

Information concerning the theme of <<Inclusion of the principles defined by European landscape convention related to trainings and education>>

In February of 2004 Armenia ratified and fulfilled a number of environmental conventions developed by European Council, adopted laws and regulations, established a network of protected landscapes, where various regional socio-economic and environmental programs are developed according to the requirements of the European landscape convention.

Taking into account the difficult socio-economic conditions of Armenia in 90's, as well as the need of landscapes' degradation prevention, in 2003 the chair of Forestry was established at the Armenian Agricultural Academy (at present ANAU), the main goal of which was to educate highly qualified specialists ensuring the sustainable preservation and development of the natural and antropogen landscapes.

The students of <<Forest enterprise and settlements greening>> major, coordinated by the chair of Forestry, by the curriculum of Bachelor's and Master's degree, are taught a number of specialized subjects such as <<Dendrology>>, <<Forestry>>, <<Forest amelioration and silviculture>>, <<Forest seed breeding>>, <<Forest taxation>>, <<Landscape science>> , and in Master's program - <<Ornate dendrology>>, <<Forest amelioration and projection>>, <<Forest dendro-diversity>>, <<Landscape design>>, etc.

In the curriculum of Bachelor's degree theoretical knowledge concerning the forest and urban green plantations are provided to students. Especially in forest landscapes during their internships the students are introduced to landscape biodiversity, their living and non-living components, which is very important while planning the works of forest management and forest regeneration.

The Master's students of mentioned major during the educational process obtain more detailed knowledge concerning the protection, sustainable development and utilization of natural and antropogen landscapes, particularly in the framework of the subjects <<Forest dendro-diversity>>, <<Landscape design>> and <<Forest projection and forest engineering>>.

At GSPI in the curricula of <<Geography>> and <<Mapping and Cadastral Survey>> academic programmes two subjects are included: <<Landscape Studies>> and <<Landscape Planning>>.

In <<Landscape Studies>> academic program certain topics corresponding to the Landscape European Convention are also included. In <<General Introduction>> part/unit <<Landscape quality aim>>, <<Landscape protection issues>> topics are included. In the scope of the subject landscape values and issues on their protection and planning are revealed.

According to the Landscape European Convention, as well as taking into consideration sustainable development principles, in the academic program the protection of land, water surfaces and special landscape management are included.

According to the Convention articles transborder landscape cooperation principles that aim at developing cooperation at local and regional level, are included in the topics. It mostly stimulates Armenia-Georgia transborder cooperation.

In <<Landscape Studyng>> academic program landscape social-economic functions are also analyzed. Multifunctional landscapes are greatly paid attention, so the student knows urban landscape features and can fix contrasts and undesirable results of landscape components in the future.

<<Landscape Planning>> academic program is being taught in <<Mapping and Cadastral Survey>> department. According to the Convention, in the scope of this academic program landscape regional planning and urban development, cultural, agricultural, environmental, social and economical policy issues that can influence on the landscape are included. The development of Landscape management and planning academic program is important for the profession.

In the academic program the main attention is paid to the topics that relate to the Landscape European Convention. Most important topics are <<Cultural Landscape are regional ecology managment purpose/ aim>>, <<Landscape Planning as regional tourism Development and recreation development tool>>, <<Landscape Planning and Land Tenure/Utilization>>, <<Urban Landscape Planning and Managment>>, wich can be used as a Activity Guideline for Local and Regional Authorities.

The students of Yerevan State University major, coordinated by the chair of <<Physical Geography and Hydro-meteorology>> by the curriculum of Bachelor's degree and chair of << Physical Geography and Landscape Ecology>> by the curriculum of Master's degree are taught a number of specialized subjects such as <<Landscape sciences>>, <<Landscape Ecology>>, << The landscapes of the RA>>, << Geography of soils and Soil Sciences>>, << Geoecology >>, << Biogeography>> , and in Master's program - <<Geochemistry and geophysics of landscapes>>, << Applied landscape sciences>>, <<Anthropogenic transformation of the natural environment>>, << Rational use and planning issues of Landscapes>>, etc.