

The complex social impact assessment of the red mud disaster

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The facts

- Regarding the spatial extent, duration and severity of impact, the dam break at 12:25 pm on 04. 10. 2010 and the red mud disaster in its wake turned out to be the greatest environmental crisis ever of Hungary and of the whole region.
- The disaster left 10 people dead and almost 150 injured
- 322 houses were destroyed



Somlójenő

Somlóvásárhely

Tüskevár

Devecser

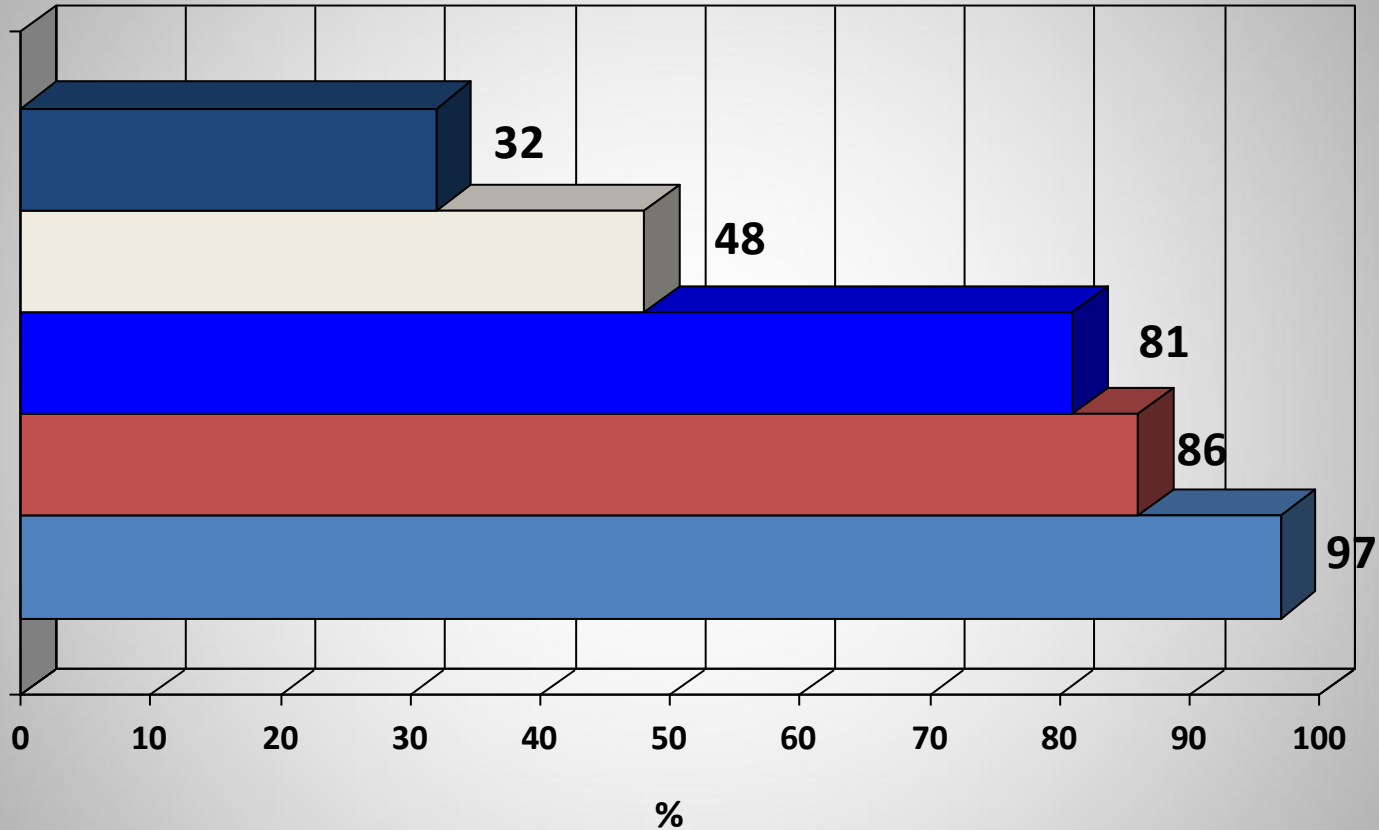
