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EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

10th COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONFERENCE ON

THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

Experiences: Taking landscapes into consideration in rural territories

I. The Landscape Observatory of Tuscany

II. The “Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes”

Council of Europe
Palais de l’Europe, Strasbourg
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Summary

The European Landscape Convention states:

“the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere: in urban areas and in the countryside, in degraded areas as well as in areas of high quality, in areas recognised as being of outstanding beauty as well as everyday areas”; (Preamble)

“…this Convention applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, rural, urban and peri-urban areas. It includes land, inland water and marine areas. It concerns landscapes that might be considered outstanding as well as everyday or degraded landscapes”. (Article 2 – Scope)

“Each Party undertakes: to integrate landscape into its regional and town planning policies and in its cultural, environmental, agricultural, social and economic policies, as well as in any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.” (Article 5 - “General measures)

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Two experiences in favour of landscapes in rural territories are presented for information:

I. The Landscape Observatory of Tuscany, 

II. The “Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes”.

The Conference is invited to:

– consider experiences in favour of landscapes in rural areas, presented for information:

- the Landscape Observatory of Tuscany for the rural territory, by Mr Mauro Agnoletti, President of the Landscape Observatory of Tuscany for the rural territory (Italy);

- the “Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes”, presented by Mr Carmine Nardone, Former President of the Province of Benevento (Campania Region, Italy), President of Futuridea, in collaboration with Mr Felice Spingola, Sociologist, Landscape Economist, Centro Studi Pan, Calabria, Italy. The Manifesto was adopted in 2018 by the Scientific Committee for Rural Landscape Studies: the Rural Landscape Laboratory Futuridea, in collaboration with the Campania Region, the National Research Council (ISAFOM) and the University from Sannio, presented by Mrs Rossella Del Prete, Mr Antonio Leone and Mr Carmine Nardone. The Manifesto was signed by the five municipalities that make up Sannio Falanghina City of Wine 2019.

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I. The Landscape Observatory of the Regional Government of Tuscany

Mr Mauro AGNOLETTI, President of the Landscape Observatory of the Regional Government of Tuscany; Scientific Co-ordinator of the National Observatory of Rural Landscape, Ministry of Agricultural, Food and Forestry Policies (Ministero delle Politiche Agricole, Alimentari e Forestali - MiPAAF) of Italy

Landscape in the Italian agricultural policy

The European Landscape Convention has been implemented by the Ministry of Agriculture Food and Forestry Policies since 2007, when landscape was indicated as an objective of the National Strategic Plan for Rural Development (NSPRD). This was the first time that landscape has been considered a strategic resource for rural development (MIPAAF 2007-2013). A working group has been established with the task to develop a state of the knowledge report, promote new regulations, as well as strategies and actions for the regional rural development plans (RDP). These plans define the rural development strategies for each Italian region, they also subsidise farmers willing to achieve the objectives defined by the RDP using the funds of the European Union Common Agricultural Policy (CAP).

The state of the knowledge report produced for the NSPRD highlighted that existing conservation tools were not appropriate for rural landscape. The features of rural landscape depend on farming and forestry, therefore, restrictions based on limitation of use, or nature protection, are not useful to reduce degradation processes due to abandonment and industrialisation, but only those due to urban sprawl. For this reasons the working group as a first thing developed a report on the state of the landscape and a document with strategies and actions to preserve and valorise it in the national strategies (Agnoletti ed. 2005-06). The NSPRD defined the rural landscape as the “result of the integration among economic, social and environmental factors in time and space”, stressing the dynamic nature of the landscape and the need for active policies for its conservation and valorization, not only restrictions.

Landscape and the competitiveness of the rural economy

In the NPRD, landscape quality has been considered as an added value that cannot be replicated by a competitor, especially when associated to local products and tourism, for the development of rural economy. In this view the rural areas are no longer considered simply as a place for food production, but as complex systems where different activities contribute to development and where the concept of quality applies to the entire landscape.

