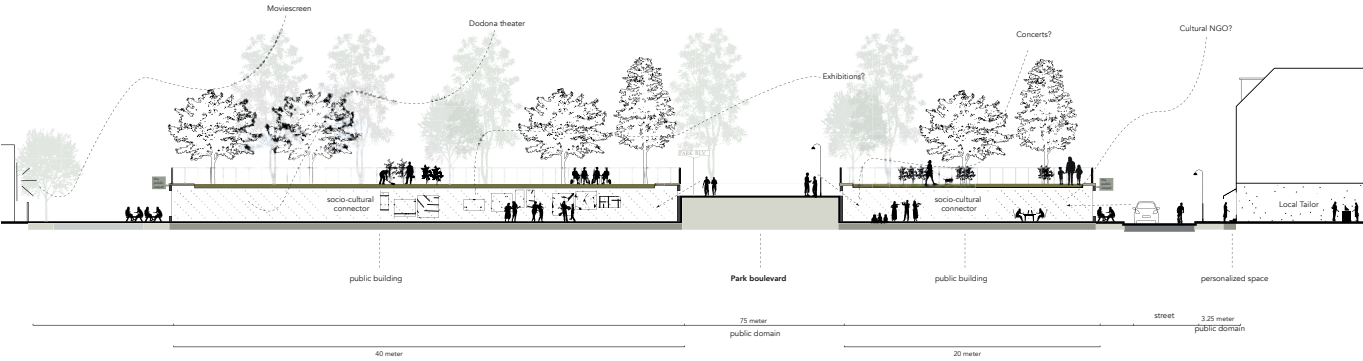


Fig. 132 Overview of the interventions within the urban public domain of spaces

ban fabric and as part of the smaller and larger public network is explained in images. Next to that, some other ideas have been explored and possible streetscapes are presented.

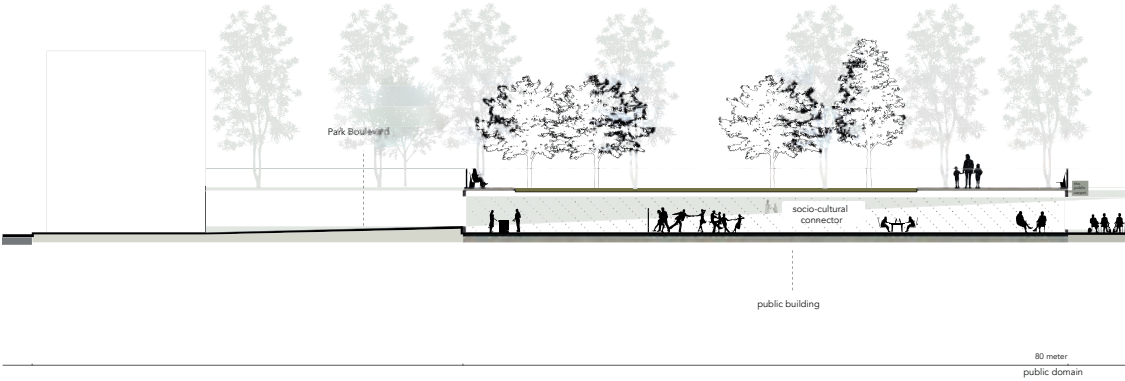
The Cultural Connector - Within the geography of the landscape and existing landscape and urban fabric the cultural connector is an addition to the park and street scape. The design uses the extension of the existing park landscape towards the street in the form of a green boulevard. This integrates the park more and more in the surroundings and the boulevard can act as alternative walking backbone. The cultural building design is using the landscape and existing walls that now elevate the

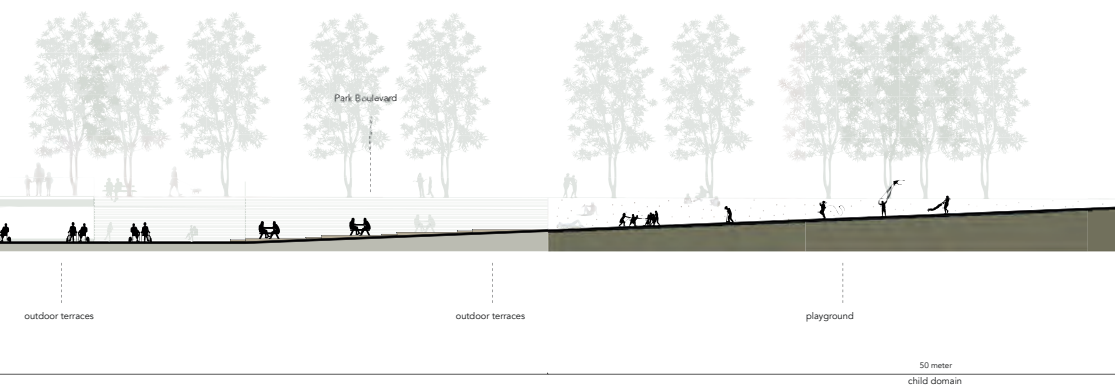
park in the north side. The design places to buildings on both sides of the boulevard and open-up to the street and park side with indoor cultural facilities. On the boulevard side, the backbone cuts the building in two and offers inside in the building. Above the park continues as normal which creates new park spaces and viewpoints. The build additions are multifunctional cultural spaces using the existing wall with new openings for light. On the park side this is a transparent glass wall that integrates the indoor with the renewed square in the park. The square opens up the park on the western and eastern side to the neighborhood.



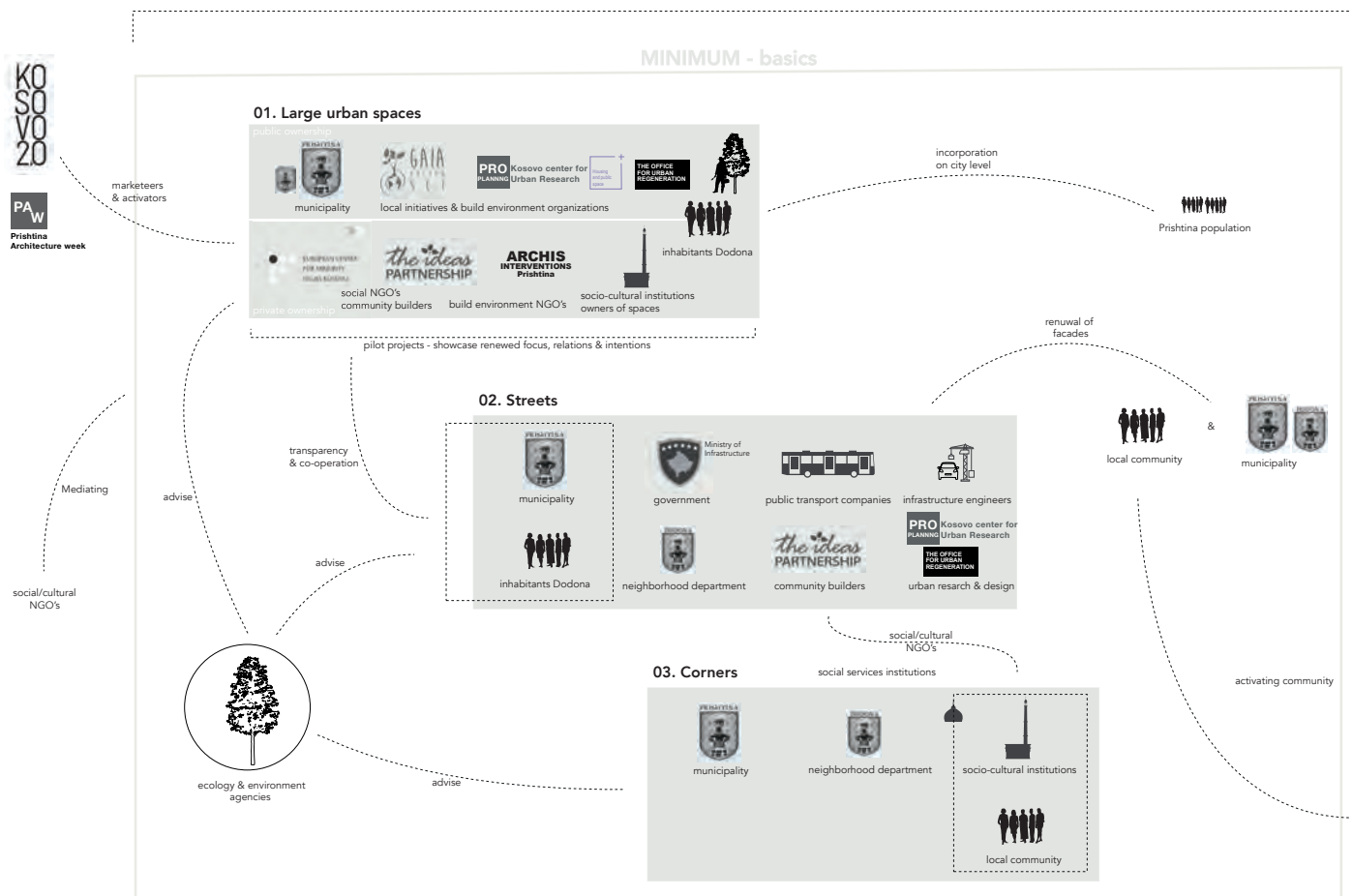
Cultural building and spaces within the City Park

'BB





135 Fig. 133 Section 1:500 'AA of cultural connector and cultural boulevard
Fig. 134 Impression of new public domain
Fig. 135 Section 1:500 'BB of new building and additional public spaces within the existing City Park



5.7 COLLABORATION, COMMUNITY BUILDING & RENEWING STATE-SOCIETY RELATIONSHIPS

A mix of public stakeholders and private stakeholders, local and non-local stakeholders and specific and general stakeholders are involved in the different design interventions for the public carpet project Dodona. All the stakeholders are dependent on each other and the relationships between the stakeholders differ. In general, the role of the municipality relates to the political context (regulations and the land use plan for example) and the social context (raising awareness, fostering participation and allowing initiatives to work in the area for example). Besides these, the municipality and the local office within the neighborhood are aiming to achieve better citizenship and sense of belonging of the population, showing the population their renewed care and focus towards the public domain and establishing a relationship with its inhabitants. In order to do so, a project NGO need to be established as mediator between the municipality, local inhabitants, other stakeholders and the project team. It is an independent organization which aims to represent all interests. The local populations need to be always involved in the different projects. Their share and participation is crucial in the succeeding of the several projects. This is not just clear due to the fact that for example the front yard personalized spaces need a function but more importantly their change of behavior and belonging to a larger community

within the neighborhood needs to be solved. Other actors will be involved more related to specific project. Examples are the ministry of infrastructure, public transport companies, cultural institutions, local businesses, land and property owners. Last, the group that needs to deal with renewing and supporting new relationships and networks, research the variety of needs and behavior of local society and organization of broad participation of the population. These social and cultural NGO's are aimed at cohesive society and strengthen the communities feeling of belonging and citizenship.

Within the minimum design interventions, the state owns the land were dealing with (except the semi-private open spaces related to buildings). The acquirement of land can be done quite fast although pointing exact borders can be a burden. This immediately demands involvement of the several stakeholders and good intentions of the design project in order to establish a working base.

Within the development of the desired interventions advanced public-private collaboration is needed. The spaces have private or unknown owners and will not directly be interested in opening their space for a public purpose. At this point the project NGO is the one to create synergy and the public insti-

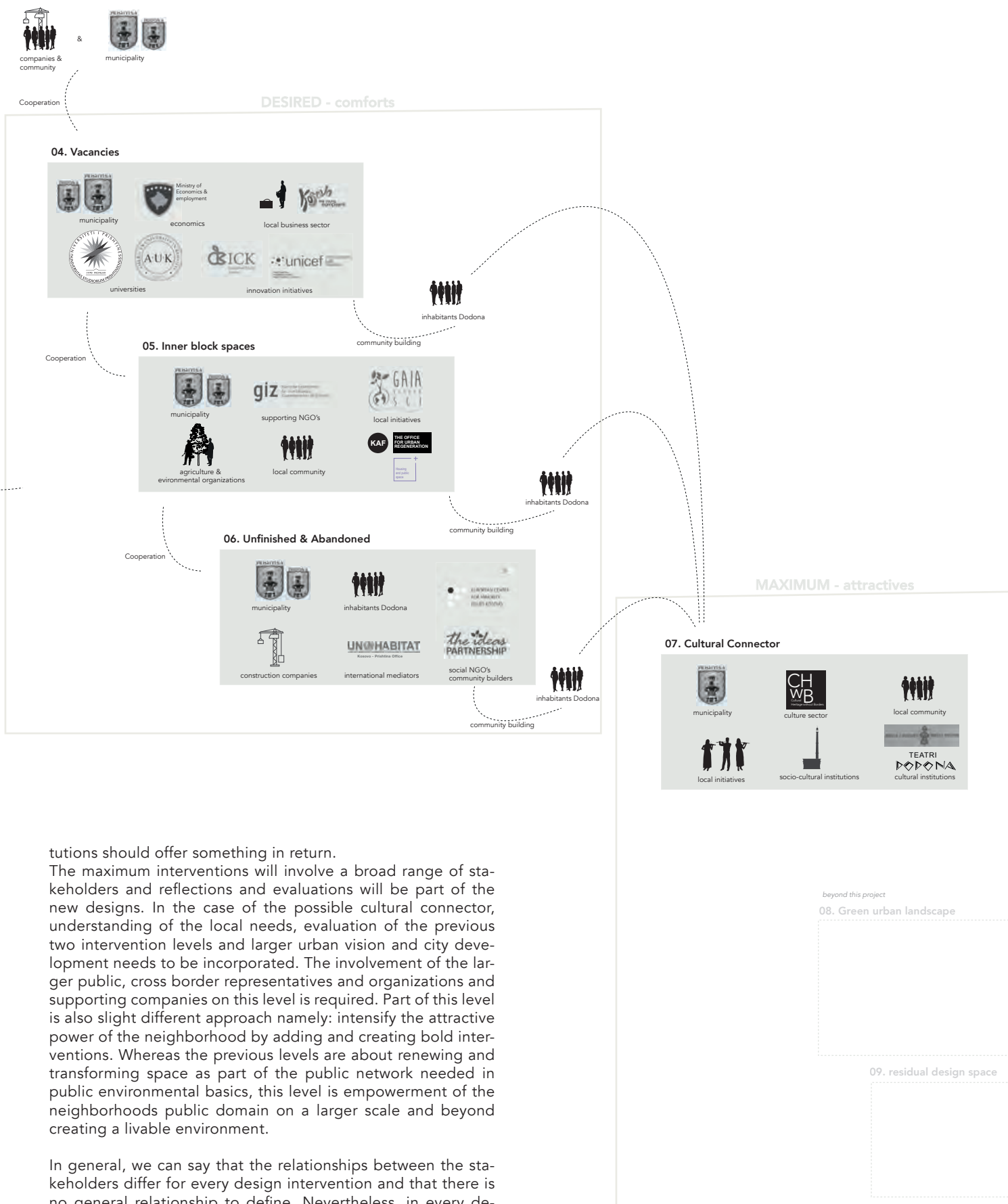
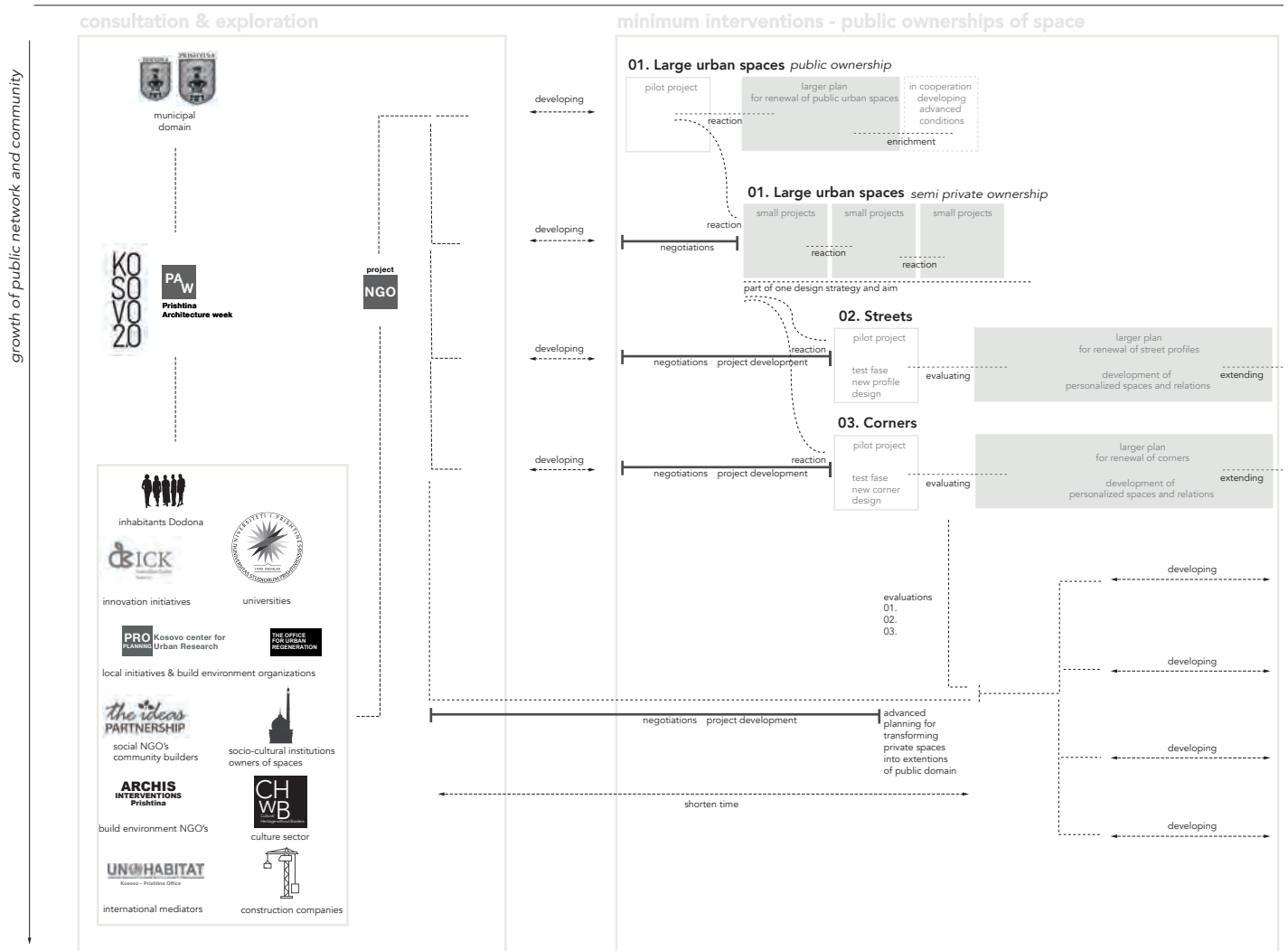


