



European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
– 3rd Session – 2012-2013 –

At its 1187th Meeting on 12 December 2013, the Committee of Ministers decided to attribute a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for “Strengthening democracy” to the project:

The rebirth of the Alto Belice Corleonese region through recovery of land confiscated from the mafia organisations

LIBERA, Associations, names and numbers against mafias, Italy

The project of the revival of Alto Belice Corleonese relates to the recovery of land from mafia organisations, which was illegally seized by them. This project of great interest encompasses a combination of the Council of Europe’s principles: human rights, rule of law and democracy. Landscape is both the instrument and the result. The project is as much political as economic, and produces a landscape which highlights the local identity and culture. It restores the cultural dimension of the landscape and the quality of the natural environment. Organic production and local processing of farm products, the development of renewable energies and the restoration of the heritage all provide job opportunities for vulnerable populations. The outstanding level of volunteer mobilisation is one of the project’s strong points.

Strasbourg, 12 May 2014

Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General