



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
CONVENTION EUROPEENNE DU PAYSAGE

LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

5th Edition – 2016-2017

APPLICATION FORM

The European Landscape Convention aims to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes and to bring together European cooperation in this field. It is the first international treaty exclusively devoted to all dimensions of European landscape. Taking into account the landscape, natural and cultural values of the territory, it contributes to promoting the quality of life and well-being of Europeans.

The Resolution on the Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 20 February 2008 at the 1018th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies draws attention to the fact that Article 11 of the Convention institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and that it is in keeping with the work carried out by the Council of Europe concerning human rights, democracy and sustainable development. It promotes effectively the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape for people's living conditions.

Opened to the Parties to the Convention, the Award is intended to raise civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them. Its objective is to reward exemplary practical initiatives aimed at successful landscape quality objectives on the territories of the Parties to the Convention. The Award is conferred every two years and the files presenting applications must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by no later than 30 January 2017.

At its meeting held in Strasbourg on 28-29 April 2008, the Steering Committee for Cultural Heritage and Landscape (CDPATEP) decided that applications should be submitted to the Council of Europe Secretariat through the Permanent Representations of the Parties to the Convention.

*I would therefore be very grateful if you could **by 15 November 2016** the following elements of the candidature file (10 pages maximum) established for your country on the basis of the proposals forwarded to you by the Ministries:*

- 1) by E-mail, the Application form completed: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int ;*
- 2) by post, a copy of the Application form completed together with a CD-Rom or DVD containing the all the additional material: Maguelonne DÉJEANT-PONS, Head of the Cultural Heritage, Landscape and Spatial Planning Division, Council of Europe, F- 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex.*

After the selection procedure, the Award will be given on 20 October 2013, date of the opening of the Convention for signature.

* * *

– Participation to the award competition is only open to local and regional authorities and their groupings and non-governmental organisations, as stated in the Resolution CM/Res (2008)3, Appendix, Article 2.

– The application form must be completed in all of its parts in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English or French).

– The materials submitted must be copyright-free for use by the Council of Europe in communications aimed at promoting the award or any other publications or activities relating to the Convention. The Council of Europe undertakes to cite the author's names.

– Files that are incomplete or fail to comply with the rules will not be taken into consideration.

For further information please visit the Landscape Award section of the Council of Europe website: <http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention>

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II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJCT

3. Name of the Project

Landscape Inventory of Galicia: Public
Participation for Landscape
Characterization and Planning