Fig. 136 Involved Actors

tutions should offer something in return.

The maximum interventions will involve a broad range of stakeholders and reflections and evaluations will be part of the new designs. In the case of the possible cultural connector, understanding of the local needs, evaluation of the previous two intervention levels and larger urban vision and city development needs to be incorporated. The involvement of the larger public, cross border representatives and organizations and supporting companies on this level is required. Part of this level is also slight different approach namely: intensify the attractive power of the neighborhood by adding and creating bold interventions. Whereas the previous levels are about renewing and transforming space as part of the public network needed in public environmental basics, this level is empowerment of the neighborhoods public domain on a larger scale and beyond creating a livable environment.

In general, we can say that the relationships between the stakeholders differ for every design intervention and that there is no general relationship to define. Nevertheless, in every design intervention it is of great importance that the stakeholders communicate, co-create and collaborate.



5.8 TIME PLAN STRATEGY

For the project the time frame is set in 4 zones. Initiation face, is the moment the municipality and its local neighborhood office brings the 6 strategic themes to the public table. The phase is exploring ideas, priorities and challenges and consulting with all the stakeholders, financiers and actors. As a mixed and diverse group the formation of the project NGO is established which will search for synergy between all stakeholders and their opinions in order for the development of the design to achieve broad satisfaction. This NGO is throughout the project active as mediator, creating a broad involvement of the public and overseeing the outcomes of the design and their local reflection by the users. They report to the municipality and advise them about the strategies and changes during the project. In order to slowly strengthen the public-private relationship regular meetings at a local place brings the stakeholders around the table in the specific area.

The most important aims of this project are renewing the public domain as a community by developing designs in favor of this public realm. Spaces and places in which a variety of social groups feel comfortable and feel attached to. It is the creating of a so-called citizenship and sense of belonging to the neighborhood. This is being long lost and need intervention in order to create this neighborhood public community. With this in mind, knowing its history and evaluation of the

local population its satisfaction and behavior within all the projects the municipality and government need to show their renewed care and responsibility for a quality environment. therefore, all projects are initiated by the municipality with immediate involvement of the local population. In the 'developing' period these actors and other stakeholders are involved in a micro project. The 'pilot project' is the that outcome that will test the particular project. As example, a small street and its profile is renewed in a temporary project and evaluated by the neighborhood in the used approach and possible outcome. Changes can be made and a permanent larger project can be developed. The evaluations of the project can also be used in a second layer project. As example, the evaluations of a new street profile are very important in developing the pilot project for a renewed corner. With this approach, development of the new network is slower but this multi-actor involvement and strategic planning approach can initiate desired networks and collaboration and offers times to do so. The project can be considered as a reversed pyramid; a solid and good approach at the start continues in a structured system throughout the project and accelerates through similar projects happening simultaneously. Presenting the overall ideas and projects at the beginning can show the municipalities renewed public intentions and even activate parts of the project sooner once they notice their positive attitude and outcome.

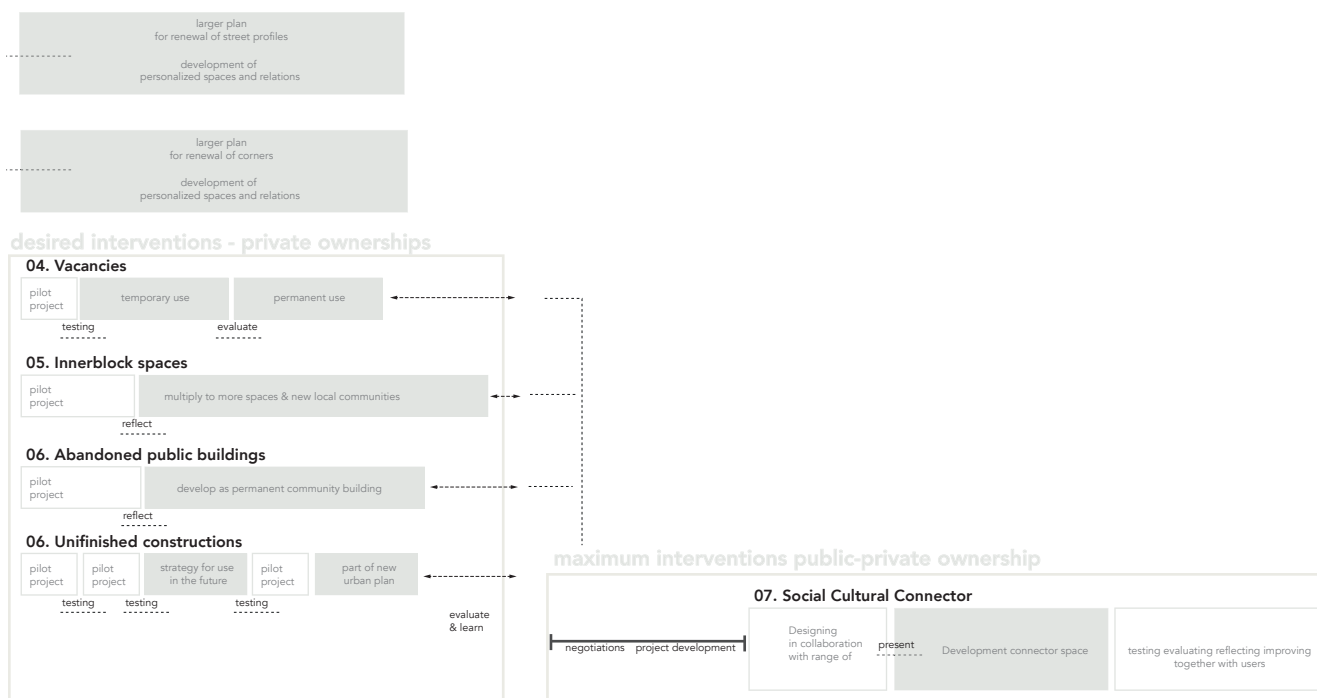


Fig. 137 timeplan of the design interventions

5.9 THE FINANCIAL SIDE

Foreign aid is typical for situations like the one of Kosovo. Limited economical means and general economical levels of the country are problematic in transition towards a stable and safe environment. Financial supporting the municipalities is therefore unlikely to disappear soon after the conflict. When possible, support of local ministries and local organizations but in most cases with international sponsors like embassy's, foundations and the European institutions. The project proposal will need international support too, but as opposed to many international organizations it need to be local initiated and developed. Advise given by the international community involved, supporting municipalities in owning new properties, sponsoring local projects but most important investing financial means. With pilot projects at the beginning the main sponsor but for the larger projects local ministries and large companies should be involved. This is important in presenting the local economy as a publicly involved part of society and for the local government to become clearer about their financial means and destinations. Last, in general the involvement of the local environment and population is decisive to the completion of the project. In most cases, it will not be financial but by involvement and active participation it is the most important priceless support and without it any project cannot succeed.

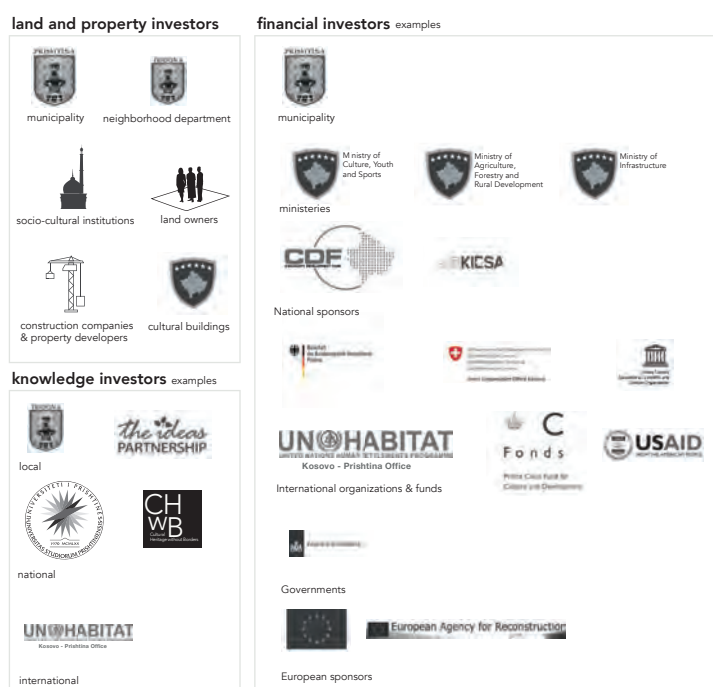


Fig. 138 investors needed for the design project



Fig. 139 Activities in the new public domain

5.10 THE NEW PUBLIC DOMAIN

Public Carpet Dodona spatial design part is creating a new network of public spaces. It connects diverse public areas and facilitates safe, comfortable and interesting new places in between. It increases the walkability of the area and links the neighborhood with the existing attractive areas like Mother Theresa Boulevard. But also increases its connection with surrounding residential areas. The second part of Public Carpet Dodona is the stimulation and facilitation of new activities within the public domain. By reserving and planning diverse spaces new activities can take place. An example is the space reserved for personalized front yards, it allows people to develop new activities or move location of existing ones, that used to happen on private terrain. For its residents, the design and its possibilities offer spaces that increase outdoor activities. It aims to shape a sense of community and citizenship. The underlying thought is to develop spaces that mix different activities and

social groups. New interactions and networks can grow by providing space for various activities operating within the same domain. Eventually the design triggers the inhabitants to take active participation in developing their environment and personalize it.

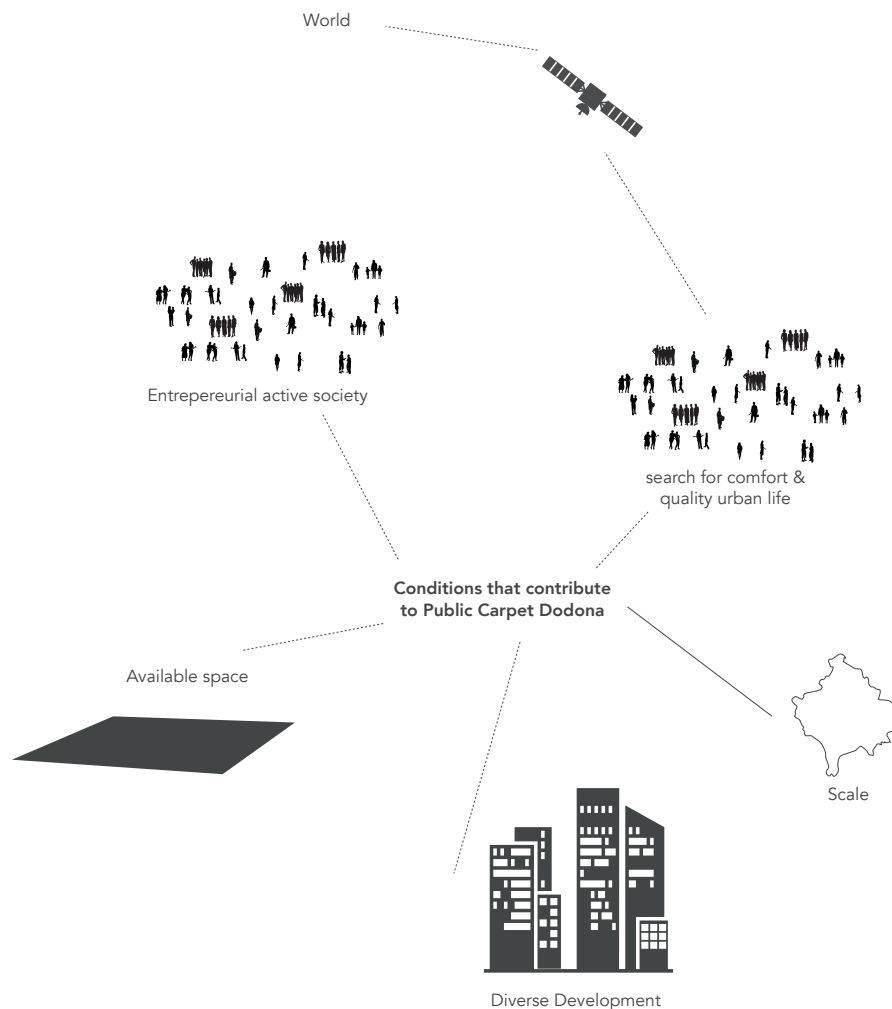


Fig. 140 Conditions that contribute

5.11 CONDITIONS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROJECT

Dodona has great potential in developing a new public space network and increase the quality of urban living. Different characteristics and conditions together comprise this potential. First of all, more space is available than before would have thought. The dense urban fabric gives the feeling that there is no space available. Research and the possible interventions that can happen show otherwise. In addition, the value of micro spaces as qualitative space should not be underestimated. Second, the local entrepreneurial spirit and active business situation is providing the design with lots of initiatives and ideas and forms a good basis for active places. In this case, they can make sure for any design to become a success. It is all in inviting them and include them in the process. In relation to that, the young society and active social life are a quality of the urban environment. Local citizens are seeking more comfort and good public places. Innovative and future thinking

definitely belong to this society and will increase participation and interest of the society. The stages of development should be seen as asset. It is about looking forward and appreciating the diverse urban scape and turn this into a quality. Renewed appreciation of the uniqueness of the neighborhood can turn this place into an attractive one. Last, the scale is important. The location of the neighborhood and a proximity to attractive areas around it offers great possibilities for the neighborhood. Small distances are a good starting point for active streets and places. The human scale of the majority of buildings and the local economies are an asset.

