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EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

CEP-CDCPP

LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL JURY

5th Session 2016-2017

General presentation

Palais de l'Europe, Council of Europe
4-5 April 2017
Room 7

Presentation

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. In particular, it states that, on proposals from the committees of experts supervising the implementation of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the Landscape Award, adopt the relevant rules and confer the award (Article 11). The Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on 20 February 2008 (Appendix 1). The award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development, and promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people's living conditions.

The Landscape Award was launched in 2008 and four sessions of the award have been to date organised: in 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013 and 2014-2015.

On the Website of the European Landscape Convention, the "Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe" gathers these exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention. They show that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy improving the landscape features of people's surroundings.
<http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance>

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Fifth Session of the Landscape Award - 2016-2017

In the framework of the organisation of the 5th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the Parties to the Convention were invited to submit applications, by 30 January 2017, to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, according to the Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe.

The Secretariat of the Council of Europe received thirteen applications:

1. Andorra / Andorre

Inscription et gestion de la Vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror sur la liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO dans la catégorie « Paysage Culturel »

Commission de gestion du plan de gestion de la vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror

2. Belgium / Belgique

Les Coteaux de la Citadelle à Liège : 1999-2010. De l'enclos au réseau

Ville de Liège

3. Czech Republic / République tchèque

Education of children in strongly industrial landscapes

Elementary School in Most

4. Finland / Finlande

The Shepherding Weeks

Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland

5. France / France

Le paysage comme relation

Saint-Paul, Ile de La Réunion, France

6. Greece / Grèce

Developing water-codes in the centre of the city of Larissa – The Larissa experiment

Municipality of Larissa

7. Hungary / Hongrie

Landscape Development and Community Sample Programme for a Liveable Village

Local Government of Mátraderecske / Roma Minority Local Government of Mátraderecske

8. Italy / Italie

Landscape Regeneration Parco Archeologico e Paesaggistico della Valle dei Templi di Agrigento

Dipartimento dei Beni Culturali e dell'Identità Siciliana

9. Latvia / Lettonie

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects

Daugavpils City Council

10. Norway / Norvège

Alna Environmental Park – a blue green corridor of biodiversity, recreational opportunities and sustainable urban water management

Municipality of Oslo, Agency for Urban Environment

11. Serbia / Serbie

Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve, as a tool for sustainable development

Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica

12. Slovak Republic / République slovaque

Hriňovské lazy – Landscape of Values

Town of Hriňová

13. Spain / Espagne

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

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

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The elements of the application files appear on the European Landscape Convention Website: <http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/5th-award-candidates> and the Application forms in Appendix 2 of this document.

The International Jury, set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention, is invited to examine the applications and to propose a prizewinner and possible special mentions.

The proposals of the Jury will be presented at the 6th Plenary Session of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) (Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, 10-12 May 2017), and then to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

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APPENDIX 1



**Resolution CM/Res(2008)3
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)*

The Committee of Ministers,

Recalling that Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention (ETS No. 176) (hereinafter “the Convention”), adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 and opened for signature in Florence on 20 October 2000, institutes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (hereinafter “the award”);

Bearing in mind that this article provides that the Committee of Ministers shall define and publish the criteria for conferring the award, adopt the relevant rules and grant the award;

Bearing in mind that the award’s purpose is to reward exemplary practical initiatives for the achievement of landscape quality objectives on the territories of parties to the Convention (hereinafter “the Parties”);

Considering that the award is in keeping with the work done by the Council of Europe in favour of human rights, democracy and sustainable development and that it promotes the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by acknowledging the importance of measures taken to improve the landscape features of people’s living conditions;

Convinced that the award is intended to heighten civil society’s awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them,

Resolves as follows:

- I. The rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are adopted as set out in the appendix to this resolution.
- II. The criteria for awarding the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe are appended to these rules.
- III. The Parties are invited to translate into their national language(s) and promote the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. They are also requested to encourage media coverage of the award so as to raise public awareness of the importance of landscapes.

Appendix to Resolution CM/Res(2008)3

Rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Article 1 – Aim

a. The award is an honorary distinction which acknowledges a policy or measures implemented by local or regional authorities or their groupings, or particularly remarkable contributions by non-governmental organisations, for sustainable protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. It takes the form of a diploma. Special mentions may also be awarded.

b. The award rewards a process of implementation of the Convention at national or transnational levels resulting in an effective, measurable achievement.

c. The award also helps to make people more aware of the importance of landscapes for human development, consolidation of the European identity and the well-being of individuals and society as a whole. It fosters public participation in the decision-making process concerning landscape policies.

Article 2 – Qualification of candidates

In accordance with Article 11, paragraph 1, of the Convention, the following may be candidates for the award: local or regional authorities and their groupings that have instituted, as part of the landscape policy of a party to this Convention, a policy or measures to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape, which have proved lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. Non-governmental organisations having made particularly remarkable contributions to landscape protection, management or planning may also be candidates.

In accordance with paragraph 2 of the above-mentioned article, transfrontier local or regional authorities and groupings of local and regional authorities concerned may be candidates, provided that they jointly manage the landscape in question.

Article 3 – Procedure

The procedure consists of three stages:

Stage 1 – Submission of candidatures

Each Party may submit one candidature to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe. The candidature may be the result of a competition held by each Party taking into account the award criteria appended to these rules.

The application file, in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe (French or English), shall include:

- a presentation of the candidate (not more than three pages long);
- the description of a completed project for the protection, management and/or planning of a landscape, which has proved lastingly effective and can serve as an example. Mention shall be made of the convention provision concerned.

The description shall take the form of a paper document, approximately 20 pages long, accompanied by a digital copy in PDF format on CD-Rom and posters. The file may also include a video presentation lasting approximately five minutes. 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 authors' names.

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

The award is in principle conferred every two years. The files presenting candidatures must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by no later than 31 December of the year preceding the year of award.

Stage 2 – Consideration of candidatures

An international jury set up as a subordinate body of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention shall determine whether candidatures are admissible. The jury is composed of:

- one member of (each of) the committee(s) of experts responsible for monitoring the Convention, appointed by the committee(s) concerned;
- one member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, appointed by the Congress;
- one representative of an international non-governmental organisation, appointed by the Secretary General on the proposal of the Grouping of INGOs enjoying participatory status with the Council of Europe;
- three eminent specialists on landscape, appointed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

The jury appoints a president.

The jury proposes the award winner from among the candidates admitted.

The proposals of the jury are taken by an absolute majority for the first two rounds of voting, and by a relative majority for the following round, based on the criteria set out in the appendix to these rules, stating the reasons for its choice. In case of equal votes, the vote of the president of the jury is decisive.

The reasons for the choice are explained.

The jury can propose to attribute one or more special mentions.

The committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention examine the proposals of the jury and forward their proposals concerning the award winner, and, wherever appropriate, special mentions, to the Committee of Ministers.

Stage 3 – Granting and presentation of the award and the special mentions

In the light of the proposals of the committees of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention, the Committee of Ministers shall grant the award and any special mentions.

The award and the special mentions shall be presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative at a public ceremony.

Appendix to the rules

Criteria for conferring the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Criterion 1 – Sustainable territorial development

The completed projects submitted must give tangible form to the protection, management and/or planning of landscapes. This means that the projects must have been completed and open to the public at least three years, when the candidatures were submitted.

They must also:

- be part of a sustainable development policy and be in harmony with the territorial organisation of the area concerned;
- demonstrate their environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability;
- counter or remedy any damage to landscape structures;
- help enhance and enrich the landscape and develop new qualities.

Criterion 2 – Exemplary value

The implementation of the policy or measures that have helped to improve the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned must set an example of good practice for others to follow.

Criterion 3 – Public participation

The policy or measures implemented with a view to the protection, management and/or planning of the landscapes concerned should involve the active participation of the public, local and regional authorities and other players and should clearly reflect the landscape quality objectives.

The public should be able to participate simultaneously in two ways:

- through dialogue and exchanges between members of society (public meetings, debates, procedures for participation and consultation in the field, for example);
- through procedures for public participation and involvement in landscape policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities.

Criterion 4 – Awareness-raising

Article 6.A of the Convention provides that “each Party undertakes to increase awareness among civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them”. Action along these lines taken as part of the completed project concerned will be assessed.

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APPENDIX 2
APPLICATION FORMS

1. ANDORRA / ANDORRE

Inscription et gestion de la Vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror sur la liste du Patrimoine Mondial de l'UNESCO dans la catégorie « Paysage Culturel »

Commission de gestion du plan de gestion de la vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror



CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE
PRIX SU PAYSAGE DU CONSEIL D'EUROPE

5^e Session – 2016-2017

FORMULAIRE DE CANDIDATURE



I. ÉTAT CONCERNÉ ET CANDIDAT

1. État	PRINCIPAUTÉ D'ANDORRE
Représenté par	Madame Sílvia CALVÓ ARMENGOL, Ministre de l'Environnement, de l'Agriculture et du Développement Durable
<i>Adresse :</i>	MINISTÈRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT, DE L'AGRICULTURE ET DU DÉVELOPPEMENT DURABLE DE LA PRINCIPAUTÉ D'ANDORRE 62-64, RUE PRAT DE LA CREU, AD500 ANDORRE LA VIEILLE
<i>Téléphone :</i>	00 376 875700
<i>Courriel :</i>	merce_navarro@govern.ad
2. Candidat <i>Nom de ou des autorité(s) locale(s), régional(s) ou de la (des) ONG(s)</i>	COMMISSION DE GESTION DU PLAN DE GESTION DE LA VALLÉE DU MADRIU – PERAFITA – CLAROR, formée par : <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Hble. Sr. Jordi TORRES, maire d'Encamp et Président de la Commission par rotation annuelle pour l'année 2016- Hble. Sra. Conxita MARSOL, maire d'Andorre la Vieille et Présidente de la Commission par rotation annuelle pour l'année 2017- Hble. Sr. Josep VILA, maire de Sant Julià de Lòria- Hble. Sra. Trini MARÍN, maire d'Escaldes-Engordany
Représenté par	Madame Susanna SIMON TORRALBA, Directrice du Plan de Gestion de la vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror
<i>Adresse :</i>	PORTAL DE LA VALL 74-76, RUE PRAT DE LA CREU, REZ-DE-CHAUSSÉE (BÂTIMENT COMMUNAL) AD500 ANDORRE LA VIEILLE PRINCIPAUTÉ D'ANDORRE
<i>Téléphone :</i>	00 376 813000
<i>Courriel :</i>	direccio@madriu-perafita-claror.ad

II. PRESENTATION DU PROJET

3. **Nom du Project**

Inscription et gestion de la **VALLÉE du MADRIU – PERAFITA – CLAROR** sur la liste du **Patrimoine Mondial de l'U.N.E.S.C.O.** dans la catégorie « **Paysage Culturel** ».

4. **Localisation du Project**

Le territoire de cette vallée s'étend sur des terrains appartenant aux communes d'**ENCAMP**, d'**ANDORRE LA VIEILLE**, de **SANT JULIÀ DE LÒRIA**, et d'**ESCALDES-ENGORDANY**.

5. **Résumé du Project (10 lignes)**

La vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror est un cas exemplaire de paysage culturel. Sculptée par la glace et modelée par l'effort de l'homme, la vallée offre au regard de celui qui l'approche la plénitude et l'exception de l'œuvre combinée de la Nature et de l'Homme et réunit, sur 4.247 ha, l'œuvre millénaire des femmes et des hommes d'un pays de montagne singulier : l'Andorre. L'intérêt essentiel de la vallée repose sur l'importante densité d'éléments de valeurs patrimoniales, naturelles et culturelles dans un excellent état de conservation. La grande diversité de conditions et de microclimats qui découlent de la variation d'altitude et d'orientation fait que l'on y trouve une grande pluralité de sols, de végétation, et donc de paysages, ce qui contribue à sa grande richesse en habitats, flore et faune. Dernier endroit du pays à ne pas disposer de route, la vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror arbore une grande variété de paysages et conserve ces œuvres mêlant la nature et l'empreinte qu'y a laissée l'être humain.

6. **Photo représentant le Project. Nom de l'auteur de la photo : Susanna SIMON**



III. CONTENU DU PROJET

7. **Début du Project**

mois année

La réalisation doit être

achevée depuis trois ans

8. **Partenaires**

- La **Commission de Gestion** du Plan de Gestion de la vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror (composée par les maires («cònsols») des 4 communes: Encamp, Andorre la Vieille, Sant Julià de Lòria, et Escaldes-Engordany).
- Le **Conseil Consultatif** du Plan de Gestion de la vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror (composé du Ministère de la Culture d'Andorre, de l'Association des Propriétaires Privés de la vallée du Madriu, d'une représentation des associations dédiées a la protection de la nature et de la Commission Nationale Andorrane pour l'U.N.E.S.C.O.).
- **Secteur Primaire**: l'Association des Éleveurs des les Montagnes de Sant Julia de Lòria, d'Andorre la Vieille et d'Escaldes-Engordany
- **I.E.A.** (Institut d'études Andorranes) et en particulier le **C.E.N.M.A.** (Centre pour l'Étude de la Neige et de la Montagne d'Andorre)
- Les 2 Parcs naturels andorrans : **Parc Naturel Vallée du Sorteny** (à Ordino) et le **Parc Naturel Communal des Vallées du Comapedrosa** (à la Massana).

9. **Organisme de financement**

- Les communes d'**Encamp**, de **Sant Julià de Lòria**, d'**Escaldes-Engordany** et d'**Andorre la Vieille**.
- Le **gouvernement** de la Principauté d'**Andorre**.

10. **Principaux objectifs du Projet**

La vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror (VMPC) a été déclarée Patrimoine Mondial de l'U.N.E.S.C.O., dans la catégorie Paysage Culturel, le 1^{er} Juillet 2004, devenant ainsi le premier bien andorran ayant une valeur universelle exceptionnelle reconnue. Cette candidature a cherché à garantir la conservation de la vallée, sa protection et sa divulgation à un public large, en sauvegardant ses caractéristiques uniques.

La Commission de Gestion a été créée comme organe de gestion principal de la vallée, et dans le but de fixer des objectifs précis et de planifier les actions nécessaires pour y parvenir. Le Plan de Gestion est le document qui recueille ces objectifs relatifs à la conservation, la protection, la diffusion, le développement durable du patrimoine naturel et culturel de la vallée, ainsi que de toutes ses valeurs.

La vallée conserve de nombreux éléments comme les structures d'exploitation agricoles et des ressources naturelles, d'organisation et de gestion des ressources naturelles qui révèlent et présentent l'utilisation et l'évolution de ce territoire tout au long de l'histoire. Aussi, elle accueille une importante diversité d'habitats, de faune et de flore, avec des exemplaires particulièrement menacés voire même en danger de disparition (84% des espèces de faune appartiennent à la liste des espèces protégées de l'UICN, parmi lesquelles 21% sont considérées comme des espèces menacées ou même en danger). Ceci confirme la fragilité du Paysage Culturel de la VMPC et donc la nécessité de politiques de conservation et de protection.

L'objectif déterminant est de savoir centrer tous les efforts pour pouvoir aménager et assurer un espace pour l'avenir, en mettant l'accent sur les différentes réalités, les enjeux et les spécificités de la Principauté d'Andorre. Pour cela, les actions envisagées suivent la Stratégie nationale du paysage de l'Andorre (ENPA) 2012-2020, et très particulièrement les objectifs 1 : « des paysages naturels de haute montagne de qualité et bien conservés » et 2 « des paysages ruraux revalorisés ou renforcés » (*activité 2.2 Promouvoir la connaissance et la conservation intégrée du patrimoine culturel bâti*)

<http://www.mediambient.ad/images/stories/PDF/paisatge/EstrategiaNacionalPaisatge-ENP.pdf>.

L'ENPA a été conçue avec le double objectif de recueillir et de présenter l'ensemble des mesures prises en matière de paysage par le Gouvernement d'Andorre et de disposer de toute une série d'objectifs en matière de gestion, de conservation et d'aménagement de nos paysages, définis suivant un processus de participation publique et approuvé par le Gouvernement le 27 avril 2011.

CONSERVATION DES PAYSAGES

- Mise en route des stratégies de conservation et de préservation des valeurs du Paysage Culturel essentiellement des vestiges de l'agriculture, de l'élevage et de la sidérurgie de l'époque tout en développant l'ensemble du potentiel naturel, culturel, touristique et économique de la Vallée.
- Préserver les zones humides (zone RAMSAR).
- Maintenir la qualité, la surface et la diversité des paysages naturels de haute montagne, culturels et ruraux, et leur succession en hauteur (pour maintenir la biodiversité, améliorer la productivité économique, réduire les risques naturels et préserver la richesse esthétique).

REVALORISATION DES PAYSAGES

- Favoriser le maintien, la revitalisation et la protection de la flore, de la faune et de l'ensemble de la biodiversité en réalisant des études et des recherches par des experts nationaux et internationaux et en participant à d'autres projets déjà existants.
- Favoriser la revitalisation des activités traditionnelles (l'élevage), afin que le Paysage culturel reste un paysage vivant.
- Préserver et mettre en valeur tous les éléments historiques, aussi bien construits (murs, terrasses, chemins des troupeaux et de transhumance, cortals (habitat saisonnier de moyenne montagne), charbonnières et ponts) que naturels (arbres fruitiers ou singuliers, etc.), ainsi que le patrimoine culturel immatériel associé (traditions, coutumes).

UN TOURISME DURABLE

- Prioriser les divers critères et recommandations de l'U.N.E.S.C.O. pour pérenniser le site sur le moyen et long terme.
- Améliorer et étendre l'offre touristique liée au paysage. Organiser des activités liées au paysage culturel.
- Améliorer les canaux d'information.
- Maintenir l'équilibre conservation du site-flux de touristes.

SENSIBILISATION ET EDUCATION

- Sensibiliser et éduquer de façon permanente (au sein des écoles, de la population locale et des visiteurs à travers les offices de Tourisme et/ou de Représentation à la Principauté d'Andorre à l'étranger).
- Promouvoir des activités artistiques qui favorisent la prise de conscience sociale envers le paysage.
- Renforcer des politiques d'implication des propriétaires privés et de l'ensemble de la population de la Principauté d'Andorre.
- Renforcer l'implication des pouvoirs publics dans la préservation et la valorisation du paysage.

CONSERVATION DES PAYSAGES

■ Douze ans après son inscription dans la liste du Patrimoine Mondial, la Vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror garde sa classification comme l'un des seuls 44 Paysages Culturels d'Europe (d'un total mondial de 88), sa protection et sa conservation ayant été assurée.

■ Son inscription dans la liste lui a valu d'être déclarée Bien Matériel d'Intérêt Culturel de la Principauté d'Andorre le 27 octobre 2005. Ainsi, la protection de la VMPC est assurée non seulement par la synergie représentée par la Commission de Gestion elle-même mais aussi par la Loi du Patrimoine Culturel de la Principauté d'Andorre de 2003.

■ Le Plan de Gestion de la Vallée a été adopté le 28 décembre 2011. Y sont intégrés les règles et les principes de toutes les lois, décrets ou conventions que les Autorités régionales et/ou l'État andorran sont tenus de respecter. Le Plan fixe aussi les objectifs de conservation, protection, diffusion, développement durable et accroissement du patrimoine naturel et culturel de la VMPC, ainsi que de toutes les valeurs qui en font un bien unique.

■ En 2013, le site et ses 350 zones humides furent inscrites dans la liste des zones humides d'importance internationale de la Convention de RAMSAR. Un suivi de celles-ci est faite par le Ministère de l'Environnement.

■ Mise en œuvre de mesures de conservation du site:

- Rédaction d'un document pour la restauration des bâtiments et autres structures de la VMPC
- Mise en place d'un corps de gardes-forestiers
- Zonage, étude de la capacité de charge touristique, et installation d'éco-compteurs pour mesurer l'impact du nombre de visiteur dans la vallée.
- Amélioration de la couverture téléphonique
- Rédaction d'un plan de lutte contre les incendies
- Signature de conventions de collaboration avec le Ministère de la Culture d'Andorre, avec l'Association des Agriculteurs dans les Montagnes de Sant Julia de Lòria, d'Andorre la Vieille et d'Escaldes-Engordany, avec l'Institut d'études Andorran, et avec les deux parcs naturels andorrans.
- Sont en cours de rédaction un Plan pour l'usage public, un Plan de conservation du site, et une ordonnance régulatrice pour l'ensemble du territoire protégé.

REVALORISATION DES PAYSAGES

■ Annuellement, depuis 2012, avec la participation du Ministère de la Culture d'Andorre, sont exécutés des travaux de conservation du patrimoine culturel de la VMPC : chemins, murets, cabanes, etc. Ces éléments en pierre sèche sont restaurés en suivant la méthode et matériaux traditionnels. Ceci correspond à l'Objectif stratégique 2 de l'ENPA 2012-2010: « des paysages ruraux revalorisés ou renforcés ».

■ Réintroduction d'ovins, et substitution des clôtures pour la promotion de l'élevage. Une subvention vient d'être demandée au programme LIFE de l'Union Européenne pour la récupération des pâtures et des espaces ouverts.

■ Augmentation de demandes d'études scientifiques. Soutien aux demandes de chercheurs et étudiants.

■ Participation au projet transfrontalier « DEPART Dynamiques des Espaces Pyrénéens d'Altitude » qui étudie le patrimoine des montagnes des Pyrénées, afin de l'interpréter et de l'améliorer. Le réseau est formé: en France par le CNRS et l'Université de la Paix et Toulouse II, le Parc National des Pyrénées, réserve naturelle d'Eina en Cerdagne et l'Association Patrimoine et Montagne; en Aragon, par le Gouvernement d'Aragon, le parc géologique des Pyrénées et Sobrarbe-Geopark; en Catalogne, par le CSIC et l'Université Autonome de Barcelone, le Parc National de Aigüestortes et Sant Maurici, le Parc national de l'Alt Pirineu et l'Ecomusée des Vallées Àneu; et en Andorre, par le Gouvernement d'Andorre, la commune d'Ordino et la VMPC.

UN TOURISME DURABLE

- Création de l'image de la VMPC :



- Création d'un lieu d'accueil pour le visiteur « Le Portail de la Vallée ». Accueil de groupes. Visualisation du documentaire de la Vallée.
- Création d'une page web (www.madriu-perafita-claror.ad), d'un compte Facebook (Vall del Madriu-Perafita-Claror), Twitter (MadriuPerafitaClaror, @VMPC_Andorra) et Instagram (vall_madriu_perafita_claror, #vmpc).
- Réalisation d'une vidéo-documentaire et d'une vidéo publicitaire sur la Vallée. Le documentaire a été traduit au français, espagnol, anglais et portugais.
- Réalisation de matériel de merchandising (produit principalement par une entité qui s'occupe d'améliorer la qualité de vie des personnes handicapées mentales qui ne peuvent pas accéder à un environnement de travail dans la communauté.
- Production de plans avec des itinéraires conseillés et autres brochures d'information.
- Organisations d'activités gratuites pour tous les âges et goûts : sortie guidée, atelier de peinture à l'air libre, yoga à l'air libre, observation d'étoiles, atelier d'ethnobotanique, etc.
- Organisation d'un calendrier de sorties guidées (payantes)
- Création d'un itinéraire interprétatif sur la sidérurgie (avec la collaboration du Ministère de la Culture)
- Amélioration de la signalisation des entrées et des divers chemins de la Vallée.
- Transformation d'un refuge libre en refuge gardé (ouverture prévue en 2017)
- Soutien à divers événements sportifs (courses de montagnes).
- Participation au projet transfrontalier POCTEFA «Chemin de regroupement», auquel participent la CTP, les 7 communes d'Andorre et son Gouvernement ; le conseil général de l'Ariège, la région Midi-Pyrénées et la mairie d'Auzat en France ; et les mairies de la Seu d'Urgell et de Besacaran, la Generalitat de Catalunya, et l'institut nacional d'educacio fisica en Espagne.
- Rédaction de l'Etude du Potentiel Touristique de la VMPC (avec le financement du Ministère du Tourisme d'Andorre, de la fondation OMT-Themis et d'une banque du pays).

SENSIBILISATION ET EDUCATION

- Réalisation de conférences au sein d'événements culturels en Andorre, Espagne ou Portugal
- Visite aux écoles du pays et réalisation de conférences. Une exposition de photographies a circulé dans les divers centres du pays pendant 2 années (avec la collaboration du Centre National Andorran de l'UNESCO). En ce moment, les démarches sont faites avec le Ministère de l'Education pour inclure le sujet dans les programmes scolaires.
- Démarches auprès du Ministère de l'Education pour inclure le sujet dans les formations des guides de montagnes du pays.
- Organisation de projections de la vidéo-documentaire de la Vallée.
- Instauration du jour de la Vallée (1^{er} juillet), et organisation de journées de portes ouvertes du « Portail de la Vallée », sorties guidées gratuites, concours instagram, etc.
- Présence dans les médias et rédaction d'articles (Andorre, France et Espagne).
- Réalisation d'un concours au sein des écoles d'Andorre pour le design d'un T-shirt de la vallée.
- Organisation, avec les personnes du troisième âge, des petits ateliers de lecture d'expériences vécues par les gens qui ont travaillé dans la vallée.

IV. RESPECT DES CRITÈRES D'ATTRIBUTION DU PRIX

12. Développement territorial durable

Le projet s'inscrit-il dans une politique de développement durable ?

Contribue-t-il au renforcement des valeurs environnementales, sociales, économiques, culturelles et esthétiques du paysage ? De quelle façon ?

Est-il parvenu à s'opposer ou à remédier à des dégradations de l'environnement ou à des nuisances en milieu urbain ? De quelle façon ?

Pour citer un exemple, l'élevage est une des activités traditionnelles qui se développe encore dans la Vallée. C'est un des meilleurs exemples pour illustrer la politique de développement durable qui s'y développe.

L'agriculture et l'élevage ont été les principales activités de l'économie andorrane et, par conséquent, de la VMPC. Ici, le fond de la vallée fut aménagé pour pouvoir y cultiver des produits agricoles, aussi bien pour la consommation humaine que pour celle du bétail. Mais c'est l'élevage qui a laissé l'impact le plus important sur le paysage de la vallée, et ceci aussi dû au fait que l'élevage a été, jusqu'au milieu du siècle dernier, une importante source de revenus pour l'économie pays.

Le chemin de la montagne, symbole de la vallée, fut tracé et empierré pour y faciliter la circulation des animaux. Les cabanes de berger furent bâties pour donner aux bergers un abri dans ces montagnes. Et les « orris », dont seul restent les ruines, servaient à contrôler les troupeaux et à obtenir la laine et le lait des moutons et des chèvres.

Mais toutes les traces sur le paysage ne sont pas visibles. La conquête des pâtures a dessiné de façon invisible une série de divisions dans les terrains où l'exploitation s'exerçait différemment selon les saisons. Elles ne sont pas directement perceptibles à l'œil nu, mais ces réalités représentent un élément essentiel du patrimoine immatériel de la vallée.

De nos jours l'homme continue d'utiliser ce territoire, en s'adaptant à la réalité actuelle, combinant les nouvelles exigences (principalement liées aux activités de loisirs) avec des activités traditionnelles. Le gouvernement fait des efforts pour que l'élevage ne disparaisse pas, en mettant en marche des programmes tels que celui de la viande de qualité, qui ont un grand succès. Depuis l'organe de gestion de la VMPC beaucoup d'efforts sont aussi consacrés à ce que la présence de bétail dans nos montagnes ne diminue pas. L'élevage maintient une présence significative dans la Vallée, et, par exemple, en 2015 une nouvelle convention fut signée entre la Commission de Gestion et l'Association des éleveurs dans les Montagnes de Sant Julia de Lòria, d'Andorre la Vieille et d'Escaldes-Engordany pour promouvoir l'élevage et réintroduire le bétail ovin dans les pâtures de la Vallée.

D'un point de vue touristique, et nous pourrions même dire artistique et littéraire, la présence de bétail dans le paysage donne une dimension romantique et bucolique. Mais surtout, le bétail qui paît dans les montagnes maintient les prés et les prairies libres de plantes colonisatrices et d'arbustes, et contribue à fertiliser le sol. Il empêche également les incendies en réduisant la biomasse et évite la prolifération des zones boisées. Il est donc un élément essentiel dans la gestion forestière et l'entretien du paysage.

L'élevage est donc un parfait exemple de politique de développement durable dans la VMPC. Son recul se traduirait par une perte irréparable de valeurs culturelles, naturelles, écologiques et sociales. Avec sa diversité et sa qualité, ces valeurs font partie de notre patrimoine, de notre histoire et de notre identité.

Historiquement, l'agriculture fut aussi source de développement durable. Pilier fondamental de l'économie du pays et donc de la vallée, cette activité, avec l'élevage, joua un rôle déterminant, non seulement au niveau de la configuration paysagère tel que nous pouvons la contempler aujourd'hui, mais aussi quant à l'augmentation de la biodiversité. En définitive, la tâche des agriculteurs et des éleveurs favorisa le développement de certains des éléments caractéristiques de la vallée qui actuellement lui confèrent sa valeur: les mosaïques apparemment aléatoires des champs de culture, les prés de fauche, les regroupements de bordes appelés ici «cortals» (utilisés jadis pour la culture de céréales, de vignes et de tabac, ou pour y mener également paître le bétail lorsqu'il faisait beau temps) et les restes de cabanes de bergers et les «orris». Cette interaction entre l'Homme et la Nature a représenté, au fil des temps, un considérable enrichissement de la diversité biologique, mais aussi et très spécialement, du paysage.

L'agriculture et l'élevage s'inscrivent donc dans les activités traditionnelles que la Commission de Gestion se doit de soutenir, en tant que Patrimoine matériel et immatériel de ce paysage culturel de l'Humanité.

En termes de préservation de la biodiversité pour le développement durable, en 2013, les 350 zones humides de la vallée furent inscrites dans la liste des zones humides d'importance internationale de la Convention de RAMSAR, favorisant ainsi leur conservation et leur gestion intégrale.

Enfin, pour citer un dernier exemple, l'accès à la vallée en véhicule motorisé est interdit, ce qui lui a permis de se préserver des foyers de pression urbaine. Outre la conservation des biens culturels, ceci a permis qu'une importante diversité d'habitats et de faune, avec des exemplaires particulièrement menacés voire même en danger de disparition profitent de cet entourage privilégié.

13. Exemplarité

Le projet peut-il être considéré comme exemplaire ? Pourquoi ?

Quelles bonnes pratiques a-t-il permis de mettre en œuvre ?

La vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror est un paysage culturel, une "œuvre conjointe de l'homme et de la nature, qui constitue une unité cohérente de par ses valeurs esthétiques, historiques ou culturelles" (Loi 9/2003, du patrimoine culturel de l'Andorre).

Bien que la majeure partie de la superficie de la Vallée ait été conservée dans son état naturel, la vallée n'est pas pour autant un territoire vierge. L'homme l'a utilisée, l'a parcourue et s'en est bénéficié depuis des siècles, configurant un paysage où son empreinte est visible un peu partout. La vallée conserve de nombreux éléments ainsi que les structures d'exploitation, d'organisation et de gestion des ressources naturelles (forêts, pâturages, bordes, chemins, eau...), qui sont des traces de ces périodes difficiles durant lesquelles ses habitants luttaient pour pouvoir exploiter la terre mais toujours avec un grand respect pour l'environnement. Cette exploitation a toujours été faite de façon durable et déférente. La VMPC est l'aboutissement de l'interaction exemplaire entre l'homme et l'environnement.

Un exemple significatif plus récent : les travaux de la compagnie hydroélectrique andorrane FHASA. Ce fut la dernière grande intervention humaine dans la Vallée, durant la décennie des années 30, pour construire les barrages et les collecteurs qui fournissent en eaux le lac du barrage d'Engolasters. S'il est vrai que ces travaux et ces ouvrages modifièrent le paysage, un équilibre fut maintenu avec l'environnement. Dans la VMPC l'impact fut minimal et même certaines des infrastructures construites alors, comme les barrages de l'Illa et de Ràmio, ou la petite maison des gardes du barrage de Ràmio, représentent aujourd'hui une partie essentielle du Patrimoine Architectural de la zone.

L'entente et la coopération entre les différentes communes reste aussi un élément d'exemplarité et de bonnes pratiques. La Commission de Gestion est l'organe de gestion principal de la Vallée. Elle est formée par les maires des quatre communes impliquées, et même si chaque mairie conserve ses compétences sur sa part de territoire, toute intervention dans la VMPC doit être décidée à l'unanimité par les 4 membres de la Commission de Gestion. Citons comme exemple de cette entente une des premières initiatives de la Commission de Gestion : l'unification la signalisation dans la Vallée (jusqu'à alors, chaque commune avait son propre modèle). Non seulement les quatre communes ont trouvé l'entente pour unifier leur modèle, mais l'initiative a été retenue par les autres communes de la Principauté. Ainsi le 13 novembre 2013 fut adopté et approuvé le manuel national de signalisation qui, non seulement serait utilisé pour la Vallée, mais aussi pour les autres sentiers et chemins de la Principauté d'Andorre.

