



MINISTRY
OF ENVIRONMENT
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Education and implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Slovakia

21st MEETING OF THE WORKSHOPS FOR THE
IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

“Landscape and education”
Tropea, Italy 2018

European Landscape Convention in Slovakia



The European Landscape Convention became effective in Slovakia on 1 December 2005.

It was implemented according to the implementation concept approved by the Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic.



Implementation comprises:

- Institutional support
- Promotion and education
- Cooperation
- Professional support



Institutional support

- Principles of the European Landscape Convention are implemented in the draft legislation of all sectors (land-use planning, protection of monuments and sites, EIA - environmental impact assessment);
- Transformation of landscape preservation into the Act on Nature and Landscape Protection;
- Integration of ELC into strategic, conceptual and program documents at all levels, national land use plan guidelines (Concept of the territorial development of Slovakia - prerequisite for preserving the characteristic landscape features);
- Integration of ELC goals into the Concept of Nature and Landscape Preservation, Biodiversity Action Plan by 2020 and into existing and forthcoming methodical;
- Guidelines for the preparation of landscape documents;
- Methodology for the development of territorial systems of ecological stability in the context of integration of ELC objectives. These documents refer to the green infrastructure;
- Support of the development and implementation of landscape concepts for landscape protection, management and planning.



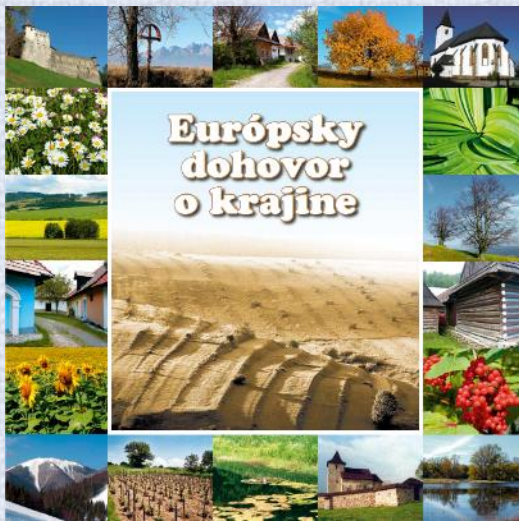
Promotion and education

- In Slovakia we have universities which have learning programmes focused on landscape planning, spatial planning, landscape architecture and so on.
- For example:
 - Slovak agricultural university in Nitra
 - Technical university in Zvolen
 - Technical university in Bratislava
 - University of Prešov



Promotion and education

- Information campaign, education of expert public and local government, working with public, lectures and presentations at seminars and conferences;
- Promotion materials - informing and increasing awareness of expert and non-expert public about the landscape value;
- Publication (brochure) "European Landscape Convention in the Slovak Republic" 2005;
- Publication (brochure) "European Landscape Convention in the Slovak Republic" 2017;
- Publication (brochure) "Guide to landscape values Horehronie“;
- Landscape award travelling exhibition;
- Documentary film "National Landscape Award for the Landscape in Slovakia" about the previous award ceremonies.



Promotion and education

- Promotion materials - informing and increasing awareness of expert and non-expert public about the landscape value;
- Posters concerning ELC - presenting Slovakia through the pictures.



Cooperation

within UNISCAPE

- Technical University in Zvolen, Faculty of Ecology and Environmental Sciences
- Focuses on the landscape issues at the level of research and education



within CIVILSCAPE

- EKOPOLIS foundation
- Member since 2009
- It supports and carries out the ideas of the European Landscape Convention through its grant programmes and projects



Cooperation

- Co-operation with experts in integrating landscape protection: land-use planning, monument and site protection, nature conservation with historians and tourism organisations;
- Networking;
- Exchange of experience and methodologies on identification of landscape values;
- **Information Day event on the European Landscape Convention** organised in co-operation with Slovak Environment Agency and Scientific Library of the Technical University of Zvolen – **This year 10th Information Day event took place.**



Information Day event on the European Landscape Convention

Cooperation

- This year 22nd **Conference LANDSCAPE, MAN AND CULTURE**, held annually since 2006, took place and it focuses on implementation of ELC.



Cooperation

- The conference is popular among experts, students and the non-expert public. The first day of the conference is dedicated to expert lectures and on the second day expert educational visits of the grounds take place.



