

# Inner Courtyards as Public Open Spaces

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*Expanding cities – Diminishing space*

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# Introduction

- UN World Urbanization Prospects The Revision 2014 report → In 2014 the 54% of the world's population has lived in cities, and in Hungary 71% of country's population has lived in cities
- In 2050 the 66% of the world's population will live in cities, and in Hungary 82% of the country's population will live in cities
- Cities of the future → Demographic and sociological problems
- Public open spaces (Public squares, Parks) → Much more significant role
- Public open space → The „space” of democracy all social classes can be found on it (regardless of gender, age, religion, education, etc.).
- Public open spaces → their size are bounded
- Extension public open spaces → Inner Courtyards
- Inner Courtyards similar to the squares could have restaurants, terraces, shops, benches, etc. and providing opportunities for relaxation, conversation and entertainment
- But it's a question what people really needs on a public spaces or an inner courtyard, to enjoy themselves? And similar to a public space how could become successful and well used among the people an inner courtyard?

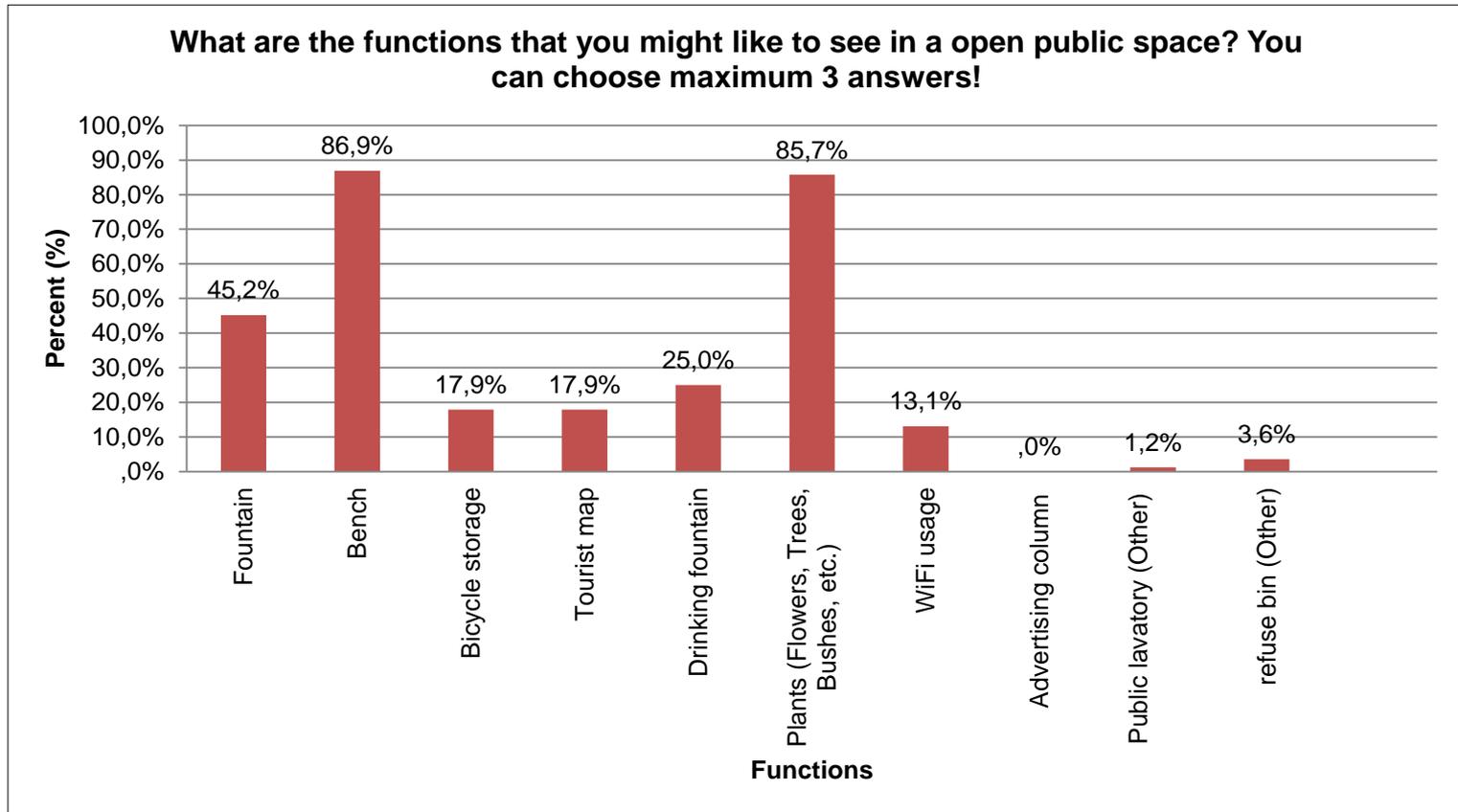
# The successful public space

Project for Public Spaces → worldwide more than 1000 public space were studied

The success of the public spaces depends on:

