



Ympäristöministeriö  
Miljöministeriet  
Ministry of the Environment



# ELC in Finland

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Strasbourg 19th March 2015  
Tapio Heikkilä

# Article 4 – Division of responsibilities



# Article 4 – Division of responsibilities

- Ministry of the Environment is in charge of landscape issues.
- Co-operation with other ministries and state organizations, e.g. National Board of Heritage and Finnish Environment Institute.
- Regional environmental authorities are an important partner in all landscape work. (Centres for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment, Metsähallitus etc.)



# Article 5 – General measures



## Article 5 – General measures

- Landscape with its different features is included in Finnish legislation.
- Landscapes are integrated into all regional and general plans, at least the valuable landscapes and cultural historical environments.



## Cultural Environment Strategy 2014–2020

- Government resolution March 2014.
- Cultural environment: includes cultural landscape, the built cultural environment and archaeological sites.
- VISION: Cultural environment – a source of well-being and vitality
- Offers tools for maintaining the values of national heritage and improving the vitality and attractiveness of regions.

# Cultural Environment Strategy 2014–2020

- **An important resource**

The cultural environment is an important cultural, financial, social and ecological resource, and a catalyst for new activities. The goal of the strategy is to increase understanding of these opportunities.

- **Sustainable development**

A goal of the strategy is to strengthen sustainable development and the related ecological, financial, social and cultural values with the help of good management and responsible enhancement of the cultural environment.

- **Good administration**

The goal is to ensure the cultural environment administration's national, regional and local capacity to serve and function.





# Article 6 – Specific measures





# Article 6 – Specific measures

A) Awareness-raising

***” to increase awareness among the civil society”***



# Article 6 – Specific measures

## A) Awareness-raising

- Active reporting and information on landscape projects and plans on the national and regional levels: media releases for press and TV, web-pages, public events.
- NGOs are active stakeholders, e.g. agriculture advisory organisations.
- European Landscape Award: open competition *The Best Landscape Project of Finland* 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014 .



# Article 6 – Specific measures

## B) Training and education



# Article 6 – Specific measures

## B) Training and education

- Regular training for landscape experts in regional administration.
- Universities have courses and programmes in landscape issues for students of landscape architecture, landscape research and planning, geography, ecology and other environmental sciences.
- Agriculture advisory organisations offer training in landscape issues for farmers and other rural residents.



# Article 6 – Specific measures

## C) Identification and assessment



## ELC, Article 6

*“to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory”*



# Inventories of nationally valuable landscape areas



# Inventories of nationally valuable landscape areas

- Inventories of nationally valuable landscape areas; updating the old lists of areas from the early 1990s.
- 183 areas, historically and culturally important landscape areas, mainly agricultural landscapes.
- Ministry of the Environment as coordinator, all regions participating, 2010–2015.





# Landscape Conservation Areas

## National level:

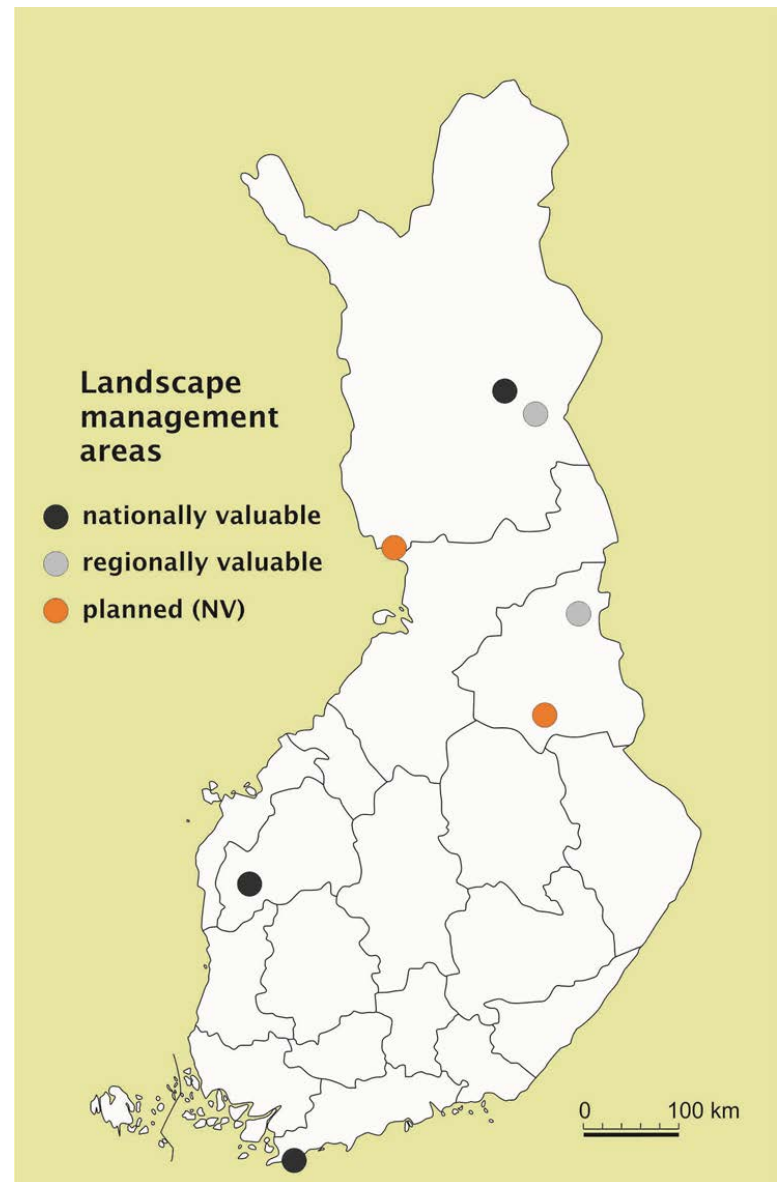
- Skärlandet; Tammisaari, Raasepori
- Hyypänjokilaakso; Kauhajoki
- Kairala – LUIRO; Pelkosenniemi