**4. Location of
the Project**

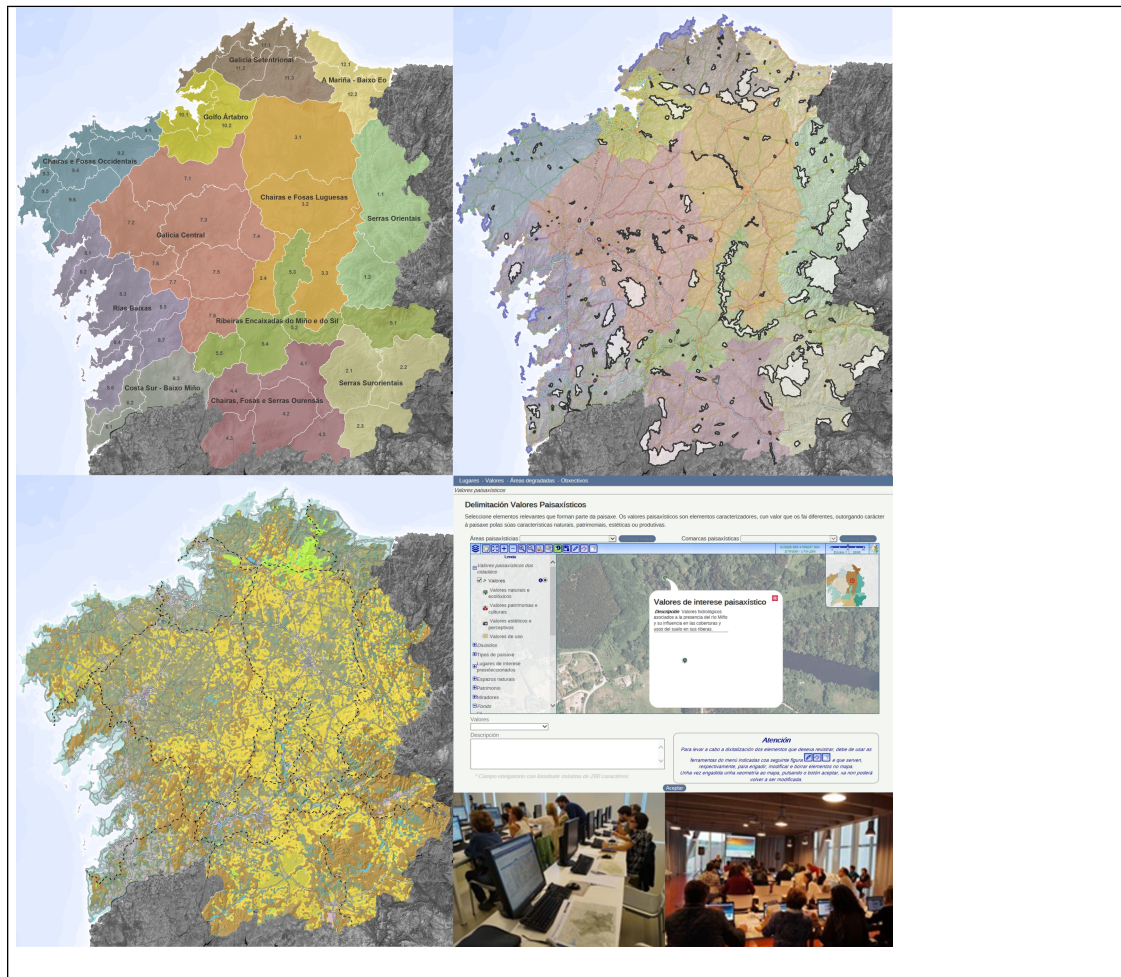
Galicia (NW Spain)

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

The Landscape Inventory of Galicia is a technical document focused on the first stage of landscape planning, that is, on landscape analysis and diagnosis, which includes: (i) delimitation of landscape areas and identification of landscape types in each area, (ii) zoning of landscape units and delimitation of areas of special landscape interest, (iii) inventory of landscape values, (iv) identification of degraded areas and (v) analysis of the drivers and current state of each landscape type. The first stage of the inventory involved the identification of 258 landscape types, resulting in the delimitation of 28,350 landscape units by means of a semi-automatic classification method. Public participation came about at the next steps by a process aimed to ensure that citizen's opinion was taken into account from the beginning and included into the final results, especially in those analysis in which public opinion plays a key role, such as the characterization of landscape types and the identification of special interest areas and degraded areas. With the aim of improving the efficiency of this participative process, the potentiality of the new geospatial information

technologies was used to develop a GIS-web for public participation. The information collected through this system was combined with expert and technical knowledge to develop the Inventory.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi)



III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

7. Start of the Project month year
The project must have been completed three years previously

8. Partners

Institute of Land Studies
 Land Laboratory of the University of Santiago de Compostela

9. Financing bodies

Institute of Land Studies, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of the Government of Galicia

10. Central aims of the Project

The main aim of the project was the development of the first landscape instrument established on the Law of Landscape Protection of Galicia: the landscape inventories. The Landscape Inventory of Galicia is a technical document intended for the delimitation of the main landscape areas of Galicia, as well as the identification of different landscape types and units and their characterization. This document is the first step for Galician landscape planning; since the first requirement for effective management is knowledge, the Inventory aims to provide this knowledge through the analysis and diagnostic of landscapes of Galicia. A fundamental objective along the project was the implementation of a broad strategy for citizen participation, which pursued to: (i) integrate scientific knowledge and public participation, (ii) include participation in every stage of the process, (iii) involve a set of stakeholders and relevant participants from the community and, specially, (iv) incorporate the results of public participation into the contents of the inventory in an explicit, direct and transparent way. For this, the opportunities offered by the new geospatial technologies were used to develop a Public Participation GIS (PPGIS: <https://sixot.es/paisaxe/>) designed to facilitate and promote citizen participation from the beginning of the process, thus ensuring the democratic nature of landscape planning.

