

24th COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING
OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

24^E RÉUNION DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
DES ATELIERS POUR LA MISE EN ŒUVRE DE
LA CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DU PAYSAGE



*Council of Europe Landscape Award
Forum of National Selections
6th Session 2018-2019*

*Forum des sélections nationales
du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe
6^e Session 2018-2019*

Proceedings / Actes

European spatial planning and landscape, No. 119
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 119

Meeting planned to be held in
Geneva, Switzerland, 21-22 October 2020

Réunion planifiée afin de se tenir à
Genève, Suisse, 21-22 octobre 2020

Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections 6th Session 2018-2019

Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe 6^e Session 2018-2019

Publication

24th Council of Europe Meeting
of the Workshops for the implementation
of the European Landscape Convention

*The Meeting was planned to be held in Geneva, Switzerland,
on 21-22 October 2020, as part of the Programme of Work
of the European Landscape Convention.*

*Due to the evolution of the pandemic,
the Meeting could not be held in-person.*

*This publication has been produced
on the basis of the contributions prepared.*

24^e Réunion du Conseil de l'Europe
des Ateliers pour la mise en œuvre
de la Convention européenne du paysage

*La Réunion était planifiée afin de se tenir à Genève, Suisse,
les 21-22 octobre 2020, dans le cadre du Programme de travail
de la Convention européenne du paysage.*

*En raison de l'évolution de la pandémie,
la Réunion n'a pas pu se tenir en présentiel.*

*La présente publication a été réalisée
sur la base des contributions préparées.*

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within the framework of the Work Programme
of the European Landscape Convention.

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dans le cadre du Programme de travail de
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Presentation

Présentation

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

*Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention,
Head of the Landscape, Environment and Major Hazards Division,
Council of Europe*

We are pleased that this publication is able to present the contributions prepared for the 24th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 6th Session 2018-2019", that was scheduled to take place in Geneva, Switzerland, on 21-22 October 2021. Due to the evolution of the pandemic, the Meeting could not be held in person and was postponed.

I would like to express, on behalf Secretariat General of the Council of Europe, my thanks to the Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN) and the Republic and Canton of Geneva for their much appreciated co-operation in planning this meeting in such difficult circumstances. Special thanks are addressed to: Mr Christian Meuwly, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Council of Europe; Mr David Best, Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Council of Europe; Mr Norbert Bärlocher, Diplomatic Advisor, Federal Office for the Environment, International Affairs; Mr Matthias Stremlow, Head of the Landscape Policy Section, Federal Office for the Environment; Mr Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Scientific Collaborator, Biodiversity and Landscape Division, Landscape Policy Section; Mr Gilles Mulhauser, Director General of the Territory Department, Cantonal Office of Water of the Republic and Canton of Geneva; Mr Alexandre Wisard, Head of the Service for Lakes, the Renaturation of Rivers and Fishing, Territory Department, Cantonal Office of Water of the Republic and Canton of Geneva.

I address all my sincere congratulations to the Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, for receiving the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for the Project Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire.

I would like also to extend my warm congratulations to the following Projects.

- ▶ Special Mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe:
 - Community activities day, "Let's do it!", Estonian Fund for Nature, Estonia;
 - Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, City of Kotka, Finland;
 - Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen through the development of a large river promenade, City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France;
 - Between land and water, "Another way of owning", Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy.
- ▶ Acknowledgments of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe:
 - Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium;
 - Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia;
 - Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol, Limassol Municipality, Cyprus;
 - Landscape Futures, University of Copenhagen, Denmark;
 - Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development, Martvili Municipality, Georgia;
 - Recreation of Lake Karla, Region of Thessaly, Greece;
 - Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter, Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabár, Zalavár, Hungary;

- The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival, Kocēni Municipality, Latvia;
- Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai City, Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania;
- Another landscape for Vianden, Union for the Development and Management of the Nature Park Our, Luxembourg;
- Lista, a unique landscape and partnership, Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway;
- Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture, Regional Government of Azores, Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal;
- The spatial plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci, Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia;
- Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic;
- Meadow orchards and landscape, Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia;
- The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention, Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute of the Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain;
- Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University, Turkey;
- The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardon Mill, Northumberland, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom.

I warmly congratulate the authors of these twenty three Projects of high value that have been presented to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention, on the occasion of this 6th Session of the Landscape Award – 2018-2019.

We would like to thank the representatives of the ministries from the following Parties to the Convention who selected them: Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

We address also special thanks to the members of the international Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, composed of the following members: Mr Julien Transy, Member of the Jury as Representative of Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (CDCPP) to the Jury; Mr Thierry Mathieu, Member of the Jury as Representative of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee of the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe; and as eminent specialists on landscape: Mr Jacques Stein, President of the Sites section of the Royal Commission on Monuments, Sites and Excavations of Wallonia, Belgium – President of the Jury; Mr Valerio di Battista, Emeritus Professor at Milan Polytechnic, Architect, Co-ordinator of the Piedmont Landscape Observatory Network, President of the Monferrato Casalese Landscape Observatory, Italy; and Mr Andreas Stalder, Permanent Expert of the Federal Commission for the Protection of Nature and Landscape of Switzerland.

We are delighted that these twenty three Projects of this 6th Session of the Landscape Award are now, in accordance with the Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#) of the Committee of Ministers, part of the [Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe](#).

Each of these Projects results from the strong initial commitment of a few people.

Each of them is meaningful.

Each of them follows a logic of quality, favourable to a sustainable territorial development.

They inspire and give rise to similar activities in other geographical areas.

Mrs Krisztina Kincses

*Chair of the 11th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention,
Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary*

I would like to congratulate the representatives of the Ministries, and the wide-ranging Projects submitted on the occasion of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for their motivating achievements. Citizens of Europe can be proud of the works carried out, achieving the protection, management and planning of our landscape. These are examples of strong, forward-looking actions that will enhance, restore or create landscapes; sound landscape management in the spirit of sustainable development, ensuring the maintenance of a landscape, in order to guide and harmonise change; and actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of special, cherished and valued landscapes.

I express my special congratulations to the winner from Switzerland, for the beautiful Project of the "Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire". Its approach, that of allowing the river to shape its own bed by giving free rein to the game of erosion, and transforming the old canal into a linear park with walks, public squares and a large landscaped garden, are at the core of its success with the citizens. I congratulate "Superpositions", the multi-disciplinary team of professionals which brings together engineers and biologists, as well as the landscape architects.

Our shared goal is to make this place where we play out our lives, which shapes our feelings, inspires our thoughts, this European landscape, into a better, a more beautiful, a more liveable, and a more sustainable place. These Projects have demonstrated how their authors, significantly contribute to this. I would like to congratulate all those who were involved and supported them in providing inspiration, enthusiasm and financial support.

The Projects submitted for this 6th session of the Council of Europe Landscape Award are extremely important, as they set milestones at local level and thus contribute, at regional and national level, to the development of landscape policies in the spirit of the European Landscape Convention.

M. Jacques Stein

*Président du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe,
Président de la Section des sites de la Commission Royale des monuments,
sites et fouilles de la Wallonie, Belgique*

Le Jury international du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe s'est réuni les 13 et 14 mai 2019 au siège de l'Organisation, à Strasbourg. Il était constitué de M. Julien Transy, représentant du Comité directeur de la culture, du patrimoine et du paysage (CDCPP), M. Thierry Mathieu, représentant de la Conférence des OING du Conseil de l'Europe et de trois éminents spécialistes du paysage, très honorés d'avoir été choisis pour composer ce prestigieux Jury: M. Valerio Di Battista (Italie), M. Andréas Stalder (Suisse) et M. Jacques Stein (Belgique). M^{me} Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons et M^{me} Susan Moller y représentaient le Secrétariat Général du Conseil de l'Europe. Merci pour leur efficacité sans faille!

Deux longues journées de travail ont été nécessaires pour examiner les 23 dossiers candidats au Prix du Paysage 2018-2019 du Conseil de l'Europe... et pour délibérer à leur sujet. Ces deux journées se sont déroulées dans une ambiance studieuse, mais détendue, amicale et très fructueuse sur le plan des discussions.

Certains plus classiques certes et d'autres plus originaux, mais l'ensemble des projets présentés étaient d'une grande qualité et constituaient de merveilleux moyens de sensibilisation à la dimension paysagère et d'inspiration pour de futurs projets. Les présentations étaient également riches et diversifiées.

Bien sûr, chaque membre du Jury avait à la fin des présentations, son ou ses favoris... Mais les échanges entre les membres, et c'est en cela que réside la mission d'un jury, ont permis de s'accorder et d'examiner certains dossiers avec une approche différente. Et on fit appel si nécessaire aux mathématiques pour départager les ex aequo...

Car il restait au Jury à accomplir une tâche exaltante mais combien complexe: proposer un lauréat, des mentions spéciales et des reconnaissances, le tout destiné à être soumis in fine pour adoption au Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe, par la voie du Comité directeur.

Alors, encore merci aux membres du Jury pour leur enthousiasme, et merci au Secrétariat Général du Conseil de l'Europe, au Secrétariat exécutif de la Convention européenne du paysage et au Comité directeur de la culture, du patrimoine et du paysage de continuer à faire vivre et à animer la Convention européenne du paysage.

Introduction

The Landscape Award Alliance Council of Europe and the 6th Session of the Landscape Award

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons

Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Head of the Landscape, Environment and Major Hazards Division, Council of Europe

The European Landscape Convention (ETS No.176) is the first international treaty on sustainable development, based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity, the environment and culture, and exclusively concerned with the valorisation of landscapes.¹ Its purpose is to promote landscape protection, management and planning of landscapes, and to organise international co-operation on landscape issues.

The Convention is extremely wide in its scope: it applies to the parties' entire territory and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas, including land, inland water and marine areas, and it deals with degraded landscapes as well as those that can be considered outstanding. In other words, it recognises the importance of all landscapes – not just those of exceptional beauty – as having a crucial bearing on quality of life and deserving attention in landscape policies. In particular, many rural and peri-urban areas are undergoing drastic change and deserve greater care from authorities and the public.

The Committee of Ministers makes the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, based on a proposal submitted by the Committee of experts of the Council of Europe that is in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Convention. The Landscape Award was launched in 2008 and six sessions of the award have been conducted: in 2008-2009, 2010-2011, 2012-2013, 2014-2015, 2016-2017, and 2018-2019.

The seventh session (2020-2021) is under way: the Parties to the Convention were invited to present an application to the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.

The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

The Committee of Ministers adopted the Resolution [CM/Res\(2017\)18](#) on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe. This Alliance gathers the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention in the framework of the sessions of the Landscape Award, showing that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people's surroundings.

Depending on the case, these achievements promote: landscape protection through measures to preserve the significant and characteristic features of the landscape; landscape management through action from a sustainable development perspective to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape in order to guide and harmonise change; or landscape planning through forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes. They foster: landscapes for living, in urban and peri-urban areas; landscapes to discover, through the provision of roads or country paths; landscapes both historical and alive, between nature and culture; or landscapes that enable people to get to know the countryside and take action to support it, by establishing methodologies and other landscape promotion tools.

1. Council of Europe, <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape>; <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape>.

We are very pleased that the twenty three Projects of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award are now part of this Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

The Council of Europe has prepared various elements available on the website of the European Landscape Convention, in English and French:

- ▶ English: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape> (Landscape Award)
 - Online presentation of the achievements of the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance;
 - Exhibition on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe;
 - Publication "Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe", volume 1, 2008-2017, Council of Europe, Territory and Landscape Series, 2017, No. 105;
 - Publication "Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe", volume 2, 2018-2019, Council of Europe, Territory and Landscape Series, 2020, No. 120;
 - Posters on the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance.
- ▶ French: <https://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape> (Prix du paysage)
 - Présentation en ligne des réalisations de l'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe;
 - Exposition sur l'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe;
 - Publication «L'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe», volume 1, 2008-2017, Conseil de l'Europe, Série Territoire et Paysage, 2017, n° 105;
 - Publication «L'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe», volume 2, 2018-2019, Conseil de l'Europe, Série Territoire et Paysage, 2020, n° 120;
 - Posters sur L'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe invited the Parties to the Convention to encourage media coverage of this Landscape Award Alliance to raise public awareness of the importance of landscape.

The 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (2018-2019)

The States Parties to the European Landscape Convention were invited to present, by 31 January 2019, the applications to the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe, according to

Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award.

Twenty three Projects were presented, by the following States' Parties to the Convention, to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe: Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

An international jury, set up as a subordinate body of the committee of experts referred to in Article 10 of the Convention, was invited to examine the applications and to propose the award and possible special mentions. The jury held a meeting in Strasbourg on 4 and 5 April 2019. The Jury was composed of the following members: Representative of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) – Mr Julien Transy, Site Inspector, Policy Officer for landscapes, Regional Directorate for the Environment, Development and Housing of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition and Ministry of the Cohesion of Territories, France; Representative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe [*apologised for absence*]; Representative of the Conference of INGOS of the Council of Europe – Mr Thierry Mathieu, Representative of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee of the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe, in the framework of the Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe; three eminent specialists on landscape: Mr Jacques Stein, President of the Sites section of the Royal Commission on Monuments, Sites and Excavations of Wallonia, Belgium; Mr Andreas Stalder, Permanent Expert of the Federal Commission for the Protection of Nature and Landscape of Switzerland; Mr Valerio Di Battista, Emeritus Professor at Milan Polytechnic, Architect, Co-ordinator of the Piedmont Landscape Observatory Network, President of the Monferrato Casalese Landscape Observatory, Italy.

In order to avoid a possible conflict of interest, the members of the Jury did not take part in the decisions concerning the Projects presented by the States of which they are nationals.

The proposals were endorsed by the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) (8th Plenary Session, Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, 12-14 June 2019),² and then adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 16 October 2019, at its 1357th meeting.

2. Document CDCPP (2019)11.

The Committee of Ministers:

i. acknowledged the twenty three achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award 2018-2019, considering that they are now part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2017)18;

ii. conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe on the following achievement:

- ▶ Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire, Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, and the following partners:
 - Switzerland
Municipalities: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux and Onex;
Environmental Associations: Association for the Protection of the Aire and its tributaries; (transfrontier); ProNatura Geneva; Worldwide Fund for Nature-Geneva;
Association of inhabitants: "Living in Lully";
Farmers' associations: AgriGeneve, Union Vegetable Market of Geneva; Office: "Superposition" Group;
 - France
Federation of municipalities of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, in a spirit of transfrontier co-operation, in accordance with Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention;

iii. conferred identical Special Mentions on the following achievements:

- ▶ Community activities day, "Let's do it!", Estonian Fund for Nature (NGO), Estonia;
- ▶ Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, City of Kotka, Finland;
- ▶ Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen, through the development of a large river promenade, City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France;
- ▶ Between land and water, "Another way of owning", The Men of Massenzatica Consortium, Italy;

iv. acknowledged the great value of each Project mentioned below, and the importance of making them well-known as sources of inspiration:

- ▶ Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium;
- ▶ Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia;
- ▶ Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol, Limassol Municipality, Cyprus;

- ▶ Landscape Futures, University of Copenhagen, Denmark;
- ▶ Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development, Martvili Municipality, Georgia;
- ▶ Recreation of Lake Karla, Region of Thessaly, Greece;
- ▶ Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Poganyvar Landscape Charter, Local governments of: Zalaszentmarton, Dioskal, Egeraracs, Esztergalyhorvati, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalaszabar and Zalavar, Hungary;
- ▶ The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival, Kocēni Municipality, Latvia;
- ▶ Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai City, Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania;
- ▶ Another landscape for Vianden, Community for Planning and Management of the Nature Park Our, Luxembourg;
- ▶ Lista, a unique landscape and partnership, Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway;
- ▶ Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture, Regional Directorate of the Environment, Regional Government of Azores, Portugal;
- ▶ The Spatial Plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci, Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia;
- ▶ Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banska Štiavnica Calvary, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic;
- ▶ Meadow orchards and landscape, Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia;
- ▶ The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention, Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute, Department of Culture, Local Government of Andalusia, Spain;
- ▶ Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University, Turkey;
- ▶ The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardon Mill, Northumberland, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom.

The Landscape Award Forum of the Council of Europe,³ aims to raise awareness about best practices which may serve as a source of inspiration.

The twenty three Projects presented on the occasion of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award are presented in this publication under three thematic headings which are not exclusive, as each combine, in different ways, the three key words of the European Landscape Convention: landscape “planning”, “management” and “protection”:

- ▶ Workshop 1 – Landscapes planned: strong forward-looking actions to enhance, restore or create landscapes;
- ▶ Workshop 2 – Landscapes protected: actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape;
- ▶ Workshop 3 – Landscapes managed: actions, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes.

3. See the previous Council of Europe Landscape Award Forums, organised for the sessions 1 to 5 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe (www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications / www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/publications):

- 1st and 2nd Sessions: 11th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Carbonia, Sardinia, Italy, 4-5 June 2012), Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, No. 98;
- 3rd Session: 14th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Wrocław, Poland, 11-12 June 2014), Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, No. 101;
- 4th Session: 17th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Budapest, Hungary, 9-10 June 2016), Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, No. 108;
- 5th Session: 20th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (Daugavpils, Latvia, 19-21 June 2018), Council of Europe, European Spatial Planning and Landscape Series, No. 113.

Workshop 1/Atelier 1
**Landscapes planned:
Strong forward-looking actions,
to enhance, restore or
create landscapes**

**Des paysages aménagés :
Des actions présentant
un caractère prospectif visant
la mise en valeur, la restauration
ou la création de paysages**

Chairs/Présidents

M. Jacques Stein

*Président de la Section des sites de la Commission Royale des monuments,
sites et fouilles de la Wallonie, Belgique,
Président du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe*

M. Andreas Stalder

*Expert permanent de la Commission fédérale pour la protection de la nature et du paysage de la Suisse,
Membre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe*

La renaturation du cours d'eau de l'Aire

République et Canton de Genève, Suisse

Représentant du Ministère

M. Gilles Rudaz

Dr ses, Collaborateur scientifique, Division Biodiversité et paysage, Section Politique du paysage, Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse

Représentant du Projet

M. Gilles Mulhauser

Directeur, Office cantonal de l'eau, Département du territoire, République et Canton de Genève, Suisse

Partenaires du projet:

- ▶ Suisse: Communes: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux et Onex; Associations environnementales: Association pour la protection de l'Aire et de ses affluents (transfrontalière); ProNatura Genève, Fonds mondial pour la nature-Genève; Association d'habitants: « Vivre à Lully » (AVAL); Association d'agriculteurs: AgriGenève; Union maraîchère de Genève; Bureau: Groupement « Superpositions »;
- ▶ France: Communauté de communes du Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, dans un esprit de coopération transfrontalière conforme à l'article 9 de la Convention européenne du paysage.

Résumé du projet

Conduit par le service de renaturation des cours d'eau de l'État de Genève, le projet du groupement Superpositions a été plébiscité par le jury du mandat d'études parallèles en janvier 2001 pour ses qualités à la fois environnementale, sociale, territoriale, patrimoniale et paysagère.

Décliné en plusieurs étapes, le projet s'est chaque fois amélioré. Ainsi le troisième tronçon inauguré et rendu à la population fin 2015 présente certainement ce que l'on fait de mieux en la matière. La démarche du projet consistant à laisser la nouvelle rivière façonner elle-même son lit en laissant libre cours au jeu des érosions successives, tout en transformant l'ancien canal en un parc linéaire avec des promenades, des placettes publiques, sorte de grand jardin paysager, sont à la base de son succès auprès des citoyens.

L'équipe de mandataires « Superpositions » réunit aussi bien des ingénieurs, des biologistes que des architectes du paysage.



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Principaux objectifs du projet

Le projet consiste en la revitalisation morphologique du cours d'eau de l'Aire, qui fut canalisé entre la fin du XIX^e siècle et la première moitié du XX^e siècle, dans le but de lui restituer son espace de liberté et de divagation afin de répondre à des objectifs environnementaux et de protection accrus contre les dangers de crues.

Vu que la rivière s'écoule dans une plaine fortement urbanisée, le projet répond également à un objectif social visant à offrir à la population de nouveaux lieux de détente et de promenade à proximité directe de la ville de Genève. Il porte sur un tronçon rural de l'Aire, allant de la frontière franco-suisse à l'aval de la ville de Saint Julien en Genevois (Haute-Savoie) jusqu'au pont du Centenaire à Onex, soit sur un linéaire de 4,5 km.

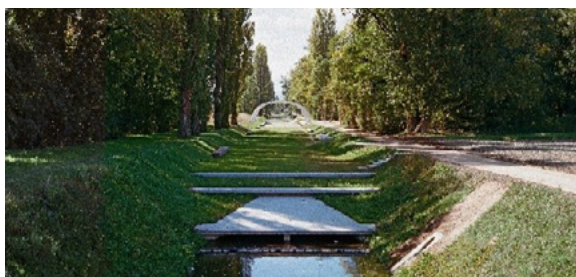


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Résultats obtenus

Au chapitre de la protection contre les crues, le projet a permis de sécuriser l'ensemble des territoires situés dans le bassin versant de la rivière passant d'une protection d'occurrence trentennale à tri-centennale.

Au niveau environnemental, la reconstitution de nouveaux milieux induite par le processus de laisser libre cours au jeu des érosions crée une dynamique morphologique idéale pour l'installation d'une flore pérenne et de la faune trouvant les conditions parfaites pour y résider. Les résultats du projet ont été, en quelques mois, spectaculaires. La relation nappes-rivière retrouvée a par ailleurs permis de réaliser une autoépuration naturelle des eaux, améliorant ainsi sa qualité. Du canal historique, l'Aire coule maintenant dans une « plaine alluviale ».



© Jacques Berthet

En ce qui concerne enfin le volet social, le projet a été l'occasion de réaliser un véritable « espace public rural » composé de promenades, de lieux de détente et de rencontre s'étendant sur l'ensemble du linéaire de la rivière. Les enfants, les promeneurs et les sportifs par exemple, y trouvent des conditions idéales.

Développement territorial durable

Le projet s'inscrit dans une politique du développement durable, en raison de gains environnementaux et sociaux, mais aussi en raison de l'économie de moyens dégagée étape par étape. Grâce aux nombreux acteurs concernés et impliqués par le projet, une prise de conscience transversale forte a été à l'œuvre pendant ces deux dernières décennies entre les différentes politiques publiques, les divers niveaux de la société civile et les collectivités publiques (communes, canton, Confédération).



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Le projet a été fréquemment présenté à l'occasion de débats portant sur des thèmes divers, tels que ceux du rapport entre agriculture et nature (comment prolonger les trames vertes et bleues en système maraîcher, depuis la rivière renaturée ?), entre ville et campagne (quelle emprise prendre sur les terres agricoles pour protéger un quartier urbain des inondations ?), ou entre usages de loisir et de protection (aménager l'ancien canal pour l'accueil des activités de plein air, tout en offrant une rivière libre avec le moins de pression possible).

Les questions de qualité de l'eau et de paysage ont aussi été très concrètement discutées grâce à des choix visibles par tous sur le terrain, de l'expert au promeneur du dimanche. La question de la quantité d'eau a été la plus vivement discutée. Connue pour ses étiages sévères, malgré des inondations historiques (la dernière en 1976), certains ne comprenaient pas les raisons de « prendre » autant de place sur les terres agricoles et de « détruire » les forêts adjacentes pour la renaturation. Mais le plus grand paradoxe qui a le plus surpris provient, dans le contexte de ces discussions, de la réalité vécue sur place une fois les travaux achevés.



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Du canal putride et nauséabond, l'Aire s'écoule maintenant dans une plaine alluviale. Les résultats qualitatifs sont spectaculaires. Les oiseaux, les batraciens ont décuplés. Les enfants, éloignés de la rivière avec le canal, se la sont réattribués avec la renaturation et rares sont ceux qui passent sans y lancer un caillou ou bien n'y mettent le pied ! Les dispositifs paysagers – fossés, haies, bosquets, marais – presque entièrement disparus forment une structure paysagère permettant d'assurer à la fois l'écoulement des eaux et les continuités végétales et animales nécessaires. Celle-ci est garante de la sécurité des territoires et de la possibilité de l'insertion d'activités humaines compatibles avec les principes du développement durable.



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L'idée originale de laisser travailler le cours d'eau pour le façonnage de son lit au travers d'une grille en forme de losanges a constitué un gain important en énergie anthropique. Le volume de matériaux excavés et transportés a été fortement réduit. Le solde a été réutilisé sur place pour la réalisation de la promenade sur l'ancien canal, pour la constitution de la digue de protection contre les crues et pour le modelé paysager. L'espace naturel de vaste dimension redonné à la rivière et le choix judicieux de recolonisation spontanée et d'implantation de végétaux indigènes ont eu pour résultat un foisonnement de la faune et de la flore, ainsi qu'une épuration naturelle de l'eau, lui conférant une bien meilleure qualité qu'auparavant.



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Les travaux ont permis de reconnecter la rivière au système hydrogéologique de la plaine. Du point de vue de la protection des personnes et des biens contre les crues, la réduction du risque apportée par le projet est très importante. Toutes les routes adjacentes ont été fermées à la circulation automobile et réaménagées en promenades pour les mobilités douces. Les sols existants imperméables ont été remplacés par des sols perméables, réduisant les rejets d'eau de ruissellement vers les systèmes de canalisation. Une attention particulière a été portée à l'accessibilité aux personnes à mobilité réduite qui a été assurée pour ensemble des nouvelles promenades et des espaces d'accueil du public. Le design du mobilier a également été pensé avec une attention portée aux personnes se déplaçant en chaise roulante, aux personnes âgées et aux enfants.

Enfin, l'aspect transfrontalier a été intégré. Le projet a été une des actions phares du contrat de rivière de la communauté de communes du Genevois (Archamps, Haute-Savoie, France). Une étude de faisabilité visant à la renaturation de l'Aire sur France existe et le projet est en attente de financement.



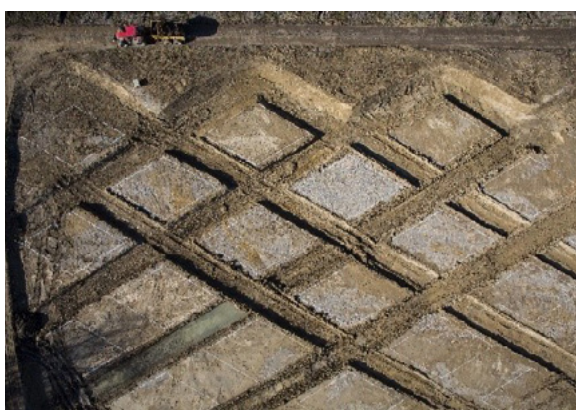
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Exemplarité

Le projet est novateur dans la manière de concevoir et de construire le nouveau lit d'un cours d'eau. Afin d'obtenir une grande diversité de morphologies du nouveau lit de la rivière, une approche originale de terrassement a été développée. Après un pré-terrassement général, des tranchées régulières ont été creusées selon une grille en forme

de losanges. Les dimensions de ce diagramme ont été déterminées par l'étude des tracés des anciens méandres et les conditions d'écoulement hydraulique. L'établissement de ce «diagramme de percolation» (passage d'un fluide à travers un milieu poreux non homogène) a permis d'accélérer le processus d'érosion et le façonnage du nouveau cours d'eau sans en prédéterminer le tracé exact.

Les résultats ont rapidement été spectaculaires. Le courant a déplacé les matériaux, graviers, sables, limons. La structure géométrique initiale a été considérablement modifiée et le nouveau lit présente aujourd'hui une diversité morphologique et de milieux naturels tout à fait remarquables. On a ainsi créé «artificiellement» une plaine alluviale «naturelle».

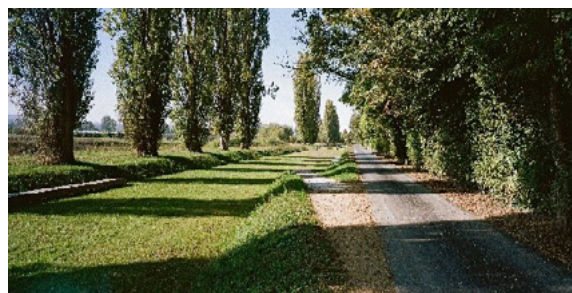


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Dans le cadre de ce projet de renaturation de cours d'eau, la constitution d'une équipe pluridisciplinaire de mandataires constituée d'architectes, d'architectes-paysagistes, de biologistes, d'ingénieurs civils, d'ingénieurs hydrauliciens et d'ingénieurs ruraux peut également être mentionnée comme exemplaire. Elle a permis de mener une réflexion riche et d'apporter une réponse appropriée qui croise l'ensemble des expériences et des compétences au regard de la complexité du contexte. Cette confrontation des divers savoir-faire a permis d'aboutir à un résultat innovant en matière de revitalisation de cours d'eau ainsi qu'à la création d'un véritable espace public rural.

Participation du public

Le long processus d'élaboration du projet a fait l'objet d'un suivi par un comité de pilotage regroupant les représentants de tous les services de l'État concernés. Cette concertation a permis de confronter les besoins spécifiques liés à l'aménagement du territoire, à la protection contre des dangers de crues, à l'agriculture, à la protection de la nature, à la mobilité et à la sauvegarde du patrimoine afin de pouvoir les concilier dans un projet commun.



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En complément, au vu de la complexité des enjeux territoriaux et sociaux, l'avancement du projet a aussi été périodiquement présenté et discuté au sein de la «Charte Aire», organe qui regroupe les représentants de l'ensemble des communes riveraines, les associations d'usagers du site et de protection de la rivière ainsi que les agriculteurs locaux. Cet échange continu a permis de cerner au mieux les attentes, les espoirs et les besoins des différents usagers du lieu et de répondre au mieux à leurs attentes.

Par ailleurs, un effort important de communication du projet à la population a été fait durant la totalité du processus. Avant le démarrage des principales phases de travaux, des documents d'information présentant l'historique et l'évolution du projet, les enjeux et les solutions retenues ont été publiés et distribués aux habitants des communes riveraines. De plus, à la fin de chaque étape, *The River Chronicle*, journal regroupant photos de la réalisation et articles rédigés par des professionnels, a été largement distribué. Finalement, un livre et un film documentaire ont retracé l'histoire de ce projet et documenté ses résultats.

Sur ce projet en particulier, ainsi que celui de la Seymaz, le canton de Genève a été (avec le canton de Zürich) pour le moins visionnaire dans le principe de renaturation des cours d'eau dès 1997. Le canton de Genève s'est doté d'un financement original utilisant les taxes des usines hydroélectriques – qui impactent l'environnement avec la modulation des débits des grands fleuves pour la production d'énergie électrique.

Sensibilisation

Il est certain qu'entre les images historiques du paysage naturel (méandres) et agricole (canaux superficiels en plaine marécageuse avec arbres têtards) hérité du XIX^e siècle, en passant par les lignes construites héritées des grands travaux du début du XX^e siècle (grand canal rectiligne bordé de peupliers), le paysage issu du projet de renaturation de l'Aire interpelle sur la façon d'intégrer les contraintes d'un territoire en développement (avec autoroute, extension urbaine, zone industrielle, agriculture non tributaire du sol, etc.), mais offre avec réussite

plusieurs preuves concrètes de la façon de donner une nouvelle cohérence, de nouveaux sens à un aménagement humain. En effet, grâce aux nombreuses discussions transdisciplinaires vécues entre les parties prenantes au projet, et à une lecture et prise en compte fine et subtile des qualités et opportunités des paysages présents, les réalisations offertes aux acteurs et usagers de ce territoire ont créé une identité et des plus-values manifestes en termes de cadre de vie.

Le projet de l'Aire favorise le lien social aussi bien transversalement à la rivière – les usagers des communes riveraines se retrouvent le long des promenades et des secteurs d'accueil aménagés au bord de l'eau – que longitudinalement, l'Aire étant un cours d'eau transfrontalier qui relie via un parcours aménagé pour les mobilités douces le centre de Genève en Suisse à la ville de Saint-Julien en France.

Par ailleurs, ce projet situé à la frange entre ville et campagne questionne les rapports entre agriculture, nature et culture, et offre un espace de dialogue entre les différents acteurs et usagers du territoire.

Vidéos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/317060791>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515761545>

Posters:

- ▶ français : <https://rm.coe.int/council-of-europe-european-landscape-convention-landscape-award-6th-se/168092e603>
- ▶ anglais : <https://rm.coe.int/council-of-europe-european-landscape-convention-landscape-award-6th-se/168092e602>

Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park

City of Kotka, Finland

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Tapio Heikkilä

*Senior Environmental Advisor, Department of the Natural Environment,
Ministry of the Environment, Finland*

Representative of the Project

Mr Markku Hannonen

Director of Urban Planning, City of Kotka, Finland

Summary of the project

The Kotka National Urban Park (NUP) is a combination of parks, built quarters, sea areas of the Gulf of Finland and shores of the Kymijoki river, amounting to 2,675 hectares. It connects the most significant sites in the city of Kotka to make a uniform network where it is easy to walk, both in terms of time and landscape. The Kotka National Urban Park also connects the city to the surrounding nature by way of ecological corridors. The National Urban Park is a comprehensive entity of natural and cultural landscapes and recreational areas, the preservation of which the city will be committed to when the Park is established. The status of National Urban Parks is specified in the Finnish Land Use and Building Act. The city of Kotka applied for the establishment of the Park, and the decision was made by the Ministry of the Environment in 2014. First and foremost, a National Urban Park is a tool for the sustainable design of land use. The Finnish National Urban Park concept was awarded by the European Garden Heritage Network (EGHN) with the European Garden Award in 2014 in the “large concept” bracket.



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Central aims of the project

The central objectives in establishing the Kotka National Urban Park and the work leading up to it were to:

- ▶ ensure that the urban space, cultural and natural heritage and special ecological values are preserved as a coherent entity, and to protect, manage and enrich the landscape;
- ▶ implement a city planning tool that supports the design and sustainable development of the urban landscape in the long term;
- ▶ ensure natural diversity and create ecological corridors that connect the green areas in the city with the surrounding nature;
- ▶ continue to shape the image of the once-polluted, industrial city to become a healthy, beautiful and comfortable seaside city of parks;
- ▶ create the prerequisites to experience the story of the city's natural and cultural history genuinely in a living, physical landscape;
- ▶ highlight special values among the city structure;
- ▶ increase awareness of landscapes and the way they change, as well as stimulate the residents' interest in their everyday landscape, and the effect it has on their identity and well-being;
- ▶ establish the rich cultural and natural heritage in Kotka as a tangible identity factor of the city, generate an everyday environment providing experiences within it, inspiring a love for the city in the hearts of the residents of Kotka;
- ▶ develop the National Urban Park into an attraction factor for both local residents and visitors from throughout Finland and abroad.

Outcome

The project has exceeded its goals successfully. The research that aimed to establish the Kotka National Urban Park was started in 2004, and in 2012 the municipal executive decided to apply for the status of NUP. The Ministry of the Environment awarded the status to Kotka National Urban Park in 2014.

Key results:

- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park contains 2,675 hectares of coastal areas in the eastern part of the Gulf of Finland, parks in the city centre and built quarters, as well as shores of the Kymijoki river, the preservation of which as a coherent entity was secured by establishing the NUP in Kotka. The City of Kotka is committed to preserving the cultural and natural landscape, singular historical characteristics and other special values of the area.

- ▶ The National Urban Park is utilised as a tool for urban landscape planning. It can be used to develop the city as a comprehensive entity, while observing ecological aspects, culture, landscape, functionality and the vitality of the city. The management and utilisation of the urban environment is controlled through a management and utilisation plan drafted together by the City and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Southeast Finland, which has in turn co-operated with the parties most affected by the plans.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park forms a unified and coherent entity in terms of landscape and function, and it also acts as a blue-green corridor securing natural diversity between various districts, nearby nature environments and two national parks.
- ▶ Kotka had previously changed its image from an industrial town to a sea-side city filled with parks through its persevering work, and the establishment of the National Urban Park has only worked to strengthen this image in the eyes of residents and tourists alike.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park is the story of a fort and border town established for the utilisation of the fruits of the Baltic Sea and the Kymijoki river. Kotka has grown to become a versatile sea-side town of green parks, celebrating the diversity of nature in the archipelago, and developing sustainably.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park is a collection of the highlights of Kotka: parks, water bodies, nature and architectural gems. Four information boards have been erected in the National Urban Park, each offering information on the Park, in three languages. The Park also features 20 rock columns informing the visitor that they are in a National Urban Park. These columns are designed to elevate the status of the landscape in the eyes and mind of the visitor and, indeed, they are a popular subject for photographers as they provide the location information in the image itself. Visitors to the NUP, locals and tourists alike, share their experiences and images on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook and blogs. The NUP in Kotka, and the award-winning parks at its core, have warranted interest both nationally and internationally.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park, and the related preparation process, has been communicated widely and covered in numerous newspaper articles, radio interviews and TV inserts, and this has increased the residents' awareness of and knowledge about their everyday surroundings.

and landscape. Even the initial plans for establishing a National Urban Park garnered considerable interest among residents, and they participated actively in the process by sending letters to the editor, for example, thus involving themselves in the implementation of the landscape policy.

- ▶ The residents have truly adopted the Kotka National Urban Park as their shared living room. It attracts residents of all ages to participate in events, or just to relax and enjoy the outdoors, throughout the year. The pleasant recreational areas, parks and the connecting light traffic routes of the National Urban Park make spending time outdoors easy, and enable hiking in surroundings that inspire experiences, increasing the health and well-being of Kotka's residents. Light traffic routes have been developed as part of the Park, and they offer a coherent and safe access route from the city centre to the fringes of the city, making it easy for everyone to access nature.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park and the versatile park at its core are an attraction factor in Kotka, both as a city to live in and visit. The Kotka National Urban Park attracts people from afar, increasingly even from abroad. Kotka is seen as an attractive, vibrant city with an excellent living environment.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park has also been used as an outdoor classroom, and this use will probably increase in the future. In general, the Kotka NUP is a favourite with the children, and the versatile cultural and natural heritage of the Park, complete with information boards, offers excellent opportunities for environmental education. The Finnish fish aquarium, Maretarium, is also located in the NUP area. The Maretarium offers the opportunity to learn more about the underwater landscape and environment.
- ▶ Other locations are also interested in the good practices implemented in Kotka, and Kotka is more than willing to share them. Park planning and implementation is a popular theme among visitors from near and far.
- ▶ The determined development of parks has also yielded measurable results. A long-term, annual survey on municipal engineering services by the Finnish Consulting Group places Kotka at the top in terms of the quality of city centre parks. The most recent figures from 2018 show Kotka making even clearer headway than before. 99% of respondents said that the quality of parks in the centre of Kotka is good, whereas for runner-up cities it is 90%.



Kotka National Urban Park Varissaari Island. © City of Kotka

Sustainable territorial development

The establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, and the measures that enabled it, are in keeping with sustainable development policies and they have been implemented in harmony with the regional organisation.

The Kotka National Urban Park was established in an urban environment in accordance with the criteria specified in the Finnish Land Use and Building Act. Entities formed by green areas and historical environments of national importance in terms of their natural and cultural heritage have been preserved in the environment, and the city intends to sustain their preservation through responsible town planning. The Kotka National Urban Park was established to preserve the coherent entity of the cultural and natural landscape, its historically special characteristics as well as special values concerned with the townscape and social, recreational and other values. The development of the Kotka NUP is ongoing work, whereby the area is developed slowly but surely, in accordance with plans. Primarily, areas owned by the municipality, the state or other public entities are designated as National Urban Park areas. Other areas may be designated as NUP areas with permission from the landowner.

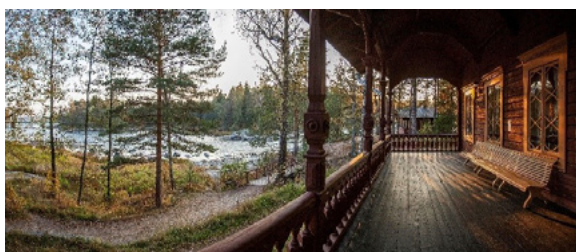
The Ministry of the Environment has specified four criteria that must be fulfilled for the area to be eligible for the status of National Urban Park. In keeping with the criteria:

- ▶ National Urban Parks must contain important nature areas in terms of the preservation of diverse urban nature, significant cultural environments, along with buildings, in terms of national history or the city's own developmental stages, as well as significant parks or green areas, regarding park architecture or aesthetics.
- ▶ National Urban Parks must be sufficiently large and undisturbed as green and park areas, as well as sufficiently coherent in their blue-green structure, that they can be used as corridors from one district to another.

- ▶ Ecological corridors must exist in the area, and the area must connect seamlessly with the natural environment or the rural areas surrounding the city.
- ▶ The National Urban Park must be an essential part of urban structure, i.e. it must start in the city centre or its immediate vicinity.

The criteria support sustainable development and bear a practical significance to landscape protection, management and planning.

The measures aimed at establishing the Kotka National Urban Park have promoted environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability in an exemplary manner. These measures have been effective in combating and repairing the damage caused to structures in the landscape. The measures already completed, and planned for the future work, enrich the landscape and develop new features.



© City of Kotka

The establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park has promoted environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic sustainability in the following ways:

Environmental sustainability

The National Urban Park includes valuable river, archipelago, forest and rock nature, and the area is ecologically versatile; it also includes nature reserves and Natura 2000 areas. The blue-green structure, composed of versatile green areas and sea and river areas, connects the urban structure to the surrounding nature. The Kotka National Urban Park acts as an ecological blue-green corridor between city districts and other national parks in the area. The Kotka NUP also offers a habitat for the many endangered species living in the park area.

Formerly weak, polluted areas in Kotka have been cleaned and improved through the construction of the Kotka National Urban Park, of which Sapokka Water Garden, Katariina Seaside Park and the Riverside Park are shining examples. Biodiversity has been supported in park construction by establishing a wetland in the middle of the lawn in Katariina Seaside Park, for example. A large section of the 20-hectare Katariina Seaside Park is left to nature's devices in terms of plant selection. Indeed, the park is home to versatile plant species, including some endangered species. A new fish passage was

built along the ten-metre high Korkeakoski hydro-electric power plant dam in 2016, for migratory fish to ascend the dam, and for the purposes of monitoring the transition.

Thanks to its information boards, the Kotka National Urban Park offers good opportunities for environmental education. The Finnish fish aquarium located in the area, the Maretarium, is very popular with families, and as a field trip destination, as it offers visitors the chance to look at the underwater landscape and nature.

The Kotka NUP is an interesting domestic tourist attraction, supporting ecological local and domestic tourism.

Cultural sustainability

The Kotka National Urban Park defines the cultural, historical, ecological and aesthetic values that we want to preserve for future generations. The NUP weaves the highlights of urban life, culture and nature together and emphasises local cultural history, helping us understand our roots better for an improved present. The network, comprising the Kotka National Urban Park and the nine National Urban Parks in Finland, helps tell the local story, and the story of Finland, through changes in livelihoods, cultural challenges, natural and park environments. The role of Kotka in the NUP network is to highlight and preserve the versatile historical, cultural and industrial heritage in the area and its effect on the Finnish landscape and environment. The area includes significant industrial and natural landscapes, as well as architectural monuments that tell the story of the design ideals and usage needs of different periods, from sizable fortifications and imperial fishing lodges from the times of the Russian emperor to modernism, perfected by Finland's master architect, Alvar Aalto.

Underwater culture and natural heritage are also a part of the Kotka National Urban Park. As a result of battles between Russia and Sweden in the late 1700s, a unique burial ground of wrecks lies in the Svensksund area just outside Kotka, a very popular diving destination. The Finnish Heritage Agency has included the Svensksund wreck area in the list of significant underwater cultural heritage sites. Cannons and parts of wrecks lifted from Svensksund over the years are on display on dry land in the Park.

Economic sustainability

The urban park strengthens the image of Kotka as a city of parks, the sea and the river, offering things to see and do for visitors, a good living environment for its residents and a quality operating environment for companies, adding to the attractiveness of the area, and increasing tourism. As a large and attractive

area, the NUP extends the time visitors stay in Kotka, benefiting service providers and the regional economy. Thanks to the NUP, completely novel business operations have been created, as the demand for various additional services has increased. The Kotka National Urban Park is already connected to many types of business operations such as tourism, accommodation, catering and services offering experiences. The demand for these services is expected to grow in the future. Event-organising companies arrange canoeing on rapids, diving and boat trips to the Park, and the Kotka NUP even has its own Prosecco, imported by a local entrepreneur.

Kotka has focused on developing its central parks for more than 30 years. Most of the funds for the maintenance and modernisation work in the Park come from the budget of the city. Roughly 70% of the annual investment and maintenance resources of the city's parks and grounds department are allocated within the borders of the NUP. One of the planned focus areas is the development of the network of paths and bicycle routes.

The Kotka National Urban Park is also a testimony to the fact that, by recycling materials and adopting a natural method of building, the cost of construction does not have to be high. For example, nature has been given the power to decide which plants the park will incorporate in the 20-hectare Katariina Seaside Park.

Social sustainability

The Kotka National Urban Park offers plenty of opportunities for exercise and experiences in nature, both of which have been proven to promote well-being and health. The NUP is easily accessible and can be used by anyone, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Kotka NUP starts in the heart of the city and merges into residential areas like a net covering a large area, and this means that the urban park is easily accessible. It invites people of all ages to participate in events and hobbies, or just relax, meet people and enjoy outdoor life, throughout the year. The measures aimed at establishing the National Urban Park have increased the value of the area for recreation and its appeal as a residential area which benefits visitors and residents and promotes social sustainability.



Wild nature flows freely. © Juha Kärkkäinen

Aesthetic sustainability

The establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, and the measures that enabled it, have significantly increased the aesthetic value of the area. A network of renovated historical parks and versatile new parks is at the core of Kotka NUP. The Park also includes a beautiful forest, river, sea and archipelago areas. The preservation of their unique characteristics has been secured by the status of the NUP. Forest management is employed to care for the trees in the Park.

The measures that enabled the establishment of the Kotka NUP have worked to repair and reduce the damage caused to the landscape, as well as enriching it. The centrally located Katariinanniemi cape area, for example, was closed to residents for decades because it had been used as an oil harbour. When the operations of the oil harbour were discontinued, the area was cleaned, and the 20-hectare Katariina Seaside Park was constructed on the cape. It now forms an aesthetically pleasing, everyday environment that offers experiences, much like the rest of the Park area in Kotka. Some of the tank structures were left intact in the park, as a reminder of the history of Katariina Seaside Park, and to create layers in the landscape.



Underwater landscape. © Juho Lappalainen

Exemplary value

The operational principles and measures that have led to the status of the Kotka National Urban Park may serve as an example to others in terms of following good practice. Receiving the status of National Urban Park was the result of long-term, determined development of the urban environment and was both a milestone and a reward. The most important benefit that the establishment of the NUP has had for Kotka is the way in which it guides the city into the future and encourages it to continue development in the long term.

Once construction no longer threatens the landscape, it can be developed and managed patiently, purposefully and cost-efficiently in an exemplary manner, while benefiting all parties, the City, the residents and the entrepreneurs. In connection

with being awarded the status of National Urban Park, the city committed itself to preserving these nationally valuable landscapes, and to develop them as semi-public spaces in its land use decisions. The residents now have a pleasant environment in which to relax and go about their everyday life, the city has become more attractive and the demand for services offered by entrepreneurs has increased. In addition, there are opportunities for new businesses, and new types of business operations, in the area.

The following operating principles and measures can serve as an example to others regarding observing good practices:

- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park was born out of the city's own will and because of the city's own processes, creating the prerequisites for the National Urban Park and proposing the establishment of the NUP to the Ministry of the Environment. The City of Kotka wanted to commit to preserving and maintaining the special value of the area. Preserving and strengthening the unique characteristics of Kotka helps it to succeed in the competition for residents, jobs and visitors.
- ▶ The project was prepared in co-operation with various administrative branches, operators, residents and parties that own land or buildings in the urban park area. The realisation of the urban park required a democratic, coherent view on the matter, and commitment to the project.
- ▶ The Ministry of the Environment consulted, supported and offered information to the city in the preparatory and application phases. The preparation and decision-making process of the project showed that successful co-operation between municipal and state operators strengthens and promotes sustainable urban planning and construction.
- ▶ The management and utilisation of the Kotka National Urban Park is controlled through a management and utilisation plan drafted together by the City and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Southeast Finland which, in turn, co-operated with the parties most affected by the plans. The plan describes the long-term measures and operations that ensure the preservation and strengthening of the special values that served as the grounds for the establishment of a National Urban Park as the area was being purposefully developed. The plan addresses issues such as management efforts in the area and specifies the necessary renovation and repair sites, as well as maintenance and schedule management. The management and utilisation plan draft for the Kotka National Urban Park was placed

on display and opened for comments prior to being approved.

- ▶ An uninterrupted series of aesthetically attractive new and historical parks containing multiple species has been created in the Kotka National Urban Park. It forms the green and vibrant core of the urban park. The development has brought about a versatile and interesting environment for everyday operations, and the city's image has been transformed from a polluted industrial town to a city of beautiful, national award-winning parks and pleasant living environments.
- ▶ When the Kotka National Urban Park was established, the City wanted to incorporate many kinds of different landscapes, because underwater landscapes, nature and cultural heritage also have their place in the Park. One of the most important areas containing underwater ancient monuments in Finland is located right outside Kotka and is part of the NUP.
- ▶ First and foremost, the establishment of the urban park in Kotka has caused the implementation of a tool for urban planning. It can be used to develop the city as a comprehensive entity while observing ecological aspects, culture, landscape, functionality and the vitality of the city.
- ▶ The establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park and the planning of its management and use have involved close co-operation with various operators. Agreeing to shared goals in advance helped resources to be correctly allocated and the progress of the project to be promoted. The preparatory process for the establishment of the NUP has been an improvement in terms of co-operation, including within the city's own organisation.
- ▶ Good planning has enabled improved quality in environmental construction, which in turn enabled efficient and productive maintenance. For example, the Katariina Seaside Park, located in the Kotka National Urban Park, is living proof that, by recycling materials and adopting a natural method of building, the cost of construction does not have to be high.
- ▶ The most significant new parks in the area have been built on polluted land, which has been cleaned carefully first, in accordance with the park plans. However, urban areas do not need to be completely maintained by people: in the Katariina Seaside Park, nature has been given the power to select plants for large areas of the park, reducing maintenance of the large park substantially. The Katariina Seaside Park is also home to endangered species, a sign of the successful efforts to preserve biodiversity.
- ▶ The Kotka National Urban Park is open to all, all of the time, and all year. The Kotka NUP is easily

accessible because it starts in the heart of the city. The vast recreational area of the Katariina Seaside Park, for example, has a very central location in the city. There were approximately 200,000 visitors to the Katariina Seaside Park in 2018. Anyone visiting the National Urban Park area will benefit from the measures directed at landscape management in National Urban Parks, and the further development of the Park will improve the green connections for the city residents.