To conclude the 5 conditions and characteristics that contribute to the development of public carpet Dodona are: available space, entrepreneurial society, search for comfort, stages of development and scale.

5.12 FEASIBILITY OF THE INTERVENTIONS

As I discussed in the previous paragraph, there are five conditions or characteristics of Dodona that contribute to the development into a public space network and domain: available space, entrepreneurial society, search for comfort, stages of development and scale. In this section I will reflect on the seven interventions in relation to these conditions and the feasibility of the interventions. First of all, the interventions can only work if the municipality and government work on a more transparent and open way of governance. Crucial for the design interventions is the participation of the stakeholders, which at this point is limited and individual by nature. The capacity of the municipality is limited, especially financial terms.

01. The isolated public places - The large urban spaces in and surrounding the neighborhood show different conditions. Some are in private ownership, some are publicly owned but have limited accessibility and others are in formalized. The design for the isolated public place, in this case the City Park is a tailor-made intervention but its approach and goals are similar with the other spaces. The connecting element is that they are the remaining non-build areas that relatively easy can be transformed into quality public places. The feasibility of these interventions relates to the available space, the ownership and scale. The space is non-build and in cases already offers space to (limited) social groups. If the municipality or the public institution owns the land, realization of the plan can happen without difficult and expensive negotiations. The effect of the design can work on more than just the neighborhood scale. In addition, the intervention is composed of a series of micro interventions which individually showing value to the renewed public domain.

02. The disordered streets - The introduction of the intervention for the various streets effects the entire neighborhood. It asks a great deal of stakeholder participation and financial means. Nevertheless, the intervention become feasible related to all the conditions in the neighborhood. The poor conditions at the moment need to change and turning the streets into good places is the driving force and most important intervention for Dodona.

03. The concrete corners - Within the intervention for the crossing many different stakeholders need to be involved. The crossings in the intervention change the existing space focused on primarily traffic area into a space combining traffic, human movements and micro place. The latter two will get more space and the first one needs the adapt a great deal. The intervention will be feasible through the available space, entrepreneurial spirit, search for comfort.

04. the sleeping construction and abandoned buildings - This intervention, using unfinished building and construction sites temporary and renovating abandoned buildings is complex. First, the unclear future of plans and urban decisions does not give us a time scale for the use of the spaces. Second, the private ownership increases the negotiations time. Third, the safety of the space for common use is unclear. Last, the unknown search for community and its value among the society is limited. Nevertheless, all conditions that Dodona offers could make this intervention an interesting step to take. It offers new and innovative use of space and is open to various activities.

05. Inner block spaces - The intervention for unused and left over space is very valuable within the larger public space network. It offers its residents new outdoor spaces and opens up the possibility for new relationships and community building. The unknown ownership and direct surrounding is the difficult element in this intervention. Here it is about building that relationship and offer space in return. The entrepreneurial spirit and available space make this intervention feasible and important in extending the network beyond the minimum interventions.

06. Vacancies - Vacant ground floors of buildings will always exist and is not unique at all. The available space makes it feasible for pilot projects, even for a limited time. The entrepreneurial spirit will make this a success. Providing spaces for all budgets and sorts of businesses do offer for new companies to have a chance. It is about constructing that relationship with the private owners and collaborate in the search for new space uses.

07. Cultural Connector - A great part of the feasibility of the intervention is the positive evaluation of the previous 6 interventions. The different interventions do not only try to design better public space but more importantly work on building citizenship and creating public-private relationships. The Cultural connector is an addition on the positive change within the public domain and a public gesture. The various activities and new functions within the public carpet are evaluated and reflected on in order to compose the cultural connector. The building, that ask a great financial contribution will be a complex process. Nevertheless, I believe it shows its contribution to the neighborhood and larger scales when it comes to offering space for many social groups and its place within the public domain.

5.13 APPLICABILITY IN PRISHTINA

In this paragraph, I use the proposed design interventions, conditions of Dodona neighborhood and the feasibility of the project interventions to research shortly its applicability within the wider context of the city. As described in chapter 4.1, Dodona is not the only area affected by post conflict development, but in other areas different kinds of development took place. The challenges and conditions of the urban environment have a different context. In this project, the case study neighborhood was a dense and central area with unique problems and challenges. The limited amount of free open space, high frequency car traffic and location close to the city center of Prishtina resulted in interventions focused on providing basic public amenities and transforming underused spaces into public areas. In order to use these proposed interventions, I will reflect on their applicability in other areas that changed during the period after the conflict. Those areas have different problems and challenges but with similar poor quality spaces and low level citizenship. The map shows different neighborhoods in Prishtina that have been affected by post conflict development. Briefly I mention the situation and reflect on the possible use of the interventions in the various contexts.

The development after the war in the urban periphery happened on private lands. They urbanized areas previously used and functioning as agricultural lands. Those areas had not been in any urban regulatory plan and so road and street conditions are minimum. Often streets are not paved, no traffic signs placed and sidewalks do not exist. In a sense this is not really a problem because the atmosphere is local and streets do often have a dead end. As opposed to Dodona, services and shops are limited. Once in a while the house owner transformed his ground floor into a micro shop. Part of the urban domain, improvements on collective social and technical infrastructures are needed. Nevertheless, the basic design interventions can also be applied in this context. Next to that, they need to be incorporated in the nearby neighborhood development strategy and plans.

The neighborhoods, similar as Dodona are in the north and east of the city the interventions can be used in this area. Nevertheless, Dodona's density is higher and attracts more visitors. The park plays a large role in this. For the other neighborhoods, a similar attraction or larger open space or greenery should be part of the strategy and design. It needs to have a

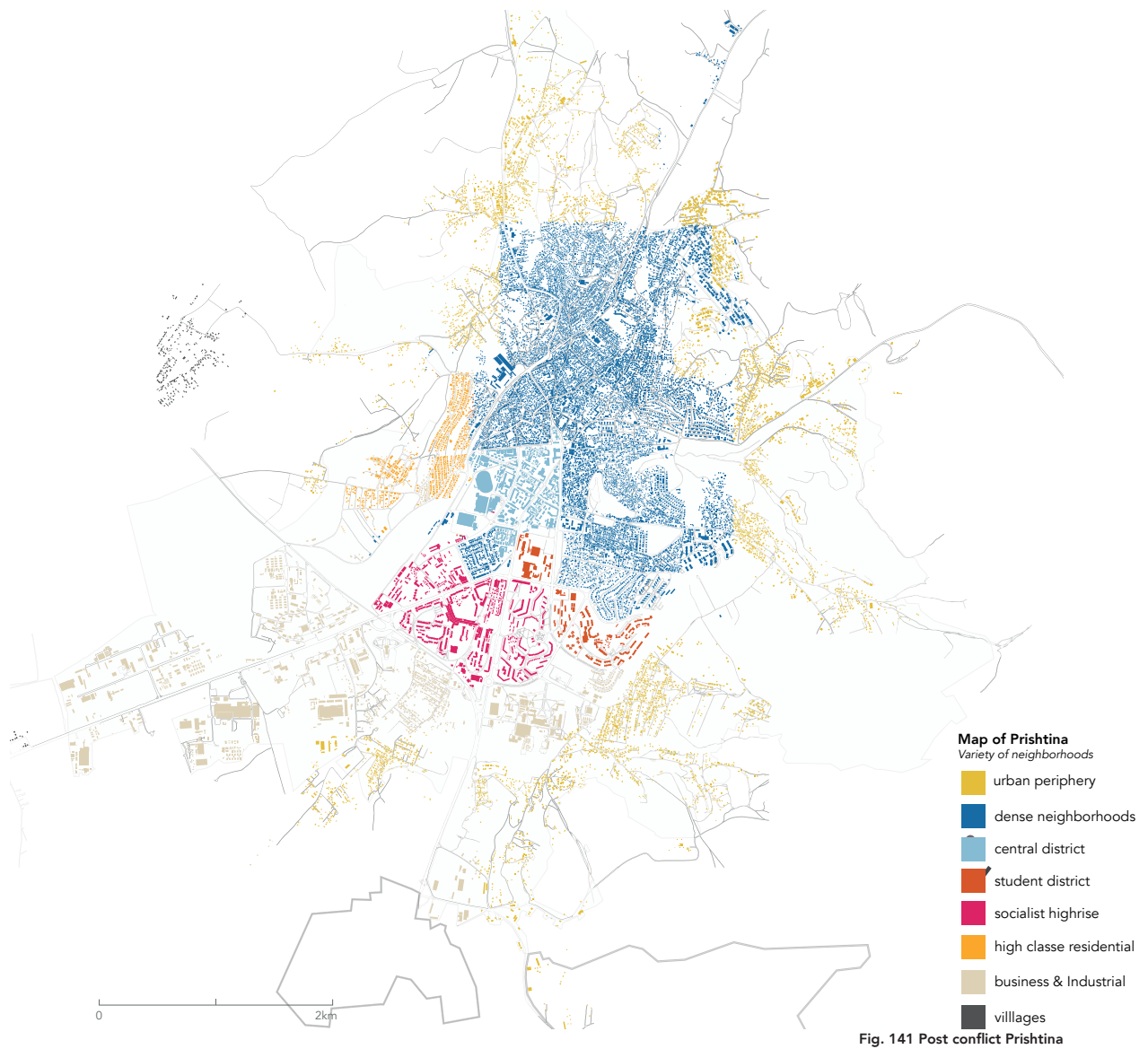


Fig. 141 Post conflict Prishtina

community central space which serves the daily public needs of its residents.

The socialist high rise areas in the south are facing different problems. Enough space is provided, streets are relatively of good quality and there is more space for various social groups. The neighborhoods are mostly residential and functions are central located in the neighborhood. An active street life is limited and many spaces empty. The relation between the building and the surrounding space is not well designed. A small amount of micro businesses appeared on the ground floors but most ground floors are blind walls. The approach used in this project related to support new businesses and start-ups, used design techniques for bringing together different activities and innovative use of left of spaces could be a way to renew these neighborhoods too.

The central area is already in transition towards a more qualitative place. The pedestrianizing of Mother Theresa boulevard was the first step providing place for its residents and even on a national scale. The attractive power of the center is enormous and during the day many visit the area. It is a place for social interaction and leisure. The other side is the direct backyard of the boulevard, it is residential with mixed use areas. The almost un-Prishtina like quality of the boulevard is the opposite of many neighboring streets. They are not interesting, dark places and not attractive. In general, the center is a composition of se-

parate quality areas without serving the larger public network. The interventions in this project act on the limited basic quality of the public spaces and places. In the center, the connection between the public and private is equally limited. Some areas are very active and show a good place design but still many areas could use the proposed interventions for making the center also place of belonging. Not just as leisure district.

The areas of the university and student district have diverse urban fabric. The university campus, which is centrally located is maintained poorly. In-formalization of space, poor quality of very potential green areas and limited attraction of diverse social groups could use the proposed ideas in the project. Using the active young population in creating an active public domain which is interesting for the larger context can make this area part of the urban public domain. In addition, it can become an important element in extending the landscape and ecology i the overbuild city.

In general, the interventions are tailor made for the context of Dodona but do offer possibilities in using it in different contexts. The approach and strategy for the municipality is good for the entire urban environment, the particular actions should be focused on the local problems. The establishment of the relationship between the public and private is in place for every neighborhood.



6.0 Conclusions

6.0 Conclusions

Unregulated and informal development are one of the core problems in post conflict areas. Current rebuilding and city planning face tremendous challenges regulating rapid development of the urban environment and reserving and preserving space for the public domain. The latter one has been often disregarded its importance. It has been found that public space and social places are part of the basic needs, especially in developing countries. Integrating that public dimension within current contexts of post conflict conditions has great challenges. This thesis focused on the following question:

How can spatial interventions improve the quality of living in post conflict Dodona and how could those contribute to a cohesive socio-spatial environment.

In order to answer this main research question, seven research questions were defined to contribute to a final answer. The first research question related to the conditions and situations that the post conflict development processes have caused in Prishtina. Prishtina's urban fabric changed rapidly and with enormous consequences for the position of the public spaces and parks. It has become clear that it is a combination of different circumstances that caused for the deterioration of the urban quality. In general, this transition can be listed on the heading: individualism. This meant for the conditions of the common grounds and public goods to decrease in quality and often even to disappear. Many point in the direction of the government and municipality when it comes to the poor conditions of the public grounds and goods. The result of self-governing as a new independent country has not yet reflected in improved the quality of living. Even with the international community intervening for years, the most visible problems, the spatial situations have not been taken care of. The research results in a renewed focus on the public dimensions for governmental and public institutions. They need to take responsibility, take care and act transparent. Public themes are priorities for renewing that public-private relationship and aim for communal state of society.

While researching all these urban situations the question arose about the current condition of the public life. With multiple visits to Kosovo during this project the general observation is that Prishtina is catching up quickly in the globally search for comfort and good urban places. As professor Florina Jerliu mentioned during the interview, the Kosovo and Prishtina population in particular show high levels of adaptability and resilience. Through multiple transitions in the past 60-70 years living with uncertainties is part of daily life but this does not influence their need for an active public life. The 'out-going' cultural characteristics provide Prishtina with a busy almost cosmopolitan vibe and atmosphere. Clear is that, areas that have been changed in favor of the public life like Mother Theresa street have even the power to act on national scales. That social dimen-

sion is very important is daily lives of inhabitants. Nevertheless, separation of different social groups is happening and the location and position of different minority groups as part of this society need to be enhanced. While studying post conflict processes and public life theories systems the social, economic, political, cultural and environmental contexts are crucial to understand. This thesis aimed to develop spatial interventions for post conflict Dodona, a neighborhood in the east of Prishtina. The decrease of particularly the spatial environment has effect on a quality public life. In order to understand the local socio-spatial aspects that characterize the neighborhood an extensive analysis has been done. It aims to understand the socio-spatial common ground of the neighborhood. By observing closely, the social dimension the before mentioned characteristics were confirmed. Different social groups are more or less present but facing difficulties in performing their choice of activities. The space in the streets, which are the only public areas of the neighborhood do not offer quality space for a local choice of use. The car dominates the street scene and is taken in all available space. It is partly the spatial design or lack of that is causing free use but also the mentality and behavior in the public. The analysis is transferred into an overview of patterns of Dodona. Qualities, potentials and challenges offer an insight in the available underused spaces, active and dead areas and currently offered possibilities for activities. Research shows that there is a gap between the public life and private domain. The way people act and care for their own property is very different from their behavior in the public common spaces. The level of belonging to the neighborhood and a sense of citizenship is missing. That local understanding has been given space in the project. Involving the population in planning and decision making is rather important. Knowledge of local satisfaction with the current urban conditions and needs and priorities according the inhabitants contributed to the design. Spatial interventions need to improve local lives. Inhabitants made clear their concerns about the spatial organization and poor quality of the public areas. A clear need for comfort was pointed out.

A design research framework is developed to design (spatial) interventions for the public carpet Dodona. A priority concept creates an approach for the development of the interventions. It makes a distinction between minimum, desired and maximum interventions. The minimum will include basic public goods, the desired can extend the public network and the maximum involves interventions that could enhance the attractive power and open-up the neighborhood in a larger scale. The patterns of socio-spatial analysis and the strategic themes are used to develop a complete approach to the problems and challenges. 7 design interventions are integrated in the urban fabric of Dodona: the isolated public spaces, the disordered street, concrete crossing, inner block spa-

ces, unfinished construction and abandoned buildings, vacancies and the cultural connector. All enhance the local qualities and use the potentials of the spatial environment. The spatial agenda that defines the strategic themes is integrated in the design interventions as well as the needs of the local society. The design showed that there are five conditions that contribute to the development of Dodona's public space network & quality urban domain: the available space, entrepreneurial spirit and mixed use of functions, the search for comfort and quality spaces, the different stages of development and the scale. The interventions in Dodona can provide interesting urban program, contribute to the urban quality of the area, create a new public domain, enhance the public-private relationships and activate the public areas. It is worth noting that in order for all these interventions to happen, the establishment of the relationships among stakeholders and the participation of those in the development of the design interventions is key ingredient in the project and approach. Without a renewed collaboration and transparent planning system the project cannot result into the ultimate aim of creating citizenship and active public-private networks. The feasibility of the interventions has reflected. Financial capacity of the municipality is limited and sponsoring by (inter)-national donors at this point is necessary. In addition, the active participation of inhabitants, NGO's, and other stakeholders is crucial to the project. Last, the commitment and renewed public car of the public bodies is essential. The projects planning and time scale proposes a detailed approach to realize the interventions. With the use of pilot projects for every intervention, the outcomes can be evaluated and be criticized by all stakeholders in order to improve permanent actions. In addition, those interventions can be reflected upon their applicability in different contexts. Prishtina has various neighborhoods that have been affected by the post conflict processes. The design interventions are tailor made for Dodona, but it is worth reflecting their possible use in other neighborhoods. It shows that in neighborhoods, public spaces show similar conditions. Adapt the public approach to those situations can improve the public domain conditions too.