Professional support

1. Landscape typology

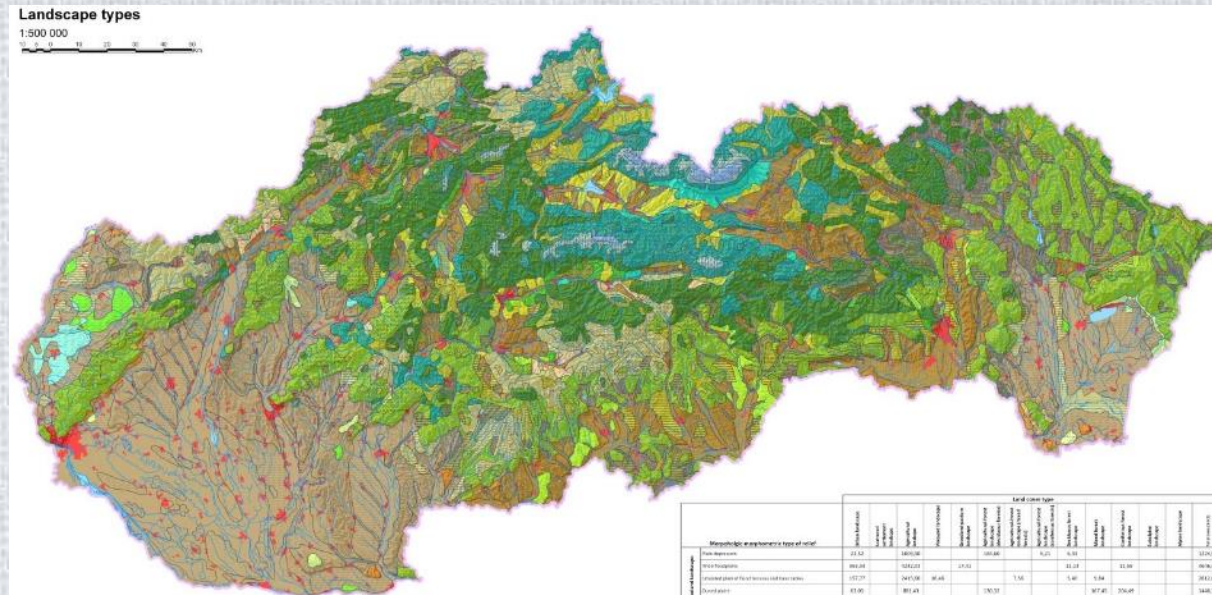
- Each party to the Convention undertook to determine their own landscape types in the whole territory and under this obligation "**Methodical guideline for development of landscape typology in Slovakia**" was prepared;
- Aim of landscape typology is to identify interdependencies between natural, cultural and historical values and social and economic conditions, and to improve the preservation of various landscape types in Slovakia;
- Specification of landscape types and particulars of individual regions will promote effective landscape preservation, conservation, management and planning processes.



Professional support

Institute of Landscape Ecology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences has two projects.

- 1. Project **REPGES - representative geoecosystems of Slovakia**
 - Identified and evaluated representative types of Slovak landscape
 - Based on the morphological features of relief and prevailing land use