14. Participation du public

Le projet encourage-t-il activement la participation du public au processus décisionnel ? De quelle façon ?

Le projet cadre-t-il avec les politiques plus vastes mises en œuvre par les autorités nationales, régionales ou locales ?

Pour gérer le bien, la Commission de Gestion se fait aider par un organe consultatif, le Conseil Consultatif du Plan de Gestion, où sont représentés les principaux acteurs de la société liés à la Vallée. Le Conseil Consultatif est formé par: le Ministère de la Culture du Gouvernement de la Principauté d'Andorre (représentant le domaine de la Culture et des Institutions), l'Association des Propriétaires Privés de la Vallée du Madriu, une représentation des associations dédiées à la protection de la Nature (représentants de la société civile), et la Commission Nationale Andorrane pour l'UNESCO (dans la sphère internationale). De façon ponctuelle, d'autres associations sont aussi invitées pour discuter des sujets qui les concernent, comme par exemple l'Association des Agriculteurs des Montagnes de Sant Julia de Lòria, d'Andorre la Vieille et d'Escaldes-Engordany.

Par ailleurs, un autre modèle de participation collective fut la présentation de la candidature de la Vallée du Madriu-Perafita-Claror à la Liste du Patrimoine Mondial en soi, puisqu'elle fut une initiative conjointe du Gouvernement de la Principauté d'Andorre, des communes d'Encamp, d'Andorre la Vieille, de Sant Julià de Lòria et d'Escaldes-Engordany, de la Commission Nationale Andorrane pour l'UNESCO et du Comité National Andorran de l'I.C.O.M.O.S., avec la participation des différents acteurs ayant des intérêts dans la Vallée, ainsi que des collectifs qui utilisent la zone.

Rappelons que l'inscription du bien a été initiée par un mouvement populaire au début des années 1990 suite à un projet de route d'accès au Madriu. La population andorrane s'est unie contre la construction d'une route qui allait détruire une partie de la Vallée, et anéantir sa richesse, sa magie, son patrimoine. Face à la pression de la population, la commune d'Escaldes-Engordany a du abandonner le projet, et l'idée d'une candidature au patrimoine Mondial est née pour protéger la Vallée de futurs projets similaires.

Ce projet est aussi lié étroitement aux politiques nationales grâce à la composition multi communales de la Commission de Gestion et de la forte implication du Gouvernement, avec le poids politique que cela représente. Ce projet présente un intérêt culturel majeur, reconnu et protégé par les lois andorranes, et un intérêt touristique considérable, qui reste un secteur clé pour l'économie du pays. Ainsi, les collaborations entre la Commission de Gestion et les Ministères de la Culture, du Tourisme et de l'Environnement sont régulières. Par exemple, le Ministère du Tourisme, en collaboration avec une banque du pays et l'Organisation Mondiale du Tourisme, a financé l'étude du potentiel touristique de la vallée, et inclus la Vallée dans les campagnes touristiques nationales.

La collaboration avec le Ministère de la Culture est permanente : outre une convention de collaboration signée entre les deux parties en 2013, la Commission de Gestion réalise tous les ans les travaux de réhabilitation du Patrimoine grâce aux aides financières de Ministère, et travaille en ce moment dans la création d'un itinéraire interprétatif sur la sidérurgie qui devrait intégrer l'itinéraire national et celui du Conseil de l'Europe sur le même thème.

Autre exemple d'encadrement avec les politiques nationales, la Commission de Gestion a donné support au projet du Ministère de l'Environnement de réseau de refuges gardés, en transformant le refuge libre de l'Illa en un refuge gardé (en cours de réalisation). L'investissement est 100% du Gouvernement. Ce projet est un vrai exemple de collaboration entre les différentes institutions vu qu'il tient compte des directives de la Commission de Gestion, des Ministères de la Culture, de l'Aménagement du Territoire et de l'Environnement, ainsi que de l'UNESCO sur les procédures à respecter pour un Paysage Culturel.

Comme déjà cité auparavant, les actions mises en route pour la conservation et la mise en valeur de la Vallée suivent la Stratégie nationale du paysage de l'Andorre (ENPA), rédigée et approuvée par le Gouvernement le 27 avril 2011.

Enfin, la Vallée a participé à la rédaction de la Stratégie Nationales de la Biodiversité, projet en cours de réalisation par le Ministère de l'Environnement.

15. Sensibilisation

Le projet accroît-il la sensibilisation du public à la valeur des paysages sous l'angle du développement humain, de la consolidation de l'identité européenne ou du bien-être individuel et collectif ? De quelle façon ?

La Commission de Gestion multiplie ses efforts pour sensibiliser la population à la valeur du Paysage Culturel. Multiples activités sont organisés tout au long de l'année pour sensibiliser le public à la valeur du paysage sous différents angles, que ce soit naturel, culturel, social ou historique : sorties guidées et thématiques, conférences, ateliers de peinture, de lecture ou de yoga, etc. Aussi, un livre sur la récupération de la Mémoire historique de la VMPC est aujourd'hui en projet, pour ne pas laisser perdre cette richesse historique. L'histoire de la Vallée est l'Histoire de l'Andorre, et il est important de la faire perdurer. Toutes ces initiatives tentent de transmettre le respect à l'environnement et la valorisation de l'identité nationale grâce à la mémoire collective constamment transmise par ce géorama harmonieux et vivant, mosaïque de paysages, d'activités ancestrales et d'expériences uniques.

En effet, ce Patrimoine vivant, naturel et culturel, paradigme du concept d'harmonie, est un grand scénario où tout le monde veut directement ou indirectement participer et se refléter, devenant ainsi une partie de lui-même. Ce Paysage unique est perçu par la population andorrane comme une partie significative et revalorisée du territoire dont les caractéristiques résultantes sont l'action des facteurs naturels et humains et de leurs interrelations constantes. Pour protéger, gérer et maintenir une ordonnance durable du paysage, l'Andorre a sensibilisé tout les strates de sa société ce qui a fait possible la concentration de ressources économiques, humaines et techniques pour arriver au résultat actuel. Sans cette sensibilisation tacite et explicite, cette vallée en devenir, héritage à transmettre aux générations futures, aurait, sans nul doute, déjà disparu et ne serait plus le dernier paysage intact de la Principauté d'Andorre.

Enfin, historiquement la VMPC est un modèle de développement humain et de sentiment d'amélioration collective, étant un témoin et en même temps un acteur de l'expansion socio-économique de toute la Principauté d'Andorre. On a pu le constater par exemple lors de l'exploitation des intérêts hydroélectriques qui encouragea la compagnie FHASA à construire les premières routes goudronnées du pays, et les conséquences directes de ceci au niveau de développement infrastructurel de l'Andorre. Ces routes ont emmené la modernisation au pays qui vivait jusqu'alors du monde rural, elles ont évité l'exode des andorrans en quête de meilleures conditions à l'étranger et ont amené les premiers travailleurs étrangers. Tout ceci a été le détonant de l'explosion démographique de la population d'Andorre (de 5.385 habitants en 1947 à 37.825 en 1980). Bien que la vie en Andorre ait été très précaire jusqu'à la moitié du XXème siècle, de nos jours, l'Andorre a su consolider sa croissance socioéconomique tout en gardant ses racines culturelles en valeur croissant et le respect du milieu. Ainsi, la Vallée du Madriu – Perafita – Claror a été directement et indirectement la pierre angulaire de tout ce processus.

V. MATERIEL COMPLEMENTAIRE

Contenu du CD:

- 10 Photos
- 2 Posters
- Vidéo

2. BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

Les Coteaux de la Citadelle à Liège : 1999-2010. De l'enclos au réseau

Ville de Liège

I. ETAT CONCERNE ET CANDIDAT

1. **Etat** BELGIQUE

Représenté par Mme Annick FOURMEAUX
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Briec.quevy@spw.wallonie.be

2. **Candidat** Ville de Liège

*Nom de ou des
autorité(s) locale(s), régional(s)
ou de la (des) ONG(s)*

Représenté par M. Michel FIRKET
Adresse : Echevin des Finances, de la Mobilité, du
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Téléphone : +3242383087
Courriel : Anne.rondia@liege.be

II. PRESENTATION DU PROJET

3. Nom du Project

Les Coteaux de la Citadelle à Liège : 1999-2010 De l'enclos au réseau

4. Localisation du Project

Les Coteaux de la Citadelle de Liège s'étendent sur environ 86 hectares et couvrent depuis le fond de la vallée, le versant sud de l'une des collines les plus escarpées qui bordent la plaine alluviale de la Meuse.

A proximité immédiate du centre historique, ce vaste ensemble continu de terrasses, vergers, bois, sentiers ou jardins à flanc de coteau, est un lieu privilégié pour les visiteurs en quête d'espaces verts, de calme ou de témoignages architecturaux du passé.

Les lieux recèlent de multiples témoins du paysage primitif de la ville, de sa physionomie médiévale et des dix-septième et dix-huitième siècles.

Mais, loin d'être un « monument historique » déserté, les Coteaux sont vivants. Huit mille personnes y habitent et quelque onze mille usagers fréquentent quotidiennement le site: écoliers, étudiants, fonctionnaires, personnes hébergées ou employées dans les services hospitaliers proches, visiteurs et promeneurs.

5. **Résumé du Project** (10 lignes)

A proximité immédiate du centre historique, les « Coteaux de la Citadelle » s'étendent sur environ 86 hectares, et couvrent le versant sud de l'une des collines les plus escarpées qui bordent la vallée de la Meuse. Ce vaste ensemble continu de terrasses, vergers, bois, sentiers, et jardins, recèle un patrimoine historique remarquable: près de septante monuments et cinq sites classés. Depuis près de vingt ans, citoyens et pouvoirs publics se sont mobilisés pour la sauvegarde et la mise en valeur de l'ensemble. Le projet s'est attaché à consolider la destination publique de ces sites exceptionnels, à assurer leur conservation et à mettre en œuvre des modes de gestion novateurs et intégrés. En 2010, c'est un ensemble de 18 sites aménagés connectés sur 13 kilomètres de circuits de promenades piétonnes qui a été viabilisé et rendu accessible pour la découverte touristique des patrimoines historique et naturel et offertes pour la détente aux habitants du centre urbain.

6. **Photo représentant le Projet** (en haute définition – JPEG 350 dpi) et nom de l'auteur de la photo svp

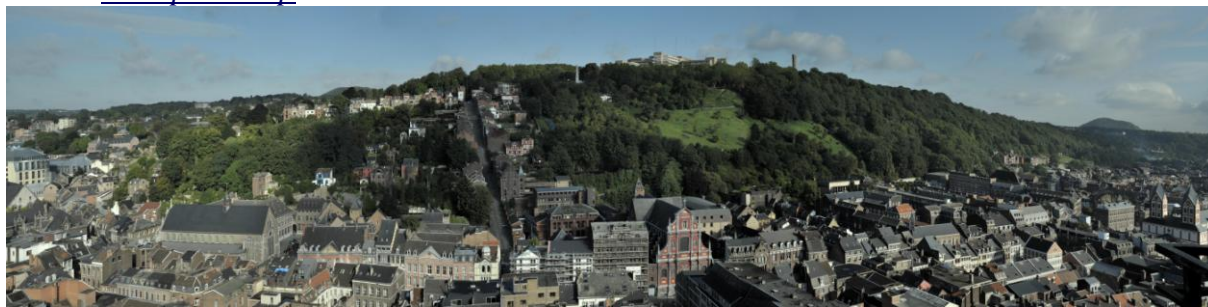


Photo Luc Gilson

III. CONTENU DU PROJET

7. **Début du projet**
*La réalisation doit être
achevée depuis trois ans*

mois année

8. **Partenaires**

40 groupements et associations actifs sur le site fédérés par la Ville de Liège dans l'asbl « Les Coteaux de la Citadelle »

9. Organismes de financement

Fonds européens FEDER :
Objectif 2 Meuse -Vesdre 1997-1999
Objectif 2 Meuse –Vesdre 2000-2006
Région wallonne :
Direction générale de l’Economie et l’Emploi
Commissariat général au Tourisme
Direction des Espaces Verts
Direction générale de l’Aménagement du Territoire, du Logement, du Patrimoine et de l’Energie
Ville de Liège

10. Principaux objectifs du Projet

- Assurer juridiquement et physiquement la destination publique des sites qui appartiennent à la collectivité en en aménageant l’accessibilité,
- Assumer la nécessité urgente de conservation des structures historiques essentielles sans viser à leur reconstitution,
- Mettre en place des moyens de gestion différenciés appropriés à la diversité des milieux naturels existants ou à aménager,
- Stimuler la découverte touristique de ce patrimoine, en synergie avec les pôles du centre historique, mais en l’intégrant et en respectant la vie des quartiers et de ses habitants.

11. Résultats obtenus

Le site des Coteaux de la Citadelle est devenu un lieu important de la Ville de Liège. Les travaux réalisés en font un lieu de vie pour les habitants (8.000) et les personnes qui fréquentent quotidiennement le site (11.000), un lieu de promenade et de détente pour les Liégeois, un outil pédagogique pour les écoles et les centres d’insertion sociale qui le pratiquent, un lieu de découverte et de promenade pour les riverains et les touristes. Les évènements organisés dans le site rencontrent un grand succès : 800 participants à la corrida des remparts (jogging) et 50.000 visiteurs lors de l’édition 2015 de la “Nocturne des Coteaux”, moment privilégié de rencontre entre habitants, visiteurs, artistes, acteurs publics et privés... Des aménagements nouveaux et la restauration de circulations anciennes mettent le site en liaison avec le centre urbain. De nombreux sites et monuments historiques ont été réhabilités. La nature, la faune et la flore ont toute leur place dans ce site pourtant urbain. Le site réussit le pari de l’harmonie entre passé et présent, habitants et visiteurs, nature et urbain. L’implication constante de la population a permis de réussir ce défi.

IV. RESPECT DES CRITERES D'ATTRIBUTION DU PRIX

12. Développement territorial durable

Le projet s'inscrit-il dans une politique de développement durable ?

Contribue-t-il au renforcement des valeurs environnementales, sociales, économiques, culturelles et esthétiques du paysage ? De quelle façon ?

Est-il parvenu à s'opposer ou à remédier à des dégradations de l'environnement ou à des nuisances en milieu urbain ? De quelle façon ?

Le projet s'inscrit-il dans une politique de développement durable ?

Le projet s'appuie sur des dynamiques existantes ou émergentes et les démultiplie en créant des liens entre les projets développés dans le centre urbain.

- la richesse et la diversité du patrimoine historique et naturel,
- une dynamique exceptionnelle de rénovation et de réhabilitation du patrimoine architectural et des espaces publics, traduite dans une multitude de projets répartis sur le site ou dans ses abords immédiats,
- la situation foncière des propriétés assurant aux pouvoirs publics la maîtrise de la majeure partie des sites concernés,
- les qualités environnementales et le rôle joué par ce vaste ensemble vert dans le réseau écologique, mis en évidence en 1997 par le Plan communal de développement de la Nature,
- les usages, les attentes des habitants et les projets des associations quant à leur cadre de vie et au devenir de leur quartier.

Les objectifs du projet se basent sur ces potentiels :

- assurer juridiquement et physiquement la destination publique des sites qui appartiennent à la collectivité en aménageant l'accessibilité,
- assumer la nécessité urgente de conservation des structures historiques essentielles sans viser à leur reconstitution,
- mettre en place des moyens de gestion différenciés appropriés à la diversité des milieux naturels existants ou à aménager,
- stimuler la découverte touristique de ce patrimoine, en synergie avec les pôles du centre historique, mais en l'intégrant et en respectant la vie des quartiers et de leurs habitants.

Contribue-t-il au renforcement des valeurs environnementales, sociales, économiques, culturelles et esthétiques du paysage ? De quelle façon ?

Du noyau primitif, à l'agglomération urbaine, les caractères accusés du site initial sont restés à Liège bien perceptibles : les entrelacs des bras du fleuve, des îles et des rivières, d'une part, les masses complexes des versants des vallées, d'autre part, ont fortement marqué la ville dans ses limites et dans sa structure et restent des composantes essentielles du paysage.

Ces formes sont présentes sur tous les versants qui bordent les vallées depuis les confins de la ville, mais **c'est sur les Coteaux de la Citadelle que ces caractères sont les plus accentués.**

- C'est là que la déclivité est la plus accusée ;
- C'est là que la plaine alluviale est la plus étroite et que les deux composantes majeures du paysage, fleuve et colline, se trouvent les plus proches, les versants des vallées, les routes et le fleuve épousant les mêmes lignes de force ;
- C'est là que la proximité entre les pentes de la colline et le centre historique est la plus

- grande, et que les points de vue sont les plus spectaculaires et les plus variés ;
- C'est là que les usages les plus anciens ont laissé leurs traces sous forme de structures sans cesse réappropriées : réseau des chemins (trame viaire), murs d'enceinte et de soutènement, terrasses, limites de propriétés (trame parcellaire),
 - C'est là que les modèles architecturaux se sont, pour la plupart, à la fois conformés au site et l'ont modelé, se sont emboîtés ou superposés au fil du temps, et constituent un ensemble patrimonial multiple et cohérent.

Ces caractères en font un site emblématique du paysage liégeois. Ils motivent l'intérêt collectif qui s'est progressivement manifesté à son égard depuis près de vingt ans et qui a initié le processus de réappropriation en cours.

Ces caractères sont les bases communes, le socle, sur lequel se sont construits les divers projets de requalification qui le concrétisent.

Dans les projets plus spécifiquement liés au paysage, initiés par la Ville de Liège, la relation à établir avec ces caractères et l'inscription dans ces processus ne constituaient pas une modalité d'expression architecturale mais bien un objectif explicite des projets. Cet objectif a été exprimé par le maître d'ouvrage dans sa programmation et dans le choix d'un projet ou d'un auteur de projet.

Il en résulte une attitude commune, qui ressort des interventions réalisées sur des échelles et dans des situations très différentes.

Cette attitude se traduit par une grande sobriété d'expression relevant moins d'un minimalisme sophistiqué que du strict utilitaire, l'utilité étant ici de donner à voir plutôt que de se faire remarquer, de lire dans la matière concrète du site la carte de son histoire, d'y tracer un chemin, de comprendre les mutations, d'établir les conditions d'espace et de silence qui permettent d'être avec soi-même et au monde, et aussi..., « de faire avec » les moyens disponibles, ici et maintenant, pour continuer le paysage.

Est-il parvenu à s'opposer ou à remédier à des dégradations de l'environnement ou à des nuisances en milieu urbain ? De quelle façon ?

Le projet dans sa multiplicité a permis :

- d'assurer juridiquement et physiquement la destination publique des sites qui appartiennent à la collectivité en en aménageant l'accessibilité,
- d'assumer la nécessité urgente de conservation des structures historiques essentielles sans viser à leur reconstitution,
- de mettre en place des moyens de gestion différenciés appropriés à la diversité des milieux naturels existants ou à aménager,
- de sauvegarder d'une dégradation irréversible, des sites de grande qualité patrimoniale ou environnementale grâce à la transversalité des programmes (touristiques, patrimoniaux, espaces verts, rénovation urbaine) et à leur désenclavement pour ouverture au public,
- d'affecter des moyens à la restauration des structures de sites historiques exceptionnels (Terrasses des Minimes) ou socialement significatifs (charbonnage du Bâneux sur les coteaux de Vivegnis).
- de préserver des sites d'une banalisation due à un reboisement spontané, au moyen de mesures de gestion adaptées,
- d'impliquer des partenaires dans la gestion de certaines parties de site, en particulier à Favechamps, où, CPAS, asbl Favechamps et participants aux potagers collectifs, assurent un contrôle social, évitant ainsi l'appropriation exclusive par certains usagers de lieux isolés. (toxicomanie)
- d'assurer l'accès de tous à des sites de qualité et de constater un endiguement du repli sur soi : on se salue sur les Coteaux. Les usagers sont « concernés » par « leurs » Coteaux et sont particulièrement réactifs par rapport aux nuisances constatées :

signalement ou action directe.

- de réaliser des aménagements simples qui permettent aux pouvoirs publics de mettre en oeuvre des moyens de gestion adaptés à la diversité des milieux.

13. Exemplarité

Le projet peut-il être considéré comme exemplaire ? Pourquoi ?

Quelles bonnes pratiques a-t-il permis de mettre en œuvre ?

Le projet peut-il être considéré comme exemplaire ? Pourquoi ?

- La technique du « tissage » permet de composer un projet point par point en reliant des éléments existants entre eux ; en donnant une lisibilité à quelques éléments clefs même de petite échelle. L'impact global est supérieur à la somme des parties.

Par le biais de lignes de conduite claires établies sur base d'un processus de concertation ou de participation à différents degrés et approuvées par les autorités partenaires, le projet peut être entamé avec des budgets limités, résiduaux à l'échelle européenne, et se construire progressivement. Une durée raisonnable peut être acceptée par les citoyens si des réalisations apparaissent dans un processus continu.

- Le projet a contribué, au niveau local, à un changement de paradigme par rapport à la conception des « espaces verts » tant pour la majorité du public que pour les professionnels chargés de leur entretien : s'écarter de la tentation de maîtrise totale de l'espace et du vivant, pour considérer les réseaux écologiques, les cheminements, les relations sociales et tisser des liens, valoriser les différences, tracer des chemins dans des milieux divers sans nécessairement les maîtriser complètement, changer le regard sur la nature.

Quelles bonnes pratiques a-t-il permis de mettre en œuvre ?

- la mise en place des moyens de gestion appropriés à la diversité des milieux naturels existants ou aménagés a constitué une phase test de mode de gestion différenciée.
- Le processus de projet a été appliqué de 2012-2015 sur un site similaire de la ville de Liège : les espaces verts de l'ancien fort de la Chartreuse, pendant de la Citadelle en rive droite de Meuse.
Les processus participatifs y ont été poussés plus loin grâce à la participation pour ce projet au programme européen Interreg VIB « Value Added ».
- Des initiatives sont venues se greffer sur le site : réalisation avec le C.P.A.S. d'un rucher pédagogique sur le site de Favechamps dans le cadre du projet Biodibap, mise en place d'un éco-centre à proximité immédiate des Coteaux de Vivegnis par l'asbl « la Cité s'invente ».

14. Participation du public

Le projet encourage-t-il activement la participation du public au processus décisionnel ? De quelle façon ?

Le projet cadre-t-il avec les politiques plus vastes mises en œuvre par les autorités nationales, régionales ou locales ?

Le projet encourage-t-il activement la participation du public au processus décisionnel ? De quelle façon ?

- Le projet de sauvegarde et de valorisation des Coteaux de la Citadelle a pris naissance dans les mouvements citoyens.
 - Pour rappel, les Coteaux échappèrent de justesse aux grands travaux d'infrastructures qui ont bouleversé le centre urbain au cours des années soixante et suivantes. Bien plus, ils deviennent lieu de résistance : des habitants s'insurgent contre les projets de rénovation trop radicaux et développent un intérêt croissant pour les qualités de ce site où le patrimoine historique et naturel s'imbriquent étroitement. C'est là que prend naissance un long processus de rénovation et de réappropriation du tissu dense des habitations qui bordent le site et les anciennes routes, chemins, cours ou impasses. Les actions de sauvegarde et de valorisation entreprises dès les années quatre-vingt par les habitants, les associations, les amoureux du site, ont visé notamment à faire découvrir au public les « coins secrets » que contiennent les grands murs des terrasses et des propriétés privées et publiques.
- Le programme de revalorisation a ensuite été élaboré sous l'égide du collectif d'associations a.s.b.l. « Coteaux de la Citadelle »
- Au droit du quartier Saint-Léonard, l'accès aux « coteaux verts » de Vivegnis figurait en bonne place dans le programme du projet de quartier élaboré avec la participation citoyenne dans le cadre de la ZIP-QI Quartier Nord.
- Le respect de ces intentions dans leur concrétisation, menée à bien par les pouvoirs publics a instauré un climat de confiance sur base duquel peuvent se poursuivre ou naître d'autres démarches davantage liées à la gestion des sites et à leur animation.
- Ainsi, sur le site de Favechamps, des potagers collectifs sont cultivés par des riverains, le verger est géré par une association de citoyens, des jardins de réinsertion par le maraîchage ont été mis en place par le Centre public d'aide sociale, des mares et un rucher pédagogique ont été installés dans le cadre de ces activités.
- Un éco-centre à vocation pédagogique créé par l'asbl « la Cité s'invente » a vu le jour en lien avec l'aménagement des Coteaux de Vivegnis. Ses activités seront renforcées par la création prévue en 2017 d'une nouvelle passerelle qui créera un accès direct depuis un quartier densément peuplé du centre urbain.
- La gestion par pâturage des espaces ouverts des anciens vergers et prairies est assurée par un fermier, pour le site de Favechamps et par un berger itinérant, pour le site de la ferme Fabry et les versants sud des Coteaux.

Aujourd'hui, le processus de développement et d'appropriation se poursuit, mais, le contexte et les pratiques évoluent ; le succès des Coteaux et leur devenir suscitent des débats : comment gérer l'impact d'une fréquentation accrue, voire massive lors des événements ponctuels, quelle gestion pour un territoire plus vaste avec des moyens publics de plus en plus restreints, comment maintenir sur le long terme l'implication citoyenne ou renouveler la dynamique des associations qui sont à la base du projet, comment concilier conservation du

patrimoine historique et gestion du milieu naturel, comment éviter un effet de gentrification de l'habitat, ...

Telles sont les questions posées aux gestionnaires tant publics que privés et débattues avec les citoyens qui se sont structurés pour les aborder avec les pouvoirs publics.

15. Sensibilisation

Le projet accroît-il la sensibilisation du public à la valeur des paysages sous l'angle du développement humain, de la consolidation de l'identité européenne ou du bien-être individuel et collectif ? De quelle façon ?

Le projet accroît-il la sensibilisation du public à la valeur des paysages sous l'angle du développement humain, de la consolidation de l'identité européenne ou du bien-être individuel et collectif ? De quelle façon ?

Un site emblématique du paysage liégeois.

Depuis les versants de la vallée mosane et de ses affluents, la ville est perçue selon une multitude des points de vue dominants d'où l'on embrasse tout ou partie du territoire. On peut ainsi l'identifier et la situer, en quelque sorte la posséder ; et c'est la ville toute entière qui devient « paysage » selon la définition du Conseil de l'Europe : « *Paysage* » désigne une partie de territoire telle que perçue par les populations, dont le caractère résulte de l'action de facteurs naturels et/ou humains et de leurs interrelations ».

La capacité d'identification et le sentiment d'appartenance qui peuvent s'établir par ces expériences ne sont plus à démontrer.

- L'aménagement des points de vue en tant que lieux publics aux endroits les plus significatifs, les panoramas, concrétisent et symbolisent la dimension collective de cette relation.
- Inversement, depuis le fond de la vallée quelle que soit la direction où porte le regard, les versants verdurés forment la toile de fond omniprésente des espaces publics du centre urbain.
- Le relief prononcé des versants en bordure immédiate des zones les plus densément urbanisées a donné lieu à des figures d'appropriation très caractérisées que ce soit le contraste des pentes infranchissables restées telles quelles, couvertes de bois, la forte structure construite des soutènements des terrasses, la diversité des formes des chemins ou des escaliers qui les rendent accessibles.
- Tous ces éléments, sur lesquels le projet s'est fondé, qu'il a visé à conserver, à valoriser, à développer, à faire percevoir par l'expérience concrète du site, constituent l'identité profonde du lieu où se reconnaissent les locaux, que reconnaissent les visiteurs, où la rencontre avec l'autre peut avoir lieu.

« l'utilité du projet étant de donner à voir plutôt que de se faire remarquer, de lire dans la matière concrète du site la carte de son histoire, d'y tracer son chemin, de comprendre les mutations, d'établir les conditions d'espace et de silence qui permettent d'être avec soi-même et au monde, ... »

S'approprier, partager, sensibiliser

Lieux de ressourcement, de découverte touristique, de convivialité, les Coteaux se prêtent à la rencontre de différents publics.

- Simples promenades pour partager la découverte du site entre amis ou en famille, visites guidées thématiques, potagers collectifs, jardins de réinsertion par le maraîchage, exercices d'études de milieu pour les étudiants, ou opérations de nettoyage associant services communaux et citoyens bénévoles, gestion de vergers, création de mares et d'un rucher pédagogique, installation d'un éco-centre à vocation pédagogique, cueillette dans des jardins plantés d'arbres, arbustes fruitiers et plantes condimentaires à disposition du public ,...

Les fortes déclivités stimulent aussi l'activité physique et sont des défis pour les sportifs. Les sentiers des Coteaux sont des terrains d'entraînement pour les écoliers et se prêtent annuellement à l'organisation d'un grand jogging : la « Corrida des remparts».

- Au départ, le concept « Coteaux » se référait à un quartier et à une partie très limitée du site (Terrasses des Minimés et impasse des Ursulines). La mise en réseau des différentes parties du site et les nouveaux accès créés avec les quartiers riverains ont élargi l'emprise du sentiment d'appartenance à un site bien plus vaste.

Ainsi la grande fête annuelle de la « Nocturne des Coteaux » mobilise les habitants, les associations, les artistes, entreprises, les écoles de tous les quartiers riverains associés aux pouvoirs publics, pour organiser cette grande soirée de convivialité festive qui attire un public international de plus en plus large. On estime à près de 50 000 le nombre de visiteurs de l'édition 2015.

Les pratiques et initiatives sont multiples, en rapport avec la diversité des sites et des usages et le potentiel des sites est loin d'être épuisé.

V. MATÉRIEL COMPLÉMENTAIRE

La version papier du présent formulaire d'inscription, accompagnée d'une copie du matériel numérique sur CD-Rom ou DVD, devrait être adressée par voie postale ou par coursier à l'adresse suivante :

Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

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- Texte (10 pages max.) : *format PDF*

- Photos (10 max.) : *JPEG 350 dpi en haute définition*

- Posters (2 max.) : *format PDF en haute définition ou JPEG 350 dpi en haute définition*

- Vidéo (15 mn max.) : *format-mpeg 2 Il est conseillé de présenter une vidéo (même de qualité d'amateur).*

* * *

3. CZECH REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE

Education of children in strongly industrial landscapes

Elementary School in Most

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

The Czech Republic

Represented by

Ms. Júlia Tóbiková

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--

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+420 267 12 2712

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2. Applicant

Name of the local, regional authority (ies) or NGO(s)

Elementary School, Svážná 2342, Most

Represented by

Ms. Jana Nachtigalová

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jana.nachtigalova@1zsmost.cz

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

3. Name of the Project

Educating Children in a Heavily Industrialized Landscape

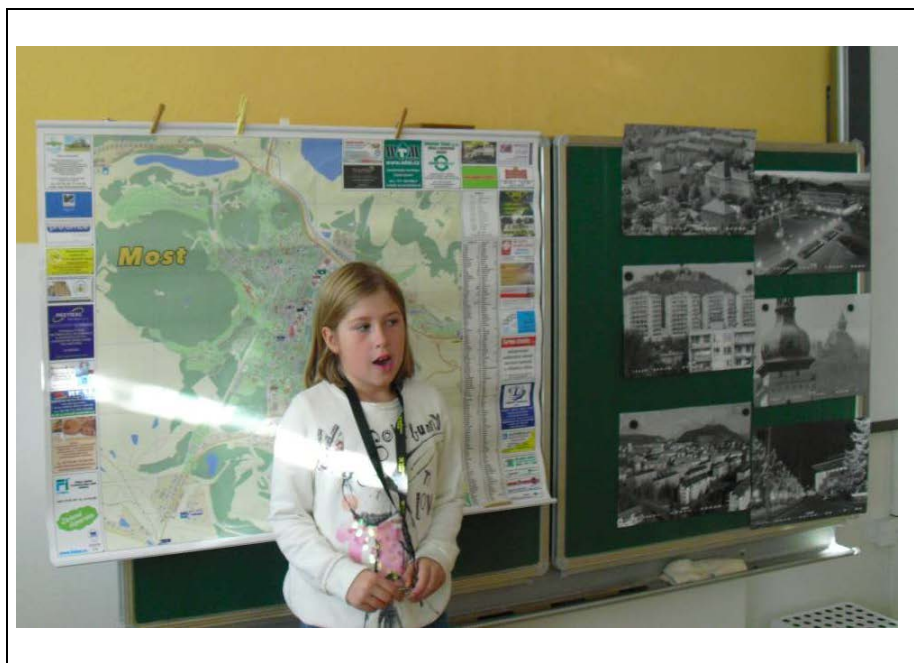
4. Location of the Project

Municipality of Most

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

This year's entry of the Czech Republic in the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is the long-term comprehensive approach of a school to educating children in a heavily industrialized and completely transformed landscapes. The town of Most, where the school is situated, experienced a very difficult period in its history, when, following a Government Decision in 1964 on giving priority to coal surface mining, the town was, with the exception of a small part, entirely demolished. Its residents were relocated to the newly built town just a few hundred metres from the original municipality (for a brief history of the town of Most, see Annex No. 1). The immediate landscape has been badly affected by surface coal mining – most of the surrounding landscape is made up of large opencast mines and slag heaps (spoil tips), but also of reclaimed (recultivated) areas - the newly created landscapes, encompassing some of Most's pride and glory (Autodrome, Hippodrome, Aquadrome, Aerodrome as well as the Benedikt and Matylda recreational zones). The elementary school teaches children to understand and solve environmental issues as well as to comprehend the interrelationship of the sustainable use of natural resources, the landscape and a healthy environment, to see them in their historical context and to gain awareness of how they themselves can contribute to the development of the environment they live in.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please



understanding and individual thinking about phenomena around them and their links. For example, various activities and tasks under the topic "**Place Where We Live**" naturally awake in pupils a positive relationship with their place of residence, municipality and region and gradually develop their national sentiment and respect for their country. The emphasis is placed on practical learning about local and regional facts and pupils gaining direct experience:

- observing and identifying things around them – home, school, phenomena and happenings, their mutual relationships and connections - vocabulary building with regards to the taught topics, correctly describing the phenomena observed and using these in their speech, ideas and creations;
- gaining and developing working skills in map reading and orientation outside;
- developing a permanent interest in exploring their own landscape and the region;
- encouraging and developing an interest in nature and history - forming a thoughtful attitude to nature and cultural sites and searching for opportunities for active involvement in their protection;
- exploring nature and the landscape as a system with interconnected components which interact and influence one another
- becoming oriented in the world of information and linking historical, geographical and cultural information in terms of time and place;
- naturally expressing one's personal relationship with the surrounding environment.