The development of the design interventions show that a renewed public space network can be integrated in a neighborhood affected by post conflict processes. It can contribute to an interesting public domain and attractive unique living situation. The neighborhoods conditions should be transformed into assets. Clearly, the topic is a complex one. It involves many stakeholders, various challenges and change in approaching and dealing with problems. nevertheless, the resilience and spirit of the young local population is offering tremendous opportunities for a future quality urban living. I believe that by collaboration, community building and renewing state-society relationships a cohesive public network can be realized.

7.0 Reflection

7.0 Reflection

The topic of this graduation project is gaining importance nowadays. Various organizations and institutions are putting pressure on the essentials of urban environments with global research on intrinsic values of cities. In these research projects the social dimension of rebuilding after a civil strife or conflict is pointed as important but neglected in significantly. This project is inspired by the general interest in various urban environments and backgrounds of society and their urban print in cities. Kosovo got within my vision and focus due to its very unique circumstances and limited time passed since the conflict. It could show through research its situations as a post conflict place within the European context, which we know generally of the state planned reconstruction of for example Rotterdam as post-conflict rebuilding process. The main context I refer to is the overall situation of urban environments described as urban areas in transition, accelerated by a conflict. More and more places see figures on p. 16-19 will reach the point of somehow of the post conflict period and the challenges that it brings.

The main research question of this graduation project is: How can spatial interventions improve the quality of living in post conflict Dodona and how could those contribute to a cohesive socio-spatial environment?

The question is divided into sub questions that individually answer elements of the main question. Questions on post-conflict transition, public life and social environmental characteristics, what a contributes to a cohesive place and what design interventions the quality of the public domain will increase. All questions intend to include or focus direct on the local context of Kosovo.

Much written about post conflict, rebuilding its physical, etc. but practical urban ideas about small improvements/ strategic designs and integrated plans are not much developed yet. Therefore, I think that the project really contributes to the wider social context of sustainable renewal and livability of post war development processes. However, this project needs some more in depth research and testing to really understand the impact of the solutions and the design. Besides that, the project leaves areas untouched within the social environment like social housing and organizational activities in the community building and social studies area. Other more spatial issues that haven't been researched at the moment is the poorly public transport situation, the conditions of the various housing styles and its possible upgrade and integration within the street and last, the parking situation and car-use behavior of the society. The design and the project is focusing firstly on the spatial requirements of places and the search for these within the conflicted urban fabric. This is understood by using physical indicators used in public life studies to reflect the existing situation. They contribute to understanding of their social impact in an urban environment. The Priority concept of minimum-desired-maximum intervention

levels tries to really touch the necessary and basic needs of public life first. It works as system on multiple levels in order to enhance public life.

I started with a literature study on public life and parallel on post- conflict situations. This combination of understanding both slowed down the projects process. Both are extensive parts of research and involve various other domains, like the social environment, economy, history, culture, institutional and international systems. The lack of data and maps was increasing the need for self-organization. In order to clear minds and gain better direct understanding, several shorter and longer trips were made. Interviews with various stakeholders, researchers and professionals slowly made the story clearer. The story of conflict related places is often a complex one, not even mentioning the process of urban development. As seen in the research, the urban fabric of Dodona neighborhood and the larger urban context changed tremendously, which indicates so many other issues and conflicts on architectural, construction, infrastructure and environmental levels which could not all be answered.

The project uses Prishtina as a case study in the topics of post conflict development and public life, and the approach of the socio-spatial common ground analysis is tested. Improvements are inspired by observations of local uses of the public places and its life. This needs a more in depth and larger survey in order to know their feelings and uses of the public domain rather than just observe the situation. Second, design interventions proposed here are tailor made, these are a combination of creative thinking with knowledge of general public life design examples. They have been influenced by the satisfaction and evaluation of the urban environment of the local population in the survey, general UN-habitat principles on public spaces and streets. Further and broader research can provide other solutions from worldly designs elsewhere in which post conflict processes were tackled.

By a literature review, other research documentation, personal observations and interviews with local professionals and stakeholders I found the challenges in designing renewed public life in Dodona but in general all neighborhoods of Prishtina. Then I visited Prishtina again for 2,5 months to do the fieldwork and interviewing. An extensive part of the research and aim is about the existing quality of the public domain and social environment, but particularly gaining local knowledge on situations and absorbing specifics of post conflict characteristics in the local context. In collaboration with urban research company: PRO Planning and the office for Urban Regeneration and Kosovo's Architecture Foundation new networks made it possible to understand the situation more in depth and made it possible to closely absorb the neighborhood.

The design development through the research started to evolve. A list of challenges need to be tackled through the design from the research perspective. Besides that, the mind of the individual designer and with that specific aims and ideals chanced the direction of the design somehow. The urban feeling and sense of the problems opened up new parts of the neighborhood: the history of public life in the oppressed period in '90s, the uniqueness of the self-organization and the rich street profiles that were created and the entrepreneurial and open characteristics of the population. The design became more than just the development of a better street or square it got a sense of activism and with that statements about planning questions, state-community relations, self-organization and richness of all places in the world despite its location and economical state.

The design now, is growing towards a network larger than the neighborhood itself. On one side, it increases triangulation and crossings of various groups and on the other side it can provide solutions on the smallest scales. The relation with your neighbor about sharing front yard spaces for optimal outcomes in the public domain is also some type of triangulation. New public places within the larger network are increasing the public-private communication, but most important growing the sense of the public realm: spending time outside and increasing the social environment, a feeling of citizenship. In addition, it is important for the community to be involved in the process. As described in the design research, most important is the participation and communication between the public and private parts of the society.

In general, the aim of the project: creating a socio-spatial common ground and a renewed public domain could be tested elsewhere. The case of Dodona, is not unique as a post conflict development process. However, the design interventions are very specific to the local context and challenges. The vision and idea on the other hand are more general for post conflict situations. It is worth generating basic principles out of this project that which can be the start of strategies for other post conflict situations.

8.0 References

8.0 References

Literature References

- Agnew, J. A. (2005). Space: Place. In P. Cloke & R. Johnston (Eds.), *Spaces of geographical thought: Deconstructing human geography's binaries* (pp. 81-96). London: Sage.
- Alexander, C. (1977). *A Pattern Language: Towns, Buildings, Construction*: OUP USA.
- Alexander, C. (1979). *The Timeless Way of Building*: Oxford University Press.
- Amin, A. (2008). Collective culture and urban public space. *City*, 12(1), 5-24.
- Appleyard, D. (1981). *Livable Streets*: University of California Press.
- Appleyard, D., & Jacobs, A. B. (1982). Toward An Urban Design Manifesto. *Journal of the American Planning Association*, 32.
- Bevan, R. (2006). *The destruction of memory: Architecture at war*. London: Reaktion Books.
- Charlesworth, E. (2007). Architects should act! Volume - *Cities Unbuild*, Archis, 12-15.
- Commission, E. (2003). *European Common Indicators*. Milan: Ambiente Italia Research Institute.
- Connolly, W. (2005). *Pluralism*. Durham: Duke University Press.
- Resolution 1244, S/RES/1244 C.F.R. (1999).
- Cresswell, T. (2004). *Place: A Short Introduction*: Wiley.
- Cullen, G. (1961). *The Concise Townscape*: Architectural Press.
- Delanda, M. (2000). *A Thousand Years of Non-Linear History*. New York: Zone.
- Donofrio, T. A. (2010). Ground Zero and Place-Making Authority: The Conservative Metaphors in 9/11 Families' "Take Back the Memorial" Rhetoric. *Western Journal of Communication*, 74(2), 150-169. doi:10.1080/10570311003614492
- ESI. (2006). Utopian visions, Governance Failures in Kosovo's Capital. Retrieved from Prishtina: <http://www.esiweb.org/>
- FES. (2015). *The Kosovo Torrent to EU - People, reasons and ways*. Prishtina
- Garstka, G. J. (2010). Post-conflict urban planning: The regularization process of an informal neighborhood in Kosovo/o. *elsevier, Habitat International*(34), 86-95.
- Gehl, J. (1987). *Life Between Buildings: Using Public Space* (sixth ed.). New York: Island Press.
- Gehl, J., & Rogers, R. (2013). *Cities for People*: Island Press.
- Gehl, J., & Svarre, B. (2013). *How to Study Public Life*. Copenhagen: Island Press.
- Ghandour, M. (2002). Building as social practise. In W. E. O'Reilly (Ed.), *Architectural education today - Cross cultural perspective*. Lausanne: Compartments.
- Gjinolli, I. (2015). *Public Space in Kosovo - Transformation Through History*. (Doctoral), Graz University of Technology, Graz.
- Hamdi, N. (2010). *The Placemaker's Guide to Building Community*: Earthscan.
- Hasimja, D. (2012). Problems during the Implementation of the Urban Regulatory Plans in Kosovo. Paper presented at the 1st International Conference on Architecture & Urban Design, Albania. <http://www.icaud.epoka.edu.al>
- Holloway, L., & Hubbard, P. (2001). *People and Place: The Extraordinary Geographies of Everyday Life*: Prentice Hall.
- Jacobs, A. B. (1985). *Great Streets*: MIT Press.
- Jacobs, J. (1961). *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*: Vintage Books.
- James, W. (2003). *Essays in Radical Empiricism*. New York: Dover Publications.
- Judah, T. (2008). *Kosovo: What Everyone Needs to Know*: Oxford University Press.
- Junne, G. (2011) Junne discusses the immediate and long-term challenges of post-conflict situations/Interviewer: NAI. *The Good Cause*.
- Junne, G., & Verkoren, W. (2005). *Postconflict Development: Meeting New Challenges*: Lynne Rienner Publishers.
- Lane, R. E. (1994). Quality of life and Quality of Persons. A new Role for government? *Political Theory*, 22(2), 219-252.
- Lombard, M. (2014). Constructing ordinary places: placemaking in urban informal settlements in Mexico. *Progress in Planning*, 94, 1-54.
- Low, S. M. (2000). *On the Plaza: The Politics of Public Space and Culture*: University of Texas Press.
- MacKenzie, A. (2014). *Placemaking and Place-led Development: A new Paradigm for Cities of the Future*. *Placemaking Resources*.
- Madanipour, A. (2003). *Public and Private Spaces of the City*: Taylor & Francis.
- Marans, R. W. (2003). Understanding environmental quality through quality of life studies: the 2001 DAS and its use of subjective and objective indicators. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 65(1-2), 73-83.
- Marans, R. W., & Stimson, R. (2011). An Overview of Quality of Urban Life. In W. R. Marans & J.R. Stimson (Eds.), *Investigating Quality of Urban Life: Theory, Methods, and Empirical Research* (pp. 1-29). Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands.
- Marcus, C. C., & Francis, C. (1990). *People places: design guidelines for urban open space*: Van Nostrand Reinhold.
- Maslow, A. H. (1943). A theory of human motivation. *Psychological Review*, 50(4), 370-396.

- Montgomery, C. (2013). *Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design*: Doubleday Canada.
- Mulligan, G., Carruthers, J., & Cahill, M. (2004). *Urban Quality of Life and Public Policy: A Survey Contributions to Economic Analysis* (Vol. Volume 266, pp. 729-802): Elsevier.
- Mumford, L. (1938). *The culture of cities*: Harcourt, Brace and company.
- Nations, U. (2015). Sustainable Development Goals. Retrieved from <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/>
- Nussbaum, M. (1993). Non relative virtues: An Aristotelian Approach. In M. S. Nussbaum, A. (Ed.), *The quality of life* (pp. 42-269). Helsinki: United Nations University.
- PPS. (2000). *How to turn places around*. New York: Project for Public Spaces Inc.
- Pula, B. (2013). Dissecting Prishtina. The capital is a city by name but a zombie in spirit. *Kosovo 2.0, Public Space*, 55-67.
- Relph, E. (1976). *Place and placelessness*: Pion.
- Ryan, R., & Deci, E. (2001). On Happiness and Human Potentials: A Review of Research on Hedonic and Eudaimonic Well-Being. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 52(1), 141-166. doi:doi:10.1146/annurev.psych.52.1.141
- Schneekloth, L. H., & Shibley, R. G. (1995). *Placemaking: the art and practice of building communities*: Wiley.
- Sennett, R. (1977). *The Fall of Public Man*: Cambridge University Press.
- Sitte, C. (1889). *Der Städtebau nach seinen künstlerischen Grundsätzen*: Random House.
- Project for Public Spaces (2015). *Urban Design and Placemaking*. In R. T. LeGates & F. Stout (Eds.), *The City Reader* (pp. 551-641): Taylor & Francis.
- Stanilov, K. (2007). *The Post-Socialist City. Urban Form and Space Transformations in Central and Eastern Europe after Socialism*. Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands.
- Suri, S. N. (2015). In-conflict/Post-Conflict: A role for planning in building peaceful, inclusive and resilient cities? Retrieved from <http://isocarp.org/post-conflict-planning-inclusive-resilient-cities/> acces date: 15-12-2015
- Tibbalds, F. (2002). *Making People-Friendly Towns: Improving the Public Environment in Towns and Cities*: Taylor & Francis.
- UN-HABITAT. (2011). *Turning Spaces into Places*. Prishtina, retrieved from: <http://www.unhabitat-kosovo.org>
- UN-HABITAT. (2013). *Streets as public spaces and drivers of urban prosperity*. Nairobi, retrieved from: <http://www.unhabitat.org>
- UN-HABITAT. (2014). *Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme in Kosovo (MuSPP)*. Prishtina, retrieved from: <http://www.unhabitat-kosovo.org>
- UNDP. (2015). *Sustainable Development Goals*. Retrieved from: <http://www.undp.org/sustainabledevelopmentgoals2015>
- Veenhoven, R. (2000). The four Qualities of life: Ordering concepts and Measures of the good life. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 1((1)), 1-39.
- Veenhoven, R. (2003). Hedonism and Happiness. *Journal of Happiness Studies*, 4(4), 437-457.
- Vöckler, K. (2008). *Prishtina is Everywhere: Turbo Urbanism : the Aftermath of a Crisis*: Archis. Berlin
- WHO. (2016). *Global Health Observatory (GHO) data. Urban Population Growth*. Retrieved from http://www.who.int/gho/urban_health/situation_trends/urban_population_growth_text/en
- Whyte, W. H. (1980a). *The Social Life of Small Urban Spaces*: Conservation Foundation.
- Whyte, W. H. (1980b). *The social life of small urban spaces* [Video]. US.
- Woods, L. (1997). *Radical reconstruction*. Architectural Press.
- WorldBank. (2000-2014). *Kosovo Development*. Retrieved January 8, 2016 <http://www.worldbank.org/>
- WorldBank. (2015). *Public spaces - not a "nice to have" but a basic need for cities*. retrieved January 8, 2016 <http://www.worldbank.org/blogs>

Figures

Interviews

- Dukagjin Bakija, Phd candidate Massachusetts Institute of Technology: 15 September 2015, Delft_Boston -Skype
- Sadije Kelmendi, UN-Habitat Kosovo, urban planner: 5 November 2015, local coffeeshouse, Prishtina
- Rudina Qerimi, Pro Planning, Kosovo Center for Urban Research: 6 November 2015, local office, Prishtina
- Lumnije Gashi, Pro Planning, Kosovo Center for Urban Research: 6 November 2015, local office, Prishtina
- Drita Nushi, Pro Planning, Kosovo Center for Urban Research: 6 November 2015, local office, Prishtina
- Vjolla Caka, Student Architecture, Prishtina University: 7 November 2015, around Prishtina
- Proff. Florina Jerliu, University of Prishtina / Archis Interventions, NGO: 9 November 2015, University of Prishtina, Prishtina
- Gearda Demiraj, Municipality of Prishtina, Urban Planning department: 9 November 2015, Municipality building, Prishtina
- Luan Nushi, Planning director, Institute of Spatial Planning: 9 November 2015, Governance Building, Prishtina
- Bekim Ramku, Architect, Kosovo Architecture Foundation: 17 Februari 2016, Local coffeeshouse, Prishtina
- Eliza Hoxha, Urban Planner, University of Prishtina: 17 June 2016, Local Coffeeshouse, Prishtina



9.0 Appendices

Interviews with local based professionals and academics

Proff. Florina Jerliu
University of Prishtina
Archis Interventions, NGO

9 November 2015, Prishtina

Florina_ Cities in de Balkans are cities in transition and transition is their state of art (highest level of development). In the period of 60 years there has always been transition going on. There was no steady development that could grow, at least for 2 generations in a row, to root in that period. Happy cities, that is what the Balkan cities are, there not bored but in transition.