The food industry is the most important sector of the Italian rural economy, its success is increasingly based on the quality and not on quantity, or the low price of food. In this respect the traditional practices used in agriculture and forestry are not only more sustainable in environmental terms, but also of fundamental importance for the quality of the food and the uniqueness of the landscape. Italy has the highest number of food labelling (574) compared to other countries, ensuring a close relationships between food quality and the place where food is produced. Local food is increasingly appreciated by citizens and tourists travelling to Italy. The 511 million tourist arrivals in 2014 (54.3% Italians, 45.7% foreigners) generated 75 billion euros of expenditure, but the food alone makes up 24% of the reasons of arrivals and 16% of the expenditure of tourists (CREA 2015). Travelling for food, landscape beauty, or culture, affects many other economic sectors contributing to the development of the entire territory, especially when staying in private homes and agritourism. In 2014...
the average revenue for each agritourism businesses was about 56,000 €, an increase of 33% compared to 2013. In this context forests and silvopastoral landscapes contribute to the attractiveness of the landscape, as well as to food quality (e.g. mushrooms and berries), and for offering grazing grounds for high quality milk products, meat and cheeses. Cheese, rather than wine, represents the most important typical product sought by tourists travelling for food in Italy: there are 400 different types of cheese produced in the whole territory. Rural tourism has become the third most important element, among non-food products, in the rural economy.

The introduction of landscape in the NPRD proposes a new concept of quality integrating the quality of the food with the quality of the landscape. In other words, the same food produced with different agricultural practices in different environmental conditions, generates a different quality of the food, valorising the uniqueness of the local landscape and associated culture, and contributing to new market value for the territory and the food. According to these perspectives, the NSPRD of 2007-13 aimed at promoting a landscape approach for the competiveness, the quality of the environment, the quality of life and the diversification of the rural economy.

**Landscape and environmental quality**

The diversity of vegetal and animal species of the Italian rural territory, combined with cultural factors, explain the reasons for developing an approach based on landscape rather than on only ecological or natural values. The biocultural nature of Italian landscapes implies a central role played by farmers, not only for the biodiversity associated to the rural landscapes, but also to control hydrogeological risk and maintain low input agriculture. This is particularly important on mountain and hilly regions where industrialisation cannot occur and the alternative is abandonment, and reduced food production contributing to an increase in the ecological footprint due to the import of food. Considering the hunger challenge facing the world, low intensity agriculture is probably one of the most effective solutions to keep together food and environmental quality in many parts of the world.

Usually biodiversity conservation is related to species ($\alpha$ diversity), while $\beta$ and $\gamma$ diversity associated to geographic diversity are rarely considered. Nevertheless, this is the level of utmost importance for the rural landscape and it is mostly managed by farmers. Traditional practices are the most suited to protect the genetic diversity associated to the traditional varieties of domesticated species, compared to those developed for industrial production. Among many examples, the numerous historic varieties of wheat, once cultivated in different parts of Italy, are less productive in terms of yield per ha., but are better suited to the features of the local environmental, especially soils richer in nutrients. More generally, biodiversity targets must take into account the different features of the territory in different parts of the world and the different role that these territories can play in this context. Replicating an ideal trophic chain typical of an untouched natural environment in territories densely populated and shaped by cultural factors will often create problems rather than solving them. This is also why the UNESCO-CBD biocultural diversity declaration of 2014 suggested a landscape-based approach adapting biodiversity targets to regional conditions that take care of human influence. In this perspective, forests can play a crucial part supporting environmental and food quality. This can also be considered an important achievement of the Italian landscape policies in rural development, since the declaration on biocultural diversity was supported by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture and the regional government of Tuscany.
Regarding hydrogeological risk, in Italy about 500,000 landslides occur every year, many of them even in forested areas. Surveys made in the terraced areas of Cinque Terre, after a catastrophic rain event in 2011, showed that 85% of big slides occurred on abandoned drystone terraces covered by secondary growth vegetation. These events are expected to happen more frequently in Italy, due to climate change, and require adaptation strategies. The results of the survey suggest that unmanaged vegetation is not always the best solution to reduce hydrogeological risk, especially in areas where man is needed to stabilise fragile environments. This is one of the most important reasons for the need of agricultural policies to support farmers, considering the multiple roles they play in environmental protection. The variety of land arrangements, forest management and production practices developed according to local environmental conditions, in the various regions, maintains a variety of landscapes providing important lessons for adaptation and mitigation strategies to fight climate change. The conservation of these systems, rarely formalised in scientific research, is one of the goals of landscape planning and international programmes such as the Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System (GIAHS) of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Heritage List of UNESCO.

