PUBLIC SPACE PROFILE **PRISTINA**



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PRISHTINA

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An overview of the current practice of public space development and management in the Municipality of Pristina as well as a profiling of the public space supply and quality at the city scale.

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CONTENTS

List of Acronyms 4
List of Maps 4
List of Diagrams 5
List of Figures 5

1. INTRODUCTION 7
Aim and scope 7
Methodology 7
Limitations 8
Concepts and definitions 8
Public space 8
Public space types 8
Public Space categories 9

2. CONTEXT 10
The urban landscape 10
The historical center 10
The modern city 11
The informal city expansion 11
Mobility network 11
Public transportation 11
Public space 14

3. PUBLIC SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT 15
Process 15
Legislation overview 16
Municipal mechanisms 18
Stakeholder analysis 18
Spatial planning documents 24

4. PUBLIC SPACE IN PRISTINA 26
Supply 26
Distribution 26
Accessibility and connectivity 27

5. PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES 36
Squares 36
Municipal Markets 42
Parks 48
Playgrounds 54
Outdoor Sports Facilities 60

6. TOWARDS LOCALIZING "URBAN" SDG IN KOSOVO 66
"Dardania" neighbourhood 68
"Tophane" neighbourhood - Historical Zone 69
"Kalabria" neighbourhood 70

7. CONCLUSIONS 73
Main findings 73
Recommendations 77
ANNEX 01: 79
ANNEX 02: 79
ANNEX 03: 80
ANNEX 04: 82

LIST OF ACRONYMS

DA – Department of Administration
DCYS – Department of Culture, Youth and Sports
DI – Department of Inspection
DLI – Department of Local Infrastructure
DPSRP – Department of Public Services, Rescue and Protection
DUCEP – Department of Urbanism, Construction and Environmental Protection
INU – Instituto Nazionale di Urbanistica
KSP – Kosovo Spatial Plan
MDP – Municipal Development Plan
NGO – Non Governmental Institution
OSF – Outdoor Sports Facility
PU – Planning Unit
SDG – Sustainable Development Goals
UDP – Urban Development Plan
URO – Urban Regeneration Office
USO – Urban Solution Office

LIST OF MAPS

Map 01: Overview of Pristina
Map 02: Public space supply in the city of Pristina
Map 03: Layering of public spaces, open spaces and municipal land
Map 04: Accessibility and connectivity
Map 05: Public transport
Map 06: Squares
Map 07: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - Composing design elements
Map 08: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - activity and use
Map 09: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - access and flow
Map 10: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - safety and comfort
Map 11: Municipal markets
Map 12: The old Bazaar
Map 13: Activity and use
Map 14: The old Bazaar - access and flow
Map 15: The old Bazaar - safety and comfort
Map 16: Parks
Map 17: City park
Map 18: City park - activity and use
Map 19: City park - access and flow
Map 20: City park - safety and comfort
Map 21: Playgrounds
Map 22: Ulpiana playground
Map 23: Ulpiana playground - activity and use
Map 24: Ulpiana playground - access and flow
Map 25: Ulpiana playground - safety and comfort
Map 26: Outdoor Sports Facilities
Map 27: Sunny Hill OSF
Map 28: Sunny Hill OSF - activity and use
Map 29: Sunny Hill OSF - access and flow
Map 30: Sunny Hill OSF - safety and comfort

LIST OF DIAGRAMS

Diagram 01. Public Space Development and Management Process
Diagram 02. Municipal Organizational Setup
Diagram 03. Public Space Initiatives from 2010-15
Diagram 03: Overall physical condition of Squares
Diagram 04: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - working days flow
Diagram 05: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - weekends flow
Diagram 06: Overall physical conditions of Municipal Markets
Diagram 07: The old Bazaar - working days flow
Diagram 08: The old Bazaar - weekends flow
Diagram 09: Overall physical condition of Parks
Diagram 10: City park - working days flow
Diagram 11: City park - weekends flow
Diagram 12: Overall physical condition of Playgrounds
Diagram 13: Ulpiana playground - working days flow
Diagram 14: Ulpiana playground - weekends flow
Diagram 15: Overall physical condition of Outdoor Sports Facilities
Diagram 16: Sunny Hill OSF - working days flow
Diagram 17: Sunny Hill OSF - weekends flow

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: "Zahir Pajaziti" square
Figure 2: "Zahir Pajaziti" square
Figure 3: "Zahir Pajaziti" square
Figure 4: Green market - "The old Bazaar"
Figure 5: Green market - "The old Bazaar"
Figure 6: Green market - "The old Bazaar"
Figure 7: "Dardania" Park
Figure 8: City Park
Figure 9: City Park
Figure 10: "Arbëria" Park
Figure 11: "Sunny hill" playground
Figure 12: "Dardania" playground
Figure 13: "Dardania" playground
Figure 14: "Ulpiana" playground
Figure 15: "Ulpiana" playground
Figure 16: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility
Figure 17: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility
Figure 18: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility
Figure 19: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility
Figure 20: "Taukbahce" tennis courts



INTRODUCTION

Aim and scope

The Public Space Profile forms a policy driven overview of the current practice of public space development and management in the Municipality of Pristina as well as a profiling of the public space supply and quality at the city scale.

The profile addresses a number of aspects with regard to the institutional, technical and human dimension of Pristina public space, including:

- The current development and management processes of public space, looking at the entire spatial planning cycle, steps and the applied methodological tools;
- A brief overview of the legal framework and the relevant municipal mechanisms that support public space development processes at the local level;
- A stakeholder analysis, with a focus on the municipal organizational setup, supporting municipal partners as well as the civil society organizations and citizens.
- A brief analytical glance at the municipal spatial planning documents, projects and initiatives for public space development;
- A baseline analysis of public space supply and quality in the city of Pristina against various parameters among others accessibility, comfort, safety but also the perception by users.

Derived analysis and the respective findings support a set of recommendations, which can pave the ground for a future citywide policy on public space development and management, including maintenance.

Methodology

The public space profile is a result of an extensive desk review of municipal documents on spatial planning made available, institutional setup, and public space initiatives as well as an in-depth site analysis of the current public space supply and use in the city.

In addition, a series of interviews and focus group meetings have been held with different stakeholders related to public space development, management and use, which have served as the main complementing source of information. The consulted parties in this process include relevant departments of the municipal administration, international and local municipal supporting partners, police forces, business community, cultural entities, academia, local NGOs dealing with environment protection, representing women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, and also local artists.

Moreover, public space current supply and use analysis is based on site analyses. Two concomitant approaches to site analysis have been applied.

The first one targeted all the identified public spaces in the city of Pristina, 46 in total including five public space typologies. It consisted of a site visit during which has been taken stock of the amenities in terms of variety, quantity and respective physical condition. The in-depth site analysis has been done for five selected public spaces, corresponding to the addressed public space categories.

Field surveys and observations, beside the stocktaking as mentioned above, enabled to collect the following data:
- Pedestrian counts for public space use;
- Pedestrian movement patterns;
- Activities.

The pedestrian count was done for public space use over two weekdays (Thursday and Saturday) during the third week of February 2016. The observation took place from 08.00 to 20.00, over a 15 min gate/period for every hour. The collected data was disaggregated by gender (M/F) and age (approx. 0-14, 15-65, 65+). The pedestrian movement patterns have been observed for the selected locations and the routes leading to these places. In this regard the recording for the square category due to the size and number of access points was focused in the three out of four access points with the largest pedestrian flow.

Activities analysis was done using an activity classification based on the level of personal engagement. The active engagement activities include cycling, exercising, and taking photo, playing, dancing, and walking including with a child, pram or wheelchair. The passive engagement activities include sitting, standing, lying down as well as hearing, seeing and being seen. The analysis is based on the recorded users count for each of the activities over the 15 minute gap per hour, as explained above, during the observation period.

Limitations

The profiling exercise had faced a number of limitations which has certainly impacted the level of analysis and related findings. The municipality has no accessible consolidated database with regards to the institutional, financial or technical aspect of public space development and management in the city. To this end, the available data does not enable a baseline analysis of the economic aspect, respectively the financial and fiscal municipal framework including a cost/benefit analysis of public space development and management. With regards to the legal and administrative framework, the profile provides a brief overview of the relevant legislation and the standing municipal mechanisms. However, further supplementing information on the municipal experience in implementing such mechanisms would enable a better understanding of the challenges if any and potential use towards an improved public space supply in the city.

To be noted also, the current analysis is being based on the municipal setup valid up to mid-2016. The very recent creation of the Sustainable Development Department within the Municipality may also have indeed implications in public space management and development. Additionally, public space use analysis- pedestrian flow and activities have been observed during the daytime with changeable weather conditions, which provides a moderate picture of use in terms of timing and frequency.

Concepts and definitions

This section provides a brief description of the main concepts related to public space used in the Profile. The main source has been the "Global Public Space Toolkit"[1], a user-friendly guide towards an improved availability, quality and distribution of good public spaces, produced by UN-Habitat in cooperation with Instituto Nazionale di Urbanistica (INU) and other partners, using The *Charter of Public Spaces*[2] as one of the main references.

Public space

"Public spaces are all places publicly owned or of public use, accessible and enjoyable by all for free and without profit motive". The toolkit implies that such definition includes both publicly and privately- owned public spaces, as a common good accessible by all with no direct cost, with the primary goal of improving the livability conditions for the community.

Public space types

The profile is focused on five main types of public spaces including *squares, municipal markets, parks, playgrounds and outdoor sports facilities*.

1 http://unhabitat.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/Global%20Public%20Space%20Toolkit.pdf

2 http://www.biennalespaziopubblico.it/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/CHARTER-OF-PUBLIC-SPACE_June-2013_pdf-.pdf

These public spaces can be defined as[3] :
SQUARE- An open, typically four-sided, area surrounded by buildings in a village, town, or city.
MARKET- An open space or covered building where vendors convene to sell their goods.
PARK- A large public garden or area of land used for recreation.
PLAYGROUND- An outdoor area provided for children to play in, especially at a school or public park.
SPORT FACILITIES[4] - Individual buildings or groups of structures designed for exercising, sports training and practice, and competition in various sports.

The Global Public Space Toolkit considers fourteen additional types, which complement the overall physical network of public space at the city level. It includes *avenues* and *boulevards, streets, bicycle paths, pavement, passages* and *galleries*. Also, *riverbanks* and *water fronts, gardens, beaches, public libraries* and *civic centers*.

Public Space categories

The profile refers to two different public space categorizations.

The first one takes as a reference the operating radius, making a distinction between the public spaces mainly used by the surrounding blocks- *neighborhood level* (*ex. playgrounds, outdoors sports facilities, parks*), and those which serve as the main attraction points for the wider urban context- city level (*city parks, municipal markets, squares*).

The second public space categorization is introduced by the Global Public Space Toolkit. It classifies public space in six main categories, including the "non-physical"[5] ones. However, this profile is focused on the three "physical" categories which classify the different above listed types based on function, accessibility, management and land ownership (see table 01).

The first (I) category- "Streets as public space" are considered as multi-functional public spaces, which enable mobility as a key urban function and are highly versatile in terms of public enjoyment.

The second (II) category-"Public open spaces" are considered to be those urban features typically thought of as public space, accessible by all mainly during daytime.

The third (III) category- "Public urban facilities" consists of specialized urban spaces, often accessible on certain conditions.

#	Types	Ownership & Management	Accessibility
I	Avenues Boulevards Streets Squares Plazas Bicycle paths Pavements Passages Galleries	Public	Available to all, no charge, day and night
II	Parks Gardens Playgrounds Public beache Riverbanks Waterfronts	Normally public	Available to all, no charge, day and night
III	Public libraries Civic centers Municipal markets Sport facilities	Public and/ or private; high maintenance	Restricted accessibility, Operating hours

Table 01. Public Space Categories, source: "Global Public Space Toolkit", UN-Habitat, 2015.

3 http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/

4 http://encyclopedia2.thefreedictionary.com/Sports+Structures+and+Facilities

5 The "non-physical" public space categories are "Space of the Public", "The city itself" and "Cyberspace".

CONTEXT

The capital city of Pristina is the administrative and educational center of Kosovo*. The concentration of the central institutions and key international organizations as well as the biggest public university, make the city the main gravitation pole at the national level.

It lays on the northeastern part of Kosovo, with an area of 7768 hectares, including the urban and suburban area as well as the regional park of Germia. The city is widespread in an elevated terrain of 535 - 730 m above the sea level. It is sited in a geographical width and height of 42°40'00"x 21°20'15"[6]. Due to its elevated terrain, Pristina recons of a city scale open amphitheater.

The city* has more than 163,000 inhabitants, respectively 82% of the municipal residents or approximately 25% of the urban population at the national level. More than 60% of the population is under the age of 35 while only 7% are 65+, highly balanced in terms of gender with a male proportion of 50.05%[7]. More than 25% of the city users are daily migrants** who commute to the city for work, education, administrative purposes or recreation and family visits[8].

Pristina is the largest local economy at the national level, which has succeeded in attracting around 60 % of the investment share due to the infrastructure, human capital and developed market[9]. It is a service-based economy, with a concentration of approximately ¼ of the total businesses registered at the Kosovo level, 8% of which belong to manufacturing industry. The main economic activity in the private sector is trade, wholesale and retail***. However, the public sector remains the main employer. Around 17% of the work force is employed in the public administration and public enterprises, 18% in education and healthcare and 19% in trade. Whilst the male proportion in the public administration and trade is over 65%, education and healthcare sector is dominated by women with 65%[10] .

The urban landscape

The urban landscape of Pristina is a reflection of various cultural and political influences. The services are centralized in the city center, within the inner ring-road of Pristina, while the surrounding area is mainly residential. Today the city presents an urban form shaped by "politically-colored" developments throughout the years of its evolution and major degradation of the urban quality by the informal construction during the past two decades. However, there are three distinctive urban patterns that characterize the city.

The historical center

The historical center of the city today presents a distorted version of the old town of Pristina. The area has been massively rebuilt and densified in the past two decades, with very limited consideration towards the existing urban qualities, including public space. One of the key remaining features is the

* The cadastral zones included are: Pristina, Kolovice, Matican, Sofali

** This notion includes the population traveling regularly to Pristina on daily basis, excluding the ad-hoc visitors

*** The provided data corresponds to the Municipality of Pristina

6 *Municipal Development Plan of Pristina 2012-2022*

7 *Kosovo Population Census 2011,* Kosovo Agency of Statistics

8 *Migration in Kosovo 2014,* Kosovo Agency of Statistics

9 Paper: *"The importance of FDI on economic development of Kosova"*, Badivuku-Pantina, 2008

urban tissue characterized by an organic network of narrow streets and small districts composed of irregular and different sized plots.

The remaining cultural heritage is composed by a number of monuments that are concentrated in the center of the historical center. These monuments represent residential units, sacral buildings as well as other public buildings and supporting micro urban elements of the time. These monuments remain quite detached from the surrounding, with a minimum interaction with today's city center.

The modern city

It represents the core urban area of Pristina, which was developed starting from the mid 50's up to the late 90's. It is considered to have intruded the organic growth of the old town, causing the destruction of the heart of the historical center of the city. It consists of planned districts of specialized functions such as administrative services, sports and recreation as well as residential neighborhoods and related public service infrastructure.

The informal city expansion

The post conflict period was characterized by a demographic shift towards the capital city, accompanied with major informal constructions within the urban area as well as uncontrolled sprawl of the city in all directions. Such developments highly impacted the urban landscape and livability conditions in the city, contributing to the degradation of the peripheral agricultural land.

An increasing number of financial and diplomatic institutions concentrated in the city center, impacting the overall market dynamics at the city scale. Consequently, residential neighborhoods located in proximity of these specialized districts underwent an informal transformation in terms of function (i.e. residential to office space, cafes and restaurants, shops) and urban form (i.e. infill in privately and publicly owned land, increased buildings height, diverse architecture).

Moreover, due to the limited technical and financial capacities, such growth was not supported by the necessary infrastructure including the technical, public and social infrastructure, including public space.

Despite the challenges, Pristina is a growing market. The current development dynamics are trending towards an improved growth management with an increasing demand for an upgraded housing stock and service delivery. A report on the European cities in transition[11], lists the city of Pristina among the *"principal metropolises"* of the region with the potential of competing in the European economies as a hub city for service activities. However, such achievement calls for major infrastructure enhancement and environmental improvements, which are highly interconnected. Key environmental challenges for the city of Pristina are the air and water pollution, which is mainly generated by the traffic and the power plant located approximately 8 km from the city center, and the poor wastewater infrastructure and solid waste management. The local administration has undertaken a number of steps in tending these challenges. Among the activities with a significant potential to addressing such issues are:

Mobility network

Approximately 50% of the capital investment annual budget in the recent years has been allocated for the construction of new roads and improvements of the existing ones, including the supporting infrastructure such as lightning, sidewalks and street furniture[12]. A crucial problem for public service provision faced by the local administration, including the transport infrastructure, is the lack of available municipal land and the limited financial resources for land expropriation. Further efforts in developing land regulation mechanisms at both the central and local level among others would be necessary for an improved mobility network at the city scale and service delivery in general.

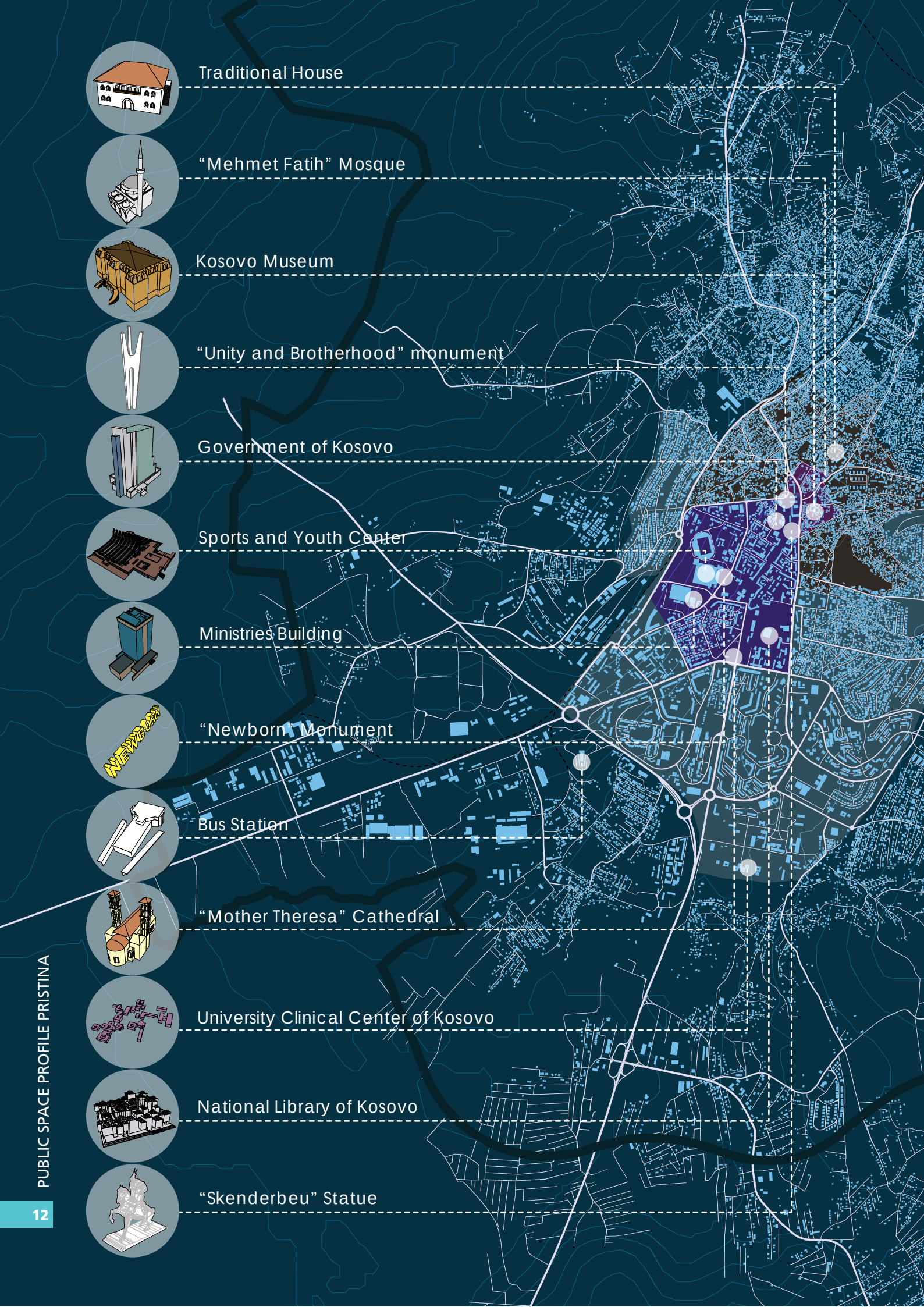
Public transportation

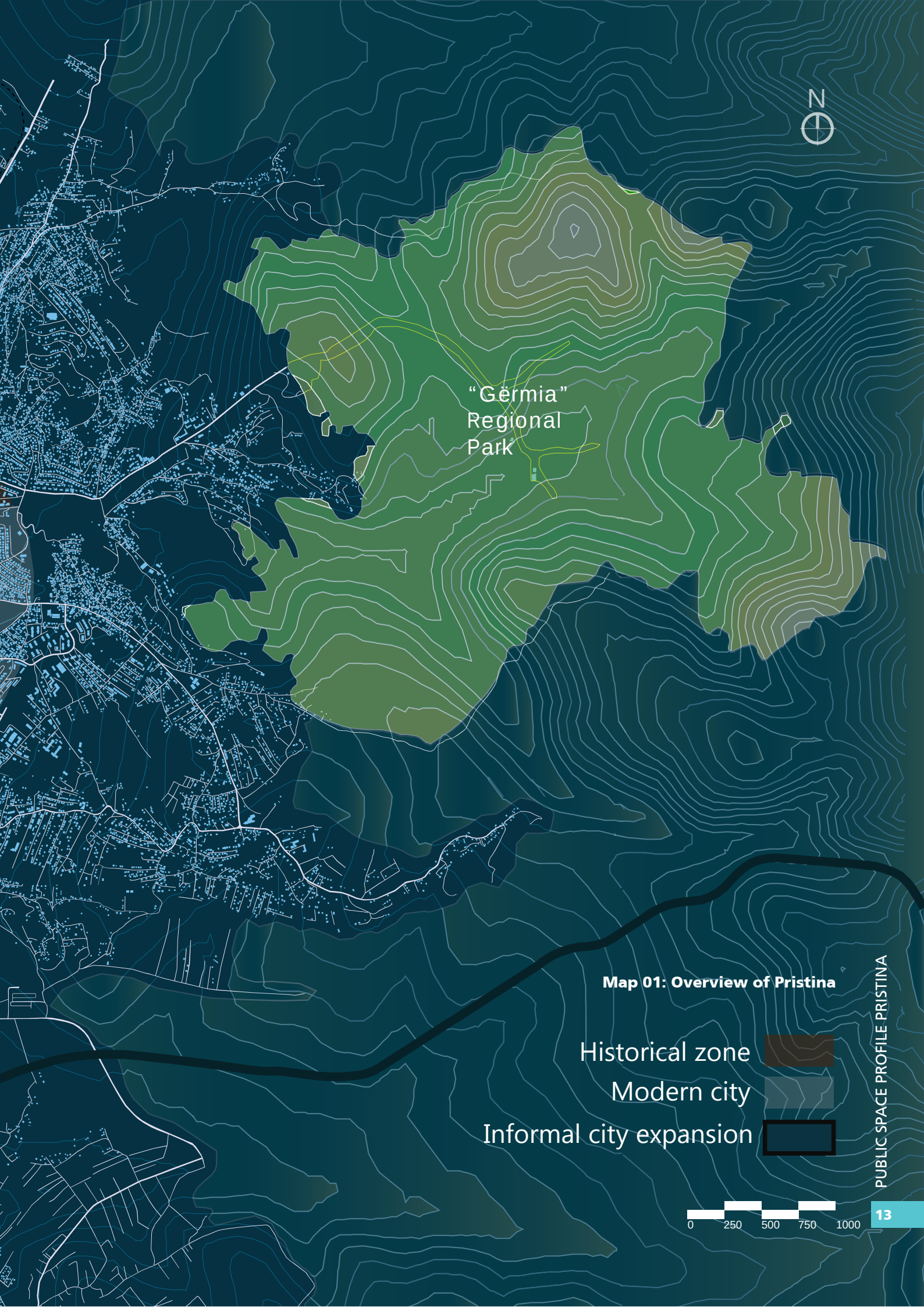
The local administration has initiated an urban transport programme that looks towards an enhanced mobility plan for the city as well as an improved quality of the physical infrastructure and service management. Currently, the main transportation mode remains personal vehicles. The only public transportation mode is buses, composed of 10 bus lines.