Interviewer_ Compared this place to a place that is in conflict outside the Balkan what would be the difference with Pristina?

Florina_ It is a cultural difference, not in terms architectural of spatial characteristics but in the social dimension, not the political aspect. It is usually the p -olitics of war that is the same regardless of what the outcome and the idea behind it is. I think it depends on the culture of the people, that social dimension and depends on how that part of citizens are able and capable to recalibrate after the war. Kosovo and because Prishtina in the Balkans is a city in transition since a long time it has no problems to recalibrate, and this happens in let say 3 days after the war.

We are happy even if we have illegal buildings around because we find places of complement. Content and aesthetics are not binary to a happy city life. Those are not necessarily needed together, to have a happy life within the city. Aesthetics do not satisfy the entire well-being.

Interviewer_ Can the urban environment be of influence on the well-being of the Prishtina citizens?

Florina_ It can definitely be. Let's start from the little things. The parks and public green within the city. This changed recently towards a better situation. It is part of the planning process now. So in general these aesthetic elements, these little elements can make people happier but will it make a city happier as a whole? One thing is that no war for the upcoming decades will be good for the city. A time towards more stability. The adjustment of firstly urgent and immediate needs of urban structures and aesthetics of the buildings. Maybe in the future the adjustment of urban traditions, not infrastructural but aesthetics, how buildings are being planned etc. Little models are showing that local people are doing well by looking at the little places, the coffeehouses, the bookshops, the different world that goes with it behind the walls. This is a very young generation that is placing them self's there. Perhaps the youth is not really liking what is happening outside and are not satisfied in how their outside world looks like. It is designed to suit the younger. What about the other generations, it is the outside that we have to think about?

Interviewer_ What is Archis Interventions doing now?

Florina_ Social capability, audit, issues, cities in transition, how the process is going, it is now part of the national law, the social components is part now to be tackled responsibility of citizens. Not that heavily involved anymore. Most of their aim is done. The social component of cities now has to be taken care of. The responsibility of citizens towards planning.

Interviewer_ What is the perception on planning and what happened in the past until present day?

Florina_ It is getting better but this takes time. Comprehension of the planning system is growing, which is a good thing. Due to the fact that Kosovo has been in continuous transition, from Socialist state, Serbian Dictatorship with Milosevic to Rugoism which brought democracy. Since 1945 and 1974, difficult periods of transition did put pressure on Kosovo. These 3 faces of transition never aloud for recovery on the social and urban level. What happened with the physical state is not saying that much, what was build in Yugoslavia in Kosovo was very fragmented and not related or concerned with the context. Modern architecture and urban planning was not always very concerned with the context. Urban blocks were not finished as it happened elsewhere, only the richer, bourgeoisie got their spot and were accommodated. This is still visible. People were left aside, the system never asked the Albanian originals what was needed and would support them. Until 1974 there was not really an elite. The people in general were left aside and their opinion was not taken into account.

From 1999 we have made a new start, imposed from the international community, a system of dynamic planning which failed in providing and thinking in for the society as whole. Thinking of 21st century modern needs and approaches and forgetting to see real basic conditions like a general lack of infrastructure. What is planning for citizens today? Water, sewage, electricity, infrastructure and a lack of money to create these missing elements. These issues should be still on the top of the to do list of the government. This, with care for the city. Utilize these places first in order for the majority to have access. In this time after the war the center became denser. This because the further away the limited access to facilities. There was no urban management, the lacking conditions and the understanding of urban planning by the public made the situation very difficult. Little by little, first quantity then more quality is coming. It is that new generations that will think of the public good. But the new generations need a common sense. The one who don't remember the past will be thinking of the public good.

Interviewer_ What advice would you give in order to hit the essence of the problem and challenges in a project?

Florina_ See the site from a personal perception. Check satisfaction levels of the local society and works of NGO's. What are for example the promises of the major and the check up after 6 months about local satisfaction. Provision of public services is not necessarily political element only. Go out to have a talk to people and be open to a variety of satisfaction and the part in between. Eventually freezing to death is energy efficient too and running water for 24h ad day is also happiness. Make a stratification of a sort of vulnerability map about social inclusion and social participation. Those parts can let you recreate or adjust to the quality of what you add in terms of satisfaction. Everything is occupied by cars or something else so children have no thing to do or place to play in the neighborhood. How you appreciate life is the first and then the surrounding and where you want to go. Freedom is there, but what happens after? What is important after?

Everything has been recent developments. What will happen if we remain free is not even an issue anymore, but what is next then? If we not regress, it should progress like basic needs of common life but after that? Regardless of what it means to the rest of the world, when no war comes again globalization and the market economy will hit Kosovo too. If the free market economy marginalizes the majority then this will have affect on Kosovo without doubt. The economy is important. In Kosovo there is no production, nothing is produced in Kosovo, it has always been set in the bigger chain of production. Much of those places are not used anymore and have no function at the moment. A limited amount of local products is produced in small settings. But eventually the system does not care about the society's bazar, small businesses and community businesses which means a lot of self-regulation and being informal element of economy. This is part of the culture of the society, a local quality?

Interviewer_ What is the image of the Pristhina City?

Florina_ The political border is open now and then it will come, the connections will grow which will help the image of Pristhina and Kosovo as a whole. Now the identity is the problem. There is no football team, we play for Albania. We need a clean identity of who we are, a style. Nevertheless, Pristhina has a sort of cosmopo-

litan identity but that is not similar to the rest of Kosovo. An more open and integrated approach that sees and thinks about the city through the eyes of the citizens is needed. Open competitions, exhibitions even if it is only for the sake of awareness of what is going. This can open up the system. It should be open for a variety of solutions instead it is very straightforward and depending on policies that are purely political. For a long time Kosovo have been living on the margins, living on the edges, socially, spatially, politically, which has to be consolidated. New borders, systems, networks and thinking in thematic planning and multilayered approaches. Talk in networks and transform them in spatial plans, at the moment it depends a lot on the larger scale what will happen in the future with Kosovo. Not necessarily the center is more wanted then the periphery when recalibrated new borders, networks and systems are made. New ideas should be evaluated and tested about the future, the stage of utilizing everything. But new structures are skeptical. Get rid of the stupid plans, because the problem was not the unregulated development but the poor plans and unfinished level of planning. Take care of minimum standards, about sunlight when developing on one side but at the same time we want to keep the old streets and urban tissue of the city. A need for adaptation of the law on land is in order. Eventually it is normal to grow even at the small level. It all depends on the cultures.

Dukagjin Bakija
Phd candidate
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

15 September 2015, Delft_Boston -Skype

Interviewer_ What is the planning system in short?

Dukagjin_ At central state level there is the Ministry of environment and planning with it's implementing Institute of spatial planning. The central level planning is covering many elements like economy, development, tourism etc. Between this level and the municipal level there is no intermediate step on regional level. The local level represents a municipal development plan for urban and rural parts. The plans are not very specific and clear. The urban development plan indicates the strategies within the urban boundaries and are separated in smaller regular plans for each neighbourhood. That urban development plan has been replaced by the American zoning map after the 2012 new spatial planning law. A new system and plans are still under construction which makes the process of development very inefficient these days.

Interviewer_ Informal development happend after the conflict, how did this process work?

Dukagjin_ We were part of Serbia and Yugoslavia until 1999, after that Kosovo became part of the United Nations administration. The country was tired and done with all the legislation of Serbia and Yugoslavia and wanted a fresh start. Kosovo entered with no legislation in 1999. The United Nations came and the first thing they started was drawing legislation, how to make institutions, what kind of laws are needed.

In 2003 Kosovo had a law on spatial planning because it had priority due to the large migration from rural to urban areas, a lot of movements in the post war. The population movements were a result of lack of infrastructure or sewage in the rural areas and limited mobility. So people decided to move to urban areas. There were not enough houses to accommodate all these people, so people started to build informally and wherever they could build. That continuous at the moment but in a lesser damaging degree. By 2003 we had a law on spatial planning that gave the local government the authority to control the developments in the area. However, the development process was still rising until 2010. It was super problematic, the local government and all the people

around it was focusing on what they call it higher priority issues, like asphalt, provide access, employment, attracting business, investment, and that was their excuse. Build whatever you want with your land and how from high-rise and low-rise to front of the plot or central in the plot.

Complete chaos with no regulations until 2010 was the result. There was a constant throwing back and forth about the responsibility between local and central government. There were several attempts to stop the informal buildings being build, they did recording from air, and made a line from now on you cannot build any further illegally because it will not be legalised. However, that was never imposed and more recently in 2015 we have a law legalisation, which is a central level initiative integrating everything that was build within the legal system of Kosovo so to make the informal formal. However, with some basic conditions. The only conditions they made were: you have to build in your own land and if it is a public land you have to legalise it, which is harder. If you have a private land then the changes are very good to get it legalised very easily.

That was the situation up to now and now in major cities like Pristhina we have strong local government and they have managed to get it under control and informal buildings build have stopped since six months. The concern was that it led almost to social unrest by the people that worked in the construction business because they were accommodating local families by working in the construction sector. Where do you draw the line, when it comes to development, when on the one hand you make people poor and on the other hand you want to control it?

What you find in the policy documents and in different materials, shows that the implementation of the legislation has suffered and I blame most the absence of having the instruments in place to ensure the implementation. You could not do anything wrong if you were not following the law, important people could do whatever: ignoring the legislation.

Gearda Demiraj
Municipality of Prishtina
Urban Planning department

9 November 2015, Prishtina

Interviewer_ What is the role of the municipality and its place within the governmental institutions and within Prishtina?

Gearda_ We implement our own strategies as a separate entity or implement laws on urban planning from larger scale. We write regulatory plans as in designing different parts of Prishtina. This can be compared to the way it is done in Tirana, Albania. We had 11 neighborhoods during the urban planning law of 2005 and each area had its own regulatory plans and never became or were part of a whole idea. They made regulatory plans separately and from that a whole or larger plan was made. So, in that sense there was never a good urban plan to start from. A reversed strategy. Different ideas and needs about the plan made it difficult to make a good strategic plan. In 2011 the big master plan for the city was made which is not in collaboration with the old plans. A renewed strategy in order to revitalize the city. But, after this the new law on urban planning became in charge from 2013. A new law comes out which stated that the 2011 urban plan is not available anymore and the zoning plan strategy was imposed from US as a new instrument. The plan was supposed to be for a time period of 15-20 years and with the new law and the idea about the zoning map strategy it is only in power until this zoning map is ready. This period is now going on for 2 years in drafting this one. This still didn't start as well for the final voting about this planning strategy. The administrative part is not out yet, it is a work in progress still. At the moment we have a Master plan or MDP and regulatory plans. These are available but are still valid but only for a period of 5 years when revision is needed. All of them are not very good. The situation is different from the plans at the moment and so in no case very workable. You have to review them and this has budget needed. This is needed from government and has to be done. Until the zoning map is in work we revise those regulatory plans but with probably not an eventual action within it. So this means spending money on something which will not be of a legal document anymore later.

Parallel with this planning situation is the legalization process. Everything you see here around was former land which happened in the past 15 years which is not normal but it happened everywhere in the Balkans but in a more extreme case in Prishtina, as in Post-Conflict areas. It is not chaos but it is rough. So at this moment the time is about waiting until a new system is in place in order to develop new plans and strategies in the city. The administrative parts of the law. The strategies which clarify the law. As soon as the zoning map strategy is in charge, the former MDP will change or needs clarification about its purpose and role still. This is in reality a little messy in planning and strategies.

Interviewer_ What is involved in drafting municipal development plans or so called MDPs?

Gearda_ Citizens and society are sometimes included in the draft and visioning of new plans and strategies. They will be informed about changes. In plans that now are being reviewed municipality made public discussions about it. There is an explanation of the plan and there is an invitation to the public about revision of their ideas, about what will be done. Eventually it is changing little by little only. It's about combining the existing situation and the plan. The architects that work on plans have little knowledge of the context and actual situation. It is hilly and roads are small. Besides that, all the plans did not take in consideration the illegal buildings and so plans are not on the same line with the reality. It was free land but it's not. Now you have to take them in consideration when making plans.

Interviewer_ Were private initiatives or informal developments everywhere going on?

Gearda_ It did not happen everywhere in the city. The west part of the city and beyond the railway track was empty land. There was a clearer idea about it. In some areas you could build with criteria's, not mentioning about the good or bad part of the criteria's but at least there were rules and you lived up to those you could build your building. Most of the time they had all the rules and permits but during the construction they enlarged the building or changed facades or made extra levels. That's why the criteria's and the permission was there but they changed it after this.

Interviewer_ Why did the informal development happened even though existing plans were in charge?

Gearda_ No one is building without permission, for every small thing they are coming to ask approval. Sometimes you can give them permission according to the laws and regulations. Sometimes you just can't do it. The same laws are still and were active, nothing changed much about that besides this part in the west when reviewing the plan. In general, according to regulations and plans they were not much changed and were in power. The problem is that those rules and regulations were not followed. Not stopped as well when control was there, if there was control. In some cases, it was not a sufficient enough plan or corruption was going on, the inspection didn't stop what was going on. It is a mix what was going on. In a sense it is normal in a situation after a conflict or war that you have to reconstruct or build your own house again. Different reasons about the movements towards the city after the conflict that put pressure on the building stock and the amount of housing constructions. This is a place in transition. At that moment after the conflict there was a need for housing and not an awareness or a sufficient level of responsibility about the environment, safety of constructions, public space etc. If no one was checking what you do you can do pursue your own ideas, regardless the ideas and rules that are in charge. Before the conflict everything was different. Normal permissions and rules were followed. After the war different needs were urgent and in this way not really tackled at the time of emergence. The problem so if laws and regulations are not so strict different interpretation is happening. This would happen everywhere in the world in this case. A mix of people who lead. Who to listen at? Immediately after the war Baskin Femil the modernistic architect tried to make a masterplan for the university campus. Nothing was there at the beginning. It is the situation in all Kosovo not only Prishtina. They didn't analyze the situation at that time and what was needed. A mixture of leaders of International organizations together with local government led to this situation.

Interviewer_ Was their a plan for at least basic regulations?

Gearda_ It was a very individual process. If I have a plot that is in my possession and I have a permit for a construction of building I can build it. Regardless the context, other developments or general ideas about the street or neighborhood. Different designs next to each other because of a lack of a frame that you should plan according to some standards to develop. We lack standards or norms. The ministry are drafting the administrative instruction derived from the law on spatial planning. With that they intend to cover the standards how to draft even if it's maybe to late. We have so many different plans and norms.