11. Outcome

The outcome of the project was the document of the Landscape Inventory of Galicia (http://cmaot.xunta.gal/seccion-organizacion/c/CMAOT_Instituto_Estudios_Territorio?content=Direccion_Xeral_Sostibilidade_Paisaxe/Catalogo_paisaxe_galicia/seccion.html&std=Descarga.html) consisting of 13 volumes: one methodological memory and one document for each of the 12 landscape areas of Galicia. The contents of the inventory are: (i) the identification of landscape types and the delimitation of landscape units; (ii) the landscape characterization and the inventory of landscape values; (iii) the visibility analysis; (iv) the delimitation of Special Interest Areas (SIAs); (v) the identification of Special Attention Areas (SAAs); and (vi) the analysis of drivers, dynamics and current state of the landscape types.

The tasks that required more scientific development were carried out by the Land Laboratory of the University of Santiago de Compostela (i and vi), supported by a panel of experts, constituted by 16 professionals (four architects, two historians, two forestry engineers, one civil engineer, one biologist, one soil scientist, one sociologist, one agricultural engineer, one geographer, one economist and one lawyer) with a broad experience on different landscape topics; ten of them were professors at different universities. The more technical tasks, such as (iii), were developed by the Institute of Land Studies.

The Inventory divides Galicia into 50 landscape regions and 12 landscape areas as second and third level landscape units respectively. A more detailed analysis allowed to identify 258 landscape types by the combination of five classes of geomorphology, five classes of climate and 13 land use patterns, resulting in 28,350 first level landscape units, where a landscape unit is a geographical area homogeneous as regards the landscape type. A semi-automatic classification method and a spatial analysis were applied for the delimitation of landscape

units. This method, which implied an innovation with respect to traditional methods for the delimitation of landscape units based on expert criteria, provides as main advantages the reproducibility, transparency and efficiency. This is an easily replicable process and, consequently, the results are easily updatable as more recent or accurate input data (climate, geomorphology and land use) are available. An additional advantage is the effectiveness in time and costs, which allowed to delimit the landscape units for the whole extent of Galicia in a relatively short period.

Once landscape types and units were identified, their characterization was undertaken, beginning with the analysis of land use and socioeconomic dynamics in each area. Next, an inventory of landscape values was carried out, which was structured in natural or ecological, cultural or heritage, scenic or aesthetic and use values. These values were identified from official inventories (natural spaces, cultural heritage, historic ways, scenic routes, lookouts, land use map, etc.) and by people through the public participation process.

The Inventory also included a visibility analysis, based on the calculation of the highest visibility areas and of the visibility from the main lookouts and scenic routes, as well as on an inventory of 472 lookouts with their main characteristics.

The landscape dynamics were identified by the panel of experts for each landscape area and their drivers were analysed by the Land Laboratory based on land use change data and a bibliographic review.

From the beginning of the project, a main objective was the integration of expert and local knowledge for landscape planning, specially for analysis in which landscape perception of local population was a key issue, that is, the characterization of landscape types according to the landscape values assigned by people and the identification of special interest and degraded areas. That is why a complete public participation process was carried out, which comprised a panel of experts, a PPGIS (Public Participation GIS), workshops and other divulgation activities. The results of the participation process are described below.

