



Ympäristöministeriö
Miljöministeriet
Ministry of the Environment



The national division of landscape provinces and regional landscape surveys in Finland

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13th Council of Europe meeting of the workshops...
2.10.2013 Cetinje, Montenegro

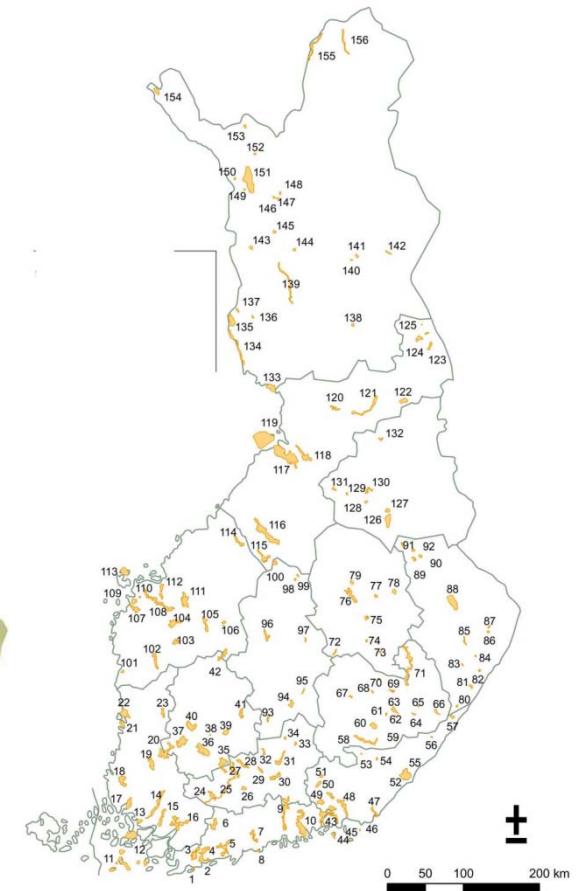
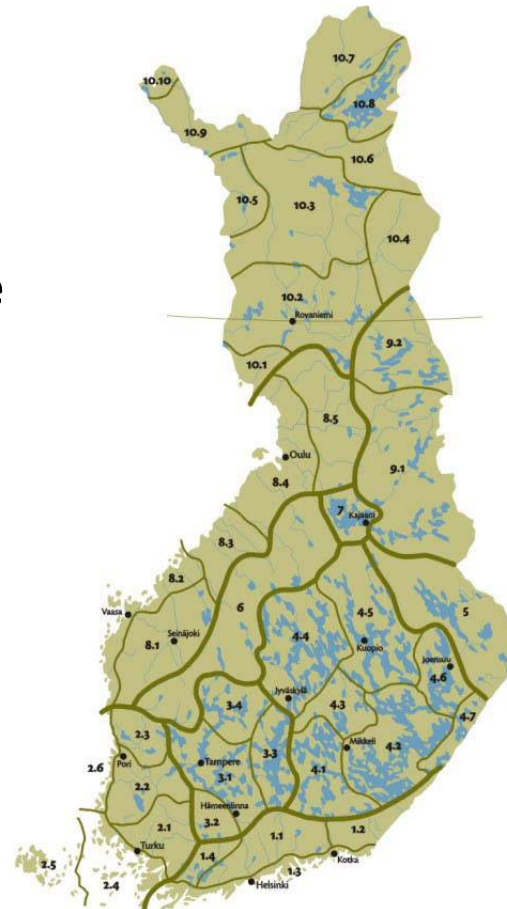
National Cultural Environment Strategy

- Public policy of the Finnish Government 2011
- Ministry of Education and Culture & Ministry of the Environment
- Three goals and perspectives:
 - Cultural environment as a possibility
 - Sustainability
 - Good governance
- Urban and rural cultural environments
- Valuable and degraded landscapes
- Partnerships and cooperation
- 2014 – 2020