10 Kosovo Population Census 2011, Kosovo Agency of Statistics

11 The state of European cities in transition, UN-Habitat, 2013

12 Municipal mid-term expenditure framework 14/17; 15/18; 16/19


Traditional House
“Mehmet Fatih” Mosque
Kosovo Museum
“Unity and Brotherhood” monument
Government of Kosovo
Sports and Youth Center
Ministries Building
“Newborn” Monument
Bus Station
“Mother Theresa” Cathedral
University Clinical Center of Kosovo
National Library of Kosovo
“Skenderbeu” Statue



Map 01: Overview of Pristina

It is organized in a "tree network" which is concentrated in the city center and offers a limited connection to and coverage of the different neighborhoods of the urban and suburban area.

Despite the low quality of the busses and lack of time efficiency, the use of the public transport especially during the working days is relatively high with a use proportion of 23.5 % of the inhabitants. Public transportation is complemented by an informal transportation service along the most frequented bus lines. Such service is provided by individual cars, largely used mainly due to time efficiency in comparison with the busses.

Public space

Public space development has been an emerging priority for the local administration, especially in the past four years. An increasing number of projects have been initiated for the creation of new public spaces as well the revitalization the existing ones from street refurbishment to park upgrading.

Additionally, significant effort has been made for greening the city, in which case over 1000 trees have been planted along the main streets and the open space. The removal of fences around the public buildings has enabled accessibility to a number of parks and green open areas while the installation of poles on sidewalks has generated further accessibility and safety for pedestrians and users.

Such interventions have contributed to an improved usability of space and increased quality of the public life in the city.



PUBLIC SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Process

Public space development and management in the municipality of Pristina is addressed throughout the entire spatial planning cycle.

This process is composed of four main components:

I. Strategic planning

II. Municipal annual programme/ Budgeting

III. Project development

IV. Maintenance

These four components are separate processes that operate in different levels of planning and managing development. Each of them consists of a number of phases and steps, which are in line with the administrative procedures defined by the respective legislation. The first and the second components present a multi-sectorial process, within which public space is a crosscutting spatial element addressed separately by each relevant sector. The third and the fourth components however constitute the operational part of the cycle, respectively the municipal practice with regard to specific public space projects.

The municipal annual programme, is part of the mid-term expenditure framework which layouts a three year frame for the municipal activities and related expenditures, including the annual municipal budget and an outlook for the two preceding years based on the forecasted grants and municipal revenues. This document is drafted/ updated annually. It is the principal municipal document that orients capital investment projects initiated and managed by the local administration. Drafting of municipal annual programme is entirely led by the local administration, based on the detailed step-by-step instructed framework made available by the relevant central institutions.

The initial substantive step of this process is the needs assessment and prioritization conducted by each department separately. It is based on citizens requests filed to the municipal service desk, proposals by professionals and business community, donors and needs assessment by the municipal technical staff.

The municipal annual programme is further adjusted and complemented through a consultation process with different stakeholders which consists of two public consultation meetings in all local community administrative units "bashkesi lokale" and a public municipal assembly discussion on the municipal budget. Despite municipal efforts, public participation remains relatively poor, which contributes to a very limited substantial feedback from civil society, individuals and other relevant institutions at this stage of the planning cycle.

Public space development processes vary from one project to another due to many circumstances such as public space category, responsible department, partnership in project development and management, etc.

However, in broad lines this process is organized in 4 main phases- project selection, design, tendering and project implementation.

The project selection is generally done on ad-hoc basis by the municipal staff, oriented by budget limitations, need for intervention as well as risk and benefit assessment prepared internally.

Project drafting, both concept design and detailed project documentation is mostly outsourced based on the Terms of Reference projected by the municipal administration. In this case, the outsourced company in consultation with the municipal technical staff takes the lead for project development process.

The main tools that the local administration has been applying for public participation in a number of projects is a set of consultation meetings with the view to present concept proposals for selected public space projects in the city, and the open design competitions. The municipality has been progressively adjusting the application criteria for the latter one based on lessons learnt from previous experiences, which has contributed to an increasing number of applicants from one project to another one. This is the case of "MbiKurriz" plateau, "Arberia" stairs, etc.

Selected successful examples can be considered as a positive entry point towards enhanced fully fledge participatory processes for public space development and management.

The project development process is considered finalized upon the technical acceptance of the project output. Once the project is completed, it automatically becomes a responsibility of the relevant municipal department for maintenance.

There are also a number of community initiatives for public space maintenance, mainly at the neighborhood level. These exceptional cases could potentially be used as a learning opportunity for both the local administration as well as the community in general.

Legislation overview

Key legislation framework that regulates spatial planning cycle components is as follows:

Law no. 04/L-174 on Spatial Planning

Regulates the substantive and the procedural aspects of the spatial planning system in Kosovo;

Law no. 03/L-048 on Public Financial Management and Accountability (Amended and supplemented)

Defines principles, responsibilities and procedures regarding fiscal and financial framework in Kosovo;

Law no.04/L-110 on Construction

Governs all type of constructions in Kosovo;

Law no.04/L-042 on Public Procurement

Regulates responsibilities and public procurement procedures in Kosovo;

The law with the largest substantial implication in public space development is the **Law on Spatial Planning** and respective bylaws, which regulates spatial planning at the local level through the following instruments:

- ***Municipal Development Plan***
(eight years horizon)- strategic character;
- ***Municipal Zoning Map***
(review after four years if implemented less than 40%)- functional character;
- ***Detailed Regulatory Plans***
(eight years horizon)- spatial regulation character.

With respect to public space development, the above-mentioned law provides a very limited understanding and coverage of the public space component.

The categories that are decisively listed among the aspects that should be addressed by the spatial planning documents at various stages are the sports fields and public parks under social infrastructure. This list is further complemented by the data collection annex of the administrative instruction on the basic elements for design, implementation and monitoring of the Municipal Development Plan, including squares, playgrounds and cemeteries.

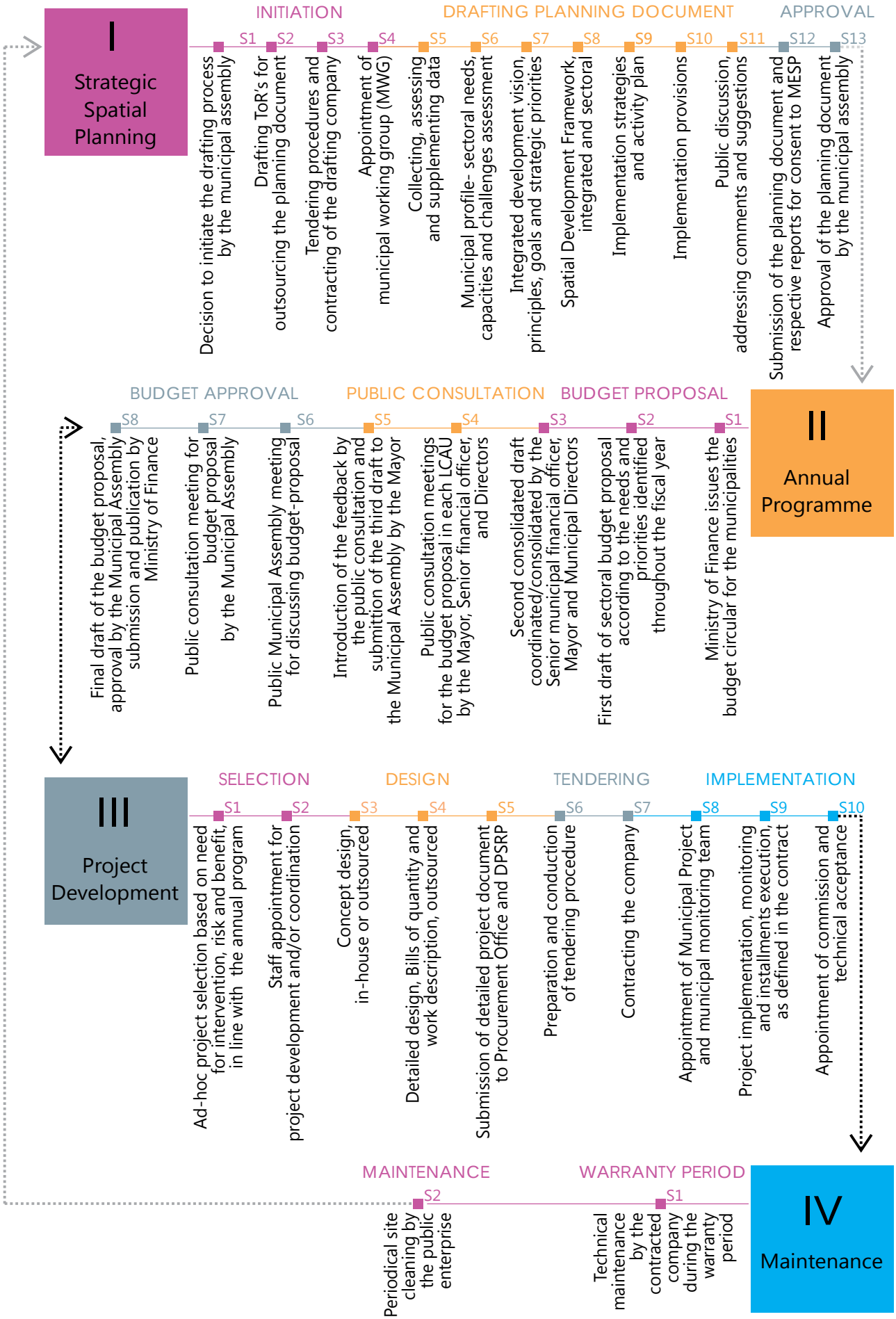


Diagram 01. Public Space Development and Management Process

Municipal mechanisms

The local administration, in line with the **Law no. 03/L-040 on Local Self-Governance**, has developed a number of regulations and decisions as supporting municipal mechanisms, which would facilitate public space supply and management in the municipality of Pristina. The most relevant municipal mechanisms with respect to public space development and management in Pristina are:

Decision on construction coefficient transfer: Such mechanism enables the construction right transfer for private developments with the aim to provide land for public service delivery including public spaces, in the absence of municipal land. This can contribute to reducing service delivery cost as an affordable alternative to land expropriation.

Decision on sustainable architecture: Such a mechanism enables an increase of the Parcel Use Index for 10% as an incentive to private developments adopting sustainable architecture. Two indicators affect directly public space development and management:

- Provision of green areas in function of environmental sustainability, which is conditioned to 40% of the total parcel surface or 30% in case of green rooftops.
- Installation of a dedicated recycling system for atmospheric water,

Municipal regulation for installing, constructing and removing temporary facilities in public property: Defines conditions and criteria for issuing municipal permits with regards to placing, constructing and removing facilities in public property.

Another related mechanism with the potential to facilitate public participation in the process of public space development and management is the **Municipal regulation for organizing, structure and functioning of the local community administrative units.** It regulates the territorial administration of the municipality of Pristina, including the administrative units, organizational setup and the corresponding role and the responsibilities of the local community committees.

Stakeholder analysis

Local administration, local NGOs, international organizations, university, business community, developers, police forces, media and cultural agents make up the main stakeholders in public space development and management in the municipality of Pristina. Their role is significant in building the character of the public realm in the city. Respective role and contribution in this process are as follows:

Local administration

Project owner and manager, who initiate, lead and implement the project development and management process including the technical, financial and institutional aspect. The role and responsibility of the municipal departments in this process is further addressed in Municipal organizational setup.

Local NGOs (*Annex 03*):
Advocate for safe, inclusive and environmentally friendly public space;
Provide technical support in:

- Identifying/reporting barriers, issues and challenges in public space use and mobility;
- Organizing public space design workshops;
- Drafting concept programme for community based public space design;
- Drafting and implementing spatial and management plan for Germia regional park.

Facilitate:

- Small scale interventions in public spaces;
- Community cleanup activities;
- Exchanges of relevant experiences.

International organizations (*Annex 04*):
DEMOS/ Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation- Providing technical and financial support on upgrading and managing current supply of public space through inventory/database creation and pilot maintenance plans. Secondly, the identification of usurped municipal land and mechanisms for fine enforcement accordingly. European Bank for Development and Reconstruction, Resident office in Kosovo- Assisting the public transportation reform for the city of Pristina.

University

University of Pristina

Design workshops for selected underdeveloped public spaces in the city.

American University in Kosovo/ Community Design Pristina

- Public space upgrading initiative through participatory design, fundraising and implementation.
- Facilitate exchange of experiences

Business community

- Public space use for marketing and economic activity;

Developers

- Public space development as an integrated element of residential complexes;

Police forces

- Keeping public order, mainly by addressing complaints related to disturbance in the public realm and ensuring a dissuasive presence in key urban spaces, notably city center;

Media

- Reporting on public space management;
- Debates on public space development;

Cultural agents

- Public performance and exhibitions;
- Small scale interventions in public spaces.

Leading Departments

Department of Urbanism, Construction and Environmental Protection (DUCEP)

Mandate:

- Drafts/ coordinates drafting of spatial planning documents at municipal level;
- Drafts/ coordinates drafting of spatial planning legal regulations at municipal level;
- Provides technical support for the implementation and monitoring of spatial planning documents at municipal level (Issues contextual extracts from MDP- development orientations, design and construction conditions, construction and use permits);
- Monitors the implementation of spatial planning documents at national and local level;
- Manages municipal spatial planning database.
- Other.

DUCEP has a key role in project initiation and drafting of new public spaces, with a random engagement in implementation monitoring. It is responsible for road infrastructure projects, including avenues and boulevards, parks and squares. The sectors/units engaged in this process are: *Sector of Urbanism* - Planning Unit, Urban Solution Office, Urban Regeneration Office, and *Sector of Construction* - Permit Unit, Environ-mental Protection Unit.

The director and chief of sectors initiate the public space projects and appoint responsible and contributing staff accordingly. In most cases the project drafting is outsourced. The main responsibilities of the technical staff in these circumstances are drafting terms of reference for project development and providing technical feedback to the outsourced companies.

Department of Public Services, Rescue and Protection (DPSRP)

Mandate:

- Manages public utilities- water and wastewater treatment;
- Manages public transport- infrastructure and services;
- Manages public spaces- squares, street greenery, parks and graveyards;
- Manages public lighting- street lights and advertisements;
- Other.

DPSRP in addition to its mandate has a key role in project initiation for public space physical rehabilitation projects as well as public space use database creation.

The responsible sector is the *Public Service Sector,* which coordinates the project development and implementation in close cooperation with the *DUCEP/ Urban Regeneration Office* and manages the contracts with the public enterprises regarding public space maintenance. Similarly to DUCEP, projects are initiated by the director and the chief of *Public Service Sector.*

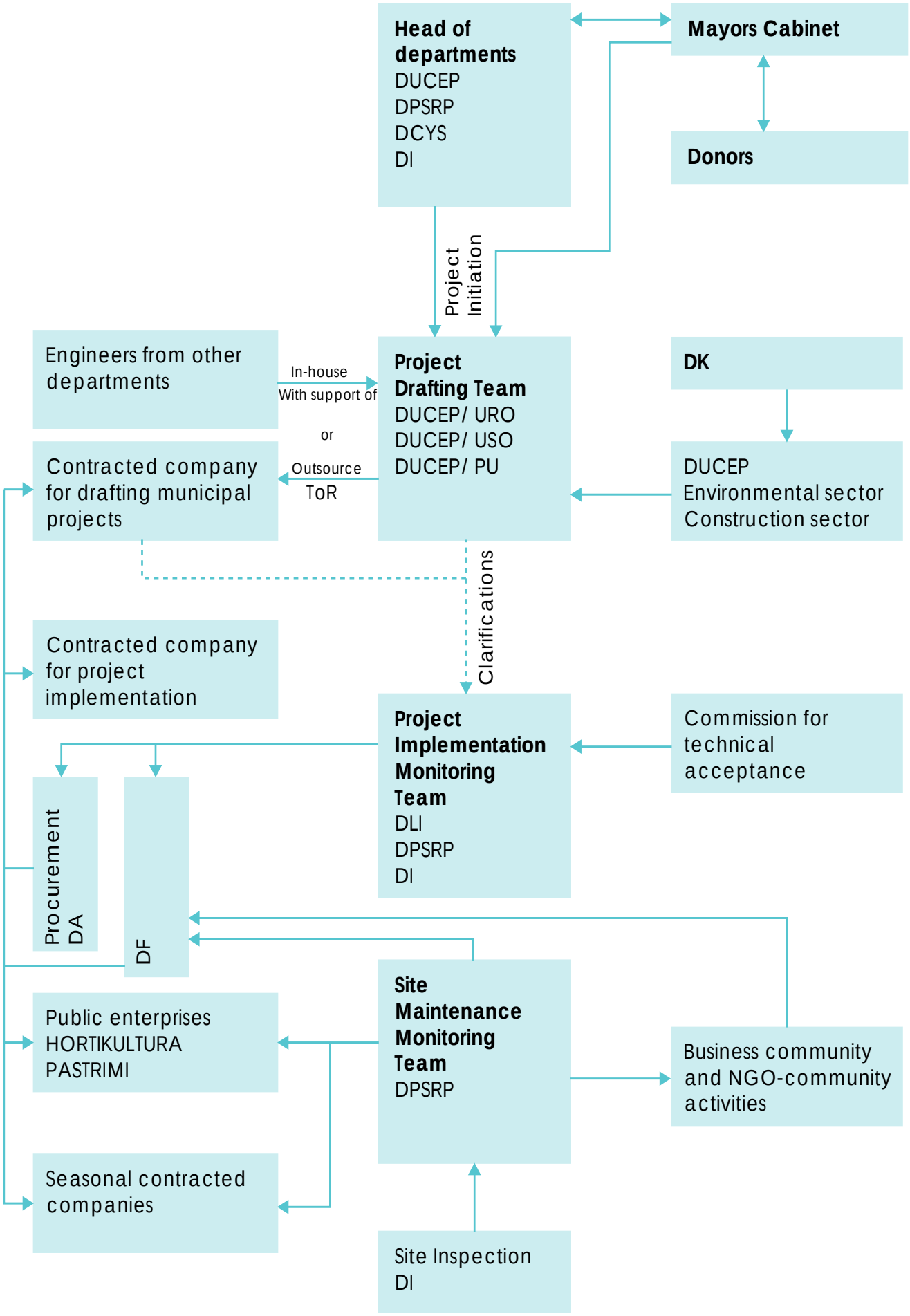


Diagram 02. Municipal Organizational Setup

Department of Culture, Youth and Sports (DCYS)

Mandate:

- Manages culture, youth and sports services and facilities;
- Organizes cultural and youth surveys, seminars, conferences and other related activities in cooperation with central institutions and NGOs.
- Drafts/coordinates drafting, implementation and monitoring of culture, youth and sports (short-term) strategy;
- Other.

DCYS initiates and coordinates the project drafting process for playgrounds and outdoors sport facilities, with the support of *DUCEP/ Urban Regeneration Office.*

Department of Local Infrastructure (DLI)

Mandate:

- Defines criteria and standards for planning and development of local road infrastructure;
- Manages public space project implementation (transport infrastructure, squares, parks);
- Ensures compliance of construction materials with technical documents;
- Other.

DLI has a key role in public space project implementation. It is responsible for monitoring the implementation of new transportation infrastructure, squares, playgrounds and open sports facilities. The responsibilities of the different sectors vary from one project to another. A more detailed overview of the activities of the leading departments and respective sectors/unit can be found in the Table 02, page 22-23.

Supporting Departments

The departments listed in this group provide targeted support to public space development and management based on their mandate, such as:

Department of Inspection (DI)

Sector of municipal and traffic inspection

- Inspects municipal property use/activities;
- Ensures compliance of public space use with respective public space use permits;
- Supports DPSRP in prioritizing interventions for site upgrading on open municipal land;
- Liberates usurped public spaces on municipal property.

Department of Cadaster (DC)

Sector of cadaster

- Facilitates project site selection/provides land ownership information during project development phase.

Department of Finance and Property (DFP)

Sector of Construction Works Management

- Allocates funds for the implementation of municipal programme/projects;
- Pays instalments based on the reports from the respective municipal department;
- Drafts budget and financial reports;
- Conducts administrative procedures for land and property expropriation;
- Conducts administrative procedures for land and property usurpations.

Department of Administration

Procurement office

- Manages procurement procedures for project drafting (when outsourced) and project implementation phase.

MUNICIPAL ENTITY	DUCEP			
ACTIVITY	Sector of Urbanism/Planning unit	Sector of Urbanism/ Urban Solution Office	Sector of Urbanism/ Urban Regeneration Office	Sector of Construction
Draft terms of reference	For concept design open competitions; For outsourced detailed design [new road infrastructure, squares and parks]		For outsourced concept and detailed design, including DPSPR, DCYS projects;[boulevards, parks, outdoors sports facilities, playgrounds and schoolyards]	
Coordinate project development process				
Provide technical support/ feedback for project develpment	To contracted companies for detailed project design; To other municipal departments for project compliance with spatial planning documents;	To private investors for residential developments including the open spaces;	To contracted companies including including DPSPR, DCYS projects;	
Draft detailed project document			√ [boulevards, parks and micro-urban element]	
Issue permit and related consents	Consent for project compliance with spatial planning documents;			Construction permit and consents for new infrastructure and revitalization projects;
Monitor project implementation				√
Reporting				To head of the departments for implementation progress;
Public space management				

Table 02. Responsibilities of Municipal Departments - Sectors and Respective Units in the Process of Public Space Development and Managemen

DPSRP			DCYS	DLI
Public service Sector	Public enterprise "Hortikultura"	Public enterprise "Pastrimi"	Sector of Sport	Sctor of Construction Management
Reconstruction/revitalization projects *[transport infrastructure, parks and lightning]*			√ *[Playgrounds and outdoors sports facilities projects]*	
To tendering companies during tendering procedures;				
Permit for public space use;				
[for transport infrastructure, parks and lightning]				√ *[new transport infrastructure, squares, playgrounds, open sports facilities]*
To head of the departments for implementation progress;	To Sector of Public Services;	To Sector of Public Services;		
Maintenance contracts with public enterprises;	Maintain municipal public spaces; Repair public space amenities;	Maintain transport infrastructure; Garbage collection;		

Spatial planning documents

The standing municipal planning documents are the Municipal Development Plan and Urban Development Plan, which were drafted based on the revoked Law no. 2003/14 on Spatial Planning. However, these planning documents are applicable and shall serve as basis for the Municipal Zoning Map, as defined by the law in force no. 04/L-174 on Spatial Planning.

Municipal Development Plan 2012- 2022

The Municipal Development Plan (MDP) represents a long-term strategic planning instrument, which is consistent with spatial planning principles set forth by the Kosovo Spatial Plan (KSP). The MDP determines development directions by analysing social, economic and environmental resources in support of municipal sustainability.
Also it provides a spatial development framework, respective structure and organization, which directs future spatial planning and development for local built and unbuilt environments, designated at achieving goals related to:

- polycentric, compact and high-density settlements development;
- enhanced social, technical and transportation networks and services;
- accelerated economic growth and employment opportunities;
- efficient use of agricultural and forest as well as construction land;
- conservation/ preservation of natural and cultural heritage; and
- efficient and effective municipal administration.