The 12 official participative workshops were carried out in the largest settlement of each landscape area. 1,171 stakeholders directly related to landscape management were individually invited to these workshops (157 finally attended). As workshops were open to the general public, the final number of participants was 208, 121 from which were members of organizations or associations somehow related to landscape. The efforts dedicated to planning workshops and selecting participants were successful, since a quite balanced distribution of participant profiles was obtained: 14 % of participants were representative of natural values, 18 % of cultural values, 13 % of aesthetic values and 20 % of values of use, while 11 % of participants were representative of local administrations and 24 % were general citizens. These workshops were complemented with eight specific workshops, arranged for organizations or associations that requested them and with 128 participants. Furthermore, other 41 people took part in visits to interest groups. With regard to the PPGIS, 584 users were registered on the GIS-web platform, 330 of which inputted some kind of data between September 10 and November 6, resulting in: (i) 2,096 locations of especial landscape interest; (ii) 407 of degraded areas; and (iii) 995 of landscape values, divided into 254 natural or ecological values, 253 cultural or heritage values, 171 aesthetic or scenic values and 316 values of use. The information gathered through the participation process was applied for:

1. Characterization of landscape types.

The 995 landscape values (natural, cultural and aesthetic values) identified by the participants, as well as the landscape values assigned by technicians to the 2,096 locations of special interest located and described by citizens, were used for the characterization of landscape types. These values assigned by the population to certain locations were crossed with the landscape units delimited by the technicians in order to identify the most

characteristic landscape values of each landscape type according to the public opinion. For this, a statistical index that quantifies the relative frequency of occurrence of each landscape value (natural, cultural or aesthetic) in the different landscape types was calculated, in order to characterize each landscape type according to the values highlighted by citizens.

2. Delimitation of Special Interest Areas (SIAs).

The SIAs were delimited from the 3,019 Locations of Special Landscape Interest (LSLI) located with a point, from which 2,096 were identified by citizens in the public participation process, 731 were pre-selected by the technical team and 192 were added during the public exhibition legally required. These 3,019 locations were submitted to an analysis procedure by the technical team in order to identify the areas that met a series of predefined conditions for the SIAs. From the definition of SIAs as areas characterized by a high landscape value derived from the concurrence of different types of landscape values, a procedure was used to analyse the LSLI candidates to become a SIA. This procedure was based on the selection of LSLI related to an area higher than 2 ha (minimum mapping unit) or included in the buffer of another LSLI, provided that the LSLI, or the LSLIs included in the same buffer, had at least two of the three different landscape values (natural, cultural and aesthetic). This process resulted in the identification of 445 areas candidate to SIA, which were delimited by applying different criteria according to the existing types of landscape values. Among these initial candidate areas, the panel of experts and the technical team selected the final 211 SIAs. This way, the local knowledge expressed by citizens in the public participation process, the expert knowledge and the technical criteria were integrated into the same analysis procedure, determining all of them altogether one of the main results of the inventory: the SIAs. Once the Inventory was passed, these 211 SIAs, which represent the 8.5% of the Galician area, became Rural Land for Landscape Protection, a category of special protection in the urban plans. In addition to this, the future Landscape Guidelines of Galicia will include a specific regulation for these areas. The influence of public participation in this process is patent on the 184 SIAs (87% of them) in which the population had identified some LSLI and on the 68 (32%) which were identified exclusively from citizen contributions.

3. Identification of Special Attention Areas (SAAs).

The identification of special attention areas was based on a set of locations with landscape impacts that was preselected by the technical team (100 locations) and on the degraded areas located by citizens in the public participation process (407 areas). Once this input was filtered and refined, each location was classified according to the cause of the impact on landscape. In this case, spatial areas were not delimited and only seven general types of special attention areas were identified, corresponding to the most common impacts or degradations: 1) degraded urban landscapes, 2) areas with high concentration of high-voltage power lines and wind farms included in SIAs, 3) mining and quarrying activities, 4) industrial activities poorly integrated on the landscape, 5) abandoned areas, 6) afforestation with allochthonous species in SIAs and 7) degraded areas by other environmental or landscape impacts.

EXAMPLE: Overview of the Inventory of the landscape area Rías Baixas

Rías Baixas is a coastal area characterized by a high degree of anthropization, which is reflected on urban sprawl (25% of the area), as well as on the predominance of intensive agricultural systems, mainly of afforestation with allochthonous species (20% of the area), resulting in less than 2% of the area with indigenous hardwood. The analysis of the land use evolution in this area revealed the prominence of afforestations, whose area increased at the expense of agricultural areas and shrub, as well as the remarkable decrease of agricultural areas in favour of afforestations and artificial covers.