- ▶ The possibilities that the National Urban Park concept offers for landscape management are also important in terms of awareness-raising. Europe's first national city park, *Nationalstadspark*, was established in Stockholm, Sweden in 1995. The idea was adapted to Finland and remodelled to better suit the national needs. The Finnish National Urban Park concept was adopted as part of the Finnish Land Use and Building Act in 1999. Since then, nine National Urban Parks have been established in Finland of which Kotka NUP is the most diverse in terms of natural and cultural landscapes. Kotka National Urban Park serves as an international example of good practice protecting diverse natural and cultural values in urban landscape, whilst also increasing residents' well-being.

Public participation

Residents were encouraged to participate in the decision-making process right from the phase of determining the prerequisites for establishing the Kotka National Urban Park. Residents and landowners were informed of the process at various public events. Numerous "Find the nature near you" (*Löydä luonto läheltäsi*) nature discovery tours were also organised in the area. A separate press conference was organised for the media in the early stages of the preparatory work, and several times throughout the process local newspapers and local radio participated in describing the project and its significance to landowners and residents of Kotka. The progress of the project, as well as the initial report on the establishment, have been on display to the public on the city's website throughout the process. Residents provided feedback through official channels, as well as by writing opinion pieces in newspapers. The subject was also raised in the city's internal communication channels to record opinions. The application for the establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park was prepared in co-operation with residents and those owning buildings or land in the park area.

Participation has also been encouraged since the NUP was established. The management and utilisation of the Kotka National Urban Park is controlled

through a management and utilisation plan drafted by the City and the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Southeast Finland, in co-operation with the parties most affected by the plans. The draft management and utilisation plan were placed on display and opened for comments prior to being approved.



Katariinanniemi Cape. © Suomen Ilmakuva

The Kotka National Urban Park has been implemented in keeping 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, the Finnish Cultural Environment Strategy and the Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland.

The establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park has actively supported the objectives of legislation and strategies. The Park was established in compliance with the Finnish Land Use and Building Act to preserve and maintain the beauty, biodiversity and other special values of the cultural and natural landscape in the area. In addition to this, one of the measures described in the Strategy for the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Biodiversity in Finland is the completion of the network of National Urban Parks in Finland. The Kotka NUP also supports the objectives of the European Commission Sea Basin Strategy in its efforts to promote tourism, and preserve, manage and secure cultural heritage, strengthening the cultural identity of the area and promoting public awareness of, and interest in, the shared cultural heritage of the area.

Awareness-raising

The Kotka National Urban Park highlights local cultural history and helps people better understand the roots that affect the present. Through cultural history, the Park promotes understanding of the effects that landscape has on local and European identity. Factories, industrial plants and the sea have been an important part of the development of Kotka, and they are a visible part of the landscape in the National Urban Park.



Sapokka Water Garden. © City of Kotka

The planning and development work of the Kotka National Urban Park included highlighting the special value of the Park for residents. The work aimed to establish the Kotka National Urban Park and the Park has indeed increased awareness of the value, importance and change of the local landscapes, in the eyes of those operating in the area. The NUP has also been the subject of several negotiations with those responsible for marketing tourism.



Katariinanniemi Cape. © Airi Kattelus

Guided tours for residents of Kotka were organised on the official opening day of the Kotka National Urban Park. Information and discussion events have

since been held for interest groups and entrepreneurs. Information on the NUP has been provided in connection with the Kotka day (*Kotka-päivä*) event in the market square. The Park has also been incorporated into the education programme at the Karhula comprehensive school in Kotka. Pupils at the school complete assignments on the National Urban Park, and they are then displayed in the maritime centre, Vellamo.

In 2016, a brochure on the Kotka National Urban Park was produced and distributed to all households in Kotka. An online, interactive version of the brochure has been published on the website of the City of Kotka, much like the report on determining the prerequisites for establishing the Kotka National Urban Park.

The Kotka National Urban Park area has been utilised for educational purposes as an outdoor classroom, as it contains very versatile natural and cultural heritage. Such utilisation is likely to increase in the future. In the Finnish fish aquarium, *Maretarium*, people of all ages can learn more about underwater landscapes and nature.

The communications of the Kotka National Urban Park are being developed, and a map application on the National Urban Park has been introduced as a new tool, providing the opportunity to learn more about the NUP through text and images which describe the sites (in Finnish). <https://arcg.is/L1Sva>

Interaction also continues going forward. Information on the draft for the management and utilisation plan has been provided in notices and letters, and a public event has also been organised.

Video:

▶ <https://vimeo.com/313811908>

PowerPoint presentation:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680a06caa>

Brochure:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d667>



KOTKA NATIONAL URBAN PARK



KOTKA NATIONAL URBAN PARK




Kotka National Urban Park is not just a park, it is a combination of nature, park architecture, history and built heritage. It weaves together the best aspects of the urban landscape and brings people together.





A COMMITMENT TO PRESERVATION





The status of National Urban Parks is specified in the Land Use and Building Act. Cities must apply for the establishment of a National Urban Park and commit to its preservation. The Ministry of the Environment makes the decision on the establishment of a National Urban Park.

THE STORY OF KOTKA



Kotka National Urban Park is a tale of a fortress and border town, born to rely on the resources of the Baltic Sea and Kymijoki River, which has since grown into a multi-faceted port and an industrial town.

EXPLORING THE NATIONAL URBAN PARK

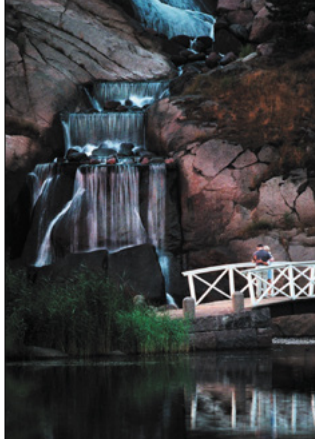



Modern-day Kotka is a city of lush green parks. It nurtures the biodiversity of the river, the coast and the archipelago.

PARKS



Originality is an essential part of urban culture. National characteristics have been taken into account in the construction of the parks, and the magnificent framework provided by nature has been highlighted. The innovative parks have received several national awards.



THE RIVER



The Kymi River with its many rapids has provided a living for the inhabitants since prehistoric times. Fishing provides a livelihood even today and has been joined by recreational fishing, whitewater canoeing and rafting. The river banks present unique nature and features.

HISTORY



Kotka is located at an intersection of historic events, where two powerful countries – Sweden and Russia – competed for supremacy. The countless shipwrecks resting at the bottom of the sea off the coast are remnants of the largest sea battle in the history of the Baltic Sea. The urban park also contains extensive fortresses of that time.



Exploring shipwrecks



Redoubt Herb Garden



INDUSTRIAL HERITAGE



Factories are a visible part of the landscape. The industrial history is embodied by log floating structures, working class residential areas, power plants and harbours.

Sunila residential area, by architect Alvar Aalto, was designed to be close to nature, as the houses blend with the pine trees and the green fields.

MARITIME CULTURE



Learn the stories of the sea at Vellamo Maritime Centre. It houses the National Maritime Museum, the regional Kymenlaakso museum and the Coast Guard Museum. Its most popular attraction is the icebreaker, Tarmo.



Kotka National Urban Park defines the cultural, historical, ecological and aesthetic values that we want to preserve for future generations.

Kotka National Urban Park is not a nature reserve, but a living and developing entity. The National Urban Park is filled with experiences, from the urban pulse of the city to the calm of the most magnificent nature experiences.



Reconquête des quais de la Seine à Rouen par l'aménagement d'une grande promenade fluviale

Ville de Rouen et métropole de Rouen,
Normandie, France

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt

*Chargée de mission paysage, Bureau des paysages et de la publicité,
Direction Générale de l'aménagement, du logement et de la nature,
Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire, France*

Avec la participation de

M^{me} Karine Mangin

*Directrice de l'enseignement et de la vie étudiante,
École nationale supérieure de paysage Versailles-Marseille, France*

Représentants du Projet

M. Djoudé Merabet

Vice-Président en charge de l'urbanisme de la Métropole Rouen Normandie, France

M. Bertrand Masson

Directeur de l'aménagement et des grands projets de Métropole Rouen Normandie, France

Résumé du projet

L'aménagement de la rive gauche de la Seine à Rouen, qui s'étend sur plus de 3 kilomètres en cœur de ville, s'inscrit dans un vaste projet de reconquête des terres désaffectées des deux côtés de la rivière. Des activités industrielles et portuaires y avaient été développées à la suite de la Seconde Guerre mondiale et jusqu'au début des années 1980. Leur déclin progressif a donné lieu à la présence d'espaces stériles avec des sols et sous-sols pollués. L'emplacement des quais constituait pour la ville une opportunité de développement et il semblait important de redonner aux quais une seconde vie. La promenade fluviale crée désormais un lien entre les deux rives du fleuve et le centre-ville historique, permettant aux habitants de réutiliser ces espaces et de redécouvrir une partie oubliée de leur paysage urbain.



© Ateliers Jacqueline Osty et Associés

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt

*Chargée de mission paysage, Bureau des paysages et de la publicité,
Direction Générale de l'aménagement, du logement et de la nature,
Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire, France*

Le Grand Prix National du Paysage (GPNP) de la France

Décerné par le ministère de la Transition écologique sur proposition d'un jury composé de professionnels reconnus, de représentants des collectivités territoriales et d'organisations professionnelles, le Grand Prix national du paysage distingue tous les deux ans une démarche paysagère exemplaire à l'échelle d'un territoire. Cette démarche doit être le fruit d'une collaboration étroite entre une maîtrise d'ouvrage porteuse d'une volonté territoriale ambitieuse et une équipe de maîtrise d'œuvre inventive et créative dans laquelle le rôle du paysagiste concepteur est central et prépondérant. Elle doit avoir donné lieu à des réalisations concrètes en France ou en zone transfrontalière, achevées au moment de la candidature.



*Avant et après. © Bureau des paysages et de la publicité,
Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire, France*

À travers ce Grand Prix, le ministère renouvelle ses engagements pris par la France en 2005 dans le cadre de la ratification de la Convention européenne du paysage en matière de protection, de gestion et d'aménagement de tous les paysages.

Le Grand Prix est un outil pour sensibiliser par l'exemple :

- ▶ à la pertinence de l'approche paysagère dans les processus de transformation des territoires ;
- ▶ à l'importance du portage politique et de l'engagement des maîtrises d'ouvrage en faveur des paysages dont elles ont la charge ;
- ▶ à la nécessité de recourir à des professionnels compétents au nombre desquels figurent les paysagistes concepteurs ;
- ▶ à la prise en compte des usages et des aspirations de la population.

À ces critères s'ajoute l'ambition de promouvoir la pertinence de l'approche paysagère dans l'aménagement du territoire. Ce niveau d'exigence a été relevé par les 17 candidatures, ce qui démontre l'excellence nationale. Cette étape de sélection à la session du Prix du Paysage du Conseil de l'Europe contribue à accroître sa notoriété.

Toutes les informations relatives au Grand Prix national du paysage sont accessibles sur les sites du ministère :

- ▶ www.ecologique-solidaire.gouv.fr/politique-des-paysages#e5;
- ▶ <https://objectif-paysages.developpement-durable.gouv.fr>

Le projet de «Reconquête des quais rive gauche de Rouen»

Le projet de «Reconquête des quais rive gauche de Rouen» remis en 2019 à la ville de Rouen, à la Métropole Rouen Normandie, à l'atelier d'urbanisme et de paysage In Situ et à l'Atelier Jacqueline Osty et associés a relevé ces défis par la réalisation d'un projet réussi de reconquête, sur près de 3 kilomètres, d'anciens sites industriels situés en bord de Seine au cœur même de la ville de Rouen. La qualité de la collaboration entre l'échelle communale et intercommunale, ainsi que la solidité et la continuité du portage politique sur le temps long, ont constitué des atouts forts de la transformation urbaine opérée sur ce site de la ville de Rouen. La finesse des aménagements conçus par les maîtres d'œuvre, ainsi que l'attention qu'ils ont portée à l'identité des lieux, aux usages et au vivant sont quant à eux particulièrement remarquables. Pour reprendre les termes d'Henri Bava, Président du jury national et paysagiste concepteur de l'Agence Ter, lauréat du Grand Prix du paysage en 2007 : «Ce projet d'envergure a transformé en profondeur le paysage urbain de la ville de Rouen et prépare l'arrivée de nouveaux quartiers ou équipements. Nous tenons à récompenser une démarche ambitieuse ayant contribué à améliorer la qualité du cadre de vie tout en renforçant l'attractivité de la ville».



Participation du public. © Bureau des paysages et de la publicité, Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire, France

Je tiens à saluer et féliciter pour ces mentions du Prix, M. Djoudé Mérabet, Vice-président en charge de l'urbanisme à la Métropole Rouen Normandie et M. Bertrand Masson, Directeur de l'aménagement et des grands projets à la Métropole Rouen Normandie et au Service commun Ville de Rouen.

Merci aux deux maîtres d'œuvre, l'Agence In Situ représentée par M. Jalbert, et l'Agence Jacqueline Osty, représentée par M^{me} Osty, lauréate du Grand prix du paysage en 2005, puis en 2018 avec In Situ, et du Grand Prix de l'Urbanisme en 2020, qui avez su donner corps à cette ambition politique et la traduire sous une forme originale et forte, manifestement très plébiscitée par les rouennais et qui marquera pour longtemps le paysage de la métropole.

Vidéos (sous-titres anglais ; English subtitles) :

- ▶ Version courte : <https://vimeo.com/457789930>
- ▶ Version longue : <https://vimeo.com/457791221>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/321433754>

Présentation :

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680934ff2>

Posters :

- ▶ plan de masse : <https://rm.coe.int/convention-europeenne-du-paysage-du-conseil-de-l-europe-prix-du-paysag/1680934ff4>
- ▶ photos «avant et après» : <https://rm.coe.int/1680934ff4>

Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol

Limassol Municipality, Cyprus

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Irene Hadjisavva

*Planning Officer, Department of Town Planning and Housing,
Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus*

Representative of the Project

Mr Nicos Nicolaides

Mayor of Limassol Municipality, Cyprus

Summary of the project

In 1970, the Government and the Municipal Authorities proceeded with a reclamation project, expanding the land of Limassol into the sea, in order to cope with erosion, to protect buildings along the beach, and create a large seaside park. The existing seafront, 1 km long and 65 metres wide, needed modifications that would make it part of the new modern face of central Limassol by means of an integrated, unified design. The reconstruction included: new landscaping using local high-temperature-resistant plants, mainly for greenery and beautification; the use of recycled water from the sewage system for irrigation; a bike lane beside the main road; a small amphitheatre; loungers; walkways; seating areas; playgrounds; a skateboard area; wooden piers and decks for walking and; lighting. In the context of the upgrade, existing functions and infrastructures were taken into consideration, such as fountains, sculptures, green areas and play areas.

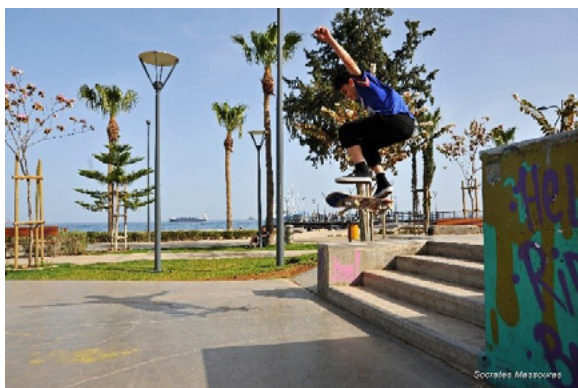


© Socrates Massouras

Central aims of the project

The aim of the project was to reshape the seafront, based on the new developments dating from 2002 when the “Central Limassol Plan – provisions and policy matters” was drawn up, and on the new demands and needs of those using the area, mainly to improve the environment and quality of life of the town’s residents and those of the wider metropolitan area.

The philosophy of the project was also to regain the vista to the sea and to revive the use of the place as it had been in the 1950s, where there was a pier and a multifunctional building with a coffee shop and theatre. The Aktaio was one of the most important meeting places for the Limassolians, for relaxation and social functions. The aim was also for the seafront promenade to link up both functionally and semantically with the rest of the town via various access points and changes to the seafront, in order to restore the functional relationship between the town centre and the sea, a relationship which had been lost for many years.



Limas Beach Park. © Socrates Massouras

Sustainable territorial development

In 2003, and in co-operation with the Town Planning and Housing Department, Limassol City attempted to face its problems and needs by preparing and adopting a Strategic Plan for Integrated Sustainable Urban Development, intended to solve urban issues such as abandoned spaces, city planning, urban mobility, culture and heritage, and urban renewal. The Plan determined the functional structures, permitted uses of land, pedestrian modules, creation of open spaces, all within an existing and already structurally defined area.

With the completion of the project, the seafront park has been reshaped, contributing to the improvement of the environment and quality of life, as well to the success of the city’s marketability and competitiveness. The local economy has been boosted thanks to more visitors who have been charmed by the new-look seafront.



Limas Beach Park. © Socrates Massouras

The open spaces, together with the amphitheatre, can host cultural activities organised by the Municipality but more often by local community groups. Festival activities, such as the carnival and beer festival are organised, as well as theatre plays; music and dance performances take place in the area, making it a lively place and a cultural and leisure area. The seafront, which had been relatively unexploited and neglected, has now been revived. Sculptures placed in the area contribute not only aesthetically but also culturally. Temporary outdoor exhibitions by different bodies are also organised.



Limas Beach Park. © Socrates Massouras

Exemplary value

Limassol’s seafront regeneration has proved effective, achieving the desired results, and can be recommended as a model. It is a successful project, which has been tested and validated, and we strongly believe that it is interesting for other European coastal cities, as many of them face similar problems.

The project addresses issues widely faced by coastal cities, offers practical and result-oriented solutions and applies a sustainable and integrated approach to tackling urban challenges. It is based on a participatory approach in both project development and implementation, involving all relevant stakeholders, it is well-documented and has made a visible and measurable difference to the city and the wider metropolitan area.

The objectives were defined, such as the creation of a green core for the city centre “Helping Limassol regain a view of the sea and keep in touch with the shore”, and the completion and modernisation of a basic infrastructure. The Plan described the scope of the city quality improvement, the modernisation of the basic infrastructure, proper urban planning and the creation of sites of special interest.

In Limassol – a city with a vision – problems became opportunities, through their successful identification, bearing in mind the importance of the seafront area. One of the most important accomplishments of the project is that it managed not only to upgrade a neglected area environmentally and aesthetically, but it also successfully incorporated human activities, linking intangible heritage and practices with the spatial dimension.

Public participation

The Government, the State services and the private sector came together and co-operated fully. In Limassol, a step-by-step procedure was followed, enabling economic and social actors to work together and develop integrated solutions to common urban challenges. The preliminary plans were presented to the public and the views expressed were seriously considered and incorporated in the final design.

For example, the public strongly expressed their wish that the landscaping design should include both a walkway in straight line for quick walking and a walkway for leisure walking; therefore, both types of walkways were incorporated in the project. Another example was the demand for a view of the sea while walking or sitting; therefore, the levels of the area were raised and platforms and walkways over the sea were constructed.



Lima's Beach Park. © Socrates Massouras

The project respected sustainability rules and best practices and they have been followed up by the competent State authorities, such as the Department of Public Works and the Department of Environment. Recycled water from the sewage system is used for irrigating the green areas. Local plants, which are high-temperature-resistant, are mainly used for greenery and beautification.

This initiative is perfectly compatible with long-established State policy, in terms of utilising and developing the existing landscape. In the context of planning and construction of the project, we have been encouraged and supported financially and technically by the State, with reference to the Area Plan for the city centre as issued by the Department of Town Planning and Housing of the Ministry of Interior in co-operation with Limassol Municipality.

Awareness-raising

The positive results of the project have already materialised: the aim of qualitative social improvement and round-the-clock activity of the park – in essence revitalising it both socially and economically – has been achieved.

The green environment, the quality comforts, facilities and installations for public recreation and relaxation included in the project have made the park a unique area, and its reputation has spread across Cyprus. The city now offers greater hospitality, freshness and an open-hearted atmosphere, particularly enjoyed during warm Mediterranean summer and autumn days and nights. It is relaxing and offers peace of mind.

Today, the Limassol seafront area has become a meeting place for social activities, it buzzes with life and is one of the most important places for the town's residents, as well as the thousands of visitors who walk, exercise, rest and enjoy recreation there. The environment and quality of life have been improved and the city's marketability and competitiveness boosted.

Video:

▶ <https://vimeo.com/315202502>

Presentations:

▶ https://rm.coe.int/1680923ec2*

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680923ec4>

Website:

▶ www.limassolmunicipal.com.cy/en/anaptiksiaka-erga-2007-2013

Recreation of Lake Karla

Region of Thessaly, Greece

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Efi Stefani

Director of the Department of Spatial Planning, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

With the participation of

Mr Anestis Gourgiotis,

Professor of Spatial Planning, University of Thessaly, Greece

Representative of the Project

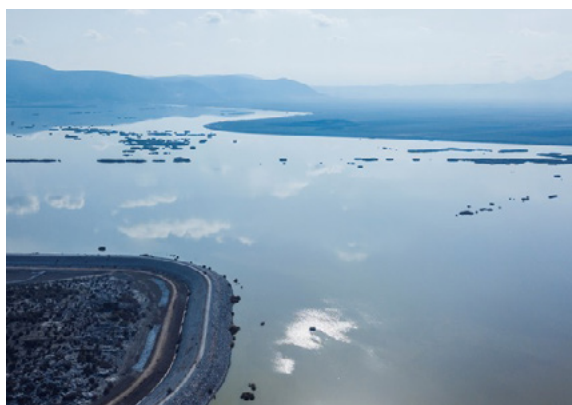
Mr Konstantinos Agorastos

Governor of the Region of Thessaly, Greece

Summary of the project

Landscape is indeed an important part of the quality of life for people anywhere: the landscape around Lake Karla, formerly an area of outstanding natural beauty, ecological value and cultural significance, was transformed when it was drained and became an area which had no obvious specificities. The motive of acquiring additional land for the area's agriculture led to the disastrous transformation of Karla's landscape.

The "Recreation of Lake Karla", implemented by the Region of Thessaly, is considered the largest environmental project in the Balkans, and concerns the creation of a wide wetland area of 3,800 hectares. The project is designed to reverse the adverse environmental conditions, caused by the lake drainage. It is a project of local development and national importance, with multiple positive effects on the lake area. The project, begun in 1999, cost in total 245,000,000 €. By upgrading and solving a series of the downgrading conditions and problems brought about by the lake's drainage, the project is a multifaceted Landscape subject befitting the European Landscape Convention. It is indeed a complex case where ecological, hydrological, economical, demographic and cultural aspects are intertwined.



© Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

Central aims of the project

The project proposed the creation of a reservoir in the lowest depression plain of the former lake to occupy a maximum area of about 38 km², through the construction of two embankments, one at the eastern and one at the western end of the lake. Its objective is:

- ▶ the environmental upgrading of the wider region;
- ▶ effective flood-proofing of the wider region;
- ▶ gradual uplift of the surrounding underground aquifer;
- ▶ accessing enough drinking water from drilling to improve the water supply of the urban complex of Volos city;
- ▶ the expected change of the microclimate of the area;
- ▶ mild agrotourism development of the region and the consequent reduction in unemployment;
- ▶ the educational outcome; exemplary, scientific, ecological and cultural aspects of the project;
- ▶ a network of ancient and traditional settlements related to the historic lake.



© Ministry of Environment and Energy

Outcomes

Outcomes are the following:

- ▶ flood protection;
- ▶ sustainable and full-scale irrigation of 92,500 acres (doubling the value of agricultural production);
- ▶ water supply of the city of Volos, Magnesia (possibility of water supply with existing sources, to at least 160,000 residents);
- ▶ restoration of aquifer (reduction of abstractions from 40 cm³ to 23 cm³);
- ▶ recreation of the wetland;
- ▶ reduction of pollution in the Pagasetic Gulf;
- ▶ recreational and ecotourism development (estimated 5,000 visitors per year);

- ▶ nodes of a cultural and educational network: exhibition and informative-workshop spaces.



© Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

Exemplary value

The project can be considered of exemplary value, since the major benefits extracted from it, and the good practices that it implemented, are:

- ▶ a landscape-infrastructure project that offered remedies to environmental damage which had created multifaceted problems to the surrounding environment since the 1960s;
- ▶ upgrading the aesthetics of a landscape that, before drainage, was fabulous, and had become an indifferent place;
- ▶ the enhancement of the water supply to the broader region of Volos, with high-quality subterranean water. The replacement of the use of subterranean water of the region for irrigation with water from Lake Karla enables utilisation of part of this water, through new boring projects, for the supply of water to the Urban Complex of Volos, currently facing a lack of high-quality water (the greater area of Volos is forced to meet its needs by using water containing chlorides);
- ▶ the partial restoration of the ecosystem which existed before the lake was drained, through the recreation of the lake and the creation of the planned wetlands and plant ecosystems around it;
- ▶ the recovery of the subterranean groundwater level by reducing extraction, to be achieved by replacing the use of subterranean water for irrigation with water from the lake;
- ▶ the effective protection of the broader region from flooding, as it is situated at the point of lowest elevation in the plains of Thessaly;
- ▶ the minimisation of the contribution of the effluents of the Lake Karla catchment area to the pollution of the Pagasetic Gulf, by collecting effluents in the lake. The use of the Karla tunnel for removing water from the Karla catchment area to the Gulf will only take place in the case of intense, extended flooding, when the

anti-flooding function of the artificial lake is no longer possible;

- ▶ the gradual improvement of the quality and increase of the usable quantity of surface water, through the construction of the dam and the cleaning of leachates from the irrigation of crops using natural processes;



© Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

- ▶ the improvement of soil quality. The physical and chemical properties of the soil in the broader region are improved, as a result of the project;
- ▶ the environmental upgrading of the broader region, flora and fauna, with the attraction of wildlife and migratory avifauna;
- ▶ support for (permanent and seasonal) relocation to the region. The project contributes towards reversing the population shrinkage of the region and attracting visitors through the creation of eco-tourism networks, educational nodes, and recreation projects.
- ▶ the creation of infrastructure and favourable conditions for the realisation of new activities and employment opportunities that are compatible with sustainable growth (aimed at restricting the authorisation of fishing activities in the lake, when the environmental conditions are favourable, to the populations of the former fishing villages, as a way of continuing the lost traditional practices in the area);
- ▶ the open call to the University of Thessaly, and schools of the Thessaly Region, to visit and take part in or organise educational workshops in situ, in collaboration with the local society;
- ▶ the expected change to the microclimate of the region (lower temperatures in the summer, higher temperatures in the winter).



© Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

Ecological re-birth and evolution of the Lake Karla area

Lake Karla and its surroundings have been designated an Important Bird Area and a Natura 2000 site. Since the re-creation of Lake Karla, wildlife has become enhanced, especially by bird species, thanks to the creation of wildlife habitats and enhancement of biodiversity. 181 species of birds have returned to Lake Karla, along with 13 new fish species, proving that this complex project (environmental, irrigational, water supply, cultural, touristic) is a real-life project for the region. The visitor to the area can see birds, wildlife and life, not only around the lake but also in the surrounding mountains; ducks and birds, including pelicans and flamingos, love the lake, while the mountain of Mavrovouni chiefly attracts birds of prey.

Public participation

Public participation before implementation of the project

The re-creation of Lake Karla is a project that was planned, funded and implemented after a period of at least 20 years of environmental malfunction, and this affected the wider area of the drained lake, directly affecting the area's population. In the mid-1980s, a declaration-statement by the area's inhabitants, and the Agricultural Co-operative of Lake Karla, demanded the construction of a series of water reservoirs. The Greek State responded to this public demand: the people, the stakeholders and inhabitants of the area directly addressed them, making their claim, and participating in the decision-making before work commenced on the recreation of the Lake. At the time, the State made it a priority, instead of building a simple large water tank, to plan environmental rehabilitation, according to the Ramsar Convention instructions, and Natura 2000 requirements, thus adding value to the local citizens' requests.

Public participation in the present

The project aims to actively encourage public participation in decision-making through specific actions that focus on promoting dialogue with interested parties (stakeholders) on the environmental, and social/ethical issues, which include:

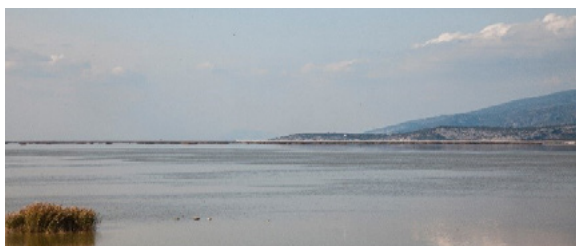
- ▶ informing individual groups of the public about the positive impact of the project on the environment, on the inhabitants of the area and the development of entrepreneurship through tourism (workshops, informative meetings in co-operation with the municipalities);
- ▶ organisation of awareness-raising actions, days of global environmental interest and local events within the spatial responsibility of the managing body;
- ▶ promotion to the local community of the usefulness and the perspective of the project;
- ▶ promotion at national level of the project's uniqueness but replicability.

The project followed the National Strategies, which have incorporated the European Union's Directives, such as the Climate Change Strategy, as well as the Water Resources Management Policy. The project was acclaimed by the European Commission and in particular the Commissioner of the Regional Policy, Corina Crețu.

Educational aspects and public participation

The Environmental Information and Student Awareness Programme has been established. It aims to promote the knowledge, awareness and direct contact of students with the biodiversity of the protected area, as well as the development of experiential and exploratory thinking skills in the natural environment. Presentations have been made to schools in and near the protected area, and students from schools in the area have visited.

The pioneering programme "Karla School" has been implemented, aiming to inform, educate and train young scientists, farmers and teachers about the protection and conservation of biodiversity in the coastal area, as well as the promotion of areas as a place of development for ecotourism. The programme is funded by the "Natural Environment and Innovative Actions" of the Green Fund and was implemented in the region until 2019.



© Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

Awareness-raising

As part of the publicity of the project, the Thessaly Region carried out information campaigns on TV and radio, with press releases, posters and leaflets.

The Managing Body of the Karla-Mavrovouni-Kefalovryso-Velestino-Delta Piniou implements environmental awareness and sensitivity programmes which aim to engender environmentally-conscious citizens – visitors who, through the study of the existing reality and the identification of the environmental problems of the region, shape visions and have the desire to participate and act. The Managing Body continues to provide information actions, to inform and sensitise residents and visitors of the protected area, and society in general, concerning the following:

- ▶ attracting to, and acquainting the local community and the general public with, the protected area, through the ongoing promotion of the Managing Body's actions (issuing press releases, interviews to local and regional media, updating the Body's social media, updating channels on YouTube);
- ▶ informing and raising awareness of the local community and the general public about the value of the protected area, through guided tours, distribution of information brochures and other information material, billboards, production and broadcasting of television and radio messages, film production, etc.;
- ▶ raising the awareness of clusters of citizens and agencies, to have a positive acceptance of the project;
- ▶ publication of the project approved and funded by the European Union, focusing on the immediacy of the information campaigns (TV and radio spots, press releases, posters and leaflets);
- ▶ enhancing the recognition of the individual projects.

Video:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/316805047>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d94c>

Website:

- ▶ www.limnikarla.gr/en

Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter

Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár, Hungary

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Krisztina Kincses

Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

Representative of the Project

Mr Szilveszter Zoltán Dancs

Former Mayor of the Local Government of Zalaszentmárton, Hungary

Summary of the project

From 2011, the municipalities of Pogányvár – Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár –, jointly developed a complex landscape-oriented revitalisation project for their territory, in order to preserve and sustainably use the traditional heritage of Zala county. On the initiative of the local government of Zalaszentmárton, the nine municipalities approved a programme and signed the Pogányvár Landscape Charter (*Poganyvari Karta*), Hungary's first landscape charter. An adaptive management of the microregion's landscape has been implemented, promoting the quality of life for the inhabitants.



View of Zala hill. © János Veress

Central aim of the project

The project ensures the preservation of the local heritage by improving conditions for farming based on local conditions, knowledge and traditions.



Landscape revitalisation at Dióskál. © Marcell Kun



Typical small plots in Pacsa. © Tamás Kelemen

Outcome of the project

Municipalities have launched their regional revitalisation programmes in their own areas, with the aid of tenders, in a co-ordinated manner. The former cultivated lands have been freed from invasive species which have been replaced with vineyards and orchards mostly cultivating regional cultivars.



Irrigation of newly planted grape vines on Zalaszentmárton. © Zoltán Dancs



Stone crucifix with holy trinity, Dióskál. © Marcell Kun

Some of the local landscapes have been restored in a traditional way, based on found photographs and the memory of the locals who live there.

Sustainable territorial development

The abandoned lands have been planted with locally collected and propagated old cultivars, contributing to their gene conservation. Cultivating the hill again will improve the chances to live on site. The crops produced here are processed locally.



Panoramic view of Pogányvár. © János Veress



Local short food chain cheese of Kerecseny settlement. © Alfréd Réti

Exemplary value

The local genetic resources are saved, and the crops produced here are processed locally for local sale. The guiding principle is the shift to self-sufficiency, sustainability and management that incorporates permaculture.

Awareness-raising

The members of the local communities have been introduced to the local vine and fruit varieties, to understand their specific site and management needs and their uses.

Video:

▶ <https://vimeo.com/316113006>

PowerPoint presentation:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680a04081>



Landscape walk in Kerecseny. © Alfréd Réti





MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

**Landscape revitalisation initiative
in the spirit of
the Pogányvár Landscape Charter**

Ms Krisztina KINCSES
National Representative of the European Landscape Convention for Hungary
 Mr Szilvester Zoltán DANCs
Representative of the Project, Hungary

TWENTYFOURTH COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEETING
OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections
6th Session 2018-2019
Geneva, Switzerland, 21-22 October 2020

The Pogányvár Landscape Charter

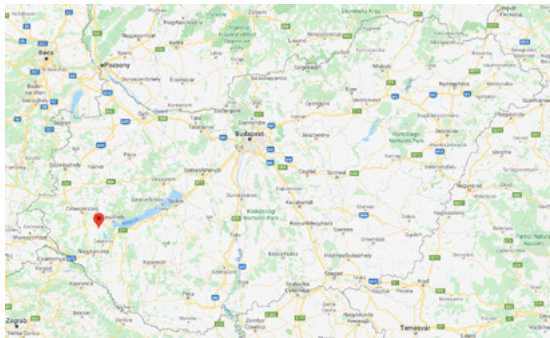


The municipalities of the project,

- Local Government of Zalaszentmárton;
- Local Government of Dióskál;
- Local Government of Egerarcacs;
- Local Government of Esztergályhorvát;
- Local Government of Keresztény;
- Local Government of Orosztony;
- Local Government of Pecs;
- Local Government of Zalasabar;
- Local Government of Zalavár,

confirmed their programme in 2017 by the signature of the *Pogányvári Karta* (Pogányvár Carta) which is the first local level landscape carta of Hungary.

Location



Location




Summary of the Project

Once Pogányvár had abundant, gracefully-cultivated vineyards, orchards and gardens along the roads leading to the hill.

Since 2011 the municipalities of Pogányvár have jointly developed a **complex landscape-oriented revitalisation** to preserve and sustainably utilise the traditional heritage of Zala County with a project that **gradually restores a mosaic landscape of gardens and vineyards** in Pogányvár.

The initiators of the programme understood the processes in the landscape and **turned to adaptive landscape management**, resulting in a decent existence and a meaningful life for locals in the micro-region.



Outcomes of the Project - on farming

- harmonised landscape revitalisation;
- 17,1 hectares of private vineyards and orchards have been revitalised;
- invasive species have been replaced;
- usage of traditional regional cultivars;
- propagation material has been established;
- seeds supplied at cost-price;
- related investments adapted to the landscape;
- small-scale livestock farming is popular again;
- organic chicken farm - a Hungarian hen breed;
- a small processor plant has been established;
- abandoned lands are being re-cultivated.



Outcomes of the Project on heritage

- small monuments were renovated, based on photos and the memories of the elders;
- old buildings are in use again – following the approach "preserve by using".



Outcomes of the Project - social aspects

- education of residents by training programmes and seminars;
- educational trail;
- landscape walks;
- tree of the year 2018;
- traditional local events.



Exemplary value

- moving towards self-sufficiency, sustainability and permaculture, in line with the National Landscape Strategy of Hungary;
- started as a pilot project;
- a complex landscape model, based on cultivation and local social traditions, adapted to current social and economic changes;
- creating a prosperous region;
- events and media campaigns have contributed to the elderly visiting the vineyards again, and some young families have started bio-farming on the vine hills and re-cultivation on abandoned lands;
- taking environmental, social and economic aspects into account;
- renovation of small sacral monuments;
- landscape-walk series;
- preservation of local genetic resources;
- processing products locally for local consumption;



Public participation

- development of concepts;
- strategies of the settlements of the local LEADER action group;
- knowledge-sharing events;
- supporting organisations:
 - Town protection association of Pacsa,
 - Iris Cultural Association.



Awareness-raising

- Awareness-raising activities, education and training programmes help locals become familiar with regional cultivars again.
- Attention is also turned to the risk of invasive species.
- During the landscape walks, the local participants discover Pogányvár's hidden treasures.
- The local government aims to reach all the settlements of the planned Nature Park, in order to enhance local awareness of the landscape.
- In 2017, Zalaszentmárton settlement was awarded two prominent national innovation awards (Greenovációs Nagydíj, Territoria Innovációs Díj) for its long-term efforts for landscape revitalisation, and for maintaining local values and sustainability as priorities.
- Moreover, the settlement's public work programme was noted among the "Best Local Governmental Practices".



Thank you for your attention!



Workshop 2/Atelier 2

**Landscapes protected:
Actions to conserve and maintain
the significant or characteristic
features of a landscape**

**Des paysages protégés :
Des actions de conservation et de
maintien des aspects significatifs
ou caractéristiques d'un paysage**

Chairs/Présidents

M. Julien Transy

*Représentant de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe
pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage (CDCPP)
dans le cadre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe*

M. Thierry Mathieu

*Représentant de la Commission démocratie, cohésion sociale, enjeux mondiaux
de la Conférence des organisations internationales non gouvernementales du Conseil de l'Europe
dans le cadre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe*

The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival

Kocēni Municipality, Latvia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Dace Granta

Senior Expert, Spatial Planning Policy Division, Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia

Representative of the Project

Mrs Evija Nagle

Vice-Chairman of the Kocēni Municipality, Latvia

Summary of the project

Dikļi was first mentioned as a geographical place in historical sources dating from 1436. Historically, this territory was inhabited by the Livonians who chose the mounds Grebu and Bļodas as their settlements. Dikļi is a well-known place in the cultural history of Latvia because in 1818 the Latvian theatre traditions began here.

In 1864, Juris Neikens, a clergyman and a writer, organised the first ever joint Song Festival in the park of Dikļi Vicarage (now Mound Neikenkalns), thus laying the foundations for the beautiful Latvian tradition which is now included in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Dikļi is the place not only of a Nature Concert Hall, but is also a place of objects: a Song Festival Promenade; a permanent exhibition of the Song Festival; the Nature Concert Hall Neikenkalns is complemented by Dikļi Evangelic Lutheran Church which was first established in 1630. The inaugural Song Festival parade began in this church; Dikļi Manor, owned by Paul von Wolf from 1860, and in 1896 the present neo-baroque style Dikļi Palace was built. It now houses a hotel and restaurant.

Dikļi is the place where nature and cultural heritage meet, one of the few places in Latvia where all the historical records on both the most important cultural events and historical facts of Latvia are preserved, and which are being restored, maintained and improved even today.

Dikļi cares for landscape values, and its historical and archaeological monuments of national importance: it tells stories of previous generations and passes them on to the next generations. We are liable for the cultural and historical environment, and the landscape today, and how they will be in future. In the opinion of culture experts in a broadcast of the Latvian National Television programme "Addresses", the "interaction between architecture and nature in Dikļi is really magic".



Neikenkalns Nature Concert Hall. © Koceni Municipality



The Nature Concert Hall. © Koceni Municipality

Central aims of the project

The task of the Nature Concert Hall, respecting landscape preservation principles, is to highlight its attractiveness, and at the same time providing the possibility of large-scale events, in the fashion of Dikļi from the very beginnings of the Song Festival.

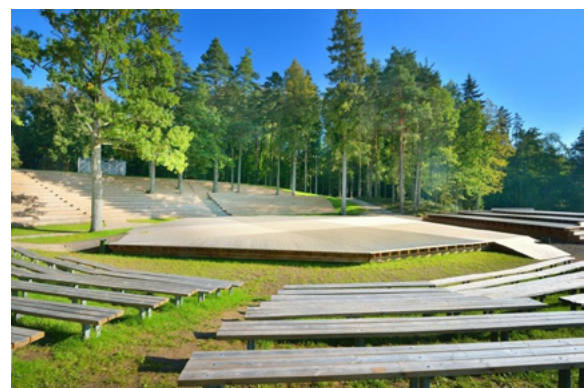
By establishing the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns, the challenge of the project was to ensure this place as a single complex of the environment, for art, education and recreation, at the place of the national historical event, the venue of the First Song Festival. It also had to highlight the European cultural and historical heritage, especially the meaning of song and dance culture. The Nature Concert Hall should serve as a unifying element in relation with the landscape's attractiveness, the cultural and historical heritage of Dikļi and surrounding protected historical and archaeological cultural monuments of national importance.

The tradition of the Song Festival originated in 1864 when the priest of the parish and writer, Juris Neikens, organised the first festival of joint singing in the park of the Dikļi rectory (now Neikenkalns), thus laying the foundations for the Latvian tradition that today is included in the UNESCO List of intangible heritage. To honour this event, to thank the two inhabitants who were passionate about the art for 45 years, and celebrating the centenary of the Song Festival, a small open-air stage, typical of the Soviet era, was built, the existence of which was very protected by the Dikļi public, in spite of its deterioration over time. In a public consultation with citizens, the situation was changed by the daughter of the construction enthusiast of the old open-air stage (now a popular poet) who had the casting vote for the destiny of the old stage, for everybody expected that she would defend the contribution of her father. However, Daina Sirmā commented: "You know what: my father would be the first one to say, 'Hey, let's demolish this old shed if we have a chance to get a better one!'"

As a result, based on the proposals of citizens and the actions of the developers Ilma Valdmāne and Pauls Grants, and the territorial planning and

development programme in the municipal development planning document (2014-2020) stating: "Priority: Sustainable management of natural, cultural and historical capital" and "Action directions: Preservation of landscape, natural, cultural and historical values, ... Improvement of the public space, ... and Development of business infrastructure and resources", the municipality confirmed:

- ▶ in the initial stage of the project implementation, organisation of a clean-up to demolish the old open-air stage and, with the architect Uģis Šēnbergs and the event director Uģis Brikmanis, to share future plans with the public. The event involved the local community, popular persons and amateur groups.
- ▶ implementation of the project "Preservation of the Landscape Environment of Neikenkalns, the Cradle of the Song Festival" commenced (design, technical project, construction process, artistic, display of environmental objects and highlighting existing values. With emphasis that a landscape, with its natural and cultural heritage, is of value both to Latvia and Europe.
- ▶ a set of carefully and soundly arranged proposals for "Dikļi as a single complex of cultural and historical heritage, art, education and recreation". Strengthening the Nature Concert Hall has added value and a mutually supplementing element in highlighting the importance of existing protected historical and archaeological cultural monuments of national importance. By developing a joint tourism offer route, Neikenkalns and the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns – the Singing Festival Promenade – a permanent exhibition of the Song Festival – Dikļi Palace Complex (palace, barn house, terrace garden, park garden) – Viks Fairy Tale Park – Dikļi Church – Grebu Bowl Hill, emphasising that they obtain their true value only in the context of a joint offer, no matter how important and special each historical object and cultural monument is separately as a landscape element.



The Nature Concert Hall. © Koceni Municipality

In accordance with the project goal, it was planned to build the Mound Neikenkalns Nature Concert Hall differently from the standard open-air stages in rural areas, by using a natural, ecological construction, renewable elements and materials such as water, earth and trees. A versatile team of professionals was involved in the development of the project, including Uģis Brikmāns, the main director of the All-Latvian Song and XV Dance Festival who, due to his experience, helped plan the layout of the stages and audience seating. The following were built:

- ▶ three-zone dance stages;
- ▶ an orchestra stage-terrace;
- ▶ an amphitheatre with 2,000 seats;
- ▶ viewing areas near the stage and across the river (with numbered seats);
- ▶ a new pedestrian pathway and access road;
- ▶ a pontoon bridge over the Mazbriede River;
- ▶ internal power supply; and
- ▶ wind chimes.



Dikļi Evangelical Lutheran Church. © Koceni Municipality

During the construction, extensive earthwork was carried out and the Mazbriede River was cleaned and deepened. Instructions and terms of the competent institutions were adhered to, as well as environmental peculiarities. For example, a monument of national significance “The Venue of the First Latvian Song Festival”, the composition of the park, the relief and the existing flora were all considered.

The project “The Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns” has achieved the objectives of the European Landscape Convention and the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, and is in compliance with the objectives of the Latvian national selection for the competition: “to facilitate public awareness of landscape value and changeability, as well as the role of the public in landscape development, by showing the best experience in landscape protection, maintenance and management that is ensured by implementing practical measures in landscape management and in planning their development”.

Outcome

Characteristics of the project

- ▶ total area under construction – 5,643.7 m²;
- ▶ total area of the open-air stage – 787.3 m²;
- ▶ total area of the pavements – 278 m²;
- ▶ carriageways – 517.7 m²;
- ▶ lawn ~ 3,500 m²;
- ▶ engineering communications – 382 m.

As a result of the project, an open-air stage fully integrated into the landscape was built, providing functionally appropriate capacity for both participants and visitors of events. The cultural and historical location of the open-air stage, and the development and improvement of the surrounding area of Mound Neikenkalns, provide an opportunity for any visitor to enjoy and experience the beginning of the Latvian Song Festival traditions. There is a rational balance ensured between good visibility, natural acoustics, the physical size of the open-air stage constructions, architectural solutions and the scale of the surrounding landscape in the cultural and historical context of the park. The Nature Concert Hall is built as an amphitheatre with multifunctional elements – transformable stages for both small events and up to 5,000 singers and viewers; or 2,000 places for singers and dancers and 3,000 places for spectators.

The Nature Concert Hall provides an intangible contribution to the maintenance of the Song Festival tradition and raises the patriotism of the public, and this deserves appreciation. The result merits pride: the beautiful landscape, with well-designed seating infrastructure made of natural materials, nature-inclusive, able to accommodate thousands of singers, dancers, musicians, actors and spectators. Even Uģis Brikmāns, the Director of the All-Latvian Song and Dance festivals said, in the introduction to the grand concert dedicated to the 150th anniversary of the Singing Festival, and regarding the meaning of the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns, the following: “Reborn! Not ‘we remember, honour’, but reborn, we feel that this tradition, this, in fact, the most important part of our lifestyle, will live! Everybody who comes here says simply, ‘How beautiful it is here!’ This beauty will run through song, dance and music, and it is the most crucial thing to realise that our folk song is endlessly beautiful and that the ancestral heritage is very simple, sincere and will live from generation to generation!”.

The attractiveness of the Nature Concert Hall has also been appreciated by professionals – landscape architects, the head of the Latvian Builders’ Association, the contractors who, even when visiting on a rainy autumn day to evaluate the submission for the competition “Building of the Year” were

positively surprised how pleasant it was to be in the Nature Concert Hall, both in winter and summer. The Nature Concert Hall received the main award of the “Building of the Year in Latvia 2014” competition, under the nomination “Landscape”.



The Nature Concert Hall. The water body is similar to the shape of Latvia. © Koceni Municipality

Daina Veinberga, landscape architect and member of the competition panel, said: “I have studied many beautiful open-air stages. I have studied the kinds of open-air stages that have been created over the last decade, and many of them could be called special. Yet, exactly such harmony in the historical environment, architecture and nature I have not seen before!”. Similar assessments have been received from tourism groups, individual visitors and families which have been enchanted by the sensation of being in the Nature Concert Hall just with their closest family members for, irrespective of the scale and spectator capacity, you can find here cosiness, enjoyable warmth, aesthetics and attractiveness that are not usually characteristic of such open-air stages. This is evidenced by the comments of some public celebrities:

Ieva Akurātere, the most soulful and symbolic songwriter of the Latvian Awakening era, said “You know how I like to be here – to go so timidly, so sacredly ... like ... in a Sacred place. Why do you feel like being in a Sacred place? Because here is such a feeling, I mean, all the developers have taken care of it, including God and nature! Here there is something over-secular, paying tribute to ancient times and something cosmic – covered by the Heavens”.

The Nature Concert Hall gives unique added value in the preservation and promotion of cultural and historical values, and protected historical and archaeological monuments that provide an indispensable contribution not only to the promotion of the public activity of citizens, thus maintaining cultural traditions, but also facilitating the economic activity of the territory.

Sustainable territorial development

In January 2014, the Kocēni Municipal Council, with reference to the municipality’s long-term Development Strategy 2030, took a decision to mark

construction of the Dikļi Nature Concert Hall as a priority investment project for the Kocēni Municipality. Restoration of the open-air stage of the first Song Festival in Dikļi is based on the municipal and national sustainable development policies, namely the improvement of the surrounding landscape and construction of a multifunctional open-air stage, a Nature Concert Hall to serve for the long-term as a venue for cultural events of various scales. The open-air stage of Dikļi as a cultural and historical object is mentioned in the Sustainable Development Strategy of Kocēni municipality, as one of the tourism and cultural specialities of the municipality.

The Nature Concert Hall is included in the national and regional tourism network and is also part of the Latvian tourism development strategy. The Dikļi Nature Concert Hall, an important tourism destination, is included in the international tourism routes “Via Hanseatica” and the “Livonian Culinary Route”. It is also a stopping place in the European Green Railways network. In 2019, the European Green Roads award ceremonies and conferences will take place in Vidzeme (Latvia), and the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns will be included as a venue.

The Latvian National Centre for Culture supports the Nature Concert Hall by including it in its national strategic plans for cultural events.

There is no separate landscape planning document for the territory, but the project is part of the sustainable development policy supported by the fact that, since 1998, the venue of the First Latvian Song Festival (the Neikenkalns in Dikļi) has been included in the list of state protected cultural monuments by the decision of the State Inspection for Protection of Cultural Monuments, respecting instructions of the State Inspection for Heritage Protection which refer to planning the existing landscape, and taking into account natural materials and the status of the cultural monument of State significance. The project, “Effective Use and Improvement of Nature and Culture Potential at Neikenkalns in Dikļi”, has the status of a national project.



Dikli Promenade. © Koceni Municipality

During the process of designing and constructing the Nature Concert Hall, the focus was on the preservation of the existing landscape and environment, and the use of natural materials, for example:

- ▶ the floor of the stage is in the valley, emphasising Mound Neikenkalns as the cultural monument of State significance, "The Venue of the First Latvian Song Festival";
- ▶ an important place in the scenic plan is given to a centennial oak opposite the open-air stage, as a gesture of appreciation to the folk song;
- ▶ sand, a gravel-clay-and-crushed stone mixture and timber were used;
- ▶ landscape relief is made of earthwork and natural grass;
- ▶ a water mirror serves as an acoustic amplifier. The hundred-metre wide water mirror between performers and the audience serves as an amplifier, considering the impact of prevailing winds, terraces and slopes.