Directly after the war Kosovo had no spatial planning law and spatial and urban plans. In 2004 this finally came. So there was a gap

of 4 years without urban directions and strategies because the existing plans from before the war were ignored and insufficient for the new state of Kosovo. Every expert at that moment had an opinion about the direction Kosovo needed take. At the time within the municipality and in the Urbanism department there were experts working from outside Kosovo. They drafted working plans for the moment and no spatial plans with proper visions. The first plan the municipality made after the war was the strategic plan 2020 in 2004. Based on that plan they started to draft the regulatory plans for the neighborhoods. The problem was that the strategic plan 2020 had no legislative base, it didn't derive from any law. This plan was made by the municipality of Prishtina with supervision of outside experts. After the law and some regulatory plans, the urban development plan was made but that should have been the first and most important document for municipalities in the field of urban planning and strategy and came only in 2013. This was a mistake. We have different problems now because even this Urban development plan is not harmonized with actual situation and actual regulatory plans in some places. This is the situation now and at the moment we are waiting for the zoning maps to have clear forms that derived from new law on spatial planning in 2012. The zoning map can be compared to the urban development plan or MDP. The making of the zoning map depends most on the experts from US and how they can be applied to the Kosovo situation. It needs a certain level of detail in order to function and have purpose.

Sadije Kelmendi UN-Habitat Kosovo

5 November 2015, Prishtina

Interviewer_ What is the role of UN-Habitat's planning department in the context of Kosovo?

Sadije_ The UN-habitat is one of the main establishers of the Ministry of Environment and Planning. They came here directly after the war in 1999. According to planning and the UN-habitat and Sadije Kelmendi, they work on the following regulation and approach called the Martti Ahtisaari package of decentralization which decentralized our country into 37 municipalities and were separated based on ethnic background and structure. This is not very good for planning, integration and cohesion seen from an urbanist and inclusive development perspective. In Gracanica, a Serbian enclave south of the capital which were formed in the end of 2009 the UN started with a cooperation with municipality started providing help with visioning an urban strategy. A tool also developed together with our main contributors, Frank Ton, A Belgium planner. Most of the municipalities start with this visioning workshop. In 5 days all stakeholders; the ministry, municipality, civil society, professionals, all participate in making a vision for their municipality. From there the planning starts to draft a municipal plan with their own forces. A UN-Habitat member was on a daily basis guiding the staff, which were not very experienced, with drafting planning documents. It happened in an in-house way but next to that it happened also in a participatory way. UN was the one to propose and resulted in local staff embracing this technic in order to have their plans better implemented in a more participatory way during the planning. It is now in force from 2014 June. It is much easier to make plans with involvement of local government together with the influence of local society the to impose everything from an outside perspective. It gives an alibi for the plan when local society and government are the actual planners. This participatory way could be improved by the amount of societies input. The action plan that comes out of the strategy with the given ideas are quite ready to be implemented because of this new style of planning. In the end of the planning structure the plan is demonstrated in order to activate it. With a Capital investment project, it can be demonstrated. Important is that the project needs to be identified from a strategy not an ad hoc basis. The municipal development plan (MDP) was like this before and so not very strategy based. Later this changed with the

This transition phase Prishtina has been catastrophic for the urban development and quality of living conditions. Before the war, Yugoslavia was in charge and they mixed all plans. This meant that the masterplan of Prishtina was a mixture of all different plans from other cities within Yugoslavia. It was a break with the old, historical and vernacular architecture and served almost as an experimental place in this modernistic approach and ideals about the city. Today, the politicians have the intentions to set a goal without any good background research on it. The essential solution is a stable new government in order to proceed. This illegal housing process was a result of the gap in the planning and governmental system. It was a logical consequence when there was need for housing. In that time, we drafted a law on dealing with illegal building but without a political will to enforce that law. The developers were maybe even part of the political system and had not much will in enforcing that law. From 2014 the illegal buildings stopped with the municipal decision to put a hold on any construction. This law is on treating the illegal buildings but it is a law on legalization of the situation which means there is not yet a spatial plan or a conditions to legalize. No property or ownership is in place. It is now just the legalization of the building. Ownership problems are still there; this needs to be addressed. Registration at the cadaster with the legal owner of the land is the next step. In the previous 15 years around 25.000 houses were illegally build and there are only 1000 permits given to build.

enforcement of strategic planning.

Interviewer_ How did the participatory strategy or cooperation with the society worked?

Sadije_ There are different ways but mostly a municipality starts with an survey. To collect data and make the problems clear. In Gracanica, because it was a new municipality and so a census of the population was not available due to the origin of the population, which is Serbian, a survey was held to collect basic data. Population numbers are never very true, and show not always the actual inhabitants. In these situations, a survey is seen as a political Kosovar tool to gain data and this is not very welcomed by Serbian population. We involved them in workshops and public presentations, we went towards them, near them, and called the village representative to speak for them to speak about the villagers needs and problems. It needed much more work in order to show the organization's good intentions as a neutral institution. To be flexible to integrated everybody into the planning making. Women, children, gender integrated, participation, inclusiveness. In vision making involvement.

In the previous planning approach there were 5 faces in the planning structure; the Profile the existing, the Vision, the Principles and Goals, the Spatial development concept/framework, action plan and implementation provision. You can only involve for instant children in only Visioning in order to make it functional.

Interviewer_ What is the UN-Habitat involved with in relation to the Capital Prishtina?

Sadije_ Recently UN-habitat just started with their involvement within the municipality. Collaborate with them, support them through the Minecraft project, policy making on public spaces which both are in an initial phase. Spaces into Places project as an example, which is a handbook how to do it. This is one of these Capital investment projects. This is a different strategy because the participation is done after a primary analysis of through a SWOT-method and then involvement of the public when drawing

needs and essentials. This is different from the base map with the actual situation. This identifies challenges and are translated them into space. At the moment they collaborate with Minecraft as an design approach usable for different ages, with an expert and the local society. It works on making a model in Minecraft and is done through inviting young people like students etc. A condition to participate was to be a close neighbor of the site selected. Using the SWOT as a start to design. This is a good way when involving, raising awareness and make them protective into keep a change of design into a good space in the future. The result is that everybody gets a place within that space. Guidance of the space is needed in order to protect the function and design.

Interviewer_ What are the assets of Prishtina as a capital city?

Sadije_ Prishtina has a very good nightlife. It has a very open and welcoming culture to everyone, to International people and nations. It is a very hospitable city. It has an urban spirit. A culture of coffee and food. What it does make a different place is the people, it is an integration of nationalities. The conflict was not really inside the city, people were still forced out of their homes, but there was not a really gun shooting and terror in the city. Luckily it's not a divided city like Mitrovica and Mostar in Bosnia. Shopping in Prishtina with recent developments of shopping malls is enhancing the attractiveness of the city. We are not proud of the concrete mass and urban conditions related to living very close to each other. An asset is the park of Gernia, a protected park which is a pleasant place to be and spend time. We do miss an ecological network within the city though. There is a park is there but not maintained well and not very well connected and accessible. It is a quite and safe city. A lot of students are coming here even from further away like Macedonia and Serbia to study. In ex Yugoslavia it was a educational hop within the republic and this remains in the 21st century. A university city which is growing. It has some parts of Ottoman era although these were mostly destroyed during the Yugoslavian period. A time when new modern development was destroying the old traditional/local styles and structures of the city. The historic zone is there but not very large and complete. We live in harmony with 3 different religions. Ethnicity was more important than religion. We cannot see the difference and we join different celebrations and live in harmony and peach together.

Interviewer_ What has been the situation in the past 15 years?

Sadije_ The influx of people made the demand for housing very high. With this process starting immediately after the war, the absence of a municipal development plan and no guidance for and control on developers, the development went according individual ideas and interest. In 2007 you could have a feeling with the incredible amount of construction going on that the question was where people were living at that moment. Flats, houses, apartments, everyday new buildings were constructed. Finally, now there is a time of legalization and people had a deadline to apply for a permit and enter the register. It could be done through sending their blueprints to see if they could legalize the existing or not. It is a challenging situation and involves a lot of work. We could use the experience of Thessaloniki where without respecting the development plans buildings were build, they had to donate 20% of their plot to public space. A street, a school or just public space. This is how they try to regulate was was going in an informal way happening on the ground. This is why a large part of Prishtina is actually an informal settlement. The legalization rules in Kosovo are much easier to achieve. There are no new rules or standards added in order to change parts of streets. Kosovo has signed the Vienna declaration of informal settlements, including laws and regulations. But on the ground the situation is not good yet. What the new government is doing at the moment which is positive, is working with the university in removing fences and upgrading the space and make it more open and functional. Obstacles for parking and more a focus on walking as a transport system is slowing growing. Working on the public transport system and ideas about changing routes are needed to improve mobility. A mobility plan in collaboration with municipally of Zagreb is in process.

In terms of buildings we need the laws on destroying buildings when they do not at all meet the requirements, according to Sadije. Otherwise, we will not gain respect as a government but law enforcements are not happening good yet. The laws are in general ok, although the latest spatial plan is not good. But in general they are good and are coming directly from the EU directives because we all aim on integration one day. What is lacking is the enforcement and the implementation of the laws and plans.

Interviewer_ What important steps should be taken in Prishtina?

Sadije_ We did not take in consideration the existing plans, especially for Prishtina. Government told everyone that those plans were not good and new plans had to be made, probably also for their own advantage. These were made together with the UN in 2003. In the meantime, the time between the end of the war and the publication of the new strategic plan, the citizens were not able to wait, the development of all kinds of buildings for housing started to pop up. People wanted more rooms and space for the entire family to live together but this was mostly not more than 60m². At that time housing possibilities were the core issue but without a plan to guide all these developments. Those urgent needs are now not anymore in place for housing. Now people want more quality when it comes to living, higher comfort. Striking is that a recent census pointed out that 30% of apartments are vacant in Kosovo. Demand and offer is not in balanced. We need a housing profile for the housing developments and plans. At the moment we are more focused on infrastructure and not focused on a good housing profile and needs of the current citizens. Figures show that reasons are, a large diaspora with second houses in Kosovo, also a high demand to live in the center. The neglection of the existing plans were the problem at that time. Second it was happening that we shifted from a more conventional planning, top down way to a more bottom up approach. Since 1999 we started with more strategic planning, which is more complicated and challenging and requires more capacity. This capacity is poor in central institutions and municipalities. The truth is somewhere in the middle. Between the capacity of the people to impose and enforce the plans and laws and from my opinion the lowest level, the regulatory plan that was not strong enough to make order in space. With this new system the government is not an owner of land, most of the land is privatized. Only a small amount is still in government possession which is totally different from the period before the war.

The thing to do is to enhance the public-private relationships. A variety of social problems have emerged over the year related to the buildings on plots, the sizes of those buildings, the rights of existing buildings. The municipality should have intervened in order to create a cohesive plan which is working for everyone. We need one more instrument that brings stakeholders together and merge plots and lands in order to have more and better situation. Do not just leave it to the private sector to decide because the society as a whole will decrease in quality then. I would stand for a 4th level in the urban planning system of the cities, related to the implementation of the plans. This very needed concerning the type of plan the new Zoning Map system is bringing to Kosovo.

- Municipal development plan
- Municipal zoning plan not in line with Europe
- Detailed regulatory plans which are not obligatory if you have the zoning map
- 4th level needed implementation plan

Misunderstandings from projects about rural areas which were not covered by MDPs and Urban development plans were not detailed enough. So in order to solve this a detailed zoning maps are needed for the municipality but a detailed census database is necessary for correct mapping. So it would be easier to work with Urban regulatory plans especially for Prishtina. Preparing this zoning map is hard to draft. In the last 2 years, from the moment of governmental change and proposed zoning map, nothing is achieved and drafted yet. No acts are there yet to work as a guideline for spatial acts.

Rudina Qerimi,
Lumnije Gashi & Drita Nushi
Pro Planning, Kosovo Center for Urban Research

6 November 2015, Prishtina

Interviewer_ What are the issues challenging urban life in Prishtina?

PRO Planning_ The Socialist system had a conventional planning system which is a top down approach. In the case of Kosovo that system meant that the plans were made on national scale of Yugoslavia. Planning and spatial laws came from capital Belgrade. Which was for a long time a different country and different backgrounds. In this "foreign" planning system the local authorities were making the urban plans, the small-scale plans but all with ideals from the state scale in Belgrade. The place where the technical staff was and where the education in Universities was good. Kosovo got its first university in 1969.

In 1999 all these missing links in the governmental system had to be established and formed. A new politics and a new law system came to Kosovo with the intentions to be more participatory with all stakeholders, a democratic system. The former plans were neglected and when the first spatial plan in 2004 was published it had the form of a strategy. It should have been more transparent, participatory, involving stakeholders, different communities and actors, but it did not at the time. With the difficult circumstances in the years after the war it took until 2013, with a new government, to change the planning system for the better. With the stop on illegal development and preventing new ones in 2013 in the capital city has put its first step to control the urban development. This was very urgent in order to get control over the developments of the city.

This uncontrolled development has been fueled by the new free market economy of Kosovo and in the case of Prishtina by the high influx of new- and returning residents after the war. For many years, the local government were not capable of controlling and regulating the development. It is now the time for more focus on taking actions in improving public space, drinking water, heating, waste, public transport, public services. This is a positive shift towards the future. Nevertheless, it is difficult to change things with the way the development happened.

A large amount of construction was built since the war and many of them are built with sufficient standards. It is not just the construction of houses that are sometimes in poor condition but also elements like, public space, public green, street quality, public transport system, social housing, parking spaces, paved sidewalks, safe spaces for children, access to public facilities which are missing or of poor quality in the city. Today, the citizens are expecting more comfort and quality in their direct living environment and are not fulfilling their needs as an urban resident. In the beginning this was less important, at the beginning there was just a request for housing in any condition. That construction boom changed the urban form of many neighborhoods because large development companies built apartments with as interest the money which was coming out of it. With the limited control and poor drafted plans the development could go on. We often talk, if you look at the physical structure it looks ugly but if you look at the social dimension you can see that Prishtina is a life city, a dynamic city, it has spirit.

Interviewer_ What elements is the city reinvesting in now, which were neglected during the rebuilding?

PRO Planning_ The first attempt to give space to its citizens in Prishtina was done through pedestrianizing Mother Theresa Boulevard in the heart of the city. It has improved the social life and increased the amount of facilities along the street. Most of the facilities are related to enhance the social interaction capability like

cafés and restaurants. Those places are familiar to locals, before the war these were the social places to meet people but also to do business, experience culture and to meet friends & family. So, related to the culture of Prishtina and other Kosovo cities coffee-houses are an important element to have in order to stimulate and facilitate the public life. Now, the sidewalks are being improved around this boulevard which were used for parking cars mostly. This change around the center when it comes to decreasing the car attractiveness needs to slowly change the mindset of locals about their car behavior and use. In order to achieve this, alternatives for the car use and city parking need to be developed and this has increased the need for a good mobility plan. Ongoing projects are related to new busses and the drafting of a sustainable urban mobility plan. This renewed focus on public transport is good but should not just look at the urban area only. The attraction of the city on the regional and national scale attracts many commuters as well. Improvement of the regional system is equally important. As example, the bus station of Prishtina is now on the outskirts of the city and not well linked with urban system. But most important is the people's mindset and thinking about car use. It is a strange situation because in the 80's almost nobody had a car and now most families have at least one. Second, Prishtina has developed very circular around the center of town and so all corners are on a maximum of 40min walking distance. The sustainable element of any plan at the moment is in order to prevent the emergency plans and ad hoc actions which work only for a limited time, but were done until recently. But especially if it is about elements for the public this needs involvement of them and so transparency and strategic approaches needed. But as mentioned earlier the improvement of public places and sidewalks is only focusing on the center. So, the further away from the center the availability and quality of public places and safe sidewalks are limited. Most of the neighborhoods have some form of a heart or gathering space but poor in quality or difficult to access. This is very much happening in the newly developed neighborhoods and the more central ones who were destroyed because of the construction explosion. At the moment, the newest plan is still not concerning the living quality of those central high density neighborhoods and is even planning to completely wipe out the lower housing construction in order to build more and more. This is happening in the neighborhoods on the east slope; Dodona and Modrajat. These plans are not good for the public life and its space and is putting more pressure on the center's public spaces and facilities.

Interviewer_ Is there still a need for housing?