In this landscape area, 2.324 landscape units were delimited, corresponding to 75 landscape types, among which those characterized by a rururban, forestry or agroforestry mosaic land use pattern combined with coastal or valley geomorphology stand out, and landscape types characterized by a cover of shrub or crag are also common. The analysis of the landscape values identified by citizens (146 values identified by population and the values assigned by the technical team to the 408 LSLI located by citizens) showed that most of the natural or ecological values are concentrated on landscape types that have brush as land cover, which is the most natural land use since indigenous forests are not significantly represented in the area. In addition, cultural and heritage values are also frequent in areas with this land cover, although these values are also concentrated on rururban areas, due to the presence of built cultural heritage. The same was observed on vineyard areas, a crop with a high cultural component in this area due to terrace farming. Aesthetic and scenic values are located mainly on landscape units with mountain geomorphology, since most of these values correspond to view point and places with panoramic views in this area.

The visibility analysis identified the mountain chains and settlements visible from the highway A-9 as the highest visibility areas, as well as the mountains visible from the main cities and towns, especially from Vigo, and from the highway AG-57. This analysis also included the calculation of the viewshed and the characterization of 128 lookouts.

In this area, the analysis of 208 LSLI pre-selected by the technical team and 408 identified by citizens gave rise to 37 candidate areas, from which 28 SIAs were finally selected, which cover a total of 16,138 ha.

As SAAs were identified: degraded urban landscapes because of poorly integrated building typologies, and unplanned or unfinished developments; several mining activities; industrial factories in the river-mouth of Pontevedra and several industrial states; abandoned buildings, etc.

IV. RESPECT OF THE CRITERIA OF THE ATTRIBUTION OF THE AWARD

12. Sustainable territorial development

Is the project part of a sustainable development policy?

Does it contribute to the enhancement of environmental, social, economic, cultural or aesthetic values of the landscape? How?

Has it successfully countered or posed remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The ELC was signed by Spain in 2007. One year later, the Galician Government passed the Law no. 7/2008 concerning Landscape Protection, which included landscape inventories among other instruments for landscape protection, management and planning. In 2011 the Galician Government created the Institute of Land Studies (ILS), which has among its functions: the development of research activities in order to achieve a dynamic management of landscapes, the participation in specialized forums and the development of education and awareness-raising activities about land planning, sustainability and landscape, as well as the implementation of the instruments for landscape protection, management and planning. More recently, the Law no. 2/2016 concerning Urban Planning in Galicia confers to the ILS the role of supporting and advising the Galician Government about landscape, collaborating and coordinating with other administrations and stakeholders the actions for landscape improvement, as well as evaluating the state of conservation of the Galician landscapes and

analysing their transformations and foreseeable evolution. Among these activities, a report about the landscape state is included, which must be sent by the Galician Government to the Galician Parliament every four years. In addition to this, with the specific aim of the development of the Landscape Inventory and Guidelines of Galicia, the Panel of Experts of the Landscape Atlas of Galicia was created, which is constituted by professors and officials of the Galician Government with an extensive experience on different aspects of landscape. The Landscape Inventory of Galicia contributes to the protection and promoting of the landscape values by means of the inventory of these values. In this inventory the landscape values have been classified in four types: natural or ecological, cultural or heritage, scenic or aesthetic and use values (including agroforestry, mining, energetic, touristic values, etc.). The inventory and cataloguing of these values allows not only their knowledge and diagnostic but also forces their analysis and consideration in any instrument of land planning or management. In addition to this, the analysis of the dominant values in each area, carried out from the results of public participation, has allowed to identify, on one hand, the landscape aspects with more potentiality in each area, which consequently must be protected and use for the socioeconomic development, and on the other hand, those values which must be improved or reinforced.

In addition to this, the Inventory constitutes the basis for the future Galician Landscape Guidelines, which will establish the landscape quality objectives for each landscape unit, which should be congruent with the landscape values of these units identified in the Inventory. The Landscape Guidelines will also define rules and recommendations for achieving the landscape quality objectives in each landscape unit and, consequently, for conserving or recovering its landscape values.