There is a daily theatre of the sunrise and sunset in the water mirror. A sunset at the top of Mound Neikenkalns is part of the natural stage design for an evening concert. A sunrise over the mill pond enhances morning concerts.

The project has direct environmental, social, cultural and visual impacts, as the landscape has, primarily, the status of a cultural monument, providing for the possibilities of protection and sustainable development, specifically that the site may not be subjected to change without retaining its significance.

Landscaping, preservation and improvement of the environment ensure its existence of Mound Neikenkalns as the first venue of the Latvian Song Festival, and the transfer of its values to the next generations. The fact that the project was awarded "Best Building of the Year in Latvia, 2014" in the category "Landscape", acknowledges not only its cultural significance, but also the excellent outcome of its reconstruction. (Publications *Latvijas arhitektūra* No. 115 (5/14) (October/November 2014), *Būvzinieris* August 2014 No. 39).

The awards that it has received, the role of cultural history, and the geography of the site are the basis for its long-term existence and development. It is also an obligation to preserve and develop the site as a destination for travellers, interested parties and professionals of various sectors (culture, history, construction). The Nature Concert Hall is complemented by the integral parts of Dikļi Manor – a church, a landlord's house, a palace, school, manor park and mill.

Given the remarkable number of tourists and large-scale events it hosts, the design of the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns prevents the potential

negative impact of the visitor flow on this protected historical monument of national importance.

The nature-friendly construction approach and the results invite the visitor to explore and enjoy the cultural and historical place, whilst simultaneously and unobtrusively routing the visitor flow and diverting them from damaging the protected cultural and historical monument. The Singing Festival Promenade next to the Nature Concert Hall has a similar function.

The mound visually demarks the historically significant Neikenkalns from the venue of cultural events on the open-air stage, ensuring that spectators have the possibility of enjoying the historical atmosphere seamlessly whilst, if one climbs the mound, there is a view of the beautiful Nature Concert Hall, leaving many visitors breathless in surprise.

The natural frame of the river Mazbriede has provided a perfect, natural seat to frame the amphitheatre. The challenge for the architect was to enhance the landscape of mounds and entrenchments by changing and cleaning the overgrown riverbed and banks, as before the works started the river was not visible. The architect achieved a merger of nature with the amphitheatre so that the old riverbank looks as though the transformation has taken place a thousand years previously.

Improvement was made to the territory of the concert hall in order: to maximally mitigate the impact of visitors on the environment and on Neikenkalns, the cultural and historical monument of national importance; to organise and diversify movement and location of spectators; to improve the amenities for all the stakeholders, the spectators, artists and technical staff. Additional terraces were constructed and upgraded for better quality organisation of singer flow, to ensure sustainable management of the nature capital, because of the increased visitor load.

The results achieved within the framework of the project are a tool for improvement of landscape environment values:

- ▶ building of an acoustic Nature Concert Hall with adjacent recreation territories, by making maximum use of the natural environment, respecting the authenticity of the unique historical cultural environment, in compliance with artistic quality requirements and the entitlement of citizens to quality of life and a recreation environment;
- ▶ establishment of a safe, comfortable and aesthetic environment. Implementation of a complex allowing the local community to maintain a quality, dynamic cultural and social life in the region, as well as the organisation of significant national and international events in a quality open-air venue;

- ▶ public places are better kept, and surfaces are maintained for passage, in compliance with environmental access requirements for all ability groups;
- ▶ improved recreation area with benches and bins;
- ▶ provision of good architecture, design and art – a quality life space for all citizens. Establishment of a complex of art and natural objects;
- ▶ “Sound Grove” (*Skaņu birzs*). The object is dedicated to the unique diversity of nature where visitors may reach a common denominator of harmony between nature and humans – a place for action, exploration and development in the open-air. Man-made sound instruments will be placed in the sound grove and available for guided action, exploration and music-making;
- ▶ establishment of an organised and improved environment as a supplement and support to the current improved and restored places – the Singing Festival Promenade, Dikļi Palace, Exhibition of the Song Festival, Viks Fairy Tale Park and Grebu Mound;
- ▶ diverse use of strategic tourism resources – cultural heritage and landscapes rich in nature. For cultural tourism, an unhurried, authentic experience based on ethics and aesthetics;
- ▶ a well-kept and creative environment attracting new initiatives and serving as an important basis for infrastructure improvement and further development of the territory.

The Nature Concert Hall is a venue for national and regional (Vidzeme) events; singing festivals; regional events of the International Folklore Festival Baltica and Vidzeme Song Festival. Every year the Nature Concert Hall hosts the traditional festival “The Actors’ Festival” (*Spēlmaņu svētki*), which gathers Latvian amateur theatre groups with the aim of honouring the anniversary of the first theatre performance in Latvian that took place in Dikļi in 1818.

Negotiations have started with directors to establish a tradition of Latvian folk song festivals during the summer solstice in Dikļi, including competitions and a gala concert with performers of classical music, opera, choirs, instrumentalists and folk music groups. In 2019, Laima Jansone, the internationally recognised Latvian artist, organised the World Lute Camp at Neikenkalns for the third time. Neikenkalns was also the venue for the grand dance performance “The Sun Rose from the Sword” (*No Zobena Saule lēca*), with the participation of roughly 1,500 dancers, several hundred choir singers and 3,000 spectators.

Newly established microenterprises have reported increased business turnover, increased tourism flows and increased business of accommodation in the

region. A new company, *Kocēnu korti*, has recently opened a new budget hotel within the municipality.

The increase in tourism has encouraged the increased activity of homeworkers who are, for example, processing quince; an apple farm has a point of sale; there is a dried fruit producer; souvenir items and items made by folklore craftsmen. The number of visitors to the restaurant of the Dikļi Palace has also increased, and the opportunity has arisen for event catering. In addition, there has been an increase in retail sales of food, etc.

Environmental functionality, design and aesthetics, and the subsequent sense of value of the place, are the basis for raising the territorial potential in the field of culture, education, environmental protection, tourism and economics.

Exemplary value

The project may be used as an example of good practice. The historic venue was rebuilt, while preserving the existing environmental constructions and elements, as well as its functional significance. As a result, we have managed to create not only a neat architectural look, but also a positive aura at the venue of the first Song Festival. Such a vintage “flavour” is created not only by the stage, but also by a nearby park, with a description and monuments set up to honour historical events and the nearby Dikļi Church, whose clergyman Juris Neikens gathered singers to the Song Festival in 1864. All the objects related to the venue and the event are taken into consideration while planning and improving the site to create a united path, a road, and a network of places of interest. The project serves as an example of how to incorporate historical elements into the reconstruction, and how to incorporate the object into landscaping, balancing the possibility to accommodate both intimate local and substantial national events, equally comfortably.

As the venue of the First Latvian Song Festival in 1864, the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns is a historical monument of national importance protected under No 98, supplemented by Dikļi Evangelical Lutheran Church with its altar (1698), an art monument of national importance under protection number 4499, and the pulpit (1699), also an art monument of national importance under protection No 4500. In addition, the site offers:

- ▶ Singing Festival Promenade, established in 2005;
- ▶ Exhibition of the Song Festival;
- ▶ Viks Fairy Tale Park, made in the writer’s place of residence on the riverbank, in a landscape park, 2006;
- ▶ the historical complex of the Dikļi manor (15th century) that belonged to Paul von Wolff in 1860, and the current neo-baroque Dikļi Palace

(an architectural monument of national importance, protection No 8537) that currently hosts a hotel, restaurant and a spa complex;

- ▶ Grebu (Bowl Hill) an archaeological monument of national importance, protection number 2426.

The barn house is the second important component of the ensemble of Dikļi manor as it is older than the palace, being built at the end of the eighteenth century in the late classical style, with a majestic portico, unlike typical Vidzeme barn houses.

The buildings of the Dikļi manor are surrounded by a 20 ha. park. To the south of the palace is a pond which is reputed to have an oak floor. Behind the pond lies a landscape forest park or *Mežaparks*, in the steep ravines of Mazbriede (also formerly called Pāle and Dikļi river). In the 1960s, upon inspection of the Dikļi manor park, it was found that there are 20 exotic trees, including Balsam Fir (*Abies balsamea*), White walnut (*Juglans cineres*), Berlin Poplar (*Populus beroliensis*), Oregon Pine (*Pseudotsuga meziensii*) and others, the age of which are now mostly 90-100 years.

The palace of the Dikļi manor is one of few manor palaces and houses of lords in Vidzeme that, despite further use that differed remarkably from the initial purpose, has relatively many original features, especially on the ground floor where the hall has a fireplace and two ceramic stoves, the central staircase, parquet flooring and a wall panel, amongst other elements.

The project "The Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns" is a unique example of how, with earth, soil and the existing landscape, the architect worked like a sculptor, emphasising that nature itself is stronger than any typical building design and the landscape design has been developed by nature itself. Therefore, use of natural materials in the project is self-explanatory.

Public participation

There are many ways to use the Nature Concert Hall, namely spectators can sit on the stage and choir members in the amphitheatre, or vice versa (as was the case for the World Lute Camp in Dikļi). In the same way, the orchestra can play on the terrace stage, and spectators can sit in the amphitheatre or on the dance floor. At the Song Festival concerts about 2,000 singers and dancers perform from the amphitheatre and the dance floor, spectators are on the terrace stage, on spectator benches and the riverbank on rugs. At events with an audience of several thousand visitors, they sit in the amphitheatre and the performance is on the dance floor, as is the case for the large-scale Dance grand performance, the International Folklore Festival Baltica *No Zobena Saule lēca*.

In April 2014, within the framework of the Big Clean-Up, the Minister, Romāns Naudiņš, and staff members of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, and their families in vast numbers, cleaned the surroundings of the Dikļi Nature Concert Hall.

By highlighting the importance of public engagement in the preservation of the landscape and facilitation of value awareness, dialogue with the public and public engagement in the decision-making process regarding implementation of the project has been ensured in several stages:

- ▶ before the start of the project;
- ▶ during project implementation;
- ▶ during post-project maintenance.

Before the decision to commence construction of the Nature Concert Hall and setting it as a priority municipal project, the public was engaged on several levels:

- ▶ expert panels were set up (culture experts, directors, the National Centre for Culture, leaders of amateur groups, architects, contractors, businesses of the municipality, tourism experts) with the aim of specifying needs, possibilities and the impact of the maximum benefits of the developed infrastructure on various target audiences;
- ▶ citizen meetings were organised for public discussion.

In the beginning of the project implementation, clean-ups were arranged to demolish the original open-air stage, and this involved industry and project experts, including the architect, event directors, popular persons and the local public. Using continuous publicity on mass media (television, press, social networks) information was disseminated at local, regional and national level.

The community took part in all stages of the project implementation, firstly by making the decision to build a new open-air stage. There followed public discussions and meetings to agree the open-air stage plan. Suggestions expressed during public meetings were incorporated and fulfilled during project design preparation and construction. Finally, local people took part in the demolition of the old open-air stage constructions, as well as event planning and providing hospitality to visitors.

The local community is now being involved in maintaining and improving the facility. Because funds of Kocēni Municipality Council (i.e., the tax contributions of the citizens) were used to build the object, the accomplishments are to be considered as the involvement of the whole society. Besides, the environment created as a result of the project provides an opportunity for people to visit the Nature Concert

Hall, for the organisers to arrange events, and for us all, together, to enjoy it for its intended purpose.



Wooden sculpture park in Dikļi. © Kocēni Municipality

The Nature Concert Hall is considered one of the attractions of Dikļi, motivating the local population and Kocēni Municipal Council to continue, promote and improve preservation, strengthening and renovation of the cultural and historical values of the site. Our goal is to strengthen the traditions of cultural history, ensuring succession for the next generations by fulfilling them today.

The indispensable benefit of the project is that the developed infrastructure, marking Neikenkalns as the cradle of the unique Song Festival movement, the UNESCO heritage in Latvia, has served as a stimulus for initiatives of the public to supplement and improve the territory of the Nature Concert Hall and surroundings, not only for the organisation of events (concerts, gastronomic events such as one-day popup restaurants), theatre performances, sports competitions and activities, events and performances for school children, etc.), but also for projects implemented by non-governmental organisations and businesses, such as:

- ▶ The non-governmental organisation attracts finance and implements a project of the Environmental Protection Fund entitled "150 years since the Song has been calling Latvians together at Neikenkalns", ensuring environmental protection and educational aspects, by installing and expanding the choir terraces.
- ▶ As a result of public initiatives, environmental objects have been installed, including a well-kept recreation place with benches, tables, rubbish bins and flower holders.
- ▶ Public activities of the non-governmental organisation have installed an environmental object, the "Crown of the Silver Grove" (*Sidraba birzs vainags*), a symbolic environmental object of the All-Latvian Song Festival.
- ▶ As a result of a further public initiative, citizens and school children made a bird avenue, installing several dozens of birdhouses.

- ▶ Employees of a leading Latvian bank arranged a clean-up to prepare for new tree and bush plantings. The Nature Concert Hall has become an activity place for local seniors for recreation, as well as for territory clean-ups.
- ▶ The project is in line with development priority planning documents of the local municipality, the Vidzeme Planning Region, and Latvia.
- ▶ The project is supplemented with activities of the Latvian Environmental Investment Fund, aiming to reduce the anthropic pressure and to implement environmental education events.
- ▶ The project is incorporated in the Vidzeme Tourism Association Strategy, and the event plan of the Latvian State Tourism Development Agency.
- ▶ The project is included in the international cultural and tourism networks "Via Hanseatica", the "Taste of Livonia", the European Green Railways, the tourism strategy section of the Gauja National Park, *Enter Gauja*.
- ▶ In 2018, the Nature Concert Hall ranked among the 10 "Latvian Culture Signs 2019", the country's most important cultural objects, amongst which are such widely known Latvian tourism objects as the Rundāle Palace and the Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre. Additionally, the wider public has access to a wall calendar for 2019, entitled "Latvian Culture Signs" (30,000 copies are offered) inviting the public to study cultural values, "Latvian culture signs are created in the environment and space that make our land more beautiful. Look at this beauty with the eyes of a photographer and see how they maintain and improve the cultural space in Latvian regions!"

The Nature Concert Hall facilitates achievement of the national, regional and local priorities, "Human co-operation, culture and civic participation as a basis for belonging to Latvia" and "Facilitation of economic activity in regions – use of the territorial potential".

Awareness-raising

The construction of the Nature Concert Hall at the venue of the first Song Festival is particularly characteristic of Latvia. It is a symbol of traditions and international recognition of Latvia obtaining the slogan "The Land that Sings!". Nowadays, the Song Festival (<https://dziesmusvetki.lv>) has become an event of international importance, with representatives of other countries applying to participate, to celebrate the Festival.

The project "Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns" can serve as an example in development of public awareness of landscape and its values, that landscape is not only a space, that it is important to

observe diverse interests in the development of infrastructure where landscape merges with cultural and historical heritage.

The Nature Concert Hall is constructed with natural, renewable elements and materials, using ecologically friendly methods. The unique acoustic features of the site are achieved with the aid of the water mirror, wooden constructions, existing greenery of the park, terraces and slopes. The stage and amphitheatre embrace multifunctionality and the floor has a portal and screen for the open-air performances and concerts.

The project is important for strengthening the Latvian and the European identity; it strongly marks the cradle of the UNESCO intangible heritage, the unique Song Festival movement in Latvia.

The project has also had an impact in terms of public welfare: the tourism route which includes Neikenkalns and the Nature Concert Hall of Neikenkalns emphasises that, no matter how important and special each historical object and cultural monument is as a separate landscape element, they obtain their true value only in the context of a joint package.

The established Nature Concert Hall ensures public awareness of the impact of a targeted and carefully developed landscape on the development of the territory and facilitation of public welfare, because establishment of the concert hall has provided an indispensable contribution not only to the promotion of the public activity of citizens but has also facilitated the economic development of the territory. The increased activity of homeworkers (about 70 producers participate in events), increased and improved retail sales for local artisans and producers, local and nearby hotel service providers, and especially in demand are the public catering services. Event catering is provided by restaurants with

highly rated chefs who have cooking shows, such as Mārīņš Sirmāis, a popular Latvian TV show chef who organises a one-day popup restaurant, gathering about 60 visitors per day. Large-scale summer festivals are organised by the local hospitality office, Dikļi Palace (*Dikļu Pils*).

In response to the demand of businesses, the municipality has purchased foldable and mobile trade shelters, with the aim of promoting a single style and integrating business activities in the overall landscape environment.

The positive impact of the project on the public is evidenced not only by public appreciation, the wide range of events, and substantial attendance, but it also serves as a stimulus for voluntary initiatives of the public which may supplement and improve the offer of the Nature Concert Hall:

- ▶ event organisation (concerts, gastronomic events, popup restaurants, theatre performances, sports competitions and activities, events and performances for school children etc.);
- ▶ infrastructure development projects implemented by non-governmental organisations and businesses, and installation of environmental objects in the territory of the Nature Concert Hall.

Video:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/335848186>

PowerPoint presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680a0926a>

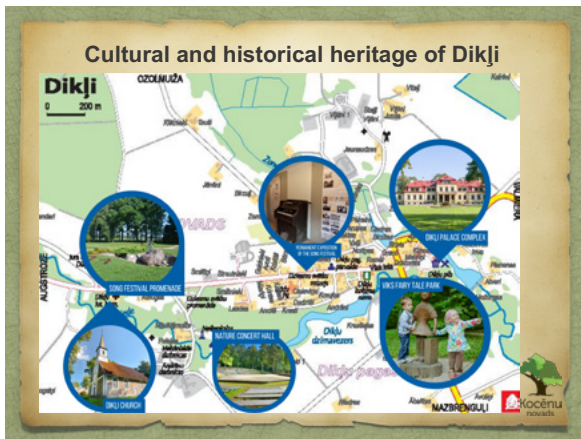
Websites:

- ▶ Koceni Municipality official web page: www.koceni.lv
- ▶ Koceni Municipality official tourism web page: www.visit.kocenuovads.lv



Cultural and historical heritage of Dikļi

- Nature Concert Hall;
- Song Festival Promenade;
- Permanent exhibition of the Song Festival;
- Dikļi Palace Complex;
- Viks Fairy Tale Park;
- Dikļi Church.

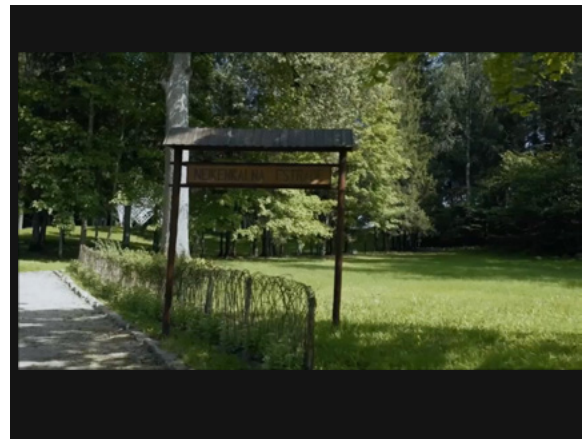


Dikļi Lutheran Church

Dikļi church is decorated with stone chips and features small glass windows. In the 19th century the founder of the Song Festival – Juris Neikens – served in this church as a priest.

Dikļi Palace Complex

- Dikļi Palace was built in 1896;
- A 2003 renovation gave the palace its present day look and elegance, while respecting all the antique attributes – from the basement to the attic;
- Part of the palace ensemble is a barn that is older than the palace itself and was built with majestic perspective at the end of the 18th century;
- Dikļi Palace has been selected as an architectural landmark of national significance.

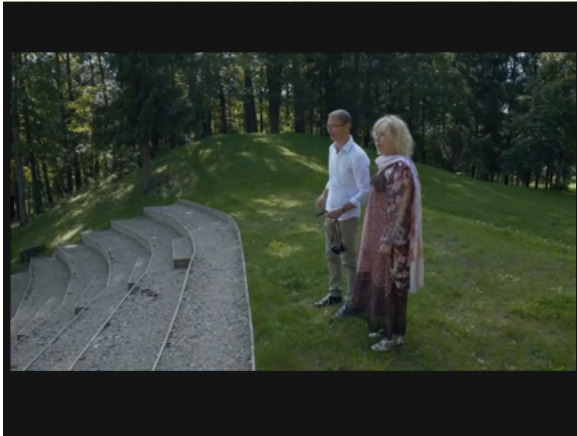


Characteristics of the object:

- total area under construction 5,643.7 m²;
- total area of the open-air stage 787.3 m²;
- total area of the pavements 278.0 m²;
- carriageways 517.7 m²;
- lawn ~ 3,500 m²;
- engineering communications 382 m.

Project start: September 2013
Construction period: 2.5 months
Project completed and opened for use: June 2014
First event: SONG FESTIVAL 150th ANNIVERSARY on 7th June 2014
Construction costs (EUR): 236,317.84

BEFORE and AFTER



Architect Uģis Šēnbergs (SIA "UĢIS ŠENBERGS ARHITEKTS")

Mr Šēnbergs has developed the construction of the Nature Concert Hall differently from a typical open-air stage of this type in rural areas. It has a considerate and ecological construction using only natural, renewable materials to preserve and emphasise the special landscape of the location.

The acoustic properties of the place were created using: open water, wooden structures, existing park plantings, terraces, and slopes.



Artist Ivars Mailītis

The environmental art object "Silver Grove" created by Ivars Mailītis, emphasises the existence of the Latvian Song Festival in the concert hall. The object is dedicated to nature's unique diversity, where visitors can feel the harmony between nature and humans – a place for activity, cognition, development, and education in the open-air.



Contractor Uldis Bošs ("Ekers" Ltd.)

During the implementation of the project, a joinery company "Ekers" strictly respected:

- instructions and conditions of the responsible institutions;
- peculiarities of the local environment: the historical monument of the national significance "Venue of the First Latvian Song Festival", layout of the park, the relief of the location and existing flora.

As part of the construction contract:

- The stage was built in the middle of the peninsula which is surrounded (from three sides) by the Mazbriede River with installed ponds.



Elements of the project built:

- amphitheatre with 2,000 seats
- audience area with 5,000 seats
- new footpath and driveway
- pontoon-type bridge over the Mazbriede River
- internal power supply
- integrated lighting in the landscape built on 5 m high supports

Major earthmoving works during the construction were carried out. The Mazbriede River was cleaned and deepened as the expanse of open water was no longer visible.

Due to the river cleaning works an artificial pond had formed and a terrace-style stage on its shore was built.



Construction process



Cold weather does not hold back the construction work



Stage floors, pontoon bridge surface and railings were made of spruce wood from Vidzeme county. Processing was performed by joinery company, Ekers, based in Valmiera. Terraces, walkways, and a driveway were made of sand collected from local quarries as well as gravel and clay crushed stone mixture, manufactured by Latvian entrepreneurs.



Result: The goal has been achieved!



BEFORE and AFTER



**“The Landscape Award of the Council of Europe”
National selection of the sixth session**

The aim of the national selection is to promote public awareness of the value and diversity of Latvia's landscape as well as the role of society in landscape development. This is identified by best practices applied in landscape protection, management and planning, gained through both practical measures and improved landscape management, including research and planning.

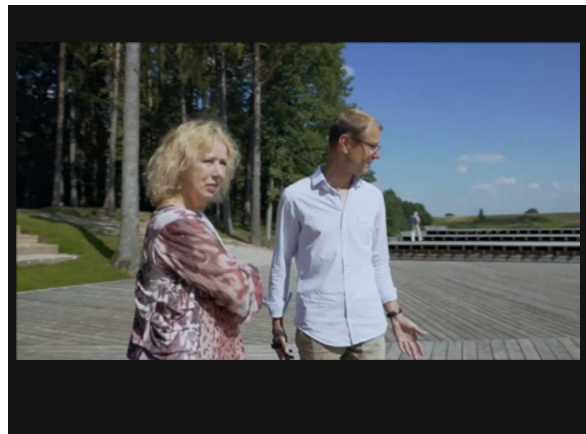


The Nature Concert Hall was designed with a considerate and ecological construction, using natural, renewable elements and materials.

The unique acoustic properties of the place were created with a water-based specular reflection, wooden structures, existing park plantings, terraces, and slopes. The stage and the amphitheatre include the idea of multifunctionality - possibilities of changing the stage which has transformable stands for major performances and concerts.

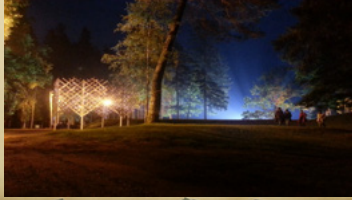


Stage with the idea of variability



Concept of the concert hall:

There are no small and insignificant things in the restoration of cultural monuments! The stage floor is placed BEHIND the artificial earth embankments, emphasising Neikenkalns as a historical monument of national significance - The First Venue of the Latvian Singing Festival.



CONCEPT OF THE CONCERT HALL

In the process of designing and building the Nature Concert Hall, emphasis was put on preservation of the existing landscape and environmental richness, as well as the use of natural materials.



CONCEPT OF THE CONCERT HALL

The place of honour in the landscape design is dedicated to the giant centenary oak which is preserved in front of the theatre stage as a gesture of recognition for the folk music.



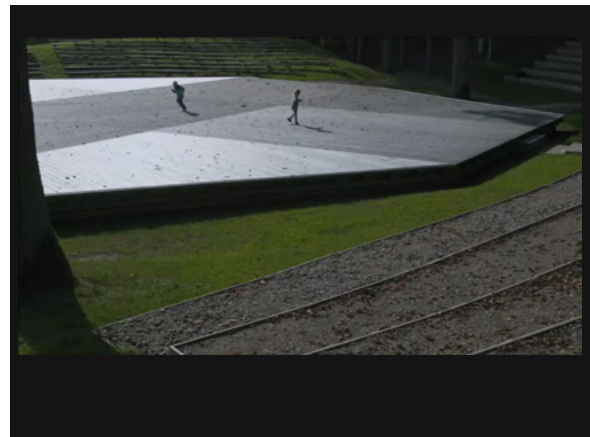
CONCEPT OF THE CONCERT HALL

Gravel and clay crushed stone mixture, sand, and timber was used. The landscape relief was made of earth embankments and reinforced with natural lawns.



CONCEPT OF THE CONCERT HALL

The hundred-metre-wide mirror like reflection on the water surface between the singers and audience works as an acoustic amplifier, taking into consideration the influence of the prevailing winds, terraces and slopes.

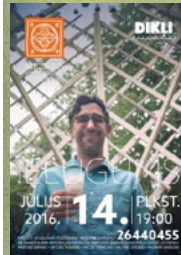


AWARD «The best building in Latvia, 2014» Nomination «Landscape»



1. VIETA
SADA TĀRĀKĀ BŪVĒ NOMINĀCIJĀ «ARHĪTĀVĀ»

VIDEO: Skaistā Neikenkalna dabas koncertzāle Dikļos



Neikenkalna dabas koncertzāle Dikļos
gada balvai, kura šogad tiks pas...
Kocēnu novada domes projekts:



Publicity





Lista, a unique landscape and partnership

Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway

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Summary of the project

Since 1976, Farsund Municipality has worked systematically to protect, manage, communicate and develop the unique natural and cultural values at Lista, in co-operation with local volunteer groups, associations and regional authorities. At the same time, society has undergone extensive modernisation and changes to the way of life.

Lista is one of Norway's regions most abundant in birdlife and is home to numerous very rare plants. The different landforms, sand dunes, lakes, wetlands, grazing areas and forests provide suitable resting and nesting areas, and wintering places for the birds. The rare plants, the bird life and the valuable ecosystems depend on the coastal and agricultural landscape being maintained according to traditional methods. The municipality of Farsund has established a unique partnership to safeguard this.

Lista is a unique landscape, diverse and compact, with distinctive light. As a result of 40 years of targeted work, Lista has become an attractive landscape for residents and visitors and, as a result, there are a great variety of experiences available in this multifaceted natural and cultural landscape, rich in biodiversity.



*Proud landmark the Lista Lighthouse Station.
© Flyt Norge, Arild Nielsen*

Start of the project

The project started with a political initiative in 1976 from the municipality of Farsund to work with the protection, management, planning and restoration of the Lista landscape in a holistic and sustainable way.

This led to several initiatives and projects aimed to constantly improve the landscape at Lista. A number of projects have been completed since 1976, but the partners constantly develop and implement new ideas and projects. For example, the bike trail "Vita Velo – experiences on a bicycle" was completed in 2019 with high-standard architectural facilitation.

Central aims of the project

The aim of the project was and is to protect, manage, plan and restore the Lista landscape in a holistic and sustainable way, and to communicate and develop the natural and cultural values, in co-operation with local volunteer groups, associations and regional authorities.

Outcome

"Lista strendene" (seven beach and sand dune areas) was permanently designated as a landscape protection area in 1987. Several important water and wetland areas were subsequently permanently protected in 1987-88 and constitute the Lista Wetland System that is included in the List of wetlands of international importance as defined by the Ramsar Convention for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands (www.ramsar.org). The Slevdalsvannet Lake was protected in 2005 and an extensive nature restoration project was carried out in 2014 to repair the wetland system. The Coastal Trail, with signage to describe the natural and cultural heritage, the landscape values and the history of the area, was completed in 2015. The work on the Coastal Trail included the restoration of steps and wrought iron railings along historical paths, such as the ones to Varnes lighthouse and "Vondestien", the old walkway to Uddal farm from Snekkestø.

Lista lighthouse and six associated buildings were protected as cultural heritage in 1994, together with the surrounding area. Since 1987, the house of the lighthouse keeper has been a showroom for local, national and international art, named "Kunstpunkt Lista". Lista Bird Observatory was created in 1990 at Lista lighthouse, for the observation of resting and migrating birds. Children, students and adults are invited to participate in the Observatory's activities.



Green pasture in Fugelvika. © Siri Skagestein

The nationally important and very innovative Visitor Centre Wetland Lista opened in 2015. It serves all those who want to experience and learn about the function of the wetlands as an ecosystem, as well as its value to us as human beings. More than 70,000 guests visited Lista Lighthouse Station in 2018. 540 ha. of Vest-Lista agricultural area was designated as Selected Agricultural Landscapes in 2009. In 2018, the agreement was expanded to 1,100 ha. in this voluntary protection for managing and maintaining the natural and cultural treasures of the area.

Nordberg Fort, decommissioned as a military site in 1996, was transferred to Vest-Agder County Council in 2003 and designated "protected" in 2004. A new exhibition and communication building opened in 2009 and Nordberg Fort is today an important cultural centre at Lista. Listeskøyta Coastal Cultural Centre and Museum formally opened in 2008, after starting as a voluntary foundation in 1981.



View from the Penne rock-carving field. © Berit Hessel

Sustainable territorial development

In 1976, Farsund Municipality took the initiative to ensure a common understanding of the need for a development policy which can ensure sustainable territorial development. They realised that social and economic development had to be balanced with the consideration of the unique landscape at Lista. This meant that the major environmental values associated with the characteristic vegetation, the unique bird life, the rich cultural historical depth

in the landscape and its cultural heritage could be maintained, while allowing necessary development to occur.

A central part of the process has been to establish a dialogue with different user groups, especially farmers, who were met at national level expecting modernisation of agricultural operations. The Municipality recognised the need to create a common understanding of the values in the landscape and establish a consensus for how landscape management can safeguard as many interests as possible, without compromising the protection of the main landscape values. This has provided jobs and increased value, based on Lista landscape's natural and cultural heritage.

Farsund Municipality, Lista Farmers' Union, Lista Bird Observatory, Lister Outdoor Council and groups of volunteers have made a considerable effort to establish hiking and cycling trails, and recreational areas throughout Lista. This has been done in a way that both opens the landscape for visitors and protects the valuable landscape.

From the late 1980s, the shores, lakes and wetlands at Lista have been a protected landscape with associated plant and bird sanctuaries (nature reserves). West Lista agricultural area is part of the "Selected Agricultural Landscapes", a national programme run by the Directorate of Agriculture, and actively managed according to traditional methods.

A management plan, including a visitor strategy, has been drawn up for the shores of Lista. The management plan is a good tool for maintaining and promoting the protection of the area, and it is the leading principle, ensuring that protection values are prioritised when conflicts of interest arise.



Elongated beaches and high sky at Bausje. © Tore Haus

Exemplary value

Farsund Municipality has provided exemplary value by co-ordinating the various groups of actors to solve the conflicts of interest that began to surface in the 1970s, between plans to modernise or conserve,

within agriculture, industrial development, housing, etc.

Collaborating with various stakeholders, Farsund Municipality has carried out several projects to retain and develop an attractive landscape with a variety of services and activities, both for its own citizens and visitors. This is achieved by combining statutory protection with active facilitation. The political will to manage the Lista landscape is a good example for others to follow.

Through dialogue, solutions have been found to the challenges and user conflicts that have occurred over the years. The different actors have recognised the need to co-ordinate all the interests in the best possible way, so that Lista can be further developed attractively. Many stakeholders were involved and have expressed interest. Instead of prohibitions within the various management areas, positive adaptation strategies have been made, to divert traffic and activities.

Farsund Municipality has co-ordinated various interest groups and available support schemes so that positive results are achieved. The Municipality has been the contact point for the actors and has helped them find funding sources and, as a result, many good ideas have been carried out, to the benefit of society.

The extensive natural restoration of Slevdalsvannet is a particularly inspiring example of how very damaged nature can be successfully rewilded. A few years after the restoration was completed, several bird species have returned that have not been seen for many years.



Boatsheds in Verevaagen harbour. © Tore Haus

Public participation

A central part of the process has been to establish a dialogue between different user groups in their decision-making. Protection, management and planning of the Lista landscape has been based on active participation from residents, interest groups, local, regional and national authorities. From the first report that came out of the Municipality's

initiative in 1976, the foundation was laid for an overall strategy on the involvement and participation of all those concerned.

Public participation is actively encouraged in many ways. For example, plans for all new measures, the final proposals for protection, the management plan and other important documents are submitted for public consultation before the final decisions are made.

The initiatives of today's official museums and visitor centres which are under the auspices of the Vest-Agder County Council, such as Nordberg Fort and Listeskøyta Coastal Cultural Centre, originate from local initiatives. To succeed with this, the active co-operation of all parties through public participation has been a precondition.



The farmers have rebuilt old stone walls. © O. Puschmann

Awareness-raising

In all the projects carried out at Lista since 1976, the process itself has considerably increased public awareness of the importance of different aspects of the landscape. The latest and most pioneering work for awareness-raising about nature and landscape values is the Visitor Centre Wetland Lista.

In the restoration of the surroundings and the Slevdalsvannet Lake, there was a special focus on awareness-raising among children and young people, through facilitating nature education, outdoor activities and recreational use of the area. There are activities where children and young people can participate actively in bird watching and bird ringing, archaeological excavations, ancient craft traditions, sailing old boats, etc. Or they can simply go out and experience the landscape, the light and weather conditions at Lista, by taking a walk or bike ride along the waymarked trails.

Farsund Municipality started activities as voluntary dissemination work provided by local enthusiasts at Lista Lighthouse Station, Nordberg Fort and Listeskøyta Coastal Cultural Centre. The sites have now been developed into attractive visiting and communication centres, in close co-operation with regional authorities and Vest-Agder Museum, Lista.



Art in the landscape at Lista lighthouse. © Inge Eikland

Information about the landscape at Lista and the protection values can be found in many places at Lista. The visitor centres are centrally located at Lista Lighthouse Station and Nordberg Fort, but information can also be found at other locations, for example along the Coastal Trail and in the many bird observation hides. Most of the projects contain various permanent modern communication measures to make the landscape values more visible, measures such as outdoor information signs, audio guides accessible on mobile phones, guided tours, and multimedia exhibitions, and all information is available online.

The guided tours organised by the Visitor Centre Wetland Lista are especially valuable for awareness-raising, because the dedicated intermediaries can direct the information specifically to the group they are guiding, and their interests. These tours are a good combination of active participation and knowledge dissemination. All the museums use different physical activities as part of their dissemination when they guide groups.

Video:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/316098558>

Presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092deb3>

Posters:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092dec8>
- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092dec9>

Links:

- ▶ www.listafyr.no/en
- ▶ www.listafyr.no/en/aktivitet/besokssenter-vatmark-lista
- ▶ www.laguide.no/nordbergfort/dynamic-en.html
- ▶ <https://en.listerfriluft.no/outdoor-activities/farsund>
- ▶ www.listafuglestasjon.no

The spatial plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci

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Vojvodina Environmental Movement, Sremski Karlovci, Serbia

Society for Heritage Promotion and Development of Sremski Karlovci, Serbia



© Vladimir Pihler, Novi Sad

Summary of the project

The aim of the project was to create a spatial development strategy that would enhance the general image of the historical town of Sremski Karlovci, prioritising both settlement scale concerns and values of its surroundings. The project acknowledged inherited values embodied in the landscape and sought the means to mitigate negative spatial development trends of urban sprawl, illicit construction and inappropriate land use.

This project was initiated with the first Spatial planning document in Serbia that provides a conceptual framework for spatial planning, based on landscape conceptualisation, and it is the first planning document that stands as an application model of the European Landscape Convention.

The area considered by the planning document covers 64.16 km² and contains diverse landscapes of forested slopes of the Fruska Gora mountain and one of the widest alluvial plains of the middle Danube, Koviljsko-petrovaradinski rit. The contact zone between these two dominant spatial entities has determined the specific form of the landscape characterised by the compact morphology of the historical town of Sremski Karlovci, and the particularities of its agricultural surroundings.

The project's activities aimed to realise the full potential of landscape characterisation and to identify the landscape quality objectives, with the purpose of creating a new spatial development strategy for Sremski Karlovci. The adaptation of the spatial planning document appeared as the final product of comprehensive and collaborative work on these activities.



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Central aims of the project

The central task of the project's activities was to develop a spatial plan for the special purpose area, the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci, by emphasising the historical importance of the area, its diversity of landscape types, and its potential to become an established cultural tourism destination.

With the innovative conceptual framework and methodological approach based on landscape characterisation, it was intended to formulate shared landscape quality objectives through comprehensive communication, creating a strategic spatial development framework for the establishment of an appropriate landscape management plan. Accordingly, the central aims were related to two main sections of the project:

Communicative activity aims:

- ▶ to raise awareness of the landscape within the community and the activities related to spatial and urban planning;
- ▶ to promote the importance of landscape characterisation as an essential part of sustainable development;
- ▶ to establish the multi-directional transfer of knowledge between professionals, local people and government bodies;
- ▶ to promote landscape planning as an activity of prime public interest, and landscape character as a major part of the cultural identity of the community;
- ▶ to formulate the shared vision for protection and improvement of the landscape character of Sremski Karlovci.

Aims related to the framework of strategic spatial development:

- ▶ identification, valorisation and institutionalisation of the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci;
- ▶ identification of certain characteristics of the landscape as strategically important for protection, conservation or improvement;
- ▶ definition of strategies to prevent degradation of sensitive landscapes, and ensure the necessary level of protection for existing non-degraded landscapes;
- ▶ generation of central spatial development ideas aligned with the strategies for landscape protection and improvement.

Outcome

The final stage of the project, and the major outcome, was the adaptation of the planning document by the regional government, the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina and thus the planning document became the local landscape

policy containing measures for interventions in the designated area.

In line with the above central aims of the project, the concept for the spatial development included:

- ▶ the preservation of functionality, diversity and the visual experience of the landscape form;
- ▶ better articulation of land use to safeguard the area against uncontrolled construction;
- ▶ a tourism development strategy and tourism infrastructure improvements;
- ▶ arrangement of historical settlement cores;
- ▶ continuous multi-functional connections (green infrastructure) between the forests of the Fruska Gora, the settlement and the Danube;
- ▶ the use of ecosystem services;
- ▶ development of recreational areas and educational pavilions in natural, protected areas and historical cores.



© Vladimir Pihler, Novi Sad

The adaptation of the plan defined the parameters of the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci which is seen as a multifunctional spatial entity, and its formation has been considered of public interest in the field of culture, ecology and the environment, as well as at the social level. Accordingly, the landscape character as a major part of the cultural identity is seen as a public domain, and its improvement is in the interest of all participants in the planning process. Landscape character assessment, and its valorisation, is seen as an aspect of territorial capital which significantly affected local development in a sustainable manner.

According to the completed landscape character assessment, the Spatial Plan for the special purpose area defines nine landscape units as a strategic framework for actions at a local scale. Each unit is the outcome of a group of landscape units where landscape features are repeated in the territory and together form one of three identified landscape types at the regional scale. At the local scale, the chosen landscape units are intended to provide a synthetic, but sufficiently detailed, view of the

region's landscape configurations and they provide a good reflection of its cultural profile.

The project defined the landscape quality objectives both for the whole area of defined cultural landscape and each of the landscape units. General quality objectives that stand out for the whole area emphasise the historical importance of the area, the heterogeneity of landscape types and the potential of the area to become a recognised cultural and eco-tourism destination. An important outcome of the project is also the geographic information system (GIS) database which has been used as a tool for monitoring the impact on the landscape.

Because of the project outcomes, the town of Sremski Karlovci was designated part of the area that represents the European Capital of Culture in 2021 (with the city of Novi Sad and two further municipalities).

Sustainable territorial development

The adaptation of the Spatial Plan by the regional government represents the implementation of the landscape protection policy outlined by the Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia. As a consequence of decades of negative development trends in Sremski Karlovci, the overall quality of life in the town had deteriorated. The new development strategy is focused on directing selective interventions using landscape particularities and ecosystem services as driving tools.

The project used the cultural dimension of the landscape as the generator for sustainable economies, an improved identity and a new interpretation of the territory. Landscape character has been recognised, together with society, economy and environment, as mutually reinforcing concerns, rather than conflicting domains.

A tourism development strategy was one of the main rationales of the project and an important indicator for sustainability. It was based on providing the concept for the interpretation of landscape character and its values. The main idea behind the tourism development strategy in the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci is to offer good interpretation of the diversity of landscape types within this relatively small area and attach multiple tourist activities to them.

Exemplary value

This project, seen as a process of policy development, is presented here in relation to the Serbian spatial planning system's ability to recognise landscape character assessment, the European Landscape Convention being an important framework, and a valid approach in guiding spatial development.

The implementation of a spatial development policy in Sremski Karlovci, based on the landscape conceptualisation approach, confirmed that spatial change can be directed through considerations of landscape dynamics where landscape character assessment represents the major medium for collaboration, participation and, finally, intervention at a local level. Therefore, the strategic application of the landscape character assessment in the spatial planning documents in Serbia can be recommended for the correct implementation of the European Landscape Convention. It represents a tool for testing the structuring capacity of the landscape features as a new infrastructure for urbanisation.

Landscape-based concepts propose spatial development which negotiate the contrasting realities of the urban/suburban/rural structures. Such an approach towards landscape interventions in a territory intertwined with water, forest and agriculture should result in a sustainable spatial structure that is capable of accepting and rationalising new development trends and new production systems.

The planning process, established in the context of Sremski Karlovci, can be replicated in other contexts within Serbia as well in other countries with similar spatial planning systems.

Public participation

The development of communication activities promoting landscape awareness was one of the main aims of the project. Procedures for the participation were generally made through the legal process of spatial planning document elaboration. As it was shown to be insufficient for the purpose of the project, an alternative participation procedure was developed. It went through the local civic organisations and NGOs with the aim of reaching both the general public and specific interest groups.

The town and its community showed significant resilience in sustaining itself in the past by developing a network of local civic initiatives and NGOs. This inherited value demonstrated the significant

capacity of the local community to successfully tackle different sorts of problems arising from the project. The strength of the community has been fully mobilised for the purposes of the project.

Awareness-raising

This project represents contemporary landscape conceptualisation that has been interpreted in a holistic manner as a multifunctional and multidimensional entity, the character of which should be protected and enhanced according to local and regional values and interests.

Landscape character assessment, as a methodological approach that was used here as the starting point for spatial planning elaboration, is a new conceptual framework in Serbian spatial planning practice. Therefore, the awareness-raising of the importance of landscape through the elaboration of the project was achieved by two routes:

- ▶ awareness-raising of the general public regarding the importance of the protection of landscape character values, their right to protect it and be consulted about it. This was achieved during public participation sessions;
- ▶ awareness-raising of civil organisations, public authorities (decision-makers) and professionals involved in the elaboration of the planning document (architects, urbanists, infrastructure engineers and other professionals) about the importance of landscape considerations and tools for its improvement.

Videos:

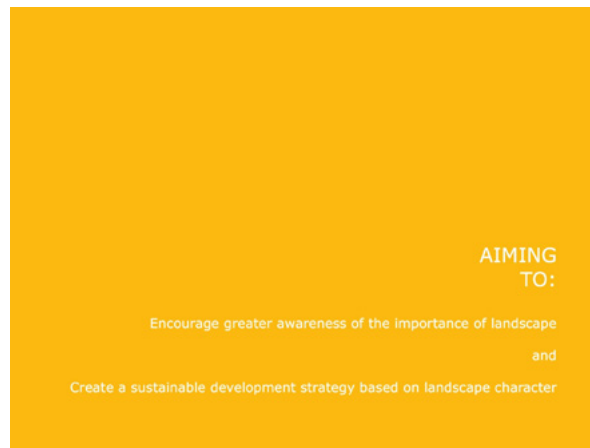
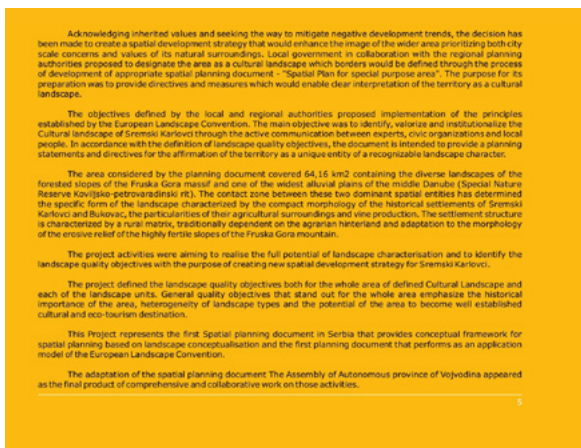
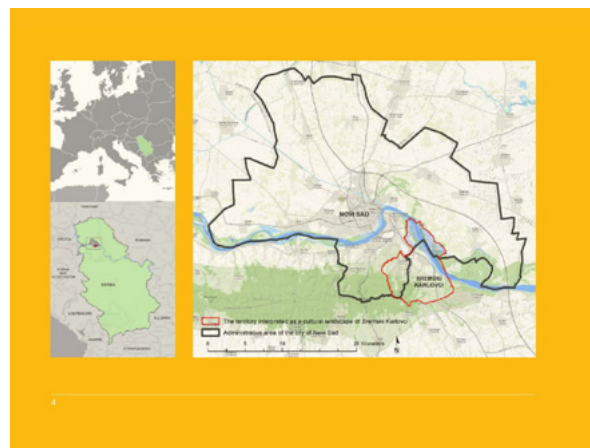
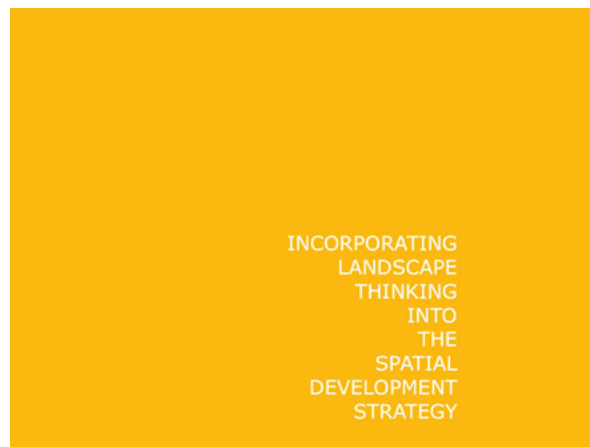
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515782667>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/335847362>

PowerPoint presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680a0926c>

Booklet:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680936225>



The central task of the project activities was to develop Spatial Plan for the Special Purpose Area "The Cultural Landscape of Sremski Karlovci" by emphasizing historical importance of the area, its potential to become well established cultural tourism destination and its diversity of landscape types.

With the innovative conceptual framework and methodological approach based on landscape characterisation, it was intended to formulate shared landscape quality objectives through comprehensive communication and create strategic spatial development framework for the establishment of proper landscape management plan.

Accordingly, the central aims were related to two main sections of the Project:

1. Communicative activity aims:

- Raising the landscape awareness both within the community and the activities related to spatial and urban planning.
- The promotion of the importance of landscape characterisation as essential part of sustainable development.
- The establishment of the multi-direction transfer of knowledge between professionals, local people and government bodies.
- Promote landscape planning as the activity of primer public interest and landscape character as major part of cultural identity of the community.
- Formulation of the shared vision for protection and improvement of the landscape character of Sremski Karlovci.

2. Aims related to the framework of strategic spatial development:

- Identification, valorisation and institutionalisation of the Cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci.
- Identification of certain characteristics of the landscape as strategically important for protection, conservation or improvement.
- Defining strategies to prevent degradation of sensitive landscapes, and ensure the necessary level of protection for the remaining ones.
- Generate central spatial development ideas and align them with the strategies for landscape protection and improvement.

7

OUTCOME

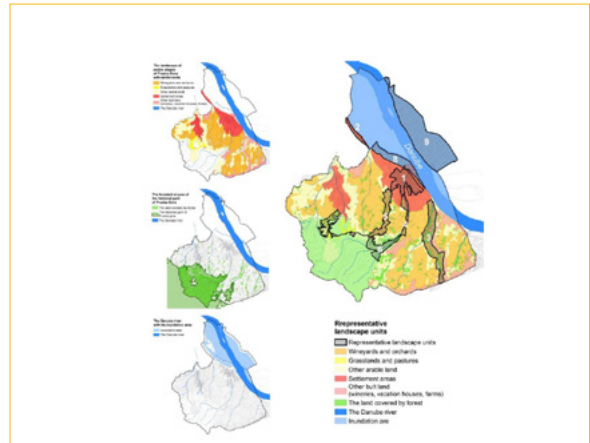
3 Landscape types
and
9 Landscape units



According to the performed landscape character assessment, the Project defined 9 (nine) landscape units as a strategic framework for action. Each unit is the outcome of a group of landscape units which landscape features are repeated in the territory and together form one of 3 identified landscape types at the regional scale. At the local scale, the chosen landscape units are meant to provide a synthetic, but sufficiently detailed view of the region's landscape character and they provide a good reflection of its cultural profile.

Landscape unit and landscape type identification and mapping were the basis for spatial development guidelines. Next to the technical specification for each landscape unit, the project provided systematic development guidelines and protection measures related to the multiple components that form the main landscape character value such as: land use (existing structures, possible alterations, compatible use), building parameters, vegetation, heritage features, morphological aspects of agriculture (area, size, accessibility), urban parameters (density, heights, regulations, accessibility to hinterland), roads and rural byways, dynamics of change and other relevant spatial arrangement data.