The Italian NSPRD 2007-13 can probably be considered one of the most important attempts to introduce landscape in the agricultural policy of a member country of the European Union, as the current term of the CAP 2014-2020 has not proposed relevant innovation in this respect. Contact in recent years to explore the possibility of a landscape directive, together with the existing habitat directive, between the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe and the Directorate general on agriculture of the European Commission have not been successful. However, landscape preservation is indicated among the objectives of the new Common Agriculture Policy (CAP) 2014-20, especially in the first pillar. The development of local infrastructure and local basic services in rural areas, including leisure and culture services, the renewal of villages and activities aimed at the restoration and upgrading of the cultural and natural heritage of villages and rural landscapes, is an essential element of any effort to realise the growth potential and to promote the sustainability of rural areas. This topic is also indicated in the “ecological focus areas”. The ecological focus areas consist of areas directly affecting biodiversity, such as land lying fallow, landscape features, terraces, buffer strips, afforested areas and agro-forestry areas, or indirectly affecting biodiversity. This reference to biodiversity in the CAP also explains why a UNESCO-CBD declaration on biocultural diversity associated to the European rural landscape was promoted by the Italian Ministry of Agriculture in 2014, with the attempt to clarify what kind of biodiversity should be associated to rural areas.

The introduction of landscape in rural development policies can be considered a fundamental step in the attempt to move forward from strategies basically devoted to preserving landscape by limiting economic activities that will potentially degrade it, to strategies considering landscape as a resource for the development of rural economy.

**The National Observatory of Rural Landscape**

After the introduction of landscape strategies in the NSPRD, the MIPAAF has established a landscape Observatory of rural landscape (D.M. n.17070). The observatory has the tasks of monitoring landscape changes; developing a collaboration between landscape planning and rural development; defining landscape quality objectives; developing international collaboration and managing the National Register of Historical Rural Landscapes and Traditional Agricultural Practices (Agnoletti 2012). The
establishment of the observatory occurred after a decree of the President of the Republic allowing the Ministry of Agriculture to develop landscape policies in the framework of rural development (D.P.R. no. 41). This is an important step in recognising the economic nature of the rural landscape and its contribution to rural development. The establishment of the observatory at the Ministry of Agriculture also allowed a collaboration with the Observatory of Landscape Quality established by the Ministry of Culture, and opening the ground for a collaboration taking care of a topic typically not taken into consideration by traditional conservation tools.

The National Register was developed after the results of a research project which identified 120 potential forest and agricultural historical sites across Italy. So far, five landscapes have been officially designated in the register. A memorandum of understanding has been signed between FAO and Italy concerning the National Register and the FAO agricultural heritage programme (GIAHS) which includes more than 55 agricultural landscapes in the world. The National Register promotes an alternative to the system of parks and protected areas, mostly based on nature conservation, focusing on the dynamic conservation of agricultural landscapes representing examples of sustainable forms of agriculture and forestry.

Thanks to the collaboration established with the Observatory, in 2014 the National Statistical Agency introduced the quality of rural landscapes in the national indicators of well-being of the population, including also the conservation of historical landscapes among the indicators. This has been a major step in recognising the role that rural landscape plays for the quality of life of the population, also meeting the growing concern for the current degradation processes. According to the need to maintain the diversity of the landscape mosaics and reduce the effects of abandonment, a modification of the landscape protection system was also introduced in 2012, allowing the restoration of previously cultivated areas, even if reforested after abandonment, and also the restoration of forests having specific cultural features. The landscape observatory of the Ministry of Agriculture has also developed a formal collaboration with the landscape observatory of Tuscany.

**The Landscape Plan of Tuscany**

The Landscape Plan of Tuscany is an act required by the National Code for Cultural Heritage. The Code allows the Italian Regions to develop the landscape plans independently from the ordinary territorial plans defined by urban planning, or to integrate them in one single plan. In the case of Tuscany, the regional Council decided to integrate two planning levels in one single act, the law no. 65 of 2015 “Norms for the Government of the Territory” (Giunta Regionale Toscana 2014). The law aims to achieve sustainable development by controlling the transformations induced by economic activities, fostering the maintenance, reuse, restoration and the creation of new landscapes. In the law the landscape capital has been considered a common good, recognising equal rights to the citizens in terms of use and fruition, respecting their needs for a better quality of life for the present and future generations. In the plan, the landscape capital is defined as the whole set of structures resulting from the long-term coevolution between nature and human society, and an important value for the future generations.