With regards to landscape degradations or impacts, the Inventory identifies and categorizes them by defining seven general types of Special Attention Areas (SAAs) and locating them in some cases (for example; afforestation with allochthonous species in SIAs are defined as SAAs), which is the first required step to stop their progress and address their recovery by means of the measures and actions established in the Landscape Guidelines.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The project is a practical an actual example of how the public participation can provide relevant information about the landscape elements, values and state, as well as an evidence of the possibility of integrating data resulting from public participation with technical work and expert knowledge. Citizens' opinion is completely integrated in the Inventory, and directly influenced both the procedures and the final results of the inventory. Remarkably, the population had identified some locations of special landscape interest in 87% of the delimited SIAs and 32% of SIAs were identified exclusively from the public participation process. In addition, the methodology used both for the analysis of public participation data and for incorporating those data into the Inventory was described in detail in the inventory document. An added value is that public participation processes make people aware of the importance and value of landscape and increase participation culture in land planning. That is why this experience can be very useful for other landscape planning instruments. In addition, the project has shown the advantages and potentialities of the application of new technologies and analysis methodologies for landscape planning. The new geographic information and communication technologies were key along the development process of the Inventory both in the public participation process and in the application of technical and scientific analysis. In the first case, the high requirement of resources, intrinsic to the public

participation processes, joined to time period for the work, turned the new technologies into the unique opportunity to ensure that the entire population could participate in the process. The PPGIS allowed to complement the traditional participation techniques, offering any citizen the possibility to provide – from any place and for several months - his or her opinion, preferences or knowledge about Galician landscape in an easy and comfortable way. In the second case, the inventory and cataloguing of such a complex and diverse reality as the Galician territory required the application of techniques for analysis and diagnostic based on geographic information science and technology. Among them, the algorithm for supervised classification, based on the concept of spatial pattern and used for the calculation of the land use pattern, stands out, as well as the spatial analysis technique applied for the combination of the land use pattern with the climate and the geomorphology. These techniques allowed to delimit the landscape units for the whole area of Galicia in a short time by using a justified and transparent procedure, which is also easily reproducible and updatable. Finally, the development process of the Inventory is an example of the integration of local knowledge – obtained from public participation – with technical and expert knowledge. This integration has played a prominent role on the characterization of the landscape units (delimited by the scientific team) according to the landscape values identified by population, as well as on the analysis of the LSLIs located by citizens by using technical criteria and expert supervision in order to delimit the SIAs.

14. Public participation

Does the project actively encourage the public's participation in the decision-making process? How?

Is the project in line with the wider policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities?

There are two approaches to the implementation of public participation in the context of the European Landscape Convention (ELC). One is focused on expert knowledge and the other one, on the concept of landscape as an area 'as perceived by people', promoted by the ELC itself. Due to this double vision, participation processes used in the context of the ELC tried to combine both expert and local knowledge. The designed procedure included a panel of experts, which provided the expert knowledge, and a citizen participation process based on workshops and a PPGIS, which provided the local experience.

1. Panel of experts.

A panel of experts with 16 members was divided into three teams. Each team was allocated to one of the three general areas of land use change in Galicia: (1) urban development and afforestation, (2) competition between agriculture and forestry and (3) land abandonment. A balanced number of experts with a functional or formal approach to studying landscape was sought for each team.

2. Public Participation Geographic Information System (PPGIS).

The objective behind the development of a PPGIS was achieving a more proactive public participation by providing citizens and different stakeholders with the means to supply information, express their preferences and collaborate in the elaboration of the inventory in a comfortable and flexible way. This system (<https://sixot.es/Paisaxe>) was developed as simple and user-friendly as possible, with an explanation video showing how to use the system.

To gain access to the system, users had to be registered by introducing username, password, name, email and, optionally, personal data related to address, age, gender and education. Personal data were included because they could help analyse the preferences and opinions about landscape depending on the social group. Once registered, users accessed a web

interface divided into three modules: Locations, Values and Degraded Areas. These modules were designed to obtain information about three issues: (1) locations with landscape interest, land areas with high landscape quality, which are deemed singular or representative; (2) landscape values, elements that give character to a place, values or features that make landscape different or characteristic; (3) degraded areas, areas in which certain actions resulted into land transformations that caused landscape impacts, leading to loss or decrease of landscape value, in a way that requires measures of protection or intervention.