The main planned activities related to public space development and management are (*Annex 01*):

- Plan for urban mobility and public services, foreseen to be initiated in a short-term period with an outlook to extend over the long-term framework;
- Construction of non-motorised network, foreseen as a mid-term activity;
- Conservation and restoration of ecological networks, foreseen to be initiated in the mid-term framework with the outlook to extend over the long-term framework.

Urban Development Plan 2012- 2022

The Urban Development Plan (UDP) represents a long-term strategic and functional instrument, which focuses on urban areas and which is consistent with long term development directions provided by the MDP.

Having same structure as the MDP, the UDP aims at achieving the following goals:

- integrated and multi-functional regional and urban metropolitan gate- with focus on territorial organizational reform, housing and development control and transportation infrastructure and services;
- knowledge and exchange gate- with focus on enhancing knowledge, marketing and municipal finances;
- cultural, arts and diplomacy gate- with focus on physical planning, 'modern' architecture, sculpture and urban design, and arts and culture;
- green gate- focusing on life quality and environmental sustainability; and
- good governance and regional cooperation gate- focusing on administration reform and e-governance.

The main planned activities related to public space development and management are (*Annex 02*):

- Public space unlocking and upgrading, including main city squares, pedestrianizing the city centre, sports field upgrading ones and rehabilitation of public spaces around the city;
- Urban landscape project in the downtown area/ through an open competition;
- Research on public space and pedestrian interconnectivity;
- Drafting of Public Square Integration Plan.

Projects and initiatives

Public space has been emerging as a priority in the recent years for the local administration and civil society institutions. The number of municipal initiatives for public space development has been increasing especially in the past four years. However the number of projects that have been finalized or are in the process of implementation is relatively smaller.

Key public space interventions from 2013-2015 relate to:
- Fence removal from public building courtyards;
- Tree planting along the main streets;
- Public lightning installation;
- Street reconstruction and parking organization in selected city center streets and residential neighborhoods;
- Poles installation along the sidewalks;
- Rehabilitation of green open areas;
- Schoolyard upgrading;
- Pedestrian network upgrading including ramps for persons with disabilities;
- Mobile market.

In addition to physical interventions the municipality has initiated a set of activities related to database creation, such as:
- Inventory of green open areas;
- Inventory of public spaces;
- Inventory of usurped public spaces;
- Database of public space use;

The recent developments addressing various aspects of public space spatial component open an interesting outlook to further work towards a sustainable framework for public space development and management.

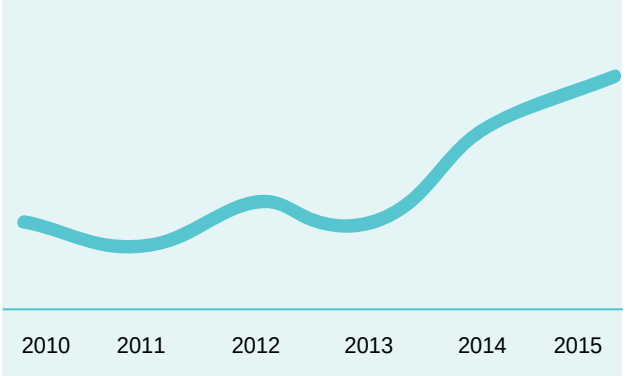


Diagram 03. Public Space Initiatives from 2010-15



PUBLIC SPACE IN PRISTINA

Supply

Public space supply in the city of Pristina is composed of forty-six (Map 01) places mainly spread along the most vivid part of the urban area. These locations have a well-defined physical character, consisting of five main typologies such as squares, city and neighborhood parks, municipal markets, outdoors sport facilities and playgrounds. While the squares, city parks and municipal markets are places that serve to the city scale, the neighborhood parks, outdoor sports facilities and playgrounds operate at the neighborhood level.

A sixth typology which has not been included in the in-depth analysis but compose important landmarks in the city with a great potential for future development are a number of plazas spread across the core urban area. Some of these locations (ex. "Newborn", "Mbi Kurriz", "Grand hotel") used to or continue to attract visitors due to the cultural and social activities that they foster throughout the year. While others (ex. "Te Qafa", "Bill Clinton") serve as transit areas or places for random social gatherings.

In addition, there are a number of informal social landmarks, which are an important part of the urban character for corresponding neighborhoods. These places are characterized by the informal activity that has been present continuously for decades, which serve as strong reference points for the city users. These activities include informal currency exchange, supply of low-income workers, etc.

An emerging trend that has created a new dynamic in terms of public space use are the commercial centers located in the southern suburban area of the city and in the neighboring municipality of Fushe Kosovo.

Three main functions that are commonly found in the commercial centers are stores, market, indoor playgrounds as well as restaurants and coffee places. These facilities are increasingly frequented, especially during the cold and rainy days of the year. Both locations are important attraction points and are perceived as part of the city of Pristina. However, open public spaces such as the main squares and the city parks remain the main gravitation pole in the city especially during the warm days throughout the year.

More than 95 % of the identified public spaces are located on municipal land. In proximity of these spaces there is a small portion of fragmented municipal land, which is remaining largely unused.

However, the portion of the vacant spaces with the potential for future consideration towards an improved public space supply within the built-up area is larger in comparison to the municipal land. (Map 03)

Distribution

The identified public spaces are concentrated in the core urban area of the city. The main squares and the city urban parks are mainly located on the northern part of the city center. The neighborhood parks, outdoor sports facilities and

playgrounds on the other hand are an integrated element of the residential neighborhoods in the southern part of the core urban area. Whilst the former are places that date from the early 50's or even the ottoman period in case of the city parks, the latter have been mainly constructed during the last decade.

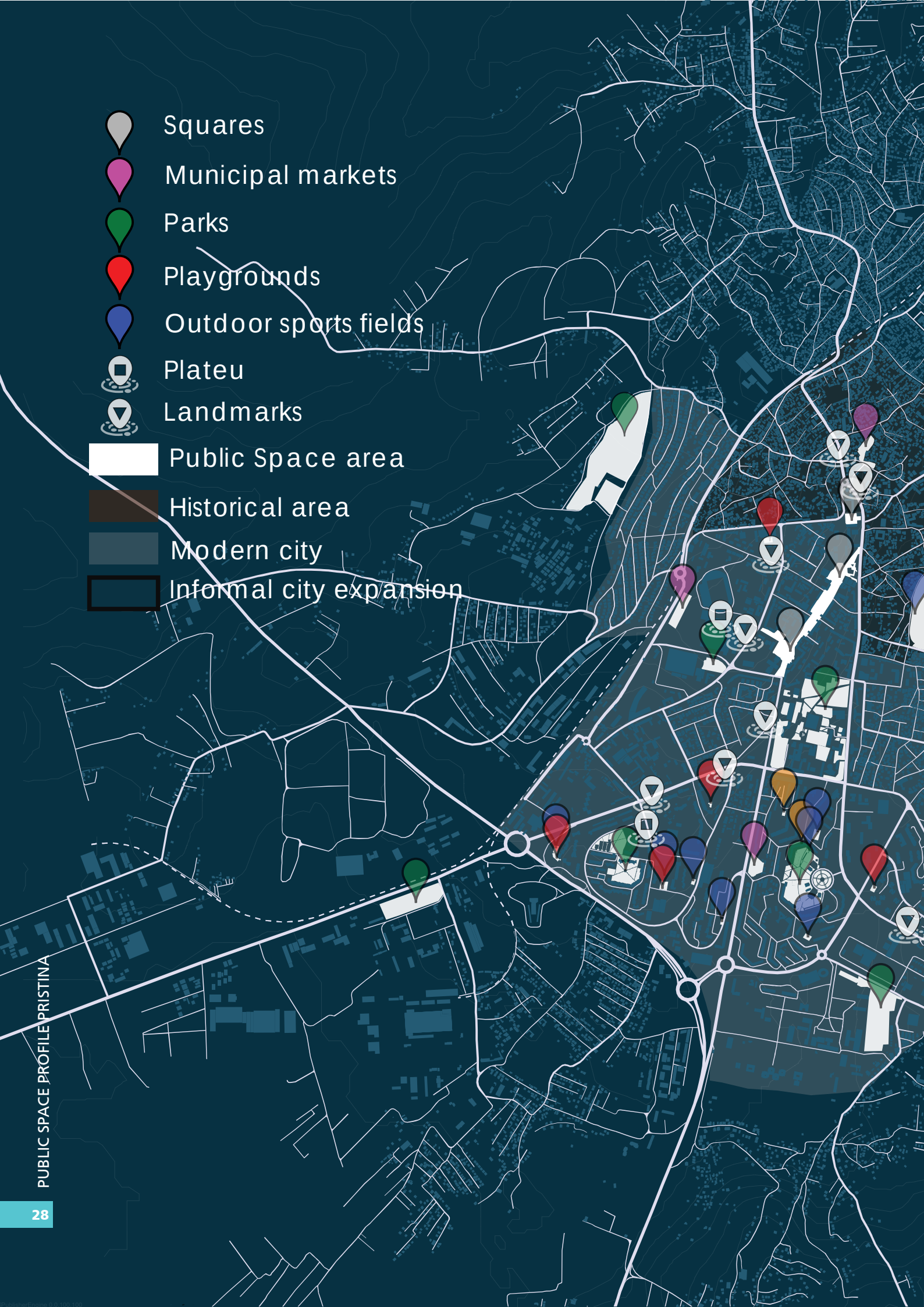
The public space evolution in the city of Pristina is highly connected to the three distinctive urban patterns as well as the social development throughout the years. The city parks, which up to the 50's were key features of the public realm alongside the main street "Divanjoll", "old bazaar", parks, public baths, mosques and churches, are located in the "historical center" of the city or as an extension towards the Germia regional park.

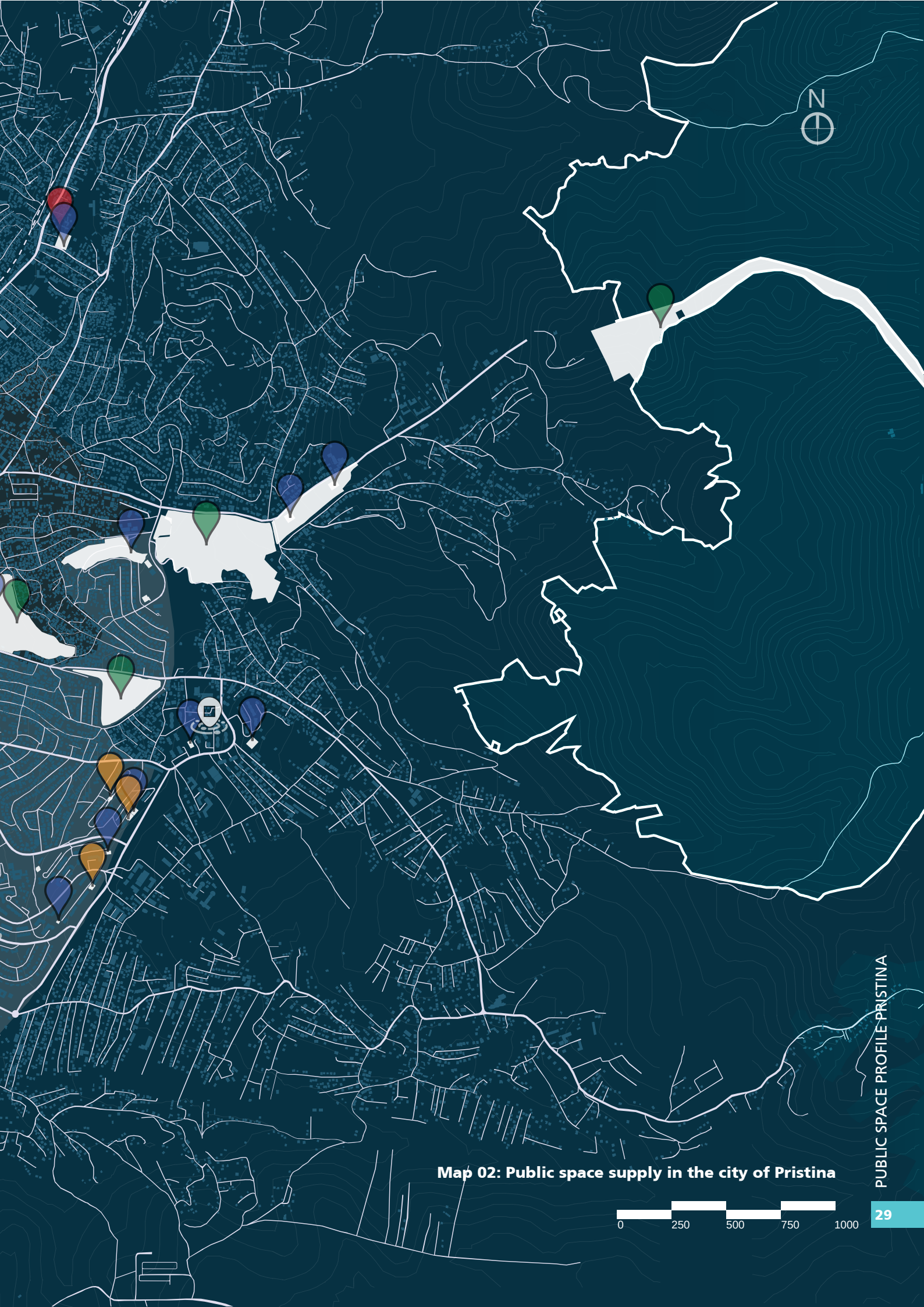
On the other hand, the network of squares, which compose the backbone of the city center as well as the outdoors sports facilities and playgrounds are located within the "modern city" of Pristina, respectively the planned districts of the urban area.

Accessibility and connectivity

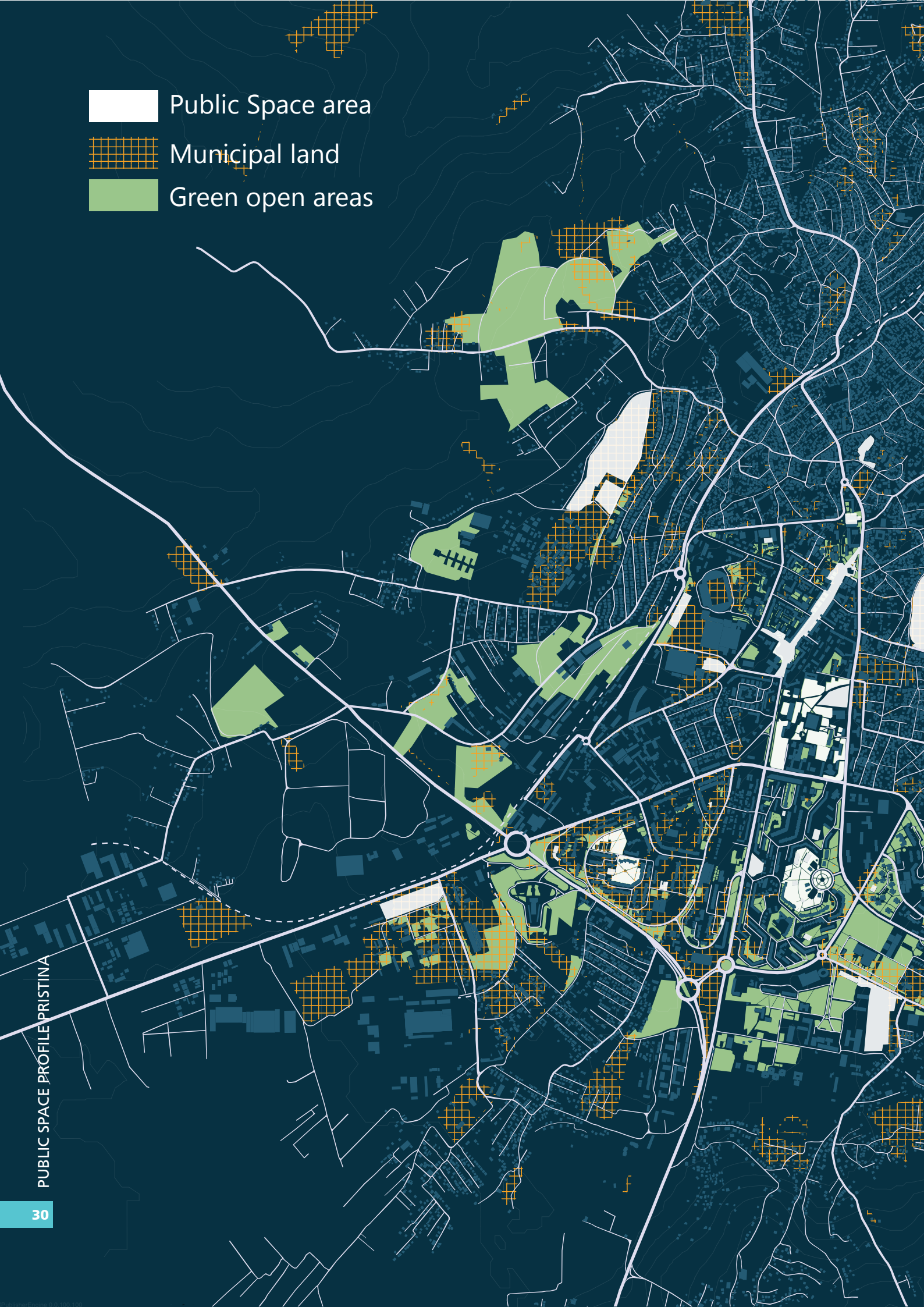
The identified public spaces are located in close proximity to the main economic and cultural facilities. However, no obvious connection is noted between the different public spaces or in relation to the other functions in the city center.(Map 03). The street network enables direct motorized accessibility to most of the identified public spaces, which remains the main transportation mode for the users. The non-motorized accessibility however is quite limited making these places hardly accessible by walking for specific stakeholders, such as mothers which children or persons with disabilities. Key challenges regarding safe movement within the slow mobility network are the sidewalks width, sidewalks occupation by parking, elevation in relation to the street level and lack of ramps to enable accessibility, lack of public lightning, etc. Public transportation enables accessibility to the main squares and most of the city parks. However, it is barely used for accessing public spaces due to the quality of the buses, which are difficult to access for all and the poor connection to different parts of the city. (Map 04)

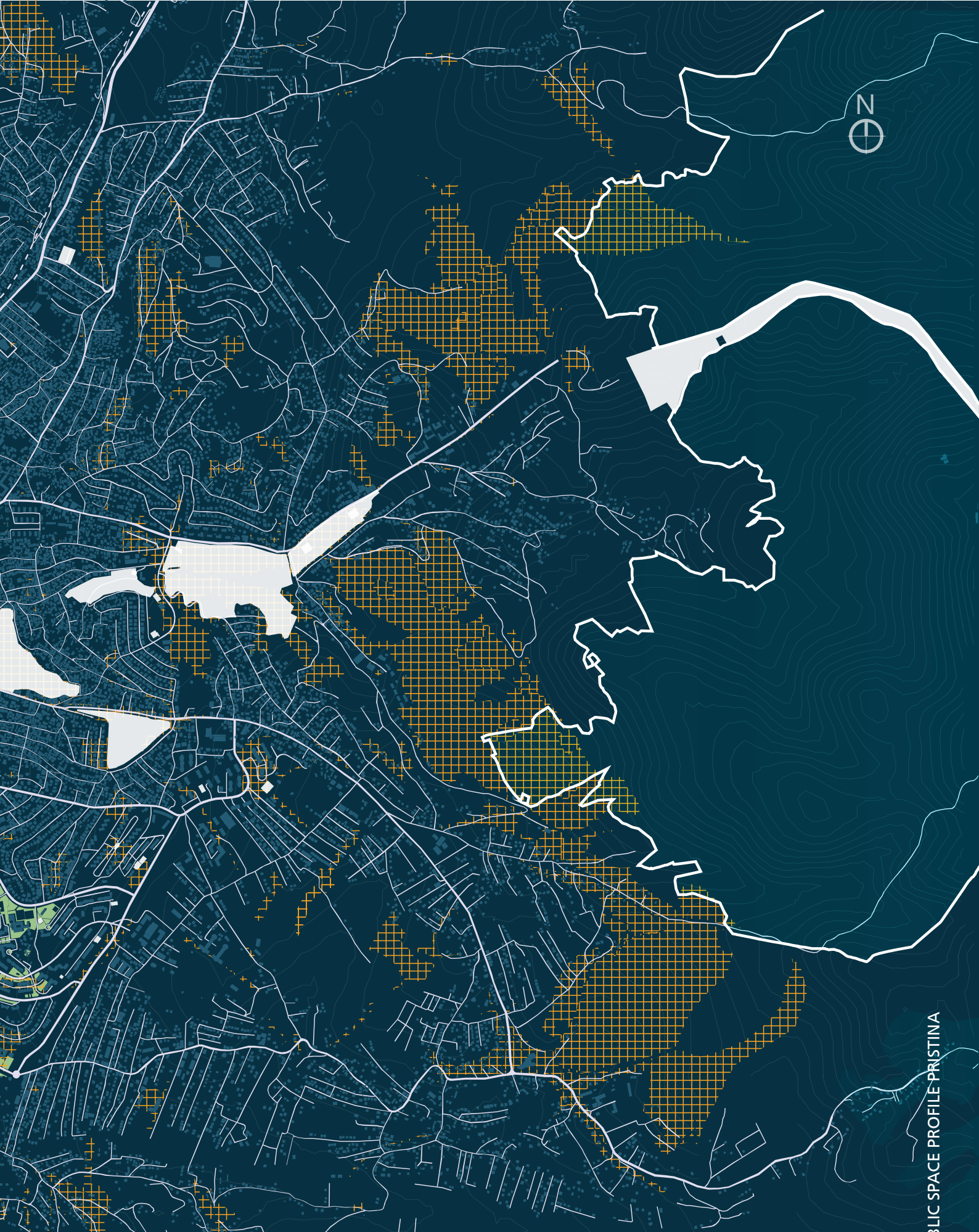



Squares
Municipal markets
Parks
Playgrounds
Outdoor sports fields
Plateu
Landmarks
Public Space area
Historical area
Modern city
Informal city expansion