The educational issues are reflected in subjects taught in the first to fifth classes of the elementary school – World around Us, Nature and Us, The Earth and Us, which are followed up by more academically conceived subjects of higher classes (Natural History, Geography, Health Education, Civic Studies). Regular lessons are enhanced with subsequent project days - such as Water Day, Earth Day and Health Day along with excursions and walks in the Most region focusing on specific topics.

11. Outcome

Every year the school prepares a Plan for Environmental Education and Awareness Raising, within which four topics are chosen, which are discussed in almost all subjects, in the first to ninth grade. Each topic is discussed about two months. The integrated educational system concentrates on both historical and present day issues aiming at working towards the development of practical life skills. Pupils learn to observe events and things, their mutual relations and connections, they are taught to identify them, express their ideas, findings and impressions, respond to opinions and suggestions of others and perceive the advantages and problems of the contemporary way of life. At the same time children learn a proactive approach to shaping the environment they live in and making active decisions about it.

Ressler - Suburban Recreational Forest

The elementary school is located in the immediate proximity of Ressler Forest, which provides a relaxation area for the whole city of Most. For over 20 years the school has been consulting and coordinating all of its activities in the wood with the local administrator – forester. This concerns for example, excursions into the forest with informative talks, help with planting new trees in the woods, collecting litter or organising one-day events such as those held on the occasion of "International Earth Day". For carrying out its own "research activities" in the forest and its surroundings, for example, the evaluation of the health condition of the spruce trees, identification of small invertebrates and small vertebrates in the area and for various other phenological and zoological observations, the school gained its "own" piece of woodland. In the academic year of 2007/2008, the school became actively involved in the global event - "The Billion Tree Campaign" launched by the UN, and its pupils planted 300 trees in Ressler Forest. In 2013 in cooperation with the Most Municipal Forest Administration, the children planted even more trees and this part of the wood was subsequently named Resslerík. Since then, the children have been regularly checking and

maintaining Resslerík as a part of their lessons. In addition, the pupils frequently help with collecting litter in the forest (e.g. on the occasion of the Clean up the Czech Republic campaign or during project days - Water Day and Earth Day). By arrangement the children have had the opportunity to observe the day-to-day duties of forest workers on several occasions. Other school activities include research around the local forest lake.

School "Geopark"

An outdoor exhibition was set up in the grounds of the school, displaying large-format carefully selected samples of rock from around the city of Most. The collection presents typical local rocks mined for further industrial use or processing and for construction activities. Such a collection does not only enhance the teaching options of the school, but also serves the general public in learning about local products of nature. At the same time it is used as a depository, because the sites, where the exhibits were extracted, will in time be flooded or reclaimed (recultivated). Mining areas, slag heaps (spoil tips) and the subsequently rehabilitated land are the primary phenomena shaping the local landscape. Visitors have the opportunity to obtain work sheets at our school to check their knowledge acquired by visiting our "Geopark". Children also have the chance to play at being geologists and examine the fragments of the individual exhibits really close up.

Mini-arboretum

Our school began its activity in 1953. During the following years various types of species of trees and shrubs were planted in the school grounds. In addition to manifold herbs and tree species, there is a small pond with aquatic plants and a weather station.

Educational Trail

The Mini-arboretum is included on the Educational Trail route leading through the school area. Visitors to the Educational Trail can find wooden panels located near individual specimens giving a detailed description of a particular type of tree or shrub. Furthermore, they can also fill in the work sheets freely available to visitors to the trail.

Fair Trade Events

Since 2013, always on the second Saturday in May, our school has been organizing the Fair Breakfast in the outdoor teaching area for anyone who is interested. At the same time we hold our own events promoting the idea of Fair Trade – such as Fair Trade Markets, Fair Trade Project Days, presentation of Fair Trade during the Natural Science Fair, organised by the Charles University in Prague and the "Five-crown Flea Market" (the proceeds of this event were used for the Adoption of UNICEF Dolls).

ZOO in Usti nad Labem

The school also cooperates with the ZOO in Usti nad Labem, by sponsoring a barn owl or continuously monitoring the fate of female cheetah Jane, which has a total endoprosthesis. Pupils also participate in the project to save the rhino or the project "Save Madagascar". As part of Earth Day, children also attend very popular lectures of zoo workers Mrs. Vrabцова and Mr. Nesetril. Children at these events always learn something new and interesting about the zoo and its inhabitants. Within the framework of the visit pupils perfectly represent the school as well.

Excursions to Nearby Locations

The school regularly organizes outdoor educational excursions (study trips) for its pupils. They are tailored to suit individual age groups and interconnect the theoretical and practical issues of the lessons taking into account the different levels of cognition and perception of the environment and the interacting phenomena by elementary school pupils. Municipality of Most organizes annual excursions to the reclaimed (recultivated) areas on the territory of our town for the oldest pupils. The most interesting and most popular excursions among the pupils are the guided tours of Resslerík Forest, events held at the Matylda water area, Most Lake at the Church of the Assumption, Coal

Safari in the CSA and Vršany Mines, in Most Hippodrome or visits to the reclaimed (recultivated) land.

Permanent Exhibitions

Fair Trade – posters focusing on the topics related to the promotion of the Fair Trade movement are displayed throughout the school. The Pupils' Fair Trade Team looks after its own notice board. For several years the pupils have been supporting the education of an Indian boy, Puttetupadavil Jilson Joseph.

Furthermore, with the educational needs of children in mind as well as focusing on the general public, the school premises are home to a permanent **exhibition of photographs** by Mr. Stanislav Štýs, zooming in on the topic of landscape transformation in North Bohemia. Presenting images comparing the same locations of the town of Most and its environs 40 and 20 years ago, the exhibition has gained immense popularity and recognition. In recent years it has been staged for example in Prague Castle, in the premises of the University of Finance and Administration in Most, Brussels and other venues.

Student Conference on Environment

Since 2008 the elementary school has been cooperating with the Club of Environmental Education in organizing the regional round of the Student Conference on Environment for elementary and secondary schools of the Ústí Region. Thanks to the very helpful attitude of the municipal authorities of the city of Most, this conference is held in the large meeting room of the Most Town Hall. The Student Conference on Environment is an opportunity for pupils of elementary and secondary schools to present their individual work dedicated to the issues of nature conservation, environmental protection and steps towards sustainable development. It represents a chance to build closer relationships with other schools of the region and create a space for mutual cooperation. It's not a competition! It is about the exchange of information, about cooperation and representation of schools in education for sustainable development. The best presentations are subsequently recommended for the final round of the Student Conference on Environment, regularly held at the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in Prague.

Local Action Plan and Regional Action Plan

The school management actively participates in the preparation and implementation of the Local Action Plan and Regional Action Plan.

Long-term Activities

Among other long-term projects we can enumerate: How do spruces live? Water for the municipality and The Globe Program. The projects are aimed at monitoring the environment in our immediate area.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The school's approach to educating its pupils in the sustainable development of the land and an overall sustainable way of life has already been recognized three times by it receiving "The School of Sustainable Development of the 1st Degree Award".

In addition to specific small examples of improving the overall situation including caring for Resslerík and "research" work carried out by the pupils of the school as well as expanding public awareness of the importance of the suburban forest, the teaching staff of the school see the main achievement in their children, who grow up and live in such a heavily industrialized landscape, as being able to understand the significance of the sustainable use of the landscape in its complexity and adopt a practical and individual approach and responsibility for the environment around them, its appearance and function. In the context of theoretical and practical education they point out not only the benefits of planting a tree in Resslerík, but also understanding the various phenomena shaping the contemporary look and features of the surrounding landscape – starting with the natural environment, following with the historical development of the town, use of natural resources, coal mining and ending with the land reclamation (recultivation) and the total transformation of the landscape, including the search for its new functions and use.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

A positive attitude to education and the upbringing of children in the elementary school, even in such a heavily industrialized landscape, which is still in use for this purpose, can be considered as exemplary. Apart from gaining a grasp of the complexity of the phenomena around them, children learn to adopt a practical approach and take their own share of responsibility for the condition of the environment they live in.

The school has linked theory and practice in teaching natural sciences and ensured the long-term cooperation of the school with the public on a wide range of activities, such as collaboration with the suburban forest administration and the forester, cooperation with pupils' parents, with the Municipality of Most and others. Thanks to opening the school grounds to the public anyone can pay a visit to the Educational Trail or "Geopark" at any time and observe plants, rocks and fossils from the close vicinity. At the same time the elementary school offers other teaching establishments an opportunity to visit the Educational Trail, "Geopark" and Resslerík with or without a guide, and also to "copy" the ideas and create something similar on their school grounds. The school grounds have been permanently changed thanks to the Mini-arboretum and outdoor teaching facilities, which are used not only for lessons or afternoon after-class activities organized by the school but also for times spent together with the public – for example during events such as the Fairy School before Christmas, Fair Trade Market, Fair Breakfast, etc.

For its activities the school has received "The School of Sustainable Development of the 1st Degree Award" from the Student Conference on Environment three times and also holds the title of "Fair Trade School".

Under the Vršanské uhelná, a.s. (coal mining company) grant programme "Clever Heads for the North" the school has won awards and support for the "Geopark" and "Modern Chemistry Laboratory" projects.

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?

The school promotes the active participation of the public in two ways. First, it teaches children to adopt a dynamic approach to caring for their environment and second, before embarking on the implementation of a major idea or activity, it consults details with all of the other parties – such as those already mentioned (we would not dare do anything in the wood without the consent of the forester) and others: Club of Environmental Education, Regional Authority of the Ústí Region, or Secondary and Vocational School Hamr, where the school consulted about the information boards for the Educational Trail, and whose students kindly made them for the school there. In this way, collaboration between the elementary school and the secondary school was established.

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?

On a long-term basis the school has been supporting the practical teaching of children, such as regular measurements of physical properties of water bodies in the flooded quarries or the forest lake in Ressler, minor "research" work in the forest and nearby – for example the evaluation of the health condition of the spruce trees, identification of small invertebrates and small vertebrates in the area, activities on the occasion of Earth Day, Water Day and the organisation of Fair Trade Markets (concerning support for third world countries and our small, local farmers) as well as Fair Breakfast, adoption of a barn owl, adaptation of the Ressler woodland and taking care of "their" Ressler. Furthermore, to service its own needs and those of the general public the school set up a Mini-arboretum, Educational Trail and a "Geopark". In addition, the school offers possibilities of visiting its grounds and provides project lessons with the output aimed at the public, but not only parents. The school strengthens its children's positive attitude to the locality by excursions into the surrounding areas, including visits to recultivated sites, historical sites or by permanent exhibitions installed. The school also supported a photo exhibition of Mr. Stanislav Štýs, depicting the development of the city of Most and its environs as they looked approx. 40 and 20 years ago.

As the head mistress said: *"In the context of active work with children and thanks to Mr. Štýs' exhibition, we can hold up a mirror to ourselves. Then all of those who live here have the chance to observe and make comparisons and may have reason to feel rightfully proud of our town and its neighbourhood. Even now it is possible to see how the "moonscape" of our town has changed into a place definitely worth living in!"*

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

- Additional text: **City of Most – A Brief History**
- Picture presentation
- Video: **Black and White in Colour** - Directed by Austrian Director Paul Rosdy, the film Black and White in Colour is used among other things as an educational documentary movie in project teaching of children at the elementary school. Applying a narrative structure in the film, Mr. Stanislav Štýs explains to his grandchildren the transformation of the local landscape. The film presents the fifty years of achievements of the Czech School of Land Reclamation/Recultivation, which promotes the idea of long-term rehabilitation of all landscape areas affected by mining, the creation of forest, agricultural and aquatic ecosystems, with regard to the connection between man and nature.

* * *

4. FINLAND / FINLANDE

The Shepherding Weeks

Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Finland

Represented by

Mr. Tapio Heikkilä

Address:

Ministry of the Environment Department of the Nature Environment P.O. Box 35 FI-00023 Government FINLAND
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Tel.:

+358 0295 250 166

E-mail:

tapio.heikkila@ym.fi

2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland, Southern Finland regional unit

Represented by

Ms. Tiina Hakkarainen

Address:

Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland P.O. Box 36 FI-40101 Jyväskylä FINLAND
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Tel.:

+358 206 39 5938

E-mail:

tiina.hakkarainen@metsa.fi

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. Name of the Project

The Shepherding Weeks
– Wool-scented volunteer work for
valuable landscapes

4. Location of the Project

The Shepherding Weeks concept has been developed in Koli National Park in Eastern Finland and later expanded throughout Finland.

5. Summary of the Project (*10 lines*)

The Shepherding Weeks is a unique concept that combines landscape management and an experience-rich holiday, which was developed by Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland Southern Finland regional unit in Koli National Park. During shepherding weeks, volunteer shepherds take care of a herd of sheep for a week as they perform landscape management in national parks and conservation areas. The week is subject to a charge, in exchange for which the shepherds get to stay in an old house in the midst of breathtaking scenery. The payment is used to cover the costs of landscape management and the maintenance costs of the buildings in the areas. The operations are organised in cooperation between Metsähallitus, volunteer shepherds and sheep farmers. Thanks to the shepherding weeks, valuable traditional rural landscapes are maintained and the public's awareness of the importance of landscape has increased.

6. Photo representing the Project (*high definition – JPEG 350 dpi*) and name of the author of the photo please



Photo: Pirjo Honkasalo

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**
- | |
|--|
| Sheep farmers, volunteer shepherds and Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland. |
|--|

9. **Financing bodies**
- | |
|---|
| Citizens taking part in the Shepherding Weeks as volunteer shepherds, sheep farmers and Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland. |
|---|

10. **Central aims of the Project**

The following lists the central aims of the activities involved in the Shepherding Weeks:

1) Managing and maintaining increasingly rare traditional rural landscapes. The aim is to arrange grazing in areas that are valuable in terms of their landscapes and nature conservation in general, in order to prevent overgrowth as well as maintain and improve their diversity. The concept was developed in Koli National Park which was established, among other things, to protect national landscapes.

2) Improving the state of traditional rural biotopes, thereby protecting and managing the species that live in them and securing favourable living conditions for threatened species. The decrease in traditional cattle farming that involves grazing has made meadows and their species rare throughout Finland, as areas that have previously been open land have gradually become overgrown. A quarter of the endangered species in Finland live in traditional rural biotopes, and the list of species that have already been lost is dominated by flora and fauna that can be found in meadows.

3) Ensuring that the old buildings and yard areas in national parks and conservation areas stay in good and usable condition.

4) Organising landscape and nature management in a cost effective way. Some of the valuable landscapes are located on islands that are difficult to access, resulting in a variety of challenges in arranging landscape and nature management measures in these locations.

5) Getting citizens involved in the conservation, maintenance and management of landscapes and biodiversity. One goal of the shepherding weeks is to provide citizens with the opportunity to participate in volunteer work to benefit landscapes.

6) Increasing awareness of the value of and change in landscapes. Customer surveys have shown that landscapes are the most important draw in Koli National Park and every other conservation area. Grazing sheep in the conservation area are appealing to visitors, and they can be presented as an easily understandable means for landscape management. The aim is to show to the general populace that maintaining the beautiful vistas in national parks and other conservation areas often takes a great deal of effort, and that traditional rural landscapes in particular will not survive without management.

7) Creating a functional concept to ensure the continuity of landscape management and enable the expansion of operations to a variety of locations in Finland.

11. Outcome

The project has succeeded beyond all expectations and gained wide popularity. The following are the most important results:

1) The Shepherding Weeks serve to protect landscapes and utilise traditional grazing in order to maintain the special characteristics of landscapes that are valuable in terms of cultural history. The concept is an important enabler of nature management. So far, some 30 hectares of valuable traditional rural landscapes have been maintained and improved in 10 conservation areas, ensuring the survival of these rare and threatened environments. The operations help to keep traditional rural landscapes open in an increasing number of locations. The Shepherding Weeks have also enabled grazing sheep to be brought to areas where the challenging location would otherwise prevent landscape management by means of grazing. The traditional rural biotopes managed within the scope of the project are mainly various types of meadows, including dry meadows, old slash-and-burn fields, wooded pastures and grazed woodlands.

2) The management of traditional rural landscapes ensures the survival of the habitats of threatened species. The traditional rural biotopes are the most richly diverse environments in Finland in terms of species. Grazing animals can be used to keep the vegetation relatively low, ensuring favourable conditions for hundreds of species.

3) The shepherding weeks keep the rural buildings and gardens in national parks and conservation areas vibrant and enliven the landscapes. In Finland, properties located within national parks can only be owned by the state, which is why there are practically no inhabitants or active farms in national parks.

4) Metsähallitus' Shepherding Weeks project has proven itself as a functional and, in many ways, most cost-effective way to maintain traditional rural landscapes. In many locations, the costs of the volunteer shepherd arrangements are lower than those of cutting the vegetation in the areas. The project primarily funds itself – in addition to agricultural support received by the sheep farmers, more funding is

gained by collecting a fee from the shepherds. A portion of the fees is expended on nature management costs, while a portion is used to maintain and renovate the buildings in the locations. The fees collected for the Shepherding Weeks are not intended to yield any actual profit.

5) The Shepherding Weeks have inspired citizens to participate in the maintenance of conservation areas – over the nine years of operations, more than 1,200 volunteer shepherds have taken part. By getting involved, the volunteer shepherds play their part in the process of determining and implementing landscape policies.

6) Awareness has increased among the general population of the value and management of and the change in traditional landscapes thanks to the many newspaper articles, radio interviews and television appearances covering the Shepherding Weeks. In addition to this, the shepherds have shared a lot of their videos and experiences on social media. The Shepherding Weeks increase awareness of the value and management of and change in traditional landscapes, particularly among participants but also among other citizens. The project improves the participants' relationship with landscapes and nature. Alongside tending to the sheep, the shepherds also have time for hiking and exploration – one of the motivations for taking part is the opportunity to experience a spectacular natural location. The Shepherding Weeks have emerged as an excellent means for environmental education, because many families with children participate in the project.

7) The Shepherding Weeks have proven to be an effective and popular means of landscape and nature management. The operations that began as small-scale trial have been developed into a functional concept, which has been successfully duplicated and spread across the country. Everything from safety considerations, responsibilities and possible problems have been properly thought through and prepared.

8) The experience improves well-being among the volunteer shepherds, which supports social sustainability. Even a brief stay in nature helps to relieve stress, relax the mind and body, lower blood pressure and improve overall mood. Activities in nature increase social well-being and bring people together. The volunteer shepherds can often clearly tell that the experience has had a positive effect – many have said they have felt like completely different people afterwards.

9) So far, slightly more than 300 sheep have been involved in the arrangements. There are three threatened native sheep breeds in Finland: 'suomenlammas', 'kainuunharmas' and 'ahvenanmaanlammas'. The majority of the sheep used for landscape management are from these breeds. In other words, in addition to promoting the conservation of landscapes, biotopes and the habitats of threatened species, the arrangements also support the protection of native sheep breeds.

10) The sheep farmers gain access to high-quality pastures, which are sometimes scarce. The sheep, on the other hand, receive good care and get to live on good pastures. The shepherds assist the sheep farmers in caring for and keeping an eye on the animals.

11) The concept has been found to be so effective that businesses have followed suit and arranged similar commercial activities in conservation areas and other locations. Sheep farms have diversified their operations, expanding to side business activities in nature tourism and landscape management. What this means is that duplicating the concept keeps rural areas vibrant and promotes economic sustainability.

12) Some of the shepherds have been so infatuated with the experience that they have acquired their own sheep so they can provide landscape and nature management services in their own municipality.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The Shepherding Weeks concept is compliant with the policy of sustainable development, and it has been implemented in agreement with the regional organisations in each respective area. The operations were initiated in 2008 in Koli National Park, which was established for a variety of purposes, including landscape conservation. Since the operating model was found to be effective and beneficial to all parties, related activities have been arranged every year since. In other words, the public has had the opportunity to take part in the project for nine years now.

The long-lasting and constantly expanding operations have had a practical impact on the conservation and management of landscapes. The Shepherding Weeks concept has promoted environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability in an exemplary way. It has been successful in maintaining and strengthening the value of landscapes and nature. The operations have engaged the public in landscape management efforts that have been arranged in the best possible way.

The project has improved the environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic values of the target areas in the following ways:

Environmental: The Shepherding Weeks have enabled management arrangements for areas with special value in terms of their landscape and nature. The locations are situated in national parks and conservation areas. The project has increased the area of traditional rural biotopes covered by the management measures, including the prioritised Natura 2000 biotope 6270* 'Fennoscandian lowland species-rich dry to mesic grasslands', which is one of the most valuable and diverse meadow types in the country. The operations already cover some 30 hectares of rare traditional rural landscapes and their threatened species. The Shepherding Weeks have increased the visibility of the locations in the media and their appeal as domestic

travel destinations, which may partially contribute to increasing the popularity of domestic tourism, along with supporting ecology and sustainable regional development. The locations selected for the project are traditional rural biotopes that Metsähallitus' conservation biologists have deemed valuable. The biologists have also been involved in planning the management and care of the locations, whose values cannot survive without appropriate efforts.

Social: Citizens have been successfully encouraged to take part in the management of valuable areas and landscapes. Those who participate benefit from improved well-being, as the concept provides the opportunity to spend a week in the peace and quiet of nature amidst breathtaking landscapes. The health benefits of spending time in nature have been demonstrated in numerous studies. These positive effects benefit individuals and then translate into social sustainability and general well-being on a wider scale. Spending a week caring for sheep is more affordable than renting a cabin. National parks and other natural locations offer environments for hiking and outdoor recreation that are both inexpensive and accessible to everyone. The landscape management efforts implemented through the Shepherding Weeks project have increased the value of the locations as recreational environments, benefiting all those who visit them. Experiencing the landscapes is one of the most important reasons for visiting many of the locations.

Economic: The Shepherding Weeks are primarily funded with the fees collected for the experience and the funding for coordinating Metsähallitus' operations. The fees paid by the volunteer shepherds are used to maintain buildings and cover nature management costs. Sheep farmers can apply for support for grazing arrangements and rearing indigenous breeds through the agri-environmental support system. Using natural pastures for grazing in the summer is an important part of the operations of many sheep farms. This links grazing arrangements to maintaining the vitality of agricultural trades and rural areas in general. By funnelling funds to public locations that can be visited and seen first-hand, the Shepherding Weeks make the public more accepting of agricultural support. Visitors can see what the support arrangements enable and that the money goes towards a good cause. In addition to this, taking sheep to graze in traditional rural biotopes frees up fields for other production use. The Shepherding Weeks have also increased the appeal and recreational value of the locations, drawing more tourists to the areas.

Cultural: The Shepherding Weeks enable the management of landscapes, traditional rural biotopes, buildings and yard areas in locations that are important in terms of rural cultural history. The operations ensure that the traditional landscapes remain vibrant and in good condition. Bringing new life to the old farms enriches the landscapes and brings the people who stay at and visit the locations closer to the old days and their own cultural heritage. The volunteer shepherds who experience living in the old buildings can also serve to pass on knowledge of past ways of life: for example, how to make firewood, heat up fireplaces and get water from a well. They also learn other valuable nature and wilderness skills, and are introduced to the time-honoured means of maintaining traditional rural biotopes – i.e. grazing and scything.

On the Kaapin Jouni farm, visitors can learn about the cultural heritage of the only indigenous people in the Nordic countries, the Sami. The grounds tell a rich tale of the diversity of the Sami way of life at a time where the transition to more permanent accommodations was under way.

Aesthetic: The aesthetic values of the locations have increased as management arrangements have been implemented for neglected areas that are valuable in terms of rural heritage, rural landscapes and nature. Traditional yard areas, buildings and pastures remain vibrant, aesthetically pleasing and in good condition. The locations lie in areas with particularly valuable landscapes and nature.

The operations seek to combat damage caused to the landscape and structures by preventing overgrowth along with maintaining and renovating traditional buildings, yards and environments. The management efforts cover traditional rural biotopes that would otherwise be neglected. The project has enriched landscapes by breathing new life into old living environments in a way that respects traditional values.

13. Exemplary value

*Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?
Which are the good practices that it implemented?*

The operating principles and measures of the Shepherding Weeks concept are an example to others with regard to observing good practices. The landscapes and nature are managed in an exemplary and effective manner that respects traditions and benefits all parties involved. The sheep farmers and sheep gain access to quality pastures that may be hard to find. The shepherds help the farmers with caring for and keeping an eye on the animals in locations that are far from the actual farm. The operations also strengthen peoples' relationship with landscapes and nature, providing them with new experiences and improving their well-being. The concept has emerged as a success and sparked a great deal of interest. All aspects from safety and responsibilities to possible problems have been taken into account in the arrangements. The project primarily funds itself, and the operations aim to secure the continuous management of the locations. The concept can also be utilised to arrange maintenance for valuable sites that would otherwise be neglected due to poor accessibility.

The following are good practices implemented in the Shepherding Weeks project:

1) Increasing the amount of grazing in nature and landscape management efforts through multi-party cooperation that benefits all those involved. There are plenty of areas that could be managed through grazing, and also animals that need additional pastures. In particular, there are many people who would be thrilled to spend a week as a shepherd amidst spectacular landscapes and would also be willing to pay for the opportunity.

2) Management and maintenance can be arranged for valuable locations with poor accessibility. Many of the Shepherding Weeks sites are situated in locations where grazing would be difficult to arrange without the volunteer shepherds. The shepherding measures ensure the management of threatened traditional rural landscapes and the protection of endangered species dependent on them.

3) The majority of the sheep used for grazing are of a rare native breed, which means that the efforts also support the survival of these threatened breeds.

4) The operations largely fund themselves and, in addition to all other benefits, provide the most cost-efficient method for maintaining the landscapes in many locations. This way of maintaining the landscapes is more affordable than hiring someone to cut back the

encroaching vegetation, for example.

5) The interesting and appealing activities have got the public excited about and involved in landscape management. The activities are fully volunteer-based.

6) Awareness of the value of landscapes and their management has increased with the wealth of media coverage. In addition to this, those selected as volunteer shepherds are provided by more detailed information on the operations and locations by Metsähallitus. The shepherds also share information about the experiences on social media.

7) The Shepherding Weeks help to strengthen and deepen the volunteer shepherds' relationship with landscapes and nature. For many participants, the week is an utterly unique and heart-warming holiday experience that improves their well-being. Many children with families take part in the Shepherding Weeks, which is why they are an excellent way to provide environmental education to the younger generations. All those who visit the areas benefit from the results of the landscape management efforts. The landscapes are among the most important reasons for people to visit conservation areas, and the volunteer shepherd arrangements have increased the recreational value of these locations.

8) Supports and diversifies the operations of sheep farms. The local business operations are supported by providing the sheep farmers with access to high-quality natural pastures, which may sometimes be scarce. The efforts involve local sheep farmers and sheep, which supports regional sustainability and keeps the transport distances as short as possible. Sheep farmers can apply for support for grazing arrangements and rearing indigenous breeds through the agri-environmental support system. In addition to this, taking sheep to graze in traditional rural biotopes frees up fields for other production use.

9) The concept was started off through small-scale trial, but everything was carefully thought out from the beginning and the development has continued throughout the entire process. Safety, responsibilities, insurances and problem situations have been taken into account. The concept has been duplicated successfully. The operations that began with a small pilot in Koli National Park in 2008 now cover 11 locations throughout the country. In 2017, the operations will be further expanded by including a location where the landscape will be maintained by grazing cows.

10) Applications to all locations are submitted on a single form at the same time. The shepherds are provided with the necessary information and, in some locations, with orientation.

The concept has been very successful and popular – demand is constantly increasing at a faster rate than supply. In 2016, the number of people wanting to participate in the Shepherding Weeks quadrupled from the previous year, with 3,621 applications in total. The lucky winners were selected in a draw for the 113 Shepherding Weeks arranged over the course of the summer in ten different locations. The arrangements have been so popular that some entrepreneurs have duplicated the product and organised similar experience-based travel services.

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?

The Shepherding Weeks encourage people to actively participate in practical landscape management efforts and influence decision-making affecting the development of the concept. In every location, the shepherds can record observations and feedback on the experience over the course of the week. The Shepherding Weeks have received plenty of attention in the media, so feedback is also received from other members of the public. In addition to this, feedback is collected from sheep farmers who have been involved in the arrangements.

The locations managed by means of the Shepherding Weeks feature valuable traditional rural landscapes that have been jointly deemed to require special care in the plan for managing and using national parks. The commitment to the management and use plan also binds the operations to a larger framework of landscape management measures.

The fully volunteer-based Shepherding Weeks are the result of cooperation between a number of parties. Once a site that requires maintenance has been selected, a suitable sheep farmer is found to arrange the sheep for the location. Instead of renting the sheep from the farmer, an agreement is drawn up on the right to use the pasture in question. The agreement also specifies insurance-related matters. Using natural pastures for grazing in the summer is an important part of the operations of many sheep farms, which is what links the Shepherding Weeks project's wider efforts with maintaining the vitality of rural areas.

Volunteer shepherd applications are usually accepted between January and February for all locations at the same time. The application process is public, meaning that anyone can apply through the project's website. As the number of applicants far exceeds the number of weeks available, the lucky winners are selected by means of a lottery. The selected shepherds are provided with instructions and further information on the arrangements and the location by e-mail. In some locations, the shepherds are also provided with some on-site orientation upon arrival.

In Finland, the most important tool for landscape policy is the list of nationally valuable landscape areas, which is one of the criteria for preparing land-use plans. The aim of designating landscape areas as valuable is to secure prominent and viable rural landscapes and to increase public interest in landscape management. Many of the shepherding locations are situated in areas with nationally valuable landscapes. The volunteer shepherds and sheep farmers involved play their part in implementing the landscape policies of the national and regional authorities by participating in and committing to the efforts to maintain these landscapes.

The project is in line with the landscape policies of the national, regional and local authorities, such as the European Landscape Convention, the Finnish Land Use and Building Act, Finnish environmental legislation and the Finnish Cultural Environment Strategy.

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 Shepherding Weeks project has increased awareness among citizens, associations and the authorities with regard to the value and importance of and change in landscapes. People have also been successfully encouraged to take part in landscape management efforts. The operations have increased awareness of the importance of landscape and nature management and traditional rural biotopes among the volunteer shepherds and sheep farmers involved, as well as citizens who have followed the related media coverage.

Metsähallitus Parks & Wildlife Finland issue communications at the beginning of the Shepherding Weeks in April each year, and the arrangements have been a popular topic for a variety of media outlets: the Shepherding Weeks have received frequent TV news, newspaper, magazine and radio coverage. They have also been covered in many bulletins, radio interviews and newspaper articles. In addition, the project has its own website. The sheer volume of applications for the volunteer shepherd positions is an indication that the coverage has reached a huge number of people, as only a small portion of those interested are likely to ultimately send an application.