Nationally Valuable Landscape Areas

- Working group of landscape areas 1986–1992
- Division into **landscape provinces (10)**, and naming of **nationally valuable landscape areas (156)** (1993)
- “The most representative cultural landscapes of the countryside”
- **National landscapes (27; 1992)**: symbolical status and an attempt to gain public attention

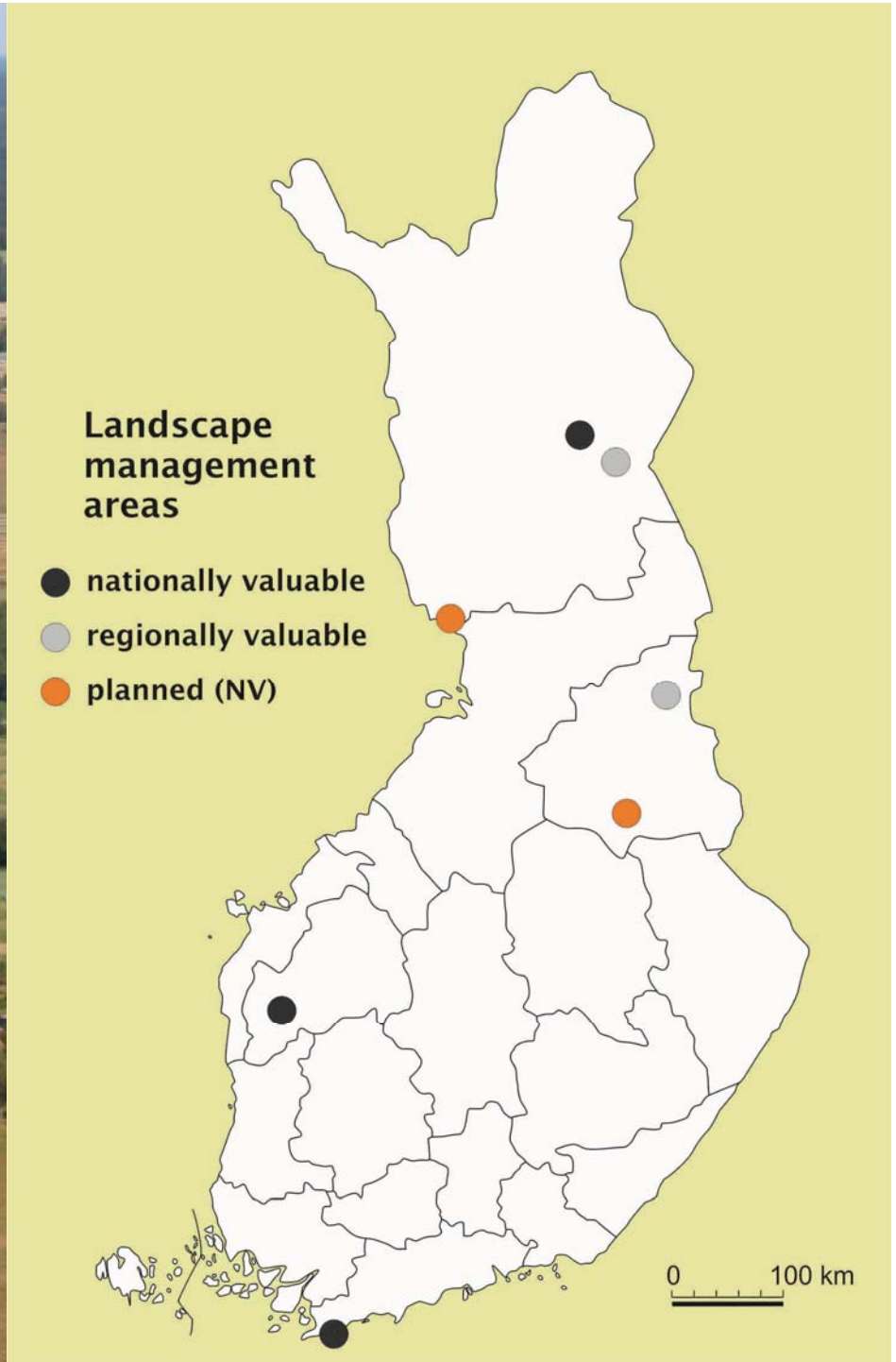


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Updating inventory

- Remarkable changes in Finnish agriculture and regional structure
- Updating inventory of the nationally remarkable built cultural environments (2009)
- Updating inventory of the nationally valuable landscapes (2010–2014)
- Ministry of the Environment
- Regional Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment (ELY Centres)
- Former data, GIS, field works, participation, hearings...