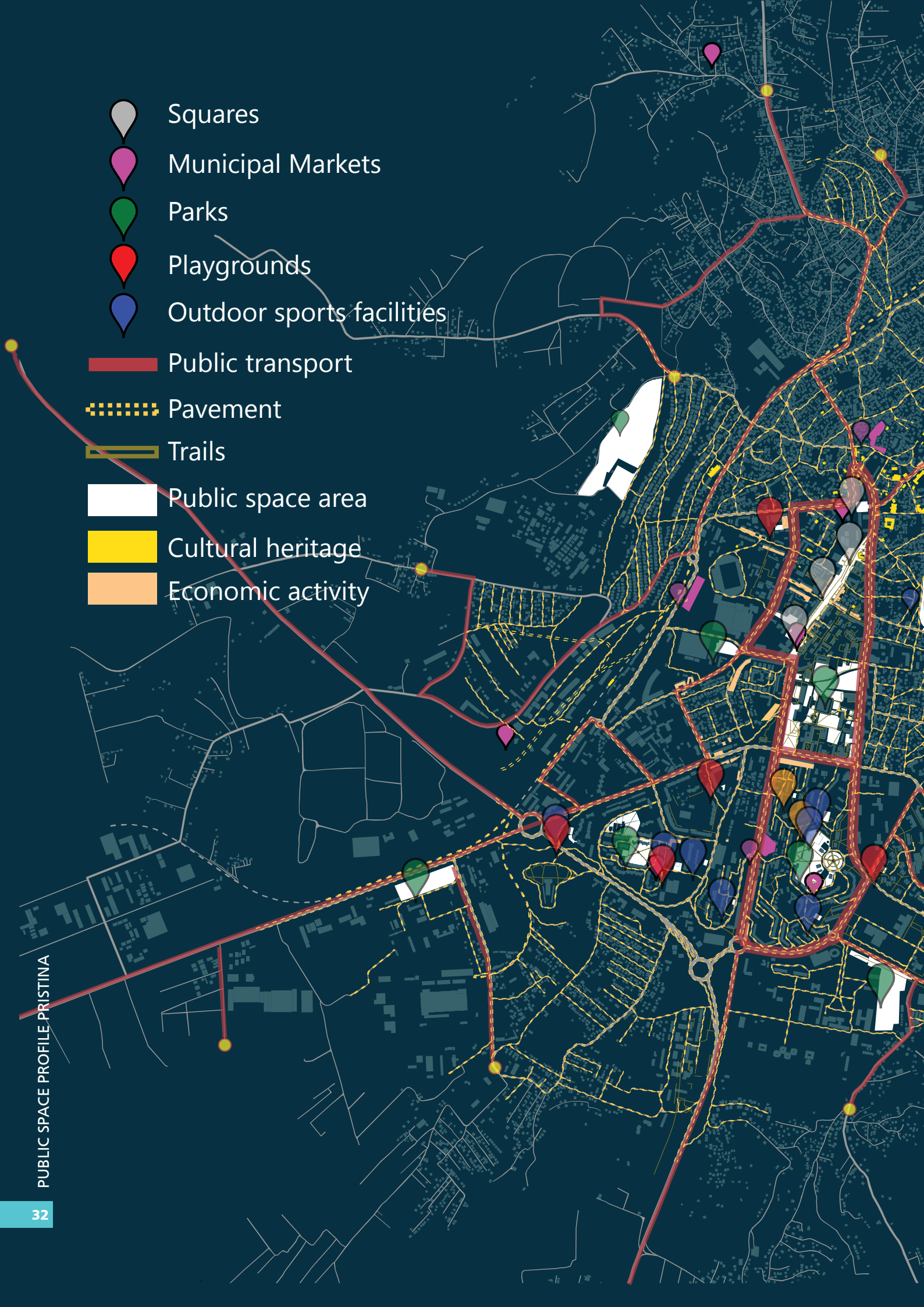


Map 02: Public space supply in the city of Pristina


Public Space area
Municipal land
Green open areas



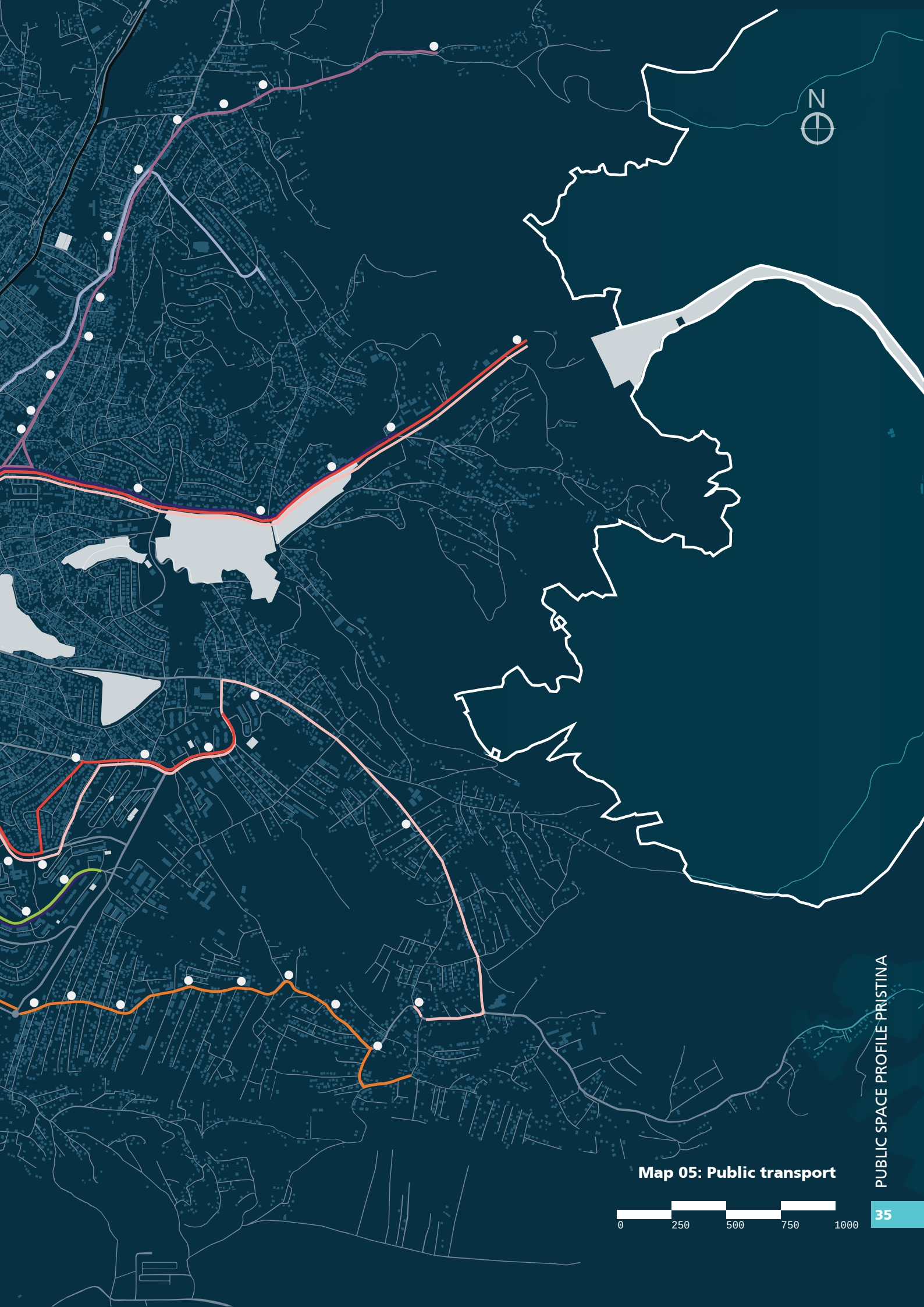
Map 03: Layering of public spaces, open spaces and municipal land


Squares
Municipal Markets
Parks
Playgrounds
Outdoor sports facilities
Public transport
Pavement
Trails
Public space area
Cultural heritage
Economic activity



Map 04: Accessibility and connectivity


LINE 1
LINE 2
LINE 3
LINE 3A
LINE 3B
LINE 4
LINE 5
LINE 6
LINE 6A
LINE 7
LINE 7A
LINE 8
LINE 9
LINE 10
BUS STOPS
BUS STATION
Public Space area



Map 05: Public transport

PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES **SQUARES**

Squares constitute one of the main types within public space category "Streets as public spaces", which operate as key attraction points for the entire urban area due to their versatility in terms of public enjoyment.

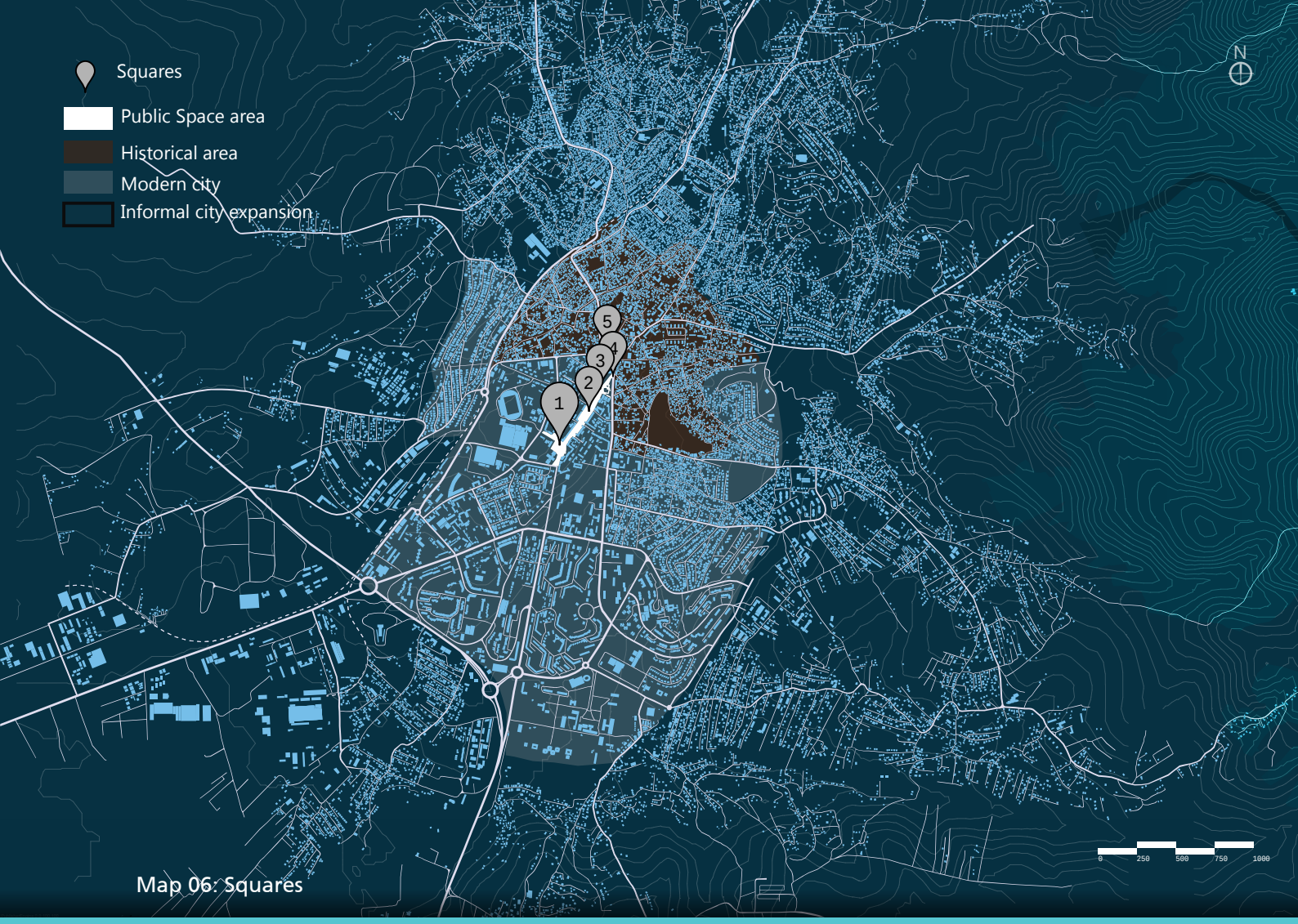
Pristina has five squares located in the core part of the urban area within a 400 m radius, creating a central attraction in the city. Four of the squares (1-4, see map: 06) are connected with a promenade, covering an area of around 1.5 ha. Such composition enables these separate elements to be perceived and used as a single 'organism', being the best storytellers on how a good public space can transform the way people see and use the city. Such perception is also reflected on the way this area is referred to by the citizens, usually as the square in the city center.

The squares are well integrated in the mobility network, including the pedestrian and public transportation network. The pedestrian flow is mainly generated from the western and southern part of the center, through some of the busiest streets of the city due to shops, café and restaurants as well as the main administrative and financial institutions. Regarding urban transportation, all fourteen bus lines enable direct accessibility to the area, with stops located in close proximity.

The surrounding areas consist of residential buildings which include other functions such as retail shops, coffee shops and restaurants (1 and 2, see map: 06) as well as administrative buildings (3,4 and 5, see map: 06), making this the most vivid area in the city. It is an inclusive public space frequented by a large number of categories, including people with disabilities or mothers with strollers, families, elderly and youngsters. It is used differently throughout the day, while in the morning everyone rushes to work, in the midday and during nighttime the place is filled with people eating in terraces, drinking, but also biking, walking, sitting and passing quality time. Due to the high pedestrian flow, this is one of the most targeted area of informal sellers, who position along the entire promenade and "ZahirPajaziti" square.

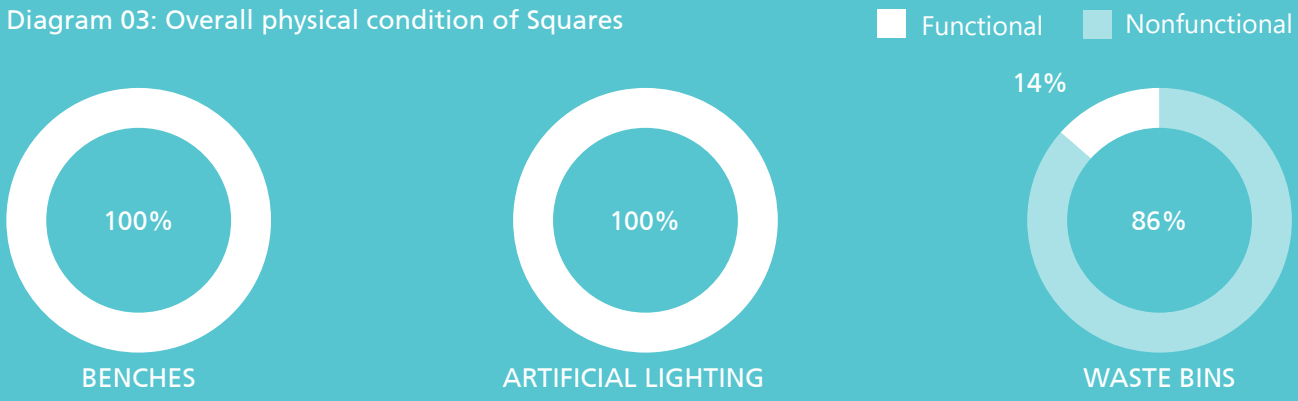
The use of the squares increases from north to south, meaning "Zahir Pajaziti" (1, see map: 06), which serves as the main 'entry gate' to this area, and reduces as it approaches the historical center of the city, finishing with "Adem Jashari" square (5, see map: 06) serving mainly as a transit area. Playing- mainly toddlers and teenagers, sitting and walking through are the main activities that take place regularly in these areas. However, the squares, particularly "Zahir Pajaziti and "Skenderbeu", are the main targets for cultural and recreational events as well as for social and political movements including protests and demonstrations, parades and marches advocating for civil rights.

The squares (1-4, see map: 06) along with the promenade were reconstructed during the year 2011-2013, therefore the amenities that can be found are more or less the same. The repetitive design elements that characterize all four squares are water surfaces and/or fountains, benches and waste-bins. Also, each of the squares consists of statuary of a known personality being reflected in the naming of these places.



Map 06: Squares

Diagram 03: Overall physical condition of Squares



The amenities are generally functional and in good physical condition (see diagram:03). Greenery is included in all composing spaces with high trees and small green oasis. However it is perceived as more present along the promenade and "Mother Theresa" in comparison to the other connected squares.

They are well equipped with public lightning, which is functional and well maintained, and alongside the cafes and restaurants frequented at all hours highly contributes to the sense of safety in the area.

"Adem Jashari" square is on a much poorer condition in terms of the activities that take place all as the physical condition. It also provides an interesting opportunity for comparative analysis regarding the approach to design. While the new squares are edged by the monuments, creating a robust open space with great potential for various activities, be it sports, recreational, cultural etc., in this case the green oasis which includes the monument reminiscent of communism located in the center dominates the square, which reduces the flexibility of space in terms of versatility of activities.



Map 07: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - Composing design elements

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

Construction year: 2013
Former function: Street segment
Size: 10349 m²
Shape: Rectangular
Terrain configuration: Plain (small slope at some part of the square)
Pavement: 86 % of total surface
Greenery: 13 % of total surface
Water: 2 pools, 1 % of total surface
Public lighting: 45
Benches: 14
Waste bins: 19
Restrooms: none

"Zahir Pajaziti" square is located in the centre part of Pristina, and actually it is one of the most attractive part of the city due to the vicinity of main public institutions (Government/ Assembly/Ministries), historical landmarks (statue of Zahir Pajaziti), theatre, cinema, youth and sport centre, university campus, hotels, banks as well as commercial and residential buildings. The square has rectangular shape with some small slopes and is dominated by concrete/granite tiles and grey colours, fountains and some greenery. A lot and diverse activities take place in the square. It is frequented by all age groups. The dominant age is the average one (15-64), for both male and female gender.

ACTIVITY AND USE

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
walking, sitting, witting, jogging, cycling

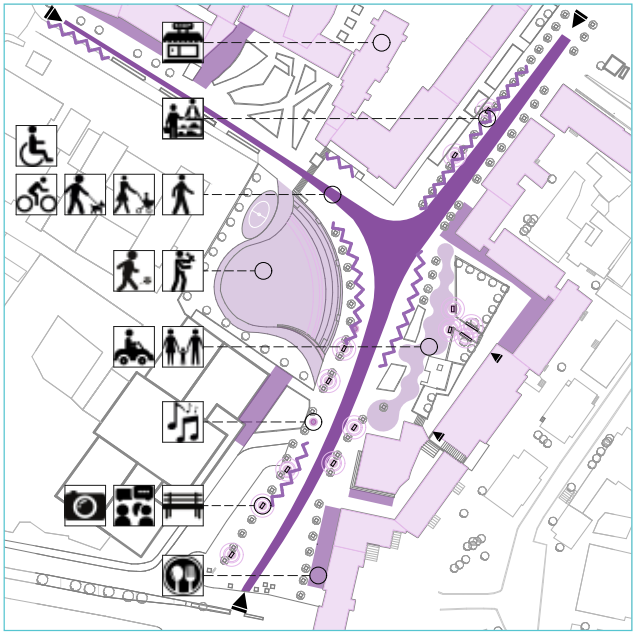
CHILDREN PLAY
skating, football, swinging, spinning, jumping

TRADE
flowers, handicrafts, local food and fruits

SERVICES
drinking and dining

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS
projecting movies and matches, exhibitions, photo shooting, concerts, etc.

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES
singing, dancing, playing instruments, etc



Map 08: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - activity and use

The square has a well-defined shape. During the working days, it is used more as a transit area, while the weekend although at a lower intensity it is used for relaxing and playing. It is edged in two opposite corners with coffee shops, which are highly frequented throughout the working hours (07-23), daytime and night-time. From the user's perspective, the square is composed of three spaces- "plazas", which foster relatively different activities. The first one is located on the western part in the shape of an open amphitheater, reached easily from all directions through stairs serving as a sitting area as well. On daily basis it is used as a playfield for children on the early teens, but periodically fosters other activities such as fairs and concerts, but also performances and cultural events. Space 2, located on the eastern side of the square is a rather quite area, mainly used by toddlers for playing or low speed biking.
The central space is the busiest part of the square. It is the crossroad between the pedestrian flow lines and home to the rotational market once a week, but it also occasionally fosters performances and installations as well as social and political gatherings. Another important recreational activity which started in 2015, has been the Christmas market located along both sides of the square central area, which has contributed to improving the use of this space by transforming it from a pedestrian transit area to a "go-to-place".



Figure 01: "Zahir Pajaziti" square

ACCESS AND FLOW

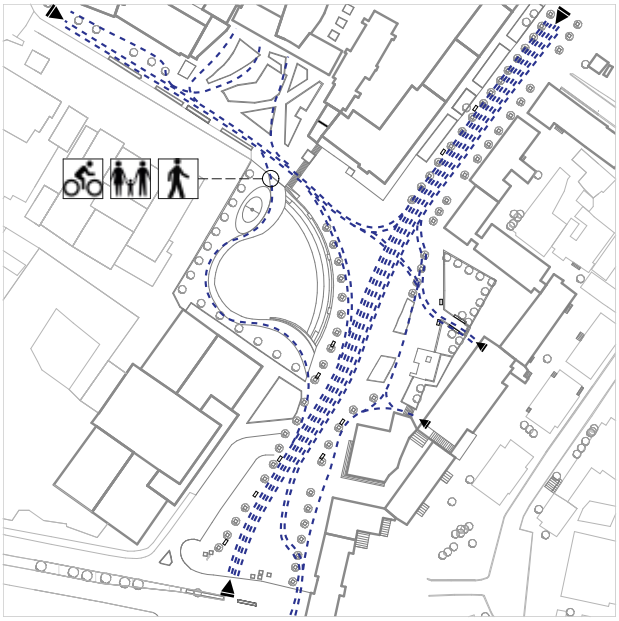
EASILY ACCESSIBLE:
five access points

WELL EQUIPED:
ramps and stairs

LARGE FLOW:
mainly through square centre

The square has five access points, which enable a direct connection between the main functions located in the city center such as central government buildings, youth and sport center, university campus, main city hotels, financial institutions as well as the main commercial and residential districts. It has a great connection to the surrounding area for all categories. With regards to the urban transport, nine of the bus lines pass along the southern and western part of the square, with stops in a distance less than 140 meters. It is well equipped with ramps to access all parts of the square. However a number of access points (see map: 09) have direct access to the central part only by stairs. An interesting opportunity is the plaza of the "Grand Hotel", which could be further explored for improving pedestrian access and connection.

In terms of pedestrian flow a difference between the weekdays is noted, related to the intensity



Map 09: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - access and flow

of the flow as well as the time period. During working days the pedestrian flow is increased starting from midday- end of the school shift and lunch break, and reaches its peak during the end of the working schedule for both public and private sector. During the weekends, the flow increases after midday and although it reduces slightly, it remains quite high until around 3 pm.

While the square is frequented by both genders in a rather balanced manner, there is a great difference in the use of the space between the different age groups. The main age groups using the square more frequently are the age groups 35+ in comparison to the age group 0-14.

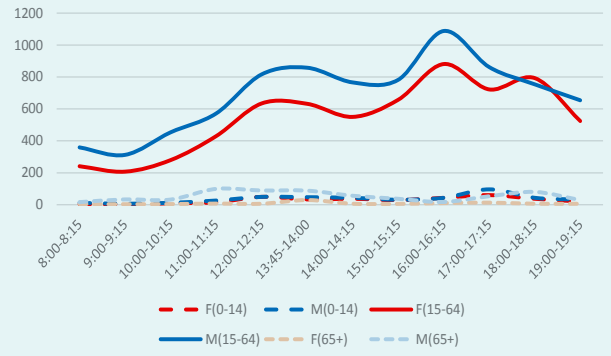


Diagram 04:
"Zahir Pajaziti" Square - working days flow

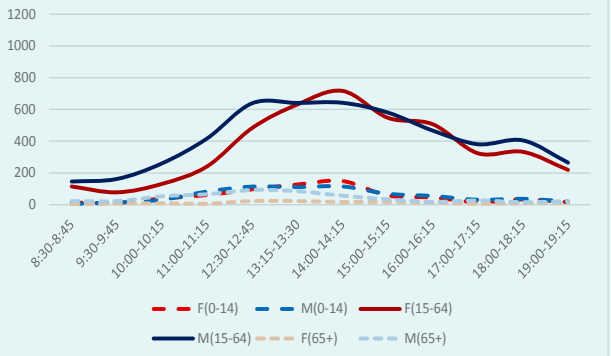


Diagram 05:
"Zahir Pajaziti" Square - weekends flow

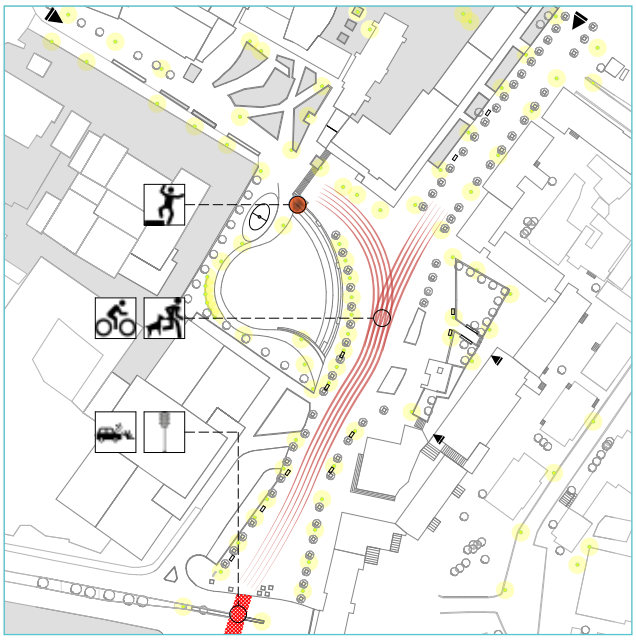
SAFETY AND COMFORT

CONFLICTS BETWEEN USES:
high speed biking

RISK:
lack of rails near the amphitheatre, stray dogs

The square is perceived as a safe and secure public space due to a number of factors. The space is actively used during all hours and can be well monitored from the surrounding. The view towards the space is open from all access points, with no fixed physical barriers, which enables the user/visitor to be aware of the atmosphere upon arrival. In addition, the public lightning is fully functional and provides adequate lightning to the square. Regarding the coexistence of different activities, potential conflict is mitigated through different design elements such as, for example a tree line between the central area towards the open amphitheater, or the water pools towards the eastern part of the square. However an evident conflict between high speed bikers and people walking, particularly children, or the presence of stray dogs throughout the day remains a concern for the users.

