



## European Landscape Convention Landscape Award of the Council of Europe – 3rd Session – 2012-2013 –

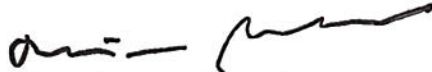
*At its 1187th Meeting on 12 December 2013, the Committee of Ministers decided to attribute  
the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe to the project:*

*Preserving ecological value in the landscape of the Szprotawa River Valley  
Lower Silesian Association of Landscape Parks, Poland*

The project on preserving ecological value in the landscape of the Szprotawa river valley is the winner of the 3rd Session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award 2012-2013 considering that it meets the four criteria of the rules on the Landscape Award. The integrated approach goes beyond the single dimension of biodiversity and associates nature with culture and population. Thus the project offers a model that others might follow. It shows a good level of participation by the parties concerned in both decision-making and land management. The farmers and beekeepers are stakeholders; the project has also enabled apparently conflicting economic interests to be reconciled. The aesthetic dimension is present and enables the awareness of different generations to be raised effectively. The environment is also taken into consideration: the project relates to the rehabilitation of a former Soviet military base, as well as to increased use of biomass as a source of energy.

The involvement of Roma in the decision-making process and, in future, in the management of the restored land is particularly favourable. In dealing with the issue of minority populations and their involvement in land management, this project represents progress in “living together” at European level which should be applauded.

Strasbourg, 12 May 2014

  
Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General