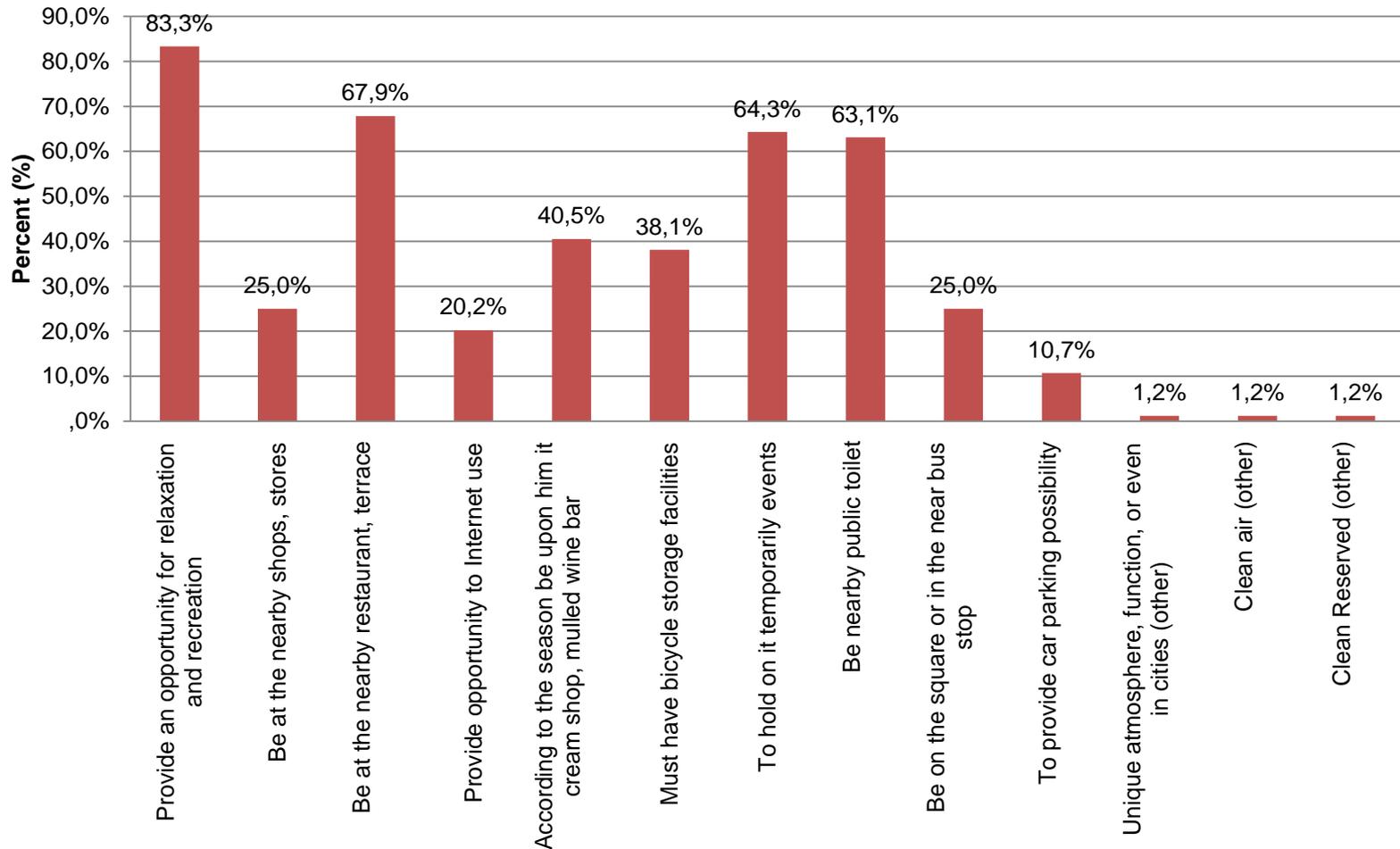
- **Community spirit**
- **Use and activity**
- **Approach and relationships**
- **Comfort and overall picture**