"Zahir Pajaziti" square has a good image. It has a small number of benches that are positioned in great distance from each other. But, various design elements can be used as a sitting area, such as the retaining wall of the water pools or the green oasis.



Map 10: "Zahir Pajaziti" Square - safety and comfort

The pavement and the amenities enable the use of the space in different seasons and weather conditions. However, there are few opportunities to experience the seasonal change. It consists of a small number of trees, providing shade to a relatively small area of the square, mainly along the stairs of the amphitheater. The square is slightly sloped, but does not hamper the use by all categories throughout the year. Adequate maintenance, especially during the coldest days of winter, plays an essential role in mitigating the risk under such extreme circumstances.



Figure 02: "Zahir Pajaziti" square



Figure 03: "Zahir Pajaziti" square

PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES
MUNICIPAL MARKETS

Public markets, listed among the "Public Urban Facilities" as the third conventional public space category, beyond the primary function are important landmarks for the public life of the community operating at both the city as well as the neighbourhood level.

Pristina consists of five markets, including the green markets (1,3 and 5, see map: 11) managed by the public enterprise "Tregu"[13] , the wholesale market (4) managed by the municipal administration and the flea market (2)organized by the sellers themselves. The green markets operating on daily basis (1 and 3) are located on opposite borders of the urban centre, in a distance less than 2 km. This bipolar north/south coverage has been supplemented by the mobile green market (5), which rotates in 9 locations- once a week/location, mainly distributed on the west/east axis of the urban area. The flea market is organized once a week. It is located behind the football stadium, in a high proximity of the inner ring-road of the city of Pristina.

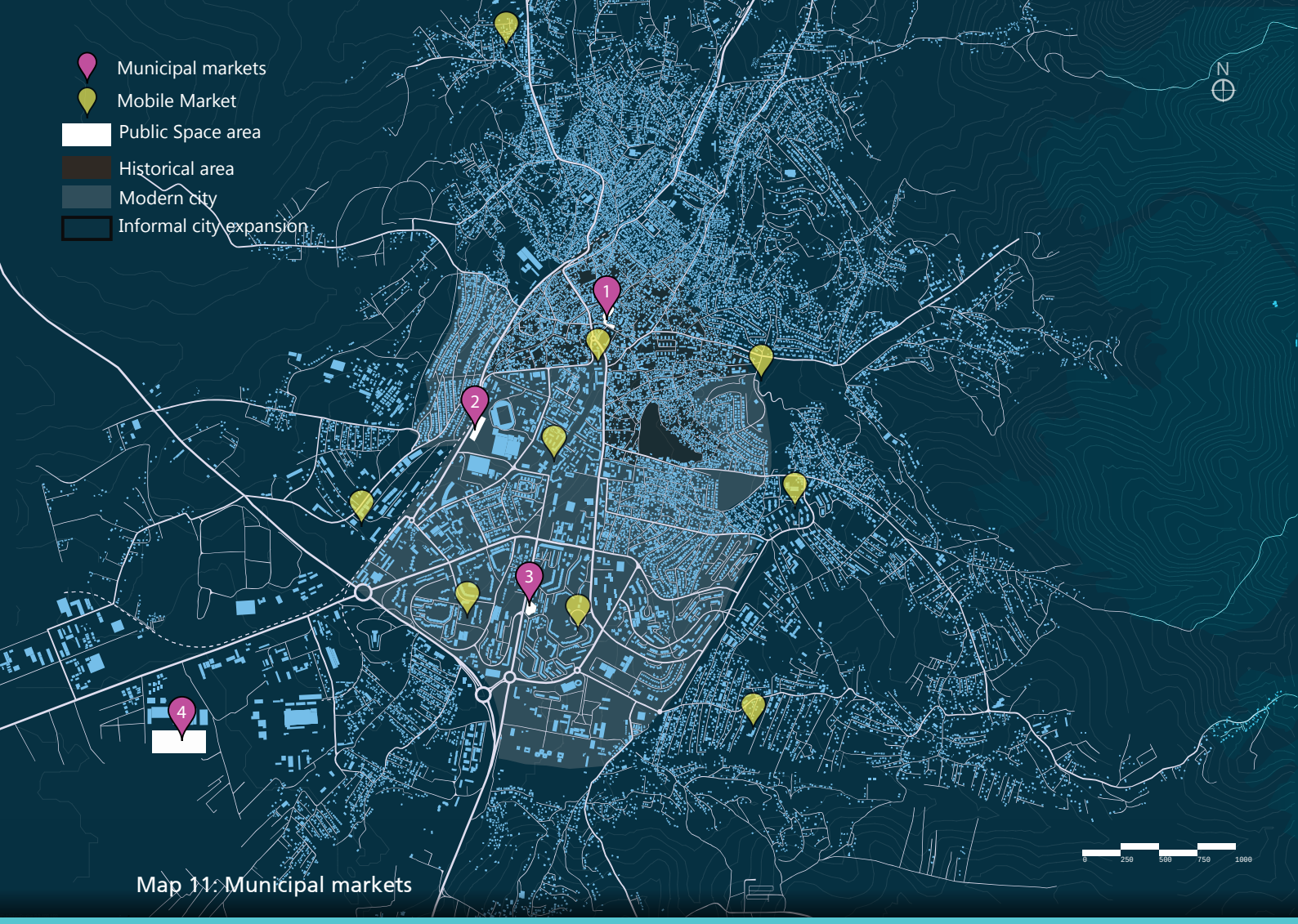
The connectivity of the municipal markets to the mobility networks differs from one case to another. The green markets (1 and 3) which operate at the city level are easily accessible through urban transportation, with bus stops in close proximity. Although these markets are located next to the main streets of the city accessibility by car is challenged by the lack of adequate parking in the area. The mobile market (5), which enables vendors to sell mainly green products in a number of residential districts, is mainly located in the plazas well connected to the pedestrian network. On the other hand, the wholesale market is located out of the urban area, next to the former industrial zone and it is accessible by public transportation. However the pedestrian infrastructure is not very inviting, therefore personal vehicles remains the main transportation mode to reach the market.

In terms of the relation and impact on the surrounding the main difference can be drown between the green markets (1 and 3) and the other two- wholesale and flea market. The green markets are surrounded by residential buildings, with no direct visibility for those passing by the streets. However the impact in the surrounding is much bigger, contributing to the expansion of such activity along the secondary streets leading to the market place. On the other hand the commercial activity for the latter ones is framed within a defined location, separated by the residential districts and other functions with a lower attractiveness.

Although there is no clear division between the different markets in terms of the included product lines, there are a number of distinctive features. The green markets and the wholesale one, although at a different scale, provide a mixture of products including fruits and vegetables, spices, textile and kitchen appliances. While the flea market offers mainly second hand textile products.

The supporting infrastructure is relatively poor in terms of physical condition and variety (see diagram: 06). Key amenities that can be found are open metallic stands as well as small shops (4), public lightning and public toilets. However the latter ones are hardly functional and very poorly maintained.

13 Owned by the KPA - in the process of liquidation.



Map 11: Municipal markets

Diagram 06:
Overall physical conditions of Municipal Markets

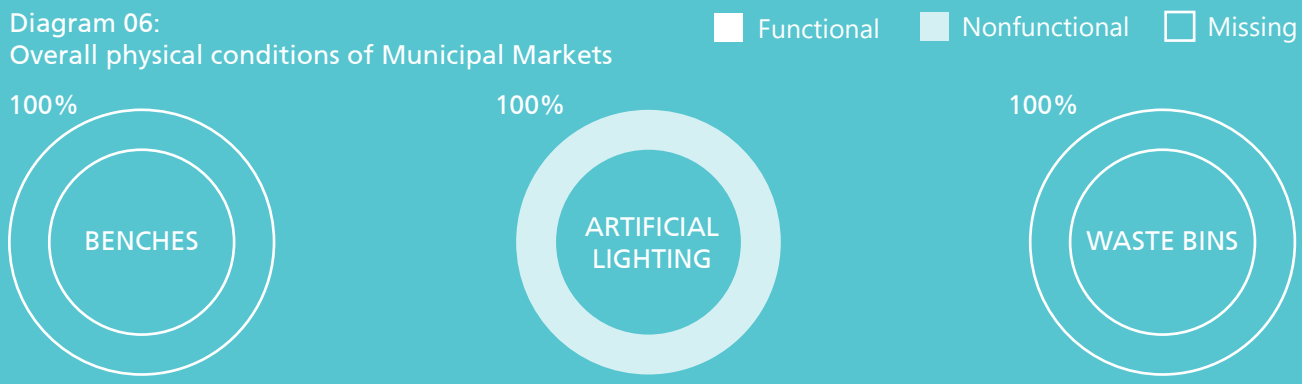




Figure 04: Green market - "The old Bazaar"



Map 12: The old Bazaar

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

Construction year: Unknown
Former function: Market
Size: 6908 m²
Shape: L shape
Terrain configuration: Plain
Fenced: metallic fences
Opening hours: 07:00-19:00
Pavement: Asphalt, 87 % of total surface
Greenery: none
Water: none
Public lighting: 16
Benches: none
Waste bins: none
Restrooms: 1

Green market or the old Bazaar of Pristina (as peopled used to call it) originates since XV century when it was initially built, and it is located in the core center of Pristina (the old/historical part of town), at the intersection of the two main roads (Agim Ramadani and Iljaz Agushi). This market has always had a significant role in the physical, economic, and social development of that part of the city.

Despite changes over time, the substantive part of the green market remains the same. In terms

ACTIVITY AND USE

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
walking, sitting (only in cafeterias), socializing

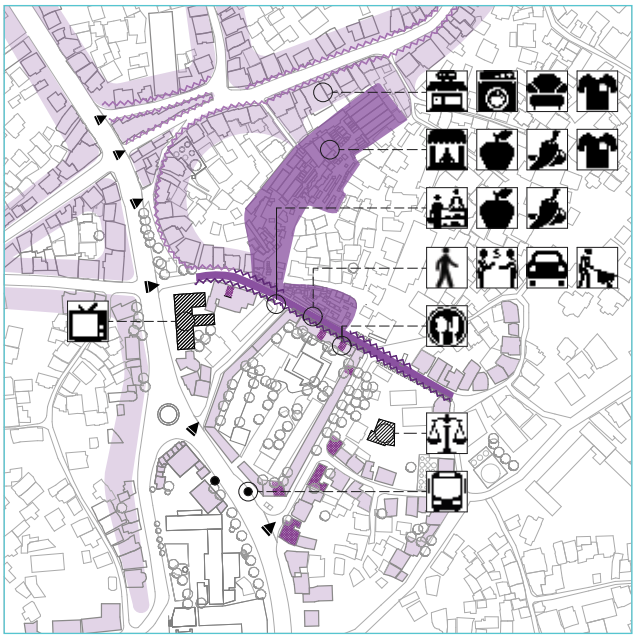
CHILDREN PLAY
n/a

TRADE
fruits and vegetables (mostly), clothing, home and kitchen appliances: heaters, refrigerators, dishwashers, freezes and other related products

SERVICES
drinking and dining

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS
n/a.

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES
n/a



Map 13: Activity and use

of the existing facilities and maintenance, the situation is not satisfactory. The roof of the market has a kind of 'temporary character', and is covered with different materials by vendors. The market area is only partly used due to the poor conditions and lack of general and daily maintenance.

However, the market is well visited. The youngsters (0-14) use the market mainly as transit to another space, while the males and females of the average age (15-64) use the market during all the day and represent the largest number visiting the market.

The old Bazaar is perceived as one of the most dynamic and visited areas of this part of the city. That is mainly due to the supplementing functions and activity expanded along the surrounding streets (see map: 12) including stalls, shops, tearooms and fast-food places, which constitute the most attractive part of the area.

The market working hours are 07:00-19:00, also the shops located along the above mentioned streets are open until approximately 19:00. The market itself has a poorly defined "L" shape. It is surrounded by individual houses of 0-4 floors on three sides, mainly located next to the market area with direct vision towards it.

Although there is a mixture of products with no sectional organization of the market, a rough division between the different product lines is noticed. Textile spines the market on the north, while the centre of the market is more used for selling kitchen appliances and spices. While fruits and vegetables, although not exclusively, can mainly be found in the market space along the street. Although there is an increasing demand and informal stands installed along the surrounding streets, a great part of the market space itself is empty.

This market is the only public space among those identified that consists of public toilets, which are located close to the entrance of the market area.



Figure 05: Green market - "The old Bazaar"

ACCESS AND FLOW

EASILY ACCESSIBLE:
two access points for pedestrians

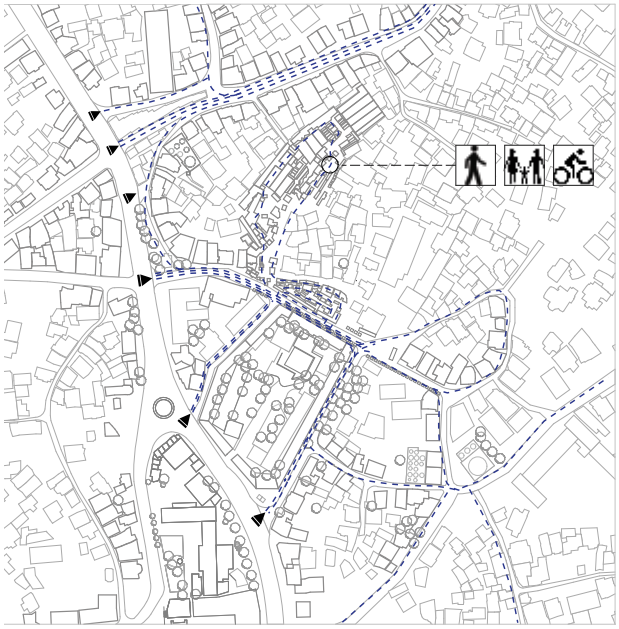
NOT WELL EQUIPED:
respective signs for orientation/information

LARGE FLOW:
mainly along the street "Iljaz Agushi"

The market has two access points. The southern gate enables accessibility from the street "Iljaz Agushi" as an integrated part of the market, constituting the main entrance to the place. The western access is done through a very narrow pedestrian path surrounded by walls, rarely used by the visitors of the market, creating a direct connection with one of the main commercial streets of the area.

There is no adequate parking space (nor to upload goods) in the proximity of the market, therefore the sidewalks and the streets leading to the market area are used to park the vehicles.

There is a continuous path within the market area which allows access to all constituent parts, reserved for pedestrian and trolley access only. The street segment (see map: 14) on the other hand, although it consists of a traditional street section is quite chaotic. A part of sidewalks is used to expose the products of the shops located alongside,



Map 14: The old Bazaar - access and flow

as a terrace for the tearooms and fast-food shops, allowing very limited room for pedestrian movement. The street is occupied by the informal stands/stalls and is used for selling/shopping, walking, biking and vehicles.

The pedestrian flow is mainly generated from the western entry points- 4 in total. The greatest flow is noticed during the afternoon, respectively midday to around 16.00, which is tripled during the working days in comparison to the weekend. Although at a slight difference, the market is used more by men than women. In terms of age, the age-group 15-65 constitute 77 % of the users, while the other groups are almost completely absent.

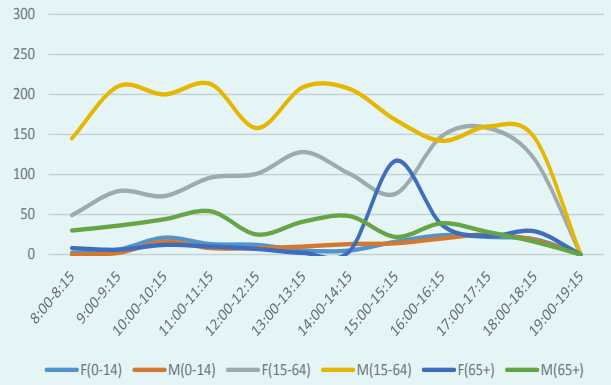


Diagram 07:
The old Bazaar - working days flow

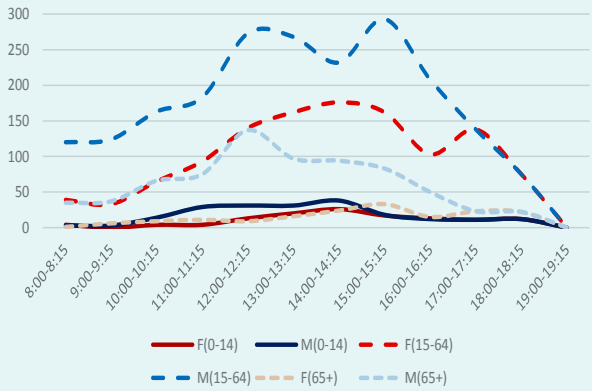
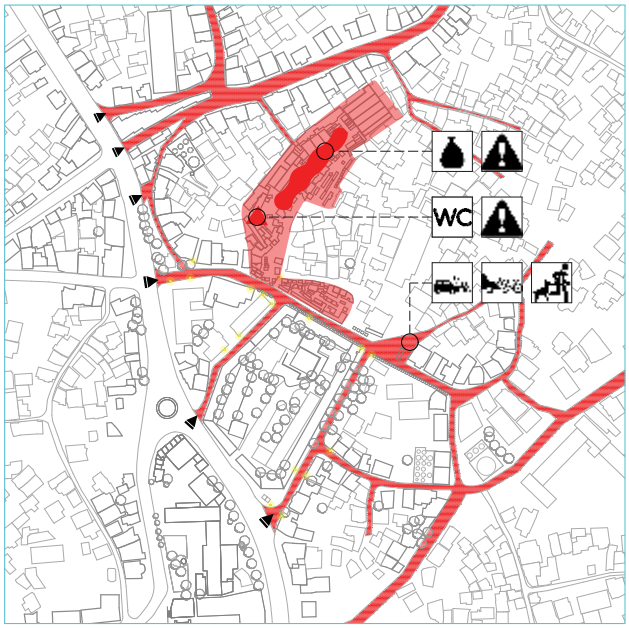


Diagram 08:
The old Bazaar - weekends flow

SAFETY AND COMFORT

The market area is perceived as an unsafe and uninviting space due to the poor physical infrastructure, including the pavement, stands/ stalls, provisional roof and the supporting technical infrastructure. In addition the space has no visible accessibility and is partially abandoned which contributes to the feeling of unsafety. The public toilets are poorly maintained therefore can be considered hardly functional. During the evening hours the surrounding area is indirectly lit by the shops located along the street in vicinity. The mixture of products from one stand to the other one is another element that affects the attractiveness of the market area.

However, the perception is relatively different regarding the street segment next to the market. It is paved with cobblestone and alongside the colours of the well arrangement fruits and vegetables stalls, a rather warmer and more inviting environment is established.



Map 15: The old Bazaar - safety and comfort



Figure 06: Green market - "The old Bazaar"

PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES **PARKS**

Parks are key urban features, which constitute an important typology of the "Public Open Spaces". Most of the parks in Pristina were pre-existing high greenery lands which were later developed into parks, while in some cases the modern developed residential blocks created space for parks inside the neighbourhoods.

Public Space category II

"PUBLIC OPEN SPACES"

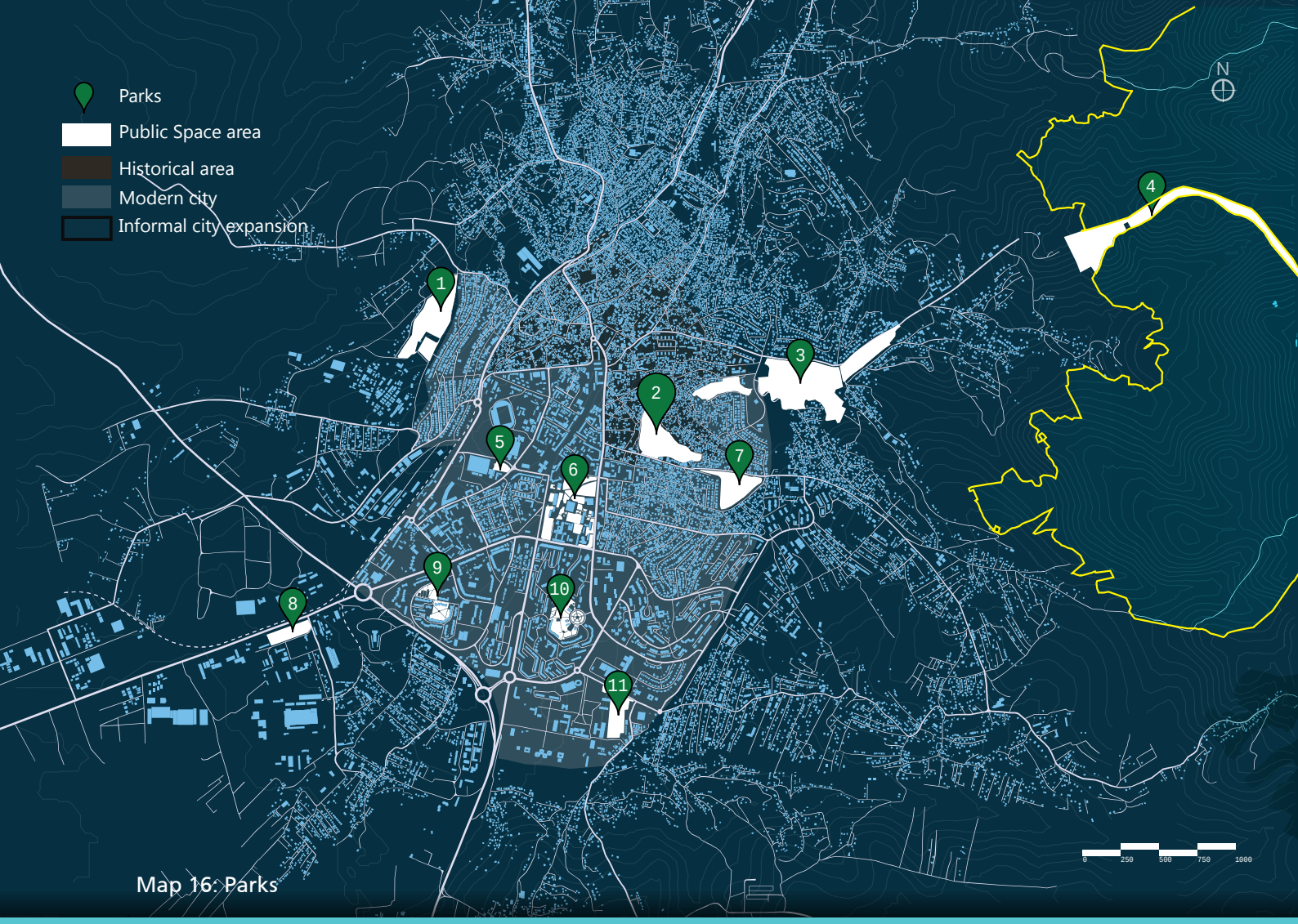
- Typical public spaces
- Publicly owned
- Accessible and enjoyable
- No direct cost

11 parks have been identified, corresponding to two categories: neighbourhood parks, serving mainly to the neighbourhood communities and city parks which are used by a broader community. These are (see map: 16): Arberia park (1), City park (2), Taukbahce (3) and Germia park (4), are considered as urban woodlands, characterized with large trees and shrub covered areas.Due to its setting and terrain configuration, Arberiapark, is mainly used in a neighbourhood level whilst all of the above mentioned parks serve in a city level.

In a neighbourhood level there is Ulpiana park (10), Dardania park (9) and the park in Emshir (8) neighbourhood. Besides Germiapark, they are all bordered with streets and surrounded mainly by residential buildings and in some cases also retailers and restaurants.