8



OUTCOME

Local landscape policy
Landscape character is seen as a public domain
Landscape quality objectives
GIS database as a tool for monitoring the impact on the landscape

Along with insight into the processes of landscape character development, the spatial planning document provided a spatial definition of "cultural landscape" and created a basis for its recognition in the wider area. The territory is seen as an interaction of spatial elements that appear in a broader spatial context, the meaning of which is defined through the integration of spatial entities formed by the dominant landscape character of the Fruška Gora mountain, the river Danube and the specific characteristics of the "Vojvodina-Pannonian-Danube macro-region".

Three identified landscape types – distinctive schemes of landscape elements (Figure 4) are:

1. The Danube river with its inundation area;
2. The landscape of the arable slopes of the Fruška Gora with settlements;
3. The forested slopes of the Fruška Gora National park;

They are the medium for the determination of spatial planning statements – land use change, development guidelines and measures for protection, construction regulation and development priorities.

11

The final stage of the project and the major outcome was the adaptation of the Planning document by the regional government (The Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina). In that way, the planning document became local landscape policy that contains measures for interventions in the designated area.

In line with the presented central aims of the Project, the concept for the spatial development included:

- the preservation of functionality, diversity and the visual experience of the landscape form,
- better articulation of land use to safeguard the area against uncontrolled constructions,
- tourism development strategy and tourism infrastructure improvements,
- arrangement of historical settlement cores,
- continuous multi-functional connections (green infrastructure) between the forests of the Fruška Gora, the settlement and the Danube,
- use of ecosystem services,
- development of recreational areas and educational pavilions in nature protected areas and historical cores.

The adaptation of the Plan defined the border of the Cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci which is seen as a multifunctional spatial entity, and its formation has been considered as a public interest in the field of culture, ecology and the environment, as well as at the social level. Accordingly, the landscape character as a major part of the cultural identity is seen as a public domain, and its improvement is in the interest of all participants in the planning process. Landscape character assessment, and its valorisation, is seen as an aspect of territorial capital, which significantly affected local development in a sustainable manner.

The project defined the landscape quality objectives both for the whole area of defined Cultural Landscape and each of the landscape units. General quality objectives that stand out for the whole area emphasize the historical importance of the area, heterogeneity of landscape types and the potential of the area to become well established cultural and eco-tourism destination.

Important outcome of the project is also GIS database which has been used as a tool for monitoring the impact on the landscape.

As a consequence of the Project outcomes, the town of Sremski Karlovci was designated as part of the area that represents European Capital of Culture in 2021 (together with the city of Novi Sad and two more municipalities).

13



SUSTAINABILITY

The new development strategy is focused on directing selective development interventions using landscape particularities and ecosystem services as a driving tool.

The project used the cultural dimension of the landscape as the generator for sustainable economies, improved identity and new interpretation of the territory. Landscape character has been recognized together with society, economy and environment as mutually reinforcing concerns rather than conflicting domains.

Tourism development strategy was one of the main rationales of the Project and an important indicator of the sustainability. It was based on providing the concept for the interpretation of landscape character and its values. The main idea behind tourism development strategy in the Cultural Landscape of Sremski Karlovci is to offer good interpretation of the diversity of landscape types on the relatively small area and attach to them multiple tourist activities.

REPLICABILITY

This Project seen as a process of policy development is presented here in relation to the Serbian spatial planning systems' ability to recognize landscape character assessment and European Landscape Convention as an important framework and a valid approach in guiding spatial development.

The implementation of spatial development policy in Sremski Karlovci based on the landscape conceptualization approach, confirmed that spatial change can be directed through considerations of landscape dynamics where landscape character assessment represents the major medium for collaboration, participation and finally intervention on the local level.

Therefore, strategic application of landscape character assessment in the spatial planning documents in Serbia can be recommended for the proper application of the European Landscape Convention.

The planning process established in the context of Sremski Karlovci can be replicated in a different context within Serbia and in other countries with similar spatial planning systems.

16



PARTICIPATION

Communication activities about the landscape awareness campaign was one of the main aims of the Project. Procedures for the participation were generally made through the legal process of spatial planning document elaboration. As it was shown not to be sufficient for the purpose of the project, alternative participation procedure was made. It went through the local civic organisations and NGOs with the aim to reach both general public and specific interest groups.

The town and its community showed significant resilience in sustaining itself in the past through developed network of local civic initiatives and NGOs. Through the elaboration of the Project that was shown as inherited value and significant capacity of the local community to successfully tackle different sorts of problems.

That strength of the community has been mobilized for the purpose of the project in its full.

AWARENESS-RAISING

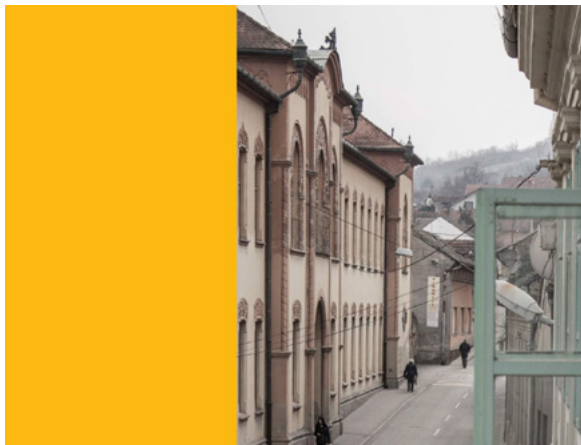
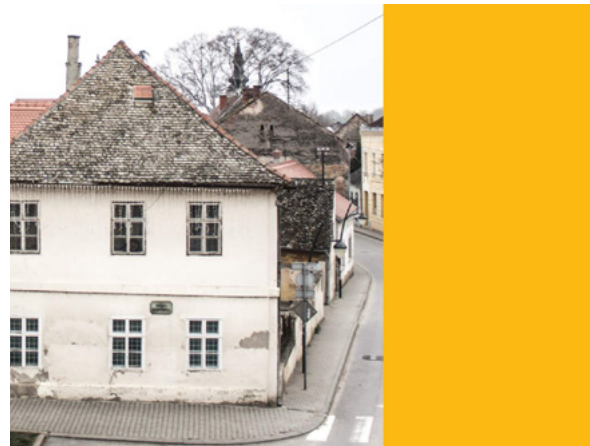
This Project represent contemporary landscape conceptualization that has been read and interpreted in a holistic manner as a multifunctional and multidimensional entity the character of which should be protected and enhanced according to local and regional values and interests.

Landscape character assessment, as a methodological approach used here as starting point for spatial planning elaboration is new conceptual framework in Serbian spatial planning practice.

Therefore, the awareness raising of the importance of landscape through the elaboration of the Project was achieved through two directions:

1. Awareness rising of general public about the importance of the protection of landscape character values and their right to protect it and be asked about it, which was done during public participation sessions.
2. Raising the awareness of civil organisations, public authorities (decision makers) and professionals involved in the elaboration of the planning document (architects, urbanists, infrastructure engineers and other professionals) about both importance of landscape considerations and tools for its improvement.

17





**URBAN
AND
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PLANNING
INSTITUTE
OF
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Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary

Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic

Representative of the Ministry

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Chairman, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic

Mrs Katarína Terao Vošková

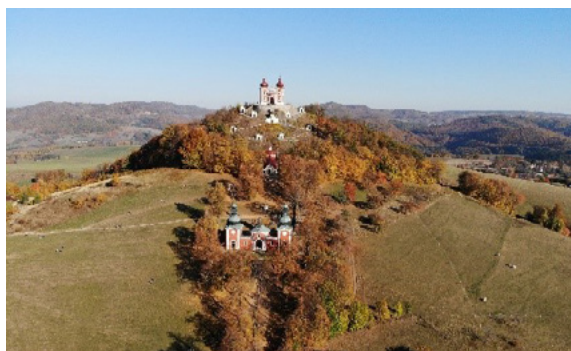
PhD. M. Arch., Vice-Chairman of the Calvary Fund, Slovak Republic

Summary of the project

The project was implemented by the Calvary Fund Civic Association with the aim of saving and restoring the baroque landscape and architectural complex of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary. The calvary complex is part of a site included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. It consists of a total of 23 separate sacral buildings – three churches, 17 chapels and three other objects on the central axis on the Scharffenberg hill. The project realisation began shortly after the baroque calvary area was included, in 2007, in the World Monuments Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites. The Calvary Fund Civic Association has helped to restore the degraded area of Calvary Hill, bringing back, following extensive reconstruction, its original baroque appearance. At the same time, the association helped restore life in a symbolic religious landscape that, once again, is a destination for the faithful and numerous visitors. The implementation of the project has preserved immense cultural, architectural, artistic and historical treasures, both outside the monuments and in their interior: decorations, frescoes and sculptures.

Banská Štiavnica – Historical Background

Banská Štiavnica was established at the beginning of the 12th century and developed in a very complicated natural environment amidst the volcanic mountains of Central Slovakia and every century since has left its imprint on the city. The tiny town gradually grew more and more dense; narrow streets and confined squares were formed, and palatial houses were built. On the slopes above the valley covered with palaces, poor miners also built their tiny houses, moving here for work and settling near the mines. The profitability of the mines was reflected in the richness of the architecture, the quality of the craftwork, and the artistic decoration of the palaces, churches and schools.



View of Calvary composition. © Vladimír Ruppeldt

In the final decades of the 17th century, the mountainous landscape also inspired Baroque builders to take advantage of the natural landscape phenomenon. In the 18th century, important architectural structures were built on distinct hilltops and became the dominant features in the city's panorama. This period was marked by the most intense development of mining of gold and silver, and the industries allied to the mining industry which have always been integral to the long and rich history of the town. It was naturally accompanied by developments in science, technology, knowledge, education, art and architecture. The city's 18th century boom is, to date, its high point, thanks to which it was possible to preserve the mediaeval urban plan of the original mediaeval buildings, in Baroque "attire".



Interior of the church contained garbage along with rare objects. © The Calvary Fund archives

The mining activity in and around the city and its vicinity had a substantial impact on the landscape. As a result, the protected area today is not only the city centre with the Baroque Calvary as its dominant landmark, but also the larger area of the technical and industrial complexes which relate to mining exploitation, processing and utilisation of the polymetallic ores. The impact on the landscape of the historical activities, the mining shafts, galleries, mining towers, the knocking tower, and the ingenious water supply network of reservoirs (*tajchs*) collectively form an important part of the cultural heritage of Banská Štiavnica, since they are integral to the history of the city and its surroundings. These values were the reason for the 1993 inscription of the city and its surroundings on the UNESCO List of World Heritage Sites, entitled "Banská Štiavnica and the Technical Monuments in its Vicinity", an area of 20,632 ha.



Lower Church – original Baroque frescoes covered with white paint. © The Calvary Fund archives

The period of communism was not sympathetic towards the development of the city. Today the consequences of that period are still considerable, including the disinterest and damage to the historical architectural and urban values, which are more significant than the consequences of the damage of World War II.⁴ This has also become the main challenge for the sacred hill Scharffenberg⁵ that rises above the town, on the summit of which stands the impressive complex of churches and chapels, the Baroque Calvary.



Upper Church after restoration works. © The Calvary Fund archives

Baroque Calvary (1744-1751) – its historical significance

In the middle of the 18th century, the city of Banská Štiavnica was amongst the biggest and most influential free royal towns of the Hungarian kingdom, and the mining industry in Banská Štiavnica experienced its golden period. Favourable economic conditions provided for the unprecedented cultural development of the town and brought about changes in its appearance, including the introduction and establishment of new artistic values. One such was the construction of the unique Calvary Complex.

This sacred complex, an extremely impressive Baroque area and prominent landmark, is listed among the most beautiful objects of its type of architecture in Europe. The elegantly elaborated composition of architecture, sculptures, paintings and craftwork, in unity with the natural environment, draws visitors into the story, bringing to life the scenes of the last journey of Jesus, the Way of the Cross. The concept of the Calvary Complex reaches beyond the framework of the usual interpretations of the Way of the Cross and its fourteen

4. Damage has been caused to historical and architectural features due to the negligence and unskilled (sometimes violent) interventions.
5. German names of the localities in the city show the presence of the German population which reached central Slovakia in several waves between the 13th and 16th centuries, mainly from Sassi, Tirol.

stations. The structure, the spatial design and character of the depicted scenes symbolise the message of the history of redemption in an original, generous and artistically valuable way. Thus, the story of the Passion is dramatised, reaching an almost scenic quality, enhanced by its situation in so natural a landscape.

The architectural complex consists of 17 stations, with three churches (the Lower Church, the Holy Steps and the Upper Church), three smaller chapels (Ecce homo, the jail and Jesus' Tomb) and, finally, the stone statue entitled the Seven Sorrows of the Virgin Mary. The complex takes advantage, in an especially sensitive way, of the properties of the natural environment, appropriately enhanced by the surrounding verdure.⁶

Despite the Calvary Complex being built at the peak of the Baroque period, the architecture of its chapels and churches is sober and the decoration is moderate, enabling the pilgrim to concentrate on the intense, intimate experience of the Passion. The message is enhanced by the realistic interpretation of the scenes in the form of large-scale reliefs, and the dramatic final scene of the Crucifixion created by life-size statues and figurative paintings in the background.⁷



View of Banská Štiavnica with a Calvary dominant.

© The Calvary Fund archives

Landscape concept

The Calvary complex is situated on the significant morphologic dominant above the town, a volcanic "plug". The shape of the hill is one of the important phenomena of the Calvary's visibility in the surrounding scenery. The visual dominance of the Calvary is due to the conical shape of the hill,

6. Vošková, K.: *Pilgrimage through the Calvary in Banská Štiavnica*, Kalvársky fond, Banská Štiavnica, 2009 (1st ed.), 2014 (2nd ed.).

7. Čičo, M., Medvecký, J.: *Industriálna krajina? Stredoslovenské banské mestá v 16-18. storočí*, Slovenská národná galéria Bratislava, 2011; Vošková, K.: 2009, 2014.

Scharffenberg, and thanks to its horizontal and vertical projection plan in the scenery of the landscape.

The location of the Calvary is not only connected with the hill. The approaching path – the pilgrimage route, which originally started in the city centre at the parish church – had a total of 10 sections, each spanning 163 metres. The avenue of lime trees connected the historic city and the sacred dominant on the hill. One of its most interesting visual aspects is the symmetrical east-west axis. This aspect demonstrates the symbolism of the concept that was created by the arrangement of the pathways and chapels, from the point at which the pilgrimage path begins.

The landscape concept of the Calvary is impressive due to the architecturally illusive composition, its symmetry and its dominant position at the top of the Scharffenberg hill. On the one hand, its location is a reminder of the real Calvary in Jerusalem (the calvary outside the city walls); on the other hand, its architectural-artistic design attracted the 18th century pilgrim to experience the dramatic story of the last hours of Jesus, and the Virgin Mary. The sacred complex was composed in a very detailed manner from the viewpoint of the surrounding hilly, mountainous terrain and from the historic city. Originally the Calvary hill was created in a non-urban area and as a sacred solitary complex, connecting to the town by the meandering path lined with lime trees and the three preliminary chapels. Unfortunately, this part of the landscape phenomenon was destroyed in the 1970s, when a new road and residential buildings were built there.

The geometrically precise symmetrical composition can be appreciated from the opposite hill, Paradajs, with three churches in the axis and chapels situated in a zigzag on both sides. There are seven chapels on the left side (the climbing direction of the pilgrims) with the motifs of the Passion; and seven chapels on the right side (the descent), with the motifs of the seven sorrows of the Virgin Mary. In the churches of the complex, the sacred motifs are the sculptures, the reliefs and illusive frescos on the walls and vaults; in the chapels the main motifs are the wooden, polychromed reliefs with the motifs of each station. Most of the original wooden reliefs have been saved from middle of the 18th century.⁸

Building the Calvary complex gave an importance and content to the landscape and gave the city a unique character.

8. Since 2007, the originals of the wooden reliefs from the chapels have been on display in the Slovak Mining Museum, in the Old Castle, where they were installed for a long-term exhibition, named "Calvary in Asylum".



Voluntary assistance in cleaning the site from self-seeding vegetation. © The Calvary Fund archives

The fate of the Calvary in the 21st century

Unfortunately, this precious complex of churches and chapels found itself under serious threat at the beginning of the 21st century. The balance of the loss of the cultural-historical values of the architectural and landscape complex during the period between 1989-2004 is incalculable. It is only a paradox that, simultaneously, the Calvary complex became part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

In 2007, there was a breakthrough in the modern fate of the Calvary in Banská Štiavnica. Thanks to the initiative of local activists, the Calvary was added to the World Monuments Watch List of the 100 Most Endangered Sites (World Monuments Fund, New York, USA). This fact made quite an impact in the community and motivated activists (Baden-Powell Foundation and Association for Banská Štiavnica '91) and key institutes (the Roman-Catholic Church, City of Banská Štiavnica and the Slovak Mining Museum) to take further steps in order to save and rehabilitate the Calvary. In 2008, a civic association entitled The Calvary Fund was established. From its inauguration, The Calvary Fund has taken systematic charge of the professional conservation of the monument as a complex and safeguarded the appropriate protection and revitalisation of the Calvary in Banská Štiavnica. The Calvary Fund was first established in 1751 (after the construction of the sacred complex of churches and chapels) by the initiator of its construction, the Jesuit Father František Perger (1700-1772), and continued to function until 1951. The activity of The Calvary Fund and patronage of Calvary was stopped by the communist regime after exactly 200 years. Today, the Calvary Fund continues in the historical tradition of protecting, maintaining, and beautifying the Calvary complex.

The Baroque Calvary complex is listed as a national monument and is regarded as the cultural patrimony of a wider society, the city's inhabitants and

all Slovak citizens, but also the inhabitants of the former ruling country, the Hungarian Empire. The Calvary in Banská Štiavnica is an extraordinary religious monument, not only as the built area (historic, symbolic architecture), or its contents (the spiritual message), but also the special meaning of the complex underlined by its positioning at the top of the strategic hill above the city, and at a distance from the urban area. It was built for visual "communication" between the town and the religious place. The complex is quiet, meditative and moving, even today, and so has a significance for believers of any confession, and indeed also for non-believers. Slovak society has certainly identified with this expressive monument.

The architectural complex of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary and all its artistic decoration, its paintings and sculptures, have an important place in Slovakia's history of art, and there is no doubt that the architectural and artistic values of the Complex also go far beyond the borders of the country. The Calvary Complex is one of the most important examples of Baroque sacred architecture in its typological class in Europe. The Banská Štiavnica Calvary has become part of the network of the atlas of the European Calvaries and Holy Mountains, which were surveyed in 2001 by the Italian Institute of Geography De Agostini (*Atlante dei Sacri Monti, Calvari e Complessi Devozzionali Europei*).⁹ The Banská Štiavnica Calvary is the subject of many art-historian studies, theses, seminars, etc., which attempt to reconstruct its history and bring more light to the circumstances of its creation.¹⁰



Lower Church – state of the interior after restoration works. © The Calvary Fund archives

9. Barbero, Amilcare & Bilská-Wodecka, Elzbieta. (2001). *Atlante dei Sacri Monti, Calvari e Complessi devozzionali europei = Atlas of holy mountains, calvaries and devotional complexes in Europe*. www.parcocrea.it/atlas/volume.htm#regno_unico.

10. The Faculty of Architecture and Design of the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava takes part in scientific research and the co-ordination of multidisciplinary research and preservation.

Intervention – Issues and challenges

The civil association, The Calvary Fund, has been working since 2008 to safeguard the Complex, following very complicated conservation and restoration work on the original Baroque appearance. The religious ambience in the symbolic religious landscape has also been restored. Once again, the landscape serves pilgrims and numerous visitors. Because of the realisation of the project, incalculable cultural, architectural, artistic and historic values have been saved, including the interiors of the churches and chapels decorated with the original Baroque frescos and wooden or stone reliefs, sculptures and altars.

The unique character of the Calvary as the architectural and landscape dominant above the city of Banská Štiavnica, together with its sensitive harmony with the natural environment, were and still are the reason for visits by many tourists and pilgrims from all over the world.



Ecce Homo after restoration works.

© The Calvary Fund archives

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- ▶ Čičo, Martin – Medvecký, Jozef. *Industriálna krajina? Stredoslovenské banské mestá v 16-18 storočí*, Slovenská národná galéria Bratislava, 2011.
- ▶ Barbero, Amilcare & Bilska-Wodecka, Elżbieta. (2001). *Atlante dei Sacri Monti, Calvari e Complessi devozionali europei = Atlas of holy mountains, calvaries and devotional complexes in Europe*. www.parcocrea.it/atlas/volume.htm#regno_unito.
- ▶ Vošková, Katarína. *Pilgrimage through the Calvary in Banská Štiavnica*, Spolok Banskej Štiavníc'91, Banská Štiavnica, 2009 (1st ed.), Kalvársky fond Banská Štiavnica, 2014 (2nd ed.).

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515783467>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313983210>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e575>

Website:

- ▶ www.kalvaria.org

Meadow orchards and landscape

Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia

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Summary of the project

The extensive use of agricultural land in meadow orchards helps maintain a traditional agricultural landscape by contributing significantly to the preservation of biodiversity. The meadow orchards of the protected area of Kozjansko Regional Park are among the most important special conservation areas in Europe (Natura 2000), because they represent a natural environment necessary for many endangered rare bird species. Changes in farming practices, lack of land maintenance, economic and social transformations, which are processes threatening this habitat type, were halted with pro-active measures. The adoption of a holistic approach has helped protect nature and enhance the landscape, developing quality agriculture favourable to the local economy. The meadow orchards, and the apples grown there, have become a symbol. The local population, the managers of the protected area and nongovernmental organisations, work together for this landscape.



Outstanding cultural landscape Podsreda. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Procedure for selecting a Slovenian candidate for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Slovenia signed the European Landscape Convention in 2001, ratifying it in 2003. The selection of Slovenia's candidacy for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is based on Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention (gazette of Republic of Slovenia, number 74/2003) and Resolution CM/Res (2008)3 on the rules for the prize of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, 2009.

The selection process for the Slovenian candidacy begins with the announcement of a public call for applications, published on the website of the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning. The Minister names an expert jury of five members reflecting different disciplines (spatial planning, nature, agriculture, culture and landscape architecture). The expert jury reviews and evaluates the submitted projects and proposes the Slovenian candidacy for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, to the Minister.

At the call for the selection of Slovenia's candidacy for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe 2018-2019, the Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning received three projects:

- ▶ Municipality of Razkrižje: The main objectives of the project were to strengthen the strategic position of the border municipality of Razkrižje, and to stop the decline of the population which was emptying the border area. For this purpose, they redesigned part of the infrastructure and some public buildings and, through this project, revived many local customs.
- ▶ Municipality of Kozje: For the meadow orchards in the landscape, the main objectives of the project were the maintenance of a favourable habitat within the agricultural landscape (a Natura 2000 area) by preserving the typical element of the agricultural landscape (meadow and standard-size orchards) in Kozjanski Park. For this purpose, numerous meadow orchards were restored, and the nearly lost knowledge, customs and products relating to old apple varieties were revived. Meadow orchards in Kozjansko became a symbol of nature protection, conservation of traditional landscape, health and recognisability of a protected area in Kozjansko Regional Park.
- ▶ Ljubljana municipality: For "Green Ljubljana", the basic objectives of the project were the creation of new green areas through the restoration of degraded land, thus ensuring a healthy, safe, pleasant and attractive living environment. The well-considered design of the city's green areas has improved air quality, reduced noise,

mitigated heat waves, conserved natural habitats and contributed to greater biodiversity.



Apple tree. © Barbara Ploštajner

The expert jury evaluated the projects based on the criteria of sustainability, exemplarity, public participation and awareness of landscapes values. As a result, Slovenia's candidacy for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe for 2018-2019 is presented by the project "Meadow orchards and landscape".

Meadow orchards and landscape

Meadow orchards in the protected area of Kozjansko Regional Park, as an element of landscape and biodiversity

Meadow orchards are classified as a habitat type of agricultural landscape. Their key feature is the extensive use of agricultural land that maintains a traditional agricultural landscape and makes a significant contribution to the preservation of biodiversity. In Kozjansko, grass orchards belong to Europe's most important conservation areas of Natura 2000, because they represent a natural environment for some rare and endangered bird species.

Changes in the use of agricultural land, such as the abandonment of production and the consequent overgrowth, changes to the economy and the social structure of the owners are all factors that threaten this habitat type. In the protected area of the Kozjansko Regional Park we managed to stop these trends with active nature protection measures. Consequently, with such a holistic approach, we restored values to the meadow orchards of nature protection, landscape, agriculture and economy.

Meadow orchards in Kozjansko and the Kozjansko apple became symbols of nature protection, preservation of traditional landscape, health and

a symbol for the recognition of the protected area of Kozjansko Regional Park. The apple connects the local community, the manager of the protected area, non-governmental organisations and residents.



Orchard on Čerček homestead. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Kozjansko cultural landscape

Kozjansko is a hilly landscape with altitudes up to 500 metres. This area is quite densely populated, yet without major settlements. Landscape with unspoilt nature is interwoven with parts of nature where the power of man is greater. A characteristic of the area is the extensive cultural landscape with various living spaces. Different elements represent this mosaic – the small villages and farms with standard-size meadow orchards, meadows, individual fields and forest edges.

Fruit cultivation has always been important in Kozjansko. In the protected area there are more than 50,000 fruit trees in orchards, and wild fruit trees in forests, features that are vital for the preservation of biodiversity. In addition to apple and pear trees, there are walnut, plum, cornel, cherry, sour cherry, apricot, peach, quince, service, mulberry and hazelnut trees.



Meadow orchard. © Barbara Ploštajner

Meadow orchards and Natura 2000

In 2004, 69% of Kozjanski Park was included in the Natura 2000 ecological network. The central area of the Park (37%), having most of the meadow orchards, has been designated a Special Protected

Area (SPA) in accordance with the Birds Directive, as it is home to a number of endangered bird species, such as the black woodpecker (*Dryocopus martius*), the grey-headed woodpecker (*Picus canus*), the redstart (*Phoenicurus phoenicurus*), the red-backed shrike (*Lanius collurio*), the European honey buzzard (*Pernis apivorus*), the Eurasian eagle-owl (*Bubo bubo*), the scops-owl (*Otus scops*) and the Eurasian wryneck (*Jynx torquilla*).

Since the orchards are vital for preserving the populations of these birds, long-term responsibility and special attention in the protected area of Kozjanski Park are needed to maintain the meadow orchards, which are the basis of birdlife Natura 2000 in the Park.



Exhibition of old apple fruits. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Participating in the project entitled “Reviving Slovenia’s Meadow Orchards and Fruit Gardens”

The national project “Reviving Slovenia’s Meadow Orchards and Fruit Gardens” (RMO), began in 1998. Kozjanski Park joined the project in 1999, upgrading existing objectives with additional environmental and promotional elements.



Meadow orchard and bee house. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Pruning fruit trees and helping fruit tree owners

A team of employees in Kozjanski Park is qualified to prune and thin the trees, a necessity since the trees had previously not been maintained and pruned

regularly. Thinning rejuvenates the tree, gives the remaining branches light and thus improves fruit production, as the fruits are more evenly exposed to sunlight and grow larger. After thinning, new shoots in the treetops and hidden buds in the canopy are also removed. A total of 11,200 trees have now been thinned in Kozjanski Park and the Biosphere region of Kozjansko and Obsotelje.

An inventory of meadow orchards

Between 2000 and 2006, an orchard inventory was completed by interviewing landowners and mapping their orchards. Data was collected (ownership, cadastre, plot size and number of trees per plot, the age of the orchard, apple varieties, number of trees per variety, assessment and use of crops, GPS data, fertilising, spraying, use and processing of fruit, preparation of fruit for processing, planting, and membership of the Kozjanske Jabke Association). In 2021, the orchard inventory will be updated.

Nursery for old varieties and a parent orchard

The objective of the project is also the preservation of all recorded varieties and thus the gene pool of old varieties. In 2003, the nursery was registered for old varieties in the Phyto-Seed Register, whereupon it became subject to control by the Phytosanitary Administration at the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. A parent orchard has been created and represents a gene bank for 102 apple and 60 pear varieties which are indigenous and traditional to the region.



Meadow orchard in winter landscape. © Vesna Zakonjšek

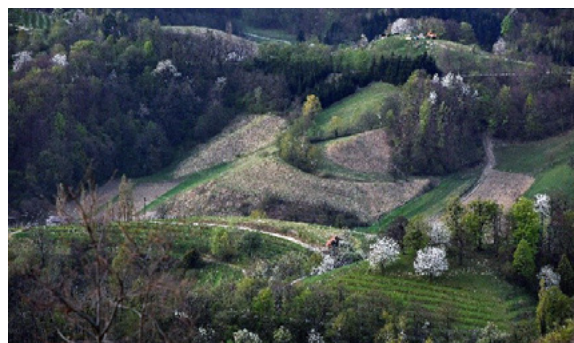
Solitary bees

By reviving meadow orchards, we also help to preserve the animal species that depend on them. Since 2004, Kozjanski Park has been running a solitary bee project. Besides honey and bumble bees, solitary bees such as the Red mason bee (*Osmia rufa* and *Osmia cornuta*) play an important role in pollinating orchards. To introduce solitary bees into meadow orchards we worked together with orchard owners, distributing insect houses made

from reed stems, wood blocks, perforated bricks and wood. The project is included in the science/nature days at meadow orchards and organic farms that we organise for school children. Every year we introduce approximately 10 new insect houses in each orchard. We carry out at least 10 nature days per year, and therefore educate about 200 children annually about the orchards.

Processing, produce, education and publications

Several educational workshops have been held, on distilling brandy, making fruit juice and vinegar, thinning, grafting and re-grafting, and summer work in orchards. During the annual Kozjansko Apple Festival, there is a demonstration of fruit processing. Owners of meadow orchards can also market their produce under the *Sožitje* brand, which includes produce from Kozjanski Park. Each year 25,000 kg of fruit are converted into juice.



Landscape in spring. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič



Detail of Kozjansko apple festival. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Trademark "Harmony – Kozjansko Park"

The collective trademark "Harmony – Kozjansko Park" is now established and is dedicated to the designation of origin, production and manufacture of goods, products (including artistic) and services, the designation of geographical origin or the origin of goods. This covers food products, handicrafts and

art products, catering and tourism services, cultural information services and other public and private services, organised events and created information for different purposes in a protected area of natural and cultural landscape, manufacturers and providers within the area of the Kozjansko Park, in accordance with the mission of the protected area.

Locals identify traditional fruit cultivation, growing and caring of standard-size trees

Orchards with traditional varieties are in the local memory and local people proudly identify themselves with the tradition of fruit growing and its customs. Many years ago, in the Public Institution of Kozjansko Regional Park, a survey was carried out on the use of apples in the diet of the residents of the protected area. They discovered varieties unknown to the profession, different names and uses of many varieties.

More than thirty different dishes with apples as an ingredient were identified. Locals, familiar with the characteristics of different old varieties, prepare dishes according to those characteristics. Stories from people's lives in connection with traditional varieties have now been recorded. Revived knowledge, customs, knowledge transfer and intergenerational co-operation are raising the social and cultural value of local's lives. This is being developed into a published book about apple dishes.

Projects

Since 2005, the Kozjanski Park has participated in three international projects:

- ▶ "Standard-tree orchards as an element of preserving biodiversity and aesthetic value of landscape". This project was conducted as part of the Interreg IIIA Slovenia/Hungary/Croatia Neighbourhood Programme, between September 2005 and July 2007.
- ▶ "Cross-border Co-operation Slovenia-Croatia 2008-2013 – From wryneck to juice". This project ran from July 2009 to March 2012.
- ▶ "LAS Posavje – Opportunities with traditional orchards of Posavje".

Kozjansko Apple Festival

The Kozjansko Apple Festival is a traditional event in Kozjanski Park which has taken place on the second weekend of October since 2000. The aim of the Festival is to showcase the collaboration between the Park's inhabitants and its management, and to promote joint efforts to preserve natural values and the cultural landscape in Kozjansko, with its distinctive standard-size tree meadow orchards and old apple varieties. The festival involves a fair and a

cultural programme, and every year there is a traditional exhibition of old apple varieties, prepared by Kozjanski Park in the Slovenian-Bavarian house in Podsreda.

The Carjevič title was first awarded in 2009 and it is given to the person who has taken best care of his meadow orchard in that year. Receivers of the Carjevič title are enthroned on a fruit throne which stands in front of the Kozjansko Park administration office.



Picturesque apple tree. © Teo Hrvoje Oršanič

Conclusion

Twenty years have now passed since more attention was paid to standard-size meadow orchards in the Kozjanski Park, in the understanding that a harmonious cultural landscape can increase the attractiveness of living in or visiting the protected area, thus increasing the potential for tourist development in this area.

It is pleasing to observe the commitment of old and young owners who plant young apple and pear trees and thus again actively impact on the design of the cultural landscape of the countryside of this protected area.

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515787082>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313179864>

PowerPoint presentation:

<https://rm.coe.int/1680a04082>

Festival:

- ▶ brochure: <https://rm.coe.int/168092e577>
- ▶ invitation: <https://rm.coe.int/168092e578>

Apple leaflet:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e576>

Map:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e58c>

Meadow orchards and landscape

Representative of the Ministry
Mrs Jelena Hladnik
Head of the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention,
Ministry of Agriculture and the Environment

Representative of the Project – project applicant
Mrs Milenca Krajnc
Mayor of the Municipality of Kozje

Representative of the Project – project performer
Mojca Kunst
Director of Public Institution Kozjanski Park



Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 6th Session 2018-2019

Slovenia signed European Landscape Convention in 2001 and ratified it in 2003.
Selection for Landscape award in Slovenia is going on since 2009.
Ministry of the Environment and Spatial planning announced public call for project applications (autumn 2018).

Five-member expert jury, covering fields of space, nature, agriculture, culture and landscape architecture reviewed and evaluated three projects that were received:

- **Razkrižje, crossroads** (municipality of Razkrižje) – arrangement of local infrastructure, revival of local customs.
- **Meadow orchards and landscape** (municipality of Kozje) – maintaining a favourable habitat type of agricultural landscape with preserving landscape elements in Kozjansko Park.
- **Green Ljubljana** (municipality of Ljubljana) – acquiring new green areas through restoration of degraded areas.

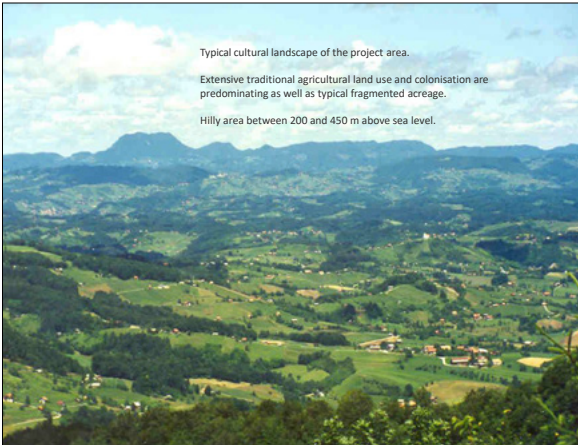
Criteria based on sustainability, exemplary, public participation and awareness about landscape values, Slovenia's candidacy for the Council of Europe Landscape Award for 2018-2019 presents project „Meadow orchards and landscape“.

Slovenia in Europe and location of the project area in Slovenia.



Captured moments of the area
Biodiversity
Landscape diversity
Buildings of cultural heritage

Typical cultural landscape of the project area.
Extensive traditional agricultural land use and colonisation are predominating as well as typical fragmented acreage.
Hilly area between 200 and 450 m above sea level.



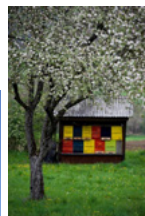
What is standard-size meadow orchard?

- group of trees of one or more fruit varieties, where in addition to fruit production we graze livestock or produce hay on the land
- trees are grafted onto the seedling
- average age of orchards is around 40 years, but individual trees can be 100 years old
- fruit varieties in meadow orchard: apples, pears, walnuts, plums, cornelian cherries, cherries, sour cherries, apricots, peaches, quinces, service trees, mulberries and hazel trees.

83.151 Northern fruit orchards; high trunks, trees are planted apart, beneath is meadow (Common European Habitat Typology)

Where are they located?

MEADOW ORCHARD NEXT TO HOUSE

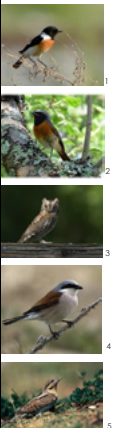


Where are they located?

MEADOW ORCHARD IN AN OPEN LANDSCAPE



CRUCIAL WAS 1999



A

1 DOPPS – the society BirdLife Slovenia conducted first research in the area of Kozjanski Park in 1999.

2 They found numerous rare bird species, many of them have endangered species status in Central Europe.

3 Bird research showed, that meadow orchards represent crucial habitat type for many bird species.

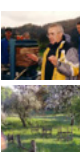
4

5

B

National project *Reviving Slovenia's Meadow Orchards and Fruit Gardens* began in 1998.

Kozjanski Park joined the project in 1999.



According to currently known data, the population of Eurasian Wrenneck in Kozjanski Park represents 25%-30% of the entire Slovenian population and it is undoubtedly of key importance for the long-term conservation of this species in Slovenia.

1 EUROPEAN STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata*
 2 COMMON REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*
 3 EURASIAN SCOPES OWL *Otus scops*
 4 RED-BACKED SHRIKE *Lanius collurio*
 5 EURASIAN WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

"FRUIT TREES GIVE US MORE THAN GOLD AND SILVER..."

MEADOW ORCHARDS ONCE...

Fruit trees were not grown just because of their fruit, but were also used for other purposes:

- fruits – food for survival of country folk, cider, brandy, dried fruit, medicine
- tree for shelter- people and animals
- trees along the road- protection of people from bad weather conditions
- trees (especially walnuts) – protection of houses and outbuildings from lightning and consequent fire
- wood and leaves – furniture, tools, leaves for animal bedding and manure
- care – grazing animals




WHAT HAPPENED – development of fruit growing and decision of Kozjanski Park for habitat conservation

In the 80s and 90s of the 20th century, there were changes in the way of farming:

- intensification of agriculture, transition from extensive to intensive cultivation
- land overgrowth
- replacing high trunk seedlings with fruit trees on a weak base
- population aging and labor shortage in the area, low price of fruit

Kozjanski park begins cooperation with municipality and locals – several related projects (INTERREG; IPA; LAS). In the field of fruit growing, intensive work starts in the park.

↓

This had an impact on the aesthetic appearance of the landscape and the landscape diversity.




Development of intensive fruit growing Meadow orchards started to lose on their importance.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MEADOW ORCHARDS TODAY...

- meadow orchards provide shelter to many plant and animal species, they contribute to the preservation of biological diversity and balance in nature
- affect the appearance of the cultural landscape
- contribute to the preservation of gene bank with many traditional apple and pear varieties
- production of variety of fruits for fresh consumption and further processing
- fruit varieties contribute to the recognisability of our region



2005. 10. 13

WHAT WE DID Results of 20 years of work




WHAT WE DID Results of 20 years of work

In 2004, 69% of the area of Kozjanski Park was included in ecological network of protected areas Natura 2000.





SPA (Special Protection Areas) - „Birds Directive“ - Kozjansko - Dobrava - Jovsi (37%)

SAC (Special Areas of Conservation) - „Habitat Directive“ - Bohor, Orlica (32%)





WHAT WE DID Results of 20 years of work

- regular bird inventory (1999, 2010, 2020)
- management of Natura2000 sites
- involvement of farms with meadow orchards in organic farming and agri-environmental measures
- setting up houses for solitary bees and other beneficial insects
- cooperation with expert services, fruit associations...

WHAT WE DID Results of 20 years of work

- in 1999, a team of workers from Kozjanski Park was trained for thinning and pruning
- revitalised meadow orchards= thinned fruit trees
- pruned fruit trees (thinning cut was performed on 11 000 trees)
- award „Carjevit“ for the most diligent owner of a meadow orchard is going on since 2009

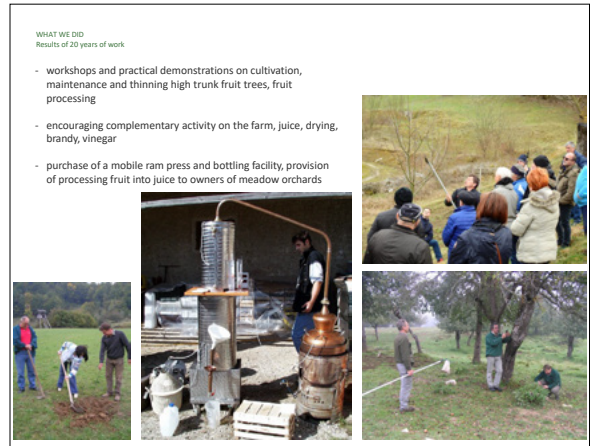
WHAT WE DID
Results of 20 years of work

- established gene bank – collection of traditional and indigenous apple and pear varieties in the orchard
- establishment of ecological nursery of indigenous and traditional varieties (each year we produce 2000-3000 seedlings)
- arrangement of info point for blind and visually impaired in collection orchard – Braille inscriptions



WHAT WE DID
Results of 20 years of work

- workshops and practical demonstrations on cultivation, maintenance and thinning high trunk fruit trees, fruit processing
- encouraging complementary activity on the farm, juice, drying, brandy, vinegar
- purchase of a mobile ram press and bottling facility, provision of processing fruit into juice to owners of meadow orchards



WHAT WE DID
Results of 20 years of work

Kozjansko Apple Festival

- traditional event in Kozjanski Park, which takes place every second weekend in October since 1999, in the medieval square Podsreda, a settlement of cultural monument
- fair with 170 exhibitors - 20 years of marketing regional products
- ethnological and cultural event
- establishment of collective trademark „HARMONY – produced in Kozjanski Park (slo. SOŽITJE – pridelano v Kozjanskem parku)



Sožitje

THE KOZJANSKO APPLE FESTIVAL





In Kozjanski Park, the apple, is more than just a fruit.

IT IS A SYMBOL OF NATURE CONSERVATION,
PRESERVATION OF TRADITIONAL LANDSCAPE,
HEALTH
AND SYMBOL FOR RECOGNIZABILITY OF PROTECTED AREA.



The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention

Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute
of the Department of Culture of the Local
Government of Andalusia, Spain

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Carmen Caro Jauregui

*Senior Officer, National Co-ordinator of the National Plans of Cultural Heritage,
Institute of Cultural Heritage of Spain, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, Spain*

Representative of the Project

Mr Lorenzo Pérez del Campo

*Director of the Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute,
Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain*

Summary of the project

In order to comply with the provisions of the European Landscape Convention, a series of actions – research, planning and intervention – have been undertaken in support of the landscape of Bolonia Cove, considering its natural and cultural heritage. Visitor itineraries have been designed to reveal the richness of the site. The project considered the complex and relational nature of the landscape, as perceived by the inhabitants and visitors. The accessibility conditions have been improved and new interpretive materials have been produced. The project is part of a broader strategy to protect and manage the landscape, in order to improve its quality. It has helped to promote the participation of local stakeholders and to establish genuine interinstitutional co-operation.



Bolonia caves, Cadiz. © Jesús Granada

Introduction

Intent to adhere to the provisions of the European Landscape Convention, a series of actions have been undertaken in Bolonia Cove to integrate the natural and cultural heritage into itineraries that identify its features and the experience it provides as a cultural landscape. Through the project, the complex and interrelated nature of the landscape was recognised which, viewed as a process, requires the participation of the observer. Moreover, accessibility and panoramas have been improved, with new displays provided for interpretation of the landscape. This project forms part of a greater strategy which has clarified how to intervene in line with the scale and qualities of Bolonia Cove's landscape and surroundings. It ranges from the analysis, diagnosis and organisational process, including planning, to the construction project that defines the intervention. The forms of participation and the significant inter-institutional co-operation that gave support to the action are highlighted.

The objectives of the framework project are:

- ▶ to raise awareness of the cultural and territorial heritage of the people of Bolonia and its surroundings, whilst acknowledging their ways of doing things, and how they think and feel about their landscape;
- ▶ to bring together the natural and cultural heritage in a strategically placed environment in geopolitical terms, and for that purpose to encourage collaboration between the institutions responsible for its management; and
- ▶ to move away from the concept of heritage as a specific purpose (also considered foreign, and therefore remote) and to address the difficulty of acting on different scales in a scenario in which various situations converge.

The research

In 2008, the Andalusian Institute for Historical Heritage (IAPH) integrated the Cultural Landscape Laboratory into its organisational structure, with the aim of contributing to the knowledge and analysis of the cultural values of the landscape, and to identify the landscapes of cultural interest in Andalusia, in order to develop criteria that support landscape research, protection, conservation, dissemination and use.

The Laboratory has implemented numerous multi-disciplinary projects and actions, in collaboration with other national, international and regional institutions, which have progressed the implementation of the specific measures of the European Landscape Convention. In all these projects, interdisciplinary

teams have been formed, integrating the contributions of various scientific disciplines such as archaeology, art history, architecture, biology, geography, economics, anthropology and history, as presented in various monographs published by the IAPH, including the "Guide to the Cultural Landscape of the Bolonia Cove".

Planning

Creating the project framework for intervention into the cultural landscape of Bolonia Cove and its environment was a long, drawn-out process, crowned with the publication of the "Guide to the Cultural Landscape of Bolonia Cove", in which sustainable planning set out the guidelines and strategies for the intervention. The action includes the management of a territory where different sectoral administrations are involved, with inevitable complexity, not only in the process but also in the conceptual considerations. In parallel, participation has been the main feature of the project over its entire route, and always validated by the social agents involved.

Thus, the rationale for the project should be based on three themes or stages of the process that led to the subject of this presentation. These themes are, briefly:

- ▶ the planning of the landscape, the Guide and the initial situation: to elucidate what was imagined by others in the past, at different times and with different objectives;
- ▶ the social perception of the landscape: how from different viewpoints society has perceived, and now sees, Bolonia as a living space, in order to agree how to combine the changing reality of the cove with its heritage and non-heritage resources;
- ▶ the intervention project: how to envisage a new reality, and project it onto a space in each time, and for that space to become an area that stirs the imagination.

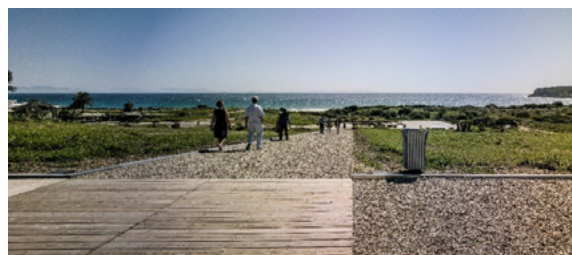
Undoubtedly, current knowledge of the richness of sensory textures, social identities, depths of time and many other material and intangible aspects would not be possible without the prior existence of lengthy and extensive teamwork of the calibre of the Guide. This Guide was not designed as a document exclusively for analysis and diagnosis but was rather adopted for design proposals to maintain the values of the place and enable the development of initiatives to improve the quality of life for its inhabitants. Arising from this are the framework project objectives which will subsequently help explain the whole intervention.

In order to respect the project's aim to "overcome the concept of heritage as a specific purpose (seemingly

foreign, and therefore remote) and address the difficulty of acting on different scales in a scenario in which the various heritage realities converge”, it was decided that the cultural itineraries and the architectural elements of Baelo Claudia (a focal point of cultural attraction) should adopt the support and liaison role. A set of itineraries was drawn up which currently facilitate organising the reading of the territory through routes which, as a critical and creative tool, include the heritage features and make use of perception as an added cultural value. A response was also given to the demand for social use of heritage.

For the purpose of the project’s aim of “stimulating awareness of the cultural and territorial heritage of the people of Bolonia and its environment, while also acknowledging their ways of doing things, and the way they think and feel about their own landscape”, these routes to and from Baelo Claudia guide our curiosity along a path which reveals the diversity of the territory and landscapes provided by Bolonia Cove and its surroundings. From the mountain ranges, the Strait of Gibraltar and the foothills of the Atlas Mountains of Morocco can be seen, as though “at your fingertips”. Here are two continents with two interrelated but separate cultures that have evolved over the centuries. There are also two marine worlds, the Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, indicated by what was for millennia the gateway to the east or to the west. From the beach and coastline to the mountains, the unique and beautiful geomorphology represents another way of life, dissociated from the sea’s resources. Both vistas are necessary to understand the lives of the people living in Bolonia, and those of their ancestors.

In order to fulfil the aim to “bring together the natural and cultural heritage in a privileged and strategically-placed environment in geopolitical terms, and to encourage, for that purpose, collaboration between the institutions responsible for its management”, and in order to stimulate the perception of both heritages and their complementarity, the elements of the heritage were linked using an itinerary. This presents the three-fold quality of the territorial location and views of the landscape, an acceptable state of conservation, additional interest, and a greater capacity of the site for visitors, without generating negative repercussions on the natural environment. It is intended that the itineraries do not just lead to heritage resources, but are recognised in their natural surroundings and in the complexity of the geopolitical enclave of the cove (for example, the views towards Los Alcornocales Natural Park from the anthropomorphic tombs of Betis, and views towards the El Estrecho from the necropolis of Los Algarbes).



Bolonia caves, Cadiz. © Jesús Granada

Intervention

The project establishes a system of icons associated with actions (to cover, guide, protect, enjoy and imagine) applied to a series of objects placed in the support territory, defining and qualifying architectural space, so that the relationships emerging from them and from human experience build on the proposal: a new layer of interpretation that symbolically and physically transforms the space through the action of the observer.

The strategy was based on the experience of the itineraries as a mechanism to incorporate heritage objects into the underlying cultural discourse of the Cove. The proposal systematises the intervention through actions associated with objectives which meet land use demands, whilst also providing informative content to complement the reading of the landscape:

- ▶ **Traversing:** flat ground provides visitor areas which define the itineraries, structuring the territory, providing crossover points between itineraries, with stages that act as information points and viewing platforms;
- ▶ **Guiding:** signage developed on three levels: nominal, descriptive and orientational, screen-printed onto elements that are designed to fulfil another function within the project;
- ▶ **Protecting:** vertical elements which provide for accessibility and safety in the areas of intervention;
- ▶ **Enjoying:** facilities are installed in order that visitors can relax and enjoy the experience.

It was also proposed to incorporate a screen-printed text to provide up-to-date information about natural and anthropic tracks and footprints which form part of the history and customs of the place, using contemporary materials such as stone, wood, steel and prefabricated concrete. It is an exercise in the transfer of knowledge and providing the support on which the reciprocal relationships that are typical of contemporary times can rest, where the objects of the past play a fundamental role in the construction of the present and the future. To this end, the project implementation uses materials belonging to our present time.