The first requirement for effective public participation is the availability of suitable and updated information and its accessibility. This was achieved by including a web map for each module, in which different layers of geographic information could be displayed and queried. These layers allowed for the location of a specific area (administrative borders, landscape areas and regions, road networks, railways, settlements, aerial photographs and topographic maps) and provided landscape information (landscape types, elements of cultural heritage, natural spaces, lookouts and locations with landscape interest identified by technicians). In addition to this, there was an editable layer in each module where the user could add information about the module itself. In the Locations module, users were asked to draw a point on places with high landscape value and to introduce a comment about why the landscape and the associated area were interesting. In the Values module, users were asked to draw points on locations with certain types of relevant values or features, differentiating between: (i) natural or ecological values, (ii) cultural or heritage values, (iii) aesthetic or scenic values and (iv) values of use. In the Degraded Areas module, users were asked to draw a point on places with landscape impacts and write a descriptive comment about the degradation.

The PPGIS was used in workshops but it was also available for public participation between September and November 2015, so participants could input as many points as they wanted and express their opinions and preferences. The use of the PPGIS allowed the possibility of automatically storing the spatial location of the places with special interest, degraded areas and types of values in a GIS database. The information was linked to the corresponding user data and to the date the information was introduced in.

3. Workshops.

Workshops were designed so that participants could be representative of the community. However, such representativeness is not always evident, and two types of stakeholders are usually identified: “communities of place” and “communities of interest”. Communities of interest are government departments, government agencies, local authorities and non-governmental organizations with environmental or other specific interests, as well as other local interest groups involved in the various land uses that shape the landscape. Communities of place are the individuals who live or work in a particular area or visit it, and have the most at stake in their local environment.

On the other hand, the four types of landscape values (natural, cultural, aesthetic and use) considered in the Inventory reflect different interests related to diverse stakeholders. The people invited to the workshops were selected in order to ensure maximum representativeness of each interest in each area. Representative agents of the interests on each type of landscape values, as well as of the two groups of stakeholders (communities of place and communities of interest) were consequently invited, resulting in eight types of participants. A balanced distribution of these eight types of participant profile was sought on the list of invited agents, although workshops were open to the general public and anyone could participate.

Each workshop started by introducing the Landscape Inventory project, explaining its objectives, contents and methodology, as well as the overall process for public participation. The first activity of the workshop was an “icebreaker”, consisting on a simple exercise in

which participants had to write a brief definition of landscape. The facilitator subsequently asked the participants about it, analysing some of the provided definitions and generating a debate. The central part of the workshop was dedicated to working with the PPGIS and was organized in three sessions. In the first session, participants registered on the web platform and started identifying locations with landscape interest. In the first part of this session, participants were asked to locate these places on their landscape area. In the second part, they had to identify locations in the entire Galician region. In the second session, the technical team explained the concept of landscape value and the four types of values, requesting participants to characterize their habitual environment according to its prevailing values. In the third session, the concept of degraded area was explained, requesting participants to identify preferably locations or impacts on landscape that could be recovered or improved. The last ten minutes were dedicated to a plenary session for the presentation and discussion of the workshop results.

Evaluation of the public participation process.

A first evaluation was carried out through a survey, which resulted into a good overall assessment of the process: participants assigned a global score of 3.9 (where 1 is very bad and 5 very good) to workshops; 97% of the participants easily understood the concepts and developed activities; 68% of participants think that any person could use the PPGIS and users' opinion about the PPGIS achieved 94% of positive answers when evaluating its potential to facilitate public participation.

On the other hand, the framework proposed by Eiter and Vik (*Eiter, S., Vik, M. L. (2015). Public participation in landscape planning: Effective methods for implementing the European Landscape Convention in Norway. Land Use Policy, 44, 44-53*) was applied to evaluate the effectiveness of this participation, that is, the active involvement and the influence of population in the land planning process. This framework suggests five criteria, scored between 1 and 5 from the smallest to the greatest valuation:

The "Scope" criterion achieved a good score (4), because citizens participated actively by providing information and contributing to results, although they did not collaborate at the initial stages, designing objectives and methodology.