Parks are highly praised by the inhabitants of Pristina, and their importance is continuously growing in the people consciousness. Even though numerous, they still cover a small area of the city and are not distributed proportionally, hereby not fulfilling the needs of all the inhabitants living in the urban area, but a large proportion of locals still considers them as places to be.

During the survey, parks that offered a range of amenities with easy access had many visitors during daytime. Older generations playing chess, walking or enjoying a good weather while chitchatting with friends were pretty common, while children were using the playgrounds, cycling, playing football or laying in the lawn.



Map 16: Parks

Diagram 09:
Overall physical condition of Parks

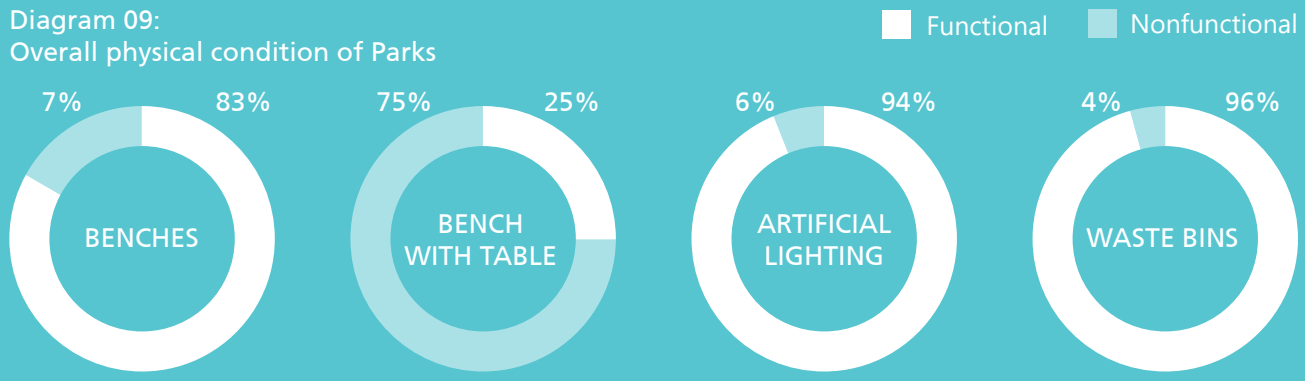




Figure 07: "Dardania" Park



Map 17: City park

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

Construction year: Unknown
Former function: Graveyard
Size: 67426 m²
Shape: Triangular
Terrain configuration: Plain
Fenced: Metallic fences
Pavement: 7.4 % of total surface
Greenery: 92.6 % of total surface
Water: none
Public lighting: 133
Benches: 26
Waste bins: 47
Restrooms: none

The City Park is located in the eastern part of Pristina city centre, which makes it very frequented during the day.

The park is used by all age groups. The dominant age is the average one (15-64), for both male and female gender, although there are a lot of children and elderly people. Most activities take place in the central area of the park. It is equipped with a lot of amenities which enable diverse activities, relaxation and socializing.

ACTIVITY AND USE

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
walking, sitting, jogging, cycling, football, basketball, fitness

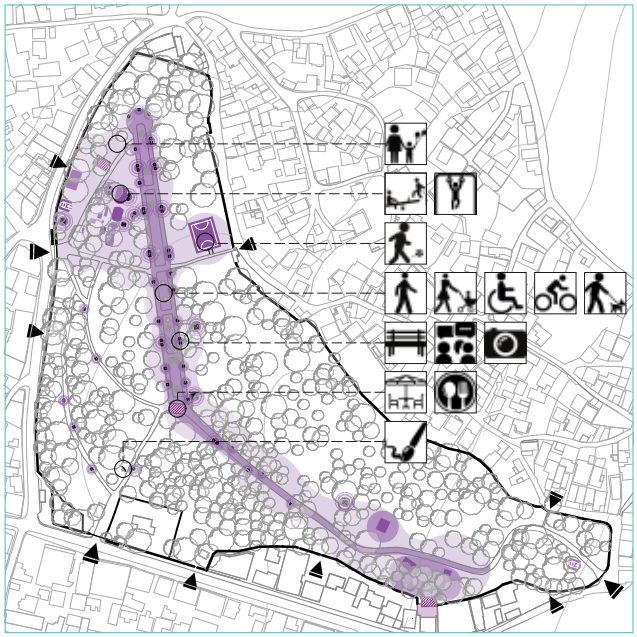
PLAY
swinging, balancing, sliding, playing chess

TRADE
n/a

SERVICES
drinking and dining

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS
n/a

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES
n/a



Map 18: City park - activity and use

The city park is among the few urban woodlands. It consists of three key features which foster different kind of activities. The pathway in the shape of the central spine of the park equipped with benches on both sides, which is used for walking but also jogging and cycling, or playing chess mainly by elderly.

In addition there are a number of trails opened by the users, which offer a more quiet and relaxing environment. Secondly, there are playgrounds and sports fields in good condition located in the north and south of the park, in which users play football and basketball.

Cafes offer the opportunity to have refreshments and socialize as well as wait for the children while they are playing.



Figure 08: "Arbëria" Park

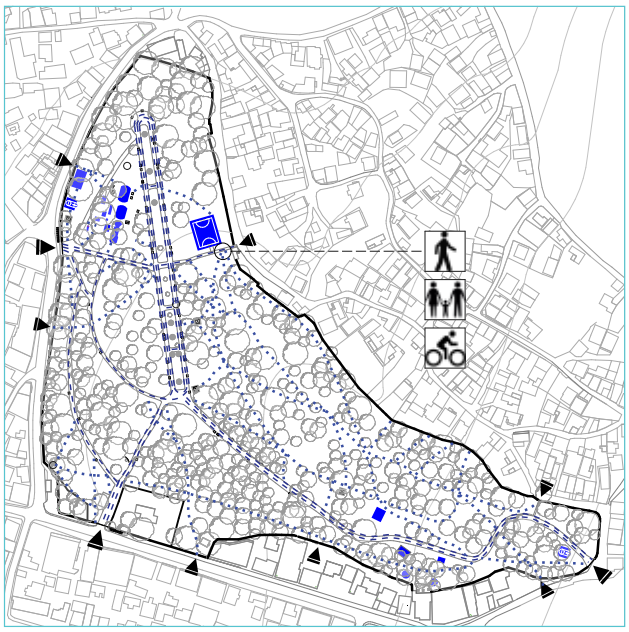
ACCESS AND FLOW

EASILY ACCESIBLE:
10 access points

LARGE FLOW:
along the paved and treated paths

The City Park is an important and highly frequented public space. The park can be accessed by 10 points, 6 of which are informal entry points to the treaded paths within the park.

The pedestrian flow is mainly generated from the southern entry gates. The greatest flow is noted during weekdays- the afternoon especially by the age group 15-64 while 0-14 during the midday as a shortcut to go to school.



Map 19: City park - access and flow

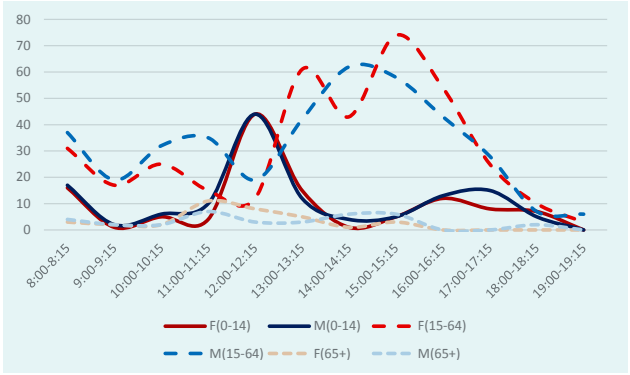


Diagram 10: City park - working days flow

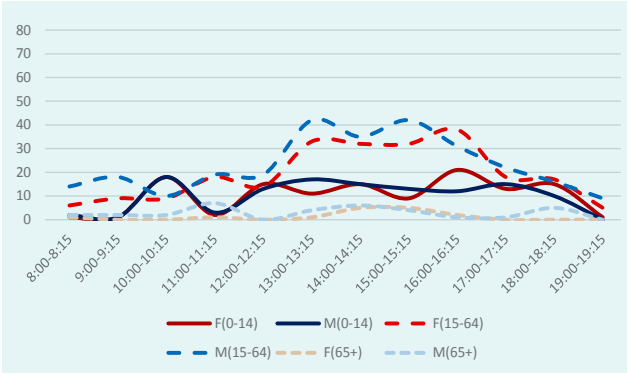


Diagram 11: City park - weekends flow



Figure 09: City Park

SAFETY AND COMFORT

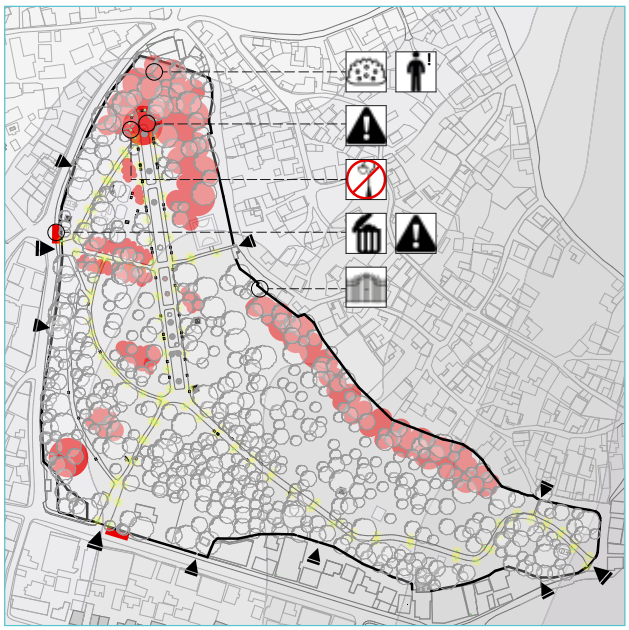
VISIBILITY:
hampered by bushes around the park

INSECURITY:
lack of public lightning, stray dogs

POLLUTION AND SMELL:
garbage containers located next to the main entrance

PERCEPTION:
Impression of isolation due to fence along the entire perimeter

The park is generally considered safe and a secure place. However, there are some aspects that require further attention. The hampered visibility and lack of public lightning are contributing factors to a reduced usage of the park especially during the evening hours. Additional discomforts are considered to be the garbage containers, which encourage the presence of stray dogs.



Map 20: City park - safety and comfort

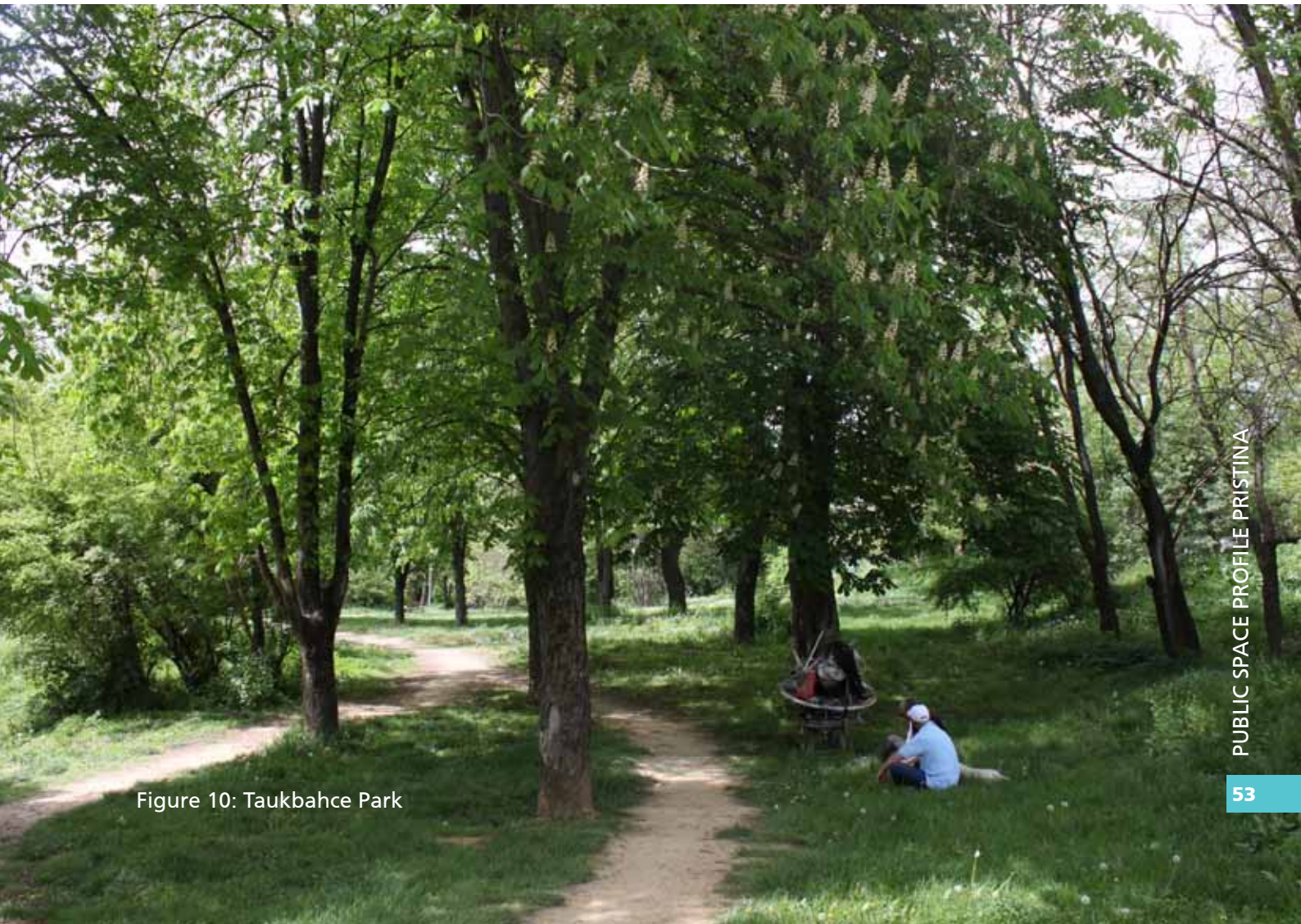


Figure 10: Taukbahce Park

PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES
PLAYGROUNDS

Playground corners within the urban core of the city are mainly distributed in the planned neighbourhoods. Most of them are located in Dardania, Ulpiana and Sunny Hill neighbourhoods.

They sit in-between residential buildings and as such creating easy physical and visual access for the inhabitants. Playgrounds generally share the same design and basically the same amenities such as: Seesaw (6 - 12 years) and Balancing (6 - 12 years), Climbing Equipment (6 - 12 years) and Swings (3 - 12 years), Springer (6 - 12 years) and Play Houses (3 - 12 years). They are conceived as a joint facility with an outdoor sports field or as an integrated facility of a park. Almost all of them are rectangular shaped with concrete paving blocks and mounted toys in the middle. The ground where the toys sit is filled with gravel which in most of the cases pours out of the area. There are no trees in the playground composed areas, not offering optimum conditions and therefore creating potential risks for children playing during sunny days.

Parents with their children, grandparents with their grandchildren are the main visitors of the playgrounds. Even though the toys are not being properly maintained and some of them are even severely damaged, they are still the only recreational area offered to younger generations.

Public Space category II

"PUBLIC OPEN SPACES"

- Typical public spaces
- Publicly owned
- Accessible and enjoyable
- No direct cost



Figure 11: "Sunny hill" playground



Map 21: Playgrounds

Diagram 12:
Overall physical conditions of playgrounds

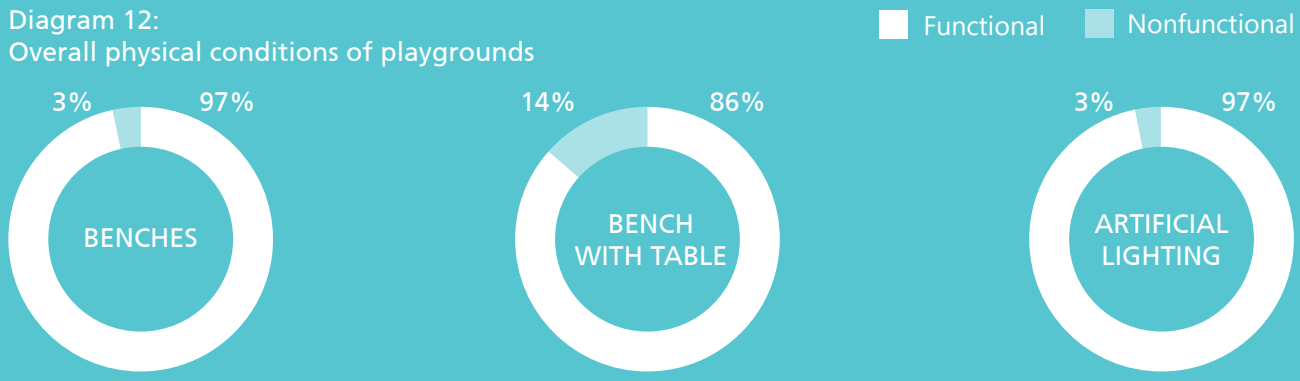




Figure 12: "Dardania" playground



Map 22: Ulpiana playground

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

Construction year: Unknown
Former function: Green Open Space
Size: 870 m²
Shape: Rectangular
Terrain configuration: Plain
Pavement: 97 % of total surface
Greenery: 3 % of total surface
Water: none
Public lighting: 9
Benches: 18
Waste bins: 21
Restrooms: none

The playground is located in the park of Ulpiana neighbourhood, situated in the southern part of Pristina. It is surrounded by residential buildings, in close proximity to the sports field. With a well defined rectangular shape with two filleted corners, it is dominated by concrete tiles and grave, with a modest shadowed area near the benches.

It is mostly used by children (boys and girls), accompanied by their parents, mainly mothers (women 15-64), and grandmothers (women 65+).

ACTIVITY AND USE

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
walking, sitting

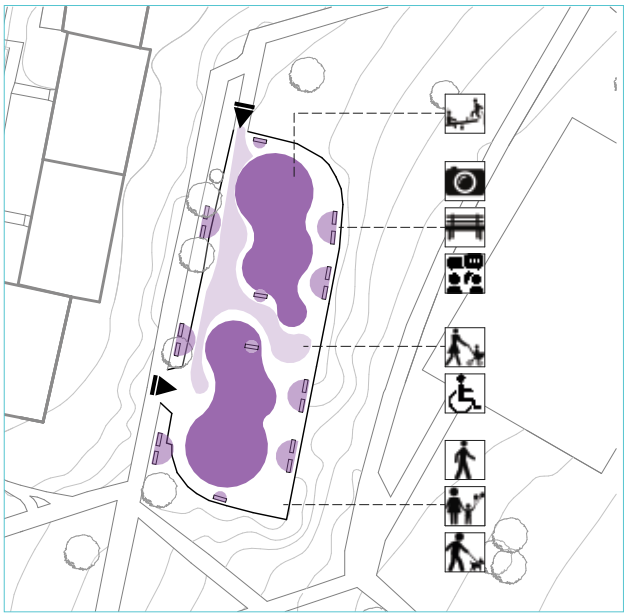
PLAY
swinging, balancing, sliding

TRADE
n/a

SERVICES
n/a

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS
n/a

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES
n/a



Map 23: Ulpiana playground - activity and use

The activities that take place in the area are mainly in support of the primary function of the space as a playground for children. The amenities that enable such are activities are grouped in two zones occupying the central part of the space. They include seesaw, balancing, climbing equipment, swings and stringers.

Additional supporting activities are walking and sitting, with the possibility to socialize due to proximity between the benches.



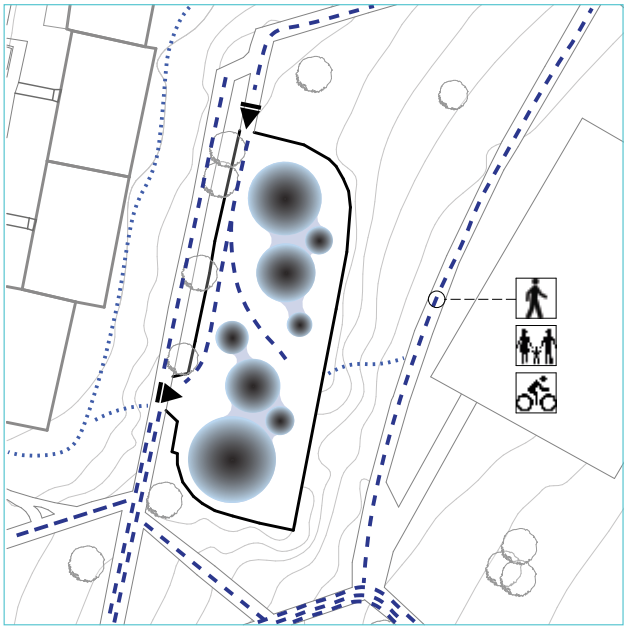
Figure 13: "Dardania" playground

ACCESS AND FLOW

NOT EASILY ACCESSIBLE:
sloped terrain configuration,
only 2 access points

The park entry points enable access from the western and northern part of the playground for all categories. The park consists of a well-connected network of pathways which provides indirect connection only with the residential buildings. As a result a complementing network of threaded networks has been created to enable direct access to the space from the building entrances.

The greatest flow is generated from 10 am to 5 pm, mainly by girls and women. Different to other public space types, 0-14 constitutes the main age group of users.



Map 24: Ulpiana playground - access and flow

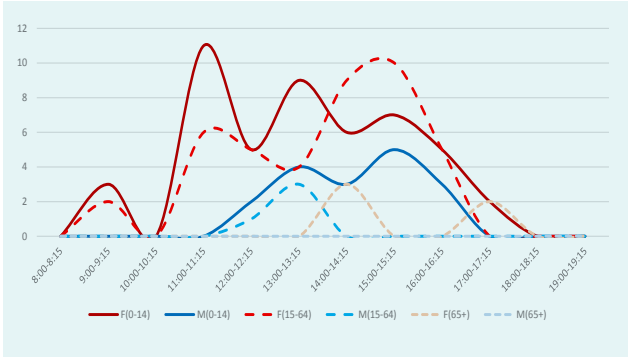


Diagram 13: Ulpiana playground - working days flow

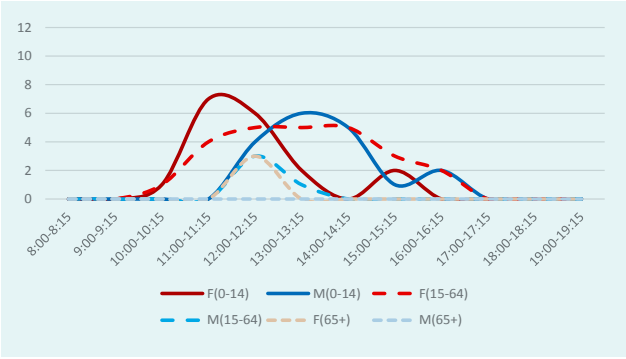


Diagram 14: Ulpiana playground - weekends flow



Figure 14: "Ulpiana" playground

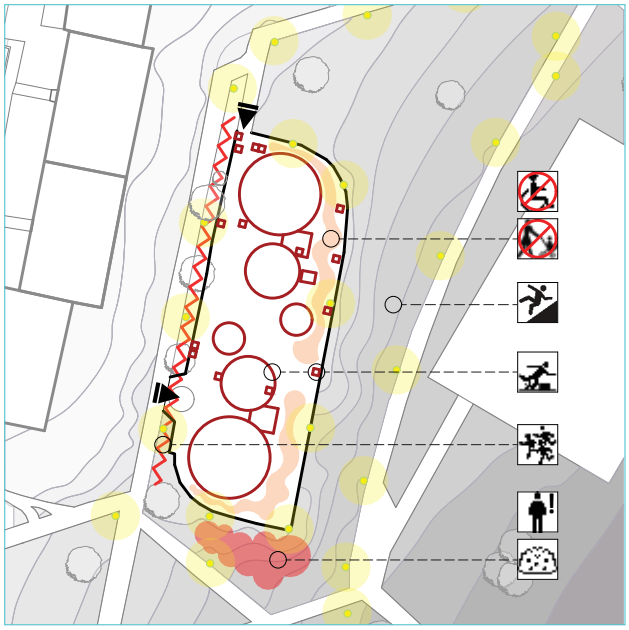
SAFETY AND COMFORT

VISIBILITY:
Generally good, slightly hampered from the southern side of the playground

RISK:
Falling- eastern side of the playground due to sloped terrain

The playground is located in a safe and secure location- in the heart of the neighborhood and away from the motorized traffic.