PRO Planning_ The municipal development plan which was developed for the capital city in 2004 was made under the assumption that Prishtina would have 800.000 residents by 2015. The latest calculation shows that the municipality including the rural area counts just under 200.000. So, there have been mistakes in the beginning, assumed in 2004 was that the city had already half a million inhabitants at that time. From that strategic plan in 2004 smaller regulatory plans were made for the neighborhoods or collective of neighborhoods. These projections of populations result now in high numbers (26%) of empty housing throughout Kosovo. A second problem which mainly concentrates on Prishtina is the registration of the population. In the commuters' system, a lot of people work in the capital but live and are registered in their home towns in the countryside. During the week, these people commute daily to the city or even live there. These people are not counted as residents of Prishtina and so numbers for public transport are false but also the exact numbers of residents are false. The national division of funds by head per municipality leaves Prishtina with gaps in their public budgets. The high number of

projections were in favor of the construction companies which work for their own profit. They could build lots of apartments. The change of system, towards the free market economy and the privatization of former Socialist land and enterprises has disbalanced the development. Those economic migrants resulted due to the wrong approach in the villages which focused on rebuilding the housing sector but lacked in an adequate approach to the socio-economic aspect.

Interviewer_ What can we learn from Prishtina?

PRO Planning_ You need to set a plan for development to proceed after a civil strife like in Kosovo happened. We now see that if you don't have this instrument individuals will take advantage of that freedom and neglect the common ground of an urban environment. At this moment, planning is mere a tool for damage control, to see what possibilities are there in order to regenerate areas towards more people friendly places. It is poignant to see

that on outskirts of cities actual informal settlements have appeared and that the quality of certain neighborhoods show equally difficult circumstances to the living quality. It is to think of the local capacities, to guide and assist them developing a better place for living. You need a comprehensive approach and think about different scenarios for the city. At the same time, in Prishtina all the former plans were given the status of non-applicable anymore even though some very basic elements as road and technical infrastructure were adequate and would have given some guidance. Now cultural heritage had been largely demolished, public spaces are scarce and poor of quality and green and natural amenities almost non-existing; the public elements. Nevertheless, the new approach is a step forward and is putting participation of the society into account. A need for societal awareness, activism of communities, involvement in initiatives community councils, local unities in the neighborhoods for close resident relations, more transparency, invitations to municipal plans and ideas are essence in a democratic process and establishing a large body of societal support.

Bekim Ramku
Architect
Kosovo Architecture Foundation

17 February 2016, Prishtina

Interviewer_ What is the socio-spatial structure of a post-conflict city?

Bekim_ Well before the war even though all of the neighbourhoods were ethnically and socially mixed there were a few neighbourhoods that were known as more poorer than the other ones. What happened after the war and in particular with the gated communities that have sprawled around the Prishtina, you see this social division being enforced and seen more vividly. The better off families move out of the city center and traditional Prishtina neighbourhoods and go to live in the many gated neighbourhoods; the Serbian community is inexistent in Prishtina and the same goes for the Roma one.

Interviewer_ What do you think is essential when designing in a post-conflict city?

Bekim_ Giving more importance to the social issues, rather than spatial, you shouldn't go into a place with a tabula-rasa mentality that nothing ever existed before me! Do build a post conflict city takes more than sheer number of square meters.

Interviewer_ What is the image of a post conflict city?

Bekim_ One of suffering and hope. You do see destruction throughout a post conflict city like Sarajevo, but you also saw hope in people, in the way they tried to rebuild their homes, neighbourhoods, cities.

Interviewer_ In The Netherlands, the rebuilding was very pragmatic, planned and government led after WWII, how did it go in Kosovo after the war?

Bekim_ Well what happened in Kosovo shouldn't happen in other post conflict cities in the world, and really shouldn't be left to UN-Habitat as they are the main cause of the problem. Kosovo as you know was administered by the UN Mission in Kosovo, short UNMIK. Its very interesting what happened just months if not days after the conflict ended. There was no Serbian municipal authority so UNMIK moved in to cover the vacuum and just like in a kids game or something similar to monopoly, named people that are going to run the city departments (one of them the planning one). I must note that all were foreign! As in the Yugoslav time and later in Serbian time you really couldn't even construct a small wooden shed without a proper documentation and permission by the authorities. So people went to the city authorities and their never

received any answers regarding their needs to rebuild or construct new structures, so they just started building without any permission. What made it even worse was the fact that one particular representative of UNMIK went public and declared "there is no Serbian regime any more to stop you from building your homes!" That basically fuelled construction in Prishtina. The first person that really tried to stop the things happening in the city was the first local appointed head of the planning department Rexhep Luci, who just few days after declaring the all out war to the illegal construction was gunned down by an unknown individual. It all returned to square zero and people again started with the illegal construction. It wasn't really until 2010 when the city started enforcing construction regulations and again you had people that would bribe the officials and occupy public land. The first person to really stop all of the illegal construction was the current director of planning Liburn Aliu. But as I said the major damage to Prishtina was done during UNMIK time, almost 100 buildings which were protected by the state till 1999 were destroyed in the first two post-war years, more than 5,000 structures were constructed on public land till 2006 and there are more than 300,000 illegal structures just in the city of Prishtina that were registered by the planning department during 2014-2016.

Interviewer_ This non-regulated building boom to shelter all the (returning) citizens of the city and beyond was a private initiative. Was there no concern or (international) organisation that took charge over the needed shelter numbers?

Bekim_ Yes it was totally a private initiative and yes the international organisations were not concerned till after the biggest damage was done. If you're referring to the agencies that rebuilt destroyed houses that's a different story, agencies such as USAID did rebuild many private houses but the majority of the destroyed houses were in villages, and there were no cases of collective housing block that was reconstructed or built after the war. There were cases of social houses that were built by the government foreign and local and they were really built without paying any attention to the social integration of the marginalised groups that benefited.

Interviewer_ What is different in Prishtina compared to other informally build urban areas in the world?

Bekim_ Well first and foremost, the context. Other than that it depends with whom you compare it! If its Istanbul than nothing differs, if you compare it to Mumbai than its probably construction

material, or if you compare it to the favelas than probably the more decent construction material and more respect for light and typology enabling more rational use of the land, that is in the city itself.

Interviewer_ How is it to live in Prishtina?

Bekim_ It depends in what capacity do you want me to answer this question, if its in my capacity as an architect and urban designer than I thing that in many instances Prishtina misses vital infra-

structure and services that characterise contemporary European cities. As you probably saw for yourself many neighbourhoods were devastated after the war and they lost their image of planned neighbourhoods so architecture wise it isn't a "beautiful" city either. A city that is characterised by sidewalks taken by cars, inadequate public transport, no bike lanes, no community centers, rubbish, etc. Those don't make it a pleasant place to live in. But more than the insufficient physical infrastructure it is the social ones that are really missing.

Eliza Hoxha
Urban Planner
University of Prishtina

17 May 2016, Prishtina

Interviewer_ What was situation before the war?

Eliza_ Most of Albanians had to leave their jobs in the period around 1991. They had to because they did not sign the documents that agreed on a certain language to be the main language in education and information, namely Serbian. My father was working for a radio broadcasting company and my mother in a kindergarten. First the professors, higher education professionals and people in the media were kicked out of their jobs. In this time, more and more Albanians had to leave their jobs. So, most of Albanian families were left without jobs and income in the time between 1991-1999. In this time, the Albanian Diaspora, which are relatives living abroad in countries as Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Belgium and Netherlands clustered. In that time, almost every family had a relative abroad who was sending money home. They organized this parallel system of education in order for their family and its children to continue with an education. Which was funded for 3% by the diaspora, it was called the diaspora fund for education and health. This kept the Albanians in Kosovo practically alive in this period. I was following my education in one of the schools hosted in a private house and got education from voluntary teachers. The faculties were in the different private houses and areas of the city. My education was very technically and coming from this tabula rasa ideas, designing the empty parts of the city without considering patterns, people and existing demographics. Which was not enough by far to become a good urban researcher.

The city at that time had a different meaning to ethnicities. The public institutions were not belonging to the people anymore and the new public life was taking place now in the private houses in the edge area of the city.

Interviewer_ What is the situation of historical neighborhoods of Prishtina?

Eliza_ First, the pattern is identical to the Ottoman period. This period ended in 1912. In that time the division between public and private was strictly done through walls. Mostly the women were belonging to the inside, the private life and the public life was mostly men. Dodona as neighborhood was part of that historical Ottoman pattern. Small houses were situated on the plots surrounded with walls to divide the public from the private houses and gardens. The situation behind the walls was a different world compared to the one on the public streets, especially for women. Behind the walls, they lived freely on the plots of land and doors gave access to neighboring plots and houses, mostly relatives living next door. The live on the street, where there was trade and movement of people it was mostly men. That was the system at that time. A very closed typology towards the streets. Even though the situation has changed since, especially within the blocks and the plots, the streets show identical forms as in Ottoman times. In the historical times, people cared for those streets more. They were having a shop or a trading place and the street in front of those places was the trading area and so, important. It was an unwritten rule to keep your space in front of the houses tidy. This idea stayed after the war

and even until 1991. This changed, when the Albanian population was no longer part of and taking part in the public society. The public, and so the streets were not seen as theirs and not ours anymore. This was seen as the state, Serbia and so the enemy. In the contemporary city, this is not the case anymore but these offensive ideas about the public are not gone. They do not care about these spaces. It is a habit, a broken link of public and the collective good is not there. This is still very visible in parts of Prishtina. You will see people taking care of space not further then their threshold. They define it, wall it, put fences. So, you have all these nice spots or islands in Prishtina and in between a lot of unwanted spaces. How can we change the situation for people to open their mind and change a little their behavior and become more open to the public? Everybody contributes to that in different ways, but if you do nothing at least don't destroy it or throw garbage. This is an urban mentality and this should be reshaped bit by bit.

Interviewer_ What are the reasons that neighborhoods like Dodona are suffering nowadays?

Eliza_ I have not studied Dodona neighborhood in detail but I can say a couple my concerns regarding the condition of the developments and are replicable also in this neighborhood. First, the city became like this in general specially after the 2000 when the main architect was shot. At that moment, he was trying to do a vision about the city and orient these developments and stop illegal constructions and stop these. After that no one in the municipality practically so to say cared about what was going on. This has to do with the shared competences with the mayor, shared competences between international- and local people because of this provisional self-governance institutions of Kosovo did not have power. In the period from '99 – '02 when the first elections came, this provisional self-governance system was not in power and these decision making jobs were mainly taken by international workers. Am not blaming anyone but if you have competences to orient on the city its conflicting elements you should take action and not give permits.

So, from that moment on it was not that nobody cared but people were afraid maybe to confront with the scene of illegality and money laundry. Why was he shot? He was thinking about what would have been good and correct for Prishtina but maybe he was stepping in someone's interest? He was not a politician; he was the head of the Urbanism department and knew what he was doing because he made the urban plan of 1975. He was trying to cope with the new conditions, the free market economy situation. This was completely new to Kosovo because before the war the state was owning the land, developing the land and managing the land. Everything that was public and also collective was taken care for by the state, besides the private houses. Everything else was invested, managed, developed and owned by the state. For the private there were of course strict rules about the type of building and if it was an Ottoman house it was not to change anything about it.

So, this is why during '90's the illegality started as a need. In that time a private Albanian house was given to become a school the

need was there to build extensions on the plot for a living place. This was the small scale of illegality because of the need and this affected the typology of houses. And after the war this became booming. You can see the enthusiasm in practically all the dimensions like socially, culturally, physically, financially and economy wise, the freedom to do whatever you want. It was a sort of relief that no one was controlling and caring you anymore and people could do really whatever they wanted. Some for the good but also many grasped what they could get because you have different type of people. What was produced was more killing the city then giving it another value, an additional value. Because where one house was on a plot, now the plot was filled up to its limits and over it, and then another one and another one. No space for parking, green, greenery. And this not just concerns just the public life but also the climate. There was only concrete and you could feel that there was no air in the city anymore.

But let me concentrate on the neighborhoods. What happened was when they started the plan of 2004, the strategic plan and the smaller regulatory plans were made. All these regulatory plans for the neighborhoods, and also for Dodona, practically they don't respect the old pattern. Maybe the road was kept, but then they widened the road and demolished some houses in cases or they gave new numbers to the height of buildings in parts but did not care about the existing houses which were only up to 25% of that height. So, new buildings were next to old houses and blocking sun and air for the existing tissue. First, what happened then is that people gave up their house to be transformed because living was not good anymore. Second, this zone was named by the municipality as historical zone, but for what? For these curved narrow roads that are there? Nothing is historical there anymore, apart from some small spots. In some parts, only the plot divisions or the families that could not afford to change their house is where you can see the historical picture. But what I am thinking is that Kosovo as a state concerning planning still hasn't captured the moment of coping with the new economic conditions for many reasons. First, that still the municipality thinks that they have to do everything but they cannot due to their budgets. They don't see themselves as a guidance player to guide the process instead they see themselves as the action player. It is not as in Socialism, you cannot reject the private forces, you have to cope with them, to bring them at the table. Why? Because there is still not a law that defines where the political money is coming from. All these big construction companies, or major sponsors of the political parties have power through financing the political sector. If one comes into power, they are expected to deliver something. Before the election everything is under the table and after everything stays under the table. If the law on spatial planning says that all the stakeholders should be a part of the process, those who can impact the plan and those who are impacted by the plan of the city, in the beginning, these things under the table will not happen. So, if a development will happen everybody will win, because municipality will make sure they have their own interest and public interest is their first one. Since then, I don't remember meetings where they bring together people from different sectors interested in certain areas for development. The second thing is that municipality still thinks they can do anything in any sense, they are not open to civil society initiatives. People from outside can help a lot to the process of the city making. Creatives, youngsters, people from the culture can help in the process. Prishtina is not just a city, it is the capital city so it belongs also to other people outside the city that should be a part of it. So, these debates in different layers of society are not done. Or even if they are done if whoever comes into power... But when you speak to people of cultures or arts and representatives of society there is no political party. They have something to say but this didn't happen yet generally in Prishtina. Third, about public sphere, there are difficulties in management and owning land for public places. There is literally no system that is contributing to increase spaces for public.

Interviewer_ What are your concerns regarding the situation?

Eliza_ For thirteen years' people were trained and educated and getting familiar with this new law and even though not in the best

way because you can see what has been produced in the city. But still it is a process and the city is suffering from that until you absorb these big changes socially and culturally and economically. What you can see in the city can really point out what was the energy of the city and its citizen's feelings about a way of living. Because it was a freedom in every sense and it was the desire to develop in every sense and maybe with a lack of knowledge about these new conditions economically and politically and maybe somebody abused that, but it is like that. We are not the only case; you might see that in many post-war cities. but this is why I am afraid.

But if you see the big picture, Kosovo was underdeveloped even in Yugoslavian time, and what other Western cities experienced Kosovo experienced that in a decade. This is what you see in the physical structure, nobody talks to anybody and everybody seeks its own business. If you look at the physical structure you see that nobody cared. This is not good, people are talking but they are not debating with each other, there is no common ground. The vision in the paper of the municipality is a vision of a group of people but still it is not a vision of the citizens. You have to bring that energy in the process. The second it is the youngsters and educated people and their energy, they are not part of the process but they can bring much more to the process of city making. Everybody talks about the good energy of the city and its people but why are those people not integrated in the process of that same city? Because the municipality is not open enough. Because the process is still not clear how we should go for the new city. New not in the sense of demolishing it but this new agenda about coping with the city and when it comes to Prishtina we should be more practical even in the layers that we don't like, take moment and respect them. Because these layers there in city and what it became because of us.

Interviewer_ What is the first step for municipal- and planning departments?

Eliza_ Maybe this can be a nice moment to reflect and understand what we will not do again in the future and to learn. We don't need to erase them even though aesthetically and visually it is not nice but if those people live there in happiness they are important. This was never done in Prishtina, the social aspect of the city, why citizens go there, why do they live there, if it is nice, maybe we should try to go there sometimes. Because many parts do not necessarily have a purpose as a neighborhood besides living but judging if it is in poor conditions we need to go out there and talk to the locals.

The momentum of the city is really to understand the city. To know where we are, what should we do for the better. We cannot erase the whole city. It is about the city has changed far more after the war than during the war. It is demolished and developed in the name of everything, peace, modernization, Europeanisation, UNisation etc.