Kolontár

Apácatorna
Kisberzsény

1 km

Az átszakadt gát

The most serious damages



Property damages

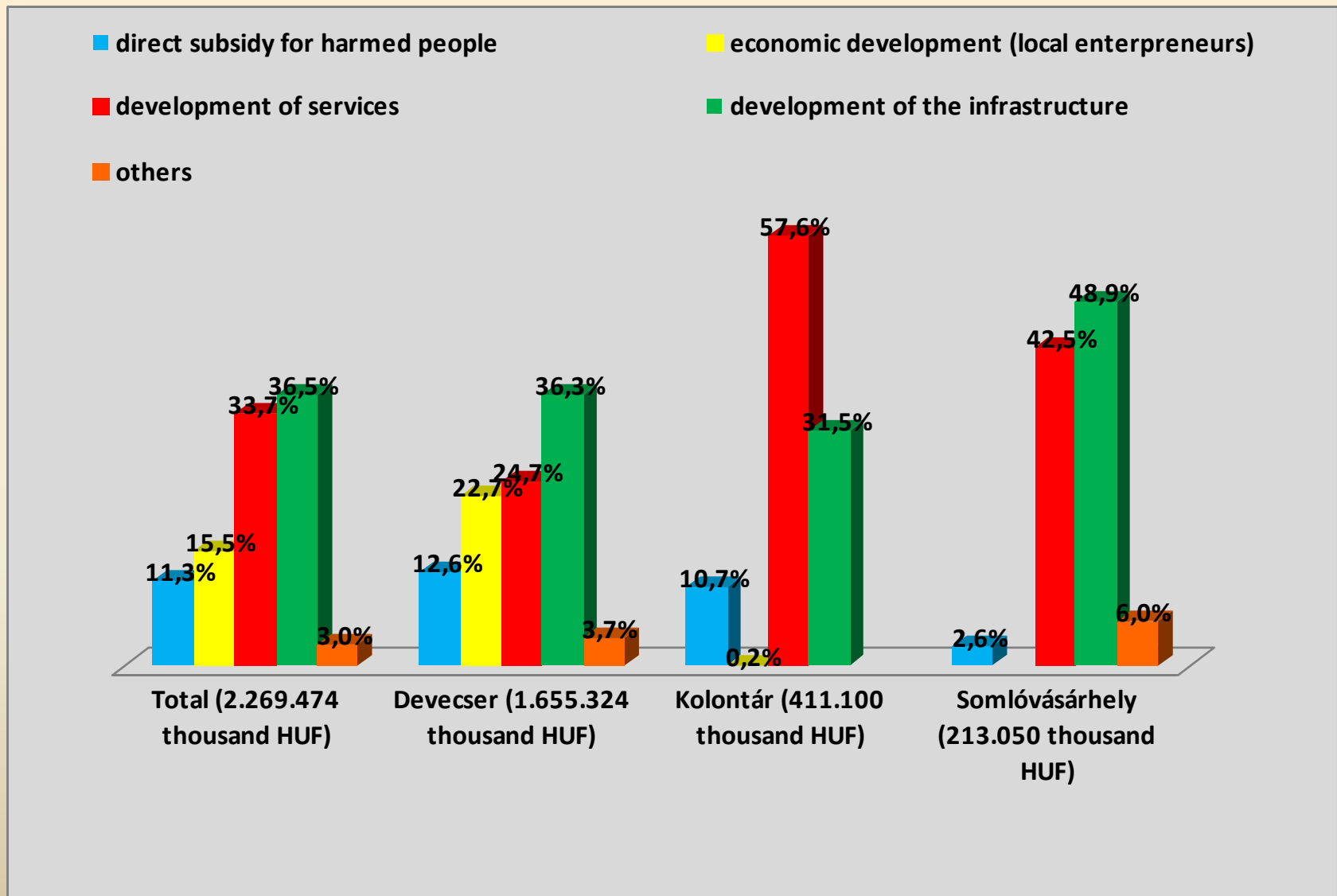
physical-health

economic

community disruption, mental suffering

environmental

Financial support from the Hungarian Relief Fund by settlements and targets



Acceptance of community investments

Directly affected people:

- Restoration of school
- New medical station in the gated community
- Development of sewerage
- Utility development

Indirectly affected people:

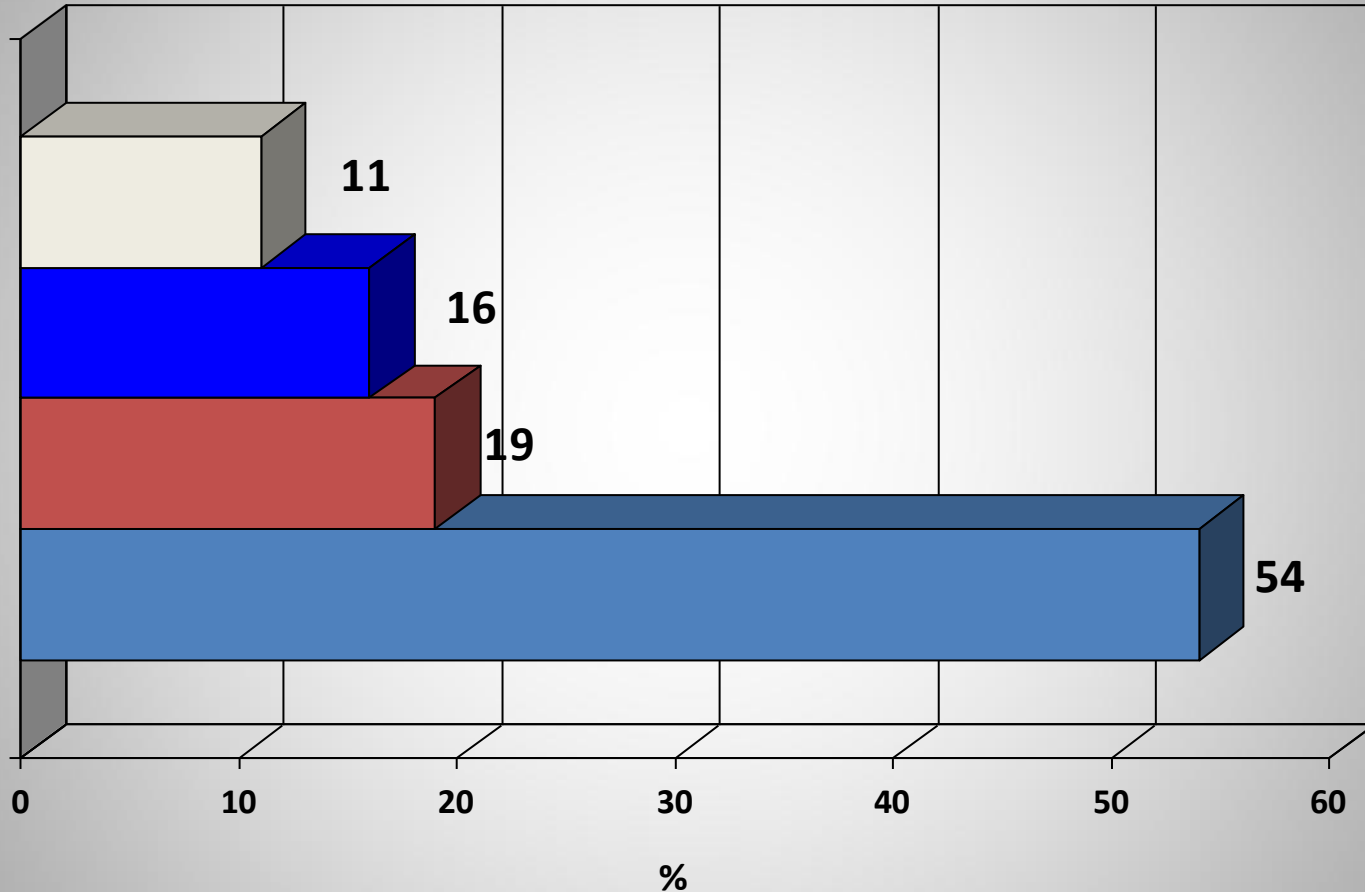
- Restoration of school
- Renovation of public spaces
- Development of sewerage