Tens of thousands of people are reached through the Facebook, Twitter and Instagram feeds of Metsähallitus and the national parks. In addition to this, the Shepherding Weeks have received plenty of visibility on social media and blogs, thanks to the participating volunteers, who write about their experiences, sharing information on the project with others.

While staying at the old farm locations, the volunteer shepherds get a closer look at times past and their own cultural heritage. The traditional landscapes and small farms in rural areas are an important element of the Finnish cultural heritage. Keeping them alive in a way that respects traditions offers valuable experiences to both the volunteers and other visitors to the areas. The arrangements also increase understanding of the importance of landscape as part of the European identity.

The health benefits of landscapes and nature are highlighted in communications regarding the Shepherding Weeks, which means that distributing related information also increases general awareness about the effects of landscapes and nature on the well-being of individuals. Many past participants have found that the week in a serene natural environment amidst breathtaking scenery has significantly improved their well-being, and they have often shared their positive experiences on social media and blogs, for example, thereby increasing general awareness of the benefits.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format should be included in one CD-Rom or DVD and returned by post or courier to:

Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention

Head of Division, Agora (A3-32C), Council of Europe

F-67075 STRASBOURG, Cedex

Tel: +33 (0) 3 88 41 23 98

E-mail: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int

- Text (20 pages max.): *PDF format*
- Photos (10 max.): *JPEG 350 dpi high definition*
- Posters (2 max.): *PDF format high definition or JPEG 350 dpi high definition*
- Video (15mn max.): *mpeg 2 format - It is advised to present a video (even of amateur quality).*

** * **

5. FRANCE / FRANCE

Le paysage comme relation

Saint-Paul, Ile de La Réunion, France

CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE

Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

5^e Session – 2016-2017

FORMULAIRE DE CANDIDATURE
FRANCE

Le paysage comme relation

Saint-Paul, Île de La Réunion, France

Maîtrise d'ouvrage :

Région Réunion, Communauté d'agglomération TCO

Maîtrise d'œuvre :

Bertrand Folléa - Claire Gautier Agence Folléa-Gautier paysagistes urbanistes





Territoire et site concernés par la candidature.
Ce plan représente la trame paysagère du Territoire de la Côte Ouest (Réunion), qui spatialise les objectifs de qualité paysagère définis sur 53000 ha. En encadré apparaît le site du projet réalisé, à Saint-Paul, qui concrétise les objectifs.

ÉTAT CONCERNÉ ET CANDIDAT

1. ÉTAT : FRANCE

Représenté par : Mme Juliette FAIVRE, cheffe du bureau des paysages et de la publicité et Karine Mangin, chargée de mission paysage

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2. CANDIDATS : RÉGION LA RÉUNION

- Région La Réunion

Représenté par : M. Didier Aubry - DGA - Aménagement, Développement Durable et Énergie

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- Territoire de la Côte Ouest

Représenté par Sylvain Liaume - Directeur de l'Aménagement

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Téléphone : 02 62 32 31 70

Courriel : Sylvain.Liaume@tco.re

PRÉSENTATION DU PROJET

3. NOM DU PROJET

Le paysage comme relation

4. LOCALISATION

Saint-Paul (Île de La Réunion, France)

5. RÉSUMÉ

A la suite du *Plan de paysage de l'Ouest* lancé par l'Etat en 1997 sur l'île de La Réunion, la communauté de communes Territoire Côte Ouest (TCO, 53 000 ha) réalise sa *Charte paysagère* en 2007. Cette charte définit des objectifs de qualité paysagère sur la base d'une **trame paysagère** organisatrice du développement. L'ensemble prévoit notamment la mise en valeur d'**espaces de respiration sur le littoral** et la réalisation de lisières urbaines entre ville et nature. En 2009, TCO réalise son *Schéma intercommunal d'aménagement des lisières urbaines*. Parallèlement, l'Etat réalise *l'Atlas des paysages de La Réunion*, soulignant ces enjeux. En même temps que se définissent ces politiques, la Région met en œuvre une démarche exemplaire d'aménagement en utilisant la création de la *Route des Tamarins* comme levier d'actions paysagères, notamment dans sa séquence nord particulièrement sensible : là se succèdent une ville bordée d'espaces naturels composés de zones humides et de gorges (Saint-Paul), puis un cap offrant un paysage de savane également protégé (cap la Houssaye). Dans ce contexte, le projet de paysage mené pendant douze ans **réinvente la lisière urbaine de Saint-Paul** d'une part, et **révèle le paysage de la savane du cap** comme espace de respiration d'autre part, au bénéfice des populations.

6.



La promenade urbaine de Bernica créée entre la ville de Saint-Paul et le site classé des gorges de Bernica (Photographie Patrick Delance, octobre 2016)

CONTENU DU PROJET

7. DÉBUT DU PROJET ET RÉALISATION

1998-2011

8. PARTENAIRES

Région Réunion, Communauté d'agglomération TCO (Territoire Côte Ouest), Etat, Europe, commune de Saint-Paul

9. ORGANISMES DE FINANCEMENT

Région Réunion, Communauté d'agglomération TCO (Territoire Côte Ouest), Etat, Europe, commune de Saint-Paul

10. PRINCIPAUX OBJECTIFS DU PROJET

Le principe général a été d'utiliser le projet technique de la Route des Tamarins comme un véritable levier d'action en faveur de l'aménagement qualitatif du territoire et au bénéfice des populations.

À Saint-Paul :

A Saint-Paul, la frange urbaine dans laquelle s'apprêtait à passer la Route des Tamarins était très dégradée. L'accès au site naturel classé de la ravine Bernica était très difficile (passage d'une route nationale, enfrichement, panneaux publicitaires...), les zones humides étaient réduites au seul pied de falaise et l'avenue principale (Chaussée Royale), qui longe la ville en lisière, avait perdu tout attrait : nappes de bitume envahissantes, stationnements sauvages, trottoirs exigus, architecture commerciale médiocre, panneaux et enseignes commerciales...

Dans ce no man's land, le projet routier d'origine prévoyait d'occuper tout l'espace par un vaste échangeur autoroutier ôtant définitivement toute possibilité de mise en valeur du site. Les paysagistes ont au contraire proposé de **réinventer toute une lisière urbaine au bénéfice des populations** : grande promenade publique, entrée de ville accueillante, avenue requalifiée autour d'un canal et création de zones humides.

Dans le cap La Houssaye

En haut du grand viaduc de Saint-Paul, la Route des Tamarins atteignait le cap la Houssaye : couvert d'une savane herbeuse orangée, incliné jusqu'à toucher l'océan Indien, il constitue un paysage remarquable et unique à La Réunion, en contraste radical avec les zones humides de Saint-Paul. Du fait de la pente en travers trop importante, la Route des Tamarins ne pouvait contourner le site en passant plus haut en altitude. Il fallait donc le traverser. La sensibilité paysagère des lieux générait de forts conflits opposant aménageurs et protecteurs, jusqu'au sein même des services de l'Etat. Pour espérer un compromis, les solutions techniques des ingénieurs avaient prévu de cacher la Route des Tamarins dans d'importants déblais. Mais cela engendrait des coupures physiques et des balafres très importantes dans l'espace naturel, protégé comme espace remarquable au titre de la Loi Littoral. Dans cette situation délicate, le maître d'ouvrage a décidé de **confier la conception de l'infrastructure aux paysagistes**.

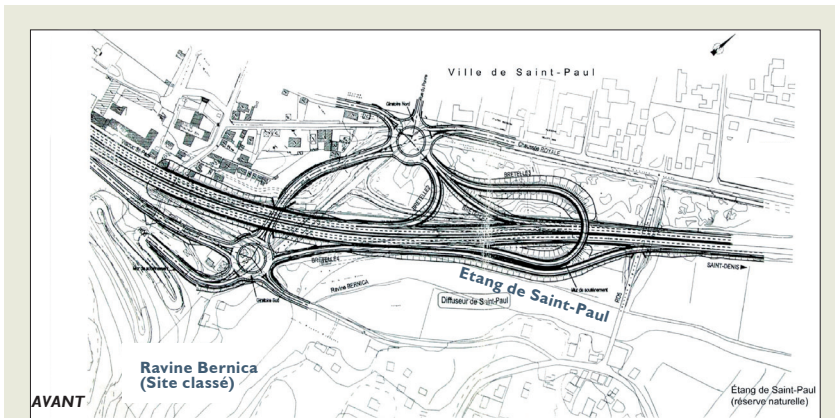


La Promenade de Bernica, un grand tapis vert qui passe sous la route créée pour relier la ville à son site classé (principe n°2)

11. RÉSULTATS OBTENUS

I. À Saint-Paul : une lisière urbaine réinventée

A Saint-Paul, une lisière urbaine exemplaire a été réinventée. Elle met en relation le centre-ville avec ses espaces de nature : la Ravine de Bernica (site naturel classé) et l'Étang de Saint-Paul (réserve naturelle). Quatre principes ont été adoptés.



Projet routier prévu à l'origine qui prenait tout l'espace sur trois niveaux de routes (1998)

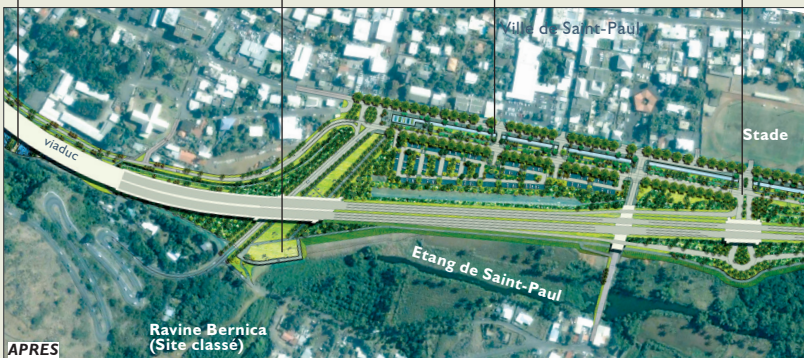
Les quatre principes :

Re-crée des zones humides de Saint-Paul qui font l'identité de la ville : en pied de falaise et sous le viaduc

Rendre Bernica aux Saint-Paulois : création d'une promenade urbaine reliant le centre-ville de St-Paul au site classé de la Ravine Bernica

Requalifier la Chaussée Royale : requalification en avenue d'accès à la ville et au littoral balnéaire + Promenade du canal

A site urbain, échangeur urbain : échangeur réduit et repositionné



Projet réalisé en 2011 (même échelle, même cadrage) qui réinvente une lisière urbaine

(source : agence Folléa-Gautier paysagistes-urbanistes)

PRINCIPE N°1 : A SITE URBAIN, ÉCHANGEUR URBAIN

Les services de l'État et de la Région prévoyaient initialement d'occuper le site des marges de la ville de Saint-Paul par un immense échangeur, développé sur trois niveaux. Cela peut s'expliquer par le fait que le site n'est pas vu alors comme urbain, car il n'en offre pas l'image. Pourtant, l'examen des usages révèle à quel point il est urbain, malgré son image dégradée ou périphérique : il est traversé à pied abondamment, il reçoit des usages des habitants de Saint-Paul pour les cultures de proximité, pour la pêche, autrefois pour la baignade dans la ravine Bernica, avant que son embouchure ne s'enfriche. C'est cet argumentaire à caractère social qui permet à la maîtrise d'œuvre d'engager l'évolution du projet vers **un aménagement urbain et non pas un aménagement routier simplement technique**. Un long travail de propositions alternatives s'engage, donnant lieu à des comparatifs de solutions et de variantes. Il permet de déboucher sur **un choix d'échangeur urbain, prenant une place très modeste dans le paysage des franges de ville, ne générant pas d'espaces résiduels, et laissant les fonctionnements piétons se faire**. N'échangeant plus avec la route départementale, il évite plusieurs bretelles et ronds-points. Positionné différemment, il offre des perspectives de réaménagement urbain : nouvelle entrée dans la ville et programme immobilier inscrits dans la trame bâtie traditionnelle.



L'échangeur recomposé en entrée de ville (principe n°1)

(Photo © Bertrand Folléa / agence Folléa-Gautier)

PRINCIPE N°2 : RENDRE BERNICA AUX SAINT-PAULOIS

Le site naturel classé de Bernica était marginalisé par son accès difficile (présence d'une route nationale, espaces résiduels non gérés) et était devenu invisible depuis Saint-Paul à cause de l'implantation de panneaux publicitaires intempestifs le long de la route départementale. La Route des Tamarins offrait l'occasion de réinventer **une relation généreuse, ambitieuse et lisible entre la ville et son site classé**. Il fallait pour cela la rendre poreuse aux usages doux piétonniers et vélos, et même au paysage, et pas seulement aux voitures circulant sur la route départementale. Une ouverture de 62m de large sous la Route des Tamarins est ménagée par un ouvrage d'art spécifique. Elle est calculée par rapport au point de vue qui s'offre sur l'échancrure de la ravine depuis la ville. Elle permet d'offrir cette continuité paysagère majeure entre la ville et son site. **La Promenade de Bernica est créée, allongée sur près de 300m de long et offrant au total 2 ha d'espace replanté**. Elle se glisse sous la Route des Tamarins, et remonte sur la digue de protection de la ville pour s'élargir en terrasse ouverte sur l'entrée de la ravine Bernica. Son cheminement piéton principal est souligné par la plantation de cocotiers, arbre identitaire de Saint-Paul et en rappel à sa cocoteraie historique. L'ouvrage permet aussi le passage d'une voie vélo séparée. Bernica est rendue aux Saint-Paulois, dont les anciens ont le souvenir des baignades très agréables (traditionnellement, en effet, on ne se baignait jamais dans la mer, dangereuse et au sable noir volcanique brûlant, mais au contraire toujours dans les eaux douces des ravines ombragées et rafraîchissantes).

PRINCIPE N°3 : REQUALIFIER LA CHAUSSÉE ROYALE EN AVENUE D'ACCÈS À LA VILLE ET AU LITTORAL BALNÉAIRE

La nécessité pour l'État d'assurer la continuité de son réseau national conduit la DDE (Direction Départementale de l'Équipement), pendant un temps, à envisager la création d'une route supplémentaire à celle de la Route des Tamarins, toujours dans l'interface ville-nature, pour rejoindre la route nationale sur le littoral depuis l'échangeur créé. La maîtrise d'œuvre paysagiste parvient à convaincre le Directeur de la DDE qu'il faut rechercher d'autres solutions moins violentes pour le paysage. Pourquoi ne pas passer sur la Chaussée Royale, qui existe, au besoin en revoyant ses capacités?

Comme pour l'échangeur, les solutions et les variantes sont dessinées et comparées. La solution par la Chaussée Royale est finalement retenue. Une fois de plus le projet technique va servir de levier pour revaloriser le paysage des marges de Saint-Paul. Car la Chaussée Royale n'avait plus de royal que le nom : elle était surdimensionnée pour le seul besoin des voitures, au détriment des piétons et des usages urbains doux et souffrait d'une façade construite médiocre en termes d'architecture. Les paysagistes dessinent une **Chaussée Royale doublée en avenue, plantée, avec des trottoirs élargis côté ville, des places de stationnement longitudinales** (et non plus en épis), **un terre-plein central accueillant le canal Bernica revalorisé, flanqué d'une promenade piétonne large et ombragée**. Pendant un temps, les paysagistes proposent le positionnement du projet émergent de Tram-Train sur ce terre-plein central, avant qu'il soit calé côté Route des Tamarins, puis finalement abandonné. Au total, la Chaussée Royale recrée la lisière urbaine sur 1000m de long et couvre 7 hectares.



La terrasse Bernica, à la suite de la grande promenade, ouverte sur le site naturel de la ravine (principe n°2)

PRINCIPE N°4 : RE-CRÉER LES ZONES HUMIDES DE SAINT-PAUL QUI FONT L'IDENTITÉ DE LA VILLE

Aux marges de la ville de Saint-Paul, le viaduc de Saint-Paul a été conçu avec justesse comme une simple rampe suivant la falaise à franchir, et non comme un ouvrage à caractère spectaculaire, malgré ses dimensions hors normes (900m de long, 26 m de large). L'ouvrage part bas, pour s'élever progressivement, jusqu'à entailler la falaise afin de poursuivre la route en tranchée couverte vers le sud.

Diverses questions se sont posées : que faire des dessous de l'ouvrage, qui à eux seuls couvrent plus de 2 ha, et qui, avec les espaces adjacents, occupent 5ha? Comment éviter les zones d'ombre des marges urbaines, les dépotoirs à canettes de bière et autres débris sous l'ouvrage, dans ce confins de ville?

Constatant la présence d'eau qui sourd au pied de la falaise, les paysagistes ont proposé, à l'issue du chantier, de **recréer simplement les surfaces pour retrouver l'altitude du terrain naturel et permettre à l'eau de regagner l'espace sous le viaduc**. Inutile de planter : la végétation de zone humide en milieu tropical est hyper conquérante. **Une zone humide est ainsi recréée**. L'eau évite les accès sous le viaduc et le risque afférent de dépôts d'ordures sauvages ; elle apporte, par son effet miroir, une lumière à des endroits sombres, et les berges se voient rapidement colonisées par la végétation. La zone humide protège également Saint-Paul des inondations liées aux pluies cycloniques. La route à double sens, créée au pied du viaduc pour les besoins du trafic en période de chantier, est transformée en voie à sens unique accompagnée d'une piste cyclable.



Promenade autour du canal, créée à la faveur de la Chaussée Royale requalifiée en avenue (principe n° 3) (principe n°3)



Reconstitution de zones humides sous le viaduc (principe n°4)



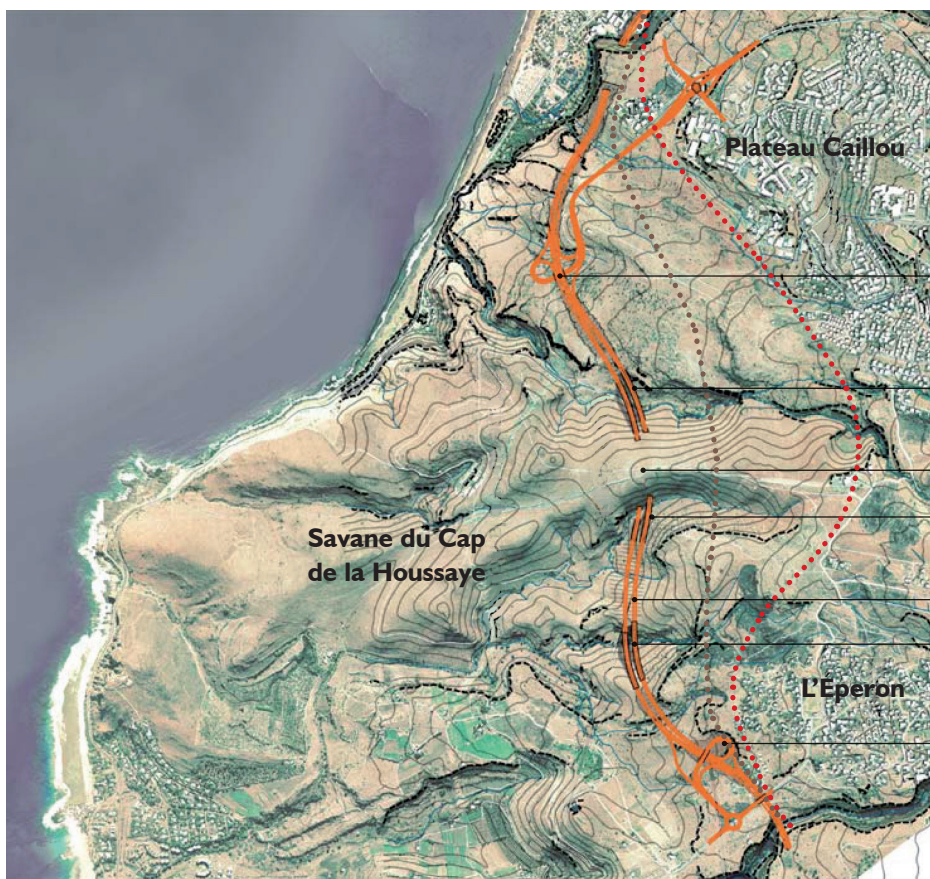
Aménagement d'une piste cyclable longeant le viaduc et les zones humides reconstituées (principe n°4)



La Chaussée Royale doublée en avenue plantée accompagnée de sa piste cyclable séparée (principe n°3)

2. Dans le Cap La Houssaye : un espace de respiration littoral offert au regard et aux usages des habitants

Dans le cap la Houssaye, l'espace naturel de la savane a été révélé, mis en scène et offert à l'usage des populations, par des dispositions innovantes. A l'inverse des solutions de compromis cherchant à cacher la Route des Tamarins, les paysagistes ont cherché à inscrire la route dans le paysage ... **en inscrivant le paysage dans la route !** Ils dessinent une route-balcon mettant en scène l'étendue naturelle et capable d'offrir la savane sans coupures aux usages doux des habitants-riverains et des Réunionnais en général.



- hypothèse de contournement de la savane, impossible du fait du dénivelé
- hypothèse routière, en grand déblais, non retenue
- hypothèse proposée et retenue, inscription dans le paysage, assouplissement du tracé

échangeur de Plateau Caillou

ouvrage d'art de Fleurimont

tunnel double

ouvrage d'art de Petit Bras Canot

chaussée séparée

ouvrage d'art de Bras Canot

échangeur de l'Eperon

Plan de la route des Tamarins dans le site du Cap de la Houssaye



La route des tamarins inscrite dans le paysage de la savane, désormais protégé et mis en valeur.

Cinq principes sont adoptés :

PRINCIPE N° 1 :

Un assouplissement du tracé en plan afin de réduire de façon très importante le volume d'excédents de matériaux que généraient les tracés techniques d'origine en déblais (600 000 m³ économisés).

PRINCIPE N° 2 :

Une division de la large plateforme routière (2X3 voies) en deux chaussées parallèles et décalées en altitude : cela a permis de renforcer l'effet de balcon et de réduire les terrassements et les emprises de déblais/remblais.

PRINCIPE N° 3 :

Des profils strictement parallèles entre les deux chaussées (6 % de pente), malgré l'irrégularité des reliefs : ceci a permis de dessiner une route aux lignes épurées, adaptée à la sobriété du paysage de la savane.

PRINCIPE N° 4 :

Des ouvrages d'art de ponts et tunnel pour tous les franchissements de reliefs notables : cela a permis d'offrir la savane aux usages de loisirs et de laisser passer les troupeaux gestionnaires sans que la route constitue de barrière physique.

PRINCIPE N° 5 :

Des talus de déblais traités comme des éboulis naturels de falaises, et des remblais à l'inverse ouvragés en murs de soutènement couverts de basalte : cela a permis de donner l'impression d'une route-balcon « se posant » naturellement dans la savane, en prenant le minimum d'emprises et de rendre possible la gestion par l'élevage au plus près de la route (économie de gestion).

La traversée spectaculaire de la savane par la Route des Tamarins a révélé au grand public les qualités paysagères du Cap la Houssaye. **Des usages de loisirs très appréciés se sont intensément développés depuis**, notamment les soirs de la semaine et en week-end : promenades à pied, randonnées à cheval, course à pied, vtt, escalade, etc. La faible sensibilité de la savane en termes écologique (pas d'espèces animales ou végétales rares) permet cette appropriation d'un vaste espace ouvert de respiration, vital pour les habitants concentrés sur un littoral exigu dans une île petite aux milieux naturels fragiles par ailleurs. Le projet initial des ingénieurs, prévoyant une route en déblais, aurait rendu impossible une telle perception et de tels usages.

Les cinq principes :



(Photo © Patrick Delance)



(Photo © Patrick Delance)



(Photo © Patrick Delance)



(Photo © Patrick Delance)



(Photo © Patrick Delance)

IV. RESPECT DES CRITÈRES D'ATTRIBUTION DU PRIX

12. DÉVELOPPEMENT TERRITORIAL DURABLE

Le projet démontre que la lisière urbaine joue ici un rôle pédagogique exemplaire pour le développement durable de La Réunion, en apportant des réponses aussi bien dans les champs économiques et sociaux qu'environnementaux.

EN TERMES SOCIAUX :

- Aménagement et accessibilité immédiate de sites de nature à l'arrière du littoral pour les loisirs des habitants : Promenade Bernica, Terrasse Bernica, Ravine Bernica, Etang Saint-Paul, promenade de la Chaussée Royale, savane du Cap la Houssaye. Il s'agit là d'un enjeu de développement durable majeur pour La Réunion : les habitants de l'île, massés dans les villes littorales (bientôt 1 million d'habitants sur seulement 1 000 km² habitables et cultivables), ont en effet peu d'espaces de nature immédiatement accessibles. Ils doivent prendre leur voiture pour monter dans les hauteurs (Parc National) et trouver un peu de fraîcheur. Le littoral balnéaire, seul autre alternative, se retrouve largement sur-fréquenté. A Saint-Paul, le retournement vers Bernica et l'Etang offert par cette réalisation, redonne une accessibilité immédiate (à pied depuis le centre-ville) à des sites de fraîcheur très appréciés des Réunionnais, déchargeant le littoral et évitant le recours à la voiture pour les loisirs de proximité. Au Cap la Houssaye, la savane a été révélée et offerte à une intense fréquentation par les populations grâce à une traversée par la route à la fois spectaculaire, sobre et respectueuse du contexte, créant de nombreuses continuités douces à travers la route, entre zones d'habitat (à l'amont) et mer (à l'aval). Inconnue des habitants avant le projet, la savane est aujourd'hui intensément fréquentée comme un parc naturel de proximité.
- Multiplication des circulations douces offertes pour les usages quotidiens, faciles à utiliser dans un des rares secteurs plats de La Réunion.
- Création d'espaces publics généreux accessibles à tous, une démarche récente à La Réunion (années 2000), les politiques d'espaces publics des collectivités ayant mis longtemps à émerger.

EN TERMES ÉCONOMIQUES :

- Redynamisation commerciale et urbaine de la Chaussée Royale (front urbain de Saint-Paul)
- Création d'opportunité de développement architectural et urbain à la place de l'ancien stade, en entrée de ville depuis la Route des Tamarins, bien intégré dans la trame urbaine historique de la ville.
- Revalorisation culturelle et touristique de la Ravine Bernica : accès en modes doux directs du centre-ville, mise en valeur de la perspective sur l'ouverture de la ravine par les plantations d'alignement et la Terrasse de Bernica.
- Mise en valeur de la relation ville/réserve naturelle : accès en modes doux direct depuis le centre-ville vers la Promenade touristique du Tour des Roches qui fait le tour de la zone humide de l'Etang Saint-Paul.
- Création d'une piste cyclable depuis le centre-ville, empruntant la Promenade Bernica puis le pied du viaduc, pour donner accès aux sites culturels et touristiques littoraux majeurs de la Grotte des Premiers Français et du cimetière marin de Saint-Paul.
- Développement des activités de loisirs dans la savane : escalade, VTT, promenades équestres.
- Dans la savane, économie de 600 000 m³ d'excédents de matériaux à évacuer, grâce à la réduction des déblais lié au tracé d'infrastructure dessiné par les paysagistes.



Des zones de baignades accessibles depuis la promenade Bernica



Des espaces gérés en pâtures aux abords de la route des Tamarins

EN TERMES ENVIRONNEMENTAUX :

- Création de zones humides favorables à la biodiversité (4 hectares), très rares à La Réunion, identitaires de Saint-Paul et contribuant à protéger le centre-ville des risques d'inondations cycloniques.
- Revalorisation paysagère et culturelle complète de la Chaussée Royale, axe historique de Saint-Paul et de sa baie, sans doute l'axe historique le plus ancien de La Réunion.
- Création de jardins et espaces verts (Promenade et Terrasse de Bernica), sols perméables.
- Plantations d'ombrages en masses, en strates étagées à la manière des vergers créoles traditionnels, et d'arbres d'ombrage à grand développement sur les trottoirs minéralisés : limitation du réchauffement, lutte contre les îlots de chaleur urbain, climatisation naturelle essentielle de la ville tropicale.
- Limitation stricte du recours à l'arrosage automatique, en profitant de la nappe phréatique immédiatement présente (Saint-Paul) et en n'utilisant que des espèces de zones sèches pour la savane (Cap la Houssaye).
- Création de stationnements d'entrée de ville, permettant de décharger le centre-ville attenant de la circulation, et de lui redonner des usages piétonniers dominants, confortables et sûrs. Limitation de l'usage de la voiture en ville, du réchauffement, de la pollution et des nuisances qui y sont liées. Il s'agit là d'un rôle essentiel pour les lisières urbaines de centre-ville comme c'est ici le cas à Saint-Paul.
- Dans la savane, réduction des emprises routières, et économie de 600 000 m³ d'excédents de matériaux à évacuer, grâce à la réduction des déblais lié au tracé d'infrastructure dessiné par les paysagistes.



Une continuité paysagère aménagée vers le site naturel des gorges de Bernica, grâce à une ouverture de 62 m. de large sous la Route des Tamarins.

13. EXEMPLARITÉ

UN PORTAGE POLITIQUE FORT

Le Conseil Régional de La Réunion considère les paysages comme une ressource essentielle de l'île, qu'ils soient remarquables ou quotidiens. Ils fondent une part dominante de l'économie locale par leur attractivité ; ils sont garants de l'harmonie sociale par le cadre de vie ; ils sont enfin l'expression d'un patrimoine naturel et culturel très riche et original, reflets de la diversité humaine et écologique exceptionnelle de La Réunion. Fort de cette conviction, le Conseil Régional intègre fortement l'ambition paysagère dans ses documents stratégiques (le Schéma d'Aménagement Régional notamment) et dans ses actions. Il mobilise des compétences de concepteurs paysagistes et architectes dans les projets dont il est maître d'ouvrage. Dans ce cadre, dès les années 1990, la Route des Tamarins n'a pas été conçue seulement comme un équipement technique spectaculaire (plusieurs ouvrages d'art exceptionnels remarquables dans le paysage ont été réalisés) mais a servi aussi et surtout de levier d'aménagement qualitatif pour le territoire en concevant et réalisant au delà des seules emprises routières nécessaires. Cette démarche a été particulièrement aboutie dans la séquence nord Saint-Paul/Cap La Houssaye qui nous intéresse ici, afin de répondre pleinement aux ambitions du Schéma intercommunal d'aménagement des lisières urbaines réalisé par la Communauté d'agglomération TCO.

La Communauté d'agglomération TCO, consciente des puissants processus de transformation à l'oeuvre sur l'Ouest (partie la plus attractive de l'île en termes de tourisme balnéaire, d'implantation d'entreprises, de logements ; irrigation de 7000 ha de terres, création de la Route des Tamarins, ...), a fondé sa politique d'aménagement sur le paysage, et ce depuis 20 ans : Plan de paysage préalable en 1997, Contrat d'agglomération avec volet paysage en 2003, Charte paysagère pour la qualité du cadre de vie en 2007, Schéma intercommunal d'aménagement des lisières urbaines en 2009, SCOT 2013-2023 (document d'urbanisme intercommunal) fondé sur le paysage («la qualité du cadre de vie des hommes d'aujourd'hui ainsi que la préservation et l'enrichissement de la biodiversité en faveur des générations de demain sont la porte d'entrée du projet de schéma de cohérence territoriale et, à ce titre, considérées en premier par le document d'orientations générales»), Eco Cité insulaire et tropicale de 5 000 ha en cœur d'agglomération, ...

C'est dans le cadre de cette ambition portée à la qualité du territoire que la Région et TCO ont uni leurs forces pour que le projet territorial de TCO sur les lisières urbaines puisse se

concrétiser de manière exemplaire sur le site urbain de Saint-Paul. Par cette réalisation remarquable dans un site très complexe, à la fois urbain et naturel, l'objectif de la Région et de TCO est clairement d'enclencher la mise en œuvre d'une trame paysagère organisatrice du développement, notamment sur le territoire densément habité des mi-pentes et du littoral (1000 habitants/km²), complémentaire aux dispositions de protections adoptées.

UN DIALOGUE ET UNE CONCERTATION EXEMPLAIRES ENTRE MAÎTRISE D'ŒUVRE ET MAÎTRISE D'OUVRAGE

Très engagés depuis 27 ans en faveur de la prise en compte du paysage à La Réunion comme bien culturel, l'agence de paysagistes Folléa-Gautier n'a cessé de travailler à la qualité du territoire insulaire, pour l'Etat et pour les collectivités locales. A travers toutes les études et projets, le dialogue n'a jamais cessé au cours de ces 27 années, instaurant une continuité de pensée qui a favorisé la construction d'une politique paysagère et sa concrétisation.