An active conservation of landscape resources, together with the protection of the cultural and natural heritage of the region, represents the general view of the plan. In this respect, the plan has taken into account the idea of incorporating landscape into the development model, trying to reduce the global trends that reduce cultural and economic diversity, focusing on the quality of landscape resources and
refusing the notion of “territory” as an anonymous platform with no identity where any development can occur without regulation. More generally, the plan proposes itself as a centralised and comprehensive tool for the government of the territory.

The four structural invariants

According to the national indications and to the three approaches – aesthetic, ecological and structural – the plan adopted as a central reference of its structure the following four so-called “invariants”, values considered as fundamentally associated with Tuscany, and that cannot be degraded. They were also considered to be rules informing the planning process and regulating the transformation of the territory. The invariants represent the regional level of the plan, while the landscape units represent the local level:

I. The hydrogeomorphological features of morphogenetic systems and river basins.
   This invariant represents the fundamental physical structure on which the different identities of the Tuscan landscape developed.

II. The ecosystemic features of the landscape.
   This invariant represents the biotic structure supporting the animal and vegetal species, made of complex mosaics in the agricultural and forest matrix and the associated biodiversity. In this invariant forests and woodlands are described.

III. The polycentric and reticular features of urban, infrastructural and settlement systems.
   This is the prevailing structure of settlements inherited from Etruscan times (7th century B.C.) and maintained until today. It comprises a scattering of small towns, only partly affected by urbanisation processes that usually occur around big cities.

IV. The characters of the rural landscapes.
   This invariant concerns the detailed features of the land use mosaic and agricultural cultivations affecting the quality and the biodiversity of the rural territory. The description includes the relationship with settlements and the architectural features of rural buildings.

The detailed state of the knowledge developed for each invariant is described in a specific syllabus, one for each invariant. The syllabus describes the methodologies applied, the features of the invariant, the different typologies, as well as the features of each type. The description of each type addresses values, criticalities and indicates specific landscape objectives. The syllabus is supported by a set of maps, such as the geomorphological maps, at 1:250,000 and 1:50,000 scale, the maps of the ecological network and maps of the settlements types and rural types.

The four invariants are reflected in all the 20 landscape units in which the territory of Tuscany has been divided, according to the National code of Cultural Heritage. The logic of the plan requires that every unit must be capable of incorporating all the most important elements of the territory included in the area delimited by the unit. In the attempt to improve the efficacy of the planning process the administrative limits of the municipalities have been taken into account in the definition of the boundaries of each unit. For each unit, a specific chapter has been produced containing the descriptions of the values and the criticalities, for each invariant, as well as the landscape quality objectives and the rules for the management of the territory. Each chapter also contains a set of
diachronic land use maps, starting from the cadaster of 1823, as well as geological maps. All the maps supporting the plan are created by the office of the Territorial Information System, which is in charge of updating the information through the use of geographic information systems. The office has a public web interface and every citizen or institutions can download the material produced by the plan. The rural territory is described in the invariant no. IV, but also in the invariant II, which is entirely dedicated to forest areas. The plan also incorporates the national law allowing the restoration of abandoned farmed land covered with forests, although, as in the national law, the regional offices of the Ministry of Culture do not always allow the transformation agreed in the construction of the plan.

**Other documents**

The regional level of the plan also proposes the map of the “Historical Rural Landscapes of Tuscany”. This approach takes into consideration the national register of historic rural landscape developed by the Ministry of Agriculture. The document intends to highlight the origins of the Tuscan landscape, in order to increase the knowledge of the territory, favouring the restoration and the protection of important historical features. The Plan has incorporated the modifications to the national forest law 227/2001, allowing the restoration of previous land uses as well as forests having historical features and the identification of historical rural landscapes. The regional level of the plan also contains an exploration of the iconographic sources of the Tuscan landscape, as well as an assessment of the visibility and perceptive features of the Tuscan landscape.

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II. The Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes

Presented by Mr Carmine NARDONE, Former President of the Province of Benevento (Campania, Italy), President of Futuridea, in collaboration with Mr Felice SPINGOLA, Sociologist, Landscape Economist, Centro Studi Pan, Calabria, Italy

The Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes was adopted in 2018 by the Scientific Committee for Rural Landscape Studies: the Rural Landscape Laboratory Futuridea, in collaboration with the Campania Region, the National Research Council (ISAFOM) and the University from Sannio, presented by Mrs Rossella DEL PRETE, Mr Antonio LEONE and Mr Carmine NARDONE.