Four action groups were created:

- ▶ Cultural itinerary Baelo Claudia/Punta Camarinal;
- ▶ Adaptation of the archaeological site to the new museum project;
- ▶ Cultural itinerary of the port of Bolonia/anthropomorphic tombs of Betis;
- ▶ Cultural itinerary of the necropolis of Los Algarbes/Punta Paloma.



© Jesús Cuevas

Conclusions

The implemented project is remarkable because it is based on a broad and integrated approach to the cultural and natural heritage of Bolonia and its environment, responding to the territorial and landscape complexity of the Strait of Gibraltar where,

yesterday and today, the north and the south have been criss-crossing in a permanent ebb and flow of humans and migration. Movement is seen as enriching as well as disruptive, and through which different visions of the world and universe were discovered from east to the west, and vice versa. At this south-north and east-west crossroads, Bolonia remains a town with a Roman site and other cultural heritage. However, through intervention, it has again become what it once was, and will continue to be: a symbol on the landscape of these crossroads, the upgrading of which redefines the role of Bolonia's population (both to themselves and in relation to others), not as guardians against the unknown, but as heirs and custodians of a diversity that permeates them. It has led to their own ways of building their landscape, the outcome of uses that have been made by its people and continue to be made. How many other territories and landscapes can boast this scale of responsibility? In pursuit of this, the initial project framework and subsequent follow-up action was drawn up, and its objectives have largely been met.

Video:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313797996>

Website, Landscape and Society. Analysis of social perception in cultural landscapes (PAYSOC):

- ▶ www.iaph.es/web/sites/paysoc-percepcion-social-del-paisaje-y-etnografia-virtual/index.html?lang=en

Project presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e5fc>

Brochure:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e5fc>

The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardon Mill, Northumberland

Northumberland National Park Authority,
United Kingdom

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Sarah Tunnicliffe

National Rural and Environmental Advisor, Historic England, United Kingdom

Representative of the Project

Mr Tony Gates

Chief Executive, National Park Officer, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom

Summary of the project

The Sill (named after the internationally renowned Whin Sill geological feature nearby) is a National Landscape Discovery Centre which aims to transform how people of all ages understand, explore and connect with landscapes. The centre acts as a hub, a safe and accessible destination for everyone, particularly for children, young people, families, people with disabilities and those who may feel less confident in exploring the wilder landscapes within the Northumberland National Park, the wider north east of England and the Scottish Borders.

The Sill is much more than a building: it delivers a comprehensive, year-round programme of activities and events to help nurture the current and next generation of landscape enthusiasts aiming to open up access to the countryside to everyone and to ensure that these last wild places, and the communities within them, continue to thrive.

With over 150,000 visitors per year, The Sill immediately became one of the top free-to-enter visitor attractions in the north east of England and, together with the 30,000 people engaging here in landscape activities, is helping to transform how people engage with landscapes.



*View of The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre on Hadrian's Wall.
© Northumberland National Park Authority*

Central aim of the project

The central aim of The Sill is to inspire, involve and engage as broad a variety of people as possible in learning, participation and conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of landscapes.

- ▶ Learning aim: to create a centre where people can learn about the natural and cultural heritage of landscapes and apply this understanding to landscapes where they live, and elsewhere;
- ▶ Participation aim: to facilitate diverse audiences to discover and experience the thriving culture and inspiring landscapes of Northumberland National Park and beyond;
- ▶ Conservation aim: to enable more people to understand, value and contribute to the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Northumbrian landscape, and landscapes elsewhere.

Outcome

The building is home to a vibrant collection of experiences, discovery and learning. Since opening the doors to the public in July 2017, The Sill National Landscape Discovery Centre has exceeded expectations. The initial annual visitor assumption was that 100,000 people might visit per year, but during the first year over 170,000 visitors came. The projected ongoing average visitor rate is expected to be around 150,000 visitors per year.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

The diversity of those using the building, and its accessibility, has been highlighted and rated “excellent” in the reviews on Euan’s Guide, a UK website which offers reviews on disabled access by users who are disabled.

Since opening, The Stell (a space for temporary exhibitions) has hosted four diverse exhibitions:

- ▶ an introduction to The Sill as a hub for landscape discovery;
- ▶ a celebration of England’s first and Europe’s largest Gold Tier International Dark Sky Park;

- ▶ an award-winning Digital Landscape exhibition, viewed by 35,000 people over 12 weeks, and with visits by senior government officials, including the Secretary of State for the Environment and Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and the Arts;
- ▶ the “Inspired by our Land” art exhibition showcasing the work of local artists and how they interpret the landscapes around them.

The building has hosted a wide range of events since opening, from the iconic Montane Spine Race to corporate events for international brands such as Berghaus. A new, accessible footpath links visitors from the centre directly to the Hadrian’s Wall World Heritage Site.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

As well as 30,000 landscape activities for the public, The Sill has also delivered 20,000 education days through a complimentary school’s programme which included: investigate prehistoric history; river investigation; Sill story time; nature detectives; and astro explorers.

The events programme has enhanced the ability of those involved to understand, value and contribute to the conservation of the heritage of the Northumbrian landscape. The exhibitions hosted in The Sill are unique in both design and content, encouraging visitors of all ages to make their own journey of landscape discovery. Events have included concepts such as: wild food foraging survival challenge; jingle bell jog; waxcap discovery and 3D scanning; and mammal monitoring.

Volunteers play a pivotal role in the success of The Sill. By the end of December 2018, 9,090 volunteer days had been delivered for the project. Volunteering opportunities include: exhibition facilitators; members of The Sill visitor welcome team; practical landscaping works; livestock satellite tracking and habitat mapping at The Lampert; bog and mire restoration at Great Tongue Rigg; Sitka spruce regeneration problems on open moorland; natural environment surveys and conservation records; and

the opportunity to gain the John Muir “Explorer” Award during the volunteering process.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

Sustainable territorial development

The Sill meets the highest standards of sustainability. It has inherent conservation messages throughout and raises awareness of the impact of climate change both through interactive displays and the Northumberland National Park’s own commitment to being a green and sustainable facility.

One of the original purposes of The Sill was to improve the setting of the Roman Vallum, a huge earthwork and part of the Hadrian’s Wall UNESCO World Heritage Site. The original brief set out to achieve high environmental standards, sustainable sourced materials and to have low carbon emissions. The form, finish and palette of materials used reflect the landscape and character of Northumberland National Park.

- ▶ 80% of the external walls of the building are finished in local materials including whin stone, sandstone and native larch;
- ▶ the development of the first ever Whin Sill fully accessible grassland roof which integrates plants from the unique Whin Sill grasslands of Northumberland.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

The Sill also hosts The Hive, a new enterprise hub aimed at housing new and emerging rural businesses including: a shop providing local producers with a route to market (85% of the stock is locally sourced); a café selling locally sourced produce and; an 86-bed youth hostel managed by the Youth Hostel Association.

Exemplary value

On the back of the development of The Sill, Northumberland National Park has been voted “National Park of the Year” by readers of BBC Countryfile Magazine for two of the past three years, and in 2018 Northumberland was voted Best County destination in the UK Travel Awards.

The Sill building itself has won or been short-listed for a number of national and local awards which highlight the sensitive manner in which the visitor centre has been designed to blend with and complement the local landscape which includes Hadrian’s Wall, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Awards include:

- ▶ RIBA North East Award for 2018 – winner;
- ▶ RICS Tourism and Leisure category, 2018 – highly commended;
- ▶ AJ Architects Public Building of the Year Award, 2018 – shortlisted;
- ▶ Civic Trust Architects Award, 2019 – shortlisted;
- ▶ Construction Industry Research and Information Association’s Biodiversity Awards;
- ▶ Selwyn Goldsmith Award for universal design (putting people at the heart of the design process);
- ▶ North East Business Awards Northumberland, Tourism Category.

The most ambitious part of the building is the Whin Sill grassland roof, a concept which has never been tried before. Built to embed the shapes and geology of The Great Whin Sill, the unique grass roof was planted in a substrate inspired by the surrounding landscape. Whin makes thin, poor soil, so plants must be able to cope with tough conditions. This means that the area gives a home to a unique community of plants and the grass roof reflects this. Different soil mixtures and planting techniques were tested for the roof in several trial plots. The soil, which was especially blended for this project, is based on the soils found in abandoned whinstone quarries, where early successional species-rich grassland is developing well. All the seed used came from Northumberland and Cumbria, so the plants growing on the roof are local.

The unique design of the Whin Sill grassland roof allows wheelchair users and those with pushchairs to reach a viewing platform with panoramic views in all directions. It is the only one of its kind in the world and will be used by students to learn more about carbon capture, geology and ecology. The building is fully accessible and houses a changing facility. This has delivered a step change for the people to access Northumberland National Park and the surrounding landscape.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

Public participation

The project actively encouraged public participation in the decision-making process from the initial idea development, and engaged local community groups and stakeholders in the public consultation as part of the planning application process for which it won the “Planning Permission of the Year” award of the Royal Town Planning Institute in 2015. A series of open events and workshops helped determine site layout, materials and architectural style. The participative design process gave the local community a chance to be involved from the outset, to voice their opinions and take some ownership of the design. This enabled the architects to draw on a vast wealth of local knowledge and expertise. Over 3,000 residents helped to shape the concept of the building.

The project has also raised awareness of planning policy formulation. Several public consultation events were held at The Sill to facilitate discussion on the draft future planning policies for the National Park, as set out in its Local Plan review. This actively encouraged public participation in decision-making, in line with the national planning policy and guidance, as implemented by local planning authorities (including Northumberland National Park Authority and Northumberland County Council).

Perhaps the most pleasing of endorsements was from a local resident who, when asked if they liked the design and why, said “Yes, because we (the community) can see how we shaped it”. This has been critical in gaining public ownership and acceptance of a building in such a unique and sensitive location.

Awareness-raising

The whole aim of the project is to raise awareness of, and engage with, “landscape” for as wide a range of people as possible. The Sill’s permanent exhibition introduces an incredible local landscape to all Sill’s visitors. The free-to-access state of the art exhibition brings the local landscape to life. Described by some as the best “natural capital” exhibition they have seen, it includes geological exhibits, interactive

displays, artwork installations and audio-visual displays. The exhibition hopes to transform how people discover and explore the natural and cultural heritage of the landscape.

The exhibition is designed to ignite curiosity about the landscape and the environment and empower people to use this knowledge to ask more questions about the world around them. As such it does not set out to give answers or push given views. Rather it allows people to explore their own interest in, and relationship with, landscape.



© Northumberland National Park Authority

An extensive events programme introduces landscape to people from all age groups and provides a platform from which they can engage in activities which not only improve their knowledge and understanding of Northumberland National Park, but also promotes the positive benefits to the health and well-being of individuals and families. The programme includes:

- ▶ guided walks and “Walks to well-being”;
- ▶ opportunities to learn new skills such as wooden spoon carving, print making and dry stone walling;
- ▶ Dark Skies events, including stargazing and space marvels;
- ▶ family “Sill Sunday” activities;
- ▶ opportunities to get creative with local artists/musicians;
- ▶ digital and Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) landscape-based events.

There are also project-based activities with hard-to-reach groups such as “Skylarks Over the Sill”, a project for people living with dementia, and a heritage skills workshop for young people and with the Prince’s Trust.

Videos:

- ▶ www.youtube.com/watch?v=v20h5ZD4uTA
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/484087583>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/316563095>

Website:

- ▶ www.thesill.org.uk

Workshop 3/Atelier 3

**Landscapes managed:
Strong actions, from a perspective
of sustainable development, to ensure
the regular upkeep of a landscape,
so as to guide and harmonise changes**

**Des paysages gérés:
Des actions visant,
dans une perspective
de développement durable,
à entretenir le paysage afin de guider
et d'harmoniser les transformations**

Chairs/Présidents

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Community activities day, “Let’s do it!”

Estonian Fund for Nature (NGO), Estonia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Merit Otsus

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Ministry of the Environment, Estonia*

Representative of the Project

Mr Tarmo Tüür

Member of Executive Board of the Estonian Fund for Nature, Estonia

Summary of the project

The Community activities day “Let’s do it!” is a day of collective action for the improvement of landscape quality and has been taking place throughout Estonia since 2008. The project was initiated and continues to be run by a non-governmental project team which has been very successful in involving a vast number of voluntary participants. In 2008 the project started with the countrywide action of cleaning Estonia from illegal garbage, and in 2009 local communities gathered together to generate good ideas for sustainable local development. Building on that, between 2010-2018 different collective actions (Estonian: *talgud*) have taken place throughout Estonia.

The project has helped a great number of landscape management actions to be carried out. Every community, organisation or active citizen could participate in deciding what needed to be done and could invite other people to join the initiative.

Traditionally, the Community activities day takes place on the first Saturday of May. Over the years, there have been more than 14,700 different landscape management actions in Estonia, contributing also to the aspects of cultural and aesthetic values, with more than 433,600 participants.



Landscape management in coastal meadow in Manija Island.

© Merike Linnamägi

Thanks to the project, local communities have become stronger and public awareness of landscape values and sustainable development has increased. The project has also the very practical outcome of contributing directly to the quality of the environment.

Central aims of the project

“Let’s do it!” is the project of a non-governmental organisation and its culmination is a day of collective action that has been taking place in different forms all over Estonia since 2008. The main purpose of the project is its contribution to Estonian civil society by promoting active attitudes, strengthening local communities, raising awareness on waste, landscape quality and other environmental issues, as well as supporting the development of local leaders and initiatives. The aims of the project have been to involve the general public in decision-making and improvement of actions on landscape and, by joint effort, to raise the quality of landscapes and the environment.



Building boardwalks in bog.
© Voluntary participant photographer

Outcome

The project has been an instrument aimed at protecting, managing and planning the landscape (Article 6 E of the European Landscape Convention).

Strengthened and increased awareness, tidied up and maintained landscapes

The most important outcomes have been the strengthened communities, increased awareness and the improved environment.

The relationship of people and communities with their living environment and its quality has developed, due to long-term consistent organisation of the “Let’s do it!” activity. It has changed from an initially passive to a more active attitude – people and communities increasingly realise that the living environment and its quality depend on everyone’s actions.



Activities in Kanassaare village.
© Voluntary participant photographer

The project has developed the idea that, in addition to the physical environment, a strong, caring and uniform community is an important part of the living environment. It has inspired citizens to participate in the maintenance of their local landscapes. The project contributes to the implementation of Article 5 c of the Convention by making it possible for the interested general public, local and regional authorities and other parties to participate in the implementation of landscape policies.

The project has increased public awareness by directly involving people in different activities, as well as through the extensive media coverage (radio, TV, newspapers, social media etc.). The total number of participants in different events between 2008 and 2018 has been 433,603 people. The project is extremely successful and popular among Estonian people, and on an international scale.

Through these actions the project contributes directly to the implementation of Article 6 A of the European Landscape Convention: it has increased awareness among civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the value of the landscape and their role, and changes to them.

More than 14,000 community activities have been carried out. These include cleaning Estonia from illegal garbage, management of parks and green areas in towns and villages, planting of trees and forests, building the boardwalks to bogs, etc.



Planting oak trees in Kilingi Nõmme.
© Voluntary participant photographer

Examples of project activities over the years:

- ▶ the national clean-up project “Let’s Do It, 2008” (<https://youtu.be/A5GrylDI0qY>). The campaign “Let’s Do It!” is a grassroots initiative to clean up the country from illegal waste in just one day. There was over 10,000 tons of illegal waste lying around all over Estonia and it was a bold plan – to clean it all up in one day! On 3 May 2008, with the help of 50,000 volunteers, more than 10,000 tons of garbage were gathered, and Estonia was cleaned from illegal waste.
- ▶ World Clean-up Day 2018 united the world for one massive clean-up day in 2018. www.letsdoitworld.org/about/overview/world-cleanup-day-2018
- ▶ “Let’s Do It!” 2018. <https://youtu.be/RdY70cokMAo>: overview of activities in Estonia in 2018:
 - announcement of the start of the “Let’s Do It!” day in Tallinn;
 - creation of a common vegetable and flower garden in the city environment of Tallinn;
 - reconstruction of the village mailbox location in Põlva County;
 - activities in Kambja church in Tartu County;
 - arrangement of infrastructure and green landscape elements in village centres in Põlva County;
 - colouring the wheelchair road in Maarja village (residential community for young adults with intellectual disabilities) in Põlva County, with the participation of the President of Estonia, Kersti Kaljulaid;
 - activities in an animal shelter in Tartu city, with the participation of the Prime Minister of Estonia, Jüri Ratas;
 - work in the co-ordination centre of the project in Tartu Nature House.
- ▶ planting of oak trees by school children in the small town of Kilingi-Nõmme, Pärnu County, in 2017. www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mHCxjGcryY;
- ▶ arrangement of infrastructure and green areas of a village in Lääne-Viru County, in 2017. www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=96&v=IkHIUXR-bW8.



Imukvere local team. © Voluntary participant photographer

Sustainable territorial development

The project “Let’s do it!” contributes to the sustainable use of the environment and increases public awareness of sustainable development and their environment. It contributes to environmental, social, economic, cultural and aesthetic values of the landscape, improves the quality of the environment, neutralises and mitigates the negative impacts of human activities and increases the aesthetic value of landscape throughout the country.

The project started in 2008 as a country-wide project based on voluntary participation by cleaning up illegal refuse heaps which caused environmental pollution and affected the aesthetic values of landscapes. The team members were trained to organise activities throughout the country. The locations of illegal garbage were mapped. On 5 May 2008, 50,000 people (4% of all Estonians) picked up 10,000 tons of illegal waste in just one day.

The project has increased the quality of landscapes, resulting in the improvement of the quality and status of both natural and cultural objects (including cultural monuments). Today, many different activities are taking place to improve the local environment and quality of life during the Community Activities Day.

The project has encouraged the collective initiative of local communities and non-governmental organisations. Activities have been co-ordinated by the project team, but initiated and implemented by local communities, thus the project has fortified local communities and fostered local level decision-making participation.

The project has advocated active participation in local decision-making processes, particularly concerning those decisions on spatial development and the environment that influence the quality of life. It has also promoted the understanding of the sustainable use of the environment. Since its beginnings in 2008, the project has had a huge impact in raising awareness of waste management, recycling and other environmental issues, not only in Estonia but also worldwide.



Painting traditional elements on landscape in local parish colours. © Arno Urb

Considering that the illegal garbage and its harmful influence on the environment and landscape is an increasing problem, it is extremely important to increase the awareness of the public in this regard.

Exemplary value

The project has had a wide exemplary value. It developed from the initial clean-up campaign to a much wider initiative, now including diverse activities with the purpose of improving the quality of landscape and the environment. The concept of the project is a great example which has spread to the whole world. It can be, and has already been, reproduced in other countries.

The “Let’s do it!” project has had a direct and positive influence on landscapes – it has improved landscape values and environmental quality. Thousands of tons of garbage, including hazardous waste, have been removed from landscapes. As a result of decreased illegal dumping of garbage, the quality of landscapes has increased. Landscape quality and values have also been improved by other management activities which have been carried out as part of the project.

The project has an important exemplary value as it encourages local co-operation and promotion of voluntary work. Well-known in Estonia and abroad, the project demonstrates that many Estonians care about their environment and are willing to collaborate for its benefit. It has expanded from Estonia to all over the world and the day is also part of a global event called “World Clean-up Day”, which was initiated by Estonians. There were more than 150 countries all over the world that joined the action on 15 September 2018.

Other activities have evolved from the “Let’s do it!” initiative, including educational programmes. For example, the educational programme Waste break! (*Prügi Vahetund*) was addressed to schoolchildren encouraging them to promote an environmentally friendly lifestyle and sustainable consumption (195 schools took part of the project in 2015/2016). The project contributed to the implementation of Article 6 B subsection c – to promote school courses which address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.

Community activities day “Let’s do it!” has significantly increased public awareness of the environment, has developed the idea of voluntary activities and improved the organisation of community activities to maintain and manage landscape values at a local level, thus strengthening peoples’ relationship with their everyday landscapes.

Among other advantages, one of the strengths of the project is its long-term continuity. The activities

day has been held every year since 2008, and the numbers of participants and events carried out have increased annually. The activities of the project have contributed to the creation of the “Let’s do it!” tradition.



2018 Laagna garden. © Voluntary participant photographer

Public participation

The project is a civil initiative which encourages local municipalities, non-governmental organisations and local citizens to take part in decision-making processes. The collective planning and idea-generation stage is followed by a collective implementation stage by bringing together different stakeholders of local communities.

The project has received remarkable media interest and coverage. As a result, the topics such as landscape quality, sustainable development and local decision-making processes have gained attention. The project is well-known and appreciated by people. More than 53,000 participants took part in the activities in 2018 in Estonia.

The project has spread the idea of sustainable development not only throughout Estonia, but it has also acquired a global perspective. In 2018 the World Clean-up Day took place, engaging 17 million people, and spanning 158 countries. This event proved to be the largest organised clean-up that has ever taken place in a timespan of just 36 hours. www.worldcleanupday.org.

One could say the project turned the whole planet into a global classroom for one day – millions of people learned with hands-on activities that there is an important link between our actions and the state of the environment. This worldwide action was called the biggest ever civil action against waste.

Awareness-raising

The project has widely increased awareness of the value of landscapes among local communities, local governments, non-governmental organisations and the general population, and their role and changes to them. It encourages people to participate in activities which promote landscape values and makes people realise that the contribution of

every single person is important: the key is collaboration. It also demonstrates that positive changes in the landscape do not always require enormous finances. The initiator of the project, Mr Tarmo Tüür, has said, "You do not need to invent a new high-tech tool to change the world. The experience of The Community Activities Day shows that there is also no need for tens of thousands of Euros to change the Estonian living environment – it is enough to have tens of thousands of Estonians who care".



Planting trees. © Voluntary participant photographer

Each year the project has had a very wide media coverage. The project has its own website where all activities are registered, and everyone can choose and confirm the activity he or she wants to take part in. Before the activities day, people and communities can make proposals about what they think needs to be done in their community – they can choose, for example, to restore an old park or semi-natural habitat; clean up garbage; or restore a cultural heritage site – there are no limits, all these activities can be part of the "Let's do it!" day. The only requirement is that someone is ready to take the lead and others to take part in the suggested activity to raise the

quality of the environment. The activity is listed on the "Let's do it!" official web page and via this web page people can be informed and sign up to the activities that they want to participate in.

There have been numerous articles in national and local newspapers, as well as in social media regarding the project and wide radio and TV coverage. Before the activities day, different events are described, and people are invited to sign up for them. During the activities day there are live broadcasts on TV and radio, as well as special news from various activities. After the activities day, the conclusions are drawn and the public are told which works have been carried out, how many people participated, etc. Through this coverage via the many different media channels, and in addition to those who directly take part in the activities day, thousands of people are informed.

The project also raises awareness through educational materials and useful tips which are given on the project website concerning different activities. For example, advice on what to keep in mind when managing coastal areas, preserving natural and cultural monuments, not disturbing birds, sorting rubbish, and other topics.

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/484118170>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/484118966>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/484119832>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/484120431>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314187479>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314187467>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314187408>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314187396>

Between land and water, “Another way of owning”

Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Isabella Fera

*Senior Official, Landscape Management Service,
Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Italy*

With the participation of

Mrs Maria Maddalena Alessandro,

*Former Senior Official and National Head
of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention,
Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Italy*

Representative of the Project

Mr Carlo Ragazzi

President, Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica, Italy

Summary of the project

The Men of Massenzatica Consortium is a collective ownership project dating back to the Middle Ages, now legally recognised by the Italian Republic under Law No. 168/2017. Established as a consortium in 1896, it constitutes a reference point for protecting and tending to the landscape of the Po delta. Over time, the project has prioritised the generation of a sense of community and brotherhood over individual growth. It has promoted opportunities to undertake and strengthen social capital, while controlling water resources and combating intensive land use. Research and awareness work have been carried out since 2010. The project has developed innovative agricultural practices to counter the depopulation of rural areas and strengthen social cohesion. It is thus possible to transmit a shared heritage to future generations. By proposing a new “landscape pact”, the consortium promotes the values of sustainability, justice and belonging, expressing the multiple identities of Europe and its communities.



Between land and water. © Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Isabella Fera

Senior Official, Landscape Management Service, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Italy

The Italian Ministry for Cultural Heritage, Activities and Tourism (MiBACT) took action to identify the Italian project that best represented Italian landscape culture, characterised by an approach to planning where local history leads to the confirmation of identity-defining sentiments. These are major points of strength towards the achievement of goals in perfect tune with the European Landscape Convention.



© Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

In order to select the Italian Candidature for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, following the Council of Europe's communication regarding the implementation of Article 11 of the European Landscape Convention, and accompanied by the invitation to participate in the 6th Session of the award, MiBACT opted to use the same methodology as was adopted for previous sessions (with some revisions, optimised for each session).

Indeed, this procedure, which is public and transparent, has consistently facilitated the selection of high-quality projects, precisely thanks to the selection from a very large number of projects, gathered through a call for candidates circulated throughout Italy.

The circulation of the initiative has also been useful in raising awareness of the cultural and social values tied to landscape through media advertising, as well as public events held in various Italian cities, and the involvement of universities, local organisations and communities, associations and a range of individuals interested in issues related to landscape.

MiBACT's call for candidates further reinforced the recognition of the quality of the Italian project selected for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award by assigning it the Italian National Landscape Award, which was presented by the Italian Minister in 2019, on the occasion of Italy's Landscape Day (14th March).



Map of Italy, with the location of the proposals received for the national competition.

Participation in the Italian competition, with candidatures submitted online, fulfilled MiBACT's ambitions and expectations, with the number of participants, all over Italy, being greater than that of the previous sessions (185). A good proportion of these

were complete candidatures (130), 106 of which were formally correct. The committee that was formed to select the winning project was assembled by MiBACT with the aim of bringing on board experts of the highest repute who work in diverse cultural sectors connected to landscape, the environment, education and communication.

After close examination of the submissions, the jury selected a short-list of eleven projects considered to be of particular interest, from which they would choose the Italian candidature for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe.

Further information regarding the selection procedure, together with all the projects which received special mentions and other acknowledgments, including former sessions, are to be found on the website www.premiopaesaggio.beniculturali.it.

The selected project, "Between Land and Water, 'Another Way of Owning'. Agriculture, Social Enterprise, Landscape and Sustainability for a continually-evolving identity space: The Experience of the Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica" was chosen among the candidatures for its originality and uniqueness, while proposing ways of implementing good practices that could be adopted for other landscapes, based above all on the recognition of a shared identity and the local features needed for creating feelings of solidarity and cohesion among residents in a mindful and sustainable management of landscape perceived as a common asset. This project's value has also been recognised by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and has therefore been awarded a Special Mention as proof of its deep connection with the principles of the European Landscape Convention.

Representative of the Project

Mr Carlo Ragazzi

President, Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica, Italy

The Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica (CUM) is a collective association, located in Massenzatica in the Po Delta, a part of the Municipality of Mesola (Ferrara, Italy). Its origins date back to the Middle Ages. The first written traces of the Men of Massenzatica and their rights date from around the year 1000, when the Abbot of Pomposa granted the local population the right to graze on the lands and woods of the provostry (*Prepositura Pomposiana*), considered marginal and unsuitable for farming purposes. The partnership of trust and mutual exchange established with the monks of Pomposa, combined with the hard work to maintain the efficiency of the monastery's hydraulic system, contributed to the extension of the right of the Men of Massenzatica to grazing, hunting, cutting and collecting wood in the forest and fishing in inland waters. The Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica was legally and formally established in 1896, in execution of Law no. 397/1894 on the Collective Domains of the former Papal State.

This collective land structure has, for centuries, developed within a "landscape in transition", typical of the Po Delta and Ferrara Lowlands, and is characterised by the changing boundaries between the emerged and submerged lands, generated by sedimentation and erosion processes, and determined by the Po river and the sea, as well as by subsidence and climatic change. Over time, these lands have been tilled, cultivated and gradually reclaimed by the Community of Massenzatica who settled in the few emerged areas of the Po Delta in the still-developing Po Valley.

Productive landscape

social integration/ fight against depopulation

Paesaggio produttivo
integrazione sociale e contrasto allo spopolamento



© Carlo Ragazzi, Paola Buttini

This landscape is the result of man's unanimous, synergistic hard work, and it still tells us today the story of a community that has been able to overcome its individuality and express an open, community-oriented vision related to its shared land, living and working conditions. Even in its farming practices, this community has proven to be able to put common interests first, in accordance with a long-term, far-sighted vision, thus overcoming selfishness and vested interests.

A landscape is the result of precariousness, of a continuously changing land and living conditions, in which the action of man and nature are indissolubly fused and linked by a common destiny. Thanks to the slow and progressive reclamation of these "unhealthy" lands carried out by the so-called *Scariolanti*, the labourers, the community of Men of Massenzatica has managed to stabilise the river network, through a relentless and methodical work, by raising embankments, reclaiming the brackish water marshes, consolidating the hydraulic structure, thus gradually gaining autonomy over time.

All these efforts have allowed the extension of farmland entrusted with the community, passing on its identity and values to future generations over the centuries. Only recently, the Italian legal system has introduced a Law no. 168/2017 providing for "Regulations on collective rights", which has recognised historical institutions such as the CUM.

cohesion and social capital
Paesaggio e/è coesione e capitale sociale



© Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

Currently, CUM is a land consortium, encompassing a community of about 1,600 people, which collectively owns about 353 hectares of farmland, led by the Assembly of the Consortium members who are called to elect its Board of Directors every 4 years, representing about 600 households, each with voting rights.

Since 1994, with the entry of new resources into the Board, in compliance with Article no. 42, paragraph 2 of the Italian Constitution, and abiding by article no. 17 of its Statutes, a new managerial and institutional order has been set up, based on a different economic, social and employment balance of the community.

An attempt was made to overcome the strong “individualistic attitude” that prevailed in those years, when the “private company” model was considered the only possible economic model leading to efficiency and effectiveness to assure well-being and profit-making. A virtuous cultural process was instead gradually introduced, which shifted the centre of gravity of community values from the “self” to “us”. Hence, with reference to the use of the “land” asset, the community has been placed at the centre of the actions carried out by the board members in a framework of sustainability and intergenerational responsibility.



© Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

This new community balance, built with method, patience and perseverance, is based on four pillars:

- ▶ direct land management pursuing markedly social purposes: about 70 ha. of farmland is cultivated directly by Consortium members and it is also used for experimental research activities, hosting different crops: experimental beets, corn, soybeans, tomatoes, industrial and market potatoes; the Consortium farmland is subject to continuous crop rotation, to protect soil biodiversity, maximising income and employment. In so doing, the Consortium also takes care of those members within the community struggling harder to compete in the marketplace;
- ▶ support for small farmers, to whom about 170 ha. of land is leased, based on subsidised rents, to favour the weakest households in the community, i.e. young people and larger households; land is re-assigned to farmers focusing on high-quality, labour-intensive crops. All this has supported and allowed the success of not less than 20 farms;
- ▶ the management of 20% of farmland (equal to about 70 ha.) is leased to a private, external horticultural company which, through a contractual obligation set by the Consortium, is required to devote itself to labour-intensive crops to employ as many labourers as possible, especially women, within the community, thus guaranteeing a second revenue for the households of the community. The flower-growing sector requires approximately 40,000 working days per year, providing a very significant economic impact on the entire community.



© Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

The entire CUM agricultural activity has allowed a significant and beneficial action of ethnic and cultural integration in conjunction with the migratory phenomena from Eastern Europe towards Italy in the 1990s. To date, faced with further and different migration waves, the CUM farm system provides a useful means to control the local community and to foster an effective ethnic integration which, necessarily, depends on regular and structured work.

- ▶ investment of the profits derived from all the CUM farming activities are funnelled into social works, in furtherance of the cohesion of the

community; the enhancement and growth of land assets (consolidation and strengthening of the production base); forward-looking cultural and technological research, and innovation activities.

Currently, CUM (together with the farming members of the community) aims to stand as a champion in the fight against the fragility of the Po Delta-Ferrara Lowlands, regarded as a marginal “inland” area, characterised by an ageing population, low income levels and one of the highest unemployment rates in the region.



© Carlo Rigazzi, Paola Buttini

Fully aware that no landscape protection is possible in a fragile environmental context without the support of the entire local community, and in a global setting where marginality is rapidly transformed into marginalisation, what are the possible trajectories for the future?

The Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica is a virtuous economic and social development model, “creator” and at the same time “guardian” of the landscape. The Consortium is the bearer of values such as work, sustainability, brotherhood, mutual aid, support for the weakest and intergenerational responsibility. The project, which has been recognised by the Council of Europe, is the result of the close, inseparable interaction between landscape and community, the founding binomial of the Consortium’s commitment to concrete work, constancy and daily engagement of its community in implementing the values to be handed down to future generations. The underlying goals can be summarised as:

- ▶ to maintain cohesion and social capital to counter depopulation in the inland areas of the Ferrara Lowlands, thanks to the possibility to transform value produced through work into social capital, by means of support actions and services to the community. A plurality of interests in terms of efficiency (revenues, profits, employment, good company management) and effectiveness (consensus and sharing of company objectives,

employment of local personnel and help for the weakest brackets of the population);

- ▶ to counteract the hydrogeological risk and the loss of soil fertility, maintaining hydraulic control of agricultural land (more than two metres below sea level), the constant maintenance associated with good, sustainable and labour-intensive agricultural practices;
- ▶ to reclaim the marginal and disused green areas through the planting of tree and shrub species, preserving and increasing biodiversity; through the care of existing environmental resources, “fragments of landscape” with environmental landscape value: the Fossil Dunes of Massenzatica; eddies; dunes and hillocks, environmental resources at risk of impoverishment and subject to aggression, illegal landfills, pollution and neglect;
- ▶ to effectively fight genetic erosion by supporting the cultivation of indigenous plant varieties the rediscovery and protection of which has become an essential means to guarantee the future food supply for all mankind;
- ▶ to promote awareness-raising actions in schools, through workshops and educational projects, for the dissemination of landscape-related issues, sustainability and the identification of values of the land;
- ▶ to promote education towards the adoption of healthy and fair lifestyles by means of food education, food quality and sports activities, starting from early childhood;
- ▶ to support applied research activities through projects and studies, in liaison with national research institutes and universities to combat local land fragility, and enhancing the social and natural capital in rural areas;
- ▶ to combat the ownership of large estates and monoculture;
- ▶ to foster the integration of new migrants through regular work;
- ▶ to innovate, through a virtuous cultural process towards the shared construction of a “Landscape Pact”, together with twenty consortium farms, which have been selected throughout the years, in order to extend the involvement of a wider territorial area (over 1,500 ha.) and thus export the Consortium model by creating effective, widespread and lasting protection of the social, economic, environmental and landscape values underlying the Consortium structure itself, resulting from the deeply rooted interaction between community and the environment.



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Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314194181>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515790982>

Presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d94e>

Posters:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d950>
- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d951>

Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued

Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Sarah De Meyer
Policy Officer, Flemish Heritage Agency, Belgium

Representatives of the Project

Mr Philippe De Backer
Director of Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Mrs Kathleen De Clercq
Project Co-ordinator, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Summary of the project

Wortel and Merksplas Colonies together form an exceptional cultural landscape. This 1,000-hectare, man-made compartmental landscape, developed in the 19th century, consists of open and closed areas, farmland, forest and nature reserves. No less than 32 kilometres of historical lanes and other linear elements, such as canals and hedges, divide the territory into orthogonal forms. Some of the remaining heaths and fens illustrate how, with no external influences, this landscape was before the creation of the colonies. Following more than 150 years of agricultural practices, the territory became largely untended. The area was briefly under threat, until citizens were mobilised. Over recent decades, public authorities and associations have successfully worked together to secure and restore the identity and unity of both colonies. Thus, everyone can continue to enjoy this historical landscape.



Fen. © James van Leuven

Two areas, one continuous, valuable, cultural landscape

Wortel and Merksplas Colony forms an exceptionally valuable cultural landscape in the north of the Belgian province of Antwerp. The two areas are clearly distinguishable from their surroundings because this landscape functioned as a closed area until the end of the twentieth century, separated from the surrounding world. Whoever enters the Colonies today will still notice the change in atmosphere and experience.

The current landscape is largely man-made: 1,000 ha. of barren soil was reclaimed at the beginning of the nineteenth century and laid out according to a detailed and large-scale plan. 32 km of tree-lined avenues were established to structure the landscape and a compartmented landscape arose, a complex system of roads, avenues, hedges, canals and ditches. In this orthogonal structure there are arable lands, grasslands, forest and buildings. There are also relics of moors and fens in some zones, which give a picture of the landscape prior to the creation of the Colonies. In short, this diverse landscape is characterised by the variety of open and closed areas, buildings, agricultural land, forest and natural areas.

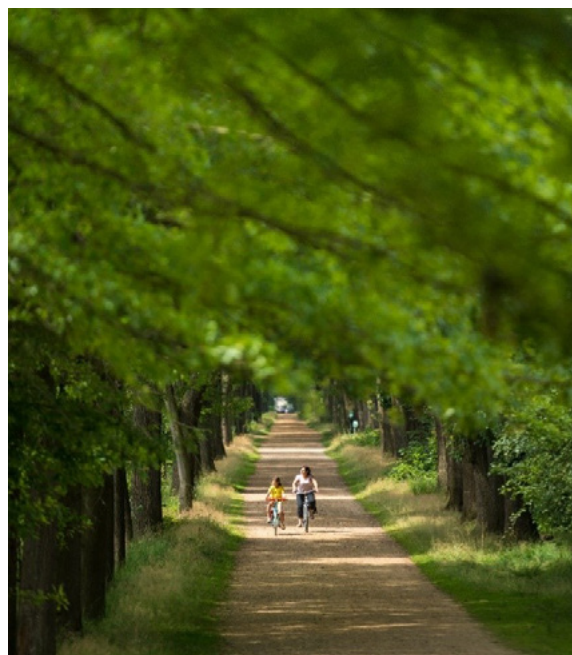
Today, the Wortel and Merksplas Colony has historical, scenic and ecological value. For example, the tree-lined avenues function as ecological corridors where bats forage. The clay pits and pools have become major habitats for fauna and flora such as crickets and life-giving lizards. Wortel and Merksplas Colony also provides a major slow tourism destination for the region. Hikers and cyclists seek out the peace and nature in this vast landscape.



Tree avenue. © Dirk Broeckx

History and evolution

At the end of the 18th century, poverty was an increasing social problem in the area that, after the defeat of Napoleon in Waterloo, was to become the United Kingdom of the Netherlands, present day Belgium and the Netherlands. Nearly one in seven inhabitants lived on public charity. In this context General Johannes van den Bosch established the "Society of Benevolence" in 1818. As an integral solution to poverty, the Society created seven agricultural colonies in the Northern and Southern Netherlands. The founders were driven by the utopian ideal of combatting poverty by offering work, housing and training to the unemployed poor. It was hoped that agricultural labour in a completely new environment would lead them to a new life. Wortel Colony was founded as the fifth Colony, in 1822. Three years later, in 1825, the first homeless poor arrived in the seventh and last Colony, Merksplas.



Biking. © Raf Ketelslagers

The story of vagrants in Wortel and Merksplas Colony ended in 1993. Once vagrancy was no longer a crime, the sites lost their original function. Several buildings became empty and the landscape was in danger of fragmentation, through sale and partitioning. To safeguard the special character of both Colonies it was decided that the two sites had to be kept together as a single unit.

Sustainable management as one single area

In 1997, Kempens Landschap was established by the Province of Antwerp. Under the aegis of Kempens Landschap, a Technical Co-ordination Commission was created to oversee the protection of Colonies 5-7. A group of members agreed to purchase the whole ensemble of land and buildings. Allocation was devised in such a way that individual partners could concentrate on managing an area in which they had the most expertise. For example, the Agency for Nature and Forests owns the wooded areas and many homes are now the property of a housing association *Bouwmaatschappij De Noorderkempen*. The local authorities of the city of Hoogstraten and the municipality of Merksplas purchased many large empty buildings that were then repurposed. Each member oversaw his own piece of the "puzzle". Since then, the members of the commission have co-ordinated all initiatives in Wortel and Merksplas Colony. The committee has no legal structure but has been working for more than 20 years, based on commitment and trust between the partners. All new management plans or major projects are discussed in this committee, to safeguard the unity and the special character of the landscape. In this way, the two Colonies are

maintained as a single landscape entity, and as a single area open to the public.



Cemetery. © Dirk Broeckx

Central aims of the project

The main objective of the project was to preserve and strengthen the identity and unity of Wortel and Merksplas Colony, and to enable visitors to enjoy this special and varied landscape in multiple ways, both today and for future generations. The future of the landscape of Wortel and Merksplas Colony was uncertain at the start of the project in 1997 since, after more than 150 years of service as agricultural colonies, the landscape had become largely neglected.

The area was even on the list of the “World Monument Fund” of the 100 most threatened heritage sites in the world. Luckily, citizens, local and supra-local authorities worked together to secure, manage and upgrade Wortel and Merksplas as a whole. Since 1997, Kempens Landschap has been guiding the Technical Co-ordination Committee, which was set up to safeguard and manage the landscape of Wortel and Merksplas Colony.

After both Wortel and Merksplas were protected as listed landscapes in 1999, the Technical Co-ordination Committee set three main goals in line with its protection:

- ▶ to preserve and enhance the structure of the historic tree avenues;
- ▶ to preserve and enhance the green belt between the two colonies;
- ▶ to achieve a balance between natural, cultural and agricultural needs.



Grazing Konik horses. © Wim Verschraegen

Revaluation of the landscape: key actions

Tree-lined avenues revalued

The prominent tree-lined avenues were fully inventoried in 2009 and their appropriate management has been integrated into management plans. The avenues were divided into different types and one of the objectives is to improve the vistas of the avenues. Therefore, 15 metres of the adjacent agricultural fields on both sides of the avenues has been left free of crops. Moreover, the farmers who cultivate the land are encouraged to work with low-lying crops instead of maize, to maintain the open character of the landscape and preserve the sight lines.

Sheep herding

Sheep grazing is a good way to enhance the ecological values of the landscape. Every year, from April to October, shepherds herd their flocks through the avenues. The sheep graze the open space beneath the tree-lined avenues but do not threaten the plants and animals that shelter in the low vegetation. This approach ensures more varied verges. A lawn mower cuts the grass to the same height, but sheep allow tufts to remain here and there. Consequently, there are places to shelter from the wind that are greatly favoured, for example, by the chequered skipper, a species of butterfly. The shepherd and his sheep have now become the poster models for Colony 5-7.



Sheep grazing. © Wim Verschraegen

Restoration and adaptive reuse of typical buildings in the landscape

Buildings have been restored and repurposed to give Colony 5-7 a sustainable future. Originally, for example, buildings housed cattle, stored supplies or sheltered the homeless. Now they fulfil other functions. In Wortel Colony, schools and other groups can enjoy farming lessons in *De Bonte Beestenboel*. The former vagrants' chapel in Merksplas Colony has become a special venue for celebrations and events. The Big Farm (*Grote Hoeve*) is now a slow cultural tourism destination with a visitor centre, brasserie, bicycle service centre and lodging. To operate these

facilities, many private companies have also joined Colony 5-7 as partners.

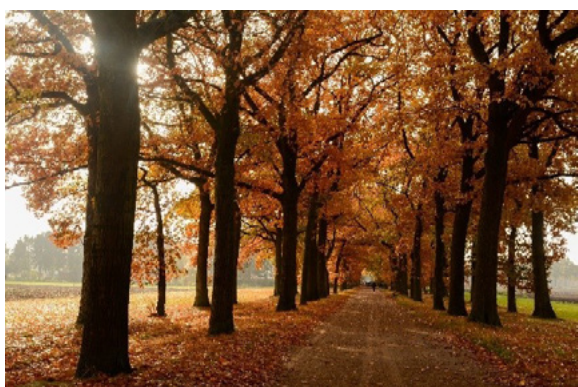


Equestrianism. © James van Leuven

Recreation and awareness-raising

Today, Colony 5-7 is, above all, an attractive place that invites people to come and relax, and to enjoy the splendid landscape. Colony 5-7 suits every season. Hikers and cyclists can discover the extensive network of adapted networks and, for horse enthusiasts, there is a marked bridle path. It is even possible to ride in a covered wagon.

In Wortel Colony, there is a visitor centre dedicated to the nature of the Colonies: *De Klapekster*. The centre was refurbished in 2017. In Wortel Colony, around 32,000 children participate every year in the farm class in the *De Bonte Beestenboel* youth centre. In Merksplas Colony, the multi-lingual visitor centre that was opened in 2017 enables visitors to discover the fascinating history of the Colonies and their landscape. People are encouraged to explore the outdoors, to see and feel the learning, in situ. Free apps (*Vossenstreken* for adventurous families and *Kolonie app* for those who want to dive into the story of the vagrants) have been developed to guide visitors in the landscape.



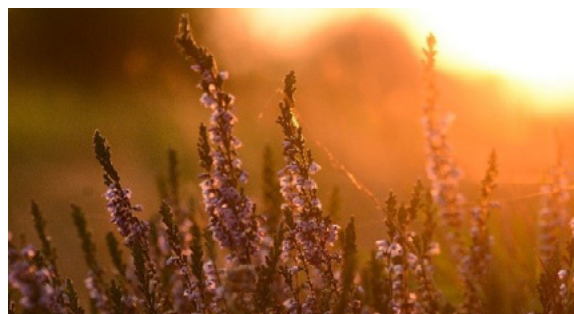
Autumn. © Wim Verschraegen

International approach

Wortel and Merksplas Colony is an area with both regional and international importance and appeal.

Historically, it is also connected to five other Colonies of Benevolence in the Netherlands. In 2012, the seven Colonies decided to prepare a joint nomination for UNESCO World Heritage. A nomination file was submitted in January 2017 and in June 2018 the dossier was treated by the World Heritage Committee in Bahrain. The file received “referral status”, which means that the exceptional values were recognised, but that the nomination file needed additional clarification before the eventual inscription on the World Heritage List could be applied. An adapted nomination file was submitted in January 2020 and the outcome is awaited.

In 2014, Kempens Landschap received a Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra Award and the Grand Prize in the category “dedicated service”. The jury noted that, since the adoption of the European Landscape Convention, it has hardly seen a more effective example of the implementation of the European vision throughout all projects, but specifically at Wortel and Merksplas Colony. In 2019, the Colonies of Wortel and Merksplas won the national selection in Belgium and became part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.



Heather. © Wim Verschraegen

Results

- ▶ The landscape unity of the 1,000 ha. area has been secured by the common action of a group of partners who bought the area and have ensured its management for the past 20 years.
- ▶ The use, heritage and nature values of the landscape have been investigated, recognised and secured in statutory spatial planning plans and protection decisions that permanently protect the character and structure of the landscape.
- ▶ The vision on the future management, the revaluation and strengthening of the landscape have been integrated in various official management plans and vision documents. This guarantees the uniform management of Wortel and Merksplas Colony and imposes high standards on the desired quality of the landscape.
- ▶ The vision has also been put into practice in recent years, resulting in a remarkable improvement and reinforcement in the field. In this way, the vistas and ecological value of the 32 km of

tree-lined avenues was improved by adapting the agriculture and targeting the sheep grazing.

- ▶ Wortel and Merksplas Colony remains a living landscape. Local farmers, inhabitants and small and medium enterprises are involved in the project. For example, a “visitor giving” project was recently launched to develop a network of companies and partners, to sustain the area economically.
- ▶ The recreational potential of Wortel and Merksplas Colony has also been unlocked. Wortel and Merksplas Colony evolved from a virtually unknown spot on the map into a new slow tourism destination. The freely accessible Visitor Centre “Colony 5-7”, which opened its doors in June 2017, has already welcomed more than 60,000 visitors.

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/485515326>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/314702642>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680923d70>

Maps on management:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680923d38>

Presentation:

- ▶ Involvement and awareness raising:
<https://rm.coe.int/1680923d39>
- ▶ Recreation:
<https://rm.coe.int/1680923d3a>

Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic

4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Viki Jakaša Borić
Senior Officer, Ministry of Culture, Croatia

With the participation of

Mrs Biserka Dumbović-Bilušić
*Head of Conservation Department in Rijeka,
Ministry of Culture and Media, Croatia*

Representatives of the Project

Mrs Julia Bakota
President, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Mr Grga Frangeš
Etnologist, Member of 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Summary of the project

Dragodid is an education, training and awareness-raising project on the dry stone heritage of Croatia and the Eastern Adriatic. It is led by 4 Grada Dragodid Association, a non-governmental organisation consisting mostly of young professionals and students of heritage and landscape-related disciplines (architecture, ethnology, landscape architecture, agriculture, in particular). The initial phases of the project were completed in 2013, and several steps have been taken since then: establishment of a heritage information portal; institution of an inventory of dry stone buildings and landscapes; publication of handbooks on fundraising, awareness-raising and legal issues; development of a regular programme of public workshops; and an inscription of dry stone art in the National Register of Cultural Goods. The association continues to work for the protection of Croatia's landscapes.



© Prizdrina-Sv. Kriz

Representative of the Ministry

Biserka Dumbović Bilušić

*Head of Conservation Department in Rijeka,
Ministry of Culture and Media, Croatia*

Dry stone walling in Croatian landscapes

In the Mediterranean countries, as in Croatia, dry stone walling has shaped the diverse coastline and island landscapes. Diligent arms have moved one piece of stone at a time from the karstic terrain to make wonderful structures, forming distinctive stone landscapes. The traditional technique of dry stone walling, walls which are built without use of any binding material, are an integral element of every cultivated landscape throughout the coast of the Mediterranean Sea. Therefore, including the art of dry stone walling on the UNESCO list of intangible cultural heritage is an exceptional step towards the protection of this tradition. Whilst it is impossible to protect all dry stone walling structures, it is of outmost importance to protect the walling skills and knowledge transferred through the centuries from generation to generation without any material record, skills which proved to be crucial in the last decades of the 20th century, due to loss of continuity.

The art of dry stone walling was inscribed in 2013 on the Register of cultural heritage of the Republic of Croatia. Proposed by the collective international nomination of Cyprus, France, Greece, Croatia, Italy, Slovenia, Spain and Switzerland, under the name "Art of dry stone walling, knowledge and techniques" this art was also inscribed in 2018 on the UNESCO Representative list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

The art of dry stone walling concerns the expertise related to making stone constructions by stacking stones upon each other, without using any other materials, except perhaps dry soil. In the narrow sense, it means using stone with minimum or no additional treatment, and in the broader sense it means laying stone pavements and roofing, as well as the construction of buildings without using a binding material. Croatian characteristic structures of dry stone building are named *gromaca*, *međa*, *mocira*, *masiera*, *redina*, *prizida*, *zid*, *mrtvi zid*, *mrtvi mir*... each are different shapes found throughout the Adriatic-Dinaric karstic region, giving a strong presence to the landscape. Dry stone structures have shaped diverse landscapes, forming various modes for dwelling, farming and husbandry. A vital role of dry stone structures is the prevention of landslides and floods, combating erosion, enhancing biodiversity and creating adequate microclimatic conditions for agriculture. In addition to their unique architectural geometry, dry stone walls are also valuable ecological habitats for numerous flora and fauna (reptiles, bugs, bees, etc.).