# What is like a good public open space?



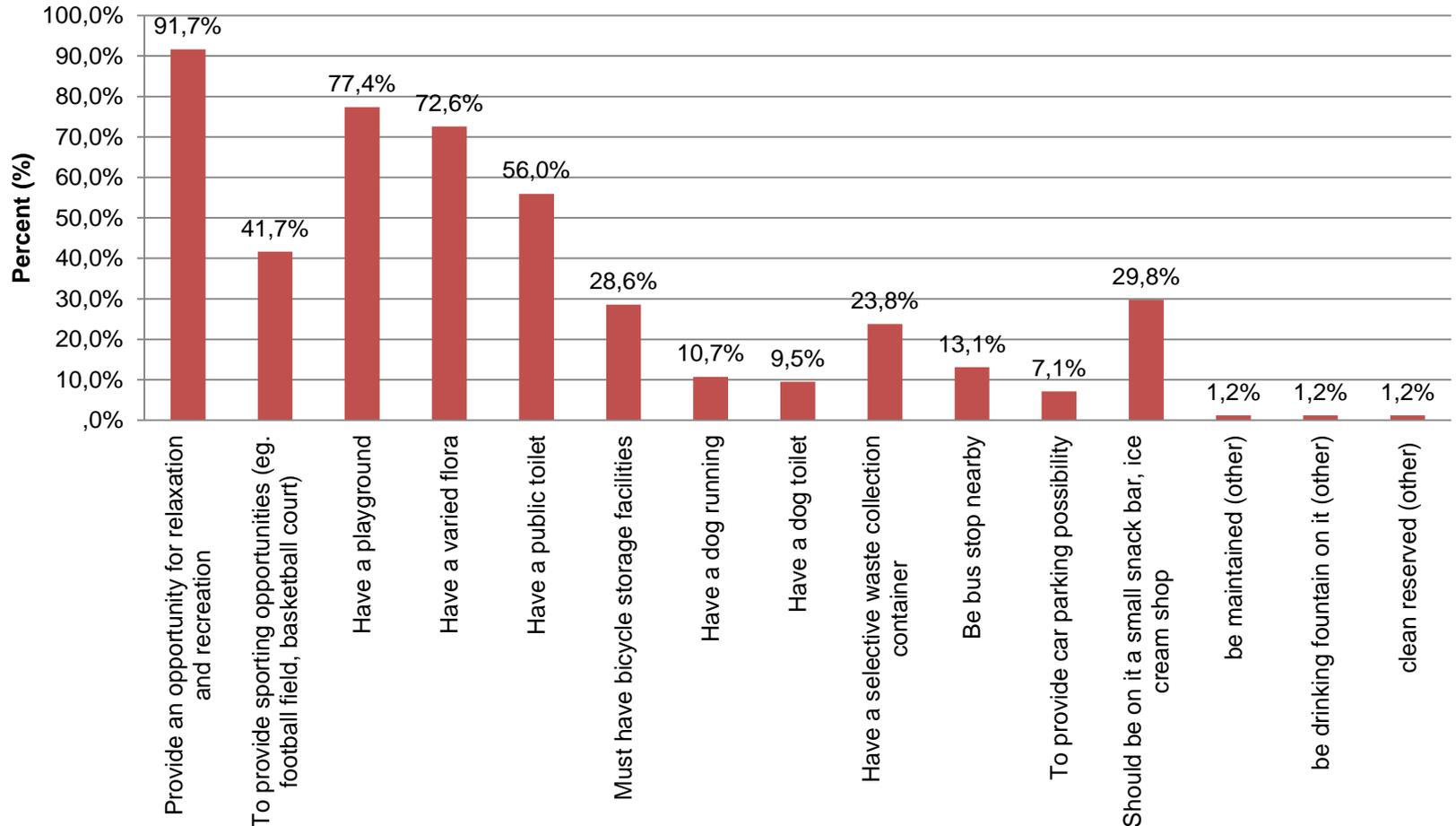
# What is like a good square?

What do you think form the following points which have to be prevail on a square? Multiple answers (maximum 5) can be marked!



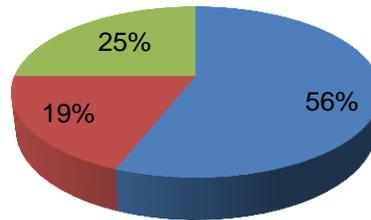
# What is like a good park?

What do you think form the following points which have to be prevail on a park? Multiple answers (maximum 5) can be marked!



# Inner courtyards?

In your opinion where it is possible would it be worthy the old inner city buildings yards (for example by the model of the Bécsi garden, or the Gozsgu garden) open for the pedestrians and creating in them even shops, stores, or smaller restaurants?



■ Yes ■ No ■ I don't know

**Why it would be worth to open the old inner city buildings yards (eg. by the model of the Bécsi garden or the Gozsdu garden) for the pedestrians?**

- Because of the "mood" and „magic" of the inner courtyards
- It can be attractive for tourists

**Why wouldn't it be worth to open the old inner city buildings yards (eg. by the model of the Bécsi garden or the Gozsdu garden) for the pedestrians?**

- The peace of the there living people would be disturbed by the traffic

# Best practice - Inner Courtyards in Győr



# Bécsi Courtyard



Eastern entrance



Northern entrance



Western courtyard part of the Bécsi courtyard



Eastern courtyard part of the Bécsi courtyard



Southern entrance



Western courtyard part of the Bécsi courtyard

# Hungária Courtyard



The playground of the Hungária courtyard



Parking place in the Hungária courtyard



The fast food restaurant in the Hungária courtyard



The park area of the Hungária courtyard

# Hungária Courtyard



Southwestern entrance



Eastern entrance



Northwestern entrance

# Summary

- **Squares and parks:**
  - Must have a diverse and rich flora
  - Must provide opportunities for rest (street furniture)
- **Squares:**
  - It's important to have water (fountain, drinking fountain)
  - Must have terraces (restaurant)
  - Must organize different events on it
- **Parks:**
  - Must provide opportunities for family recreation (playground, sports field)
- **Inner courtyards:**
  - Where it's possible, must to be opened for pedestrians
  - According to their size should have shops, stores, restaurants, etc.
  - Can give place for meeting, dialogue, or relaxation similar to the parks or squares



***Thank you for your attention!***

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