THE PUBLIC SURVEY

written and visual questionnaire on urban conditions and public needs

What would you like to have in the streets / Dodona neighborhood?
 Çfarë dëshironi të keni në rrugët/lagjen tuaj Dodona?

Clear street use
 Qartësi për përdoruesin



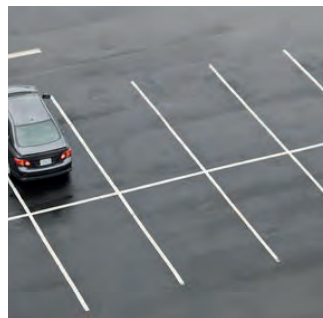
7 votes

Streetcrossing paths
 Kalim për këmbësorë



8 votes

Parking spaces
 Vende parkimi



19 votes

Community gardens / urban farming
 Kopshte të komunitet / fermat urbane



10 votes

Places with shading
 Strehim



4 votes

Urban greenery
 Gjellbërim



15 votes

Pedestrian zones
 Zonat e këmbësorëve



13 votes

Places for sitting / relaxing
 Vende për të ulur / çlodhur



14 votes

Spaces for meeting friends
 Hapësira për të takuar miq



7 votes

Places for children
 Vende për fëmijë



12 votes

Street markets
 Tregjet rrugë



2 votes

Social activities
 Aktivitete sociale



15 votes

PYETËSOR: CILËSIA E JETËS DHE JETA SHOQËRORE/PUBLIKE NE KONTEKST URBAN

Public survey about the neighborhoods quality of public life and spaces.

Lagjja Dodona / Dodona neighborhood

Pyetje të përgjithshme

- 1. Cila është gjinia juaj? (What is your gender?)

- 2. Cila është moshta juaj? (What is your age?)

Mënyra e banimit (housing situation)

- 3. Numri i njerëzve që jetojnë me ju (What is the number of people living with you?)

- 4. Madhësia e shtëpisë/banesës? (What is the size of the house?)
 - Më pak se 25m² (smaller than 25m²)
 - 25 – 50 m²
 - 50 – 100 m²
 - Më shumë se 100 m² (bigger than 100m²)
- 5. Hapësirat e jashtme i keni private apo i ndani me të tjerët. Keni: (Do you have one of the following:)
 - Ballkon (balcony)
 - Kopsht privat (Private garden)
 - Oborr te cilin e ndani me dike (shared courtyard)
 - Tjetër: (other)
- 6. Lloji i objektit të banimit? (Type of residence)
 - Shtëpi historike (historical house)
 - Shtëpi private e re (private new house)
 - Objekt banesor (shumëkatësh) (apartment building high rise)
 - Tjetër: Other

Përgjigje tjera varësisht nga i/e intervistuar (në marrëdhënie punë, punon në lagje, që sa vite jeton në lagje, grupi social etj.) (What is your employment status?)

Pyetje rreth cilësisë së jetës urbane (questions on the quality of urban life)

- 7. Cila është rëndësia e karakteristikave të mëposhtme urbane, si dhe kushteve në ambientin që ju rrethon në mënyrë direkte? (What is the importance of the following (urban) properties and conditions in your direct living environment?)

	(1) Aspak me rëndësi Not important at all	(2) Jo dhe aq me rëndësi Rather not important	(3) Neutral	(4) Deri diku me rëndësi Rather important	(5) Shumë me rëndësi Very important
Shumëllojshmëria e programit & funksioneve Variety of program					
Pamjet e këndshme të rrugëve dhe ndërtesave					

Visual pleasant streets					
Gjendja e ndërtesave përreth Conditions of buildings					
Afërsia e hapësirave publike Close proximity to public space					
Sasia e hapësirave publike të gjelbëruara Amount of public green spaces					
Përzierja e kulturave & njerëzve (etni, të moshuar, fëmijë, etj) Mix of cultures					
Siguria në rrugë Street safety					
Numri i njerëzve me të cilët mund të ketë bashkëveprim Amount of people living close to interact with					
Shërbimet publike & ndërtesat e dedikuara për komunitet Public services & community buildings					
Vende për ndërveprim social Places for social interaction					
Qasje në këmbë Accessibility by foot					
Qasje me veturë Accessibility by car					
Qasje me transport publik Accessibility by public transport					

Tjetër: Other:

- 8. Sa të kënaqur jeni në përgjithësi, në shkallën 0 deri 10, me vendin ku aktualisht jetoni
How satisfied would you say you are on a scale from 0-10 with your current place of living?

Shumë i/e pakënaqur

Shumë i/e kënaqur

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Vlerësimi i të qenurit i/e kënaqur me kontekstin fizik (evaluations of the satisfaction with the physical context)

- 9. Ju lutem tregoni/shënoni se sa pajtoheni me deklaratimet e mëposhtme. **Niveli juaj i kënaqshmërisë** lidhur me gjendjen fizike urbane në **ambientin që ju rrethon në mënyrë direkte, në Dodona**. (please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements. Your satisfaction level in relation to the urban physical situations in your direct living environment, Dodona.

	(1) Nuk pajtohem aspak Disagree strongly	(2) Nuk pajtohem disagree	(3) Neutral	(4) Pajtohem agree	(5) Pajtohem plotësisht Agree strongly
Kushtet e jetesës janë të një standardi të mirë Living conditions are up to good standards					
Balans i mirë mes zonave të hapura dhe atyre të ndërtuara Open and build-up areas are well-balanced					
Hapësirë shumë e vogël mes ndërtesave There is too little space between buildings					
Organizimi i hapësirës krijon rehati The organization of space is comfortable					
Nganjëherë ndërtesat kanë madhësi të tepër The size of buildings is too excessive at some point					
Lëvizja në këmbë është e këndshme It is pleasant to move around on foot					
Pamja e ndërtesave është e këndshme The look of buildings is pleasant					
Mundësitë për të shfrytëzuar hapësirat e gjelbruara janë të mira Opportunities to use green space are good					
Mundësitë për të shfrytëzuar hapësirat publike janë të mira Opportunities to use public space are good					
Ecja është e këndshme Walking is a pleasant activity in Dodona					
Mundësitë e socializimit janë të mira Social interaction possibilities are good					
Hapësira të mjaftueshme në rrugë për të kaluar kohën jashtë Enough space in the street to spend time outside					
Hapësira cilësore për të zhvilluar aktivitete jashtë Quality space is provided to pursue your choice of activities outside					

Nëse keni elemente tjera me të cilat nuk jeni të kënaqur në lagjen tuaj, ju lutem shënoni:
Other elements you are not satisfied with in your neighborhood please indicated:

Hulumtim i jetës shoqërore lokale, socializimi me të tjerët (Exploration of local public life)

- 10. I njoh fqinjët në rrugën time. (I know my neighbors)
 - ☐ Po, të gjithë (yes all of them)
 - ☐ Pothuajse të gjithë (most of them)
 - ☐ Disa (a few)
 - ☐ Asnjë (none)

- 11. Më pëlqen jeta shoqërore dhe atmosfera në lagjen time. (I like the public life and atmosphere in my neighborhood)
 - ☐ Po, gjithnjë (yes, always)
 - ☐ Po, mirëpo konteksti nuk ofron hapësirë (yes, but the context does not provide adequate spaces)
 - ☐ Kaloj më shumë kohë jashtë lagjes (I spend more time outside the neighborhood)
 - ☐ Nuk ndihem i/e lidhur me lagjen (I don't feel attached to it)

- 12. Pyetje lidhur me sjelljen tuaj në jetën shoqërore/publike në lagje. (Questions on your behaviour in the public life of the neighborhood)

	(1) Asnjëherë never	(2) Ndonjëherë sometimes	(3) Herë pas here occasionally	(4) Shumicën e kohës Most of the time	(5) Gjithmonë always
Ndihem pjesë e komunitetit në lagjen time I feel part of a community in my neighborhood					
E kaloj kohën e lirë jashtë në lagje I spend free time outside in the neighborhood					
Marrë pjesë në aktivitete sociale I engage in social activities					
Mundohem të kontaktoj/socializohem me të tjerët kur jam jashtë I try to make contact when am outside					
Takohem me shokë në hapësira publike I meet with friends in public places					
I takoj shokët & familjen jashtë lagjes I meet with friends & family outside the neighborhood					
I ftoj shokët & familjen të vijnë në lagjen time I invite friends & family to come to my neighborhood					
Jam i/e interesuar të bëj shokë të ri në lagje I am interested in making new friends in the neighborhood					
Marrë pjesë në tubime publike I participate in public gatherings					

- 13. Cilat janë arsytet e mundshme, lidhur me jetën shoqërore/publike, për shkak të cilave do të largoheshit nga Dodona? (mund të ketë më shumë së një përgjigje) (What are possible reasons for leaving Dodona related to the public life (more answers possible))
 - Niveli i sigurisë rrugore (aksidente, krim, trotuare të dëmtuara, etj.) (level of street safety)
 - Niveli i kushteve të banimit (Level of housing conditions)
 - Hapësira publike të pakta (scarcity of public spaces)
 - Sasi e paktë e elementeve dhe hapësirave të gjelbëruara (scarcity of green amenities)
 - Mundësitë e ndërveprimit me fqinjët (opportunities to interact with neighbors)
 - Qasje në këmbë nëpër lagje (accessibility by foot)
 - Qasje me veturë (accessibility by car)
 - Mbipopullim i lagjes (the crowdedness of the neighborhood)
 - Tjetër: _____ Other:

14. Pyetjet e mëposhtme kanë të bëjnë me pikëpamjet personale për të ardhmen
(The following questions are about personal views towards the future)

- Do të kaloja më shumë kohë jashtë në qoftë se do të kishte hapësira cilësore? (I would spend more time outside if quality spaces were provided)

- Është me rëndësi të ketë një komunitet të bashkuar në lagje (It is important to have some form of a cohesive neighborhood community)

- Familja ime janë shokët e mi, apo lagjja ime është familja ime? (My family are my friends rather than my neighborhood is my family)

- Vendtakime të reja në lagje do të më inkurajonin për të kaluar më shumë kohë jashtë (New meeting places in the neighborhood would encourage me to go out more in the street)

- Do të dëshiroja të jem pjesë e jetës sociale në lagje (I would like to be part of the neighborhood's social life)

- Hapësirat publike janë të nevojshme për një jetë më të mirë shoqërore/publike në lagje (Public spaces are needed for a better neighborhood public life)

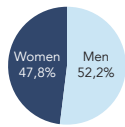
- Pikëpamje tjera për një të ardhme më të mirë lidhur me jetën shoqërore/publike në lagjen tuaj? (other views towards a better future in your neighborhood public life)

APPENDIX 3

Results of the local survey in Dodona

General questions

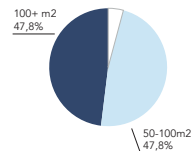
What is your gender?



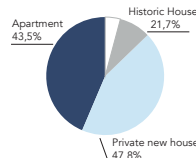
What is your age?



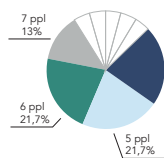
What is the size of the house?



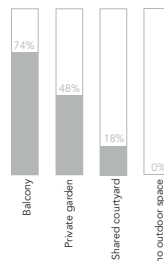
What is the type of residence?



What is the household size?



What outdoor spaces has the property?



Questions on the quality of urban life

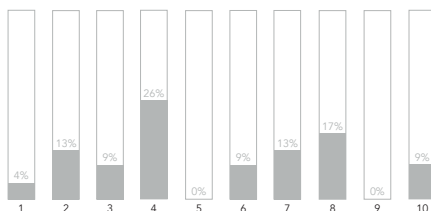
What is the importance of the following (urban) properties and conditions in your direct living environment?

	not important at all	rather not important	neutral	rather important	very important
Variety of program & functions	0%	8,7%	4,3%	21,7%	65,2%
Visually pleasant streets & buildings	0%	0%	4,3%	13%	82,6%
Conditions of surrounding buildings	0%	0%	8,7%	8,7%	82,6%
Close proximity to public space	0%	4,3%	13%	13%	69,6%
Amount of public green spaces	0%	0%	0%	4,3%	95,7%
Mix of cultures & people (ethnic, elderly, children, etc.)	4,3%	13%	13%	21,7%	56,5%
Street safety	0%	0%	4,3%	4,3%	91,4%
Amount of people living close to each other to interact with	0%	4,3%	17,3%	26,1%	52,2%
Public services & community buildings	0%	13%	13%	30,4%	43,4%
Places for social interaction	0%	4,3%	17,3%	47,8%	30,4%
Accessibility by foot	0%	0%	4,3%	13%	82,7%
Accessibility by car	4,3%	8,7%	8,7%	43,5%	34,8%
Accessibility by public transport	8,7%	0%	0%	13%	78,3%

Other

Waste collection / Programmes

How satisfied would you say you are on a scale from 0-10 with your current place of living?



Evaluation of the satisfaction with the physical context

	disagree strongly	disagree	neither agree nor disagree	agree	agree strongly
Living conditions are up to good standards	30,4%	13%	39,1%	17,4%	0%
Open and build-up areas are well-balanced	39,1%	30,4%	26,1%	4,3%	0%
There is enough space & distance between buildings	82,6%	13%	0%	0%	4,3%
The organization of space is comfortable	13%	21,7%	26,1%	26,1%	13%
The size of the buildings is at appropriate sizes	47,8%	17,8%	21,7%	0%	13%
It is pleasant to move around on foot (physical)	52,2%	26,1%	13%	13%	4,3%
The look of buildings is pleasant	26,1%	39,1%	26,1%	8,7%	0%
Opportunities to use green space are good	8,7%	4,3%	47,8%	34,8%	4,3%
Opportunities to use public spaces are good	4,3%	34,8%	34,8%	26,1%	0%
Walking is a pleasant activity in Dodona (functional)	30,4%	26,1%	26,1%	13%	4,3%
Social interaction possibilities are good	13%	4,3%	39,1%	39,1%	4,3%
Enough space in the street to spend time outside	34,8%	8,7%	34,8%	21,7%	0%
Quality space is provided to pursue your choice of activities	30,4%	4,3%	34,8%	30,4%	0%

Other elements you are not satisfied with in your neighborhood please indicate

Big difference between park & neighborhood opportunities for social interaction

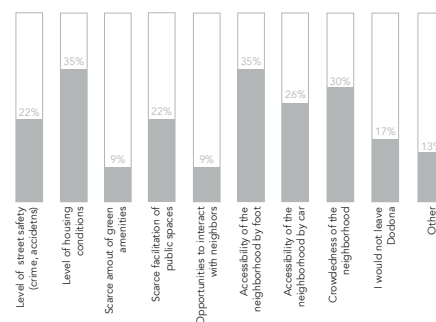
No municipal initiatives or support from for local initiatives, regarding facade repair

Heavy traffic / cars parked on sidewalks

Exploration of the local public life

	never	sometimes	occasionally	most of the time	always
I feel part of a community in my neighborhood	13%	26,1%	8,7%	26,1%	26,1%
I spend free time outside in the neighborhood	30,4%	13%	17,4%	21,4%	17,4%
I engage in social activities	34,8%	17,4%	26,1%	13%	8,7%
I try to make contact when am outside	4,3%	34,8%	26,1%	21,7%	13%
I meet with friends in public places	13%	13%	17,4%	30,4%	26,1%
I meet friends & family in the neighborhood	30,4%	17,4%	17,4%	17,4%	13%
I invite friends & family to come to my neighborhood	17,4%	26,1%	17,4%	13%	26,1%
I am interested in making new friends in the neighborhood	13%	30,4%	26,1%	13%	17,4%
I participate in public gatherings	39,1%	21,7%	21,7%	8,7%	8,7%

What are possible reasons for leaving Dodona related to the public life (more answers possible)



The following questions are about personal views towards the future

I would spend more time outside if quality spaces were provided?	82%
It is important to have some form of a cohesive neighborhood community?	100%
New meeting places in the neighborhood would encourage me to go out more in the street	65%
I would like to be part of the neighborhoods social life	69%
Public spaces are needed for a better neighborhood public life	100%

THE
PUBLIC CARPET
renewal of post-conflict transitioning districts