

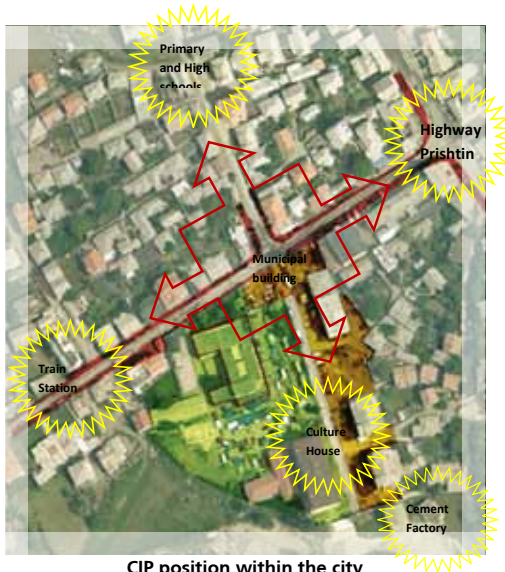


Improvement of public spaces in the city centre of Hani i Elezit/General Jankovic

Capital Investment Project

UN HABITAT
FOR A BETTER URBAN FUTURE

funded by:
Sida



CIP position within the city

The Municipal Spatial Planning Support Programme in Kosovo (MuSPP), implemented by UN-HABITAT and funded by Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency, (Sida) started in 2006. The Program's intention is to support municipalities in Kosovo with on-the-job assistance and technical advice regarding spatial planning and urban design. Hani i Elezit/G.Jankovic is one of the partner municipalities.

In 2009 Municipality of Hani i Elezit/G.Jankovic and UN HABITAT's MuSPP signed a Memorandum of Understanding for drafting the Municipal Development Plan (MDP) and Urban Development Plan (UDP). Until now, the "in house" planning process of drafting the MDP and UDP of Hani i Elezit/G.Jankovic has undergone all necessary phases and both documents are in a final stage of their drafting.

During the process of drafting MDP, the lack of public places within the urban area was brought up as one of the issues to solve. As a result of later discussions it was agreed that the CIP should be developed to address this issue. The idea was taken forward and a CIP was developed by the municipality with the support of the MuSPP team. The proposed CIP for improving the public spaces in Hani i Elezit/G.Jankovic translates some of the plan's priorities into concrete projects which will serve its citizens.

The aim of the project is to improve the core of the city centre and to create the public space by improving the environment, landscape and streetscape, mobility arrangements, street furniture and lighting. It will also improve the safety of pedestrian movement. The area for project implementation and the design

idea derived from the citizen's participation and were identified through workshops organised by MuSPP and the Municipality. The project area is situated in the city centre, next to the main crossroad. The main street intersection is actually the geographic centre of the city. The centre itself is the focal place from where small roads, streets and paths lead to a high school, primary school and further settlements in the north, municipal building and cement factory in the south, rail station in the west and Prishtina-Skopje highway further in the east (Fig 1).

CIP PURPOSES IN RELATION WITH THE VISION AND DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES OF UDP

UDP STRATEGIES

- Improvement, creation and protection of green spaces (biodiversity) and urban landscape
- Opening and regulating of pedestrian and cycling pathways
- Creation of infrastructure for development of tourism
- Creating the conditions for social, cultural and sportive activities

EXPECTED RESULTS OF THE CIP

This project will improve the visual and scenic quality of the environment by eliminating undefined and unused spaces (remove the trash); and by better maintaining of the implementation area. The provision of public spaces and improvements to the environmental quality of the area will seek to instigate in local residents a greater appreciation for public spaces and establish a sense of ownership over the area.

The purposes of the CIP are:

- Improve the visual quality of the town centre through public domain upgrades and street tree planting.
- Provide opportunities for community gathering and recreation by introducing public space into the town centre.
- Provide opportunities for additional café/shops facing improved public spaces, and attracting the transit passengers travelling along the Prishtina-Skopje Highway into the town centre.
- Improve the pedestrian flows to the centre and primary and high school
- Relocate the parking places to more appropriate location
- Improve the connections from town centre (the square) and proposed park
- Build the capacities in the municipality in terms of project development and management.

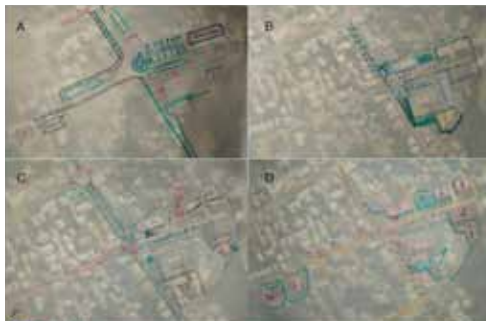
DETAIL SITE IDENTIFICATION AND PROBLEMS

The area characteristics included the following problems:

- No defined and meaningful public space in the centre
- Lack of the physical and social "centre" to provide focal point for the town.
- Poor environmental quality with the little consistent vegetation
- Car parking is currently inappropriately located in the main intersection of the town.
- Electrical transformer located in the main intersection outside the municipal building



WORKSHOPS FOR URBAN DESIGN AND PRIORITY IN IMPLEMENTATION OF URBAN SPACES



The results of the brainstorming sessions

In order to ensure participatory and transparent process of identifying the project purpose, its area and design features, the municipality of Hani i Elezit/G. Jankovic with the MuSPP team organized workshops which involved different stakeholders, including citizens, school community, teachers, municipal officers, owners of shops and restaurants. The results of these joint brainstorming sessions are shown above. The participants were also informed about the zoning

and urban design requirements which the project has to fulfil. The workshops served also as information sharing and capacity building events.



Some pictures of the public events

FINAL DESIGN

At the later stage, the municipal and MuSPP team assessed the designs of four groups and did the initial urban design and cost estimates. The conclusion was that the area is too big and due to the limited municipal funds which could be allocated for co-funding of this project, it would be necessary to divide the area in parts in order to implement them on a phase-by-phase basis.

The current project design covers three selected areas. The final design was developed and approved by the advisory panel for implementation through co-funding by the Municipality of Hani i Elezit/General Jankovic and UN-HABITAT/MuSPP.

This was followed by cooperation agreement between the Municipality of Hani i Elezit and UN HABITAT. The final desing solution:



BEFORE

AFTER



PROJECT SUMMARY:

TOTAL SURFACE: 7340 m²

TOTAL COST : Euro 61,175.01

IMPLEMENTED BY: Municipality of Hani i Elezit/G. Jankovic and MuSPP/ UN-HABITAT

PROJECT REALIZATION: "3D Project & Engineering"

FINANCED BY: Municipality of Hani i Elezit/G. Jankovic and MuSPP/ UN-HABITAT

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Making Better Cities Together

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in Kosovo

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