Elinkeino-, liikenne- ja ympäristökeskus
Närings-, trafik- och miljöcentralen
Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment

'Territories of the future, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy'

Cetinje, Montenegro 2-3 October 2013

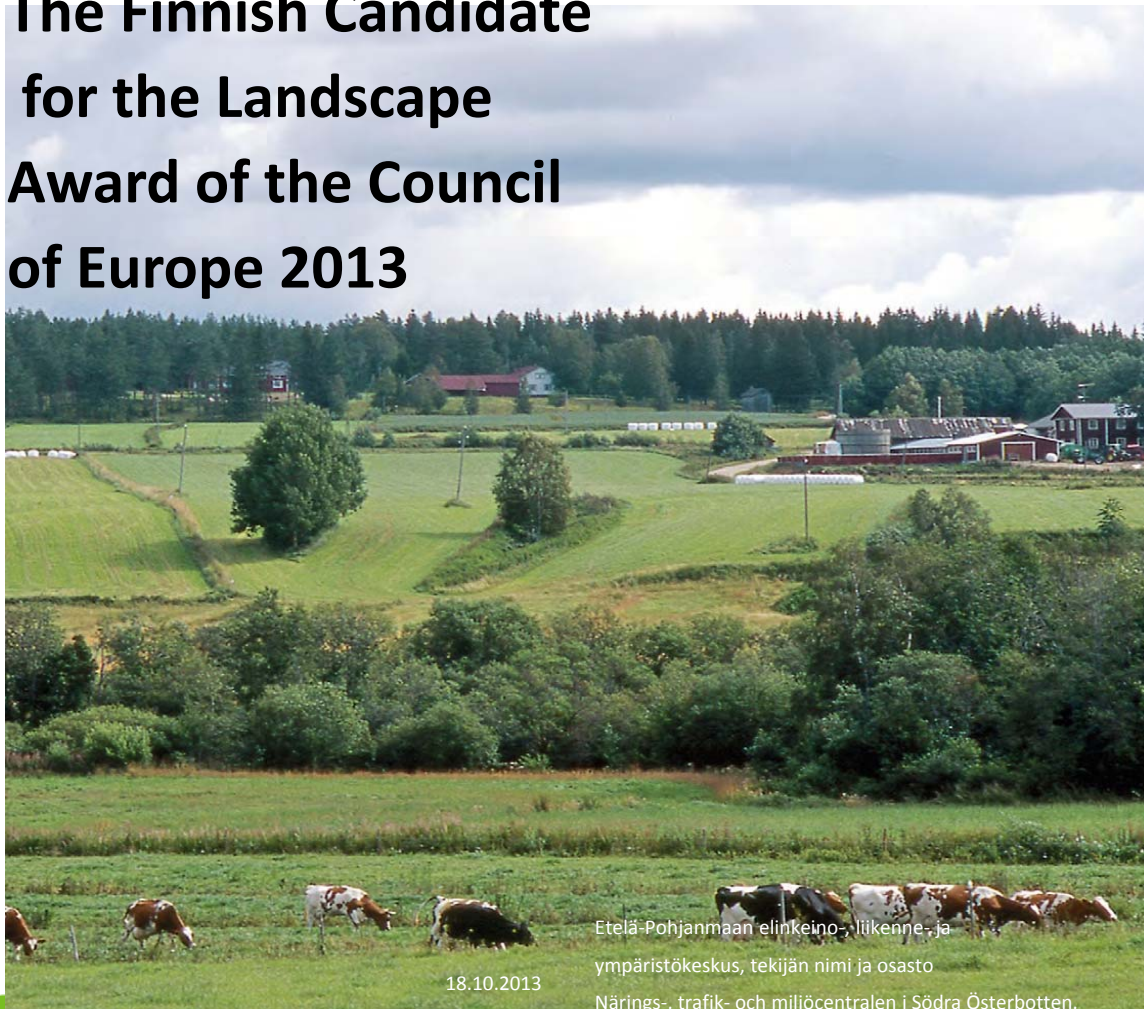
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Participation and public involvement as a tool in landscape conservation'