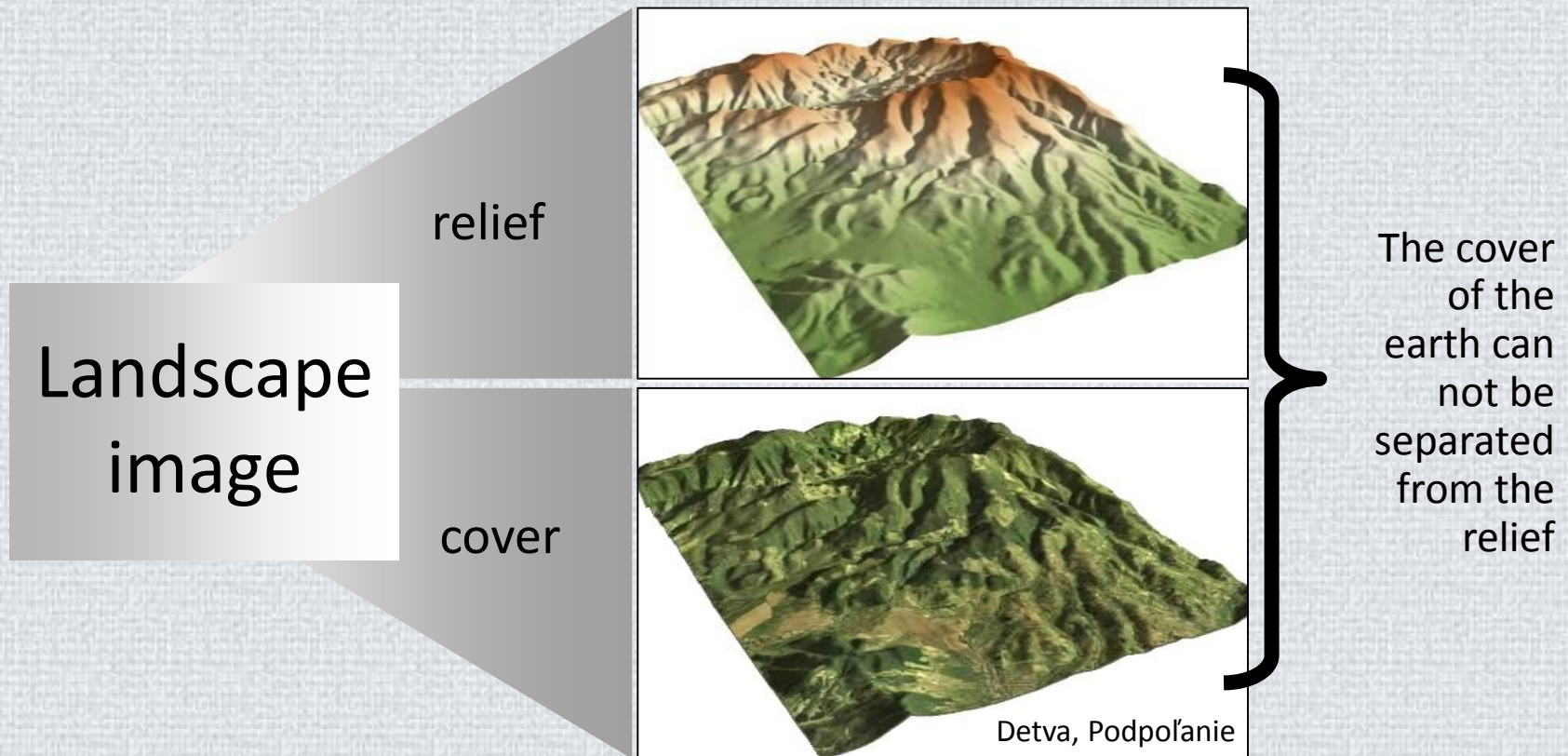
- 2. Project **“Research and Preservation of Biodiversity in the Historical Structures of Agricultural Slovak Landscape”**

Professional support

- Landscape Assessment Methodology
- Lack of uniform method - landscape assessment methodologies were developed and approved - methodological background for landscape assessment methods in Slovakia;
- Methodology for identification and evaluation of characteristic landscape features (2010);
- Methodology for assessment of visual impacts of wind power plants and wind farms on the landscape (2010);
- Glossary to be prepared;
- Methodology can be used to define:
 - actual landscape values, landscape image, to evaluate characteristic phenomena of landscape aspect, landscape features, particulars, landscape identity, risk of decline of significant landscape components;
 - Evaluate the development project in the territory and the project of locating structures in the country (e. g. wind power plant, tourism facilities, industrial parks).