© Nevena Keresa

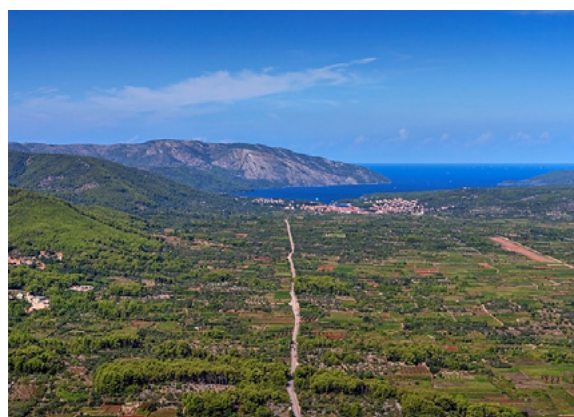
The Croatian Adriatic (the islands and coastline) is a typical region using dry stone walling to shape traditional buildings, barns, huts, sheepfolds, as well as terraced walls of agricultural areas. Presence, density and diversity of the dry stone landscape, which also represents the cultural heritage, economical, tourist and ecological potential, is still not present enough in the country's sectoral policy. Until the most recent decades, dry stone walling was not recognised and accepted by the wider and professional public, and therefore the systematic inventory and valorisation of dry stone landscapes play an important role in the recognition of their diverse characteristics and historical designation.

The specific technique of building in stone represents the oldest building technique known, existing from prehistory to the present day. Sheep breeding, as one of the oldest factors in the development of an agrarian landscape, resulted in deforestation of indigenous woodland vegetation. The earliest land cultivations with dry stone building on the Croatian coast have been found from Neolithic, Bronze and early Iron Age, as well as with the spread of Illyric hillfort culture. Numerous prehistoric hillforts and cairns are located on raised positions, mostly on hilltops, surrounded by plateaus and walls built by the dry stone walling technique, today providing recognisable archaeological landscapes.



Rock piles structure in the landscape in Dalmatia and Istria region.
<http://tragurium.blogspot.com/2015/03/gradine-i-gradinska-naselja.html>

Visible proofs of rectangular dry stone wall divisions of colonised agricultural properties from Greek and Roman colonisation periods have been preserved to the present day. The cultural landscape of Stari Grad Plain is an example of the historic, continuous, agrarian landscape planted with the same crops for the last 2,400 years. As one of the most preserved Greek land divisions in the Mediterranean, Stari Grad Plain is inscribed on the UNESCO List of World Heritage sites. The plain was divided into an orthogonal network of plots, measuring 180 x 900 m. The main crops were grapes, wheat and olives. For the protection of the plain, the continuous defence fortress system was created on the outskirts and on elevated locations, the remains of which are still visible today. During the Roman period, Greek plots were divided into yet smaller units, numerous agrarian buildings and villas were erected, and dry stone walls marked the borders between properties and roads: these are preserved to this day.



Cultural landscape Stari Grad Plain on the Island Hvar, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.
<https://msg.hr/starogradsko-polje-i-stari-grad-unesco-svjetska-bastina>

Today's agrarian landscapes of the Adriatic territory were mostly shaped between the Middle Ages and the early 20th century by deforestation and the amelioration of the karstic terrain with kilometre-long dry stone walls, which now frame pastures and the cultivated terrains. The era of Austro-Hungarian monarchy (1813-1918), and especially the second half of the 19th century, was the period of the

biggest changes in the Adriatic coastline landscape. The last and the biggest amelioration of karstic terrain with extensive dry stone wall building happened due to big ecological and socio-political changes. Several worldwide grapevine disease pandemics caused increased revenues for the winegrowers in the peripheral areas of the global economy (such as the Croatian Adriatic), encouraging the farmers to increase the vineyard area several times. Erection occurred of several types of dry stone walls on steeper hill slopes thus terracing the landscapes, land which had not previously been suitable for agricultural cultivation.



Types of terraced vineyard landscapes in Adriatic Croatia.
<https://geopark-vis.com/tradicijske-vrijednosti/suhozidi/>
<https://www.google.com/search?q=suhozidi+primo%C5%A1ten&tbm>

The most attractive dry stone buildings in the Istrian landscape are *kažuni*. In southern Istria they are mostly round shaped with the interior diameter from 2.5-3 m, with an irregularly constructed ceiling (a "false dome"). These were mostly used as temporary shelters for people and cattle, or as tool sheds.



Traditional dry stone building structure "kazuni" as a part of the agrarian landscape of Istria.
<https://mapio.net/pic/p-23680671>



The Dalmatian Island of Brač has an area of 0.14 km² and 23 km of hand-made dry stone walls.
www.croatiaweek.com/video-birds-eye-view-of-impressive-bra-c-island

The distinctive dry stone construction called *mrgari* are dry stone walling's in the shape of a flower. Three times a year, shepherds used them to collect and sort the sheep that lived freely on the pastures. Herded in the central space called a "hall", each shepherd sorted his own sheep into one of the petals (*mrgariće*), each "petal" belonging to a different shepherd. The sheep were treated in the shepherd's own space (vaccinated, separated...) and then let out through the passage to the pasture. This kind of

sheep farming is specific to the southernmost tip of the Island of Krk with 10 such dry stone wall formations (five on each side of the Baška plain) and five on the Island of Prvić, which also belongs to the Krk shepherds. Such a way of sheep breeding also exists in Iceland and Wales.



Livestock drywall landscape "mrgari" on the Island of Krk.
<https://panopticum.hr/jadranski-mrgari-suhozidna-bastina-rh>



Patterns of drywall landscape "mrgari" on the Island of Krk.
<https://panopticum.hr/jadranski-mrgari-suhozidna-bastina-rh>

Today, dry stone walls are unfortunately being demolished or used as secondary material for the construction of houses and apartment buildings. Another phenomenon is the levelling of an area of individual terraces, where the land has been adapted to a new terrain configuration, using heavy machinery. In addition, new approaches have been applied, such as mulching of steep hills and growing vineyards with drip irrigation systems and no terraces.

There are numerous initiatives for the protection of traditional dry stone building techniques. Many NGO efforts are endeavouring to save dry stone walling, and this has resulted in the reclamation and remaking of the borders between estates. The project *suhozid.hr* started with the intention of building an open public inventory of the dry stone heritage. The inventory *suhozid.hr* was launched in spring 2013, as a public Web GIS site with a mobile data collection functionality. After being hosted for several years on the server of the Faculty of Geodesy at the University of Zagreb, and as a result of winning the GIS Day Contest 2016, the inventory has now been transferred to the GIS Cloud platform. NGO Dragodid has workshops to transfer to the public the knowhow of building dry stone walling, especially for future generations.



Typical workshop of the NGO Dragodid.
www.google.com/search?q=dragodid&xsxr

Representative of the Project

Mrs Julia Bakota

President, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Mr Grga Frangeš

Ethnologist, Member of 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Dry stone, the rough stone masonry without mortar, is an intangible heritage of the Mediterranean with roots that go back at least to Neolithic times.

In the karstic coastal area of Croatia, its islands and hinterlands, dry stone construction was the dominant technique for construction of land boundaries, agricultural buildings and modest human habitats until as recently as the mid-20th century. Full of stone fences and terraces, this form of building has left an indelible mark on the landscape and has become its main cultural element.

Not so long ago, this simple and democratic masonry skill was the prerequisite of very survival on this rugged terrain – not a single farmer or shepherd could do his work without an ability to build stone boundaries and terrace walls that prevented the sheep and soil from running away. It could be said that practically every able-bodied inhabitant of these regions knew how to build with dry stone.

This widespread knowledge started to fade around the middle of the 20th century, with the advance of mass-produced industrial building materials, such as brick and concrete. At first these were used cautiously to supplement traditional building techniques, but soon they became ubiquitous. In recent times, because of the unmanaged pressures of tourism and commercial development, the dry stone cultural landscape has become gravely endangered by the excesses of concrete construction. Simultaneously, the knowledge of dry stone masonry has rapidly declined with the passing of the last generation of folk masons who actively practised the art. Only when the preservation of this skill neared extinction, did its value begin to be understood again.



*Dry stone: constructed of stone without the use of mortar as an adhesive
Merriam-Webster Dictionary. © Nevena Keresa*

4 Grada Dragodid Association was formed out of a personal experiment with manual labour and “Do It Yourself” (DIY) construction, as experienced by a group of students 20 years ago. Its name comes from “Dragodid”, a small hamlet on the Croatian island of Vis, where it all started. Left to abandonment and ruin, the rudimentary stone architecture on the island was a monument to the old way of life on the Adriatic that had depended entirely on local materials and subsistence. Its last occasional inhabitant, late Andrija Suić, invited a group of young city folk, who were on the island to participate in an architectural convention, to help him renovate the village and learn something useful along the way. A very impromptu international workshop was made. The experiment turned out to be very fulfilling. The experience of erecting something as substantial as a building with their own hands, using neither machinery nor artificial materials, was exhilarating!

Through this experience it became apparent that this endangered knowledge plays a vital role in the preservation and continuation of the eastern Adriatic cultural landscape. Besides being necessary for the maintenance of the existing heritage, it is needed for the construction of new objects that will fit into these surroundings. Dry stone masonry techniques were now seen as intangible heritage of immense practical importance for future generations: these skills produce practical and usable buildings from local materials and means, with no external costs and without the necessity for machinery. The building process is inclusive, social, didactic and fun. The resulting constructions are recyclable and, if needed, easily removed.

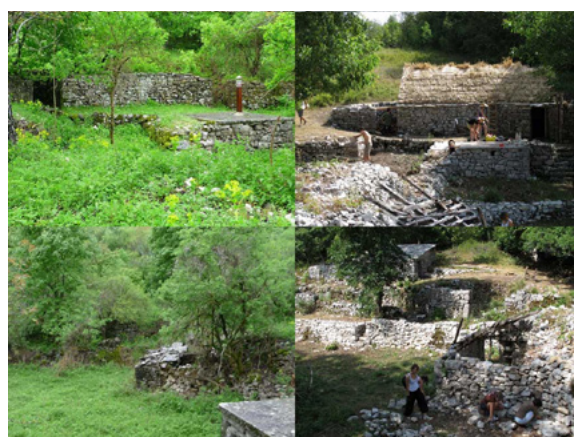


Scandinavian students preparing timber for reconstruction of a roof in Dragodid hamlet in 2002 © 4 Grada Dragodid

The Dragodid workshops became a tradition and soon had a cult following with the audience of young heritage professionals and enthusiasts. For the last 14 years similar dry stone reconstruction and training workshops have been organised in many locales on the Croatian coast, and some organisational momentum has been built through this work.



Before and after – Dragodid Association work on restoration of Petrebišća hamlet. © 4 Grada Dragodid



Before and after – Dragodid Association work on restoration of Petrebišća hamlet. © 4 Grada Dragodid

After formal registration as an association in 2007, Dragodid began to pursue the wider and more public aim of reviving dry stone as a popular building and landscaping technique. Dry stone workshops remain a core activity, as is gathering and directly transferring the skills and knowledge which the association aims to preserve. Under mentorship of experienced local stone masons, heritage professionals, students and activists work together on construction and reconstruction of dry stone buildings and landscape features. In between practical tasks, the workshops also serve as a place of theoretical debate and exchange. The whole workshop process is carefully documented to be used as a base for creation of content for future publications.

As a means of disseminating collected information the domain www.dragodid.org has been registered, with the aim of turning it into a central information repository for dry stone phenomena on the Croatian internet. On the website, the information collected through the practical workshops and research of the literature and historical sources is compiled into content for different audiences. One section of the website is aimed at experts and advanced enthusiasts with access to downloadable academic work

about the dry stone phenomena. The website also has a well-maintained news stream which provides information on current dry stone-related initiatives, events, discoveries and other information. Through a separate domain, www.suhozid.hr, there is an open, public dry stone inventory, a web-map with crowdsourced data on dry stone monuments and landscapes. At the most practical and widely accessible level, several editions of a printed DIY manual entitled "Let's build in stone" have been published, a collaboration with one of the leading daily newspapers in Croatia.

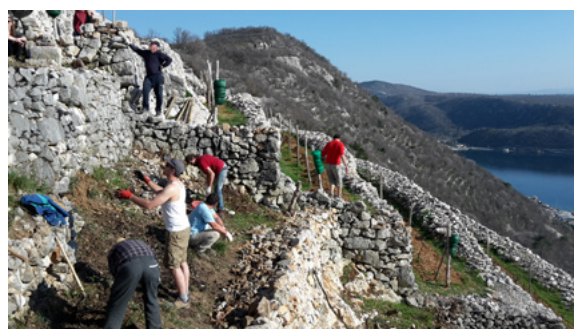


*Restoration of kućerica corbelled shelter in Konavli, in collaboration with local stonemasons.
© 4 Grada Dragodid*

These activities attracted substantial media attention to the subject of dry stone heritage, especially after Dragodid received the Europa Nostra Heritage Award in 2011. But the association was certainly not alone in kindling a new-found appreciation of this skill and its material monuments as a national heritage – the time was simply ripe for it. Today, several local citizen associations actively work on preservation of both the dry stone skills in their community and their dry stone heritage sites. Many of them are true grassroot reactions to the accelerating disappearance of their traditional scenery and way of

life. The association works with them as partners and learns from them, as true carriers of dry stone heritage. Official recognition of the new momentum of this ancient tradition came through inscription of the art of dry stone in the National Register of Cultural Goods, followed by multinational inscription of dry stone technique on UNESCO List of intangible cultural heritage.

In the long run, it is the ambition of the association to re-establish dry stone techniques as efficient, aesthetic, humane and sustainable alternatives to concrete in construction of simple buildings and objects around the Mediterranean.



*Restoration of Takala – vineyard terraces above Bakar Bay.
© 4 Grada Dragodid*

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515794429>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515798320>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/316125711>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/316125688>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d5e2>

Website:

- ▶ www.dragodid.org

Landscape Futures

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Summary of the project

“Landscape Futures” is the name of a project carried out between 2013 and 2018 with the aim of placing the future of rural landscapes on a multidisciplinary agenda and renewing Danish countryside planning. The project was organised by 18 partners, including 11 Danish municipalities and the Danish Hunters Association, each leading a landscape action. The results of the work carried out have been published in the book, “Landscape futures – Visions and plans for the countryside”, Bogværket, 2019. Other research activities which are presented in the book entitled “European landscape in transition: implications for policy and practice” (Cambridge University Press, 2018) draw on the project. These actions have had obvious impacts on municipal planning and landscape management. A general framework for a more integrated, involved and proactive approach to rural landscape planning, called “Landscape strategy-making”, represents a major methodological outcome.



© Kirsten Klein


Landscape Futures – visions and plans for the countryside

“Landscape Futures” is an action research programme carried out in 2013-2018, with the aim of placing the future of rural landscapes on a multidisciplinary agenda and to renew Danish countryside planning. Twelve concrete, live planning projects, owned by eleven municipalities and the Danish

Hunters’ Association, functioned as the programme’s laboratory. The projects varied considerably in respect of content and geographical extent. Each project was organised collaboratively, whereby different public sectors were worked together with private stakeholders including farmers and other primary landscape managers, local NGOs and community associations. An estimate of more than 2,000 people has been involved in the 12 projects.

List of the 12 projects included in the programme “Landscape Futures”

Projects		Area, km ²
1	A new landscape approach to municipal planning	866
2	Strategy for a coastal landscape	72
3	Strategy for a mosaic landscape	49
4	Strategy for a new nature park	22
5	Locally driven game management planning	45
6	New forest design and management in partnership	7
7	Collective habitat management	3
8	The rural landscape as a development factor	105
9	Habitat restoration in a lake landscape	13
10	Wind turbine plans for two large estate landscapes	127
11	Strategy for an intensively farmed landscape	170
12	Strategy for a highly valuable landscape	77



Location of the projects

Background

Traditional, top-down landscape planning is mainly based on expert input and regulatory measures and cannot effectively guide rural landscape change. More collaborative, pro-active and policy-integrating approaches to landscape are needed, and one-size-fits-all approaches are not suitable. Every landscape is unique.

In summary, the Programme “Landscape Futures” was organised based on four challenges:

- ▶ fast-changing landscapes, due to intersecting drivers affecting agricultural developments and various forms of urbanisation which represent threats, as well as opportunities for protecting, managing and enhancing landscape values. Many different types of values and knowledge must be brought together in the process;

- ▶ new rural landscape functions linked with rural development, outdoor recreation, tourism, habitat management and green infrastructure, climate change adaptations and water resource management call for debate on how to organise future landscapes;
- ▶ highly segregated sectorial and multiscale land use policies and spatial planning call for more engaging and integrated policy and planning approaches;
- ▶ different types of rural landscape, such as intensively farmed, peri-urban, and conservation landscapes representing different challenges for policy and planning, in terms of both process and solutions. There is a need for full scale examples from different landscapes.



Highly intensive production landscape (project 11).
Challenges: Introduction of more green infrastructure, better recreational access, and higher quality rural housing.
© Jørgen Primdahl



Peri-urban landscape (project 4).
Challenges: Pressure for urban expansion, ensuring recreational access and landscape management.
© Jørgen Primdahl



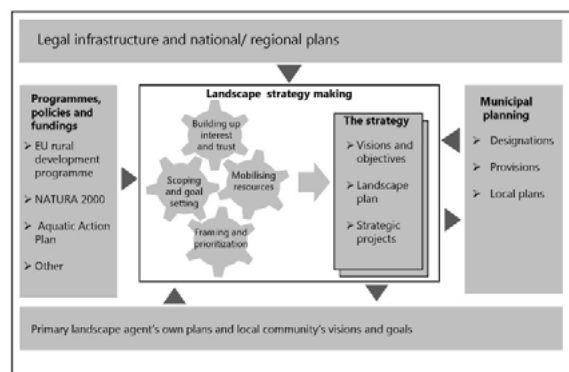
Conservation landscape (project 12).
Challenges: Efficient protection and funding of long-term management. © Jørgen Primdahl

Landscape strategy-making, as a planning approach

A landscape strategy framework has been applied to most of the projects. The main inspiration for

the framework has been Patsy Healey's work on collaborative planning and spatial strategy-making,¹¹ together with our own experiences from previous projects. The figure below shows the framework for the four dimensions:

- ▶ building interest in the future of the landscape in question and creating confidence in the process. Public lectures, meetings and excursions about the landscape under consideration, targeting residents, to create interest and a common language between the projects;
- ▶ scoping (clarification of status) and the formulation of visions and goals. In many projects this was done by a strategy group which included residents, NGOs and municipal planners. In other projects, scoping and goal setting were built into the public meetings and other events in different ways;
- ▶ mobilisation of resources, including knowledge and ideas, was achieved in different ways during the process, ranging from special workshops organised specifically for this purpose, inviting creative ideas during lectures, to excursions and meetings;
- ▶ formulation of frames, and the identification and prioritisation of actions. The framing of the strategy and selections of priority projects was adjusted, depending on the ambitions and the character of the project. In several projects, a well-designed strategy document was produced; in others more simple reports were uploaded on the municipal website, or just made available on request.



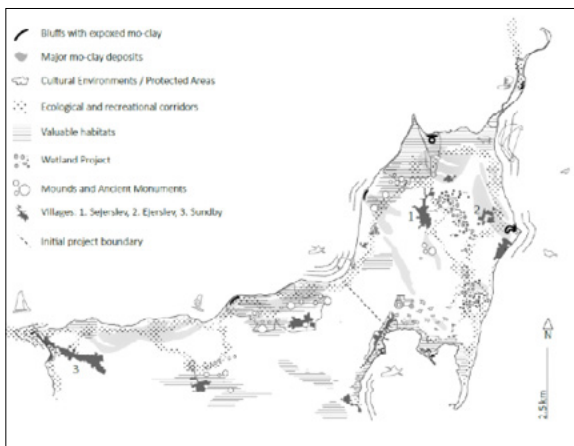
The landscape strategy-making process is typically located between overall legal conditions/regional plans and owners'/communities' own plans, as well as between action plans/subsidy schemes and municipal land use planning.

11. Patsy Healey – https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Patsy_Healey



The plan for the Fjends landscape in Skive Municipality (project 3).

A typical landscape strategy consists of three components: visions and objectives broadly agreed upon by the participants involved; a spatial frame identifying key areas and sites in relation to protection, management and change; and a list of high priority (strategic) projects which could be implemented in a short time frame (5-10 years) with a high likelihood to contribute to a virtuous circle of development. A core aim of the strategy process has been to build capacity for the understanding of the landscape in question, in all its complexity, and to create an imaginative capacity to envision opportunities for possible landscape futures.



From the plan-section of the landscape strategy for northern Mors (project 2).

Outcomes

Twelve planning projects, and the process experiences and planning solution lessons learned from these projects, represent the most important outcome of the programme. Several of these are already widely known within the Danish planning community.

An exhibition "Danish landscapes between past and future", was presented in 2018 (Øhavsmuseet, Faaborg, Central Denmark) and a key part of it is being shown at 10 different locations in Denmark.

Several publications have emerged from the programme: a book targeting a broad Danish readership entitled "Landscape futures – visions and plans for the countryside" (as translated) was published in 2019, and another book "European Landscapes in Transition", was published by Cambridge University Press (Pinto-Correia, Primdahl and Pedrolí 2018). Journal articles have been also based on insights and results gained from the projects, including:

- ▶ Kristensen, L.S. and Primdahl, J. (2020), Landscape strategy-making as a pathway to policy integration and involvement of stakeholders: examples from a Danish action research programme. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*, 63 (6), 1114-1131.
- ▶ Primdahl, J., Folvig, S. and Kristensen, L.S. (2020), Landscape Strategy-Making and Collaboration. The Hills of Northern Mors, Denmark; A case of Changing Focus and Scale. *Land*, 9, 189.

Video:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515800542>

Presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092d664>

Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development

Martvili Municipality, Georgia

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Valerian Mchedlidze

Chairman of the Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

Representatives of the Project

Mr Aleksandre Grivalava

Mayor of the Martvili Municipality, Georgia

Mrs Tamar Khakhishvili,

*Head of International Relations and Project Management Department,
Agency of Protected Areas,*

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia

Summary of the project

The Martvili Canyon received the status of Natural Monument in 2013, and an administration in charge of the monument was created in 2015. Previously, the site was only known locally and, due to the lack of suitable management, it became degraded: illegal fishing and poaching were taking place, and the flora was damaged. In addition, due to the lack of infrastructure, the safety of tourists was not assured. The situation has changed rapidly since 2015, when the Agency of Protected Areas of Georgia started, in the framework of a co-operation with the Municipality of Martvili, to implement a project of sustainable development for the area. The canyon now has a visitor centre, quays, a shelter for boats, walking trails, bridges and viewpoints. A 19th century water mill has been restored and a flood-warning system has been installed for the River Abasha. In addition, large quantities of plastic bottles and packaging have been removed and the place is now totally clean and safe. The Government of Georgia granted boating rights to the local company, Oputsokhi, which purchased boats and set up services to welcome visitors.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

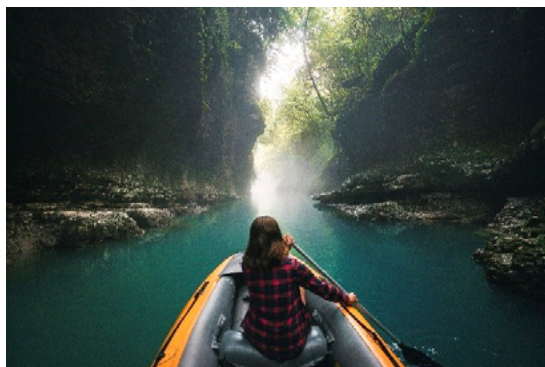
Representative of the Ministry

Mr Valerian Mchedlidze

Chairman of the Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

Georgia is rich in unique biodiversity and fascinating landscapes and they represent the immeasurable wealth of the country. The protection and development of Georgia's landscapes are national priorities since the landscapes have an important impact on local culture. The landscapes range from rocky mountainous regions to exquisite seashores and this diversity has significantly shaped local lifestyles, fields of activity, cuisine and viewpoints in the different regions. Consequently, to preserve the identity of each region, it is important to maintain the integrity of the landscapes and, conversely, to adjust the landscapes to modern needs, and use them as a sustainable source of income.

The Government of Georgia recognises that landscapes are an element in human life, the protection and management of which are strongly related to economic well-being, since the landscape can also provide new employment opportunities.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

An excellent illustration of this is the "Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development" project which was chosen as Georgia's national selection for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The project has played a crucial role for both the development of the landscape and the improvement of socio-economic conditions for residents.

As a result of the implementation of this project, endangered species have been preserved and degraded areas have been restored and a previously forgotten and mistreated natural treasure has become one of Georgia's top tourist destinations. The development of Martvili Canyon has positively affected the population who have been encouraged to become involved in different activities, and these have become a local source of income. In addition, the mindset of the population has also changed: they now understand that the protection and management of the landscape, which provides a crucial element for their personal well-being, is also their responsibility.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

Representative of the Project

Mr Aleksandre Grivalava

Mayor of the Martvili Municipality, Georgia

Represented by

Mrs Tamar Khakhishvili

*Head of International Relations and Project Management Department,
Agency of Protected Areas, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture, Georgia*

The Protected Areas of Georgia Agency unites the unique natural treasures of the country

Georgia is rich with unique natural treasures which are preserved and maintained under a system of Protected Areas. The management and development of these areas has become one of the chief objectives of the system, and there are now completed, ongoing and planned projects that are intended to embody the system's supreme goal, the preservation of nature and, thus, the promotion of sustainable development within Georgia. A fine example of this is the "Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development" project which implemented practical initiatives for landscape restoration of the canyon, aiming to: reduce pollution; restore extinct species and degraded areas and; give incentives to local communities to engage in economic activities.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

The project showcased how a landscape can be transformed from a totally degraded condition to an extremely attractive one. Initiated in 2015, the project was already showing tangible results in 2016, when visitors from all the regions of Georgia and beyond began to visit and admire the canyon. Whereas before there was not even one footstep in the canyon and it was a total wilderness, within a year the area had completely changed. A small, eco-friendly infrastructure was built along the canyon: a 700 m-long stone-paved circular route was implemented; two bridges were built; three observation platforms were erected and a historical, 30-step staircase was reconstructed, using large limestone boulders.

One of the objectives of the project was to recover the natural processes that had almost disappeared in the Canyon. Due to the indifferent attitude of local people, and the absence of a management body for the control of the canyon prior to 2016, Martvili Canyon was full of garbage, and the flora and fauna were prey to poachers. Pollution had virtually destroyed the ecosystems there and the microclimate was ruined. Since the area had been all-but abandoned, locals were using the canyon for illegal fishing and hunting. The action plan elaborated within the project required initial in-depth clearing of trash from the canyon, including dozens of bottles, cans, watermelon shells, and so on. The activity took several months, due to the scale of the project.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

The implementation of the project resulted in positive cultural changes. Martvili Canyon had once been the pride of the region, but in 2015 it was in a bad ecological condition. When granted the status of Protected Area, the attitude of locals and visitors changed towards the canyon, and environmental awareness developed. The number of cases of illegal fishing and hunting, quite common in 2015, decreased year on year, and today it can be said that locals and visitors consider themselves responsible for the preservation of their natural treasure. The people now recognise the importance of the protected area and are willing to contribute to the development and preservation of the environment. Today, Martvili Canyon represents one of the cleanest areas in the region and has the status of a natural monument (protected area).

Before the project began, the Agency of Protected Areas faced difficulties in communicating with the local villagers who had been using the river for fishing and hunting, and who were therefore not happy to learn that this opportunity would henceforth be closed to them. In the first meetings, negotiations were complicated since locals who did not wish to establish a Protected Area in the neighbourhood started throwing eggs and tomatoes at representatives of the Agency.

After several meetings, followed by various information-spreading campaigns and the involvement of the municipality, the villagers started to understand the benefits of establishing a protected area, since they saw the potential for business activities. Through awareness-raising events, the project also introduced the villagers to diverse international projects, to familiarise them with examples of how an established, protected area could support rural development. The younger generation was particularly eager to be involved in new initiatives and awareness-raising campaigns. In this period, regeneration of the area also meant regeneration of the people living adjacently. Before the introduction of the project, the local population was not motivated to continue living in the village because there were

no job opportunities, and they had begun relocating to towns and cities. Only the older citizens were staying, earning their living by fishing and hunting, and selling the products in nearby cities.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

Once they noticed that local and international visitors had begun to visit the Canyon and the surrounding area, the motivation to stay in their villages increased. Most families found their niche, activities were able to start, and consequently they all found new sources of income. When tourists visit this area, they find guest houses, local cafés and local products that enrich their impressions and their admiration of the Martvili Canyon.

Meanwhile, the municipality is very active in taking care of the village, to support eco-tourism development in the area. Big hotels and complexes have become interested in starting activities here, and this means employment will further increase, whilst local settlements will gain incentives to develop the area in a more sustainable manner.

Without public participation, it would be difficult to run such a project, because it is the private sector that should provide eco-tourism services for visitors. Therefore, a public-private partnership is a good combination and the Agency of Protected Areas of Georgia has developed an infrastructure that is harmonised with the environment and nature: the Martvili Municipality made the road infrastructure; and the local population introduced a number of tourism services to the vicinity.



© Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

As a result, Martvili Canyon has become the most visited protected area in Georgia, with 90% of the adjacent communities involved in various tourism activities. An elaborated protected area management mechanism has contributed to the protection of biodiversity, and this has encouraged local economic growth and raised environmental awareness. The area is no longer polluted, and locals look for ways to develop their villages sustainably. The results of the project have directly translated into a productivity increase for the region. The development of the Martvili Canyon has become a byword for an attractive eco-tourism destination in Georgia and a favourable employment environment. From Day 1, the Agency arranged for consultations with locals who were encouraged to express their views on how they envisaged development of the area. Today, locals may also be employed in the Martvili Canyon Administration, to run or staff hotels, provide boat tours and other tourism services. A good example is "Oputsokhi" which is owned by local citizens. Instead of being engaged with fishing and hunting, the Agency proposed that they run a boating service and gave them a boating territory with a 5-year lease.

Since the project was begun in 2015, the area has been developing in a sustainable manner. Locals who, due to the absence of employment, left for the big cities three years ago, have now begun to return home. At an economic, social and welfare level, the standard of living for locals has also improved. The increased number of visitors has resulted in the higher involvement of locals in the tourism sector. Visitors are offered a variety of services, including transportation and accommodation and locals produce and sell souvenirs and food that is characteristic of the region. The locals' environmental awareness has increased, and this has translated into care and attention towards nature. In this regard, eco-educational activities have played a major part. The number of locals involved in educational activities increases year by year: in 2018 there were 727 participants: in 2019 this had risen to 1,075.

Martvili Canyon is now considered one of the top five visitor destinations in Georgia. The ecological condition has improved, and the region has developed continuously: it is now able to offer services. As a result, the quality of the lives of locals has improved, and this benefits the economic welfare of the country itself. The development of the Canyon has given rise to different projects, ranging from the establishment of new services and infrastructure in protected areas to the formation of new protected areas.

This project has been a good example of co-operation between the public and private sector. The project itself required trilateral co-operation that gradually grew between the Agency of Protected Areas, locals and the municipality.

The year-on-year increase of visitors proves that Martvili Canyon is a hot-spot destination of Georgia and, as a result, the region has experienced positive economic change. Statistics show that in 2017 the total output amounted to 17,394,244 Gel, thus promoting employment in the region. In 2015, the number of infrastructural facilities (such as hotels, shops, food facilities) was equal to zero, but today there are 65 hotels, 15 food facilities and 14 shops near to the Martvili Canyon, an encouragement both for the local population and the country in general.

Unlike the previous years of success, in 2020 Martvili Canyon has faced the worldwide Covid-19 challenges, which have translated into a decrease in visitor numbers and the subsequently reduced revenue. Despite this unenviable situation, new initiatives will be developed.

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515802380>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313814094>



PowerPoint presentation:

- ▶ Presentation: <https://rm.coe.int/168091f5a8>

Agency of Protected Areas

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

2020

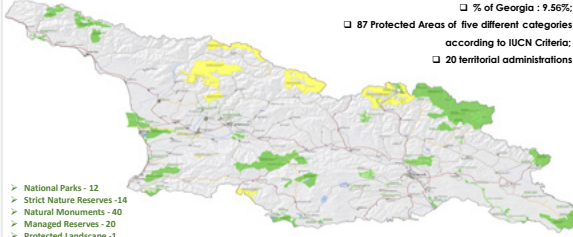
Georgia



- Georgia - a country in the Caucasus region, Eastern Europe
- The capital - Tbilisi
- A territory of 69,700 sq. km
- Population - approx. 3.7 million
- Official Language - Georgian
- Alphabet - Georgian

Protected Areas of Georgia

- Total area: 667,107 ha;
- % of Georgia : 9.56%;
- 87 Protected Areas of five different categories according to IUCN Criteria;
- 20 territorial administrations



- National Parks - 12
- Strict Nature Reserves - 14
- Natural Monuments - 40
- Managed Reserves - 20
- Protected Landscape - 1

Most popular protected areas in Georgia



- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



- Together with Municipality of Martvili, the Agency of Protected Areas started implementing the project "Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development" in Martvili Canyon in 2015.
- Martvili Canyon received Natural Monument status in 2013.
- Martvili Canyon Administration was established in 2015.

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



- The landscape Before...**
- Martvili Canyon was popular only among the local population
- The Canyon was trashed and flora and fauna were suffering from illegal fishing and poaching

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



- Project Aimed:**
- Reduction of pollution;
- Restoration of extinct species and degraded areas;
- To incentivise local communities to engage in economic activities.

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



Activities Undertaken:

- ▶ Canyon was cleaned from trash, dozens of bottles, cans, watermelon shells;
- ▶ Infrastructure has been built;
- ▶ Eco-tourism services have been introduced;
- ▶ Natural resources that had almost disappeared in the Canyon have recovered.

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



View Points



Administration



Visitor Centre

Constructed as part of the Project



Boat Shelter



Bridges



Walking Trails

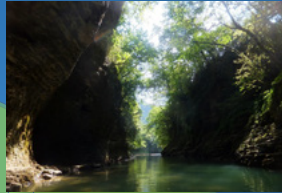
"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



Results:

- ▶ Granting the status of a protected area led to positive natural and cultural changes to the whole landscape;
- ▶ Locals and visitors became more responsible;
- ▶ Environmental awareness increased;
- ▶ Illegal fishing and hunting has significantly decreased.

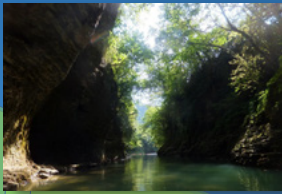
"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



Results: Growth of Population

- ▶ Before the project, only the older generation stayed in the village;
- ▶ They earned their living by fishing and hunting and selling these products in cities;
- ▶ Once the number of tourists increased in the Canyon, the motivation to stay in the village also increased.

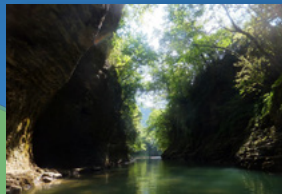
"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



Results: Eco-Educational Activities

- ▶ The number of locals involved in educational activities increases year by year;
- ▶ In 2018 there were 727 participants involved; in 2019 it amounted 1,075;
- ▶ As a result, environmental awareness of locals has increased.

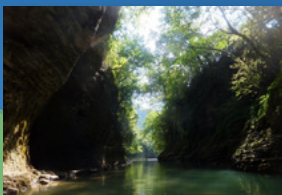
"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



Results: economic growth

- ▶ Martvili Canyon became the top visited protected area in Georgia;
- ▶ 90% of adjacent communities are involved in tourism activities;
- ▶ Locals produce and sell souvenirs, food;
- ▶ Jobs at Martvili Canyon Administration have been created.

"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"



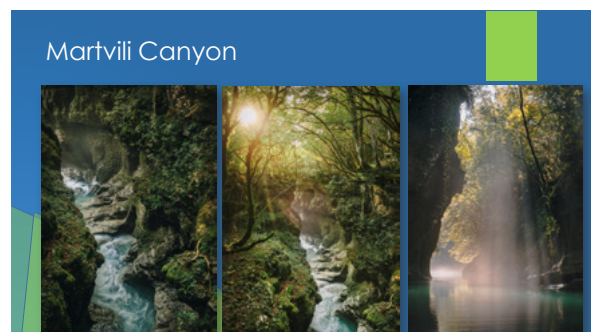
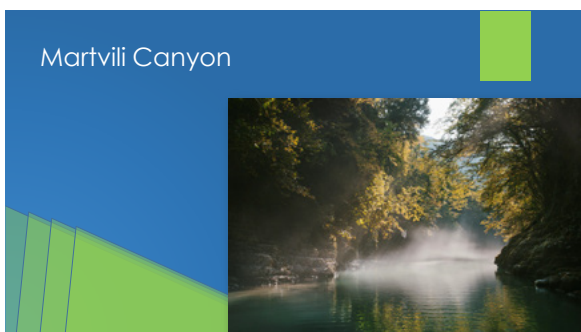
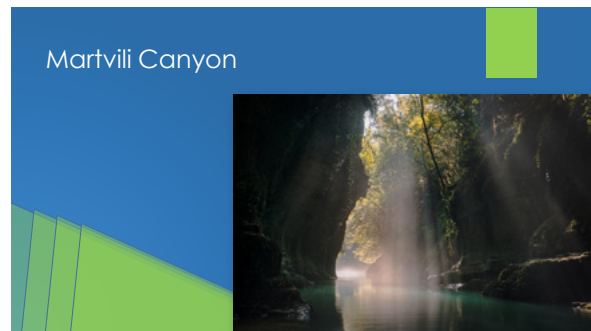
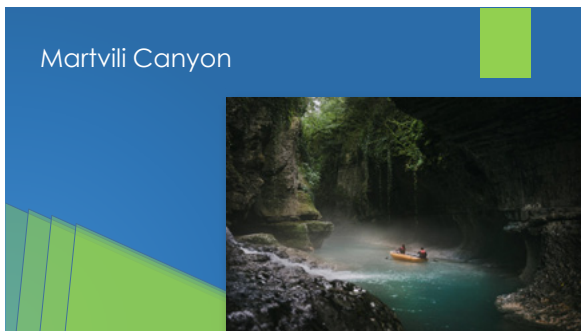
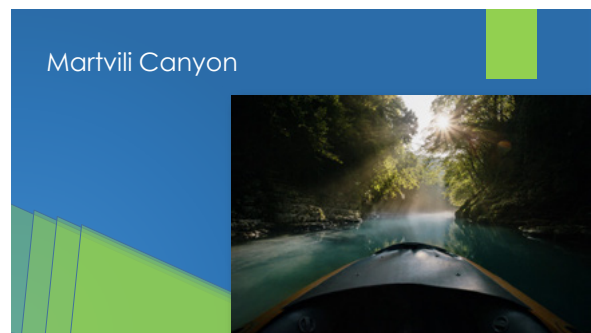
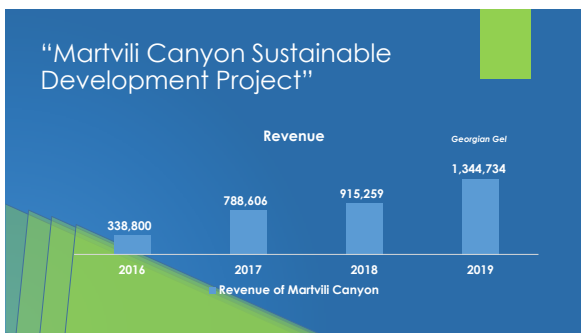
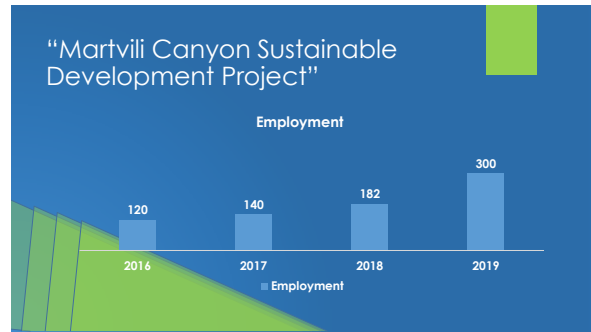
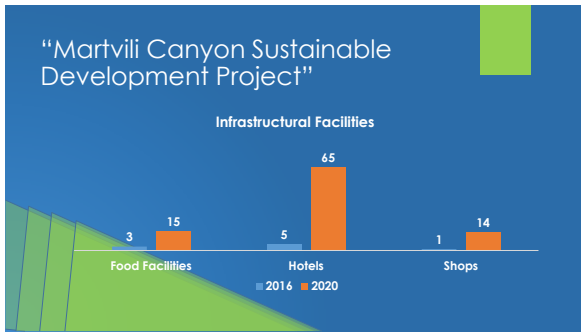
Results: economic growth

- ▶ The Agency gave villagers a 5-year leasing right for a boat service;
- ▶ In 2017, the total output amounted to 17,394,244 Gel (more than USD 5 mln), which, promoted employment in the region.

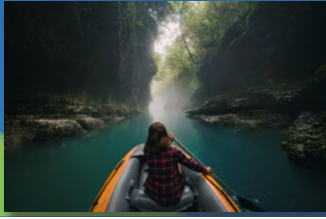
"Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Project"

Visitor Statistics





Thank you for your attention



AGENCIJA ZA
OKOLNU ZAŠTITU
REPUBLICKE SRBIJE

Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai City

Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Mindaugas Žolynas

*Chief Officer of the Division of Protected Areas and Landscape,
Nature Protection and Forestry Department, Ministry of the Environment, Lithuania*

Representatives of the Project

Mr Rimantas Žebrauskas

*Former Deputy Director of Administration, acting Director of the Administration
of Telšiai District Municipality, Lithuania*

Mr Tomas Katkus

*Director of Administration, acting Director of the Administration
of Telšiai District Municipality, Lithuania*

Summary of the project

More than 20 projects were initiated and implemented by Telšiai district municipality administration in this programme, to form and consolidate the urbanised framework with funds from the European Union and the Government, which would help to restore the connection between the city and the adjacent lake.

For the city, complex, interrelated solution projects were implemented, providing a functional, solid and attractive historical territory in the central part of the city. The contours of the city (there are seven hills of the city near Mastis Lake) was emphasised and opened in fragments, providing functional and visual relations of the urban landscape and urban framework. After cleaning the polluted northern bank of Mastis Lake, a modern recreational infrastructure was created which has significantly improved the quality of life of the city's community, and a sustainable and integral environment was created, encouraging the city's development and attracting new investments to Telšiai and the district.



© Algirdas Žebrauskas

Central aims of the project

Telšiai, situated on seven hills near Mastis Lake, is the capital of a historic European region, Samogitia, and the administrative centre of Telšiai sub-district. The centre of the city, the Old Town of Telšiai, has listed buildings, a street network and a building line that are protected, and building height is regulated. During the Soviet occupation (1940-1991), like much of the Lithuanian historic heritage, the old part of the town, Telšiai Old Town, was abandoned and Telšiai was declared a city with the highest accident rate in Lithuania. During the occupation, historic buildings were not only left unrepaired, but some were even demolished due to their poor condition. The unique wooden architecture in the Old Town became especially neglected.

Aggressive volumes and faceless architectural buildings destroyed some of the structure of the urban Old Town. Historic objects and squares, providing vistas of the Old Town, had been intentionally planted with tall trees, covering the view of elegant buildings, the predominant silhouette of the city. Public areas of the city were non-functional, abandoned and poorly looked after, and there were only some flower gardens near the administrative buildings of the occupying government. Despite Telšiai's famous college of technical art (now known as the Telšiai faculty of Vilnius Academy of Arts), one piece of art, just one half-finished "Spinner's sculpture", stood in the city. The city stadium, built in Soviet times, not only functioned intermittently, but also only partially met hygiene requirements for football fields (there were open, outside toilets, portable household premises, etc.) because of a poor drainage and watering system.



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Small tributary rivers to the lake were improved in Soviet times, but had not been maintained by the municipality and in addition economic sewage regularly flowed into Mastis Lake, quickly polluting the whole lake, and its northern bank near the Old Town in particular. The area became widely covered with silt, overgrown with rushes and smelled foul. Mastis Lake, half-surrounded by the city, became completely unsuitable for recreation.

An uneven and unmaintained asphalt pedestrian path, barely illuminated by a few rusty lamps, was unsafe and therefore not used by town-dwellers. In order to return the recreational value to Mastis Lake, to provide favourable conditions for visitors and develop recreational services, it was necessary: to clean the polluted northern bank of Mastis Lake; to significantly improve the ecological state of the lake; to arrange an attractive, functional and aesthetic shore of the lake in line with modern requirements; and to restore the functional-visual connections of the city and the lake.

During the planning stage, it was necessary to restore and arrange public areas of the city in a complex manner with appropriate solutions for the historic framework and nature of the city. With the intention of creating an ecological and sustainable environment, it was necessary to restore and keep cultural values and the city's identity, as well as its idiosyncrasies. The strategy was to revive the cultural potential of the city by encouraging the development of the city and economy, attracting investments by increasing the city's appeal and creating the infrastructure of the city that would be favourable to business development. This was designed to reduce the flow of emigration and provide conditions for creating new workplaces in the expanding service and facility sector. The society would be involved in the process of city renovation, to strengthen the cohesiveness of the city's dwellers.



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Outcome

The connection between Telšiai City and Mastis Lake was restored with the aid of funds from the European Union, the State budget and municipal budgetary funds. Territory planning documents were prepared by the administration of Telšiai district municipality, focusing on formulating the lots for project implementation; writing investment plans for funding; initiating the purchasing of technical projects and co-ordinating and supervising the project implementation.

The Mastis Lake was cleaned including, importantly, the 3 km-long (7.5 ha) bank adjacent to the Old Town which was mostly covered with silt and heavily polluted. The polluted silt was cleaned and utilised, and the territory was cleaned from debris. During the reconstruction of the bank, other installations included functional, illuminated embankments, three illuminated children's playgrounds, four pontoon jetties for boats and passenger ships. Infrastructure for two beaches (to the west and east) was constructed, four car parks and modern public toilets were equipped. The whole infrastructure of the bank was arranged with consideration of the needs of people with disabilities, elderly people and parents with small children. After the cleaning, the visual connection between the city and the lake was restored, and panoramic platforms for seeing the expressive landscape were installed.

Projects included the installation of pedestrian and cycling paths with lay-bys and three bowers for rest or small improvised cultural events (city music schools, performances by street or professional musicians, etc.). To assure the safety of visitors, video surveillance cameras were installed along the whole bank. In addition, bicycle stands, signage, an information system, elements of minor architecture, boat landing and launching equipment were mounted. Much attention was given to planting the bank with trees of closed root systems and perennial, flowering bushes. Lawns were created and the infrastructure for drinking water supply and sewage was established, whilst water-supply and sewage-removal networks were designed and installed. In order that the investments should be durable, the bank was reinforced against the consequences of the wash from passing boats, using natural local stones. The small tributaries of the Mastis, Telšė and Bevardis that flow into the lake were cleaned and the bridges crossing them were illuminated. A dancing, shining and singing fountain and its viewing platform were arranged in the Mastis Lake.

The artificial lake isle, Zaksas hill, was planted in the eastern part of the city, in the territory between the Old Town and a residential zone of apartment blocks. A small outside stage, a pontoon jetty, a beach with

infrastructure and a sports field were constructed in the northern foot of the hill. The green plantation of the hill was thinned out by arborists, and illuminated pedestrian-cycling paths, steps and ramps were installed here. The visual connections between the hill and the Old Town were improved, as well as the area for public events, with the view to the Old Town of Telšiai and two viewing fields.

The implemented projects did not only practically improve the ecological state of the whole Mastis Lake, and especially the northern bank, but they also transformed the polluted, abandoned, unattractive and unsafe territory into a representative, safe, very attractive, functional territory of the city, liked by the city-dwellers and guests. The historic part of the city is now functionally connected to the sightseeing objects. After the ecological state of the lake was improved, navigation was restored and passenger ships can now come and go, people enjoy water recreation activities and the services provided. Academic rowing has even been revived in Mastis Lake.



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© Sigita Gailiuvienė, Sigaphotography

The Old Town and the bank of the lake relate to the network of streets and pedestrian-cycling paths, and the connection between the lake's bank and the Cathedral is the most important. An unusual feature in Lithuania is the multifunctional cultural 900-seat amphitheatre lying between the city of Telšiai and Mastis Lake, and offered for public cultural events, a summer cinema, concerts, cultural shows and

opera. The amphitheatre can be reached by lift, and ramps enable people with disabilities to get from the city to the bank of Mastis Lake, some 18 metres below. Because of the convenient position of the amphitheatre, spectators walk to the public events there and can admire the bank of Mastis and the Old Town of Telšiai.

The area above the amphitheatre, the Durbė public garden, was arranged as a big viewing field of the Mastis Lake and the surrounding landscape. Trees were planted, flower containers and information pointers were installed, and minor architectural details were added. During events, the field is also used as an additional spectator area for the amphitheatre. A very popular café, *Džiugo sūris*, with a summer terrace and tasting hall, was established in the Durbė public garden, near the amphitheatre. It is perfect for viewing the landscape, its spatial functionality, the comfortable location and thus the Durbė garden has become a sightseeing and leisure place especially popular with the town-dwellers and the guests of the city.

The listed public areas of the Old Town of Telšiai are arranged in a complex manner: Independence Square, Cathedral Square, Durbė public garden and Vilnius hill (the area around the church the Assumption of St. Mary the Virgin). The installation of stone steps now provides an important and functional connection between Old Town, the Žemaitė Gymnasium, the Mastis residential district and the bank of Mastis Lake.

Old Town-type lights were used to illuminate the main streets and three squares of the Old Town. The most important facades of the city buildings were illuminated. To assure the safety of the dwellers, observation cameras, safe traffic measures and street barriers were mounted, road signs, sightseeing pointers and information signs, as well as other minor elements of architecture, were renewed. The rainfall drainage system was modernised, old pavements were renovated, and new pavements were arranged, as well as pedestrian-cycling paths in the managed territories. The reconstructed city network of streets leads to the reconstructed bank of Mastis Lake. Many trees and blooming bushes were planted in the city and the city's green areas have been refreshed.

An important pedestrian route was created, connecting the reconstructed stadium and the bank of Mastis Lake with the amphitheatre. This connection crosses the Cathedral Square and the main, national artery of the Old Town, Respublikos Street. Such important objects as the sacral-cultural complex, formed by the Cathedral of St. Antanas Paduvietis, the priests' seminary, the bishop's palace, cultural

centre, library and the theatre are located around this fulcrum.

In addition to the reconstruction and consolidation of the supporting stone wall of Insula Hill in Respublikos Street, the wall was reinforced with nine illuminated abutments on which six artistic-educational compositions of professional artists were mounted, telling the story of this historic European region, Samogitia.