Pour le territoire de l'ouest de l'île, les paysagistes font protéger la savane du cap la Houssaye dès 1992 comme « espace remarquable » dans leur étude de mise en application de la Loi Littoral. Ils font émerger le concept de lisière urbaine dès 1997 à l'occasion d'un «*Plan de paysage de l'Ouest*» commandé par les services du Ministère de l'Équipement (aujourd'hui Ministère de l'environnement). En 2003, Bertrand Folléa et Claire Gautier alimentent le *Contrat et Projet d'agglomération* de TCO, qui inscrit dans son programme la réalisation d'une *Charte paysagère, patrimoniale et architecturale*. En 2005-2007, Bertrand Folléa et Claire Gautier réalisent la Charte dans une concertation très large, associant les 5 communes de TCO et l'ensemble des partenaires concernés par le paysage. Ce projet de paysage ambitieux, définissant les objectifs de qualité paysagère et le programme d'actions, illustré par de nombreuses esquisses-programmes et sous forme de plans-guides (zooms), se traduit par une déclaration d'adhésion signée en 2007. Parmi les actions prioritaires, les élus retiennent les lisières urbaines, qui contribuent de façon originale et efficace à la trame paysagère dessinée dans la Charte et traduite au projet de SCOT. TCO engage donc aussitôt la réalisation d'une démarche innovante : le *Schéma intercommunal d'aménagement des lisières urbaines*, portant sur les 53 000 hectares du territoire de l'ouest, que réalisent les paysagistes. C'est le premier document de ce type (et à ce jour le seul) en France. Ce document de planification stratégique est réalisé dans une concertation

LA ROUTE DES TAMARINS

particulièrement large associant une quarantaine de partenaires. Parallèlement à ces démarches paysagères territoriales menées de 1992 à 2009, Bertrand Folléa et Claire Gautier sont engagés, dans la même période (1998-2011), dans la réalisation opérationnelle de la *Route des Tamarins* portée par la Région. Ils sont lauréats en 1998 du concours de concepteurs pour la Route des Tamarins à Saint-Paul et au Cap la Houssaye, séquence particulièrement délicate du projet en termes d'inscription paysagère. A Saint-Paul, la Route des Tamarins met en jeu la relation ville-nature en passant entre le centre-ville et les sites naturels adjacents de la Ravine Bernica (site classé) et de l'Étang Saint-Paul (réserve naturelle nationale). Dans le cap la Houssaye, un conflit bloque le projet entre « protecteurs » et aménageurs ». **C'est l'occasion de rapprocher étroitement les volontés politiques de la Région et de TCO sur les lisières urbaines, mais aussi de l'État et de la commune de Saint-Paul (gestionnaire de la réserve naturelle), autour d'un projet à caractère exemplaire.** L'ambition qualitative très forte portée par l'ensemble des partenaires, et la présence continue des concepteurs sur plus de 12 ans, aussi bien sur la démarche stratégique que sur la réalisation opérationnelle, permettent de réaliser un projet d'ensemble exemplaire :

- à Saint-Paul une lisière urbaine ambitieuse est réinventée, portant sur plus de 13 ha de couture ville-nature : avenue et promenade plantées le long du front de ville sur 1 km et 7 ha (Chaussée Royale), promenade de Bernica entre la ville et le site classé sur 300 m linéaires et 2 ha, terrasse de Bernica de 3 000 m² ouverte sur le site classé, zones humides recréées sur 4 ha, pistes cyclables sur 2,5 km. Par une démarche innovante, la marge ville-nature a été au centre des attentions, permettant au paysage de se réinventer au bénéfice des vues et des usages pour les habitants.
- dans le cap la Houssaye, une route-paysage survolant la savane est dessinée sur 2 kilomètres. Son effet balcon révèle ce site remarquable, jusqu'alors méconnu car inaccessible et invisible. Par des ouvrages d'art et des circulations douces reliant les quartiers à la mer, les aménagements simples et sobres offrent ce grand espace naturel de respiration aux habitants, qui le fréquentent désormais intensément.

AU FINAL CE PROJET EST UNE DÉMONSTRATION DE LA PERTINENCE DE L'AMÉNAGEMENT DU TERRITOIRE PAR LE PAYSAGE :

- **Dans ses concepts et philosophie**, notamment le « paysage comme relation » et sa figure emblématique : la « lisière urbaine ». En centrant l'attention sur les relations plutôt que sur les éléments ou espaces eux-mêmes, ainsi que sur les relations sensibles des populations à leur environnement, le paysage devient instrument de dialogue : il provoque la rencontre, la discussion et l'échange, il favorise la résolution des conflits entre protecteurs et aménageurs, il adoucit les positions, il décloisonne ; en tant que question culturelle et d'interface, le paysage n'est pas un champ de spécialité enfermée dans sa langue de bois : c'est un instrument de dialogue **démocratique**.
- **Dans sa déclinaison complète dans les échelles**, de la plus stratégique et politique à la plus concrète et opérationnelle : l'échelle régionale, avec l'Atlas des paysages identifiant les enjeux sur 2 500 km² ; l'échelle intercommunale avec le Plan de paysage définissant un projet de paysage sur 53 000 ha ; et l'échelle des sites par le projet de paysage urbain sur 12 ha à Saint-Paul et le projet de paysage naturel sur 600 ha dans la savane).
- **Dans ses méthodes** : le projet démontre comment un grand projet technique global (la grande Route des Tamarins) est utilisé comme levier d'action au bénéfice du paysage local et de ses habitants (requalification de la lisière urbaine de Saint-Paul, valorisation paysagère de la savane) ; cette approche, où la technique et l'ingénierie se mettent au service d'une ambition paysagère pleine et entière (sociale et environnementale), résout les conflits des protecteurs contre les aménageurs : le projet de paysage devient l'ambition commune entre les parties.
- **Dans ses résultats** : la transformation d'un projet technique routier global en un projet social et environnemental de paysage local a permis non seulement l'inscription élégante d'une infrastructure dans le paysage malgré les défis techniques et environnementaux, mais aussi et surtout la requalification et la réinvention d'une lisière urbaine délaissée, ainsi que la découverte et l'ouverture au public d'un grand espace naturel de respiration.

Une démarche et des projets exemplaires qui ont été distingués en 2016 par la remise du Grand Prix national du paysage par le Ministère de l'Environnement, de l'Énergie et de la Mer, en charge de la politique du paysage en France.

14. PARTICIPATION DU PUBLIC

La stratégie d'ensemble comme le projet opérationnel ont été travaillés en concertation très large, incluant les maîtrises d'ouvrage, les nombreux acteurs de l'aménagement et les populations. La démarche de concertation s'est concrétisée sous des formes classiques (réunions, enquêtes publiques, ...) mais aussi sous des formes plus originales :

- **des visites lectures de paysage, associant sur le terrain les élus, les techniciens et les habitants.** Elles ont permis de partager un regard et une expérience sur les territoires et sites concernés ; elles ont facilité la compréhension des concepts et méthodes proposés : par exemple « le paysage », « le projet de paysage », « le paysage comme relation », « la lisière urbaine ». Elles ont facilité la compréhension du projet de Route des Tamarins et son acceptation. Elles ont permis l'expression et la prise en compte des attentes locales, suscitant la montée du niveau d'ambition, et, au final, la réalisation d'un projet « de paysage » et non « de route » ;
- **des ateliers participatifs de travail**, permettant de faire participer les acteurs à la réflexion, autour de plans et projections. Ces ateliers ont été particulièrement nombreux pour l'élaboration des documents stratégiques préparatoires ou accompagnateurs du projet opérationnel :
 - o l'Atlas des paysages de La Réunion, réalisé en concertation et associant les perceptions, représentations et usages des paysages par les populations ;
 - o le plan de paysage intercommunal de TCO, signé en charte d'engagement par tous les acteurs de l'aménagement ;
 - o le schéma intercommunal d'aménagement des lisières urbaines : le concept a beaucoup intéressé car il permettait de faire dialoguer les acteurs de la ville et les acteurs agricoles, dans un contexte très tendu de pression d'urbanisation sur un espace agricole, rare, cher et irrigué (projet ILO – irrigation du littoral ouest - sur 7000 ha de terres sèches financé par l'Europe). Une quarantaine d'organismes ont été associés à son élaboration!



Lecture de paysage avec les élus

15. SENSIBILISATION

La lisière urbaine de Saint-Paul est une création inventive née essentiellement d'une longue observation répétée, attentive et inventive des lieux. Cette observation s'est concentrée sur **les usages des lieux** par les habitants, - usages existants mais aussi potentiels, en interrogeant à la fois l'histoire (usages passés) et les besoins contemporains contrariés ou menacés. C'est cette démarche, partagée par des visites communes et répétées de cette frange (que personne ne regardait), qui a permis de considérer cette marge de ville comme urbaine, méritant attention, et non comme un no man's land périphérique à vocation purement routière. Cette observation a été bien sûr alimentée par les réunions d'échanges avec la commune, qui a enrichi les résultats de terrain en faisant valoir ses attentes liées au centre-ville et à ses projets de développement.

Cette attention inventive aux usages existants et potentiels a nourri les programmes de façon plus sûre et plus juste que toutes les statistiques et tous les schémas fonctionnalistes. Elle a permis :

- de réduire le diffuseur (échangeur) de Saint-Paul à sa plus simple expression, en le repositionnant au bon endroit, non gênant pour les usages doux quotidiens des habitants, favorable aussi pour créer une nouvelle rue d'entrée en ville et pour engager un projet urbain et architectural contemporain en continuité du tissu bâti traditionnel ;
- de se réapproprié 4 ha d'espaces au-delà du canal de la Chaussée Royale, auparavant largement refermés par les friches ;
- de préserver les relations piétonnes entre centre-ville (gare routière) et quartier satellite (Grande Fontaine), très intensément parcourues et pourtant sacrifiées par le projet routier d'origine ;
- de redonner une place centrale au canal de Bernica en l'accompagnant d'une promenade piétonne ombragée sur 1000 m de long : l'ombre et la fraîcheur de l'eau, la place centrale du cheminement sur la Chaussée Royale et sa continuité en font une promenade très empruntée aujourd'hui ; les berges du canal, à l'original assez encaissées, ont été redivisées en emmarchements et replantées, permettant l'appropriation des bords même de l'eau pour s'en approcher et s'y asseoir ;



Le marché sur la Chaussée Royale réaménagée à Saint-Paul

- de redonner des trottoirs larges et confortables au front de ville que borde la Chaussée Royale, redynamisé en termes de commerces et d'attractivité urbaine ;
- de créer un parking en lisière de ville de 280 places permettant de désengorger remarquablement le tissu urbain dense des rues étroites du centre-ville (une partie de parking n'a pas été plantée d'arbres d'ombrage en anticipation de la plateforme qui devait se créer pour le projet de Tram Train ; ce projet étant finalement abandonné, le parking devrait désormais être planté et ombragé comme prévu à l'origine) ;
- d'offrir 2.5 km de piste cyclable dans un des rares secteurs plats de La Réunion ;
- de redonner accès à la ravine Bernica par une Promenade majeure et directe depuis le centre-ville, s'achevant en terrasse ouverte sur le site classé ; la Promenade Bernica permet d'envisager désormais la reconquête d'une baignade en eau douce fraîche et ombragée, et d'un site attractif pour la randonnée, le pique-nique et la pêche : autant d'activités auxquelles les Saint-Paulois sont très attachés ;
- de réouvrir des vues depuis la Chaussée Royale vers le grand paysage (pentes dominant la baie de Saint-Paul) : les réactions ont été très positives de la part des habitants et commerçants concernés sur ce point.

La savane du Cap La Houssaye était un vaste espace de zone sèche invisible, inaccessible et totalement inconnu des populations. Le projet initial de route des Tamarins, technique, le rendait définitivement inappropriable pour les habitants (traversée par une grande saignée autoroutière en déblais). Dans un contexte de très forte densité de population sur la bande côtière, le projet réalisé a au contraire mis en avant les besoins des habitants pour des espaces de respiration proches de leurs lieux d'habitat. Il a mis en scène la savane, réduit l'emprise finale de la route des Tamarins et organisé les circulations douces permettant aux populations d'investir le site pour leurs loisirs sportifs ou de détente, sans coupures : randonnées, courses à pied, balades à cheval, escalade. Désormais, le public dispose d'un vaste espace naturel de respiration, reliant les quartiers (à l'amont) à la côte (à l'aval), intensément fréquenté et visiblement très apprécié. L'ensemble est en cours d'acquisition par le Conservatoire du Littoral et devient donc définitivement inconstructible. Cet espace de respiration offre aussi l'avantage d'une alternative à la sur-pression de la fréquentation des plages d'une part (réserve naturelle marine) et dans les hauts de La Réunion d'autre part (parc national), écologiquement fragiles.

Pensé comme relation, l'approche paysagère a contribué à consolider le melting pot remarquable de la population réunionnaise, rassemblant dans une harmonie rarement vue ailleurs sur la planète une population européenne ... issue des cinq continents : relation sensible des habitants à leur environnement, en fondant les grands principes d'aménagement sur une reconnaissance des usages dans leur diversité et leur modestie ; relation physique entre tous les espaces qu'ils soient urbains, agricoles ou naturels, par des circulations douces et des espaces de transition partagés.



Des chemins créés aux abords de la route pour une savane ré-appropriée par les habitants



CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

5^e Session – 2016-2017

Candidature France



Maîtrise d'ouvrage et maîtrise d'oeuvre :



6. GREECE / GRÈCE

Developing water-codes in the centre of the city of Larissa – The Larissa experiment

Municipality of Larissa

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Greece

Represented by

Mr. Anestis Gourgiotis

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Department of Spatial Planning

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Municipality of Larissa, Greece

Represented by

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Urban Large Scale Sculptor
0030 6973885027

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nella.golanda@gmail.com

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. Name of the Project

Developing water-codes in the centre of the city of Larissa – The Larissa experiment
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4. Location of the Project

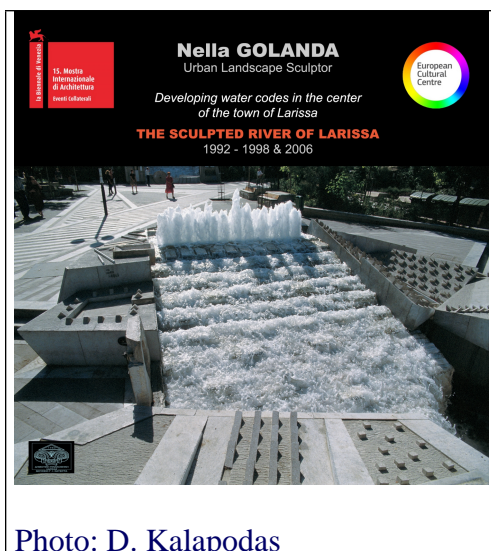
Larissa, Thessaly, Greece

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

The project has been proposed by the urban scale sculptor Nella Golanda and promoted by the Municipality of Larissa. The project aims to create a new landscape identity for the city of Larissa based on the lost physical and historical landscape of the newly excavated ancient Theatre of the 3rd c. BC, in the center of the town. It intends to do so by involving local communities and revealing the memories of a distinctive agricultural landscape such as the plain of Thessaly with Pinios river and its surrounding famous mythical mountains.

N. Golanda aims to create a new identity for the city of Larissa based on the enhancement of the ancient Theatre of the city. In order to achieve these goals, she proposes the design of “*the sculpted river*”, marking the lost relation of the city with its river (Pinios) and emphasizing the different landscape types of Thessaly (the uplands and the lowlands) along its route.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please



III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**

The Master Plan was commissioned and supervised by the Municipality of Larissa [Technical Service Department, Architects: Vayoula Tsopanoglou and Lily Giovri] and the Direction of Special Projects of the Greek Ministry for the Environment Physical Planning and Public Works. The town sculpted holistic design project was developed by the Urban Large Scale Sculptor Nella Golanda (www.sculpted-architectural-landscapes)

9. **Financing bodies**

All funds for the master plan and the project have been fully collected by the Operational Programme of the Municipality of Larissa and European programs

10. **Central aims of the Project**

The central idea of the design would be a comprehensive urban landscape intervention, which enables the city of Larissa to welcome the revealed Ancient Theatre in the very center of the town, by using a structured urban center, where various rhythms and qualities have the possibility to develop, “in the river’s flow”, through Total Art sculpted large scale interventions, a spatial natural and historical landscape. Special emphasis in these interventions based in holistic design was given for the emergence of forgotten everyday experiences and relations of living in the riverside and the benefit of the waters through the line of time. On the other hand, the presence of the rhythms of the plantations, the development of the water codes throughout the whole area and the agriculture procedures in the famous fertile Thessalian Plain help the awareness of the citizens and especially the children about their natural, geographical and historical environment.

11. Outcome

This is a good practice example of cooperation among the designer, the local authority and the citizens of Larissa. It illustrated that projects which obtain the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities can prove successful. Also, with the active participation of the interested parties, as advocated by the E.L.C., it was more viable to identify this particular landscape throughout its territory. People realized that after this project their life has been improved, environmental restoration has been achieved and tourism increased

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

Larissa is an ancient riverside town in the middle of the fertile plain of Thessaly. Its timeless habitation is lost in the mists of history. Major floods of the Pinios river led to its (90%) diversion in the 1930s, an action that had as a consequence the loss of the riverside – city character.

In addition, in the spring of 1941, after the bombing and the big earthquake which followed almost immediately, the city was destroyed and lost all her characteristics, becoming a sad city.

Special emphasis in the Total Art sculpted large scale interventions was given for the emergence of forgotten everyday experiences and relations of living in the riverside and the benefit of the waters through the line of time. On the other hand, the presence of the rhythms of the plantations and the agriculture procedures in the famous fertile Thessalian Plain help the awareness especially of children about their natural, geographical and historical position. During the construction of the squares and the “sculpted river”, a wide zymosis developed in the city, as the Pinios River reenters to city conscious life.

The project seeks to enhance public awareness for the particular historical landscape of Larissa and to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity, culture and the environment.

It aims to alter the indifferent landscape character of big cities and to raise consciousness among the citizens for the local historical characteristics of their town.

Last but not least, to educate people and especially the children that the landscape is a key element of individual and social well-being and that its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone

13. Exemplary value

*Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?
Which are the good practices that it implemented?*

After an intense involving of the local community and press during the construction phase (6years, 1992-1998) the citizens became day by day aware of the value of their lost relation with the city river and the following years till now by developing great sensitivity for their town, they re-established their admiration and love for the broader landscapes qualities. These Total Art sculpted large scale interventions within the chaos of contemporary life form a sensitive hug that fills people without realizing that they live and breathe the art, penetrating into everyday urban life as a totality.

In 2008, the project of the pedestrianization of the *Ancient Theatre* was entitled with the first award of landscape architecture of archaeological sites, by the Greek Association of Planners.

In 2011, based on the occasion of Pinios River value for the city of Larissa, SADAS (Panhellenic Union of Architects) organized in Larissa a congress under the title: “Water: an important design tool for the contemporary cities”.

In 2013, within the framework of the E-CLIC program “Making European Policy Popular through Challenge, Learning, Innovation, Cooperation: An experiment on the Landscape Convention, this project with the title “*Total art operations for the reestablishment of the natural, historical and cultural landscape of the city of Larissa*” was included to one of the good practices in the implementation of landscape policies (through landscape projects) Greek case.

In 2015, “The Larissa Experiment - Total Art operations for the re-establishment in urban life of the wider natural and historical landscape 1992-98, 2005-06 Larissa (Town of Thessaly – Greece)” was presented by N. Golanda in Andorra during the 16th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention with the title “Landscape and trans-frontier cooperation: Landscape knows no boarder”.

In 2016, N. Golanda was invited in the exhibition “Time – Space – Existence”, an official part of 15th International Venice Architecture Biennale, and presented in Palazzo Bembo - European Cultural Center her big scale Total Art sculpted large scale interventions, including, the Larissa experiment with the title “Developing water codes in the center of the town of Larissa - The sculpted river”. Her participation was supported by the Greek Ministry of Culture in cooperation with the Municipality of Larissa and the National Gallery of Larissa – Katsigra Museum.

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?

Golanda has emphasized the archaeological value of the city's underground by incorporating, in cooperation with the students of the mosaic workshop of the Municipal Gallery of Larissa – Katsigra Museum, the 24 replicas of floor mosaics, from the Archaeological Museum, into areas of seating. Information points are placed close to the seatings, providing necessary details about the address (Name and number of the street of the town of Larissa), where these are found, and the year of their excavation.

Furthermore, many clubs are created, such as "Friends of mythological Pinios", "Women and the river" etc., and many annual riverside festivals with nominal tributes to the Nymphs of Pinios and the mythical surroundings take place. The city now recovers its riverside front where new interesting buildings are constructed and a new riverside green pedestrian route is created. In addition, due to the masses of waters in the "*sculpted river*", birds came back to the city. According to a poll, five years ago, in Greece, Larissa was found to be the most beloved city from its residents; a vision and a goal set by many worthy Mayors during the recent years.

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 aim of N.Golanda's Master Plan is to increase people's awareness about the lost relationship of the city of Larissa with its historical and mythical Pinios River (due to floods, natural disasters and bombings) and to re-establish this connection. Also to "prepare" the city centre to accommodate the revealed ancient Theatre, which is located few meters away from the central squares.

i) **Post office square** represents the strong water flows from the mountains of Thessaly-guided by three sections of the "sculpted river" (local loops) to the Ancient Theater-.It represents the landscape of the uplands of Thessaly.

ii) **Central (Sapka) square** represents the landscape of lowlands of Thessaly and is designed to create an impression of this type of landscape.

iii) **The ancient Theatre** was highlighted by the holistic design of N.Golanda's pedestrian improvements. The pavement design of the landscape sculptor represents the ground-plan of ancient buildings existing on the underground of the city of Larissa, originating from the Neolithic era, through the Classical Period and the Byzantine Periods, creating a palimpsest of the presence of different civilizations.

Finally, the great revival of the city of Larissa appeared after the excavation and the revealing of its Ancient Theater. Now the city presents her new face with high leveled Museums such as the new Diachronic Archeological Museum of Larissa, specialized art workshops etc, aiming to the development of higher distinctive cultural background levels, while Larissa was named a candidate city for European Capital of Culture 2021!

Larissa at present is a most visited tourist center for its total art large scale urban design interventions of its historical center focused to its revealed magnificent Ancient Theater.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format should be included in one CD-Rom or DVD and returned by post or courier to:

Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention

Head of Division, Agora (A3-32C), Council of Europe

F-67075 STRASBOURG, Cedex

Tel: +33 (0) 3 88 41 23 98

E-mail: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int

- Text (20 pages max.): *PDF format*

- Photos (10 max.): *JPEG 350 dpi high definition*

- Posters (2 max.): *PDF format high definition or JPEG 350 dpi high definition*

- Video (15mn max.): *mpeg 2 format - It is advised to present a video (even of amateur quality).*

* * *

7. HUNGARY / HONGRIE

Landscape Development and Community Sample Programme for a Liveable Village

Local Government of Mátraderecske / Roma Minority Local Government of Mátraderecske

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Hungary

Represented by

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Local Government of Mátraderecske /
Mátraderecske Község Önkormányzata
Roma Minority Local Government of
Mátraderecske / Mátraderecske Roma
Nemzetiségi Önkormányzat

Represented by

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E-mail:

matraderecske@t-online.hu

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJÉT

3. Name of the Project

Landscape Development and Community
Sample Program for a Liveable Village

**4. Location of
the Project**

Mátraderecske settlement

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

The main focus of the program is landscape as a territory contributing to human well-being and as a resource of sustainable economic activity.

Based on the potentials in the favourable landscape, natural, cultural and historical values, new regional opportunities opened up through developments:

- Preservation of existing jobs and the creation of new ones;
- Relying on the strong solidarity of locals;
- Conservation of local Palóc traditions, and
- Strengthening the power of the local community through local identity by making them familiar with the cultural, historical and natural values.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please

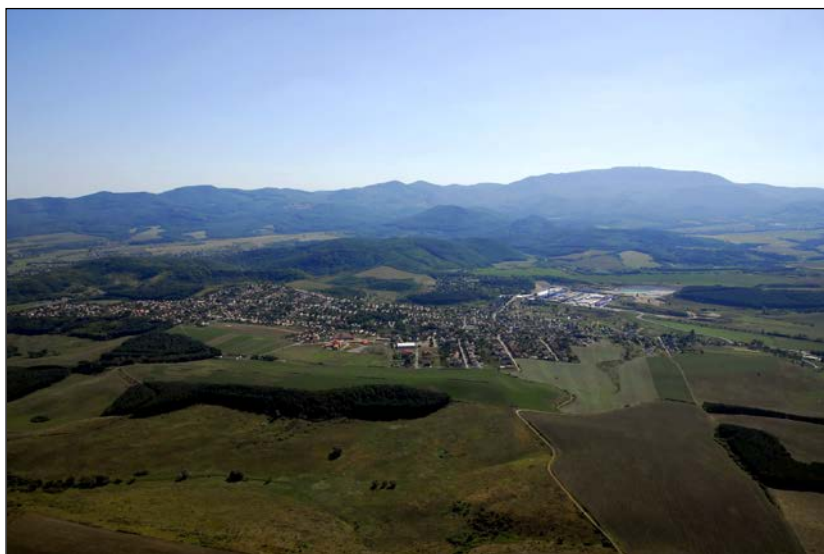


Photo: SOMOGYI-TÓTH Dániel

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**

1. For Mátraderecske Assosiation / *Mátraderesckéért Egyesület*
2. Mátraderecske Social Cooperative / *Mátradereskei Szociális Szövetkezet*
3. Heves County Association for Folk Art and Cottage Industry / *Hevesi Népművészeti és Házipari Szövetkezet*
4. Mátraderecske Women's Choir / *Mátradereskei Asszonykórus*
5. Palóc Route Cultural Touristic Cluster Association / *Palóc Út Kulturális Turisztikai Klaszter Egyesület*
6. Cities, Villages Association / *Városok, Falvak Szövetsége*
7. Bükk National Park Directorate / *Bükki Nemzeti Park Igazgatóság*

9. **Financing bodies**

1. Local Government of Mátraderecske / *Mátradereske Község Önkormányzata*
2. Mofetta 2003 Health Care, Ltd. / *Mofetta 2003 Egészségügyi, Kereskedelmi és Szolgáltató Kft.*
3. Leier Hungária Ltd. / *Leier Hungária Kft.*
4. Micro-Metál Ltd. / *Micro-Metál Kereskedelmi és Szolgáltató Kft.*
5. Mátra-Humán Ltd. / *Mátra-Humán Kft.*
6. Kovács-Bolyki 2003 Agricultural Ltd. / *Kovács-Bolyki 2003 Mezőgazdasági és Szolgáltató Kft.*
7. Heating Install Ltd. / *Heating Install Kft.*
8. private persons

10. Central aims of the Project

The primary objective of the project of Mátraderecske is

- to improve the urban landscape and local living conditions,
- to invert declining demographic trends, and
- to restore the former diversity of the landscape,

as a result of the cooperation between the local government and the local community with regard to the outstanding natural and cultural values of the settlement and its surroundings.

11. Outcome

1. The traditional landscape management (made grasslands available for haymaking and grazing, and arable lands for cultivating traditional, indigenous plants) and the traditional landscape structure has been restored.
2. Value-added jobs have been created to increase the retention ability of the settlement and buck the negative emigration trends.
3. Locally produced vegetables and mushrooms are used by the Local Government's Catering Service for school and elderly meal programmes.
4. Several urban development projects have been implemented from substantial public and EU-funding.
5. The Marketplace was renovated with the contribution of the local community.
6. Since 2009, participants have been composting the green waste generated in the settlement and using the compost in their gardens. Due to an information booklet campaign, local citizens generally collect green waste separately.
7. In order to preserve our cultural heritage and Palóc traditions, the Heves County Association for Folk Art and Cottage Industry has converted the Weaving Factory into the Folk Art House and the Palóc Route Information Centre.
8. The Local Government regularly organises traditional folk events in the Folk Art House (e.g. the Palóc Pillow Festival).
9. Occasionally, temporary exhibitions and cultural programmes (classical music concerts and folk art performances) are organised in the Mofetta building.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The program based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. All development projects were fitted to local conditions:

- Mofetta Medical Gas Bath was built on Hungary's only mofette, and it is the only carbon-dioxide gas bath in Hungary (National Széchenyi Plan, 2004);
- The Civil House was renovated, making it a public space where culture meets tradition (Ignác Darányi Plan, 2015);
- The GP surgery was renovated in a way that fits the landscape (EU-funded project, 2015)
- The Almáskúti Well spring was renovated to fit into its surroundings (ÉMOP 2012), and the Public Park was built (LEADER 2014);
- A campaign was initiated for self-sufficient vegetable cultivation and mushroom growing and a biomass briquetting plant was established.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The settlement once suffered from significant unemployment and the lack of financial resources.

The “*Golden Crown*” value of the arable lands surrounding the village is low. The land is primarily suitable for grazing and to a lesser extent for ploughing and it was mainly used for grazing and forest management purposes in the past. The lands have been overgrown with weeds and bushes have to be cleaned to be suitable the land use designation and to enable traditional landscape management again. Grasslands are primarily used for cattle grazing but a small number of horses are also kept.

The results are impressive: unemployment rate has fallen from 21% to 7% in 2010 because unskilled labour force can be employed locally.

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?

The project is in harmony with local economic program and urban development plan adopted by Mátradereske Local Government for the period of 2014-2019, taking into account the aspirations of the public.

The local community actively took part in the project, e.g. in the renovation of the Marketplace.

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?

In order to preserve the landscape values of the settlement, the assessment of local natural and built heritage has started, and the Committee for Local Collection of Values was established.

Information booklets helped local inhabitants how to contribute to the programme, e.g. by composting the green waste.



Tourists and local citizens are informed about the natural and cultural values of Mátradereske, upcoming events and programme results on information boards, on the settlement's website and on Facebook, as well as in press releases and regularly published newspapers.


V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Annex1: Video
Annex2: Photos

* * *

LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE – 5th Edition – 2016-2017
Application of Hungary
“Landscape Development and Community Sample Program for a Liveable Village”
ANNEX 2 (Photos)
page 1

<p style="text-align: center;">Location of the project:</p> <p>The more than 1000-year-old settlement of Mátraderecske is situated in Heves County, at the northern side of the Eastern Mátra mountain range, at the foot of the Mátra, 35 km from the city of Eger.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Central aim of the project:</p> <p>The primary objective of the project of Mátraderecske is</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to improve the urban landscape and local living conditions, - to invert declining demographic trends, and - to restore the former diversity of the landscape.
	
<p style="text-align: center;">View of Mátraderecske with the Mátra mountain range in the background. <i>Photo: Somogyi-Tóth Dániel</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Vegetable cultivation in village gardens. <i>Photo: Archive of the local government</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;">Outcome of the project:</p> <p>The traditional landscape management (made grasslands available for haymaking and grazing, and arable lands for cultivating traditional, indigenous plants) and the traditional landscape structure has been restored.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Outcome of the project:</p> <p>To improve the urban landscape and local living conditions a public park was built.</p>
	
<p style="text-align: center;">Grazing animals, traditional land use. <i>Photo: Archive of the local government</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening ceremony of the public park. <i>Photo: Archive of the local government</i></p>

LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE – 5th Edition – 2016-2017
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ANNEX 2 (Photos)
page 2

<p style="text-align: center;">Outcomes of the projekt:</p> <p>Several urban development projects have been implemented: Mofetta Medical Gas Bath was built on Hungary’s only mofette, and it is the only carbon-dioxide gas bath in Hungary.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Sustainable territorial development:</p> <p>The program based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. All development had been fitted to local conditions.</p>
	
<p style="text-align: center;">Mofetta Medical Gas Bath.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Photo: Archive of the local government</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Built-up area and the surroundings of Mátraderecske (forests, grasslands and arable lands).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Photo: Somogyi-Tóth Dániel</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Exemplary value:</p> <p>Unemployment rate has fallen from 21% to 7% in 2010, because unskilled labour force can be employed locally.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Awareness-raising:</p> <p>In order to preserve the landscape values of the settlement, the local natural and built heritage has begun to be assessed, and the Committee for Local Collection of Values was established.</p>
	
<p style="text-align: center;">Biomass briquetting plant.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Photo: Archive of the local government</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Exhibition during the Pillow Festival.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Photo: Kiss Csaba</i></p>

8. ITALY / ITALIE

*Landscape Regeneration Parco Archeologico e Paesaggistico della Valle dei Templi
di Agrigento*

Dipartimento dei Beni Culturali e dell'Identità Siciliana

* * *

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

ITALIA

Represented by

Direttore Generale
Dott.ssa Caterina BON VALSASSINA

Address:

Ministero dei beni e delle attività culturali
Direzione generale archeologia belle arti
paesaggio

Tel.:

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E-mail:

mbac-dg-abap @mailcert.beniculturali.it

mbac-dg-abap.servizio5
@mailcert.beniculturali.it

2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Parco Archeologico e Paesaggistico della Valle dei Templi di
Agrigento
Dipartimento dei Beni Culturali e dell'Identità Siciliana

Represented by

Direttore Dott. Giuseppe Carmelo
PARELLO

Address:

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Tel.:

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Fax: 0039 09222 6438

E-mail:

Email: calogero.liotta@regione.sicilia.it

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. Name of the Project

LANDSCAPE REGENERATION

4. Location of the Project

AGRIGENTO

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

LANDSCAPE REGENERATION project comes from the cooperation between public and private partners inside the extraordinary setting of the Valley of the Temples, in the city of Agrigento. Declared UNESCO World Heritage in 1997, the Valley of the Temples hosts one of the major archeological complex in the Mediterranean Sea, surrounded by an agricultural landscape of rare beauty, mainly composed by centenary olive and almond trees. In a view of sustainable development of the resources, the Park has coordinated the actions of public and private partners, recreating traditional products of high quality and reminding agronomic practices of the ancient Sicilian tradition, in order to combine production, protection and fruition of the territory thanks to the recovery of important infrastructure as the old railway of the Temples. Therefore, the project combines Knowledge, Cooperation, Development, Protection and Fruition.