Community needs in three affected settlements

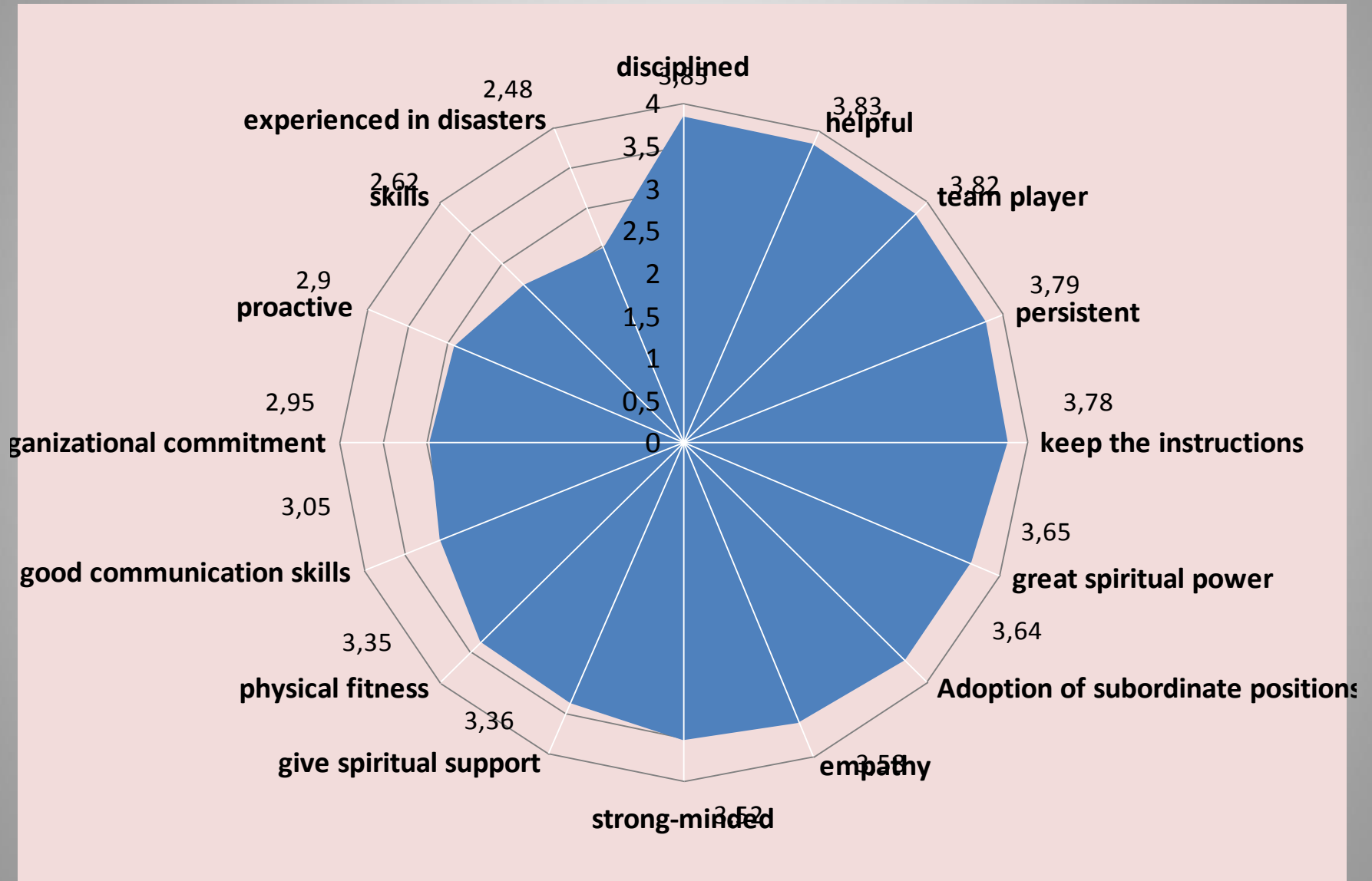
ongoing public information concerning the local development (72%);
regular medical screening (70%),
public information concerning the MAL (polluter firm)(60%).

ongoing air pollution control (60%),
strengthen community cohesion (55%),
conversation of community problems (47%),
ongoing psychological assistance (40%),

Most important developments needed



Features of the „disaster volunteer”



Suggestions

1. Regular health screening and (air)pollution monitoring (a)
2. Create community development programs based on local needs (a)
3. Strengthen the organisational specialisations between aid organisations to increasing the effectiveness of the humanitarian actions at disasters (a)
4. Rethinking the role of the state funds especially in case of handling private donations (a)
5. Preparing and teaching public participation and communication techniques and skills for local stakeholders (b)
6. Communicate the potential risks in the affected regions (b)