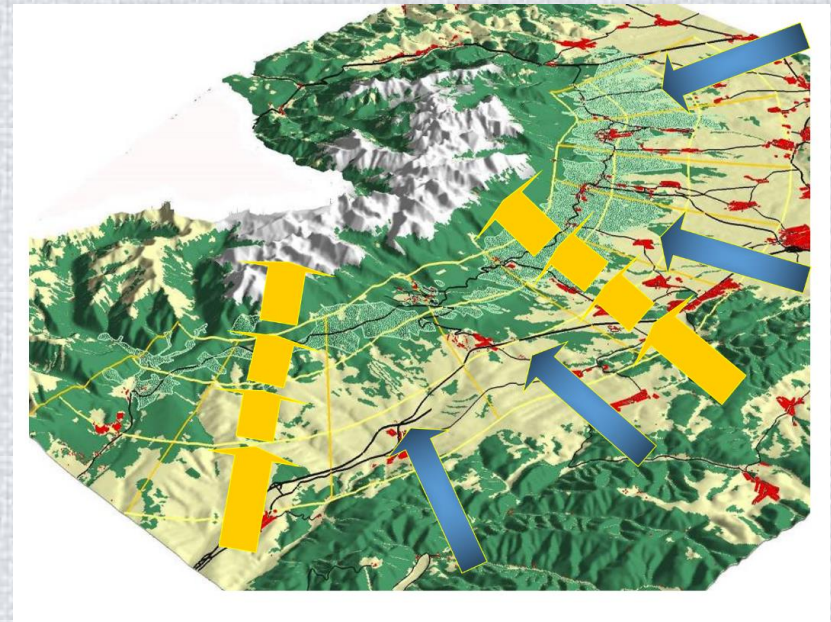
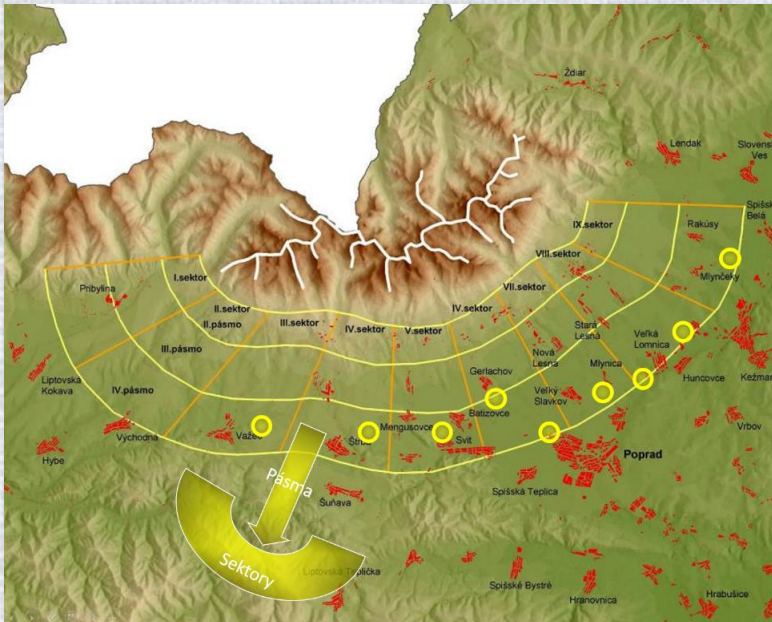
Methodology

- Methodological assessment of landscape
- Landscape - relationship between the relief and land cover
- 3D visualisation - application of GIS methods



Methodology

- Visual landscape character
- For example: Visual fields, sectors and zones of High Tatra Mountains



Methodology

- Studies - **REVIEW OF METHODOLOGY** - applied research
- Studies aimed at the historical landscape structures - agricultural and mountain
- Historical structures of agricultural landscapes (Hriňová)
- Historical structures of mountain landscapes (Nová Baňa, Ľubietová)
- Composite landscape - Spišský Jeruzalem
- Reassessment of protected areas from the point of view of landscape in cooperation with the State Nature Conservancy of the Slovak Republic White Carpathians Protected Landscape Area and Kysuce Protected Landscape Area
- Defining landscape values - undervalued, overlooked landscape values in relation to an integrated approach (comprehensive perception) to the values of natural and cultural heritage
- Preparation of materials and evaluations for the "European Heritage" label
- Mapping the significant landscape components
- Assessment of development projects with regard to the visual landscape features -pistes, wind power plants, telecommunications tower

Methodology

- Studies aimed at defining the landscape values - historical structures of agricultural landscapes - dispersed settlement,
- for example - Hriňová - historical structures of agricultural landscapes are the specific country phenomena representing the preserved land use technique



Methodology

- **Assessment of an impact of construction work on the landscape with regard to preserving landscape characteristics**
- **Casual assessment** - assessment of development project, i. e. impact of the planned construction work on the landscape where the location of construction work is known
- **Preventive assessment** - conceptual assessment concerning the selection of suitable locations for the construction works in the country
- **Important for:**
 - **Land use planning,**
 - **environmental impact assessment (EIA),**
 - **land re-parcelling,**
 - **protected areas conservation programmes,**
 - **development programmes,**
 - **Village restoration programme, etc.**

Thank you for your attention