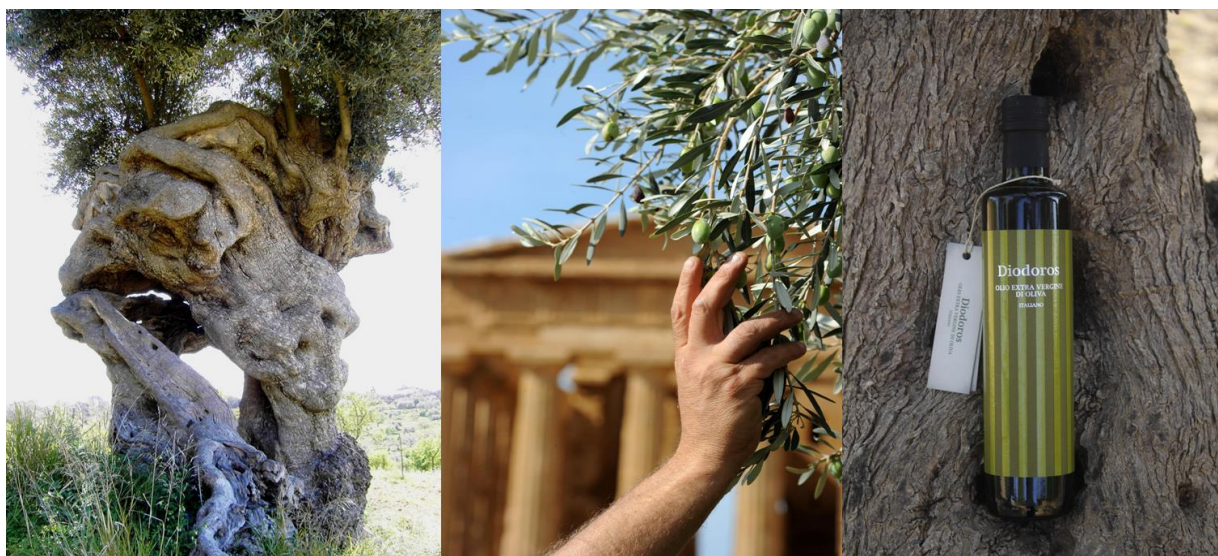
6. **Photo representing the Project** (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please



Landscape Regeneration



“Una primavera splendida come quella che ci ha sorriso stamane al levar del sole, certo non ci è stata mai concessa nella nostra vita mortale...” Goethe, 1887





Landscape Regeneration



da agricoltura di sostentamento a moderna fruizione



Diodoros: il vino della Valle



III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**
- | |
|--|
| Università degli Studi di Palermo,
Dipartimento Scienze Agrarie e Forestali
Val Paradiso srl, FAI-Giardino della
Kolymbethra, Ferrovie Kaos, CVA
Canicattì |
|--|

9. **Financing bodies**
- | |
|--|
| Parco Valle dei Templi 50%
Giardino della Kolymbethra et Ferrovie
Kaos 25%
Val Paradiso srl e CVA CANICATTI' 2% |
|--|

10. **Central aims of the Project**

As proponent institution, the Park aimed to recover the historical memory of ancient productive practices, proposing and developing them within their own territory, with the realization of products of exceptional quality, that illustrate a territory of extreme beauty.

Another goal was to develop cooperation between public and private subjects as an element of strength for an active landscape protection and environmental regeneration, through an agile management model, shaped into a detailed agreement in which roles, goals and responsibilities of the individuals appear clear and defined. Through this simple management model, it was possible to mutually transfer from the scientific and research to the productive field, professionalism and know-how for landscape protection, making an amazing cultural site alive and fully usable by everyone.

In the logic of socio-cultural promotion of the landscape and its fruition, it was identified as key objective the possibility to make visit and admire the beauty of the Valley of the Temples, also through soft mobility system, recovering the ancient railway of the Temples and realizing other two different itineraries - to be covered on foot or by bicycle - called "Environmental Route" and "Green Ways".

The recovery of the ancient railway allowed to activate a further access point for visitors, making them directly get to the heart of the Valley in front of The Temple of Vulcan.

11. Outcome

The project is based on the typical **multi-functionality** of the historic agricultural landscapes, including not only the fundamental productive functions, but also the environmental, social, cultural, ethical and aesthetic features. Examples of landscape restoring and admirable achievements in terms of “active” safeguarding, high quality production and touristic exploitation are:

- The **Kolymbethra** Garden, recovered from a state of deterioration and negligence and revealed to the public in 2001 thanks to FAI (Italian Foundation for the Environment); it has the landscape of the irrigate orchard with ancient and fragrant variety of citrus trees cultivated in the site of the ancient Greek pool. The "useful and beautiful garden," is a repository of biodiversity, ancient knowledge, productive, environmental and cultural values and a material culture going to disappear.
- The **Diodoros** project allowed the transformation of part of the 1300 hectares of protected area of the Park in dynamic places of high quality agricultural production. In economic terms, it was possible to produce and sell *Diodoros* oil and wine, multi-awarded in their respective fields, entering the elite commercial chain. It produced strong interest in the local population and emotional involvement for the discovery of traditional productive methods and typical local products, which are natural carriers of culture and knowledge. For private partners, the project represented an opportunity for investment and development by creating jobs and generating a new economy. The Park continues the work of cultural awareness for landscape production, creating high quality products.
- The **Agri Gentium** project, is the result of the granting of concessions, for the most part, of the 450 hectares of state-owned land on which agricultural activities would be realized. They would be realized in three projects addressing different subjects and different purposes: 1) community gardens, 2) agricultural areas used as spaces for social activities and agricultural management initiatives aimed at the rehabilitation and social reintegration of vulnerable people, 3) productive agriculture with agricultural production branded "Diodoros".
- **The Garden of Goethe in the Valley of the Temples**, a guided tour to discover the crops and farming techniques dating back to XVIII century, just as described by Goethe in its *Italian Journey*. Visitors are offered a guided tour and the occasion to observe practices, scheduled by the garden calendar, with an operator performing ancient gestures, methods and tools.
- The recovery of the **ancient rail road**, dating back to 1874, which gently cuts the entire area of the Archeological Park, fully restored and used for the transport of tourists on board of old trains.
- The **environmental path**, long nearly 4 km, from the Temple of Vulcan to the Temple of Demetra, twists and turns through monumental Saracen olive trees, almond trees and a Mediterranean scrub of rare beauty. In the attempt of promoting the enhancement of the territory taking into account forms of sustainable tourism with the creation of Green Ways, a path which allows a better articulation of the existing paths, today often confined to the Hill of the Temples.
- **The Plant Patriarchs of the Valley of the Temples**: visit tour to discover monumental specimens of olive, carob and myrtle inserted in the book “The Great trees of Sicily”. A planimetry depicts the entire path and also contains details of the morphological characteristics of each single specimen, hints about the origin, diffusion, history, classical myths and traditional customs.
- The implementation of the **Laboratory** for the characterization and conservation of germplasm of almond, olive and pistachio.

- The **Living Museum of the Almond Tree** “Francesco Monastra”, a “field collection” which contains about 300 varieties of ancient traditional Sicilian almond cultivations. As well as to keep biodiversity, it also has the function to show, for educational purposes, the traditional agricultural techniques. As the bank of germplasm, it will serve to evaluate the varieties taking into account their landscape value and may stimulate the promotion of pastry products, obtained by the almond trees and its products. An original example of open-air museum.
- Exhibition on the Living Museum of the Almond Tree “Francesco Monastra” at **MILANO EXPO 2015**, inside the Bio Mediterranean Cluster, on the occasion of the seminar “Dried Fruit” where the Park has contributed with the report “The Museum of the Almond: a precious gene bank”.
- The project **A Thousand Almond trees in the Valley of the Temples**. It allowed thousand almond little plants to be planted in the Valley in order to contribute to the recovery of the damaged ancient almond heritage.
- **Oliver in the Valley of the Temples: from olive to oil**, now at its ninth edition, is a program of environmental education for schools.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The project is part of a sustainable development policy which, with its multidisciplinary, was able to strengthen environmental, ethical, social, cultural and aesthetic values of the Valley landscape. It is the result of the combination between natural characteristics and human genius, the slow evolution in the relationship between nature and culture, a collective project which measured the need to produce with available resources and considering environment features.

A traditional agricultural landscape whose founding characters appear very remote: already in 480 B.C., Diodorus Siculus reports the presence of vineyards of “exceptional size and beauty”. At the basis of the agricultural success of the landscape there is its fertility, a feature which catches the attention of Al-Idrisi, Arab geographer under the Norman court, who in 1138 visited the city which “owns orchards and lush gardens, as well as a wide variety of fruits...” Travelers’ reports of *The Grand Tour* reconfirm a rich agriculture in a landscape of extraordinary fertility.

From the agricultural and natural point of view, today the landscape of the Valley of the Temples is complex. Almond yards and olive groves in mixed culture constitute the landscape of dried arboreal cultures and represent the most peculiar plant-based component of the Park. The *Diodoros* initiatives, *Agri Gentium* and the creation of the Living Museum of the Almond, have effectively contribute to mend situations of degradation of olive groves, vineyards and almond groves of the Park and have been characterized by the enhancing of traditional cultures, the ancient agricultural practices and the creation of excellent products, multi-awarded in the field of viticulture and olive growing, entering the elite commercial chain.

The project of environment and landscape recovery of the Garden of Kolymbethra is set up as a virtuous example of cooperation between public and private for the active safeguarding of the other famous landscape of the Valley of Temples: the irrigate orchard.

Cultivated in a small valley within the high walls of limestone between the Temple of Castor and Pollux and the Temple of Vulcan, the site identified as that of the Greek pool described by Diodorus Siculus, the Garden of Kolymbethra risked to disappear for the cultivation negligence it had been intended to, until 1998, when FAI obtained the concession of the area for 25 years in exchange for the intervention of environmental and landscape recovery of the area. After the conclusion of the project, Kolymbethra opened to the public in 2001 in order to return visitors an agricultural and cultural landscape of inestimable value.

The abandonment was hiding a long productive history founded on the fertility of the alluvial soil, the abundance of water and a microclimate which limestone walls make constantly mild. The basic idea of the project was to consider the garden as part of a historic agricultural landscape, to recover it preserving plants, use of soil, traditional farming techniques and to return it to those visitors attentive to the history and nature of Mediterranean landscape. Today Kolymbethra Garden summarizes in six hectares the agricultural and natural landscape of the Valley of the Temples. In the steepest areas, the plants of the Mediterranean scrub, beyond the small river, fed by the still perfectly working drainage tunnels, one of the last Sicilian “gardens” with lemons, mandarins and oranges represented by ancient varieties and irrigate according to the techniques of Arabic tradition.

Where water does not arrive, here they are mulberry trees, carob trees, and prickly pear, almond and majestic Saracens olive trees. Nearby 80,000 visitors a year for the Kolymbethra: most of them are students for whom several educational paths have been created. They explain the importance of preserving and protecting the biodiversity of the garden which puts it at the odds with the modern intensive monoculture fruit systems, perhaps more productive and efficient but lacking all those smells, flavors, colors and shapes which only traditional agricultural landscape can conserve, because repositories of ancient knowledge, productive, environmental and cultural values and of a material culture in process of disappearance. Kolymbethra is an example of how to promote active protection of a traditional agricultural landscape, recognizing the characteristic of multi-functionality.

Last but not least, Kolymbethra landscape should be recognized the value of beauty: a beauty linked to the shape of trees, the color and flavor of fruits now disappeared. A beauty linked to the charm that comes from the re-flowering phenomenon: fruits and flowers follow one another without interruption season after season, shade and coolness assured by the evergreen foliage of the trees.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The project can be considered as an example which can be reproduced in other territorial contexts where landscapes of historic agriculture have suffered extended transformations due to intensive production processes typical of specialized fruit farming systems.

Over the last 50 years many landscapes of Italian agricultural traditions expired, because they were based on agronomic techniques and genetic resources not adequate to the dominant needs of global market and productive efficiency. The abandonment of traditional agricultural landscapes led to negative consequences in terms of environmental risks, loss of territorial identity and landscape peculiarities. For natural and historic features, these landscapes are related to fruit trees, whose productions represent a living testimony of the local culture and history, which cannot be assimilated to any other else.

With them it often disappear a very ancient biodiversity, ancient material cultures difficult to reproduce, landscapes which characterized the identity of an entire geographic region. The LANDSCAPE REGENERATION project, divided into different initiatives, is an exemplary and reproducible project because it is founded on the recognition of typical multifunctionality of traditional agricultural landscapes.

The active protection lies on the multi-functionality of the agricultural landscape of the Valley, including in it not only the founding productive functions but also those of safeguard of the environment (socio-cultural, ethics and aesthetic). The project enhances and promotes the agricultural and cultural landscape of the Valley of the Temples which contains and preserves an extraordinary archeological heritage.

The project supports the productions obtained inside the Park, such as *Diodoros* oil and wine, which are considered typical and which – thanks to private partners – became products of excellence, winning national and international awards. These good practices enabled the Park to propose similar activities for other agricultural sectors as the Living Museum of the Almond Tree and, in terms of cultural promotion too: for example, the creation of the Goethe Orchard or the Garden of Experimental Planting, created to make visitors relive the charm, colors, perfumes of the agricultural crops of Girgenti countryside and through which the Park experimentally recreates the traditional crops preserving the historical memory of the territory and its genetic diversity.

The Garden of Kolymbethra, managed by FAI (Italian Foundation for the Environment) is another example of exemplary landscape regeneration. Recovered after decades of negligence and abandonment, it opened to public in 2001.

With actions aimed at the enhancement of the landscape as an element of creative inspiration, the project has set up thematic paths where it is possible to recognize how the landscape of the Valley is not substantially changed compared to the reports of the *Grand Tour*, or to the masterpieces of some important writers who have always been fascinated by its extraordinary beauty and that sense of wellness that it assures to those who have the privilege to visit it. From Pirandello to Camilleri, the landscape of the Valley is not only a scenic background, but it is the key player of lived or fictional lives.

The theme of complete lodging industry has been addressed in the key of interconnection of landscapes with the restoration of the historic railroad Kaos. On board of 1970 railcars, tourists can enjoy a deliberately slow trip to appreciate the beautiful landscapes, visit the Archaeological Park of the Valley of the Temples, the Garden of Kolymbethra, with the deliberately extended link through the districts of Kaos to the Scala dei Turchi, this charming white marl cliff overlooking the sea. With the new logic of openness and active protection, the lands of the Valley become an educational workshop for landscape and traditional culture lovers aimed at enriching the scenic beauty as the intimate union between archeology and agricultural and natural landscape. The project is reproducible for being able of 1) maintaining a harmonious interaction between nature and culture through the protection of the landscape, ensuring the traditional land use, preserving the artifacts, social and cultural expressions; 2) supporting lifestyle and economic activities in harmony with nature and with the culture of the involved communities; 3) maintaining the diversity of landscape and habitat, conserving intraspecific biodiversity, between species and ecosystems; 4) avoiding land exploitation and inappropriate activities; 5) Creating opportunities for the public related to recreational and touristic appropriate activities; 6) Creating economic opportunities linked to local products and touristic facilities.

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?

In line with the cooperation policies promoted at regional and national level, the project finds its strength on the active involvement of public subjects, such as the Department of Agriculture and Forestry of the University of Palermo (scientific area) and the Park of the Valley of the Temples (management area) in cooperation with private partners. Particularly, the Park – as proponent subject – has played the vital role of planning and coordinating

activities, with the specific goal of enhancing this extraordinary world heritage cultural deposit.

Over the years the Park signed precise agreements with University of Palermo, Department of Arboreal Crops, with FAI and Ferrovie dello Stato (National Railways).

The collaboration with the University provided the joint management of the Living Museum of Almond Tree "Francesco Monastra", valuable field collecting biodiversity of almonds in Sicily, with the presence of almost 300 varieties. The main goal of the Museum is the preservation of the genetic heritage of ancient varieties of almond groves, many of which are likely to disappear both for the abandonment of the cultures on the hills of the Sicilian hinterland and for the introduction of varieties coming from other Italian and European agricultural realities. In addition to biodiversity conservation, the Museum of the Almond Tree has always the function of studying the genetic diversity of the almond tree in Sicily, identifying those varieties which better maintain the excellence in quality and taste of the traditional Sicilian pastry and showing, for educational purposes, the cultural techniques of the traditional agriculture in the hinterland of Agrigento.

The Sicilian Region, even before the establishment of the Archeological and Landscape Park of the Valley of the Temples entrusted the management of the Garden of Kolymbethra to FAI. The Park promoted and established closed cooperation with FAI in order to know, promote and enjoy this historic and precious garden.

The last, just in order of time, precious collaboration has been initiated with the state railways, in particular with FS Italian Foundation which together with RFI proceeded to recover the ancient railway of the temples. This collaboration makes now visitors directly reach the Valley with the historic train.

The Park completed its institutional task through the precise identification of tasks and responsibilities of the various parties while maintaining its basic role of coordination and control.

5. 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 law 3 November 2000 n. 20 of the Sicilian Region which instituted the Park, at the art. 1 comma 2 states that:

"The Park aims at protecting and enhancing the archaeological, environmental and landscape resources of the Valley of the Temples and particularly aims at:

- a) The identification, preservation, study and research, as well as the enhancement of the archaeological heritage for scientific and cultural purposes;*
- b) The protection and preservation of historical and archaeological, landscape and environmental interests;*
- c) Enhancement of the archaeological, environmental and landscape for educational and recreational purposes;*
- d) The promotion of information and awareness-raising policies in order to stimulate and increase, since school, public awareness about conservation of the cultural heritage and the environment;*
- e) The promotion of all initiatives and interventions appropriate to the development of local resources for touristic purposes and more generally to ensure the enjoyment and social enjoyment.*

With these aims, a number of awareness initiatives have been undertaken. They have reached important goals:

The attention to the media coverage of the ethical and socio-cultural contents of the project was the pivot of the whole project. In addition to traditional media presence (TV, Internet, print) it has been decided to focus on the human relationship of trust, organizing academic

conferences and involving citizens. It has been paid particular attention to the educational purpose of the project, inviting families to visit and organizing guided tours for children and students, in order to bring them closer to the world now so far of the traditional agricultural production. Children and young people directly involved in the "harvest of the olives of the Valley" (recreational and educational purposes), with subsequent pressing of the olives in the mill.

The action of development of agricultural production of the Park territory is projected towards the creation of a basket of high-quality products, branded Diodoros, to sell to the markets. In the coming months, it will begin the sale of almonds and honey, obtained from Ape Nera Sicula farms.

The natural prosecution of the awareness raising process, socialization and sharing of a public good as the state-owned asset of the Park was to personally engage locals with the issue of a notice called *Agri Gentium* aimed at assignment to citizens, free of charge, plots of lands to be used as orchards with the dual aim of safeguarding and developing the territory and encouraging socialization.

Another interesting and peculiar aspect was the free granting of an agricultural area intended to agricultural management initiatives aimed at the social rehabilitation and reintegration of vulnerable people.

The project has also created strong interest in the local population, strengthening public awareness and sensitivity towards landscape values, as an essential element of cultural growth for the achievement of individual and collective welfare.

* * *

9. LATVIA / LETTONIE

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects

Daugavpils City Council

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State	LATVIA
Represented by	Ms. Dace Granta Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Republic of Latvia
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2. Applicant <i>Name of the local, regional authority (ies) or NGO(s)</i>	Daugavpils City Council
Represented by	Mr. Jānis Lāčplēsis Chairperson of City Council Mr. Artjoms Maļļins Project Expert of City Council
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II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. Name of the Project

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects

4. Location of the Project

Daugavpils City, Latvia

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

Daugavpils Fortress is the last bastion-type fortification complex, built in the 19th century, which is preserved in a relatively good condition until nowadays. After the Soviet army left the Fortress, its territory (total area of approximately 2 km²) was not used; it was an abandoned, degraded and unattractive space of urban environment. The initiative of the local municipality was to define the territory of Daugavpils Fortress as a part of the city for prior development, including it into all planning documents. Several projects in the Fortress were successfully implemented within the framework of Daugavpils City Development Programme “Mana pils - Daugavpils” (“My Castle - Daugavpils”) for 2008-2014 (further - DDP) Urban Environment Development Section *Action A22 Daugavpils Fortress Regeneration*, in order to create preconditions for preservation and rational use of the urban construction monument of state significance as a unique cultural and historical heritage transforming it into administrative, cultural, business, recreational and tourism centre. Until November 30, 2013 several activities were implemented: restoration of the Water Lifting Building to create Daugavpils Fortress Culture and Information Centre, reconstruction of the Arsenal building and improvement of the adjacent territory to create Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre, development of public infrastructure of the Fortress by complex improvement of streets and construction of engineering networks and takeover, and proper maintenance of ramparts of the Fortress.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) *Daugavpils City Council photo archive*



III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**
- | |
|--|
| Utena Local Lore Museum
(Latvia – Lithuania Cross-Border
Cooperation Programme partner project
partner) |
|--|

9. **Financing bodies**
- | |
|--|
| European Economic Area Financial
Mechanism/Norwegian Financial Mechanism;
ERDF; Latvia – Lithuania Cross-Border
Cooperation Programme; state and municipal
resources |
|--|

10. Central aims of the Project

Central aim:
to preserve and develop unique elements of urban environment of the city of Daugavpils, thus increasing self-consciousness of population, improving the city's image and the investment climate.

Sub-aims:

- creation of Daugavpils Fortress Information and Tourism Service Centre by reconstructing the Water Lifting building (2009-2011),
- creation of Mark Rothko Art Centre by reconstructing the building of artillery arsenal (2011-2013),
- improvement of the infrastructure of the Fortress territory (improvement of streets and engineer networks) (2009-2013),
- improvement of landscape attractiveness by taking over ramparts of the Fortress to provide proper maintenance.

11. Outcome

Environmental effect

- revitalization of degraded and/or polluted territories (approximate area: 50 ha) and reconstruction of 2 objects;
- improvement of the cultural and historical landscape's quality of the Fortress by proper management of ramparts of the Fortress (approximate area:60 ha);
- the biggest colony of bats in the Baltic States stays for winter in the fortifications of Daugavpils Fortress, some species of bats are in the list of protected species. Daugavpils University in cooperation with other research institutes in Latvia carry out monitoring of bats. Exploration of wintering areas of specially protected species and proper territory

management is carried out;

- elimination of the activity of historical industrial objects with operational risks in the territory of the Fortress. In perspective, it is advisable to evaluate in detail all environment risk factors and find a possibility to relocate the dangerous activity to a less sensitive territory in other industrial zone of the city.

Cultural and aesthetic effect

- exploration of cultural and historical objects by drawing up document Action plan of development of Daugavpils fortress;
- architectural and artistic inventories and cultural and historical studies of several monuments are carried out (architectural and artistic inventory and cultural and historical study of Nicholas gate and bridge, Alexander's gate and casemate of the left flank 8th bastion)
- reconstruction and preservation of 2 cultural and historical objects to provide new functions (Mihaila street 3, Nikolaja street 5);
- elaboration of Daugavpils Fortress restoration and management guidelines;
- activation of creative work by establishing a creative industry club at Mark Rothko Art Centre;
- regular organization of unique cultural, art and entertainment events (Festival of war history reconstruction clubs, International art pleinair, celebration of Mark Rothko anniversary, Night of Museums, European Heritage Days);
- improvement of public infrastructure increased the aesthetic values of the Fortress territory.

Social effect

- construction of water supply (4390m), sewerage (8256m) and heat supply networks (5136m);
- construction of electricity supply and lighting networks (9350m);
- construction of streets (Aleksandra, Hekeļa, Mihaila, Imperatora, 2.oficieru, 1.oficieru, Komandanta, Konstantīna, Hospitāļa streets and part of Nikolaja street), including pavements, cycling routes and parking spaces (60880 m²);
- well organised public space for the local residents, including comfortable life environment;
- improvement of quality of municipal utilities services.

Economic effect

- increase of the number of tourists according to the data of Daugavpils Fortress Information and Tourism Service Centre ((+391% in 2012, +135% in 2013, +51% in 2014, +28% in 2015), Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre is one of the most visited tourism objects (approximately 100 thousand visitors per year);
- improvement of the infrastructure in the Fortress territory facilitated the creation of favourable business environment and employment of the population (approximately 45 new workplaces);
- small and medium-sized enterprises are more active in providing tourism services (especially during tourist season);
- improvement of attainability of governmental institutions (State Archive, State police Latgale Regional Department);
- popularisation of cultural and historical objects of the city at national and

world level improves the image of the city of Daugavpils.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress and preservation of cultural and historical objects is a sustainable development initiative to improve the quality of the landscape and urban environment. Starting the development of the Fortress territory, exploration, preservation, cleaning-up and popularisation of tourism products at national and world level was carried out. Clean, improved and developed social infrastructure has a positive impact on the value of real estate in the Fortress territory, thus improving living conditions and increasing the level of wellbeing among the population. Demand for apartments in multi-apartment buildings and real estate in the Fortress territory has increased. Thus state and private proprietors are motivated to keep their property in order (for example, state joint-stock company “Valsts nekustamie īpašumi” (“State Immovable Properties”) reconstructed the administrative building of State police Latgale Regional Department (7 Komandanta street, Daugavpils) and constructed the building of Temporary custody (3 Hospitāļa street, Daugavpils)). Cleaning-up of degraded buildings and territories, rational use of city’s limited resources improved the quality of urban landscape. Preservation of cultural and historical heritage facilitates the development of the tourism product of international significance, thus contributing to the activation of entrepreneurship. The organization of unique cultural, art and entertainment events facilitates active involvement of local population in the events taking place in the Fortress. Preservation of cultural and historical heritage facilitates aesthetic education of population and creates among population a sense of belonging to the cultural space of the Fortress. All of implemented activities has successfully countered to any pre-existing environmental damage.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The renovation of the Fortress territory created a complex and comprehensive approach to the creation of a harmonic urban landscape, preservation of cultural and historical heritage and landscape values, the rational use of resources to restore degraded territories, the creation of a positive image of the city's neighbourhood and improvement of living condition of local population. The preservation, protection and restoration of cultural and historical heritage resulted in an enhanced sense of belonging among local population to the cultural space of the Fortress, a competitive national identity which is based on the creativity of the society and qualitative cultural environment. Moreover, preservation and development of cultural and historical objects improved the city's image, the potential of tourism, and the city gained recognition on a larger scale.

The municipality plans to continue the renovation of cultural and historical objects of Daugavpils Fortress for tourism and recreational needs by balancing tourism, recreation and sport activities with the interests of environment and cultural and historical heritage protection, so that the capacity of resistance against anthropogenic loads of cultural and historical objects is not exceeded. In the new DDP for 2014 – 2020 (confirmed on 13/02/2014) the development of the Fortress territory is planned within the framework of the priority "Environment – Aesthetically and Functionally Well-organized and Developed Urban Environment" line of action V3 "*Exploration, preservation and development of cultural and historical heritage*". In 2013, the renovation of Nikolaja street (from Imperatora street to the building at Nikolaja street 9) and its buildings, including the restoration of Nicholas gate and renovation of the historical wooden bridge, in the Fortress territory was finished. In 2014, the restoration of 1st coastal lunette and guardroom and improvement of the adjacent territory was finished. To facilitate the development of export-oriented cultural and tourism products of international level, the restoration of the building of powder warehouse (Nicolaja street 1) to create an art exhibition centre, the building of Engineering arsenal (Imperatora street 8) to arrange an exhibition of Motor Museum, the building of Provisions magazine (Nicolaja street 9) for the needs of culture and business centre and improvement of adjacent territory for the needs of holidaymakers is planned. Daugavpils Fortress is a complex tourism, culture and business object which again has become a visiting card of the city of Daugavpils. The unique cultural and historical landscape, well-organized public space and attractive image of the Fortress neighbourhoods create a positive investment environment for the attraction of foreign and inward investment to the region of Latgale.

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?

The inhabitants of the city of Daugavpils were involved into the process of planning, decision making and implementation as they participated at the elaboration of Daugavpils city spatial development planning documents (Territory planning, Development programme, Fortress development detail planning). During the elaboration process of planning documents, a survey of the inhabitants of the city, several public consultations at different residential areas of the city were carried out, everyone had a chance to send in proposals and express his/her view. Thus, in cooperation with the inhabitants of the city (enterprises, children, youth, non-governmental organizations, etc.) city`s development objectives and development priorities were determined. On the bases of the survey results, the projects of the regeneration and development of the Fortress territory were highly evaluated. Before renovation and reconstruction works in the Fortress territory were started, corresponding documentation was elaborated which was submitted to public consultation in due time.

Medium-term priorities of DDP are defined in line with the national (Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia 2030) and regional development planning documents (Latgale Planning Region Territorial Planning for 2006 - 2026), taking into account the Daugavpils city planning documents of a local level (Daugavpils City Territorial Planning for 2006 - 2018).

On National level undertaken activities are in line with the Latvian Development Strategy (Latvia 2030) and correspond to Priority No.6 Spatial Development Perspective – Outstanding areas or nature, landscape and cultural and historical territories.

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 inhabitants of the city of Daugavpils give a positive assessment to the renovation projects of the Fortress. City dwellers actively participate at different cultural, sport, entertainment, etc. events in the Fortress. They regularly participate in cleaning-up of the Fortress territory within the framework of "Lielā talka" ("The Big Clean-up"). The municipality carries out population education activities showing an opportunity for everyone to participate at the preservation measures and management of nature and cultural and historical landscapes. This is the year of 165th anniversary of Daugava embankment. In order to preserve cultural and historical landscape, the revitalization of Daugava embankment surroundings was submitted to the State Inspection for Heritage Protection within the framework of European Heritage Days.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format is included in one CD-Rom:

- Text (10 pages): *PDF format*
- 9 photos: *JPEG till 300 dpi high definition*
 - Photos 3-8 from Daugavpils City Council photo archive;
 - Photos 1, 2, 9 from Mark Rothko Art Centre photo archive.
- 2 posters about Daugavpils fortress (2011, 2014): *PDF format*
- 1 video about Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art centre (4:27 min).

Detailed info about Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art centre:

<http://www.rothkocenter.com/en/visitors>

Other useful information:

- Mark Rothko Paintings in Daugavpils BBC Video (English, duration 2:03 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-59aUxm3GyM>

Published: 20 November 2014

- Our company RIDemo has developed multimedia content (video projections, interactive applications) for digital exhibition devoted to great American painter Mark Rothko, who was born in Daugavpils (former Dvinsk) in Latvia. Exhibition is located in Daugavpils Mark Rothko art centre (Latvian, duration 5:59 minutes)
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EeRgK-LL3b8>

Published: 4 April 2014

* * *

10. NORWAY / NORVÈGE

*Alna Environmental Park – a blue green corridor of biodiversity, recreational opportunities
and sustainable urban water management*

Municipality of Oslo, Agency for Urban Environment

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Norway

Represented by

Mrs. Liv Kirstine Mortensen

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
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or NGO(s)*

Municipality of Oslo
Agency for Urban Environment

Represented by

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Ms. Lene Maren Beck Skogseid
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II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. Name of the Project

Alna Environmental Park – a blue green corridor of biodiversity, recreational opportunities and sustainable urban water management.