Senior official Leena Rinkineva-Kantola, Western Finland Center for
Economic Development, Transport and the Environment

Hyyppä Valley landscape projects

The Finnish Candidate for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe 2013



18.10.2013

Etelä-Pohjanmaan elinkeino-, liikenne- ja ympäristökeskus, tekijän nimi ja osasto
Närings-, trafik- och miljöcentralen i Södra Österbotten,



Hyyppä Valley – general information

- Located in **Kauhajoki, western Finland**
- Represent the **varying riverside** cultural landscape of Southern Ostrobothnia's open agricultural expanses:
 - **Narrow, elongated valley with steep slopes** begins with on the edge of open spaces
 - **Canyon like natural brooks**
 - The built environment **includes large Ostrobothnian country houses** and outbuildings dating back to the 19th and early 20 th century



18.10.2013

ympäristökeskus, tekijän nimi ja osasto
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Hyyppä Valley – key project 2



- Enhanced landscape conservation and the recognition of landscapes involved is **the establishment of the Hyyppä Valley Landscape Conservation Area** in accordance with the Finnish Nature Conservation Act.
- The beginning: The **City of Kauhajoki proposed** The establishment of the Hyyppä Valley Landscape Conservation **Area project was initiated by the Hyyppä Village Association** →

Projects in 2006 – 2009 – what happened

- The area's **values and special characteristics** were defined
- The **usage and maintenance plan** was prepared
- The **information** was distributed on these activities (information bulletins, website, events)
- Extensive **landscape conservation work** was carried out
- The Finnish Forrest Centre implemented **forest nature management projects** in the area (for example cleared tree stands and bushes, estate-specific lanscape conservation and the related nature management plans, personal advice to forrest owners)

Cooperation in 2006-2009

The project was implemented in close cooperation with interest groups: by a **steering group** comprising representatives of

- authorities (11)
 - village associations (8)
 - a landscape workgroup comprising representatives of various villages (6).
- All parties could influence the contents of the plan
 - Villagers were prepared to implement work and projects they found useful
 - Villagers and authorities actively communicated on their needs, wishes and thoughts during the project.

In 2008, the **Hyyppä Village Association** established a **landscape conservation work group** subordinate to it, tasked with assuming local responsibility for landscape conservation and handling the implementation of follow-up projects. Maintask:

Planning and implementation of the ecological restoration of the River Hyypänjoki (water, lanscape, recreational values)



Hyyppä Valley landscape projects in 2009–2013 and future prospects

The Hyyppä Valley *Landscape Conservation Board* was established in 2010

- Group has initiated several activities concerning tourism, information, care of minor agricultural habitats

The **River Hyyppäjoki's restoration**

The Finnish Forrest Centre: **maintenance projects on minor water bodies** in 2009-2011

Voluntary forrest protection by so called METSO-project

the Hyyppä Valley Landscape Conservation Board

the City of Kauhajoki established Board in 2010

- Key tasks of the board:
- To keep various parties **informed** about important topical issues related to lanscape conservation
- To provide a positive, impartial **forum for discussing** such issues

The board includes

- representatives of the city,
- the public authority institutes (8),
- specialist organisations (7),
- local associations (7)

Methods of working:

- A meeting twice a year
- Breafings on internet site and newsletter
- An e-mail communication list for landowners

Conclusions

- The best way to succeed in nurturing the landscape is through grassroots initiatives.
- When all parties concerned can participate in decision-making and project implementation, there is stronger commitment to nurturing the natural and cultural values of the immediate surroundings.

Thank you!