The sculpture "Samogitian legends", created by a professional artist for the Cathedral square, became the most visited object of the city. The project of wall reconstruction serves as a perfect example of the change in the city and the unity of the community. This reinforced wall is now regularly visited by the town-dwellers and guests of the city, and it is kindly named "The Great Samogitian Wall" by the locals because of its art objects.



© Sigita Gailiuvienė, Sigaphoto



© Pranciškus Balčiūnas

During the two-stage reconstruction of Telšiai city's international-standard Central Stadium, a track-and-field athletics section was constructed, six-lane running tracks were created, changing and domestic premises were installed and modern and safe seating for 3,500 spectators was mounted. Sports fields and a skating sector were created, a universal, heated sports arena was built in which sports activities and spectator events take place all year. The sports complex is suitable for local, regional and republican (Lithuanian)-level sports events, both amateur and professional, massive cultural

and leisure events (concerts, festivals, fairs) services (catering, accommodation, event organisation, tourism sector development, souvenirs). A spacious car park near the stadium is designed to serve the Old Town of Telšiai's sightseeing visitors when the stadium is not in use. This directly assists the tourism development of Telšiai Old Town and cognition of the infrastructure, encourages local tourism and serves for a more comfortable tourism access.

Reconstruction of the central stadium provided the opportunity to take the old, bumpy, unlit stadium, the broken spectator seating, unheated domestic premises, outside toilets for sportsmen and spectators, and soaking grass after rain, since the drainage system was ineffectual, and transform it into one of the most progressive stadia in Lithuania, able to host regional and republican sports and cultural events. This investment undoubtedly created a great added value to Telšiai as the centre of a historic region, and improved the welfare of the city and its prestige, made expectations of a more active and wider participation of the society in sports, facilitating the process of wellness and occupation, and undoubtedly encouraged local and incoming tourism, provided conditions for attracting the investments, created and modernised work places and developed the city.

Sustainable territorial development

Renovation of the complex and abandoned areas of the Old Town of Telšiai, directly improved the attractiveness Old Town at national level, and this was publicised, resulting in immediate popularity.

Thanks to these projects, harmony and aesthetic integrity of the landscape was achieved. The value of the listed objects (natural and cultural) was emphasised and big investments were attracted for the restoration of sightseeing objects. Today, Telšiai is one of most visited cities in Lithuania. In turn, this has improved visitor numbers for catering and accommodation services, and increase their quality.

After cleaning the Mastis Lake, the ecological state of the lake improved, particularly the most polluted northern bank, located near the Old Town. The recreational value of Mastis Lake was restored, recreational and catering services were developed, navigation was restored, and for the increase of pedestrians, sportsmen and cyclists on the bank, their safety along the bank was assured. The community enjoys picnics, literary readings, artistic performances (on the bank, in the water, on ice) and events for nature protection on the bank: there are also festivals for stocking the lake with fish. On the bank beside the Faculty of Telšiai of Vilnius Academy of Arts, there is a sculpture park of the student-sculptors' final works, established under the initiative of the VAA TF Gallery. Using public funds, small

bridges, decorated with professional artistic signs, tell the story of the hydronyms of the environment. The improvements of the bank led to the renovation of individual residential houses near the bank, and building facades and the landscape were repaired and renewed in line with the requirements of the Old Town, and the engineering networks were reconstructed. Municipal funds were used to improve the water supply, sewage, rainfall drainage, illumination networks of the lake's banks, and the streets of the Old Town, which were in poor condition.



© Sigita Gailiuvienė, Sigaphotography

Active public participation in the creation and implementation of art objects relating to the city and the regional identity and history emphasised the uniqueness of Telšiai Old City, celebrated its peculiarity, consolidated the city's cultural potential, and cardinally changed the status of the city, which is named and acknowledged today by the Lithuanian tourism department as "the new pearl of Lithuanian tourism". Because of the abundance of publicly funded professional-quality art signs (with bright educational significance) in public areas of the city, Lithuanian artists refer to the city of Telšiai as "The city of arts". This is a perfect example of the collaboration of artists and the community of the city, evidenced by the fact that, every year, Telšiai receives greater tourist interest, and the number of tourists even in the second part of winter significantly exceeds the rates of previous years.

After the reconstruction of the city's central stadium, thus creating the active and dynamic

sports-cultural centre, applications were made for favourable investment into the district of Telšiai. After the implementation of the reconstruction project of Central Telšiai city stadium, not only were life and welfare conditions improved, but this also encouraged the development of a sports and public occupation structure: in the last three years, with the help of Telšiai community, Telšiai municipality and the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Lithuania, four of Telšiai city school stadia were reconstructed with new grass, stadium infrastructure, running tracks, field fencing, illumination and multifunctional sports fields. In addition, once the funds are provided by the Department of Physical Education and Sports, the swimming-pool, at present in Telšiai Ateities Progymnasium, will be reconstructed in 2019-2020.

The projects, realised in Telšiai with funds from the European Union and the Lithuanian Government, have tangibly improved the town-dwellers' quality of life, have strengthened the image of an economically strong city, an image which encourages regional economic development and efforts to attract investment. This in turn creates favourable conditions for tourism development, attendance, service growth and quality. The realised projects reflect a progressive city determined that investors from Ukraine and their partners in Europe select Telšiai in which to build a modern medicine factory with modern technologies and innovative equipment, helping to produce a new generation of effective medication, whereas today medicines are imported. The Telšiai district of Viešvėnai was recently selected by the Swedish-Lithuanian company, Workman, to build a modern factory and it now produces frame-houses which are exported. The big dairy company, Žemaitijos Pienas UAB, is also expanding its activity, building new production buildings here.

Exemplary value

Telšiai City is famous for its Old Town near Mastis Lake. Tourists are attracted to Telšiai City not only by the renewed architecture of the city, but also by the many minor architectural elements of high artistic value which were created by famous sculptors and artists.

The transformation of Telšiai City has focused on retaining the identity of the city but also adapting the environment for the use of everyone, and positively brightening the environment by keeping and emphasising the listed natural and cultural objects. There was wide participation in the decision-making process of decorating the environment with art works. The town has become a phenomenon and has received a wide and positive public response and appreciation throughout Lithuania, becoming an example for many administrative regional

centres during the preparation of investment projects and strategies.

Good results were achieved thanks to the former head architect of Telšiai district, Algirdas Žebrauskas who prepared the implementation strategy for the territory, which was only planned after a comprehensive heritage, landscape, urban and historic analysis of the city and its surroundings. Preparation also included purifying the components which form the identity of the city, a full assessment of the expectations of the society through interviews, discussions and seminars and assessment of the natural framework and functional connections of the territories and objects. The concept for the territory was presented to the society and politicians of the city, but the decisive solution for the priorities and the tasks of the project was taken by the society collectively.

Engagement of the society at the initial stages of the project implementation determined an active and unprecedented participation for Lithuanians in creating and implementing many professional art works in public areas of the city, restoration of heritage objects and public buildings. By participating in a wide process of making the city artistic, the society has used artistic language to give sense to their own relationship with the city, their attitude towards the city's identity, respect for history, language and customs. In the last two years, a prominent monument was built in Durbė public garden; a small carillon of 23 bells, made in Holland, rang in the Cathedral square and; public areas were decorated by several works of minor plastic art using the public funds. This amity of professional art and society, not having any analogues in Lithuania, is now perceived as a wonderful and replicable example.

A system of art works in Telšiai tells about Samogitian and the city's historic events, famous people and legends. Some of the works of minor architecture have been funded by private people and provide an integral part of the city's image today, an image which only began forming after the initiation of the city's regeneration.

It is very important that the realised projects helped revive one of the seven listed Old Towns in Lithuania, restoring some of the urban framework that had been damaged in Soviet times, by returning functionality to the town, recreating functional and visual connections of the Old Town and the lake that is present in the middle of it, which has opened an expressive silhouette of the city.

Regular phrases are heard from the guests to the city, such as "a perfect city", "a beautiful environment", "the wonderful bank of the lake", which demonstrate that it is really a pleasure to visit Telšiai. Tourists not only want to see the city, but also to know the history of Samogitia, are interested in the

peculiar Samogitian language, exceptional regional food culture and the history of the Samogitian people.

The consolidated image of the landscape has ensured the social, economic and ecological functions of the Lithuanian landscape formation. Landscape protection, usage, management, planning and the land's self-expressive features were guaranteed. The indigenuous biological variety, the territorial spatial structure of the landscape and its potential were retained and improved. Purposeful cultural landscape formation was optimised. Architectural spatial composition of the landscape was co-ordinated. Conditions were provided for protecting the landscape habitat of various territorial levels, and their proper management, usage, planning and sustainable development were guaranteed.

Public participation

During the preparation of territory planning and technical work projects, announcements were not simply made out of duty as required by law, but additional publicity was disseminated via the local press, the city's district municipality administration and other available social networks, under the initiative of Telšiai district municipality administration. Public meetings were organised for this, information was publicised in the press and other local information paths, and work collectives were shown various surveys related to project objectives. The society was encouraged to express their opinions and requests, and discussions were held regarding possible decisions.

Since Telšiai is the administrative centre of the district, and has regional-level administrative and cultural institutions, some project decisions were co-ordinated with the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania, in order to implement national policy, and the Ministry supervised the project, with the regional development council, Telšiai district municipality council and administration. Due to local opinion, the main attention of the project, and the biggest financial investment, was given to the projects of Mastis Lake cleaning, bank formation, their arrangement and adaptation, restoration of navigation and connection with the Old Town. Members of the community actively participated in preparation of the design task and in accomplishing the project of the central Telšiai city stadium reconstruction which encouraged the application of the arena building for societal needs.

People had always used Mastis Lake for fishing, sailing and water sports but, after the Soviet occupation, the infrastructure of the lake was strongly worn, and the lake itself was polluted, so people spent little time around or on the lake.

One wonderful example of the reconstruction of Telšiai City was the central stadium, where the representatives of sports societies of Telšiai were involved in the design and this helped define the reconstruction requirements. Reconstruction of the stadium made the society of Telšiai interested in physical activities and there emerged the need to progressively expand the sports complex, thus the multifunctional arena was reconstructed and proved a success both in summer and winter.

Art and culture representatives also regularly raised the need for a modern place for events and therefore the construction of an amphitheatre was included in the plans for the regenerated Mastis Lake. A modern building with a multifunctional amphitheatre seating 900 people was built between the Old Town of Telšiai and Mastis Lake, to serve not only as an unusual link between lake and city, but it provides a perfect accent for the city. The amphitheatre is used for public cultural events, a summer cinema, concerts, cultural events and opera.

Awareness-raising

A consolidated landscape image of Telšiai City guarantees the social, economic and ecological functions of Lithuanian landscape formation. It ensures the landscape protection, usage, management, planning and retention of the features of the land's self-expression. The cultural landscape's purposeful formation was optimised. The landscape's architectural spatial composition was co-ordinated. Conditions were provided for keeping various territorial-level landscape habitats, and their suitable management, usage, planning and sustainable development were guaranteed.

Inspired by the good experience of Telšiai City, adjacent cities have begun to initiate the preparation of landscape formation projects. In 2017-2019, many Lithuanian municipalities, with the support of the European Union, began preparing and implementing the projects of landscape formation and ecological state improvement, including Plungė, Skuodas and Mažeikiai.

Telšiai City is seen as an example of good practice, and in public project discussions provokes questions regarding a town's increase of green areas, and the possibilities for families and people with disabilities to spend more time in city parks adapted to their needs.

The city arrangement encouraged the Telšiaidwellers to take more care of their homes and their environment, as construction doubled in the city. A consciousness of the people developed, and therefore the environment is now damaged and polluted less. People willingly get involved in public actions, the most delightful of them being the "Festival of

paeony planting” during which the town-dwellers bring the sprouts of paeony flowers and plant them in green areas of the city. This plant is officially declared the flower of the city which has decorated the gardens near the houses since old times.

It is really important to note that the achievements of Telšiai consolidated not only the image of the district, but also the historically developed Samogitian region, with its history of an unusual language, customs and food, interests both the residents and the tourists.



Natural framework of Telšiai City. © Algirdas Žebrauskas

Video:

▶ <https://vimeo.com/315417827>

Posters:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092dd1b>

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092dd1c>

Website:

▶ www.telsiai.lt

Un autre paysage pour Vianden

Communauté de planification et de gestion du Parc naturel de l'Our, Luxembourg

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Résumé du projet

Entouré de la magnifique nature des Ardennes luxembourgeoises, Vianden se trouve au pied d'un imposant château-palais et représente une attraction culturelle et historique du Parc naturel de l'Our au nord du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg.

Au cours des derniers siècles, l'agriculture et la sylviculture intensives ont considérablement marqué l'aspect de ce paysage. Toutefois, à cause des surfaces parfois très escarpées et difficilement exploitables, depuis quelques décennies, les pentes autour de Vianden se sont embroussaillées et sont de plus en plus tombées en friche, ou alors elles ont été reboisées avec des résineux. De même le Parc de la Ville, datant de la Belle Époque avec son réseau de promenades a été négligé.

Cette évolution a fait que les vues intéressantes sur la ville et sur le château ont majoritairement disparu. Compte tenu de ce changement dans le paysage traditionnel, le choix a été fait de restaurer la variété originale du milieu naturel à moyen terme grâce à des projets locaux.

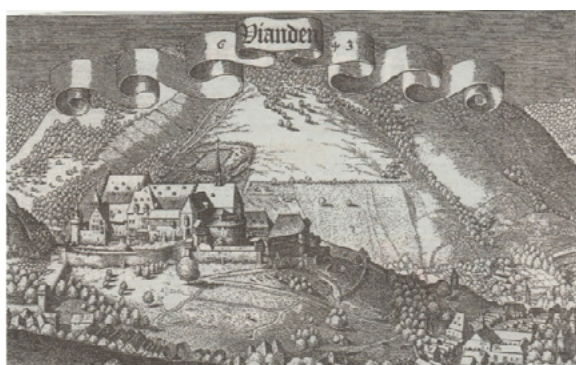


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Principaux objectifs du projet

Vianden, cette ville pittoresque avec son centre médiéval, ses sites historiques tels l'imposant château-palais, l'Église des Trinitaires et ainsi de suite, est un haut lieu touristique de la vallée de l'Our. Au début du XX^e siècle, la Ville de Vianden est considérée comme « La perle du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg, pittoresque et historique » dans le guide touristique de Théodore Bassing. Déjà du temps du romantisme des touristes venaient à Vianden, et parmi eux, Victor Hugo.

Mais la vallée de Vianden, ouverte d'un point de vue historique et culturel et aujourd'hui largement recouverte de végétation, recèle également un potentiel paysager considérable.



Déjà en 1643, Merian a réalisé une gravure sur cuivre du château pittoresque.



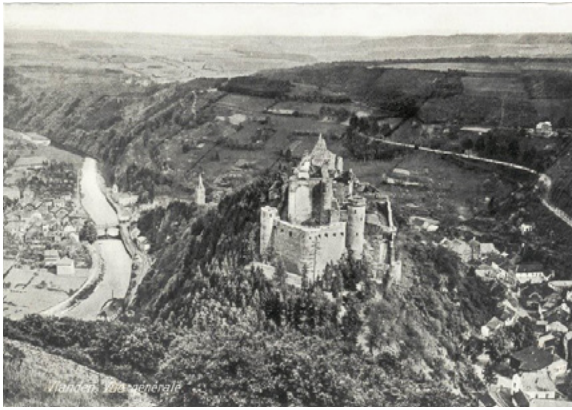
Vue sur le château de Vianden à partir du Parc de la ville, au début du XX^e siècle (en haut) et telle qu'elle était devenue (en bas). © Naturpark Our



Vue sur la zone à l'est du château de Vianden. Sur cette photo d'époque (en haut), l'on aperçoit encore des vignobles – puis, toute la zone est devenue embroussaillée.

© Naturpark Our

Les pentes en partie raides des vallées se sont de plus en plus embroussaillées au fil des décennies en raison de l'abandon des exploitations. La conséquence en est un changement considérable de la perception du paysage à Vianden. Cette vallée autrefois ouverte, claire et exposée à la chaleur était devenue boisée et ombragée et, en maints endroits, il n'était plus possible de la découvrir ni même de la voir. Cette évolution a eu des conséquences négatives sur la qualité de vie, car plus de 80% des talus sont devenus embroussaillés et uniquement quelques parcelles – surtout sur le versant sud – sont restées cultivées (jardins, maisons de campagne, pré-verges, etc.). De même la faune et flore avaient changé de caractère. Ainsi la flore rudérale datant du XX^e siècle, comme l'Anserine à feuilles d'obier (*Chenopodium opulifolium*) ou la chataire (*Nepeta cataria*), ou bien des espèces subspontanées, échappées des cultures comme le Néflier (*Mespilus germanicus*) ainsi que des raretés de la flore des châteaux médiévaux comme la Glaucière (*Glaucium flavum*) décrites par Edmond Joseph Klein, avaient presque complètement disparu.



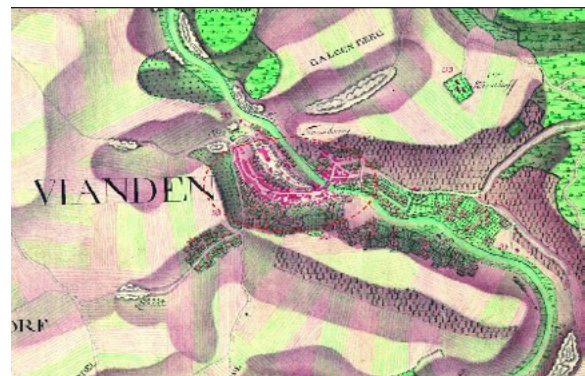
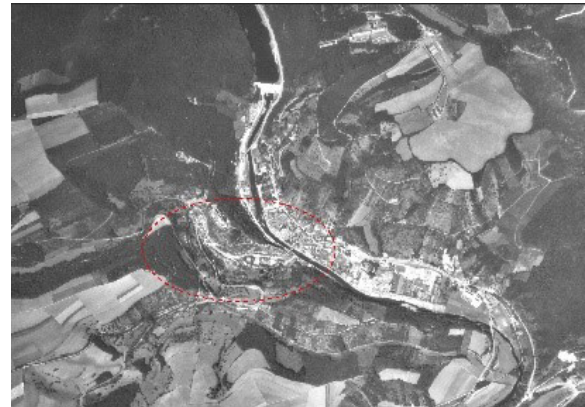
Vue par-dessus le château de Vianden sur le Parc de la Ville et sur le flanc adjacent au début du XX^e siècle (gauche) et telle qu'elle était devenue (droite). © Naturpark Our

Mais la vallée de Vianden, ouverte d'un point de vue historique et culturel et largement recouverte de végétation, recèle également un potentiel paysager considérable.



Les vues sur le château de Vianden et sur le site environnant avaient presque complètement disparu. © Naturpark Our

Il n'existait plus de vues dégagées à partir de points panoramiques plus élevés sur le château et sur la ville et entre les deux. De plus, des paysages de culture historiques (par exemple, les vignobles, vergers, jardins en terrasse) et des habitats précieux, tels les pré-vergers traditionnels entre autres, avaient également disparu. Cette évolution, ainsi que des solutions possibles, ont été présentées dans l'élaboration de la Charte du paysage pour le Parc naturel de l'Our.



Vianden : autrefois – évolutions récentes (1775-1963-2016). © Bibliothèque royale de Belgique, Administration du cadastre et de la topographie, Luxembourg

A l'aide de matériel cartographique historique et de vues aériennes, les pentes autour de Vianden ont été classées en quatre espaces de travail au total. Deux espaces de travail (3 et 4) se situent au nord-est de l'Our et sont en majorité des propriétés privées. Certaines initiatives privées y sont entreprises afin de reprendre la viticulture auparavant

pratiquée (surtout au XIX^e siècle). En revanche, une partie importante des deux espaces de travail au sud-ouest de l'Our (1 et 2) appartient au secteur public, de sorte que ces espaces ont été choisis pour réaliser le projet pilote.



Les quatre espaces de travail ainsi que la zone du projet. Administration du cadastre et de la topographie Luxembourg. © Naturpark Our.

Les objectifs du projet «Un autre visage pour Vianden» ont été les suivants:

- ▶ régénérer le parc de la ville, tombant en friche;
- ▶ accroître la biodiversité en éclaircissant le parc de la ville et en remettant en état les prés-vergers;
- ▶ cultiver les anciennes variétés d'arbres fruitiers;
- ▶ rétablir les vues sur le château et les vues du château sur la ville;
- ▶ aménager des espaces de jardins modèles et familiaux proches de l'état naturel d'après des jardins de campagne afin de contenir le phénomène des «jardins sauvages»;
- ▶ simplifier le réseau de chemins existant du parc de la ville;
- ▶ remettre en état l'aire de jeux;
- ▶ réhabiliter / prolonger le chemin historique en mettant à profit le tunnel Gagull en tant que passage souterrain, ce qui permet de relier les places de stationnement situées sur la route au parc de la ville et ainsi au centre-ville.



Pré-verger remis en état, actuellement pâturé par des moutons. © Naturpark Our

De vieux arbres fruitiers qui n'avaient plus été taillés depuis plusieurs années (voire des décennies) ont été revitalisés grâce à des tailles d'entretien et de remise en état effectuées par des spécialistes. De nouveaux pommiers ont été plantés à la place des arbres morts. L'on a privilégié d'anciennes variétés locales pour ainsi apporter une importante contribution à la conservation de variétés de fruits locales.

Le pâturage de moutons traditionnel a été instauré afin d'empêcher que la prairie ne s'embroussaille (même à long terme), et afin de permettre à la faune et à la flore typiques des prés-vergers de se redévelopper.



Pré-verger et zone de pâturage (35 ares). Prés-vergers non entretenus et où la prairie demandait un fauchage laborieux de la part du personnel communal. © Naturpark Our



Zone des jardins familiaux. Les «Jardins modèles et jardins familiaux» servent de modèle aux autres utilisateurs des jardins. © Naturpark Our

Les résineux non conformes ont été retirés de la parcelle prévue pour les jardins familiaux, les rhizomes y ont été enlevés et la terre a été partiellement préparée pour le jardinage par fraisage. L'aménagement des espaces de jardins modèles et familiaux a influencé de manière positive les autres jardiniers, de sorte que les cabanes recouvertes de bâches, les tonneaux en plastique et les clôtures ont disparu. La plupart des jardins a été donnée à bail à des habitants intéressés de Vianden.

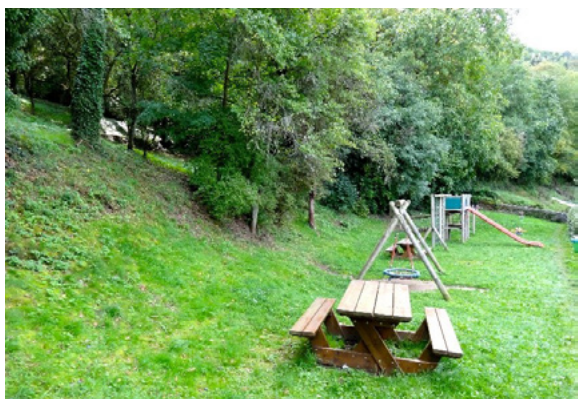
Une parcelle a été mise à disposition de l'école fondamentale (école primaire). Plusieurs classes se rendent régulièrement à «leur» jardin et y travaillent. Les enfants sont sensibilisés à une alimentation saine et de saison. Ceci permet les interactions entre les générations et les cultures.



Parc de la Ville. La lumière avait du mal à pénétrer sur le sol du parc à cause de la végétation à l'état sauvage.
© Naturpark Our

L'élagage du capital forestier, l'abattage d'arbres pouvant représenter un danger pour les personnes, ainsi que des mesures de taille des arbres (surtout le long des sentiers) ont eu une influence bénéfique sur l'attractivité du parc. En outre, l'abattage effectué à des points stratégiques a nettement amélioré les vues panoramiques sur le château. Grâce à l'élagage, le sol forestier profite à nouveau de plus de lumière, et à moyen terme, une strate de fleurs et d'arbustes pourra s'y développer.

Dans le parc, le réseau de chemins a été réduit aux chemins principaux et l'on a aménagé des espaces verts avec des plantes aromatiques. La mise à profit du tunnel Gagull a permis de relier les places de stationnement le long de la voie d'accès au parc et donc au centre-ville. De cette manière, les visiteurs disposent d'une option intéressante pour rejoindre rapidement la ville basse.



Aire de jeux. Les anciens équipements de l'aire de jeux étaient en mauvais état et n'invitaient plus à la détente et au jeu. © Naturpark Our

L'aire de jeux existante et vétuste, située le long de l'ancienne enceinte de la Ville, a été dotée de nouveaux équipements en rapport avec la ville médiévale et avec le château.

Développement territorial durable

La Charte du paysage est un des thèmes centraux du Parc naturel de l'Our. La valorisation de la nature et du paysage de l'Ösling et la sensibilisation pour les paysages caractéristiques figurent parmi les grands principes du Parc naturel de l'Our. Le développement durable constitue l'élément de positionnement du Parc naturel et, il est pris en compte et intégré aux différents domaines de travail. Il s'agit bien du «fil conducteur» de l'ensemble des activités du Parc naturel de l'Our qui accompagne activement ses communes membres dans la transformation du paysage et la conservation, mais aussi le développement des paysages culturels historiques au moyen de projets concrets. Le projet mené contribue ainsi à promouvoir les valeurs environnementales, sociales, économiques, culturelles et esthétiques du paysage.

Valeurs environnementales

Le territoire entier autour de la Ville de Vianden est classé en tant que zone Natura 2000 Vallée de l'Our de Ouren à Wallendorf Pont. Dans le plan de gestion afférent, à part les milieux ouverts comme les prés-vergers avec les espèces protégées (par exemple, chouette chevêche, des espèces des prairies maigres de fauche et des murs en pierre sèches), surtout les rochers du château de Vianden sont considérés comme un haut-lieu de la biodiversité.

Les jardins familiaux aménagés servent d'exemple pour l'utilisation souhaitée des jardins, avec des cultures régionales. Les abris de jardin installés disposent tous d'un réservoir de récupération d'eau qui collecte les eaux pluviales des toitures. L'eau ainsi collectée est utilisée pour arroser les jardins.

Le projet a permis de remédier à des dégradations de l'environnement. La replantation d'arbres fruitiers à haute tige (anciennes variétés régionales) et l'entretien des vieux arbres fruitiers ont amélioré l'habitat de nombreuses espèces animales et végétales. La remise en état des prés-vergers (taille des vieux arbres par un spécialiste et plantation de nouveaux arbres de variétés régionales) du côté du Parc de la Ville a en effet revalorisé l'habitat pour des espèces devenues rares au Luxembourg (par exemple, la chouette chevêche, les chauves-souris). Les prés-vergers entretenus comptent parmi les biotopes les plus riches en espèces de ces paysages. Les arbres fruitiers d'âges divers combinés à une certaine proportion de bois mort, que l'on trouve dans le Parc de la Ville, constituent des habitats et des relais essentiels pour beaucoup d'espèces animales et aussi pour certains insectes (abeilles sauvages, frelons,

etc.). Les moutons en pâturage enfin, assurent l'entretien des prairies.

Valeurs sociales

En aménageant les jardins familiaux, la Commune de Vianden offre à ses habitants la possibilité de cultiver leurs propres fruits et légumes, un tel espace faisant défaut dans la surface limitée de la ville médiévale. Une parcelle de jardinage est exploitée par les classes de l'école fondamentale, ce qui permet aux enfants de se familiariser avec l'origine et la culture des fruits et des légumes. Il s'agit d'un élément important pour prendre conscience de ce que signifie une alimentation saine, régionale et de saison.

Valeurs esthétiques

L'éclaircissement du Parc de la Ville a permis de rétablir les vues sur le château dans cette zone, et le parc lui-même a regagné un aspect attrayant. Les nouveaux jardins familiaux ont servi d'exemple. Les vieilles constructions servant de remise avec les bâches colorées, les clôtures occultantes et les tonneaux en plastique ont pour la plupart disparu du voisinage immédiat du Parc de la Ville.

Valeurs culturelles

La culture traditionnelle des prés-vergers sur les versants ainsi que l'utilisation des pentes raides comme pâturage ont été reprises de manière exemplaire et peuvent servir de modèle aux versants situés à l'est de l'Our.

Exemplarité

Différents acteurs administratifs coopéraient pour la mise en œuvre du projet: la Commune de Vianden, le Département ministériel de l'aménagement du territoire, le Parc naturel de l'Our, l'Administration de la nature et des forêts, l'Administration des services techniques de l'agriculture.

L'offre de mettre à disposition de la population des jardins familiaux servant de modèle à d'autres jardins autour de Vianden, a répondu à la demande du public et a été accueillie favorablement. Il est prévu de réaliser d'autres jardins familiaux à l'avenir. Les jardins existants ont été valorisés esthétiquement par les utilisateurs de leur propre initiative et ils s'intègrent désormais au paysage et à la Ville.

Les mesures déjà mises en œuvre, la manière dont les surfaces débroussaillées transforment le paysage ainsi que la manière dont celui-ci peut être utilisé, servent également d'exemple aux propriétaires privés pour les parcelles situées à l'est de l'Our. Ceci peut aussi valoir pour d'autres endroits situés en vallée sur le territoire du Parc naturel. Des partenaires peuvent par ailleurs s'en inspirer, au niveau de la Grande-Région (parcs naturels en Wallonie, en Lorraine et en Allemagne) ainsi qu'au niveau

européen (réseau des parcs germanophones, réseau des parcs francophones et Europarc, notamment).

Le projet peut servir de modèle pour d'autres localités du Parc naturel de l'Our qui se trouvent dans des vallées étroites. Il se poursuit et il a été étendu à la zone située au-dessous du château. D'anciennes réserves d'orchidées ont été réhabilitées, et les vues sur le château ainsi que sur les murs de pierre sèche historiques qui stabilisent les pentes ont été dégagées. La façon de construire ces murs a été inscrite sur l'inventaire national du patrimoine immatériel.

Participation du public

Aux côtés des partenaires cités ci-dessus, les habitants de la Ville de Vianden ont également donné l'impulsion au projet grâce à leurs demandes pour aménager des jardins familiaux et du fait des critiques qui avaient été exprimées sur l'état du Parc de la Ville. Dans ce sens, ils ont aussi participé au processus en fournissant des idées. Le public était impliqué dans l'élaboration de la Charte du paysage et dans le projet à travers la Commission consultative du Parc naturel de l'Our qui formulait des propositions et des suggestions en tant qu'organe consultatif. L'élaboration de la Charte du paysage a été conçue comme un processus participatif, qui a permis à la population de s'impliquer activement.

Sensibilisation

Dans le cadre de ce projet, le thème du paysage caractéristique a été abordé par différents moyens. Parmi ceux-ci figuraient des articles de presse et la révision et une nouvelle signalisation du sentier culturel (*Kulturpad*) qui entre autres décrit le paysage autour de Vianden et son évolution au cours de l'histoire. De plus les sentiers transfrontaliers certifiés du *NaturWanderPark delux* (littéralement offre de randonnée «de luxe», même si ce nom décrit la nature transfrontalière des randonnées), permettent la découverte du paysage autour de Vianden. Au regard de l'échelle du projet, les contacts directs avec la population ont cependant constitué l'outil de sensibilisation le plus important et le plus efficace.



Le château de Vianden, avant le début des travaux de restauration. © Raymond Clément

Vidéos:

▶ <https://vimeo.com/485990362>

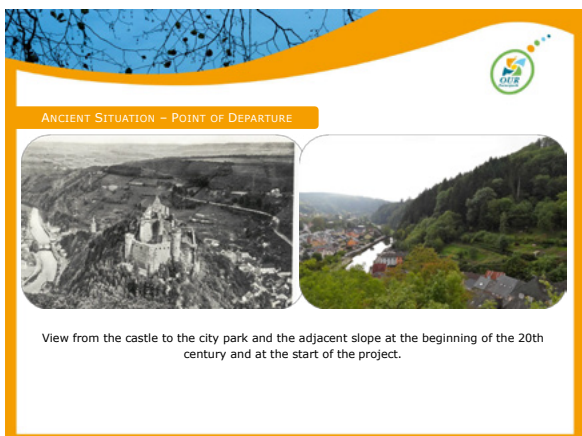
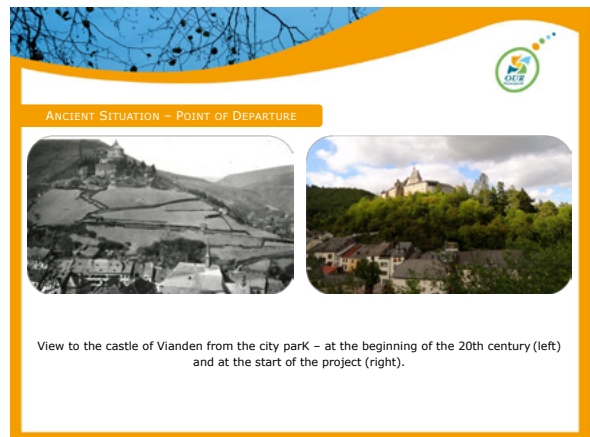
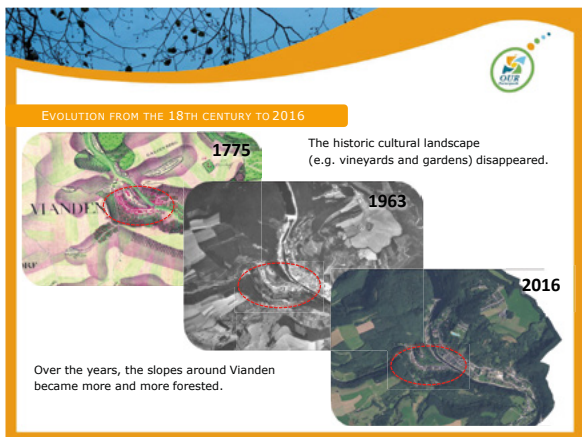
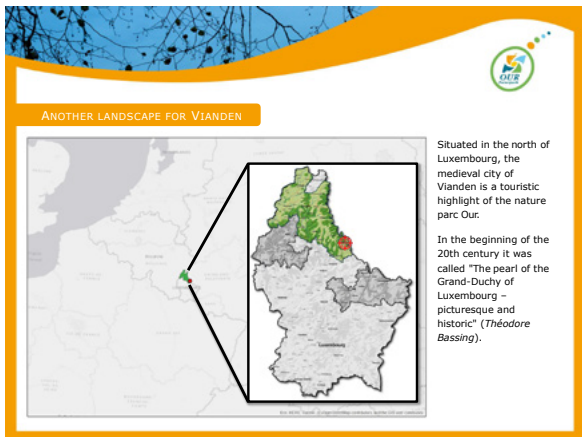
▶ <https://vimeo.com/313371388>


Poster:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092de71>


Présentation PowerPoint:

▶ <https://rm.coe.int/1680a0926b>

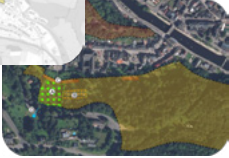




DEVELOPMENT AREAS




Aware of the difficulties and priorities, four work areas were defined. Two of these areas (n°1 & n°2) are public property, so they were prioritised.





GOALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA

- Restoration of the city park
- Enhancement of the biodiversity by regeneration of the fruit orchard with historic fruit trees
- Reduction of the trails in the city park
- Restoration of the playground
- Simplification of the access to the city park by an extension of the historic trail through restoration of the "Gagull" tunnel

GOALS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AREA

- Reconstruction of the view axis between the castle - city - surroundings
- Construction of garden plots




CONTINUATION OF THE PROJECT

- Clearing of the flanks of the castle



Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture

Regional Government of Azores,
Regional Directorate of the Environment,
Portugal

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Marta Rodrigues

*Senior Officer, Spatial Planning Service, Directorate General for Territory,
Ministry of the Environment and Energy Transition, Portugal*

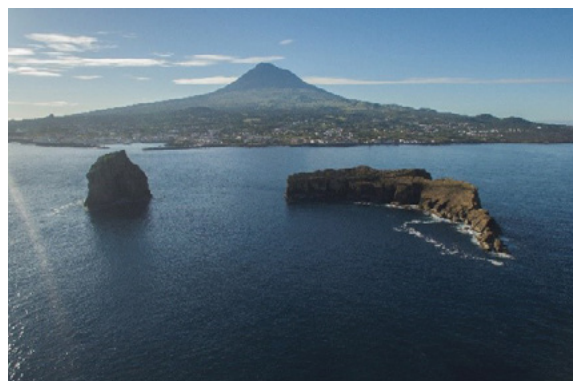
Representative of the Project

Mr Hernâni Hélio Jorge

Regional Director of the Environment, Regional Government of Azores, Portugal

Summary of the project

Pico Island, the main island of the central group of the Azores archipelago, is geographically far from the western-most part of Europe. In 1996, responding to land abandonment and the declining population, the regional government of the Azores developed an innovative landscape policy, based on the specific characteristics of the island. The volcano, the highest mountain of the Azores and all Portugal, the rocky volcanic nature of the soil, and the traditional culture of the vineyards were considered in promoting the natural and cultural assets of the island, as a basis for sustainable development. The regional government promoted land use planning, addressing the need to stop the decline of the population and to welcome visitors. The landscape policy, implemented in a continuous and co-ordinated way, was the starting point for revitalising the socio-economic structure of the territory. This led to the marketing of local products outside the region, on an international level. The aim was to promote the traditional characteristics of the landscape and to rehabilitate the rural and built heritage assets. The policy has shown that it is possible to transform a remote ultra-peripheral region into a vibrant, attractive, sustainable and exemplary territory.



Pico Island. © Regional Government of Azores

Mrs Marta Rodrigues

*Senior Officer, Spatial Planning Service, Directorate General for Territory,
Ministry of the Environment and Energy Transition, Portugal*

In 1996, the Regional Government of Azores planned a pioneering and innovative landscape policy. The biggest goal of this initiative was to reverse the decline, degradation and abandonment of the unique landscape of Pico Island, in the Azores.

The remoteness of this territory, in an archipelago located in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean, far from the western-most parts of Europe, and a declining population, were not easy features to manage. However, if the challenges were high, the potential for the landscape was also enormous. It was with the awareness of the value of this exceptional landscape that the regional Government decided to proceed, promoting the recovery of the economic, social, cultural, heritage and environmental fabric of its greatest assets: the unique nature of the landscape, marked by the presence of the volcanic mountain and the sea, as well as the stoniness of the soil, and the culture of the vineyards.

To implement this landscape policy, the Government set several objectives which covered the different components of the territory, including:

- ▶ to promote the wine culture in the old *currais* (walls that are built with basalt blocks that have been weathered, broken up and are then stacked without mortar), drawing on the built heritage and the existing landscape;
- ▶ to protect the intangible heritage of an ancestral wine culture that was developed by local communities as a response to a hostile environment and involved manual labour which led to the construction of a landscape of unparalleled beauty, perfectly adapted to local edaphic and climatic conditions;
- ▶ to promote the sustainability and multi-functionality of the landscape, through the coherence and diversification of appropriate uses to the existing biophysical matrix, with a view to the balance between natural and human components;
- ▶ to promote awareness among the local population regarding the importance of the landscape as an identifying element of their territory, with the aim of guaranteeing the civic participation of local communities in the decision-making processes, and in the active management of the territory, thus ensuring its continuity in the future.

The landscape policy has included different steps, implemented in several phases and focusing on roughly 400 ha. In 1996, the Protected Landscape of the Pico Island Vineyard Culture was created by a Regional Legislative Decree, followed by the establishment of a regulatory mechanism for land use and its transformation. These first steps inspired an application for Pico Island landscape to be recognised as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and this was confirmed in 2004. As a result, new and strict zoning of the entire area was established, corresponding to the various levels of protection. The commitment to implementing this policy has continued and led to the creation of a technical office for the protected landscape. This office supports the implementation of the management plan for the protected area; it prepares technical studies within the context of the reconstruction or restoration of public properties; it issues technical opinions regarding projects or activities to be developed within the protected landscape area and; it monitors and supervises the actual implementation of projects.

Alongside these initiatives, the following measures have also been promoted:

- ▶ support for the rehabilitation and maintenance of traditional vineyard culture in currais;
- ▶ support for reconstruction of abandoned buildings and correction of architectural dissonances;
- ▶ creation of a wine museum;
- ▶ creation of an interpretation centre for the landscape of Pico Vineyard Culture;
- ▶ creation of a house of volcanoes;
- ▶ development of a network of walking trails;
- ▶ implementation of a training programme for guides of the Natural Park;
- ▶ certification and quality control of wine production;
- ▶ promotion of a set of measures to increase citizenship and education, for sustainability.

The landscape policy, and the respective measures and initiatives that have been implemented since 1996 have allowed mitigation of the abandonment of the vineyards and the degradation of the landscape. This policy also contributed to the recovery and consolidation of a living wine landscape with unique characteristics and contributed to economic growth and the improvement of the quality of living for Pico's inhabitants. In practice, it was possible to ensure the return of winemakers, reactivating wine production on a scale that has made its commercialisation feasible. At the same time, a lot of built heritage has been restored, ensuring the revitalisation of the landscape. The recovery and re-use of public heritage assets has also been promoted.

The Landscape Policy brought prestige to Pico wine, conquering the export market and as a result its production has increased significantly. The services provided by reference projects in the fields of wine tourism and active tourism also contribute to this dynamic and productive landscape. In addition, between 2004 and 2012 financial support was given to 23 projects for the reconstruction of abandoned buildings and the correction of architectural irregularities.

Following the implementation of this Policy, the landscape was classified as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The landscape intervention was also recognised at the 2016 Portuguese Green Project Awards, and led to Madalena, one of the three councils of Pico Island, being chosen as the Portuguese Wine City of 2017, an event promoted by the Association of Portuguese Wine Municipalities. In 2018, this landscape policy was also recognised by the Portuguese National Landscape Award.

Beyond these effects, the landscape policy was the basis that stimulated the development of a

progressively abandoned territory, managing at the same time to rejuvenate a declining population and attracting visitors who today surpass the island's resident inhabitants. This option to promote territorial valorisation through the landscape was the starting point to revitalise the socio-economic structure of this territory, to market local products outside the region, and even internationally, to promote the traditional characteristic landscape, the rehabilitation of the rural and built heritage assets, giving them back to the population, and thus showing that it is possible to turn a remote region of initially very harsh land into a living, attractive, sustainable and "exemplary" territory.



Currais Lajido da Criação Velha. © José Feliciano



Fields of lava. © Regional Government of Azores



Arcos. © Regional Government of Azores



Lajido – Aerial view. © Regional Government of Azores



Vineyards and mountain. © Regional Government of Azores



Vineyards. © Regional Government of Azores



Tidal wells. © Regional Government of Azores



Harvest. © Regional Government of Azores



Wine barrel rolls. © Regional Government of Azores

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515804345>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313963638>

Presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092df53>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092df58>

Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas

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Visual Archive: **Mr Yaşar Melih Öztürk**

Contracting Association: AKS Planning and Engineering Limited Company

Summary of the project

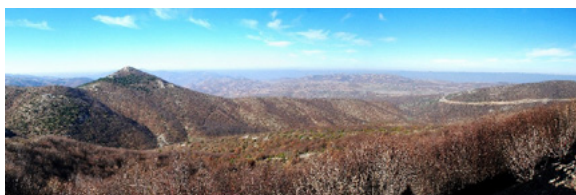
The Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas aimed to identify the landscapes of the area, to analyse their characteristics based on natural and cultural values of the territory, as well as the dynamics and pressures that transform them. The project was launched in 2012 and was undertaken in three main stages: study, inventory and landscape assessment; constitution of a database; analysis of landscape functions, with the definition of indicators and the evaluation of landscape features. A meeting to launch the project was held in Amasya, and workshops were then organised, with the participation of government agencies, non-governmental organisations and the general public, in Samsun, Tokat and Çorum. Training and finalisation of the work was held in Ankara. A map, indicating sectoral guidelines, has been drawn up



Samsun Black Sea coast. © Osman Uzun

Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas project (Landscape character, Landscape diversity and biodiversity, Landscape quality, Landscape strategies) is a significant milestone in fulfilling the requirements of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, ratified by Turkey in 2003. This project demonstrates the method and approach of integration with sectoral plans, primarily spatial planning considering the provisions of the Convention, and in reference with texts of the European Union (Water Directive, Basin Development Plans, Water Action Plans, Strategic Environmental Impact Assessment, Natura 2000). The objectives of Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas are to carry out the landscape character assessment (landscape character, landscape function, change and pressures and landscape quality analyses) on the basis of a natural and cultural landscape inventory of Yeşilirmak Basin, to identify the landscape character types and landscape character areas, as well as landscape diversity and biodiversity, in order to create the map of landscape quality and subsequently, to establish sectoral landscape guidelines.

The Landscape Atlas is an important tool that produces the strategies for utilisation of a country's landscapes in line with the balance of protection and utilisation, and provides data to decision-makers in their decision-taking processes which relate to the different sectors. The Landscape Atlas enables the integration of landscape planning or landscape planning approaches with the plans of different sectors (urbanisation, protection, forestry, agriculture and industry in particular) as noted in the European Landscape Convention.



Tokat Batmantaş. © Osman Uzun

Prepared within the scope of a project, the Landscape Atlas can be used for:

- ▶ planning, managing and protecting the protected areas;
- ▶ management of natural resources and cultural inheritance;
- ▶ the spatial planning from smaller to larger scales (since it is a tool that has shown the sensitivities regarding the environment during the preparation of Basin and Regional Spatial Strategy Plans);
- ▶ the evaluation of a small-scale plan, project or programmes to be carried out within the scope of strategic environmental evaluation;
- ▶ integrated management, planning and protection of resources within the basin;

- ▶ taking decisions about location selection, planning and development of different sectors as mentioned in the European Landscape Convention, since it is a tool which will consider the environmental sensitivity that will direct the sector plans at regional, sub-regional or basin level.

The Landscape Atlas thus serves as a guide in all plans, projects and applications where the environmental vulnerabilities should be considered.

There are 25 hydrologic basins in Turkey, and Yeşilirmak Basin is the sixth largest, approximately 3,956,798 ha. in size and amounting to 5% of Turkey's landmass. The Yeşilirmak River, being 519 km in length, is the second longest river of Turkey.



Samsun Black Sea coast. © Osman Uzun

The Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry is the local focal point for the Convention and it expanded its activities to encompass the entire basin for the "Landscape management, conservation and planning" in Konya, and later "Landscape character analyses on the Provincial scale and its assessment in terms of tourism and recreation" in Malatya. A landscape atlas is now being prepared for Yeşilirmak Basin. This study will form the basis for the development of a "National Landscape Database" and "National Landscape Strategy and Action Plans". This is the first, and an important, step taken to prepare a national landscape atlas.

The project consists of three fundamental stages: study-inventory-evaluation and landscape database preparation; landscape function analyses, indicators and landscape character evaluation; presentation of the sectoral landscape guides and landscape atlas.

In the project, the landscape planning approaches were directed at the micro basin level, as well as decisions on protection, management and planning. In this context, the backbone of the study was constructed by landscape function analyses which were designed respecting the notion of ecosystem services, including: indicators of human use, socio-economic structure, riparian corridors and other indicators of basin evaluation and; landscape impact, change and pressure analyses. By taking into consideration the factors that increase or decrease landscape quality, the potential landscape quality factors that would increase landscape quality were determined using the "Landscape quality" and "Landscape quality objectives" tools. The existing

landscape quality was revealed because of the integration of factors that decrease and increase the landscape quality. Quality objectives were defined and mapped based on existing landscape quality of the basin and the micro basins. Finally, spatial objectives were determined.



Yeşilirmak and Kelkit Rivers. © Osman Uzun

In the “Spatial cohesion – non-cohesion conflict areas” section, the existing context was evaluated with reference to the preparation of ecologically based environmental plans and development plans which have been hotly debated, particularly in recent years. The assessment focuses on the concept of the landscape quality of the environmental plans that were prepared for the provinces within the Yeşilirmak Basin. It transpired that some of the decisions taken in the relevant environmental plans conflicted with the landscape quality concept that focuses on the ecology of some micro basins. These assessments show that there is an urgent legal and administrative need for the integration of landscape plans and landscape planning approaches with the spatial planning activities and sector plans (protection, forestry, agriculture, etc).

The ecological vulnerabilities were identified regarding the forest, protection, agriculture and urbanisation sectors, utilising the relevant landscape functions within the scope of “Landscape development strategies” and “Landscape guides”. In addition, the guidelines for development strategies and landscape were produced for each sector. The micro basins, so vulnerable to erosion, require rehabilitation due to urban solid waste discharge points, and due to agricultural contaminants, which were identified to define the strategies relating to the rehabilitation of the landscape. Moreover, priorities of rehabilitation were determined for first, second and third rank micro basins.

An interdisciplinary group worked intensively in both field and office to produce the landscape atlas which now reveals the necessity to integrate environmental, social and economic planning with the landscape planning approaches. Some results and suggestions are presented below, from general to specific, which have been derived from the inventory, analyses and synthesis methods applied with the basic philosophy of “think globally, act locally”.



Tokat Karanlık River. © Osman Uzun

- ▶ It is a national responsibility to integrate the plans related to the different sectors in Turkey and spatial plans with the landscape planning processes, as stated in the European Landscape Convention. Yeşilirmak Basin’s Landscape Atlas is a good example of how this integration could be made in parallel with the water action plans in the main national river basins.
- ▶ “Landscape character assessment” and “Landscape character type determining” are pioneering approaches in Turkey, made at national, regional and local level, as they are at the scale of the basin within the project. The data relating to the climate, geology, geomorphology, soil and land cover was overlaid in the defined method at the region/basin level and, as a result, 3,453 landscape character types were identified and 7,741 landscape character types (LCT) were found at the sub-basin/province level.
- ▶ 47 analyses and definitions were made in the project. Some of this data includes the landscape analyses as the synthesis of academic works carried out in Turkey since the 1930s, and some includes definitions and analyses at micro basin level, an important geographical unit to determine the natural borders in the landscape. Moreover, it also consists of the impact, pressure and change analyses, and information about the current situation of landscape quality at basin level. Without doubt, the analyses yet to be made and maps to be issued may be developed further in future works, some criteria may be omitted and some added. It is important that the criteria used have the data and information infrastructure that can be supported by the official organs of the government.
- ▶ After all analyses, the landscape guides were prepared for the agriculture, forestry, settlement, landscape recovery sectors, and micro basins were defined indicating the ecological vulnerability of each sector. Thus, it is clearly indicated what can be done in each basin on the spatial scale.