4. Location of the Project

The Alna River in the Grorud Valley, Municipality of Oslo

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

In 2002 a report presented a vision on how Alna could be strengthened and used in the revitalization of living environment in Groruddalen. Alna is the defining topographical line through the Grorud Valley and the idea was to reinforce the Valley's blue-green structure by reopening most of Alna watercourse. The underpinning idea was landscape ecological; an open watercourse with value as a recipient with self-cleaning ability maintaining ecological diversity at the same time as being a recreational resource for the local population locally and the city in general. The project has transformed near residential nature to an accessible park and recreation area, and has become an important social and health project in an area that was lacking good meeting places. The water has become a "natural magnet" and Alna River emerges as a living and vibrant waterway where people congregate and meet. With the adoption of the Municipal Master Plan for the Alna Environmental Park in May 2013 the project was granted political recognition by the city council.

6. Photo representing the Project



The Alna trail passing along the river in Svartdalen, Røhne

Photo: Eivind

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. Partners

- The city of Oslo (incl. 4 city districts, and many of the agencies in the city administration)
- National authorities
- “Oslo Elveforum” (NGO) by «The friends of Alna”

9. Financing bodies

- The city of Oslo
- National authorities

10. Central aims of the Project

The main aims of the project are sustainable urban development, water management and visible improvements to the environment. This is sought to be achieved by bringing the river landscape back to life by prioritizing and making it an obvious and intertwined part of urban spatial planning and management.

Higher standard of living and overall improved living conditions has also been central aims. Making the Alna river more visible, accessible and ecologically sound has the potential to positively affect people`s sense of well-being – although difficult to measure.

The river has been used as a framework for

- Integrating and enhancing existing cultural and individual objects along the waterway so that their attraction value comes into play.
- Creating small and large meeting places and experience points along the waterway from the processing of available grades and supply of new ones. The aim is to offer a variety of experiences and opportunities for users, across age and cultural background.
- Creating a sense of closeness to nature and promoting its circulation and features.

Improve the health by giving the people of Oslo a continuous flow and experience range from Lillomarka via Grorud Park to Leirfossen and Hølaløkka.

Landscape Ecological improvements by:

- Contributing to increase water self-cleaning ability and facilitate purification of water seeping into the river from the surrounding road and industrial area.
- Contributing to the ecological diversity, open rivers creates essential habitats for animals and plants.
- Facilitating local purification of contaminated soil.
- Handling of flooding; Open storm water solutions reduce flood risk and reduced congestion in the wiring with respect to climate change and heavy rains that are expected to come.

11. Outcome

Through holistic planning based on a long-term strategy with high quality around the river Alna, Oslo has managed to unify a variety of disciplines and authorities to cooperate with tangible physical results of very high quality.

Municipal sector plan for Alna environmental park facilitate the reopening and environmental upgrading of Alna and important tributaries from Alna River to the bay, and provides the basis for diversified development of the watercourse with side spaces. This has improved public accessibility to natural recreational areas as well as ecological restoration and preservation of one of the main city rivers and biological corridors.

Various recreational opportunities and parks have been established along Alna, while other areas have been restored as natural areas of high value. A marked hiking trail, "The Alna trail" along the river and places with value as cultural heritage have been restored and made accessible. The environment along the tributaries of Alna has been upgraded and each of the four districts involved in the project has got its own neighborhood park. The first of them "Grorud park" is an integral part of the Alna trail.

Alna River has become a landscape which residents are proud of. It has become an annual tradition that each fall hosts a "light walking" along the river with art installations and many activities organized by various interest groups.

Alna River and the various recreational areas along the river, especially Grorud Park, is widely used and user groups are varied. From a health perspective, this is very important. In a social perspective Alna river and the parks is used to facilitate meetings between people regardless of cultural backgrounds. For children's development these experiences with nature is essential for the development of basic skills.

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The city of Oslo has over the last two decades had a particular focus on the importance of how the city's waterways can be preserved and restored as a means for more sustainable development of the urban environment.

The Municipal Master Plan of Oslo states the vision: «To safeguard and strengthen the blue-green character of the city».

The reopening of Alna is the result of long term efforts. Environmental upgrading through sustainable urban development has been an overriding driving force and a goal of the project. Landscape ecological values was a starting point and the project's basic aim has been to promote nature's ability to clean, maintain biodiversity and managing floods.

Groruddalen has approximately 130.0000 residents from about 150 different nationalities. The valley contains several large residential areas built in the decades after World War II to meet the housing shortage. In the beginnings of 2000's environmental impacts and challenges in local communities came on the political agenda, and state and municipal started to work together against the negative trends in this part of the city. Oslo municipality therefore decided to upgrade Groruddalen through an action plan with a combination of environmental, physical, cultural and social initiatives and efforts. In 2007, cooperation around Groruddalen formalized through an agreement between Oslo and state governments in "Grorudalssatsingen". An important aspect here has been to equalize differences in living conditions, including through a major commitment to physical activity and the physical environment (landscape).

The Municipal Master Plan for the Alna Environmental Park (adopted in May 2013) is in many ways, the summary and the final product of decades of work with Alna and river landscape. The aim was multifunctional. The plan is a politically adopted pursuant to the Planning and Building Act and gives the project a long-term legal framework for a law whose preamble is that it should promote sustainable development for the benefit of the individual, society and future generations.

Municipal sector plan is simultaneously a part of Oslo's overall green infrastructure plan and vice versa. The Green Structure Plan for Oslo, 2009, states that Oslo's unique character as "the green city between the hills" is to be preserved. The rivers and streams that run through the built-up zone are important to the blue-green structure, and the plan includes general provisions for construction-free zones along the river banks.

The last enclosing of a river stretch was done in the 1980s. Since then, focus has been on reopening. In the past decade, six river stretches in the built-up zone has been reopened (1530 m in total). Another nine reopening projects are in progress (3920 m) in Oslo.

For years, Oslo has worked to improve the water quality and environmental conditions in the city's waterways. Efforts have been enhanced by the measures implemented in line with the EU Water Framework Directive. Crayfish, salmon and trout thrive in the built-up zone. To increase fish stocks, 130,000 fry are released annually

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why? Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The work on Alna and river landscape as part of Oslo's blue-green structure and "Grorudalssatsningen" can serve as a model project on many levels.

Oslo has with its long-term strategy for the areas around the river Alna managed to unite a variety of disciplines and authorities to cooperate with tangible physical results of very high quality. The project has succeeded in creating community involvement, and to involve many inhabitants and voluntarily groups.

Municipal sector plan for Alna environmental park facilitate the reopening and environmental upgrading of Alna and important side rivers from Alna river to the bay by 2020. It also provides the basis for diversified development of waterways to increase the attractiveness and give a stronger identity to the entire Groruddalen.

It has a strategy where necessary climate and environmental measures used to promote health and quality of life, sustainable urban development, visible landscape and environmental upgrading and better living conditions in Groruddalen.

The Planning and Building Act has been used strategically and through the adoption of Alna environmental park, anchored all the work that has been around the river Alna since the millennium in an overall plan.

Oslo's more general efforts to preserve and enhance the city's blue-green structures through active use of political strategies and legally binding area planning, use plans with the active participation of citizens also have great value.

14. Public participation

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

Oslo cooperates with a wide range of voluntary- and community groups, and individuals who contribute substantially to the mapping, maintenance and protection of important natural areas. The City contributes financially too many of the voluntary groups and community groups. Annually, EUR 120,000 is allocated for projects initiated by these organizations.

In relation to the rivers of Oslo an organization called Oslo Elveforum was established in 2000, and it has proved to be an important partner to the administration in municipality of Oslo by raising awareness about the importance of the rivers of Oslo. To promote local involvement Oslo Elveforum established subgroups associated with each river in Oslo. Alna rivers friends has been an active participant and initiator for decades. The organization has among many other things worked actively to make primary schools "adopt" a nearby river and commit to help maintain it.

In Groruddalen it has been worked to ensure the participation of local communities. Not all groups have been equally easy to reach through traditional participation methods, startup conferences and various workshops. Districts have therefore combined a wide variety of methods to create interest in the topic. As a supplement to formal and structured participation processes the Districts have worked actively on getting an understanding of what concerns citizens of the area. There has been a process with developing new and informal interaction venues with a low threshold for participation. Here the citizens have been able to come with whatever they have at heart. Districts have experienced this work as resource-intensive and a useful way to get in reach with residents which have been difficult to reach previously. Citizen involvement has both enabled citizens to have an influence in planning processes and to ensure an active and safe local environment.

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 project is based on current topics and political commitment including sustainability and ecology, public health, outdoor activities and integration across ethnicity and age.

Alna represents a vein of life and culture in the landscape in which people of Oslo have been living their everyday lives ever since Oslo became settled. By making Alna more ecological sound and more accessible the river landscape will appear more vibrant and people will be more able to experience the value, beauty and the importance of these natural surroundings. The river helps to explain the fundamental features of the Oslo landscape and it can strengthen our feelings of identity and our sense of belonging in a place. (- the opposite is the unhealthy condition and feelings of discomfort caused by alienation, displacement etc.)

The annual "light walks" along Alna path (for now is 14 pcs held) helps to make people aware of Alna rivers qualities and the possibilities river landscape provides physical activity, play and stay. "Light wanderings" uses art to highlight the landscape qualities in a special way.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format should be included in one CD-Rom or DVD and returned by post or courier to:

*Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons
Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention
Head of Division, Agora (A3-32C), Council of Europe
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Additional material

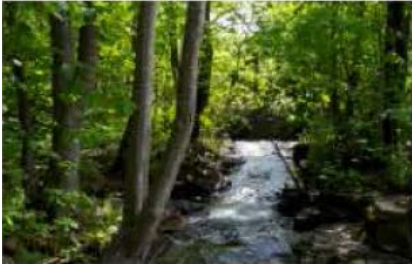
1. Text about the history and development of the project presented by Norway (*PDF format*)
2. Photos, 10 sent as separate files according to the list on next page (*JPEG 350 dpi high definition*)
3. Poster: City of Oslo: The Alna Trail (*61x912, PDF format high definition*)
4. Video
 - ✓ Presentation Norway part1 -The Alna trail in Groruddalen by Jan Hausken og Marianne Gjørsv
<https://www.regjeringen.no/no/aktuelt/dep/kmd/nett-tv/video/Alnastien-i-Groruddalen/id2005689/>
 - ✓ Presentation Norway part2 – Municipality of Oslo's presentation by Kristian Moen

In addition to the two attached there are several videos from the Alna Environmental Park at <https://www.youtube.com/user/Groruddalssatsingen> We will recommend the one from the "light walking" 2014 (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=K9Gz_5y4hkw) and the one presenting the Furuset Parkour park established after a dialog with the young people about what they missed in their neighborhood (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wh99SnaERII>)

List of attached Photos



1. The fountain at Alna's starting point, Photo: Stian Raa



2. Part of the Alna river surrounded by lush deciduous forest, Photo: Espen Bratlie



3. Tokerud creek reopened, Photo: Espen Bratlie



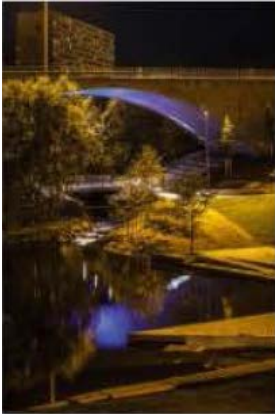
4. Meeting place along the Alna trail overlooking the river, Photo: Eivind Røhne



5. Children playing in the Grorud Park Photo: LINK Landskap; Tomasz Majewski



6. The swimming pond Hølaløkka, Photo: LINK Landskap; Tomasz Majewski



7. The Alna trail passing under the bridge of highway 4, Photo: LINK Landskap; Tomasz Majewski



8. Little girl and heron in the Alna River at the Grorud Park, Photo: Marianne Gjörv



9. Grorud Park, new bridge for the Alna trail across the river, Photo: Eivind Røhne



10. Walking the dog along the Alna trail in Svartdalen, Photo: Marianne Gjörv

11. SERBIA / SERBIE

*Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve, as a tool
for sustainable development*

Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Republic of Serbia

Represented by

Mrs Biljana Filipovic

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Nature Conservation Movement of
Sremska Mitrovica

Represented by

Mr. Slobodan Simić

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II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

3. Name of the Project

Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve, as a tool for sustainable development

4. Location of the Project

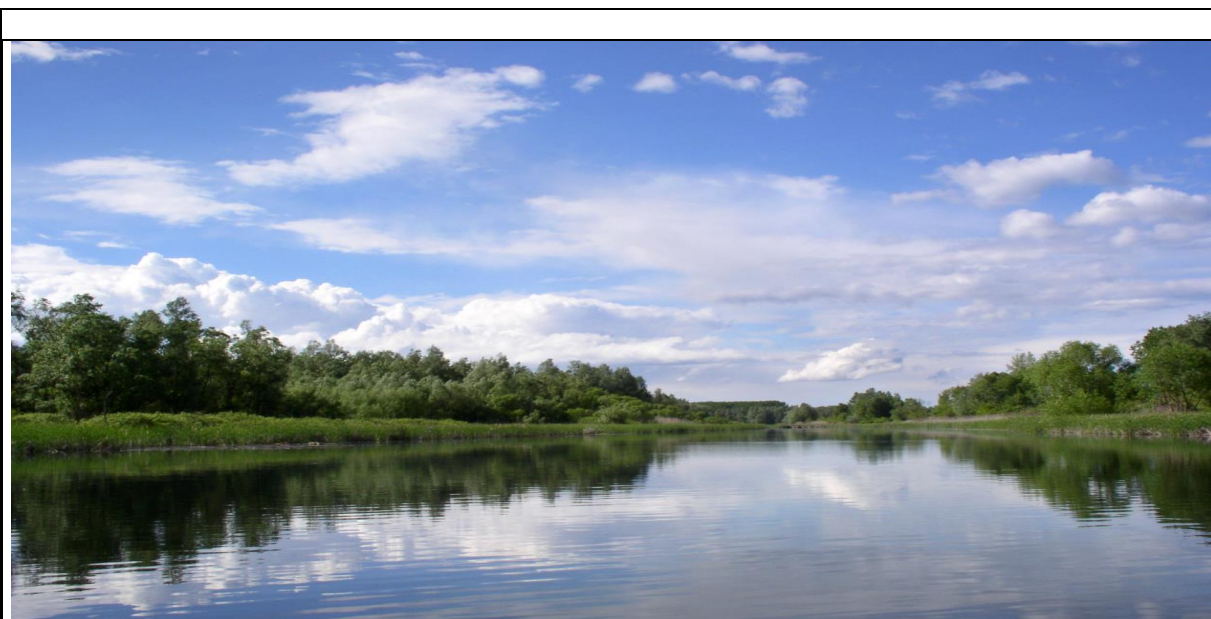
Special Nature Reserve Zasavica - territory of the Sremska Mitrovica and Bogatić municipalities, Serbia

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

Supporting Serbia's attempts to adopt the EU Habitats Directive and the protection of 2 endangered cattle species, the project facilitated the development of a management and development plan, detailing protection methods and new opportunities for the Reserve. Nature conservation in Serbia was predominantly based on the traditional approach of isolating protected areas from human activity in and around these areas. Nature conservation organisations lacked the capacities to work with modern approaches like those promoted by the EU Habitats Directive.

In view of the approximation of Serbia to the EU there was a need to introduce these modern approaches to nature conservation including participatory management planning, the identification, designation and management of protected areas based on the European Habitats Directive and including linking nature conservation with the wider perspective of rural development.

6. Photo representing the Project



Zasavica, author: Sinisa Graovac
(Dominant landscape feature is Zasavica river)

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**

Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica Wageningen International Orbicon Alterra Institute for Nature Conservation, APV

9. **Financing bodies**

Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality The BBI Matra Project N0 2008-039

10. Central aims of the Project

The central aim of the Project was to integrate the protection and management of the biodiversity of the Zasavica Special Reserve with sustainable rural development and particularly with the development of sustainable agriculture and tourism.

Another main objective of the project, coordinated by Centre for Development Innovation (CDI), Wageningen UR was to increase the capacities of the State Nature Conservation Institute of Serbia and the Nature Conservation Movement from Sremska Mitrovica in the application of the EU Habitats Directive.

Additional objectives of the project include support of the survival of two endangered native cattle breeds that used to graze on the floodplains of the Sava. These are the mangulitza swallow bellied pigs and the podolsko bull, which are both on the FAO list of native cattle breeds threatened with extinction.

Project started with implementation in 2009 and finished in 2011, but activities have continued to be implemented after the project was officially finished thanks to the clear ownership of the project results created during the project.

11. Outcome

1. Improved management planning of Zasavica Nature Reserve in line with methodologies of the EU Habitats Directive and other relevant international conventions including development strategies for sustainable agriculture (*Art II/5 a,b,c,d, II/6 C 1,2, Art III/7, III/8*).
2. Increased capacities of organisations and individuals involved in management of protected areas including stakeholder involved management planning, biodiversity management, monitoring, awareness raising, information dissemination and communication (*Art II/6 A, B, Art III/8*).
3. Improved facilities and opportunities for eco-tourism through targeted investments (*Art II/6 E*).
4. Reintroduction of two endangered native cattle breeds in the farm households in the surroundings of the reserve and the use of these animals to maintain the floodplain meadows through grazing (*Art II/6 B, E*).
5. Improved local socio economic development by involving local people in nature friendly farming and ecotourism. (*Art II/6 B, E*).

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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

The project is fully in line with national and EU sustainable development policies supporting local socio economic development while protecting natural values of the whole landscape.

By the reintroduction of the two endangered native cattle breeds (mangulista pig and podolian cow) in the farm households in the surroundings of the reserve local people were actively involved in maintaining natural values of wet meadows while generating income at the same. Marketing plan for selling products processed in traditional way (sausages, ham, and cheese) secured stable income for local people which motivated them to continue with nature friendly farming within and around the Nature reserve.

Close cooperation between local people and manager of the reserve in tourism related activities (guided tour, preparing local food for visitors, making souvenirs from reeds) resulted in additional nature friendly local economic assets.

Social and cultural value was improved by developing educative and promotional materials both for local people in particular schoolchildren from surrounding schools and visitors to the Reserve. Hiking trails was marked with info tables with all necessary information related to the ecosystems, Nature 2000 habitat types as well as rare and protected species.

In order to counter or remedy any damage to Zasavica landscape structures, the project underlined the need for restoration of the hydrological conditions of the Reserve. The intention was to allow species (birds, plants, amphibians and fish) and habitats typical for the area to survive in a favourable conservation status. The Manager is persistent in attempts to increase the water levels especially during the summer period without negatively impacting the water quality. Several management measures have been taken in cooperation with the Jaroslav Czerni Hydro Institute on the bases of a catchment wide approach and modelling, without hampering future enlargement of the reserve.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The outcomes have served as an example for improving the institutional and organisational setting of management of protected areas across Serbia.

The elaboration of the 'management and development plan' has set a standard for management planning of PAs in Serbia. Innovative features in the elaboration process included the involvement of hydrologists, agricultural experts, tourism experts and biologists. Regular meetings with stakeholders were organised to ensure that the management proposals meet the needs and wishes of the local population and to ensure that management of the protected area contributes to the development of the local economy.

The reintroduction of the two endangered native cattle breeds in the farm households in the surroundings of the reserve and the use of these animals to maintain the floodplain meadows through grazing has been promoted by supporting the marketing and sales of their products. Proposals for the introduction of a certification scheme for these breeds were presented to allow for higher market prices.

Proposals for improving the attractiveness of the Reserve through the introduction of hiking trails, improvement of biking opportunities and improved information for visitors were included in the plan and have gradually been implemented.

A small investment fund has allowed for improving the visitor and reception centre. The "Visitors centre" gate with souvenirs and tickets shop, new lecture facilities and a hiking trail with information boards and signs are fully operational and contribute to eco tourism in SNR Zasavica.

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?

The project actively encouraged the public's participation in the decision-making process.

Management and Development Plan for the Special Nature Reserve Zasavica were drafted multidisciplinary in anticipatory way actively involving representatives of local people. They were involved in the process from concept development and planning through implementation, which empowered them to manage resources for long-term social, economic, and ecological benefits.

Vision of management plan, priorities and measures were developed with active participation of local people which afterwards secured local support and smooth implementation of the planned activities. By making whole process transparent (Web site, promotion in all local media – radio, TV, newspaper, organising public hearings) all interested public was informed about the planning process and had equal opportunity to participate.

In all, interested public were informed through mass media, consulted during public hearings, and actively involved in development of the Management Plan by being equal part of the public participation working group.

Post-project phase

According to the guidelines of the project, the public's participation structures have gradually established over the years and live today.

A Stakeholder Board was established as a platform with which the Manager discusses management issues. The stakeholder board includes representatives of all stakeholder groups - representatives of the communities lying around the Reserve, representatives of interest and sector groups like farmers associations, tourist entrepreneurs and NGOs. It is not restrictive and allows participation of each individual and organisation that is interested in management of the area. In practice, the number of meetings is limited to once or twice a year, but the Annual Plan for the Reserve is being regularly discussed. Currently, members of the board include: representatives of municipalities Sremska Mitrovica and Bogatić, mayors of 7 settlements as well as representatives of local forest public utility company "Šumsko gazdinstvo Srem" which owns 138 ha of land within the Reserve and Voda Vojvodine in charge of water management and the pumping station.

There is also a Supervisory Board that supervises and endorses management decisions and which includes also Institute for Nature Conservation and other expert groups like the water management, spatial planners and the tourism experts from Sremska Mitrovica municipality.

Coherence with wider policies

The Spatial Plan for the Special-Purpose Area of the Zasavica Special Nature Reserve ("Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia", No. 66/2011) was being developed at the same time as the project (2009 - 2011). The spatial plan is the legal bases for issuing permits for the construction of buildings and other infrastructural elements. In this way, all the provisions of the existing "Zasavica SNR Management Plan 2012-2022" (born from the project and adopted pursuant to the Nature Conservation Act) are in full compliance with national landscape policies. Since the spatial plan is based on the information provided by the Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province in this management plan there is no conflict with regional policies/authorities.

The project is also consistent with policies and plans at the following levels:

- National Sustainable Development Strategy
- Action Plan for the Implementation of the National Sustainable Development Strategy of the Republic of Serbia 2009 – 2017
- The Local Sustainable Development Strategy (LSDS), 2005 adopted by the General Assembly of the Standing Conference of Cities and Municipalities in December 2005
- National Environmental Strategy (NES), 2006
- National strategy and the action plan for biodiversity protection and landscape diversity
- Conservation program for Zasavica SNR, Institute for Nature Conservation of Vojvodina Province;
- Spatial plans of the surrounding municipalities

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?

Wetland landscapes provide important goods and services which help sustain human life, conserve biological diversity, and even combat the impacts of climate change. One of the goals of the project was to motivate people to appreciate the values of wetlands so that they become advocates for wetland conservation and wise use and may act to become involved in relevant policy formulation, planning and management.

Human development - In order to promote natural values of SNR Zasavica and at the same time to contribute to achieving the objectives of the Ramsar Convention on communication, education and public awareness (CEPA) the following activities were planned by the Project, undertaken and have regularly been realized from 2010 to today:

- Educational program for schoolchildren

An educational program for schoolchildren was set up with the purpose of increasing the awareness and knowledge on value and importance of protecting the wetland in general and Zasavica wetland in particular. The program has been implemented in the form of lectures in the classroom within the Visitor Center as well as in the field or on the "Umbra" boat.

- Educational work camp

Every year in the period of July-August, the International working camp takes place in the SNR Zasavica. The camp is organized by Young Researchers of Serbia and participants from all over the world not only have the opportunity to work on ecosystem revitalization related activities and learn about wetland value but also to learn about culture and the history of the region.

- Research camp

Every summer in the period July and August a research camp is being organized with the purpose of exploring biodiversity of the Reserve. Main organizer of the camp is Scientific research Society of Biology students "Josif Pančić".

- Bird-watching fair

The first bird-watching fair „BirdwatchSerbia“ was organized in May 2010 and is going to be organized every year. Purpose of the fair is not only promotion of the bird-watching but also promotion of landscape value and its protection among wide public.

Individual and collective well-being – The project has played an important role in educating schoolchildren about biology and nature protection and in raising awareness of the public at large about nature protection. And last but not least protected areas are important for relaxation and recreation and serve the well-being of the population.

The development of tourism was considered to be one of the pillars of future management of the Reserve as it was needed to generate income for the management, help to create work and income for the livelihoods in the vicinity of the Reserve, help to raise awareness about the need to protect landscape and contribute to the wellbeing of the population as a source for recreation and relaxation.

The project achieved it by direct financing of building and maintenance of certain facilities that allowed people to visit the area to learn, enjoy and relax without doing harm to the nature. These important roles of protected areas were previously largely undervalued and were insufficiently supported by the government through the budget made available to the management organisation NCM Sremska Mitrovica.

Consolidation of European identity - In the process of implementing the Natura 2000 in Serbia, the SNR Zasavica will be a candidate site due to the presence of Natura 2000 habitat types and species in the area. Such position during the course of the project was reinforced and promoted by the presence of European experts and implementation of European guidelines and policies. On the basis of them the Management Plan 2012-2022 was created.

Increasing the public's awareness of the importance of the cultural landscape is the regular practice in the promotion of Zasavica tourism. Together with the city of Sremska Mitrovica with its Roman history, „Life along the Sava River“ is one of European identities. It is based on the „The Military Frontier“ which was a province, created in the 16th century, straddling the southern borderland of the Habsburg Monarchy and later the Austrian and Austro-Hungarian Empire. Just because of its wetlands, this belt along the Sava river acted as the *cordon sanitaire* against incursions from the Ottoman Empire. Traditional spiritual values of 'Frontiersmen' and 'soldier-settler' communities have preserved military and economic size of Europe. These days, societies torn by conflict 25 years ago are now working together through the transfrontier cooperation (*Article III/9*) with help of EU, to preserve the Sava River and its intact floodplains, on which they all depend.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

1. Presentation of the candidate (text)

NATURE CONSERVATION MOVEMENT OF SREMSKA MITROVICA

The main competences of the ENGO Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica (NCMSM) are the NGO management of the Zasavica Special Nature Reserve (Zasavica SNR) and ecotourism on its own model.

Major thematic competences of the NCMSM are: protected areas management, ecotourism development, biodiversity and habitat preservation, environmental education and training, volunteering, as well as environmental research. Zasavica SNR is demonstrating the potential for local business development. Zasavica SNR's Visitor Centre and Camping offer the perfect conditions for the organization of project meetings, workshops, etc, for group size 20-30 persons.

Zasavica thematic competence for the project can be: sustainable ecotourism product, ecotourism in regions, visitor management measures, social inclusion (handicapped people, Roma community and people with low income), volunteering, exhibition on wetlands, etc).

Zasavica SNR is the member of:

Nationally: National Network of RAMSAR protected areas, NATURA 2000 Resource Center Serbia, EMERALD Network Serbia, Ecological Info Network „EkoNEC – Ekolist – Eko vest“, Association of National Parks and protected areas (chair), Tourism Cluster Srem Fund – Ruma, Ecological network Pannonica

Internationally: IBA, IPA, Ramsar, Europarc Federation, SAVE Foundation, Slow Food Association, the Sava Parks Network and Dinaric Arc Parks Association.

ZASAVICA SPECIAL NATURE RESERVE

“Zasavica” – an Intact Gem of Nature

Only 80 km away from Belgrade, situated in the fertile plain of Macva, on the territory of the municipalities of Sremska Mitrovica and Bogatic, Zasavica Special Nature Reserve blossoms, sings and enchants with its beauty. The 33.1-kilometre long Zasavica River, created by the flooding and the change of river courses of the Sava and Drina rivers, enveloped in the flooded forests, reed and rare swamp flowers, invites you to visit its magic world.

More than 700 species of plants make up the flora of this marshland, and in some places the impassable vegetation conceals true wealth of the animal world: 58 species of day butterflies, 37 species of dragonfly, 23 species of fish, 27 species of amphibians and reptiles, 182 species of birds, 45 species of mammals, colonies of freshwater sponges and a few freshwater jellyfish. And if you are lucky, you might even see the pink “spoon-beaked” herons, which got their peculiar colour owing to the crabs which they fed on in the Mediterranean.

Many of the recorded species of plants and animals are very rare, endangered and protected

species, such as the endemic plants “Swamp Nettle”, the white and the yellow water lily. Our Zasavica is also the only place in Europe where you can find the Aldrovanda plant and the Mrguda fish.

What is more, Zasavica is one of the two locations in Serbia where the European beaver has returned, and there are about 60 specimens of this species in the reserve right now. These little tireless builders have created a real attraction: an over 50-metre long dam erected at the confluence of the Batar and the Zasavica, which has resulted in the creation of a 1.3-metre deep little lake.

If you wish to go sightseeing in the reserve, you can walk along pathways or ride in boats, while larger groups have at their disposal the tourist boat “Umbra” which sails around the most beautiful part of the Zasavica River.

Membership at the European National Park Federation and the Grand Prize “White Angel” for an original concept of sustained development in tourism at a protected natural good, awarded by the Ministry of Tourism, confirm that the way the NGO “Nature Conservation Movement Sremska Mitrovica” takes care of this national treasure is correct.

This treasure is becoming more valuable by the day and is waiting for you to discover it too

ADDITIONAL FEATURES OF THE ZASAVICA SNR MANAGEMENT

1. Involvement of local communities in the development of the reserve, financing part of the project, and recognizing the importance of the reserve for the local community.
2. Holding the old races and products made from them as the basis of catering services
3. Sustainability in funding through the independent earnings from tourism and genetic resources by 50% annually.
4. Employing the local population on permanent and temporary jobs, cooperation in growing old races, and the inclusion of the Roma community.
5. Collaboration with other scientific and non-governmental organizations.
6. Raising the level of the water regime resulting in diversity conservation.
7. Research of rare species with the inclusion of volunteer and research camps with local and foreign participants.
8. The development of the first visitor center in Serbia as a basis for visitor management.
9. Education of the local population that has contributed to the recognition of values and involvement in co-operation with the reserve.
10. Development of the campsite as a new activity in tourism.
11. Exploiting local tourism value, primarily ancient Sirmium (see the film).
12. Receiving all recognitions in the field of sustainable tourism and biodiversity research.
13. Development of a therapeutic garden, and the inclusion of persons with disabilities in the labor and educational activities.
14. Donkey farm having 140 balkan donkeys.
15. Development of unique products from donkey milk.

ZASAVICA SITE DESCRIPTION

The Special Nature Reserve Zasavica (hereinafter referred to as SNR Zasavica) is situated in Southeast Europe, in the Republic of Serbia, on the territory of South Voivodina and North Macva, east of the Drina River and south of the Sava River. It comprises territories of Sremska Mitrovica and Bogatiü municipalities. The Greenwich coordinates are 44° 52' 56" and 44° 58' 04" N and 19° 24' 07" and 19° 36' 31" E.

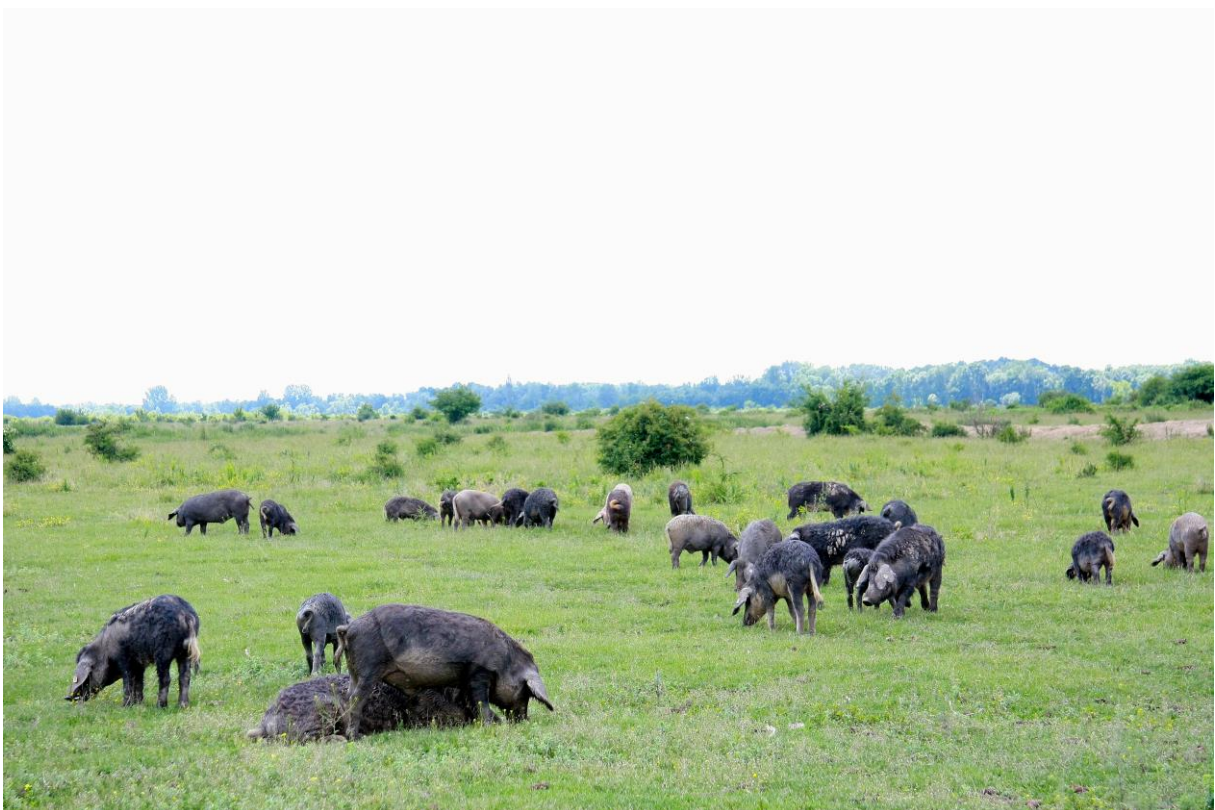
The area is dominated by riverine wetlands along the Zasavica River, covering a length of 33.1 km. It is a mosaic of aquatic and wetland ecosystems with fragments of flooded forests. The protected area covers 1825 ha, with 675 ha in the first degree protection regime according to Serbian classification. The backbone of the Reserve is made up of the Jovaca and Prekopac canals, the Batar creek, and the Zasavica River, which is connected to the Sava River directly through the Bogaz canal. The Zasavica River is also supplied by ground water from the Drina River.