Regarding the "Representativeness" criterion, great efforts were carried out to ensure a balanced distribution of the profiles of workshop participants, which was achieved as described above. However, as the final number of workshop participants (377) and web users (584) was not high regarding total population, a score of 3 was assigned to this criterion.

In our case, the score of the "Timing" criterion is closely linked to that of the "Scope" criterion because citizens only participated from the stage of data collection, although the involvement of the population took place at a very initial stage of the process. Consequently, the score was the same for both criteria (4).

The "Comfort and convenience" criterion refers, on the one hand, to the actions aimed at achieving public involvement, and, on the other hand, to the efforts to enable population to participate. In the first case, there were numerous and diverse diffusion strategies, which included all media (press, radio and television), Internet and social networks, personal contact by phone or email, etc. The second issue was tackled by distributing the workshops throughout the entire Galician region, intending to achieve spatial equity on people's accessibility to the process and aiming to guarantee that any person could participate. However, the size of each of the 12 landscape areas (925 km² for the smallest area and 5,152 km² for the largest one) made it difficult for a great part of the population to attend the workshops, which took place in the largest settlement of each area. This problem was partially overcome by carrying out specific workshops for associations and, mainly, by the possibility of participating at any moment and from any place through the web platform. These methods could increase to 4 the score of this criterion. However, the web platform was

only available for a limited time period, thus reducing its results, so a final score of 3 was assigned.

Finally, the “Influence” criterion was assigned the maximum score (5), since, as described above, the information provided by citizens directly influenced inventory contents. In addition, the methodology used for the analysis of this information and its incorporation into the final results was described in detail in the inventory document.

15. Awareness raising

Is the project effectively increasing the public’s awareness of the importance of landscape in terms of human development, consolidation of European identity, or individual and collective well-being? How?

The ELC’s Explanatory Report of the Council of Europe states that **people feel responsible for the future of the landscape when they are encouraged to take an active part in landscape management and planning**. We think that this has been achieved in this project. Despite the need to include expert knowledge in landscape planning, an approach based exclusively on experts can easily ignore local knowledge of places and circumstances, which can be extremely relevant. The Guidelines for the implementation of the ELC recommend bidirectional communication between experts or scientists and citizens, since the experience of people and local or empirical knowledge complements and contextualizes the specialist knowledge. Traditional public participation methods are frequently restricted to the minimum mandatory requirements concerning communication and public exposition. Usually, these methods are one-way communication processes that provide population with information but do not collect it. Furthermore, they are commonly carried out at a later stage of the planning process, when implementing substantial changes is remarkably difficult. In this project, all these lacks have been overcome by means of a **public participation process that provides a greater role for the people at every stage of development**, before the plan proposal is finished and that takes advantage of the new capabilities and opportunities provided by ICT and new geospatial information technologies, such as GIS-web and PPGIS, to improve people’s knowledge about the land and increase their capability to express their opinions and perspectives about landscape, as well as to communicate them.

This full involvement of citizens in the process has a bidirectional impact. On one hand, the public participation contributes to a higher quality and successful of the landscape management instrument, because the acquisition of local knowledge and the achievement of a higher social consensus. On the other hand, the citizens who participate in the process experiment a learning process, obtaining an experience that train them on the importance and relevance of landscape.

The changes on communities’ attitudes and values are not achieved exclusively by means of regulations or outreach campaigns, but in many cases a direct involvement of the citizenship on the public management is required in order to acquire a deeper understanding on the landscape concept, on the different perspectives, opinions and interests involved, and on the possible solutions or actions. In addition, the participants in the process act as loudspeakers in the community to spread the acquired values and knowledge. In short, the public participation process generates higher information, knowledge and debate, which impact on a higher awareness about landscape and, consequently, on their behaviour improvement.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Video of the Landscape Inventory of Galicia