- ▶ Within the scope of the project, the data that related to the natural and cultural landscape elements was reported from the perspective of landscape architecture in a dialogue with relevant experts at the collection, compilation and mapping stages.
- ▶ One of the most important innovations in the project is the directing of the landscape planning approaches at micro basin level, and approval of decisions relating to the protection, management and planning on this basis. As a result, it is intended that the directors of public organisations, institutions and non-governmental organisations may understand, interpret and use the Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas in their decision-making processes. Reduction and mapping of all data from this project to a micro basin level, the most basic unit of a basin, allows the directors to draw benefit from the atlas, which has been approved at district level as an administrative unit, in their decision-making. The applied method aligns the works at the basin level to the country and facilitates the processes of both spatial planning of landscape planning approaches and their integration with sectoral plans.
- ▶ The analyses related to the concept of ecosystem services were integrated within the scope of landscape function analyses, which became important recently. Thanks to this, it is intended to create a common language with the full range of professional disciplines, landscape architecture, urban planning, architecture, civil engineering, and natural sciences in the spatial planning works that will be carried out in rural and urban areas.
- ▶ The factors for increasing landscape quality were determined by considering the factors which would decrease or increase the quality under the heading, "Landscape quality and landscape quality objectives". The current landscape quality was presented bringing together the factors reducing the landscape quality. The landscape quality objectives were determined and mapped based on the micro basins, whilst considering the current landscape quality of the basin. The objectives were thus determined spatially for each micro basin.
- ▶ The situation criteria were determined, especially relating to the implementation of ecologically based environmental regulation and development plans and were considered in the different environments under the heading, "Spatial cohesion – non-cohesion and conflict areas". The environmental regulation plan, previously prepared in accordance with the Development Law No. 3194, was assessed specifically relating to the concept of landscape quality developed within

the scope of Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas. In this context, it was found that the decision taken in the relevant environmental regulation plan was contradictory with the landscape quality concept that was produced based on ecology in some micro basins. Samsun was determined as the city where ecological vulnerability was considered least significant among the provinces of Amasya, Tokat, Samsun and Çorum. The most significant result from this is that the landscape plan and landscape planning approaches should, as soon as possible, be officially integrated into the spatial planning works in both legal and administrative aspects.

- ▶ Seven main functions were considered in determining each sector's ecological vulnerabilities: landscape habitat function; biological diversity function (biological diversity of vegetation, mammal and aquatic species, reptiles and insects); water infiltration; potential erosion risk; surface water flow; visual landscape quality and; cultural richness, which are evaluated within the scope of landscape functions. These functions, directly connected to the relevant sector, are selected among the landscape functions to determine the ecological sensitivities for the agricultural, forestry and settlement sectors. They are then mapped, and the vulnerability of each micro basin is scored from 1 to 5. Considering the ecological sensitivities and sector characteristics of micro basins and sector characters of micro basins, the landscape development strategies for each micro basin is obtained. Using the population density data, the micro basins are then defined as "First, second- or third-degree hot zones requiring special landscape management in landscape sustainability".
- ▶ Strategy and landscape guides have been produced regarding landscape recovery and identification: micro basins that are vulnerable to erosion (potential erosion risk, surface water flow, landslide and hydro-electric power plants); micro basins that require repair due to the urban-sourced solid wastes and discharging points; micro basins that require repair due to the common agriculture-sourced pollutants. The first, second- and third-degree priorities for recovery are thus defined.
- ▶ Management now follows the "Notification on principles and procedures related to the establishment, tasks and work of basin management commissions" which came into force in the Official Journal, no. 28681, dated 18 June 2013, regarding the implementation of landscape plans. Furthermore, the stakeholder analyses related to the forestry, agriculture and tourism sectors were conducted and the observations were provided under the sub-title of landscape

management, determining short, medium and long-term objectives.

As a result, Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas is qualified as a guide to all public organisations and institutions (governor, district governor, mayor, mukhtar, field services of departments, etc.) and non-governmental organisation representatives during the spatial planning and decision-making processes at the micro basin level. Since the Atlas was issued in a language and mapping system that everybody may understand, it is easy to use. Furthermore, the "Project of issuing the Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas" will enlighten and remove the significant weaknesses in spatial and sector plans in Turkey. The project is an important tool for integrating different scales of environmental, social and economic plans with landscape plans.



Boraboy Lake. © Osman Uzun



Çorum. © Osman Uzun



Tokat Batmantaş. © Osman Uzun



Çorum agricultural ecosystem. © Osman Uzun



River Amasya Yeşilirmak. © Osman Uzun

Videos:

- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/515807048>
- ▶ <https://vimeo.com/313374662>

Presentation:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e678>
- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e6c9>

Poster:

- ▶ <https://rm.coe.int/168092e6ca>

Draft Programme
English version

The 24th Council of Europe Meeting of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 6th Session 2018-2019”, organised by the Council of Europe – Secretariat of the Convention, Directorate of Democratic Participation, was planned to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 21-22 October 2020 as indicated below, as part of the Work Programme of the Convention. Due to the evolution of the pandemic, the meeting could not be held in-person and was postponed.

Introduction

As an international intergovernmental organisation created in 1949, and whose headquarters are located in Strasbourg (France), the Council of Europe has 47 member States: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Its main objectives are to promote democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and to seek common solutions to the main problems facing European society today.

The European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe aims to promote landscape protection, management and planning and to organise international co-operation. It applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding, as well as everyday or degraded landscapes. The Convention represents the first international treaty exclusively devoted to all the dimensions of the landscape, considered from a perspective of sustainable development. To date, 40 States have ratified it: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. One further State has signed it: Malta. The European Landscape Convention was adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 in Strasbourg and opened for signature by the member States of the Organisation in Florence (Italy) on 20 October 2000. The opening of the Convention to non-European States following the entry into force of its amending protocol will be an opportunity to reaffirm the universality of the landscape dimension of human rights and democracy.

Organised by the Council of Europe on a regular basis since 2002, the Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention aim to present new concepts and achievements in favour of the implementation of the Convention. They thus represent a genuine forum for sharing practices and ideas. Special emphasis is given to the experiences of the state hosting the meeting.

The following Council of Europe Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention have previously been organised:

- ▶ 23-24 May 2002, Strasbourg (France): "Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development (social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches); Landscape identification, evaluation and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education; Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape"
- ▶ 27-28 November 2003, Strasbourg (France): "Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes; Landscapes and individual and social well-being; Spatial planning and landscape"
- ▶ 16-17 June 2005, Cork (Ireland): "Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas"
- ▶ 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana (Slovenia): "Landscape and society"
- ▶ 28-29 September 2006, Gerona (Spain): "Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice"
- ▶ 20-21 September 2007, Sibiu (Romania): "Landscape and rural heritage"
- ▶ 24-25 April 2008, Piestany (Slovakia): "Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management"
- ▶ 8-9 October 2009, Malmö (Sweden): "Landscape and driving forces"
- ▶ 15-16 April 2010, Cordoba (Spain): "Landscape and infrastructures for the society"
- ▶ 20-21 October 2011, Evora (Portugal): "Multifunctional landscape"
- ▶ 4-5 June 2012, Carbonia, Sardinia (Italy): "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – Sessions 1 (2008-2009) and 2 (2010-2011)"
- ▶ 2-3 October 2012, Thessalonica (Greece): "Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning. Another way to see the territory involving civil society..."
- ▶ 2-3 October 2013, Cetinje (Montenegro): "Territories of the future: landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy"
- ▶ 11-12 June 2014, Wrocław (Poland): "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – Session 3 (2012-2013)"
- ▶ 1-2 October 2014, Urgup (Turkey): "Sustainable landscapes and economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape"

- ▶ 1-2 October 2015, Andorra la Vella (Andorra): "Landscape and transfrontier co-operation: the landscape knows no boundary"
- ▶ 9-10 June 2016, Budapest (Hungary): "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – Session 4 (2014-2015)"
- ▶ 5-6 October 2016, Yerevan (Armenia): "National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities"
- ▶ 5-6 September 2017, Brno (Czech Republic): "The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy"
- ▶ 20-21 June 2018, Daugavpils (Latvia): "Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – Session 5 (2016-2017)"
- ▶ 3-4 October 2018, Tropea (Italy): "Landscape and education"
- ▶ 14-15 March 2019, Seville (Spain): "Water, landscape and citizenship in the face of global change"
- ▶ 19-20 October 2020, Lausanne (Suisse): "Landscape integration in sectoral policies" (not held in-person due to the evolution of the pandemic)

The proceedings of the Meetings are published in the Council of Europe's "European Spatial Planning and Landscape" series and are available on the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention website:

www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/workshops;
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications

Objectives

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Landscape Award of the Council of Europe that recognises policies or measures adopted by local or regional authorities or non-governmental organisations to protect, manage and plan their landscapes, measures which have proven to be lastingly effective and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities.

On 20 February 2008 the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted Resolution CM/ (2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The Award is given every two years by the Committee of Ministers, further to proposals from the Committee of Experts of the Council of Europe who are in charge of monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

The projects of high value achieved in the member States of the Organisation on the occasion of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe – 2018-2019 – are presented in this publication. They show that it is possible to promote the

territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people's surroundings.

Websites

- ▶ Council of Europe Landscape Convention
 - www.coe.int/en/web/landscape
 - www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape
- ▶ Swiss Federal Office for the Environment (FOEN)
 - www.bafu.admin.ch
- ▶ Department of Territory and Environment of the Republic and Canton of Geneva
 - www.ge.ch/organisation/office-cantonal-eau-oceau
- ▶ City of Geneva
 - www.ville-geneve.ch/welcome-geneva

Programme

The programme of the Meeting is on the Council of Europe website of the European Landscape Convention at the following address: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/24th or www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention or www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/home (under "Meetings"/"Workshops")

Organisers

Council of Europe – Directorate of Democratic Participation, European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe

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Forum of national selections – Opening Session

Welcome speeches

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Representative of the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe

Mr Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Scientific collaborator, Biodiversity and Landscape Division, Landscape Policy Section, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland, Vice-Chair of the Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention

Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary, Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention

Mr Jacques Stein, President of the Sites section of the Royal Commission on Monuments, Sites and Excavations of Wallonia, Belgium, Chair of the Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Introduction

The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe and the 6th Session of the Landscape Award

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Head of the Landscape, Environment and Major Hazards Division, Council of Europe

Workshop 1

Landscapes planned: Strong forward-looking actions, to enhance, restore or create landscapes

Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire *Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland*

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Biodiversity and Landscape Division, Landscape Policy Section, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

Representative of the Project

Mr Gilles Mulhauser, Director General, Department of the Territory, Cantonal Office for Water, Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland

Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park *City of Kotka, Finland*

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Tapio Heikkilä, Senior Environmental Advisor, Department of the Natural Environment, Ministry of the Environment, Finland

Representative of the Project

Mr Markku Hannonen, Director of Urban Planning, City of Kotka, Finland

Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen through the development of a large river promenade *City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt, Policy Officer for Landscapes, Urban Planning and Landscapes, Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition, France

With the participation of Mrs Karine Mangin, Director of education and student life, National Higher Landscape School, Versailles-Marseille, France

Representatives of the Project

Mr Djoudé Merabet, Vice-President in charge of urban planning of the Rouen Normandy Metropolis, France

Mr Bertrand Masson, Director of planning and major projects of Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France

Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol *Limassol Municipality, Cyprus*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Irene Hadjisavva, Planning Officer, Department of Town Planning and Housing, Ministry of the Interior, Cyprus

Representative of the Project

Mr Nicos Nicolaides, Mayor of Limassol Municipality, Cyprus

Recreation of Lake Karla *Region of Thessaly, Greece*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Efi Stefani, Director of the Department of Spatial Planning, Ministry of Environment and Energy, Greece

With the participation of Mr Anestis Gourgiotis, Professor of Spatial Planning, University of Thessaly, Greece

Representative of the Project

Mr Konstantinos Agorastos, Governor of the Region of Thessaly, Greece

Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter

Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár, Hungary

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

Representative of the Project

Mr Szilveszter Zoltán Dancs, Former Mayor of the Local Government of Zalaszentmárton, Hungary

Workshop 2

Landscapes protected: Actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape

Chairs

Mr Julien Transy, Site Inspector, Policy Officer for Landscapes, Regional Directorate for the Environment, Development and Housing of Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition and Ministry of the Cohesion of Territories, France, Representative of Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention (CDCPP) in the Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Mr Thierry Mathieu, Representative of the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee of the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe in the framework of the Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival

Kocēni Municipality, Latvia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Dace Granta, Senior Expert, Spatial Planning Policy Division, Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia

Representative of the Project

Mrs Evija Nagle, Vice Chairman of the Kocēni Municipality, Latvia

Lista, a unique landscape and partnership

Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Liv Kirstine Just Mortensen, Senior Advisor, Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation, Department of Planning, Norway

Representatives of the Project

Mrs Britt-Mari Langerud, Representative of the Farsund Municipality, Norway

Mrs Torill Folkestad, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway

The spatial plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci

Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Biljana Filipović Đušić, Deputy Minister, Sector for International Co-operation and European Integration, Ministry for Environmental Protection, Serbia

Representatives of the Project

Mr Predrag Knežević, Director of the Urban and Spatial Planning, Institute of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Serbia

Mrs Nevena Vasiljević, Professor at University of Belgrade, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Serbia

Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary

Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková, Senior Officer, Nature and Landscape Protection Department, Ministry of the Environment, Slovak Republic

Representative of the Project

Mr Martin Macharik, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic

Meadow orchards and landscape

Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Jelena Hladnik, National National Head for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Slovenia

Representatives of the Project

Mrs Milenca Krajnc, Mayor of Kozje, Slovenia

Mrs Mojca Kunst, Director of the Public Institution Kozjanski Park, Slovenia

Mrs Vesna Zakonjšek, Landscape Architect of the Public Institution Kozjanski Park, Slovenia

The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention

Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute of the Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Carmen Caro Jaureguialz, Senior Officer, National Co-ordinator of the National Plans of Cultural Heritage, Institute of Cultural Heritage of Spain, Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport, Spain

Representative of the Project

Mr Lorenzo Pérez del Campo, Director of the Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute, Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain

The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardon Mill, Northumberland

Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Sarah Tunnicliffe, National Rural and Environmental Advisor, Historic England, United Kingdom

Representative of the Project

Mr Tony Gates, Chief Executive, National Park Officer, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom

Workshop 3

Landscapes managed: Strong actions, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes

Chairs

Mr Valerio Di Battista, Emeritus Professor at the Milan Polytechnic, Architect, Co-ordinator of the Piedmont Landscape Observatory Network, President of the Monferrato Casalese Landscape Observatory, Italy, Member of the Jury of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary, Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention

Community activities day, "Let's do it!" *Estonian Fund for Nature (NGO), Estonia*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Merit Otsus, Advisor, Senior Officer, Nature Conservation Department, Ministry of the Environment, Estonia

Representative of the Project

Mr Tarmo Tüür, Member of Executive Board of the Estonian Fund for Nature, Estonia

Between land and water, "Another way of owning" *Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Isabella Fera, Senior Official, Landscape Management Service, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Italy

With the participation of Arch. Mrs Maria Maddalena Alessandro, Former Senior Official and National Head of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, Italy

Representative of the Project

Mr Carlo Ragazzi, President of the Consorzio Uomini di Massenzatica, Italy

Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued *[Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium](#)*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Sarah De Meyer, Policy Officer, Flemish Heritage Agency, Belgium

Representatives of the Project

Mr Philippe De Backer, Director of Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Mrs Kathleen De Clercq, Project Co-ordinator, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic *[4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia](#)*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Viki Jakaša Borić, Senior Officer, Ministry of Culture, Croatia

With the participation of Mrs Biserka Dumbović-Bilušić, Head of Conservation Department in Rijeka, Ministry of Culture, Croatia

Representative of the Project

Mrs Julia Bakota, President of 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Mr Grga Frangeš, Ethnologist, Member of 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Landscape Futures *[University of Copenhagen, Denmark](#)*

Representatives of the Ministry

Mrs Lisbet Ølgaard, Head of the Division of Landscape and Forestry, Ministry of the Environment and Food, Denmark

Mrs Anette Ginsbak, Architect, Agency for Nature, Ministry of the Environment and Food, Denmark

Representative of the Project

Mr Jørgen Primdahl, Professor, Landscape Futures, Department of Geosciences and Natural Resource Management, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development *[Martvili Municipality, Georgia](#)*

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Valerian Mchedlidze, Chairman of the Agency of Protected Areas, Georgia

Representatives of the Project

Mr Aleksandre Grivalava, Mayor of the Martvili Municipality, Georgia

Mrs Tamar Khakhishvili, Head of International Relations and Project Management Department, Agency of Protected Areas of Georgia, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Agriculture of Georgia

Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai City *[Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania](#)*

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Mindaugas Žolynas, Chief Officer of Division of Protected Areas and Landscape, Nature Protection and Forestry Department, Ministry of the Environment, Lithuania

Representative of the Project

Mr Rimantas Žebrauskas, Deputy Director of Administration, acting Director of the Administration of Telšiai District Municipality, Lithuania

Another landscape for Vianden *[Community for Planning and Management of the Nature Park Our, Luxembourg](#)*

Representatives of the Ministry

Mr Claude Turmes, Minister of Spatial Planning, Luxembourg

Mrs Juliette Mathieu, Head of the Division of National Affairs, Department of Spatial Planning, Ministry of Energy and Spatial Planning, Luxembourg

Representative of the Project

Mr Emile Eicher, President of the Community for Planning and Management of the Nature Park Our, Luxembourg

Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture *[Regional Government of Azores, Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal](#)*

Representative of the Ministry

Mrs Marta Rodrigues, Senior Officer, Spatial Planning Service, Directorate General for Territory, Ministry of the Environment and Energy Transition, Portugal

Representative of the Project

Mr Hernâni Hélio Jorge, Regional Director of the Environment, Regional Government of Azores, Portugal

Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas
*Department of Landscape Architecture,
Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University, Turkey*

Representative of the Ministry

Mr Yusuf Kandazođlu, Senior Officer, Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, Directorate of Nature Conservation and National Parks, Turkey

Representative of the Project

Mr Osman Uzun, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Düzce University, Turkey

Closing Session

Closing speeches

Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Senior Governmental Councillor, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary, Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Head of the Landscape, Environment and Major Hazards Division, Council of Europe

Mr Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Scientific collaborator, Biodiversity and Landscape Division, Landscape Policy Section, Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland, Vice-Chair of the Conference of the Council of Europe on the European Landscape Convention

Celebration of the 6th Session of the Landscape Award Study visit of the River Aire

Welcome speeches

Mr Gilles Mulhauser, Director General, Territory Department, Cantonal Water Office, Geneva

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Representative of the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe

Ceremony of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Welcome by the Republic and Canton of Geneva and the Swiss Confederation

Official dinner

Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire, Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland, and the following partners:

Switzerland: Municipalities: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux and Onex; Environmental Associations: Association for the Protection of the Aire and its tributaries (transfrontier); ProNatura Geneva, World Wide Fund for Nature-Geneva; Association of inhabitants: "Living in Lully"; Farmers' associations: AgriGenève; Union Vegetable Market of Geneva; Office: "Superposition" Group;

France: Communauté de communes (federation of municipalities) of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, in a spirit of transfrontier co-operation, in accordance with Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention.

With the participation of:

Republic and Canton of Geneva, Switzerland: Mr Gilles Mulhauser, Director General, Department of the Territory, Cantonal Office of Water, Switzerland

Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland: Mrs Franziska Schwarz, Deputy Director of the Federal Office for the Environment, Switzerland

and the following partners:

Community of Communes of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie: Mr Pierre-Jean Crastes, Vice-President of the Bureau of the Metropolitan Centre of the Community of Communes of Genevois, France

Bernex: Mrs Guylaine Antille, Mayor of Bernex, Switzerland

Confignon: Mrs Elisabeth Gabus-Thorens, Mayor of Confignon, Switzerland

Perly-Certoux: Mr Fernand Savigny, Mayor Perly-Certoux, Switzerland

Onex: Mrs Mariam Yunus Ebener, Mayor of Onex, Switzerland

Mentions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Community activities day, "Let's do it!"; Estonian Fund for Nature, Estonia

Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park, City of Kotka, Finland

Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen through the development of a large river promenade, City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy, France

Between land and water, "Another way of owning", Consortium, Men of Massenzatica, Italy

Acknowledgments of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Wortel and Merksplas Colonies: a cultural landscape revalued, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgium

Dragodid: preserving the dry stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic, 4 Grada Dragodid Association, Croatia

Multifunctional seaside park in Limassol, Limassol Municipality, Cyprus

Landscape Futures, University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development, Martvili Municipality, Georgia

Recreation of Lake Karla, Region of Thessaly, Greece

Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter, Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár, Hungary

The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival, Kocēni Municipality, Latvia

Formation and consolidation of the natural urbanised territory of Telšiai City, Administration of Telšiai Municipality, Lithuania

Another landscape for Vianden, Union for the Development and Management of the Our Nature Park, Luxembourg

Lista, a unique landscape and partnership, Municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council, Norway

Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture, Regional Government of Azores, Regional Directorate of the Environment, Portugal

The spatial plan for a special-purpose area: the cultural landscape of Sremski Karlovci, Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina, Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection, Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia

Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary, Calvary Fund Civic Association, Slovak Republic

Meadow orchards and landscape, Municipality of Kozje, Slovenia

The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention, Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute of the Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia, Spain

Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas, Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University, Turkey

The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardonia Mill, Northumberland, Northumberland National Park Authority, United Kingdom

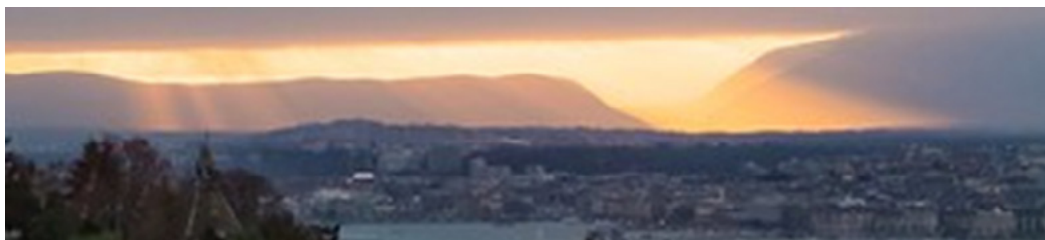


Photo: Geneva at sunset. © a. otge, Flickr

Projet de programme

Version française

La 24^e Réunion du Conseil de l'Europe des Ateliers pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage «Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe – 6^e Session 2018-2019» organisé par le Conseil de l'Europe – Secrétariat de la Convention européenne du paysage, Direction de la participation, était planifiée afin de se tenir à Genève, Suisse, les 21-22 octobre 2020 comme indiqué ci-après, dans le cadre du Programme de travail de la Convention. En raison de l'évolution de la pandémie, la Réunion n'a pas pu se tenir en présentiel et a été reportée.

Introduction

Organisation internationale intergouvernementale créée en 1949 et dont le siège est à Strasbourg (France), le Conseil de l'Europe comprend 47 États membres : Albanie, Allemagne, Andorre, Arménie, Azerbaïdjan, Autriche, Belgique, Bosnie-Herzégovine, Bulgarie, Chypre, Croatie, Danemark, Espagne, Estonie, Fédération de Russie, Finlande, France, Géorgie, Grèce, Hongrie, Irlande, Islande, Italie, Lettonie, Liechtenstein, Lituanie, Luxembourg, Macédoine du Nord, Malte, République de Moldova, Monaco, Monténégro, Pays-Bas, Norvège, Pologne, Portugal, République slovaque, République tchèque, Roumanie, Royaume-Uni, Saint-Marin, Serbie, Slovénie, Suède, Suisse, Turquie et Ukraine. Ses principaux objectifs sont de promouvoir la démocratie, les droits de l'homme et la prééminence du droit, ainsi que de rechercher des solutions communes aux grands problèmes de société de l'Europe.

La Convention européenne du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe a pour objet de promouvoir la protection, la gestion et l'aménagement des paysages et de favoriser la coopération internationale. Elle s'applique à tout le territoire des Parties et porte sur les espaces naturels, ruraux, urbains et périurbains. Elle concerne de la même façon les paysages pouvant être considérés comme remarquables, que les paysages du quotidien et les paysages dégradés. La Convention représente le premier traité international exclusivement consacré à l'ensemble des dimensions du paysage, considéré dans une perspective de développement durable. A ce jour, 40 États l'ont ratifiée : Andorre, Arménie, Azerbaïdjan, Belgique, Bosnie-Herzégovine, Bulgarie, Croatie, Chypre, République tchèque, Danemark, Estonie, Finlande, France, Géorgie, Grèce, Hongrie, Irlande, Islande, Italie, Lettonie, Lituanie, Luxembourg, Macédoine du Nord, République de Moldova, Monténégro, Norvège, Pays-Bas, Pologne, Portugal, Roumanie, Saint-Marin, Serbie, République slovaque, Slovénie, Espagne, Suède, Suisse, Turquie, Ukraine et le Royaume-Uni. Un État l'a également signée : Malte. La Convention européenne du paysage a été adoptée par le Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe à Strasbourg le 19 juillet 2000 et ouverte à la signature des États membres de l'Organisation à Florence (Italie) le 20 octobre 2000. L'ouverture de la Convention aux États non européens, à la suite de l'entrée en vigueur de son protocole d'amendement, constituera une occasion de réaffirmer le caractère universel de la dimension paysagère des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie.

Organisées périodiquement par le Conseil de l'Europe, les Réunions des Ateliers pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage ont pour objectif de présenter de nouveaux concepts et réalisations en faveur de la mise en œuvre de la Convention. Elles représentent ainsi un véritable forum d'échange de pratiques et d'idées. Les expériences réalisées par l'État qui accueille la réunion sont spécialement présentées.

Les Réunions des Ateliers du Conseil de l'Europe pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage suivantes, ont été organisées :

- ▶ 23-24 mai 2002, Strasbourg (France) : « Politiques du paysage: contribution au bien-être des citoyens européens et au développement durable (approches sociale, économique, culturelle et écologique); Identification, qualification du paysage et objectifs de qualité paysagère, en tirant parti des ressources culturelles et naturelles; Sensibilisation, éducation et formation; Instruments novateurs en vue de la protection, de la gestion et de l'aménagement du paysage »
- ▶ 27-28 novembre 2003, Strasbourg (France) : « L'intégration du paysage dans les politiques et programmes internationaux et les paysages transfrontaliers; Paysage et bien-être individuel et social; Paysage et aménagement du territoire »
- ▶ 16-17 juin 2005, Cork (Irlande) : « Des paysages pour les villes, les banlieues et les espaces périurbains »
- ▶ 11-12 mai 2006, Ljubljana (Slovénie) : « Paysage et société »
- ▶ 28-29 septembre 2006, Gironne (Espagne) : « Les objectifs de qualité paysagère: de la théorie à la pratique »
- ▶ 20-21 septembre 2007, Sibiu (Roumanie) : « Paysage et patrimoine rural »
- ▶ 24-25 avril 2008, Piastany (République slovaque) : « Le paysage dans les politiques de planification et la gouvernance: vers un aménagement intégré du territoire »
- ▶ 8-9 octobre 2009, Malmö (Suède) : « Paysage et forces déterminantes »
- ▶ 15-16 avril 2011, Cordoue (Espagne) : « Paysage et infrastructures pour la société »
- ▶ 20-21 octobre 2011, Evora (Portugal) : « Paysage multifonctionnel »
- ▶ 4-5 juin 2012, Carbonia, Sardaigne (Italie) : « Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe Sessions 1 (2008-2009) et 2 (2010-2011) »
- ▶ 2-3 octobre 2012, Thessalonique (Grèce) : « Vision pour l'Europe du futur sur la démocratie territoriale: le paysage comme nouvelle stratégie de l'aménagement du territoire. Une autre manière de voir le territoire en impliquant la société civile... »
- ▶ 2-3 octobre 2013, Cetinje (Monténégro) : « Les territoires du futur: identification et qualification des paysages, un exercice de démocratie »
- ▶ 11-12 juin 2014, Wrocław (Pologne) : « Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe Session 3 (2012-2013) »

- ▶ 1-2 octobre 2014, Urgup (Turquie) : « Paysages durables et économie: de l'inestimable valeur naturelle et humaine du paysage »
- ▶ 1-2 octobre 2015, Andorre (Andorre la Vieille) : « Paysage et coopération transfrontalière: le paysage ne connaît pas de frontière »
- ▶ 9-10 juin 2016, Budapest (Hongrie) : « Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe – Session 4 (2014-2015) »
- ▶ 5-6 octobre 2016, Erevan (Arménie) : « Les politiques nationales pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage: défis et opportunités »
- ▶ 5-6 septembre 2017, Brno (République tchèque) : « La mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage au niveau local: la démocratie locale »
- ▶ 20-21 juin 2018, Daugavpils (Lettonie) : « Forum des sélections nationales du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe – Session 5 (2016-2017) »
- ▶ 3-4 octobre 2018, Tropea (Italie) : « Paysage et éducation »
- ▶ 14-15 mars 2019, Séville (Espagne) : « Eau, paysage et citoyenneté face aux changements mondiaux »
- ▶ 19-20 octobre 2020, Lausanne (Suisse) : « L'intégration du paysage dans les politiques sectorielles » (non tenue en présentiel, en raison de l'évolution de la pandémie)

Les actes des Réunions sont publiés dans la Série du Conseil de l'Europe « Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage » et sont disponibles sur le site internet du Conseil de l'Europe de la Convention européenne du paysage :

www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/Ateliers ;
www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/publications

Objectifs

La Convention européenne du paysage prévoit l'attribution d'un Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe qui constitue une reconnaissance de la politique ou des mesures prises par des collectivités locales et régionales ou des organisations non gouvernementales en matière de protection, de gestion et d'aménagement durable de leurs paysages, faisant preuve d'une efficacité durable et pouvant ainsi servir d'exemple aux autres collectivités territoriales.

Le 20 février 2008, le Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe a adopté la Résolution CM/Rés(2008)3 sur le règlement relatif au Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe. Le Prix est décerné tous les deux ans par le Comité des Ministres, sur proposition des comités d'experts compétents chargés du suivi de la mise en œuvre de la Convention.

Les expériences de grande valeur réalisées au sein des États membres de l'Organisation à l'occasion de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe – 2018-2019 – seront présentées lors de la Réunion. Elles montrent qu'il est possible de promouvoir la dimension territoriale des droits de l'homme et de la démocratie en améliorant les caractéristiques paysagères du cadre de vie des populations.

Le Prix du paysage, les Mentions spéciales et les Reconnaissances seront remis à cette occasion.

Sites internet

- ▶ Convention européenne du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe
 - www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape
 - www.coe.int/en/web/landscape
- ▶ Office fédéral de l'environnement de la Suisse (OFEV)
 - www.bafu.admin.ch
- ▶ Département du territoire et de l'environnement du Canton de Genève
 - www.ge.ch/organisation/office-cantonal-eau-ocean
- ▶ Ville de Genève
 - www.ville-geneve.ch

Programme

Le programme de la Réunion se trouve sur le site internet de la Convention européenne du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe, à l'adresse: www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/24th ou www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/home (sous « Réunions » / « Ateliers »).

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Forum des sélections nationales – Session d'ouverture

Discours de bienvenue

M^{me} Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Représentante du Secrétariat Général du Conseil de l'Europe

M. Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Collaborateur scientifique, Division Biodiversité et paysage, Section Politique du paysage, Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse, Vice-Président de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du paysage

M^{me} Krisztina Kincses, Conseillère gouvernementale principale au Ministère de l'agriculture, Hongrie, Présidente de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du paysage

M. Jacques Stein, Président de la section des Sites de la Commission Royale des monuments, sites et fouilles de la Wallonie, Belgique, Président du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

Introduction

L'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe et de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage

M^{me} Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Secrétaire exécutive de la Convention européenne du paysage, Chef de la Division paysage, environnement et risques majeurs, Conseil de l'Europe

Atelier 1

Des paysages aménagés : Des actions présentant un caractère prospectif visant la mise en valeur, la restauration ou la création de paysages

Présidents

M. Jacques Stein, Président de la section des Sites de la Commission Royale des monuments, sites et fouilles de la Wallonie, Belgique, Président du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

M. Andreas Stalder, Expert permanent de la Commission fédérale pour la protection de la nature et du paysage de la Suisse, Membre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

La renaturation du cours d'eau de l'Aire *République et Canton de Genève, Suisse*

Représentant du Ministère

M. Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Collaborateur scientifique, Division Biodiversité et paysage, Section Politique du paysage, Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse

Représentant du Projet

M. Gilles Mulhauser, Directeur, Office cantonal de l'eau, Département du territoire, République et Canton de Genève, Suisse

Création du Parc urbain national de Kotka *Ville de Kotka, Finlande*

Représentant du Ministère

M. Tapio Heikkilä, Conseiller principal de l'environnement, Département de l'environnement naturel, Ministère de l'environnement, Finlande

Représentant du Projet

M. Markku Hannonen, Directeur de l'urbanisme, Ville de Kotka, Finlande

Reconquête des quais de la Seine à Rouen par l'aménagement d'une grande promenade fluviale

Ville de Rouen et métropole de Rouen, Normandie, France

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Emilie Fleury-Jägerschmidt, Chargée de mission paysage, Bureau des paysages et de la publicité, Sous-direction de la qualité du cadre de vie, Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire, France

Avec la participation de M^{me} Karine Mangin, Directrice de l'enseignement et de la vie étudiante, École nationale supérieure de paysage Versailles-Marseille, France

Représentants du Projet

M. Djoudé Merabet, Vice-Président en charge de l'urbanisme de la Métropole Rouen Normandie, France

M. Bertrand Masson, Directeur de l'aménagement et des grands projets de Métropole Rouen Normandie, France

Parc de bord de mer multifonctionnel à Limassol

Municipalité de Limassol, Chypre

Représentantes du Ministère

M^{me} Athena Aristotelous-Cleridou, Directrice, Département de l'urbanisme et du logement, Ministère de l'intérieur, Chypre

M^{me} Irene Hadjisavva, responsable de la planification, Département de l'urbanisme et du logement, Ministère de l'intérieur, Chypre

Représentant du Projet

M. Nicos Nicolaidis, Maire de la Municipalité de Limassol, Chypre

Recréation du lac Karla

Région de Thessalie, Grèce

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Efi Stefani, Directrice du Département de l'aménagement du territoire, Ministère de l'environnement et de l'énergie, Grèce

Avec la participation de M. Anestis Gourgiotis, Professeur d'aménagement du territoire à l'Université de Thessalie, Grèce

Représentant du Projet

M. Konstantinos Agorastos, Gouverneur de la Région of Thessalie, Grèce

Initiative de revitalisation du paysage dans l'esprit de la Charte du paysage de Pogányvár

Gouvernements locaux de : Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalaszabar, Zalavár, Hongrie

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Krisztina Kincses, Conseillère gouvernementale principale au ministère de l'Agriculture, Hongrie

Représentant du Projet

M. Szilveszter Zoltán Dancs, Ancien Maire du Gouvernement local de Zalaszentmárton, Hongrie

Atelier 2

Des paysages protégés : Des actions de conservation et de maintien des aspects significatifs ou caractéristiques d'un paysage

Présidents

M. Julien Transy, Inspecteur des sites, Chargé de mission paysage Charente-Maritime Sud, Direction régionale de l'environnement, de l'aménagement et du logement de la Nouvelle-Aquitaine, Ministère de la transition écologique et solidaire et Ministère de la cohésion des territoires, France, Représentant de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage (CDCPP) dans le cadre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

M. Thierry Mathieu, Représentant de la Commission démocratie, cohésion sociale, enjeux mondiaux de la Conférence des organisations internationales non gouvernementales du Conseil de l'Europe dans le cadre du Jury de la 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

L'origine des traditions culturelles lettones : Dikļi, le lieu de naissance du festival de la chanson lettone

Municipalité de Kocēni, Lettonie

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Dace Granta, Expert Principal, Division des politiques de l'aménagement du territoire, Département de l'aménagement du territoire, Ministère de la protection de l'environnement et du développement régional, Lettonie

Représentante du Projet

M^{me} Evija Nagle, Vice-Présidente de la municipalité de Kocēni, Lettonie

Lista, un paysage et un partenariat uniques

Municipalité de Farsund, proposée par le Conseil du Comté de Vest-Agder, Norvège

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Liv Kirstine Just Mortensen, Conseillère principale, Ministère du gouvernement local et de la modernisation, Norvège

Représentantes du Projet

M^{me} Britt-Mari Langerud, Représentante de la municipalité de Farsund, Norvège

M^{me} Torill Folkestad, Conseil du Comté de Vest-Agder, Norvège

Le plan d'aménagement du territoire à vocation spécifique : le paysage culturel de Sremski Karlovci

Institut de planification urbaine et spatiale de Voïvodine, Secrétaire provincial à la planification urbaine et à la protection de l'environnement, gouvernement de la Province autonome de Voïvodine, Serbie

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Biljana Filipović Đušić, Vice-ministre, Secteur de la coopération internationale et de l'intégration européenne, Ministère de la protection de l'environnement, Serbie

Représentants du Projet

M. Predrag Knežević, Directeur de l'urbanisme et de l'aménagement du territoire, Institut de la Province autonome de Vojvodina, Secrétaire provincial à l'urbanisme et à la protection de l'environnement, Serbie

M^{me} Nevena Vasiljevic, Professeur à l'Université de Belgrade, Faculté de foresterie, Département d'architecture de paysage, Serbie

Sauvegarde et restauration du paysage baroque du Calvaire Banská Štiavnica

Association civique du Fonds pour le calvaire, République slovaque

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Zlatica Csontos Šimoňáková, Haut fonctionnaire, Département de protection de la nature et du paysage, Ministère de l'environnement, République

Représentant du Projet

M. Martin Macharik, Association civique du Fonds pour le calvaire, République slovaque

Prés-vergers et paysage

Municipalité de Kozje, Slovénie

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Jelena Hladnik, Directrice nationale pour la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage,

Ministère de l'environnement et de l'aménagement du territoire, Slovénie

Représentantes du Projet

M^{me} Milenca Krajnc, Maire de Kozje, Slovénie

M^{me} Mojca Kunst, Directrice de l'Institution publique du Parc Kozjanski, Slovénie

M^{me} Vesna Zakonjšek, Architecte paysagiste, Institution publique du Parc Kozjanski, Slovénie

Le paysage de l'anse de Bolonia : recherche, planification et intervention

Institut du patrimoine historique andalou du département de la culture du Gouvernement local de l'Andalousie, Espagne

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Carmen Caro Jaureguialz, Haut fonctionnaire, Coordinatrice nationale des plans nationaux du patrimoine culturel, Institut du patrimoine historique, Ministre de l'éducation, de la culture et du sport, Espagne

Représentant du Projet

M. Lorenzo Pérez del Campo, Directeur de l'Institut Andalous du patrimoine historique, Département de la culture du Gouvernement local de l'Andalousie, Espagne

Le Sill : Centre national de découverte du paysage, Bardonia Mill, Northumberland

Administration du Parc national de Northumberland, Royaume-Uni

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Sarah Tunnicliffe, Conseillère nationale rurale et environnementale, Angleterre historique (Historic England), Royaume-Uni

Représentant du Projet

M. Tony Gates, Directeur général, Responsable du Parc national, Autorité nationale du Parc national de Northumberland, Royaume-Uni

Atelier 3

Des paysages gérés : Des actions visant, dans une perspective de développement durable, à entretenir le paysage afin de guider et d'harmoniser les transformations

Présidents

M. Valerio Di Battista, Professeur émérite à l'École polytechnique de Milan, Architecte, Coordinateur du Réseau d'observatoires paysagers du Piémont, Président de l'Observatoire du paysage du Monferrato Casalese, Italie, Membre du Jury de la 6e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

M^{me} Krisztina Kincses, Conseillère gouvernementale principale au Ministère de l'agriculture, Hongrie, Présidente de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du paysage

Journée d'activités communautaires, « Faisons-le ! » *Fonds estonien pour la nature (ONG), Estonie*

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Merit Otsus, Conseillère, Haut fonctionnaire, Département de la conservation de la nature, Ministère de l'environnement, Estonie

Représentant du Projet

M. Tarmo Tüür, Membre du Conseil exécutif du Fonds estonien pour la nature, Estonie

Entre terre et eau, « Une autre manière de posséder » *Consortium « Les hommes de Massenzatica », Italie*

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Isabella Fera, Haut fonctionnaire, Service de la gestion du paysage, Ministère des biens et des activités culturelles, Italie

Avec la participation de M^{me} Arch. Maria Maddalena Alessandro, Haut fonctionnaire honoraire, et Responsable nationale de la mise en œuvre de la Convention européenne du paysage, Ministère des biens et des activités culturelles, Italie

Représentant du Projet

M. Carlo Ragazzi, Président du Consortium « Les hommes de Massenzatica », Italie

Les colonies de Wortel et de Merksplas: un paysage culturel revalorisé *Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgique*

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Sarah De Meyer, Haut fonctionnaire, Agence flamande du patrimoine, Belgique

Représentants du Projet

M. Philippe De Backer, Directeur de Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgique

M^{me} Kathleen de Clercq, Coordinatrice du projet, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgique

Dragodid: préserver les techniques de maçonnerie en pierre sèche de l'Adriatique orientale *Association 4 Grada Dragodid, Croatie*

Représentante du Ministère

M^{me} Viki Jakaša Borić, Haut fonctionnaire, Ministère de la culture, Croatie

Avec la participation de M^{me} Biserka Dumbović-Bilušić, Chef du Département de la conservation à Rijeka, Ministère de la culture, Croatie

Représentante du Projet

M^{me} Julia Bakota, Présidente de l'Association 4 Grada Dragodid, Croatie

M. Grga Frangeš, Ethnologue, Membre de l'Association 4 Grada Dragodid, Croatie

Les paysages du futur *Université de Copenhague, Danemark*

Représentantes du Ministère

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M^{me} Anette Ginsbak, Architecte, Agence pour la nature, Ministère de l'environnement et de l'alimentation, Danemark

Représentant du Projet

M. Jørgen Primdahl, Professeur, Paysages du futur, Département de géosciences et la gestion des ressources naturelles, Université de Copenhague, Danemark

Développement durable du Canyon de Martvili *Municipalité de Martvili, Géorgie*

Représentant du Ministère

M. Valerian Mchedlidze, Président de l'Agence des aires protégées, Géorgie

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M^{me} Tamar Khakhishvili, Chef du Département des relations internationales et de la gestion de projets, Agence des aires protégées de Géorgie, Ministère de la protection de l'environnement et de l'agriculture de Géorgie

Formation et consolidation du territoire naturel urbanisé de la ville de Telšiai *Administration de la municipalité de district de Telšiai, Lituanie*

Représentant du Ministère

M. Mindaugas Žolynas, Directeur de la Division des aires protégées et du paysage, Département de la protection de la nature et des forêts, Ministère de l'environnement, Lituanie

Représentant du Projet

M. Rimantas Žebrauskas, Directeur adjoint de l'administration, Directeur de l'Administration de la municipalité de district de Telšiai, Lituanie

Un autre paysage pour Vianden *Communauté de planification et de gestion du Parc naturel de l'Our, Luxembourg*

Représentants du ministère

M. Claude Turmes, Ministre de l'aménagement du territoire, Luxembourg

M^{me} Juliette Mathieu, Chef de la Division des affaires nationales, Département de l'aménagement du territoire, Ministère de l'énergie et de l'aménagement du territoire, Luxembourg

Représentant du projet

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Paysage de la culture du vignoble de l'île de Pico *Gouvernement régional des Açores, Direction régionale de l'environnement, Portugal*

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M^{me} Marta Rodrigues, Responsable du Service de l'aménagement du territoire, Direction générale du territoire, Ministère de l'environnement et de la transition énergétique, Portugal

Représentant du Projet

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Session de clôture

Discours de clôture

M^{me} Krisztina Kincses, Conseillère gouvernementale principale au Ministère de l'agriculture, Hongrie, Présidente de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du paysage

M^{me} Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Secrétaire exécutive de la Convention européenne du paysage, Chef de la Division paysage, environnement et risques majeurs, Conseil de l'Europe

M. Gilles Rudaz, Dr ses, Collaborateur scientifique, Division Biodiversité et paysage, Section Politique du paysage, Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse, Vice-Président de la Conférence du Conseil de l'Europe sur la Convention européenne du paysage

Célébration de la 6^e Session du Prix du Paysage Visite d'étude du paysage de la rivière Aire

Mots de bienvenue

M. Gilles Mulhauser, Directeur général, Département du territoire, Office cantonal de l'eau, Genève

M^{me} Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Secrétaire exécutive de la Convention européenne du paysage, Représentante du Secrétariat Général du Conseil de l'Europe

Cérémonie de l'Alliance du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe 6^e Session du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

Accueil de la République et Canton de Genève, et Confédération suisse

Dîner officiel

La renaturation du cours d'eau de l'Aire, République et Canton de Genève, Suisse, et les partenaires suivants :

Suisse : Communes : Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux et Onex ; Associations environnementales : Association pour la protection de l'Aire et de ses affluents (transfrontalière) ; ProNatura Genève, Fonds mondial pour la nature-Genève ; Association d'habitants : « Vivre à Lully » (AVAL) ; Association d'agriculteurs : AgriGenève ; Union maraîchère de Genève ; Bureau : Groupement « Superpositions » ;

France : Communauté de communes du Genevois : Archamps, Haute-Savoie, dans un esprit de coopération transfrontalière conforme à l'article 9 de la Convention européenne du paysage.

Avec la participation de :

République et Canton de Genève, Suisse : M. Gilles Mulhauser, Directeur, Office cantonal de l'eau, Département du territoire, Suisse

Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse : M^{me} Franziska Schwarz, Vice-directrice de l'Office fédéral de l'environnement, Suisse

et les partenaires suivants :

Communauté de communes du Genevois : M. Pierre-Jean Crastes, Vice-Président du Bureau du Pôle métropolitain de la Communauté de communes du Genevois, France

Bernex : M^{me} Guylaine Antille, Maire de Bernex, Suisse

Confignon : M^{me} Elisabeth Gabus-Thorens, Maire de Confignon, Suisse

Perly-Certoux : M. Fernand Savigny, Maire de Perly-Certoux, Suisse

Onex : M^{me} Mariam Yunus Ebener, Maire de Onex, Suisse

Mentions du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

Journée d'activités communautaires, «Faisons-le !», Fonds estonien pour la nature, Estonie

Création du Parc urbain national de Kotka, Ville de Kotka, Finlande

Reconquête des quais de la Seine à Rouen par l'aménagement d'une grande promenade fluviale, Ville de Rouen et métropole de Rouen, Normandie, France

Entre terre et eau, «Une autre manière de posséder», Consortium «Les hommes de Massenzatica», Italie

Reconnaitances du Prix du paysage du Conseil de l'Europe

Les colonies de Wortel et de Merksplas: un paysage culturel revalorisé, Vzw Kempens Landschap, Belgique

Dragodid: préserver les techniques de maçonnerie en pierre sèche de l'Adriatique orientale, Association 4 Grada Dragodid, Croatie

Parc de bord de mer multifonctionnel à Limassol, Municipalité de Limassol, Chypre

Les paysages du futur, Université de Copenhague, Danemark

Développement durable du Canyon de Martvili, Municipalité de Martvili, Géorgie

Recréation du Lac Karla, Région de Thessalie, Grèce

Initiative de revitalisation du paysage dans l'esprit de la Charte du paysage de Pogányvár, Gouvernements locaux de: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracs, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár, Hongrie

L'origine des traditions culturelles lettones: Dikļi, le lieu de naissance du festival de la chanson lettone, Municipalité de Kocēni, Lettonie

Formation et consolidation du territoire naturel urbanisé de la ville de Telšiai, Administration de la municipalité de district de Telšiai, Lituanie

Un autre paysage pour Vianden, Communauté de planification et de gestion du Parc national de l'Our, Luxembourg

Lista, un paysage et un partenariat uniques, Municipalité de Farsund, Conseil du Comté de Vest-Agder, Norvège

Paysage de la culture du vignoble de l'île de Pico, Gouvernement régional des Açores, Direction régionale de l'environnement, Portugal

Le plan d'aménagement du territoire à vocation spécifique: le paysage culturel de Sremski Karlovci, Institut de planification urbaine et spatiale de Voïvodine, Secrétaire provincial à la planification urbaine et à la protection de l'environnement, gouvernement de la Province autonome de Voïvodine, Serbie

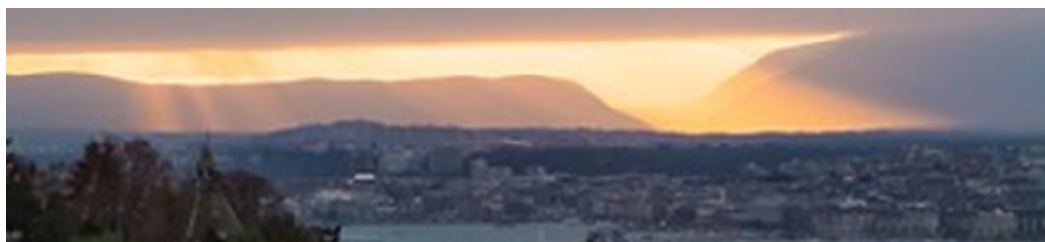
Sauvegarde et restauration du paysage baroque du Calvaire Banská Štiavnica, Association civique du Fonds pour le calvaire, République slovaque

Prés-vergers et paysage, Municipalité de Kozje, Slovénie

Le paysage de l'anse de Bolonia: recherche, planification et intervention, Institut du patrimoine historique andalou du département de la culture du Gouvernement local de l'Andalousie, Espagne

Atlas de paysages du bassin Yeşilirmak, Département d'architecture paysagère, Faculté de sylviculture, Université de Duzce, Turquie

Le Sill: Centre national de découverte du paysage, Bardon Mill, Northumberland, Administration du Parc national de Northumberland, Royaume-Uni



Genève d'or. © a. otge, Flickr

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Liste des participants
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Adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000 in Strasbourg and opened for signature by the member States in Florence on 20 October of the same year, the European Landscape Convention aims to promote landscape protection, management and planning, and to organise international co-operation on these issues. Its signatory States declare their desire to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment. Landscape is recognised as an essential component of people's surroundings, an expression of the diversity of their shared cultural and natural heritage, and a foundation of their identity. The Convention concerns outstanding landscapes as well as everyday or degraded territories.

www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention

Adoptée par le Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe à Strasbourg le 19 juillet 2000 et ouverte à la signature des Etats membres à Florence le 20 octobre de la même année, la Convention européenne du paysage a pour objet de promouvoir la protection, la gestion et l'aménagement des paysages, et d'organiser la coopération internationale dans ce domaine. Ses Etats signataires se déclarent soucieux de parvenir à un développement durable fondé sur un équilibre harmonieux entre les besoins sociaux, l'économie et l'environnement. Le paysage est reconnu comme composante essentielle du cadre de vie des populations, expression de la diversité de leur patrimoine commun culturel et naturel, et fondement de leur identité. La Convention concerne tant les paysages remarquables que les paysages du quotidien et les territoires dégradés.

www.coe.int/Conventioneuropennedupaysage



www.coe.int

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

Le Conseil de l'Europe est la principale organisation de défense des droits de l'homme du continent. Il comprend 47 États membres, dont l'ensemble des membres de l'Union européenne. Tous les États membres du Conseil de l'Europe ont signé la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme, un traité visant à protéger les droits de l'homme, la démocratie et l'État de droit. La Cour européenne des droits de l'homme contrôle la mise en œuvre de la Convention dans les États membres.