The whole system belongs to the Black Sea catchment area and it represents one of few authentic and preserved wetlands of the region. This calm flatland river system provides conditions for the survival of numerous and diverse wildlife species. (Stankoviü 2006). Regarding the international protection status, the SNR Zasavica is designated as a Ramsar Site (No.1783), Important Plant Area, Important Bird Area (RS008), and Prime Butterfly Area (40) (Sekuliü and Šinžar 2010). According to the IUCN management categories, it is a Habitat and Species Management Area, category IV.

2. Photos (next page)













3. Poster (page above)

4. Video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xDY-A3Z4Ri0>

Scenes from Sremska Mitrovica were filmed in the park across from the Archives of Srem, the site of Sirmium and in the lapidarium of the Museum of Srem.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SjJ71NuPUBU>

There are more than 30 videos about Zasavica on YouTube

* * *

12. SLOVAK REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE

Hriňovské lazy – Landscape of Values

Town of Hriňová

I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Slovak Republic

Represented by

Mr. Rastislav Rybanič
Mrs. Jana Ďurkošová
Mrs. Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková

Address:

Ministry of Environment of the Slovak
Republic, Slovakia

Tel.:

00421259562211

E-mail:

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

Town of Hriňová

Represented by

Mr. Stanislav Horník, mayor

Address:

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962 05 Hriňová
Slovak Republic
00421 908 190 801

Tel.:

E-mail:

primator@hrinova.sk

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJECT

3. Name of the Project

Hriňovské lazy – Landscape of Values

4. Location of the Project

Slovak Republic, Banská Bystrica Self-governing Region, Detva District, Town of Hriňová

5. Summary of the Project (10 lines)

The unique Hriňová landscape complex is an example of the interaction between man and landscape in the spirit of the European Landscape Convention. The project is aimed at preserving the traditional way of life of people living in harmony with the landscape in specific scattered settlement and creating the conditions for all stakeholders to cooperate in land management and local development. Toward this end, the town of Hriňová has taken various steps and implemented certain measures to conserve this unique landscape, to preserve both its cultural and historical values and characteristic features with a system of agrarian historic landscape structures, and for people to remain a part of the landscape, which is a precondition for the preservation of a lively, functional, authentic, identical, and prosperous landscape.

6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please



Author: Štefan Kordoš

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

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

8. **Partners**
- | |
|--|
| Local Action Group Podpoľanie (LEADER approach, community-led local development CLLD), State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic - Poľana Protected Landscape Area Administration, Coordination Council of the Poľana Biosphere Reserve, Countryside Platform, municipalities of the Detva District, Novohrad and Podpoľanie Regional Tourism Organisations, Svojpomocné družstvo jednotlivu hospodáriacich roľníkov Hriňová (Hriňová Self-supporting Association of Individual Farmers), Forests of the Slovak Republic, European Second Generation Department, Slovak Tourist Club - Hriňová, Slovak Tourist Board, businesses, residents of the town engaged in agriculture, volunteers |
|--|

9. **Financing bodies**
- | |
|--|
| Directly by the Town of Hriňová; subsidies allocated from the national budget, international projects, foundations, sponsorships |
|--|

10. **Central aims of the Project**

The town's primary aim has been to create the conditions for maintaining the traditional farming way of life in the scattered settlement, to develop the local market, utilise its tourism potential and to preserve cultural heritage and economically develop countryside, all while retaining its identity and diversity.

Long-term farming in the territory resulted in a system of terraced small agricultural plots in the landscape which represent historic agrarian landscape structures. This system together with a specific system of scattered settlements formed a unique landscape element.

The local government considers the historic landscape structures to be a functional and living heritage of their ancestors. For this reason, they have taken steps, implemented measures and cooperated with stakeholders and residents to keep Hriňová's scattered settlement sustainable, prosperous and inspirational for all rural areas in Slovakia and Europe.

Hriňová is located in the Detva District, Podpoľanie Region. The population of Hriňová is 7 482 residents and its area is 126.49 km².

Historical aspects of the present arrangement and quality of the Hriňová landscape

Hriňová's current landscape was formed in the 17th and 18th centuries when primeval forests were cut and the land on the southern slopes of the volcanic Poľana mountain range was cultivated for agricultural purposes and as arable land, grassland and pastures. The area's deforestation was partly due to the emerging glass industry in the 18th century and the burning of charcoal.

The character of the landscape and composition of the structures developed gradually. The land was parcelled into settlements covering certain areas and dwellings were built on these lots. Agricultural land was segmented into smaller parts so that for each owner to have fields and meadows at different locations in the cadastre based on soil quality (fertility). These lots were later fragmented into smaller parts, due to old Hungarian law of inheritance. According to this law each descendant inherits equal part of land, thus, the number of children in each family was reflected in the structure of the country.

It is important to realise that several major land reforms took place in Slovakia. In the 1950s landscapes with micro structures in submontane areas of Slovakia was typical. Social changes after 1948 resulted in nationalisation of the land and collectivisation (transformation of individual private farming into collectives). Most of Slovakia's landscapes changed significantly when land was consolidated during socialism and the original narrow fields were replaced by large tracts (blocks, strips) of fields. Only very few communities in Slovakia successfully resisted this process and Hriňová was one of them. No agricultural cooperative was ever established in this area. Natural conditions, particularly the rugged terrain, helped as well.

After 1989, there was further restructuring of land with the partial return in many areas of the holding and dividing of land according to historical arrangements. In Hriňová, however, the arrangement of small fields, meadows, pastures and also traditional farming methods were maintained.

In the past, a sophisticated and unique system of irrigation using channels was created on the deforested land, consisting of a man-made system of shallow canals that led water from the watercourse along the level line to hay meadows and pastures even in more distant areas. The system of channels is still maintained.

Main project objectives :

- **Preserve cultural and historical values of the landscape**
The local government's objective has been to maintain a specific arrangement of agrarian historical landscape structures, its function and the appearance of the original landscape through regular maintenance using traditional methods. At the same time, the specific system of the scattered settlement and authenticity of the landscape is being maintained. In the forefront is the effort to balance out economic activity while maintaining the landscape's characteristic features.
- **Conserving the arrangement of land cover components**
The objective has been to maintain the landscape's structural diversity and heterogeneity, keep the mosaic arrangement of structures, preserve biodiversity and functionality of the landscape.
- **Maintaining the productive capacity of traditional agriculture**
The landscape is currently being farmed using traditional farming methods. The local government's objective has been to support primary agricultural production and traditional forms of land use while respecting the landscape's limits in term of capacity, to support the granting of the Podpoľanie Regional Product trademark for manufacturers and farmers and to prevent succession vegetation growth and the disappearance of agricultural land.
- **Letting people remain in the landscape and ensuring an adequate standard of living for the population in the scattered settlements**
The objective of the project has been to create such conditions that people living in scattered settlement could live a decent life (including the social conditions).
- **Supporting measures to adapt to climate change**
A system of irrigation channels in the landscape has been historically preserved, with the objective of maintaining and renovating them and to gradually recover the functionality of the blocked canals and restore their flow capacity.
- **Creating conditions for all stakeholders to cooperate in the development of the area**
The objective has been for all stakeholders, namely state environmental protection, civic associations, farmers, stakeholders, residents etc., to cooperate in the management of the landscape while maintaining its utility and value.
- **Sustaining of the human and landscape identity, local culture and authenticity**
The objective has been to raise awareness of the landscape and its value among residents through various educational activities, support for human and landscape identity and for local culture, and by maintaining the traditional crafts, culture and folklore of the Podpoľanie region. One form of doing so is by organising events to promote traditional methods of farming of land and old crafts and to preserve folklore.
- **Utilising the natural and cultural values of the landscape in tourism development.**

11. Outcome

Results/outcome of the project:

- Sustaining of the traditional way of life among residents of Hriňová and of farming on terraced small agricultural plots and meadows;
- Conservation of the characteristic features of the landscape and the unique type of the Carpathian mountain landscape by preserving the traditional management of landscape structures;
- Preservation of the terraced fields - agrarian historic landscape structures that are unique due to their geometric arrangement and position on the wavy terrain;
- Maintenance of the specific arrangement of buildings - scattered settlement, i.e. isolated settlements without streets;
- Preservation of cultural and historical, natural values of the landscape;
- Developed cooperation between the local government and all stakeholders in achieving the project objectives: State Nature Conservancy, individually farmers, associations, residents, etc.;
- Exemplar cooperation between local government and stakeholders in the management of the landscape and likewise in the Coordinating Council of the Poľana Biosphere Reserve on expanding the area of the biosphere reserve by incorporating the Hriňová scattered settlement;
- Support for granting the Regional Product trademark to local manufacturers, growers and producers;
- Cooperation with the Podpoľanie Local Action Group (LEADER approach) in the implementation of area development projects; building of the Tourist Information Centre, educational trails, information points and tourist accommodation;
- Promotion of tourism and cooperation with the Regional Tourism Organisation of Podpoľanie and Novohrad in promoting the region and creating conditions for the formation of integrated tourism products and encouragement toward developing accommodation services in the region;
- Sustained and boosting of ecological stability and biodiversity, conservation of favourable landscape heterogeneity and structural diversity in the landscape;
- Maintenance of the landscape's functionality, prevention secondary succession in order to prevent deterioration and destruction of agricultural land;
- Keeping in place the unique irrigation system of channels which has positive impact on water distribution in the drainage area. These channels are also increasing retention capacity and slowing down in runoff, which makes them an important climate change adaption measure;
- Eco-stabilisation as a effect of farming – keeping the arrangement of fields along the contour line and ploughing along the contour line together with regular care as a measure to prevent erosion and too improve soil moisture regime, with a positive impact on distribution of water in the area;
- Keeping adequate standard of living for all residents of the scattered settlement, e.g. local transport links to remote areas, maintenance and rebuilding of local roads , various measures introduced in the social area;
- Deepening of human and landscape identity, raising awareness among

residents of the value of and benefits from the landscape; preservation of the culture in the Podpoľanie region and of its traditions, folklore and crafts such as specific musical instruments (fujara - Slovak overtone flute) and typical carved wooden crosses; educational activities, regional education;

- Organisation of events: “Farming at the Hriňová scattered settlement” with demonstrations of traditional farming methods and old crafts, the "Folklore and Traditions" Film Festival, “Winter Draft Horse Competition”, “Sts. Peter and Paul Fair”, “Music under Poľana International Folk Music Festival”, the "Children under Poľana" children's folklore festival, “Traditional Taste of Podpoľanie” Food Festival”, etc.;
- Implementation of a number of community activities over a 14-year period in cooperation with the European Second Generation Department, and with the participation of volunteers from around the world (Australia, New Zealand, United States, Germany): rebuilding of an old shepherd's hut and turning it into a tourist accommodation, reconstruction of the bell tower, cleaning of wells, maintaining children's playgrounds, 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 a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?

Yes, the project is part of a sustainable development policy.

The project is based on policy of sustainable land use and maintaining harmony between people and the landscape, respecting the landscape's limits in term of capacity and the principles of nature conservation while preserving the landscape's cultural and historical values. The aim of this policy is to maintain the landscape's characteristic features, functionality and prosperity.

The result is a balanced cultural landscape where human economic activities develop in accordance with natural conditions while retaining the landscape's functions.

The implemented project activities are based on all stakeholders participating and contributing toward stable and sustainable development in the town. An example is the cooperation of the local government with representatives of the State Nature Conservancy, individually farmers and other stakeholders on the expansion of the area of the biosphere reserve to incorporate the Hriňová scattered settlement.

The local government has transformed its aims and objectives towards environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability into strategic and conceptual materials, Spatial Plan of the town Hriňová and a Economic and Social Development Plan of the town Hriňová.

Environmental aspects

The project activities have a significant impact on the good condition of the environment and they comply with the environmental policy at the national and regional level. The quality of the environment in the town can be defined as follows:

- According to the concept of green infrastructure (at the national level, it is a document covering the regional territorial system of ecological stability of the Detva District), the town of Hriňová was largely included in the biocentre of regional importance. The diversity of the landscape and heterogeneity of land cover alongside with extensive farming is also reflected in the diversity of plant and animal species. It is evident that the area is managed in a way ensuring a high proportion of natural and semi-natural habitats as well as biodiversity (herbal, hydric, forest communities with the occurrence of a number of protected plant and animal species). There are few NATURA 2000 sites located in the area. Four Sites of importance on European level and one bird protected area (The Bird Protected Area, SKCHVU022) spread around the Hriňová scattered settlement. The Poľana Protected Landscape Area - a national level protected area - also stretches into the scattered settlement area;
- The way how of land is managed eliminates soil erosion and the terracing itself is an anti-erosion measure;
- Careful management of the landscape, organic fertilisers without chemicals are used in most areas;
- Preserving the sophisticated and unique system of irrigation using channels consisting of a man-made system of shallow ditches that lead water from the watercourse along a contour line to hay meadows and pastures even in more distant areas. This system positively affects the area's hydrological cycle by slowing down the runoff and increasing water retention capacity of the landscape, thereby improving the micro climate and facilitating the formation of ground water reserves and drinking water sufficiency, so water is available even in drought conditions. Greater yields from meadows and pastures are ensured. By slowing down the runoff and providing regular land management, the project also fulfils an important role in flood protection of the area;
- Maintaining and cultivating the terraced micro structures also has a significant impact on how water is distributed throughout the landscape and it also slows down the runoff, which is important for protecting the area from flooding;
- The cultivation of agricultural land and maintaining the natural boundaries of the forest zone prevents the spread of airborne and invasive plant species.

Social aspects

The residents of Hriňová have a very deep relationship with their landscape and soil. They are well aware of the value of the environment created in the past by their ancestors and are now taking care of it. People who came to the landscape re-created it and lived in harmony with it, and so becoming their livelihood. This relationship is maintained by the current project activities, deepening the identity of people and the landscape.

The project supports the development of local communities and creates a suitable environment for cooperation, which is very beneficial for the landscape, in maintaining it and for life in it. An example of the very good relationships is the organising of "Gazdovanie na hriňovských lazoch" ("Farming at the Hriňová scattered settlement"), where the farmers present their skills in cultivating the landscape, traditional crafts and open their farms to visitors for two days. The event is organised directly in the countryside.

The social aspect of the project is also important. The local government puts great emphasis

on social policy and ensuring a decent life for its residents. Social measures include the construction of flats for young families, creating jobs for those who are long-term unemployed and providing nursing care to the elderly (20 caregivers are employed by the town) as well as food delivery. The local government enables people in the scattered settlement to continue living there, often in remote areas of the town. Of the total population, 41% (3,060 residents) live in the scattered settlement. These measures include maintaining and reconstructing local roads (the towns manages up to 178 km of roads), subsidising regular transport links for residents of the scattered settlement through public bus transport (to keep the line profitable, the town subsidises the bus line operator with a contribution of €50,000 each year). Funding of these measures is expensive because the town's area, the layout of the settlements and the length of local roads are not taken into account in national legislation when redistributing shared taxes.

Economic aspects

The economic aspect of the project has two levels, maintaining traditional farming way of life has both direct and indirect effects.

1. Direct effect. Cultivating the land benefits residents. The use of pastures, arable land, gardens and orchards has an impact on the degree of food independence for the residents while helping to develop local food and agricultural tourism markets, which the local government supports. The key is to produce local crops and food by cultivating cereals, vegetables and fruit and raising sheep, pigs and cattle on local pastures.

As part of the local government's support of primary agricultural production, it cooperates with the Svojpomocné družstvo jednotlivo hospodáriacich roľníkov Hriňová (Hriňová Self-supporting Association of Individual Farmers), which brings together farmers and landowners from the town. As part of the cooperation, the town provides places for selling during major cultural events and space in market areas on ordinary days during the year.

Several manufacturers, growers and producers from Hriňová have been awarded the Podpoľanie Regional Product trademark guaranteeing the regional origin of the marked product or service, its quality and a direct tie to the region's tradition, and of the environmentally friendly nature of the manufacturer, service and product.

2. Indirect effect. An important part of the town's activities is the management of its natural and cultural heritage and utilisation in tourism. The unique and alive farmed landscape and its remarkable pattern is very important in terms of the supply of tourism products. At the same time, it forms a suitable basis for agricultural tourism and offers excellent conditions for hiking and cycling.

Cooperation with the Novohrad and Podpoľanie Regional Tourism Organisations is aimed at creating conditions for development of integrated tourism products and promotion of the region.

An important element is the cooperation of the town of Hriňová with the PODPOĽANIE civic association, which has received the status of a local action group (LEADER approach) and creates favourable conditions for mutual communication, cooperation and development of conditions for the implementation of projects that contribute to regional development. The civic association secured funds for Podpoľanie to implement projects aimed at revitalising and developing municipalities, strengthening tourism marketing, encouraging low-capacity lodging, providing services for rural populations and more. In cooperation with the civic association, the town has built its Tourist Information Centre, educational trails, information points and tourist accommodation (examples include a educational trail to the Bystrô waterfall in 2012). Private accommodation is promoted at the town website, in the Tourist Information Centre, at events and in other ways.

The project is important also in terms of increasing the value of ecosystem services. The increase in the value of ecosystems in terms of supply services is related mainly to primary production, benefits from growing crops and breeding livestock. Regulatory services in the ecosystems increase mainly through eco-stabilising measures in the landscape, the ability of the terraced small agricultural plots to combat erosion, slowing runoff and raising the retention capacity of the landscape through a system of channels, with a significant impact on flood protection in the area. Increasing cultural services of the ecosystems in the landscape lies in preserving the landscape's cultural and historical values and its characteristic features.

Cultural aspects

The value of the local landscape results from the relationship between the people and the landscape, and people's identity. Residents of the town are aware of their culture and are proud of it.

Humans transformed the landscape, and the landscape shaped the humans. The local cultural individuality demonstrates the originality of the environment, the identity of the people and the landscape. People living in this landscape translated the landscape and their lives into folk art, traditions, songs, dances, costumes, and dialect.

The local government aims to maintain the traditional crafts, traditions, culture and folklore of the specific Podpoľanie region. Through its activities, it maintains a location-specific awareness and creates conditions for preserving the cultural heritage of the town by organising various cultural events of local, regional and national importance.

The largest event is the annual "Gazdovanie na hriňovských lazoch" ("Farming at the Hriňová scattered settlement"), the main organiser of which is the town of Hriňová. It is a festival featuring demonstrations of traditional land cultivation and old crafts which take place directly in the landscape. The residents open their farms, present their skills, crafts, traditional manufacturing processes, and offer various meals and foods to the visitors. The event is an example of the very close cooperation between the town and its residents.

Some of the other major events organised by the town include the "Folklore and Traditions" Film Festival, "Winter Draft Horse Competition", "Sts. Peter and Paul Fair" and the "Music under Poľana International Folk Music Festival", the "Children under Poľana" children's folklore festival and the "Traditional Taste of Podpoľanie" food festival.

Several folklore groups operating in Hriňová also contribute toward preserving the local folk culture. The regional education provided by the local primary school gives children a sense of the municipality's identity and landscape.

Important activities also include the town's own educational activities and cooperation in the issue of several publications about the history, culture and landscape of Hriňová.

Aesthetic aspects

The project clearly contributes to maintaining the landscape's value, characteristic features of the landscape and functionality, too.

The agrarian historical structures of the Hriňová landscape are unique due to their formation, size, good condition and **viability**. Their arrangement on the specific relief creates a unrepeatable combination of features that make up the landscape visual appearance. It is a mosaic arrangement of structures with an average area of about 0.2 hectares and of regularly alternating terraced small agricultural plots, meadows, pastures and non-forested woody vegetation where houses surrounded by gardens are scattered.

One of the objectives of the project is to preserve the characteristic features of the landscape under the European Landscape Convention. These structures make up the cultural and historical profile of the landscape.

The landscape of Hriňová was created as useful land. The landscape created by man is

similar to land art. The land cover is reminiscent of a decorated "embroidered tablecloth". The Hriňová scattered settlement are proof that creating harmony between man and nature in a landscape through a sustainable way of life will be also reflected in its value.

The landscape of Hriňová is increasingly gaining in value, both in terms of originality as well as rarity. It is a proof of history. In the 1950s, this type of landscape was prevalent in the submontane areas of Slovakia. The land cover of Slovakia gradually underwent a considerable change due to social changes. Currently, there is no equivalent to the Hriňová landscape in Slovakia with such an extensive system of historical agrarian landscape structures.

The Hriňová scattered settlement are unique in the specific landscape of the Carpathian mountain range as well as in the European context.

Elimination the risk of the landscape disappearing

Implementation of the project is clearly preventing environmental damage. It is keeping the landscape from being abandoned and degraded and its remarkable structures built in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries and its represent the historical landscape memory.

Through exemplary cooperation between all stakeholders, the landscape has remained alive, maintaining the value of the land. The residents remaining in the scattered settlement and maintaining the traditional farming way of life, regularly cultivating the fields and permanent grass cover to prevent the occurrence of undesirable phenomena and processes in the landscape and especially eliminating succession vegetation of rare micro structures. The maintenance of the landscape structures has an impact on the preservation of biodiversity and varied plant communities.

Unlike this landscape, other locations in Slovakia have already experienced the disappearance of agrarian historical landscape structures or are facing them irretrievably disappearing in remote submontane areas due to advancing succession vegetation.

The formulated regulations mentioned in Hriňová's policy documents, particularly in the Hriňová Local Development Plan, are essential for maintaining specific forms of settlement, while preserving the settlements and without any undesirable street development.

Despite the rough natural conditions and remoteness, the Hriňová scattered settlement is still alive and remain an extraordinary landscape.

13. Exemplary value

Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?

Which are the good practices that it implemented?

The project is a model for all local governments in Slovakia and abroad in several respects:

- **In terms of the comprehensive and systematic approach taken toward preserving landscape values and the identity of the landscape and people.**

Exemplary care for the landscape and its characteristic features that people have created over centuries with their work. Constant cultivation of the landscape by people preserves the historical memory of the landscape, its diversity and the authenticity of the environment, while eliminating undesirable processes (succession vegetation, abandonment, degradation) and it also has a significant eco-stabilising effect.

The project aims to preserve identity of people and the landscape, respecting the way of life of its residents. The local government uses all possibilities to maintain life in the scattered settlement and ensure a decent life for them. At the same time, it creates conditions for the development of various activities, the local market, tourism and the overall prosperity of the city.

- **In terms of maintaining cooperation among the main project partners.**
Exemplary cooperation of all stakeholders in maintaining the traditional way of life. The cooperation also concerns the local government, representatives of the State Nature Conservancy, residents and other cooperating organisations who seek to have the people living in the landscape remain there while preserving their values in the landscape associated with the work they have done over time.
- **In terms of time, a long-term, continuous effort to maintain landscape values.**

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?

The project promotes public participation in the decision-making process.

The key to the project's success is the participation of all stakeholders, including residents and various civic associations. The project is based on the needs of the public in many respects. The local government operates based on the assumption that the way the landscape is managed and the preservation of the characteristic appearance of the landscape is the result reached by all stakeholders, but the residents play the main role.

The close cooperation between the local government and the residents is reflected in the local development planning process, the participation of the public is ensured even in the approval process of the Local Spatial Plan of the town Hriňová, while other planning documents at the town level are created with the active participation of the public, such as the Social Services Community Plan for the Town of Hriňová and Local Agenda 21.

The local government actively cooperates with the Svojpomocné družstvo jednotlivu hospodáriacich roľníkov Hriňová (Hriňová Independent Association of Individual Farmers), which covers farmers.

The project is in line with national, regional and local policies. The local government transforms landscape care principles in the meaning of the European Landscape Convention from all strategic and conceptual documents at the national and regional level to the local level. Several of them are also directly applied in the landscape.

Compliance with policies and plans at the following levels:

National level:

- Slovak Spatial Development Perspectives (2001, amendment No.1, 2014), binding part:
 - In terms of the layout in regard to ecological aspects, nature conservation, natural resources, mineral resources and landscape management and landscape formation, the project complies with section 5.13: "Ensure the permanent protection of landscape under the European Landscape Convention aimed at preserving and maintaining significant or characteristic features of the landscape resulting from its historical heritage and natural arrangement or human activity";
 - In terms of rural development and the relationship between the town and the rural areas, the project complies with section 3.2: "Maintain the original specific nature of rural areas, work with the original nature of the built-up areas and the historically formed surrounding landscape; preserve the historically formed type of built-up area and take into account the ethnographic specificities of individual regions";
 - In terms of preservation, assessment and use of the area's cultural heritage, the project complies with section 4.2.9 "Take into account and revitalise historic landscape structures, including areas of dispersed settlement, in zoning development";
- National Strategy of Sustainable Development of the Slovak Republic (2001);
- National Strategy of Regional Development of the Slovak Republic, 2010;
- National Green Infrastructure Policy – General Plan of the Supra-Regional Territorial System of Ecological Stability, 2001;

Regional level:

- Regional Spatial Plan of the Banská Bystrica Self-Governing Region (1998, as amended in 2014);
- Economic, Social and Cultural Development Plan of the Banská Bystrica Self-Governing Region for the period 2007-2013;
- Regional Green Infrastructure Policy - Regional Territorial System of Ecological Stability of the Zvolen District (1994) and the Detva District (2013).

Local level:

- Spatial Plan of the town Hriňová, 2012;
- Economic and Social Development Plan of the town Hriňová for the period of 2007 - 2013;
- Hriňová Community Plan of Social Services, 2010 (analysis of the town's social situation, defining vulnerable groups of residents and the method of handling the risk of their social exclusion);
- Local Agenda 21, 2003.

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?

Maintaining the diversity of European landscapes and their cultures is our common value. The landscape of Hriňová represents the type of Carpathian submontane to mountainous landscape. It is unique due to its landscape terrain, and the geometrical arrangement of the

narrow small agricultural plots on the varied relief.

Preserving its authenticity and character is also significant from the European perspective. In this sense, the concept of the European Landscape Convention is fulfilled. The landscape of Hriňová is an example of how to find harmony between people and the landscape and create a culture that is attractive for domestic and foreign visitors.

It is important for the residents of Hriňová as well as for the greater region to remain and live in a landscape that poses great demands on making a living. The project allows the town to maintain the traditional way of life of its residents, keep the landscape alive and functional, while preserving the characteristic features of the landscape.

People living in the scattered settlement have a relationship to the land and to the landscape. They have lived in harmony with it for nearly three centuries. The local government respects the relationship of the people living in the scattered settlement to the landscape and the traditional way of life and its activities are creating the conditions for conserving it and strengthening the identity of the people and the landscape. The traditional way of life also includes preserving crafts, skills of its residents, local culture, living folklore, folk songs, musical instruments, dances, and costumes.

The Hriňová scattered settlement are historically unique in Slovakia. In other areas of Slovakia, the landscape has undergone a dramatic change due to collectivisation and social changes, turning historical agrarian landscape structures into large-scale arable land. Hriňová's landscape managed to withstand such various influences and remains with its specific nature unique, original, and extraordinary both in a Slovak and European context.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

Together with the printed version of the Application form, additional material in digital format should be included in one CD-Rom or DVD and returned by post or courier to:

*Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons
Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention
Head of Division, Agora (A3-32C), Council of Europe
F-67075 STRASBOURG, Cedex
Tel: +33 (0) 3 88 41 23 98
E-mail: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int*

- Text (3 pages): *PDF format*
- Photos (10): *JPEG format*
- Poster (1): *PDF format*
- Video: *mpeg 2 format*
- Book: *“Hriňovské lazy. De luxe”*.

13. SPAIN / ESPAGNE

*Landscape Inventory of Galicia: Public Participation for Landscape Characterisation
and Planning*

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



I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

Spain

Represented by

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2. Applicant

*Name of the local,
regional authority (ies)
or NGO(s)*

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

Represented by

Ms /Mr. Inés Santé Riveira

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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

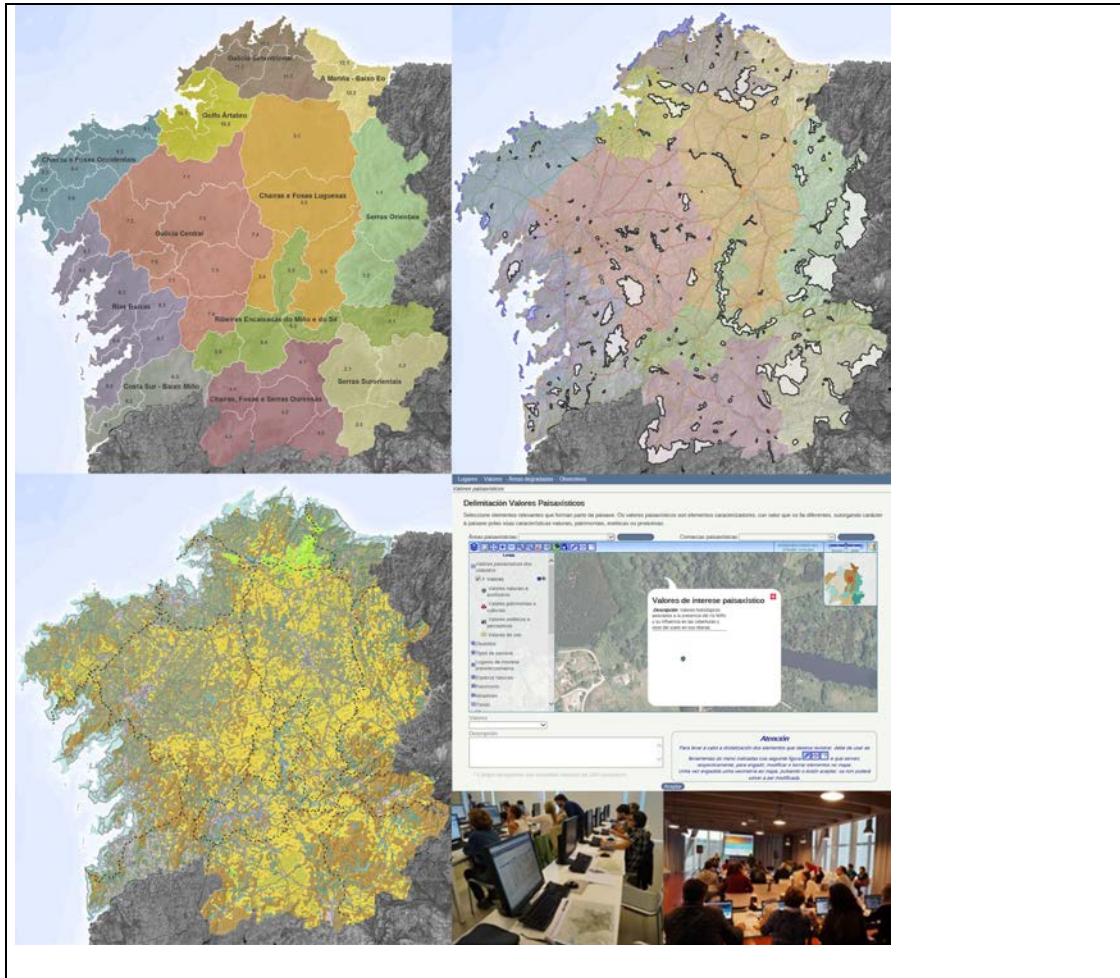
4. Location of the Project

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_Sostibilida_de_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