The space has good visibility, especially in relation to the residential areas. However some aspects that could be further improved include movement and access to all spaces within the place for all categories, approach towards various terrain configurations to ensure safety.



Map 25: Ulpiana playground - safety and comfort



Figure 15: "Ulpiana" playground

PUBLIC SPACE TYPOLOGIES **OUTDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES**

The most common category of public spaces in the Municipality of Pristina are the sports facilities. Driven from the interest of people in sports and the easiness to build the municipal authorities built 17 sports facilities. Except two tennis fields (4) (5), all of the others are basketball courts.

Together with playgrounds they are distributed mainly in planned neighborhoods. The design composition is basically the same with rims and tables, fenced on four sides and sometimes longitudinal benches. A common problem is the accessibility, which in almost all of the cases deprives people with special needs.

The terrain is made of asphalt providing hard flooring while the fences are metallic. A persistent problem is the destruction of the rims, because of the weak material being used and also because they are not being maintained regularly.

Different group ages visit the places to play sports and hang out during the day and if the artificial lighting works there are people using the places also during night time.

Public Space category II

"PUBLIC OPEN SPACES"

- Typical public spaces
- Publicly owned
- Accessible and enjoyable
- No direct cost



Figure 16: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility



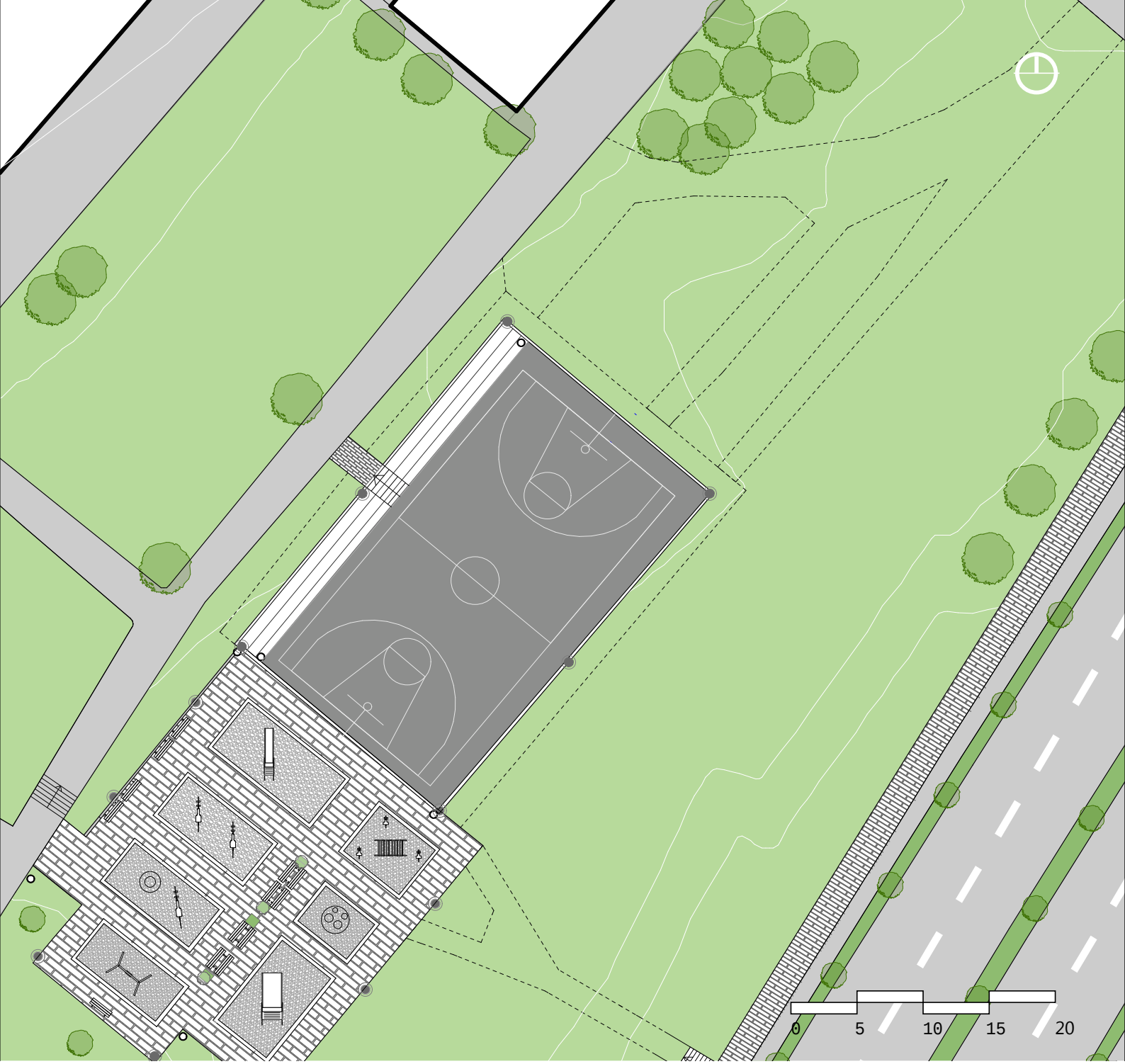
Map 26: Outdoor Sports Facilities

Diagram 15:
Overall physical condition of Outdoor Sports Facilities





Figure 17: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility



Map 27: Sunny Hill OSF

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

Construction year: 2012
Former function: Green Open Space
Size: 632 m²
Shape: Rectangular
Terrain configuration: Plain
Fenced: Metallic fences
Pavement: 100 % of total surface
Water: none
Public lighting: 6
Benches: Side benches
Waste bins: 2
Restrooms: none

It is located in the south-eastern part of the urban area, in tandem with a playground as is the case of around 60% of the outdoor sports facilities.

It is a fenced area dominated by asphalt and concrete, moderately connected with the surrounding area.

In terms of use, it is among the most male dominated public spaces, mainly by teenagers.

ACTIVITY AND USE

PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES
sitting

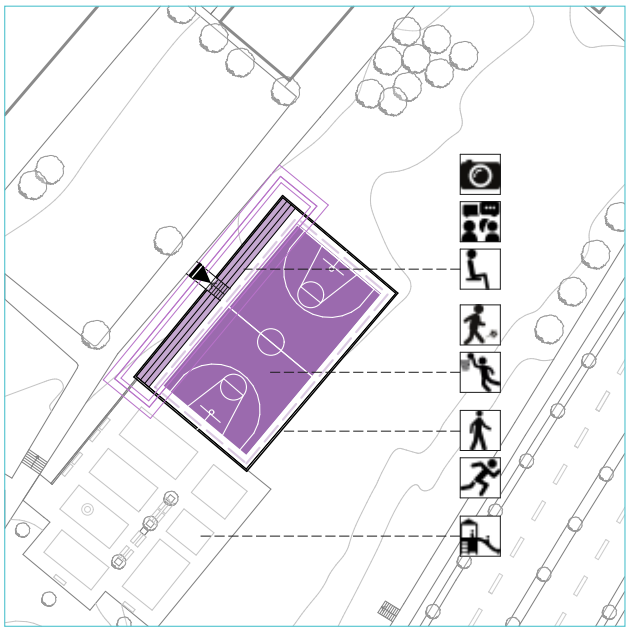
PLAY
basketball

TRADE
n/a

SERVICES
n/a

CULTURAL AND SPORTS EVENTS
n/a

ARTISTIC PERFORMANCES
n/a



Map 28: Sunny Hill OSF - activity and use

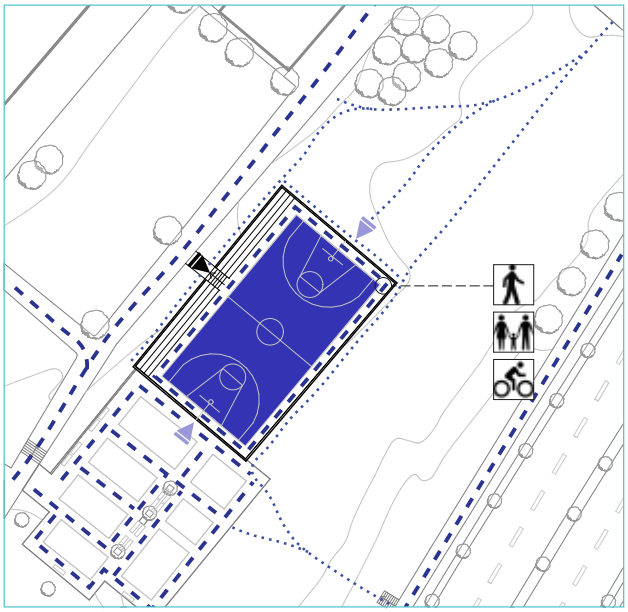
The space has a well-defined function. The main activity is playing basketball, with a sitting area on one of the field sides for the eventual spectators.



Figure 18: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility

ACCESS AND FLOW

NOT EASILY ACCESSIBLE:
sloped terrain configuration,
only 1 access points



Map 29: Sunny Hill OSF - access and flow

The outdoor sports facility has three entry points, one of which is a formal/design entrance. Two of the entrances have been created by the users of the space, which enable access from the playground situated next to the facility and the opposite side, which generate the highest pedestrian flow. The surrounding paths are elevated in relation to the sports field. Accessibility is enabled through stairs, hampering the use of the sports field by people with special needs. The greatest flow is generated during the weekend from 2 pm to 4 pm, mainly by the group age 0-14 and early 15-65. The outdoors sports facility is used mostly by boys and men, which is even more evident during the summer time when these places are highly frequented.

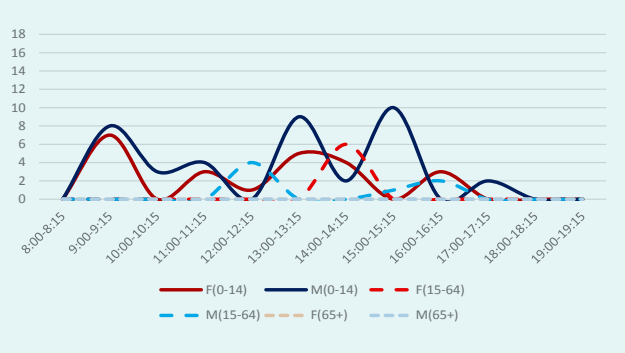


Diagram 16: Sunny Hill OSF - working days flow

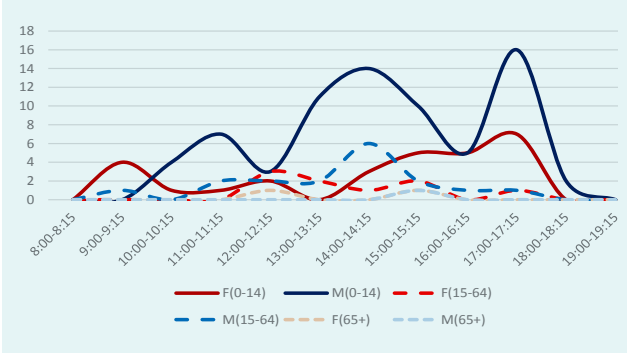


Diagram 17: Sunny Hill OSF - weekends flow



Figure 19: "Dardania" outdoor sports facility

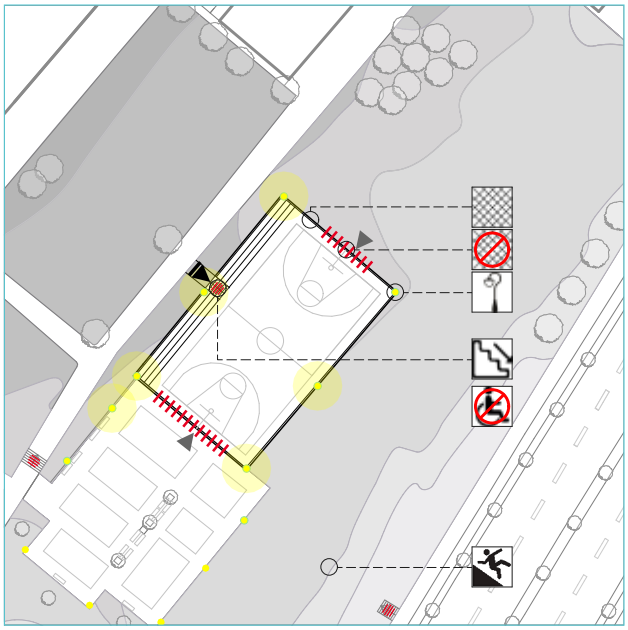
SAFETY AND COMFORT

VISIBILITY:
Generally good, slightly hampered from the southern side of the playground

RISK:
Falling- eastern side of the playground due t sloped terrain

The sports field is located in a safe and secure location within the neighborhood.

The space has good visibility, in relation to the residential building and the street but moderately lit with periodically functioning public lightning. However the accessibility and connectivity with the path network hamper the use of the space by all categories.



Map 30: Sunny Hill OSF - safety and comfort



Figure 20: Taukbahce tennis courts

TOWARDS LOCALIZING "URBAN" SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENTS GOALS IN KOSOVO



The growing attention to public space is reflected in the 2016-2030 Sustainable Development Agenda notably within the Goal 11 'Build cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.' One of the proposed targets set out (11.7) is "by 2030, provide universal access to safe, inclusive and accessible, green and public spaces, particularly for women and children, older persons and persons with disabilities".

Two specific indicators have been devised to pragmatically support the monitoring of progress being/ to be made, respectively:

- The average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space in public use for all particularly to disabled persons

→ Adequate public spaces in cities contribute to the achievement of other targets of Goal 11 and have positive implications in various Sustainable Development Goals. Notably public spaces increase social cohesion, networks and human exchange.

- Proportion of women subjected to physical or sexual harassment by perpetrator and place of occurrence (last 12 months)

→ Access to safe public spaces is a basic human right, however women and girls are often exposed to harassment and other forms of violence, which inhibit their right to public spaces. This indicator would enable proper tracking of these barriers to women's access to public spaces. This also supports the elimination of all forms of violence against all women and girls in public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation (SDG/ target 5.2).

It should be noted that in many parts of the world, including in Kosovo, good quality, relevant, accessible and timely data on cities is missing. This is a key element impeding progress in monitoring and reporting, but also in formulating policies that respond to urban dynamics. Despite considerable progress in recent years, whole groups of people are not being counted and important aspects of people's lives and city conditions are still not measured.

For people, this can lead to the denial of basic rights, and for the city, the likelihood that inhabitants are not taking full advantage of the transformative potential which urbanization offers. For institutions, this obviously greatly impacts the quality of decision-making.

In terms of public space goal/target , UN-Habitat is proposing a set of targets for the amount of land allocated to streets and public space in urban areas to ensure adequate foundation for the city, namely the proposed goal/target for public space being suggested is 45% of land should be allocated to streets and public space. This can be broken down into 30% for streets and sidewalks and 15% for open spaces, green spaces and public facilities.

A ratio of 50% of public space is common in successful cities. Manhattan, Barcelona, and Brussels have up to 35% of city area allocated to street space and an additional 15% for other public uses. What about Pristina?

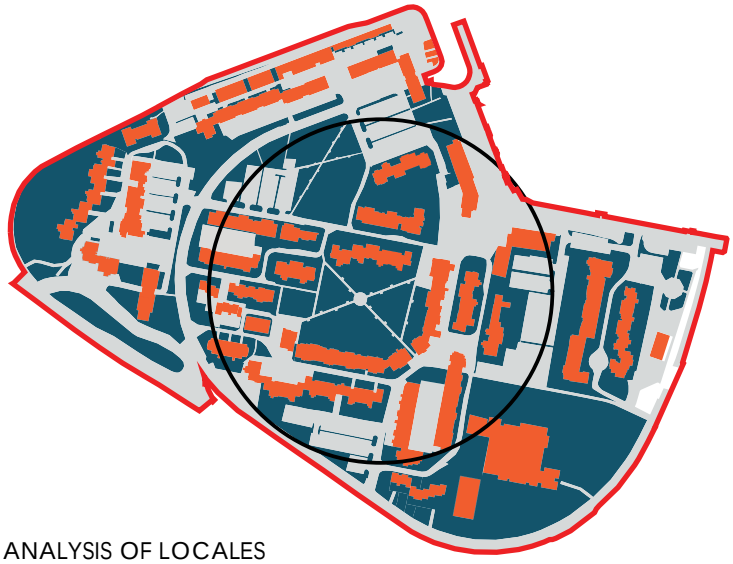
The following section is an attempt to assess where Pristina stands vis-à-vis the two proposed indicators against public space.

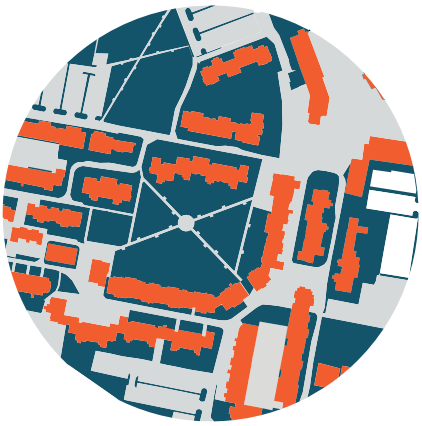
Re. The average share of the built-up area of cities that is open space in public use for all particularly to disabled persons

Three samples are being examined, corresponding to the three urban tissues available in Pristina city, respectively Tophane (historical center), Dardania (modern city), and Kalabria (new urban development).

For each sample, the following information is being provided:
- Calculation mode
- Result versus the % of concerned urban area
- Further insights to read the result

"DARDANIA" NEIGHBOURHOOD





ANALYSIS OF LOCALES

Locale boundarie
10 hA sample boundarie

Land Use

Apartment blocks
Land allocated to streets and parking
Open public space

The sample pattern constitutes approximately 25% of Pristina's urban area.

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space} + \text{Total surface of land allocated to streets and parking lots}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{49951.3m^2 + 39349.4\ m^2}{100000m^2} \times 100 = 89.3\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{49951.3m^2}{100000m^2} \times 100 = 49.9\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space}}{\text{Estimated population in the sample locale}} = \frac{49951.3m^2}{4706} = 10.6\ m^2 \text{ per capita}$$

"Dardania" neighborhood located in the modern city has an abundance of open public space, consisting of streets, parking lots and open green spaces. The built up area consists of only mixed use apartment blocks.

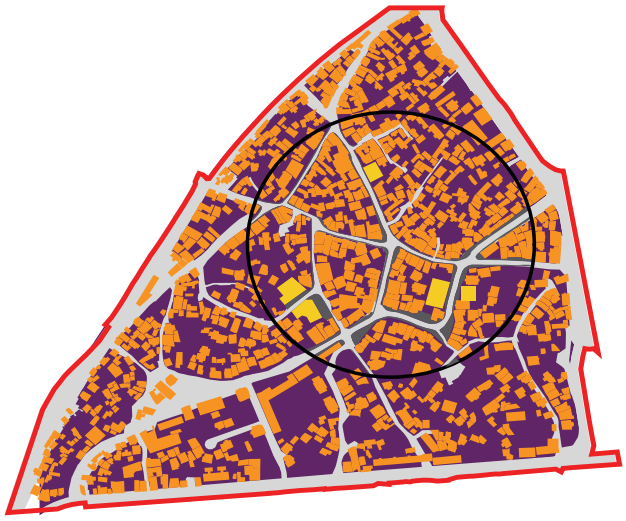
Method for measuring the proportion of open public space in 10 ha of "Dardania" neighborhood is conducted by summing the open public space and the land allocated to streets and parking divided by total measured surface.

The second formula provides insights on the proportion of open public space used primarily from pedestrians.

The last formula provides the proportion of open public space per capita.

The estimated population was calculated based on the area projected for a person ($23m^2$).

"TOPHANE" NEIGHBOURHOOD - HISTORICAL ZONE





ANALYSIS OF LOCALES

- Locale boundarie
- 10 hA sample boundarie

Land Use

- Housing units
- Apartment blocks
- Private properties
- Public land allocated to streets
- Public land allocated to pavements

The sample pattern constitutes approximately 35% of Pristina's urban area.

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of land allocated to streets and pavements}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{20223\ m^2}{100000 m^2} \times 100 = 20.2\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of land allocated to pavement}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{6241.3\ m^2}{100000 m^2} \times 100 = 6.24\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of land allocated to pavement}}{\text{Estimated population in the sample locale}} = \frac{6241.3 m^2}{3331} = 1.8\ m^2 \text{ per capita}$$

The historical zone of the city of Pristina has a large density of private buildings, and no open public spaces. The streets are narrow and in some cases occupied by illegal buildings. In most of the cases the houses are built on the edges of their plots in order to maximize the inner space.

The estimated population was calculated based on the area projected for a person in an apartment (23m²), and the average family size in Kosovo (5.5 people) in a housing unit.

"KALABRIA" NEIGHBOURHOOD





ANALYSIS OF LOCALES

Locale boundarie
10 hA sample boundarie

Land Use

Apartment blocks
Housing units
Private properties
Open public space
Public land allocated to streets

The sample pattern constitutes approximately 40% of Pristina's urban area.

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space} + \text{Total surface of land allocated to streets and parking lots}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{18103.1\text{m}^2 + 9648.3\ \text{m}^2}{100000\text{m}^2} \times 100 = 27.7\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space}}{\text{Total surface of built up area of the urban agglomeration}} = \frac{18103.1\text{m}^2}{100000\text{m}^2} \times 100 = 18.1\ \%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Total surface of open public space}}{\text{Estimated population in the sample locale}} = \frac{18103.1\text{m}^2}{1578} = 11.4\ \text{m}^2\ \text{per capita}$$

"Kalabria" neighborhood although developed lately, has narrow streets and undeveloped open public spaces. The majority of the space is privately owned, consisting of mainly small houses. The area is not very dense, giving a sense of openness towards the space.

The historical center of the city of Pristina has a large density of private buildings, and no open public spaces. The streets are narrow and in some cases occupied by illegal buildings. By trying to maximize the space, the houses in most of the cases are attached to each other in an unconventional method. The neighborhood looks congested and concrete-abundant.

"Dardania" neighbourhood located in the modern city has an abundance of open public space, consisting of streets, parking lots and also open green spaces. The built-up area only consists of mixed use apartment blocks. The preeminence of streets and parking lots is undermining somehow the space given to open space (beyond buffer zones), for recreational purpose for instance. Equipment and amenities are in low condition. The density of population is rather high.

"Kalabria" neighbourhood although developed lately, features narrow streets, without even sidewalks, and undeveloped open public spaces. The majority of the space is privately owned, mainly consisting of small houses. The area is not very dense, that may be giving a sense of openness towards the space and may lay the ground for open space development (if property matters allow).

Re. Proportion of women subjected to physical or sexual harassment by perpetrator and place of occurrence (last 12 months)

The profile provides at the moment findings on the use of public space by women and girls. However, the on-site observation time should obviously take place at night time as well and be completed with dedicated focus groups and compared with geo-localised and sex-disaggregated data from the Kosovo Police and other (in)formal channels regarding assaults on public space with a view to contribute to enhanced knowledge and understanding and better urban solutions in that respect.

Other initiatives, notably online reporting platforms, corroborate that sexual harassment in public space is a major concern first affecting women and girls. For instance, Walk freely is a web and mobile application platform dedicated to reporting cases of sexual harassment. Features include map visualization of the places where the harassments took place, including a 'heat map'. The 'heat map' shows areas which are mostly affected by the perpetrators. The application is open for use to all the countries but most of the reports come from the city of Pristina.

Although in the app description it is said that the data can be used as evidence to support preventive measures, it does not indicate whether there is any cooperation with the law and order institutions and how the data is processed.

These initiatives and initial findings lay the ground for further work to increase equality in accessing quality, diversified, well-designed and safe public space in a context of equipping institutions and women groups with the required tools (baseline and targets) and developing the necessary policy frameworks that would be responsive to citizens' expectations, and ultimately would enable monitoring and reporting progress against the said indicator.

