



European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
– 4th Session – 2014-2015 –

On 14 October 2015, the Committee of Ministers decided to attribute a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the project:

The Sénia Territory Millennium Olive Tree Landscape
Taula del Sénia Mancomunidad, Spain

The project enabled the conservation of the millennium olive trees and the management of the "sea of olive trees" landscape they created. The know-how, traditional agricultural practices and the natural and cultural heritage for the cultivation of olive trees have thus also been preserved. The concerns expressed by the local population about the fate of some 4,800 ancient olive trees – threatened by economic pressures, speculation and classified as "at risk" – has led the authors of the project to establish a partnership between local and regional administrations, individuals and enterprises. This strong co-operation between the public and private sectors has led, through restoration and sustainable territorial management, to the protection of the olive trees and the preservation of an exceptionally characteristic landscape. Awareness-raising initiatives have helped strengthen the understanding of stakeholders of the inestimable value of these historic trees. Favorable economic prospects have also resulted. This achievement is thus a major source of inspiration for the traditional Mediterranean landscape of olive groves.

Strasbourg, 10 May 2016


Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General