



**REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**  
**Ministry of Urban Development**



# **8-th council of Europe conference on the European Landscape convention**

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**Khor Virap Monastery (Ararat Marz/Region, RA)**



## Landscape

visible features of an area of land, that has a particular quality or appearance

includes the physical elements of landforms, living elements of land cover including indigenous vegetation, human elements including different forms of land use, buildings and structures, and transitory elements such as lighting and weather conditions.

Armenia joined The European Landscape convention (signed in 2000) in 2003 (adopted & signed in 2004).

*Ara mount, Aragatsotn Marz/Region, RA*

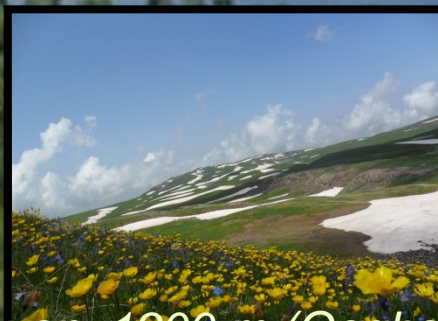


As the landscape expresses the human qualities of the territory, we need to qualify and identify its features to supervise the safe changes to provide:

- healthy and sustainable environment creation, aiming the wellbeing of citizens and rising the attractiveness of the communities,
- public participation and awareness rising,
- public activities, job generation.

Thus, as the Convention concentrate its attention to the territories as integrity of all types of landscapes, Landscape Convention promoting process in RA refers all kind of areas, such as:

- natural,
- urban,
- rural,
- suburban.



*Highland Lake Sevan, 1900 m (Gegharqunik Marz/Region, RA)*



*The process of activities refer different approaches to landscapes of different conditions, identified by their qualities and classified as :*

- ❖ magnificent-historical environmnet, natural reservs, aesthetic landscapes.*
- ❖ ordinary-urban, rural, suburban, parks, agricultural lands & gardens.*
- ❖ abandoned, degraded -abandoned industrial areas, cultivated agricultural lands, industrial and domestic waste contaminated areas*



*Tatev Monastery, date -906 (Syunik Marz/Region, RA)*



# Implementation reports:

## Law, politics

Natural resource use principles are regulated by,

<< The Land Code >>, << the Water Code >>, << The Forest Code >> and other legislation.

Urban sector is regulated,

<< The Urban Law >>

Within Armenia's obligations under the European Landscape Convention in 2011, the following measures are implemented.

The government's decision N 308-N adopting the 2011-2014 list of events of obligations implementation of RA arising from the "European Landscape Convention".

- The Ministry of Urban Development has developed a "landscape of Armenia's national policy fundamentals."
- Armenia's Civil Service Council approved by N 952-A decision the amended plan by the civil servants for inclusion of landscape convention issues in of the new civil servants training.
- Under the supervision of the Ministry of Urban Development a "Sevan lake ocentral and direct impact zones, recreational, landscape, territorial organization and urban development project has been developed , including urban and landscape standards ". This document was prepared by the requirements of the Convention.
- "Landscape Management" section of the processing instruction. "
- methodological manual for "Spatial planning documents has been published.
- The Ministry of Culture has been developed by the Kiev regional initiative "Cultural heritage restoration of historic cities" pilot program "Goris tourism development" and "Khosrov" State Reserve historical cultural monuments restoration and use Program " governmental decisions.
- The correction of Yerevan City Master Plan is being implemented by the Municipality as well as Hrazdan Gorge resort rehabilitation program, Victory Park reconstruction development and investment project -Y.Koghbatsi streets of Northern Avenue reconstruction project development and implementation.

Lake Gosh, (Tavoush Marz/Region, RA)



# Education and training

- Within the frame of Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial Planning (CEMAT) in 2003-2008 a series of conferences devoted to the problems of spatial planning and landscape have been organized.
- Exhibition of children works
- "The landscape through the eyes of children held in the Museum of Architecture." Children National Gallery. Children's activities are also shown Strasbourg European Palace.
- The Ministry of Education and Science has developed the "Geography" profession of state educational standards project, which is currently in compliance with the education qualifications. "Geography" profession basic training courses for "Landscape study" made by the specialists within the profession. landscape assessment and operations for the «Forestry and Landscape Gardening" state educational standard of the profession and professional courses are also included in the "Landscape Design" course.
- In secondary schools, "Geography" the 12th grade course "natural economy of developing countries, regions and features," "Dry (ARID) agrarian regions" and "global environmental problem" themes are included the curricula materials.
- Yerevan State University, Department of geology and geography undergraduate and graduate courses within the framework of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention study "landscape study", "landscape planning", "Landscape Ecology" disciplines.
- The university specialists carry out scientific work in landscape planning. The work is actually in the Syunik, Aragatsotn and Lori "Landscape Framework Plan" formation stage.

*Natural tunnel on Goris-Kapan highway, (Syunik Marz/Region, RA)*



# Training, Public participation in decision-making processes and awareness

- o A series of workshops on "The implementation of the European Landscape Convention " have been organized in The provinces in 2013.