In the current circumstances, it remains uneasy to evaluate the Pristina's case against the two indicators. However, it generally shows the importance of increasing the capacity of municipalities and its partners to produce accurate information for evidence-based decision-making and that can help to track progresses and setbacks. There is no accurate available data against indicator 2.

Furthermore, the indicator 1 quantifies the amount of open space in public use in cities, but does not capture the quality of the space that may impede its proper use. According to it, the situation in selected neighbourhoods in Pristina is highly satisfactory (however representing only 25% of the urban area) while analysis in other urban tissues demonstrates under-qualifying results. Nevertheless, it is obvious that it offers a truncated overview if not coupled with concomitant qualitative data such as quality of public space, safety (indicator 2), universal accessibility, density of population, greenery, etc.

On the other hand, it worth noting that the requirement to further improve public space in relation to sustainable urbanization is strengthened in the New Urban Agenda endorsed at the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, Habitat III, held in October 2016.

The transformative commitments for sustainable urban development include "to ensure a safe, healthy, inclusive, and secure environment in cities and human settlements for all to live, work, and participate in urban life without fear of violence and intimidation, taking into consideration that women and girls, and children and youth are often particularly affected", and "to promote safe, inclusive, accessible, green, and quality public spaces, including streets, sidewalks and cycling lanes, squares, waterfront areas, gardens, and parks that are multi-functional areas for social interaction and inclusion, human health and well-being, economic exchange, and cultural expression and dialogue among a wide diversity of people and cultures, and which are designed and managed to ensure human development, build peaceful, inclusive, and participatory societies, as well as promote living together, connectivity, and social inclusion" (the New Urban Agenda, October 2016).

All that said, it may be concluded that it is the right momentum to further develop data, tools and partnerships that could enable the Municipality of Pristina to assess the situation, put in place tracking mechanism to orient its policy and action and develop approaches responsive to the requirements for safer, greener, more inclusive and accessible public spaces and the 45% target, as a backbone for sustainable urban development and management.



CONCLUSIONS

Main findings

The profile addresses various aspects related to public space planning, development and management. This process is accompanied with a number of constraints and challenges but also promising opportunities to developing inclusive public spaces. The key finding tackle the institutional aspect including the daily municipal practice to managing public space, spatial planning instruments, municipal mechanisms for public space delivery, stakeholder mapping and public participation. Also, it draws main conclusions regarding the current public space offer in Pristina, including distribution, supply, use and quality.

Public Space Development and Management

A renewed interest and a priority on the municipal agenda. Public space is an emerging priority for the municipal administration as well as international and local NGOs supporting urban issues, sustainability and inclusiveness. This has been manifested through intensified activities related to public space development and management, numerous events and small scale upgrading interventions, as well as enhanced dedicated budget.

Consistency among the spatial planning components. Public space is being addressed throughout the entire spatial planning cycle. However a number of limitations have been noted related to consistency and/or orientation between the different spatial planning components. The standing municipal planning documents generally do not serve as basis for the development of the annual programme, it is rather composed based on the collected requests filed by the citizens throughout the fiscal year and emerging priorities resulting from collective reflection among the municipal staff during the drafting of budget proposal. Regarding public space development, the annual programme provides a wide framework mostly consisting of very broad activities, which allows ad-hoc project selection with limited regard to strategy implementation or demonstrated interconnection between the foreseen interventions.

Spatial planning documents approach to public space. The strategic planning documents have addressed public space development through various development sectors such as mobility including road infrastructure and public transportation network, environment, culture and sports, cultural and natural heritage, and open public spaces. While the situation analysis introduces a more extended overview of the aspects listed above, the proposed actions and planning activities are far more limited in terms of typologies included, with a noted overlapping and inconsistency. To this end, the standing planning documents contribute to a fragmented approach towards public space development and management with a lack of holistic view of this component as a system at the city or municipal level.

Municipal mechanisms for public space delivery. A number of rather sophisticated mechanisms have been set up to improve public space supply and management in the municipality of Pristina. It has been asserted that the piloted cases using for ex. the "construction coefficient transfer" have been very successful and have supported an improved public service provision including public space supply in neighbourhoods with no available municipal land.

However, concerns related to some of these mechanisms (ex. Municipal regulation for installing, constructing and removing temporary facilities in public property) is the rigid administrative framework for external stakeholders which may be very discouraging to independent initiatives aiming meliorating public spaces (ex. murals by cultural agents).

Public space management. Public space management in the current practice consists of mainly site maintenance and the implementation/ management of public space use permits including those for special events, mobile market etc. No activity has been undertaken so far for assessing the satisfaction level by the users or the overall impact of public space interventions in the located context. The only feedback is generated by the individual complaints filed in the municipality or the established online reporting platforms managed by the civil society sector. Although the reporting of urban incivilities or obstacles for using public space in the city is quite low, it does not seem the collected data is being used to feed public policy or public response; they rather serve for informational purpose.

Municipal organizational setup. There are four departments with a leading role in public space development and management, responsible for selected public space types at different stages of development, implementation and management. Although there is a level of cooperation between different units at the technical level mainly at the initial stages of public space project development, no systematic established setup or coordination mechanism between the different responsible departments/units has been noted to this stage.

Public Participation. Public participation throughout the spatial planning cycle is conducted as regulated by the corresponding legislation. Despite the municipal efforts to organizing public consultation meetings during suitable timing and location for each local community administrative unit, especially during the annual programme development, public participation is poor. However, recently the municipality has been implementing open competition for project development, a technique that is progressively contributing to an improved public participation in the public space development process.

Key stakeholders in public space development, management and use. There is an extended inventory of stakeholders in addition to the local administration who play/or could play an important or enhanced role in public space development and management. Four stakeholder groups have been identified so far. The first group includes local NGOs and independent cultural agents who have been increasingly initiating public space related activities, such as design proposals for selected spaces, small-scale interventions and artistic installations in the current public spaces. The second group consists of the public space users including citizens and the business community, whose contribution is limited to a selected number of individual initiatives for upgrading and maintaining public spaces located in ones neighborhood. The third group includes local and international partners who have been providing technical and financial support to the municipality. The scope of support is quite focused targeting mainly the existing public space supply and maintenance, with limited considerations regarding the quality, uses and potentials towards a public space system in Pristina. Apart from the municipal inspectors who monitor the implementation of public space use permits, police forces constitute the only body responsible for maintaining order and safety in the public realm. Due to the limited responsive capacities, they are focused on ensuring a preventative presence and attending the most emergent cases including accidents, reported incidents and numerous complaints to high noise pollution generated from recreational activities mainly in the core center

of the urban area. Two stakeholders who have a limited role in the process of developing and managing public spaces is the Local Community Committees and the academic community, both public and private universities. While the latter has some capacity to support municipal action in research and public space design, the former has the potential of supporting community mobilization and participation during both project development and public space maintenance.

Public Space Supply and Distribution

Public space as a system. Public space at its current state constitutes a hardly functioning system with moderate connection/relation to other urban functions. But the existing inventory alongside the open spaces, economic and cultural infrastructure, and the mobility network create opportunities towards a more consolidated public space system as a way to regenerate the urban identity of Pristina. Some initial observations in this regard could be a North/South axis that almost connects the two market places through a series of squares and the promenade. This forms an interesting urban promenade that connects most commercial activities, bars, hotels and restaurants. On the other hand, a series of parks located on the northern side of the city center alongside the pedestrian network are considered a great potential for a green East/West connection.

Public space distribution. The identified public spaces are mainly concentrated within the core urban center, leaving a large portion of the urban area underserved. This stands especially for the northern part of the city characterized by a relatively high construction density, no public spaces and limited availability of open space.

Public space supply. The current public space offer is characterized by a restricted diversity of activities and opportunities for social interaction. Most of the places consist of the same design features, repetitive amenities and reoccurring activities, such as basketball fields or playhouses for children, or walking trails and benches. This limitation can be considered a discouraging factor for the users, affecting the use and the perception of public space as a common good.

Public Space Use and Quality

The two poles of Pristina. There are two main attraction points in the city of Pristina, which are used and enjoyable by all categories. The first one, the green pole, Germia Regional Park is the greatest environmental asset of the city, located on the North eastern part of Pristina. It includes various services such as playgrounds, a basket field, a swimming pool, two restaurants, a 10+km jogging trail vastly used by 50+ and a sloped open valley.

The second one is among the few pedestrian areas in the city, the central promenade and the supporting squares located in the centre of the city. The squares are areas in good physical condition with a great potential to further enhance and enlarge the use and versatility in terms of activities. The use of squares is mainly in function of the promenade where most coffee shops and restaurants are located, which gives the overall impression of the whole area as an overcrowded one. The transformation of the area into a pedestrian one has contributed to an increased pedestrian flow and use of the space. As a result an increasing number of businesses have been opened, including cafes and restaurants as well as shops and other services. The area provides great opportunities for socializing; therefore it is highly frequented by different categories, especially families, elderly and youngsters. It constitutes a great example/case for future transformations towards making the city more pedestrian friendly.

Age perspective in public space use. The public space network in the city is accessible and used by all age groups. However, according to the field observations, the current offer is currently underused by children, teens and elderly (ex. parks, squares and markets). Apart from the public space typology itself, other contributing factors to age-related discrepancies in use, are the lack of specialized amenities catering different age groups- especially the elderly, but also the location/ relation to other functions/ services and itineraries- school or work.

Gender perspective in public space use. Women and men, girls and boys both use public space, but sometimes for different reasons. For instance, it is suggested that use of playgrounds by women and girls is directly related to their caring functions for children.

The current supply is male dominated, with the largest discrepancy noted in outdoors sport facilities. This is possibly because of the limited offer in terms of opportunities for enjoyment and comfort, but also the perception of safety which may be related to the design and maintenance quality of these places. Female representation is notably lower during the night time.

Design. Public space design has been gradually improving. However it differs between public space typologies. In case of squares, the approach has shifted towards more versatile spaces and an improved comfort for different categories throughout different periods of the year. In case of parks, they have been progressively supplemented with playgrounds and sports fields for tennis, basketball, volleyball, etc. making them more inclusive. These two public space typologies- playgrounds and outdoors sports facilities constitute the largest number of the identified public spaces. All of them have the same design with very little consideration regarding the context they have been built.

Apart from the mobile market, no effort has been put on the design of the market places. That is reflected on the poor conditions and no clear orientation or sectional organization of the places, but also the relation to the surrounding functions. Various measures to mitigate the conflict between different uses in public space have been taken, such as installing poles alongside the sidewalks, fountains to divide busy routs from more quite spaces as is the case of squares, etc. However, there are a number of reoccurring conflicts between vehicles, bikers and pedestrians which would require further attention, for ex. invasion of sidewalks by vehicles, joint paths for walking and biking, etc.

Maintenance. Public space maintenance, including streets and sidewalks is done by a public enterprise, contracted by the municipality through a lump sum contract for all public spaces located on municipal land, while those located on privately developed residential districts/private property are generally maintained by the construction companies/developers.

The current situation in terms of cleanliness is satisfactory. However solid waste management, respectively trash cans usually placed along the sidewalks are one of the challenges affecting the overall hygiene of those areas. The physical condition of the public space differs between central locations and other public spaces located in the neighbourhoods. While in the city centre more attention to maintaining amenities is noted (ex. squares), the physical condition in other spaces is quite poor, which in some cases constitute risk to especially more vulnerable groups such as children or elderly (ex. playgrounds, outdoors sports facilities, parks).

Markets are an exceptional case in comparison to other public space typologies due to the management/ownership setup. The green markets, managed by the Municipal Public Enterprise are very poorly maintained. This is due to the fact that the company is in the process of liquidation, therefore very little attention is given to the market maintenance.

Recommendations

Despite recent increased attention given to public space, there is a need for a holistic and coherent approach in order to build a public space system in the city of Pristina. The proposed following steps and orientations which would support a city-wide public space policy include further analysis and action related to three key policy components such as, governance & legislation, finance & fiscal system, planning & design.

Further institutional mechanisms for efficient and inclusive governance.

Coordination platform. Establish a platform that will facilitate both internal and external coordination. The internal coordination could further respond to the fragmented approach towards public space planning, development and management. It would provide a setup that facilitates coordination and cooperation of different departments, regulates the role and responsibilities of the different municipal bodies including various departments but also the municipal assembly and respective commission/s regarding pubic space policy making, action oriented activities, monitoring of strategy implementation, addressing of potential challenges faced throughout this process but also coordinating activities with external stakeholders. The external coordination looks at addressing the overlapping activities and potential contribution by different stakeholders such as international and local municipal partners, university, local NGOs, cultural agents and citizens. Furthermore such framework could help the municipality to identify and match the need related to research, technical or financial aspect and the support by the municipal partners or other potential donors. To do so, exploring potential avenues for cooperation with local institutions and the business community, (ex. Kosovo Museum, University- public and private, banking sector, etc.) and advocating for donor regional strategies and programmes more public space sensitive are necessary.

Urban regulation. The legal requirement resulting from the Law on Spatial Planning 04/ L-174 (ex. Drafting of Municipal Zoning Map) constitute a great opportunity for the municipality to secure public space in line with standards/ norms set at the local and/or central level, as well as further sustain through plan implementation. To facilitate such process, further supplementing of the existing municipal mechanisms is needed to make them more practical and encouraging for different stakeholders to contribute to an improved public space supply and quality (ex. Municipal regulation for installing, constructing and removing temporary facilities in public property or Decision on construction coefficient transfer). Also, the development of new municipal instruments aimed to mitigate burning issues and challenges related to public space supply and management (ex. regulate opening of public facilities such as schools or cultural buildings for public use, enforcing fines for urban incivilities, management of the open public space on privately developed residential complexes, etc.) may be considered. To do so it is necessary to have a better understanding of the current regulations for improving public space supply and management, main challenges in applying such mechanisms, lessons learned from the past experiences and applicability.

Also, this could serve as basis to initiate the dialogue to further complementing the legal framework at the central level related to public space planning and management. (ex. Law on Public Space, Law on construction land, etc.)

Enhanced capacities. Design a framework that supports capacity enhancement of the municipal staff on public space planning, design, management and awareness raising, including trainings and tailored made guidelines for various aspects based on sustainable development principles. One of the main constraints to managing the overall development in the city with deep implication to securing public space and its wellbeing which could be considered among the priorities, is limited capacities for policy development, implementation and monitoring, respectively developing and translating strategies into action, understanding the impact of the respective interventions and acting on improving future performances.

An inclusive framework. Explore tools, techniques, platforms and measures to encourage active involvement of civil society organizations and citizens including vulnerable groups (ex. women, children, disabled person, minority groups, etc.) in public space project development, implementation and maintenance. Also, strengthen and raise competitiveness between local administrative units (ex. by promoting performance based incentives in terms of initiative and maintenance of the public realm) and build partnerships with the users (ex. business community, cultural community, women and children activists, pensioners association, etc.)

A step closer to a financial sustainability mechanism.

The financial and fiscal dimension of the public space system in Pristina is the main shortcoming of the profile. It is of crucial importance that baseline cost-benefit analysis is conducted for an improved understanding on how sustainable the current municipal practice to public space planning, development and management is.

It includes public space investment and maintenance cost, fees and revenues from public space use including the contribution of private sector (market fees, cafes, taxis, shops, informal vendors, etc.) and most importantly the overall economic impact of the investment including impact on the property value and contribution to encouraging development in the investment areas.

Towards an improved urban quality, accessible and enjoyable by all.

A forerunning public space database. As an initial step a forerunning database to the policy development may be consolidated, fed by all the initiatives to establishing a public space inventory, public space use permit tracking or usurped public land inventory. Such database could be further enriched and managed through dedicated partnership with those collecting data (ex. police, universities, etc.). An added value to having a better understanding of the public space situation would be including to the database the citizen's feedback through the reporting mechanisms (ex. on-line platforms, local community council, etc.), which would enable more adequate prioritizing of activities, orient action and strengthen the local administration accountability towards its constituents.

An informed and evidence-based policy and public administration response. Additionally to establishing a database, an enlarged scope of spatial analysis is needed in light of the Pristina as a potential service hub in the region, Kosovo capital and a city for people. To do so, a comprehensive view of the public realm as a system is needed. It includes extended public space typologies together with underperforming spaces and unexploited public fronts as well as its relation to the mobility network, urban transport, business districts and the cultural infrastructure.

Also, it encompasses an improved understanding of the perception of safety as well as how walkable and readable the city is. The latter could benefit from further analysis of challenges and opportunities related to people's access to the existing public spaces as well as use during day and night time, disaggregated based on gender, ethnicity, social groups, neighbourhood of origin, and means of transport.

Finally, the development of a baseline assessment against SDG indicators as well as the setting of targets would facilitate putting in place a monitoring framework for public space in the municipality that could further enable comparison on state of play and progress both regionally and globally.

ANNEX 01:
List of MDP activities, related to Public Space Development and Management

#	ACTIVITY	Short-term (<3 years):	Mid-term (>3/<10 years):	Long-term (>10 years):
1.	Construction of pedestrian and bicycle ways and lanes;		•	
2.	Plan for urban mobility;	•	•	•
3.	Plan for public services;	•	•	•
4.	Conservation and restoration of ecological networks;		•	•

ANNEX 02:
List of UDP activities, related to Public Space Development and Management

#	ACTIVITY	Scheduled:	Amount (€):
1.	Design of the boulevard from 'Grand Hotel Prishtina'- Idriz Seferi Square (flag- traffic roundabout);	2015	70,000.00
2.	Drafting 'Pristina Public Square Integration Plan';	2017	50,000.00
3.	Construction of sports courts in the 'local community' units;	2014 - 2020	25,000.00
4.	Construction of basketball court in 'Germia' park;	2014	30,000.00
5.	Construction of basketball court in 'City' park;	2014	30,000.00
6.	Unlocking and rehabilitating city public spaces;	2014	50,000.00
7.	Research on 'Pristina public spaces and respective pedestrian interconnectivity';	2014	25,000.00
8.	Redesign project for 'Adem Jashari'/ 'Arts and Peace' square;	2015	75,000.00
9.	Redesign project for year-round use of 'Germia' lake (skateboard and skate courts, and baseball, handball, volleyball courts, etc.)	2014	150,000.00
10.	Design for planning and implementation of the indoor and outdoor sports and recreation courts;	2015	250,000.00
11.	Drafting and implementation of the project- competition for 'Artistic Peace Park (Hall of Fame)'/ former 'Brotherhood' Union square (in front of the municipality);	2016	250,000.00
12.	Drafting and implementation of the project- competition for 'Urban Curtain/ Perdja urbane' in the 'downtown area'- with traditional Kosovo/ Albanian urban style features;	2015	250,000.00
13.	Drafting and implementation of the project- competition for 'Urban Curtain/ Perdja urbane' in the 'downtown area'- with traditional Kosovo/ Albanian urban style features;	2017	250,000.00
Total amount (€)		**2014-2020**	**1,505,000.00**

ANNEX 03:
Non-Governmental Organizations

PUBLIC SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT- STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION		
Non-Governmental Organizations		
#	ORGANZIATION	ACTIVITY
1.	**Ecopana,** NGO focus: environment. Supported by: WWF Adria, Field office in Kosovo	**Project:** Protected areas for Nature and People- 'Germia' park **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of Culture, Youth and Sports.
2.	**Ecoweek,** NGO focus: architecture & environment. Supported by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Office in Kosovo	**Project:** Sustainability and green architecture/ glocal architecture **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of urbanism, construction and environmental protection, and Department of public services, protection and rescue.
3.	**Green Art Center,** NGO focus: youth/ children. Supported by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH Office in Kosovo	**Project:** EcoRicikl'Art- 'Germia' park **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of public services, protection and rescue.
4.	**HandiKOS,** NGO focus: disabled.	**Project:** Access for people with special needs **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of urbanism, construction and environmental protection, and Department of public services, protection and rescue.
5.	**Kosovo Architectural Foundation,** NGO focus: architecture & planning. Supported by: Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation, Office in Kosovo	**Project:** Civil Right to Public Space and Social Housing **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of urbanism, construction and environmental protection.
6.	**Prosperity Initiative in Kosovo,** NGO focus: youth/ children. Supported by: United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) Office in Kosovo	**Project:** Development of interactive and multimedia public space web-platform (lokalizo.net) **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** No information available.
7.	**Women in business,** NGO focus: women empowerment. 'CEED Kosova', NGO focus: economic development. Supported by: European Union, Office in Kosovo	**Project:** Farmers mobile market **Objectives:** No information available. **Beneficiary:** Department of economic development.

FOCUS AND SCOPE OF SUPPORT	START	END
Public Spaces: Assistance in establishing management mechanism for 'Germia' park ; Assistance in drafting spatial plan for 'Germia' park; Assistance in drafting the management plan plan for 'Germia' park; Assistance in drafting educational programms for 'Germia' park; Assistance in integrating educational programms for 'Germia' park in primary education curriculum; Assistance in upgrading pedestrian paths and signage in 'Germia' park.	Oct-15	Oct-19
Public Spaces: Assistance in organizing weekly public space improvement workshops (12) (covering different public space typologies such as parks, plateaus, markets, etc); Assistance in implementing small interventions in public spaces using recycled and eco friendly materials (using reed, wooden beams, wall paintings).	-	-
Public Spaces: Assistance on drafting a concept programme for community based public space design. Environmental protection: Assistance on developing waste recycling programme; Assistance in implementing small interventions in 'Germia' park in cooperation with Green Clubs (creating green areas, urban furniture and pupil capacity building).	-	-
Mobility: Assistance in the identification of barriers for non-motorrized mobility; Assistance in the identification of accessibility barriers to public facilities and condominiums.	-	-
Public Spaces: Assistance in identification and documentation of problems in public spaces; Assistance in building communication/reporting platform for the citizens (webpage and smartphone application); Assistance in conveying citizens complains related to misuse, degradation or other violation of public spaces; Assistance in raising accountability towards the citizens; Assistance in public awareness campaigns for the civil rights and responsibilities to public spaces.	Sep-15	Feb-17
No information available.	-	-
Public Spaces: Assistance in establishing Farmers mobile market (agricultural/ artisan products; wholesale/ retail; open or semi-open stands); Assistance in organizing Farmers mobile market logistics plan.	-	-

ANNEX 04:
International Organizations

PUBLIC SPACE DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT- STAKEHOLDER IDENTIFICATION		
International Organizations		
#	ORGANZIATION	ACTIVITY
1.	**European Bank for Development and Reconstruction (EBRD),** Resident Office in Kosovo	**Project:** Prishtina Urban Transport **Objectives:** - Assistance in acquisition of 51 buses for the public transport operator; - Assistance in refurbishment of the public transport operator maintenance depot. **Beneficiary:** Department of public services, protection and rescue.
2.	**Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation,** Office in Kosovo	**Project:** DEMOS- Decentralisation and Municipal Support **Objectives:** - Improving public service delivery in public space, municipal traffic and waste management; - Improving financial administration and transparency; - Improving the democratisation of local governments and the participation of citizens in decision making. **Beneficiary:** Department of public services, protection and rescue.

FOCUS AND SCOPE OF SUPPORT	START	END
Mobility: Assistance in conducting environmental and social due diligence on transaction (risk assessment); Assistance in conducting technical due diligence on transaction (risks assessment); Assistance in conducting tendering and supervision of the activity; Assistance in drafting Financial and Operational Performance Improvement Programme and Corporate Development Programme; Assistance in drafting Public Service Contract; Assistance in drafting Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan.	Oct-15	Oct-19
Public spaces: Assistance in drafting maintenance plans; Assistance in monitoring service providers for maintenance of public spaces; Assistance in planning investments; Assistance in enforcing fines; Assistance in public awareness campaigns. Assistance in developing inventory of existing public spaces; Assistance in drafting public spaces projects; Assistance in implementing public spaces projects; **Training:** 'Negotiation mechanisms for enforcing public spaces development in private residential complexes'. **Mobility:** Assistance in doing traffic assessments; Assistance in drafting mobility plans; Assistance in planning investments; Assistance in enforcing fines; Assistance in income generating from public parking; Assistance in public awareness campaigns.	-	-



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