On 12 April 2019, the Manifesto was signed by the five municipalities that make up Sannio Falanghina City of Wine 2019 (Appendix: Letter of the Mr Floriano PANZA, Mayor of the City, Gardia Sanframondi).
The Manifesto for the beauty of rural landscapes

1. Intelligent bio-planning of rural areas, able to protect historical identities and distinctiveness of rural areas.
2. Renewable energy on a corporate scale as an alternative to agricultural land consumption for solar farms and wind farms.
3. Priority given to the re-use of abandoned rural buildings according to innovation and eco-friendly criteria.
4. Maximisation of the historical biodiversity of the farming frame of the rural mosaic (borders, thematic areas, etc.).
5. Creation and planning of an eco-friendly path (bioarchitecture) for new buildings resulting from the new multi-functionality of rural areas.
6. A regional satellite monitoring service to fight all types of illegal activity.
7. Promotion of the beauty of the rural landscape (art and rural landscapes, taking into account lighting and rural regeneration, natural mitigation of rural infrastructures, etc.).
8. Creation of a “Regional Nature Card”.
9. Promotion of a regional observatory of the rural landscape (both interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary).
10. Taking of a regional census of rural cultural heritage and a creation of a specific catalogue for abandoned agricultural and industrial sites and creation of a documentary and visual archive throughout the rural territory, already commenced in the Cilento Area and Vallo di Diano National Park and in the areas of the seven Regional Parks.
The rural landscape is an extraordinary key element to Italy and Campania in particular.

The singularity and beauty of the landscape heritage constitute a resource rich in potential for eco-sustainable development, provided that the destructive phenomena of historical cultural identities are remedied and a new culture of the rural landscape can be proposed that is original.

The aim is to concretely stop the phenomenon that transforms “places” into “non-places” without an identity.

Campania offers a unique heritage of landscapes of multicultural richness, built over the centuries by men (A. Di Gennaro 2017) searching for new ideas oriented to beauty and a more powerful and positive involvement.

The theme of the rural landscape expresses itself in a growing complexity (multi-functionality, sustainability, territorial dualisms, new technologies): to make a sustainable evolution-oriented approach, we need to overcome both merely nostalgic contents or conservative visions and aggregate ideological ideas of the total abduction of nature from the human footprint.

The “non-place” is, according to Augé “…a world promised to solitary individuality, to the passage, to the temporary and to the ephemeral…” [Augé, 2015]. Therefore “…if the anthropological place creates an organic social bond, the ‘non-places’ creates a solitary one” [Augé, 2015].

So a new and responsive orientation is necessary, in order to make a possible increase to the peculiarities of a place (or historical identity) through the creativity and uniqueness of innovative practices.

This practice itself can become an instrument of diversity and beauty, and the basis of a new identity cycle.

“… the ‘non-places’ represent the era, they give a quantifiable element obtained by a certain conversion between surface elements, volume and distance – air routes, railways, motorways and mobile cabinets called ‘means of transport’ (aeroplanes, trains, cars), airports, railway stations, large hotel chains, leisure facilities, large commercial spaces and, finally, the complex entanglement of wired or wireless networks that mobilise extraterrestrial spaces for the purpose of communication so special that it often puts the individual in contact with another image of himself” [Augé, 2015].

So a new, conscious orientation is necessary.

It is possible to increase the specificity of places (or historical identities) through the creativity and uniqueness of innovations, becoming instruments of diversity and beauty, and the basis of a new identity cycle.

Once we have separated the “places” from the “non-places” we need to explain what the rural landscape is.

The definition of rural landscape is complex and we need to take into account several components. The natural components (water, soil, climate, plants and animals biodiversity, etc.), the cultural
components (painting, photography, cinema, music, poetry, etc.), the human activity components represented by the actions taken on the rural territory (cultivation systems, rural architecture, etc.) and the components given by the “perception” of the observer.

After making this brief introduction, the question that emerges is how to identify “places” from “non-places” in the rural landscape.

A consideration by Gilles Clément, reported in the book Manifesto of the Third Landscape, could be helpful: “If we stop looking at the landscape as the object of a human activity immediately, we will discover (not considering the cartographer, negligence of the political?) a variety of undefined spaces, without a use, so that it is difficult to put a name on.