Qasakh river Canyon, (Aragatsotn Marz/Region, RA)



# Awards

The Ministry of Urban Development has developed a "Landscape Award of Armenia." governmental draft decision. "Armenia's landscape prize diploma and a statuette sketch and description of Approval"



Stone "symphony" near Garni, (Ararat Marz/Region, RA)



# Landscape planning (culture)

RA consider 3 level approaches to landscape planning forms (landscape activities-governance, planning, protection) mutually connected with Urban planning levels:

| Spatial planning level  | Landscape planning form      | Inclusion            | Scale                           |
|---|------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>External level-The spatial development plans</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Settling plan</li> <li>• Territorial plan</li> </ul> | Landscape concepts, programs | The whole country    | 1:200000<br>1:100000<br>1:50000 |
| <b>1-st level Urban united environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mater plan</li> </ul>   | Landscape master plan        | Settlement           | 1:10000<br>1:5000               |
| <b>2-nd level Municipal unit-district environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zonning plans</li> </ul>                           | Landscape plan               | Part of a settlement | 1:2000<br>1:1000<br>1:500       |
| <b>3-rd level Human environment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development, maintenance plan</li> </ul>                             | Green plan                   | Part of a district   | 1:200<br>1:50<br>1:10           |

*Dilijan National park (Tavoush Marz/Region, RA)*



# Implementation of new projects



Development of the projects of simplified plans of 20 rural communities adjacent to "Sevan" National Park are coordinated. The most important tasks are definition and detachment of areas favorable for recreation development in "Sevan" national park 500 meters from the border zone of, as well as development trends and management of the areas of natural and urban landscapes of those communities and overall performance improvement.

Spatial planning documents are processed by the Ministry, coordinating activities within the province of Syunik "Tatev" Monastery protection zone development scheme documents and Jermuk city's general plan change projects.

"Tatev" Monastery protection zone development scheme draft documents relating to the solutions applied in the area of cultural preservation and environmental constraints to ensure the environmental integrity and preservation of the natural contours of the landscape design solutions have been selected by the supremacy of the principles.

A number of general plans and zoning plans for RA settlements in compliance with Landscape convention principles (a chapter dedicated to different aspects of landscape multifactor analysis-natural, antropogenic, aesthetic etc., and ways of perspective maintenance and improvement , measurements for protection) is being elaborated under the supervision of the Ministry of Urban Development.

*Jermuk resort bridge (Vayots Dzor Marz/Region, RA)*



**As** in the result of antropogenic factors a number of negative changes in landscapes are obvious, such as:

- ✓ Spaces of unequal development
- ✓ Intensively developed areas uncontrollable urbanizatsum
- ✓ Industrial, agricultural and mining sectors (as a result of irrational sage- landscapes degradation)
- ✓ Intensive development of urban landscapes uncontrollable changes
- ✓ Green masses divisions caused by the deterioration of the climate
- ✓ Human activities cause a dangerous natural phenomena / mudflows, landslides, earthquakes, etc. / activation.





***In order*** to integrate the antropogenic factors into natural landcape in the most harmonic and safe manner, besides the new projects corrections in formated urban areas also are needed. This include also :

- ***Estimate identified landscape` in consideration of given values by stakeholders and the public;***
- ***Develop public, local and regional authorities and other interested parties to participate in the mechanism of processing and implementation of the landscape.***



# Projects in progress

## Goris smart city

sustainable, green, smart, resilient,  
comfortable, etc.

Different definitions have the same  
destination-to provide favorable,  
available, environmentally safe and  
friendly, comfortable living  
environment to satisfy his main  
demands:

**living, work, rest:**



We have to improve the quality of our environment (landscapes), making our settlements attractive for people.

Need to specify:

- ❑ where and how to live
- ❑ where we want to live, where to go to work or school, how to get there (healthy places for living and activities)
- ❑ emergence of streets, public places

**A list of driving forces for landscape changes**

- Housing demands
- Trade and industry
- Tourism
- Agriculture, forestry
- Fishing
- Mining
- Transport
- Energy

**Natural hazards**

- Wind
- Heavy rain
- Flooding
- Land and snow slides

slides

- Forest fires



# **Government policies**

## **Private sector activities (awareness and participation)**

Planning is a main right in local government

Municipalities should provide co-operation between the citizens, stakeholders in regional government and private sector, Public participation may bring new life and approaches to the problems solutions as the population should agree on the emotional values assigned to the landscape



**Achieves several aims:**

- collective knowledge,
- participation
- awareness raising

*Goris city view. (Syunik Marz/Region, RA)*



# Identification and assessment

1 With active participation of the interested parties:

- identify all landscapes throughout the national territory
- analyse their characteristics
- analyse the forces changing them
- assess the landscape qualities, taking into account the opinions of the parties and the population concerned

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# Here are the key fields for smartening Goris city

Smart Governance  
Smart Economy  
Smart Mobility  
Smart Environment  
Smart People  
Smart Living

The green infrastructure helps the improvement of better quality of microclimatic conditions and ecological situation in the city. Existence of Vararakh river and its valley landscape can serve as a driver for involving into the ecological framework for revitalization of river landscapes and supporting mild microclimatic conditions provision. Moreover, the historical village nearby with the ancient grottos (cave) settlements-shelters increase the attractiveness of the city for the visitors.

- Innovation management in traditional businesses,
  - usage of renewable energy,
  - new technologies,
  - construction of smart green houses
- oriented towards sustainability of city structure.**

*Main view to Goris historical cave settlement. (Syunik Marz/Region, RA)*



# Landscape protection and improvement measurements

## Natural component

- *Green corridors*
- *Riversides arrangement*
- Historical componnet
- *Historical heritage potection*
- *Rehabilitation*
- *Historical reservation*

## National hazards and disasters risk reduction

Engineering protection and environmental measures have been elaborated.

- Flood protection measurements (riversides inforcement, dumbs construction ),
- Protection zones vegetation, public greenery

provision

Jermuk waterfall (Vayots Dzor Marz/Region, RA)



A vast field of red poppies in a hilly landscape under a clear blue sky. The poppies are in full bloom, with dark centers, and are scattered across a green field. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a clear blue sky.

**Thanks for attention**  
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