## Regional level

- Suomussalmen vienalaishäyrylä
- Saija, Salla

## On progress

- Simo, Simo
- Totkunniemi, Kitee



# Kairala – Luiro Landscape Conservation Area

— Established 20.4.2010



# Saija Landscape Conservation Area

— Established 11.4.2007



# ELC, Article 6

*”to take note of changes”*

Visual Monitoring of  
Landscapes 1996–

Fields & Meadows

*Web site:*

[www.](http://www.muuttuvamaalaismaisema.fi)

[muuttuvamaalaismaisema.fi](http://muuttuvamaalaismaisema.fi)

*Facebook page:*

[Muuttuva maalaismaisema](https://www.facebook.com/Muuttuva-maalaismaisema)



Hietikko, Viljakkala A2 05.07.2001



Hietikko, Viljakkala A2 05.07.2007



Hietikko, Viljakkala A2 03.07.2012

# MUUTTUVAMAALAISSAISEMA.FI

suomeksi

- Welcome
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Halkko P2 N. 17.07.2000 © Oiva Hakala/Visuaalinen maisemaseuranta/ MTT:n arkisto

## Welcome to explore the Finnish agricultural landscape!

This web site "Muuttuva maalaismaisema" (Changing countryside) introduces you to a variety of Finnish agricultural landscapes with the help of informative photographs. These photos not only depict typical Finnish farmland, but also demonstrate the changes that have happened in the Finnish countryside during the 21st century.

Landscape changes typically occur gradually over a long period of time. Therefore they often go unnoticed. The purpose of this web site is to make these changes visible and thus offer tools for public discussion on the state and future of Finnish rural areas. What kind of landscapes do you appreciate? How do you feel about the changes in the Finnish countryside?

**Photographs** presents agricultural landscapes from different parts of Finland. The images are arranged pairwise in chronological order, so that the same landscape is shown in two photos taken 5-15 years apart. The photographs illustrate both typical Finnish agricultural landscapes and traditional rural biotopes.




An example of changes in rural landscapes in the 21st century.

http://www.m... Classroom | Muuttuva maal... x

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**MUUTTUVAMAALAIMAISEMA.FI** suomel

Welcome Photographs Background **Classroom** Contacts Links



Ilomantsi P9 S, 26.07.2000 © Oiva Hakala / Visuaalinen maastamäärittely / MTT:n arkioto

## Classroom

The visual appearance of Finnish landscapes and their continuous changes offer an interesting possibility to be examined and discussed in schools. The topic is closely related to the subjects of geography, history, biology, and social studies. As a visual phenomenon, it can also be covered in arts classes.

Below you can download a few landscape-oriented exercises, which were primarily developed for junior high school- or high school students. Everyone else interested in this topic is also free to try them. All tasks are based on the photographic material collected in the Visual monitoring of the Finnish landscapes –project.

Each exercise includes a separate PDF file for

- a) the assignment and guidelines for the exercise, and
- b) the photographs related to the task.

The PDF documents can be either printed out and distributed to the students, or alternatively shown with a projector for the whole class at the same time. A normal computer screen is sufficient for self-oriented learning.

**Exercise 1. How has this landscape changed – and why?**

[Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)  
[Photographs \(PDF\)](#)

**Exercise 2. Which of these landscapes do you find most and least enjoyable?**

[Guidelines \(PDF\)](#)

A.



B.



# Art. 8 – Mutual assistance and exchange of info





# Art. 8 – Mutual assistance and exchange of info

- Finland works on the international level to enhance co-operation in landscape issues.
- Especially important is the co-operation among Nordic countries.
- Nordic landscape conferences arranged with the help of the Nordic Council of Ministers (Norway 2004, Sweden 2007, Iceland 2012, Denmark 2016, Finland 2018).



# Article 9 – Transfrontier landscapes



# Article 9 – Transfrontier landscapes

- Co-operation between Finland, Sweden, Norway.
- How to implement the ELC on the local level.
- Special point of view: Sámi culture and reindeer herding.
- New regional project plans.



# Implementing ELC in the North Calotte Area



# Article 10 – Landscape award of the CoE



# Article 10 – Landscape award of the CoE

- In Finland: open competition *The Best Landscape Project of Finland* 2008, 2010, 2012, 2014.
- Minister of the Environment declares the winner and awards honorary prizes at an open landscape symposium.
- 2014 winner was the ***Bull by the Horns (Härkää sarvista): Grazing in nature and landscape management***. It is also the Finnish candidate for the European landscape award.