“This ensemble belongs neither to the territory of the shadow nor to that of the light. It is located at the edge. Where the woods fray, along the roads and rivers, in the non-farming crops, where no car can pass through. It covers surfaces of modest dimensions, dispersed, such as the lost corners of a field; vast and unitary, such as peat bogs, moors and certain abandoned areas.

“Among these fragments of landscape, there is no connection but there is only one point in common: all of these fragments create a safe territory for diversity” [Clément, 2005]. Biological diversity contributes to the elevation of the territory from the impasse of anonymity, by giving an identity and a “place” to it. So everywhere that biodiversity resists – for example cultivated fields bordered by hedges or tree-lined rows – can be considered a “place” of the rural landscape.

Alongside the concept of biodiversity, understood as an identifying factor of the “places” of the rural landscape, there are other concepts with the same identifying characteristics, such as the idea of sustainable agriculture and the concept of smart bio-territory, alongside the existence of rural architectural artifacts linked to the tradition of places that fit into a context made of history and social relations, and that therefore belongs to the idea of “place”. (Del Prete, 2017).

Sustainable agriculture, “like life, is not always totally sustainable, but we can improve it everyday” (Conti, 1997).

We must give the concept of “greater sustainability” a double meaning: one of a greater availability of farming land and the one of a longer possibility of farming the same land without diminishing the productivity of any of the production factors, such as labour, capital, energy and land” [Nardone, 1997].

Bio-territory or Bio-regions are defined as “a model of sustainable management of the natural resources of a territory by local communities” (World Resources Institute, World Conservation Union, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), UNESCO, United Nations, 1992).

The management of a “bio-territory” requires an innovation that can be summarised in its “smart management” policy. The adjective “smart” for the improvement of a “bioterritory” was first mentioned by C. Nardone (2006) [Matassino, 2015].

The analysis of the natural components of the landscape (relief, soil, geo-lithology, climate) is increasingly considered an essential condition for intelligent spatial planning, based on the balance
between agronomic validity and landscape quality, sustainable development and improvement of urban areas and rural areas of the Campania region.

A large number of recent surveys, (Leone et al., 2014; Leone et al., 2016 a and b) highlight the importance of this analysis in the enhancement of valuable agricultural areas of the region.

The defence of biodiversity, the adoption of sustainable agriculture, the creation of smart bio-territory, leads to the identification of “places” in the rural landscape. On the other hand the “non-places” of the same landscape can be considered the denial of the previously cited concepts.

The Italian rural landscape is a richly articulated landscape, composed of areas with their own peculiarities, both geographical and typical, made of traditions and rural architectures that together give a great value of territory, by giving it the distinctive character of a “place”.

The character of “non-place”, on the other hand, can be associated, more generally, with bad use and an indiscriminate exploitation of the resources of which a territory is provided.

Starting from the places and non-places, we reach the identification of the history of the territories to determine an evolution of the social and economic contexts at regional level.

The multi-functionality, expressed in the concrete organisational and settlement forms in rural areas, will produce both a negative and positive effect on the landscape quality.

Will it become the tool for a new industrial model of urbanisation or will it be oriented, according to new sustainable rural building regulations, towards an eco-friendly feature connected to the rural landscape? (Fichera, 2007).

The objective is to make the eco-friendly path adequate to this new multi-functionality.

“... multi-functionality of agriculture is a primary sector, able not only to produce goods, but also as a sector capable of providing services to the environment: conservation of biodiversity and landscape, hydro-geological security, services to the population, culture and traditions”.

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*Source: The beauty of the rural landscape: sustainability and good practice for valorisation of rural infrastructures – Smart Rurality, Idea, Originality, Creativity, by Rossella Del Prete, Antonio Leone and Carmine Nardone*

*Extract of the publication*
OGGETTO: Manifesto per la bellezza dei paesaggi rurali.

Gent.mo Presidente,

è con piacere che, allegato alla presente, trasmetto copia del Manifesto per la bellezza dei paesaggi rurali sottoscritto dai Sindaci di Guardia Sanframondi, Castelvenere, Sant’Agata de’ Goti, Solopaca e Torrecuso.

Ci auguriamo che la nostra adesione, nella qualità di “Sannio Falanghina. Città Europea del Vino 2019”, possa rappresentare un utile tassello per la costruzione del grande progetto da Voi promosso.

L’occasione è gradita per pregere i più cordiali saluti.

IL SINDACO
Dr. Floriano Panza