



EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION
LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

6th Session – 2018-2019

APPLICATION FORM

Presentation

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

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

Opened to the Parties to the Convention, the Award is intended to raise civil society's awareness of the value of landscapes, of their role and of changes to them. Its objective is to reward exemplary practical initiatives aimed at successful landscape quality objectives on the territories of the Parties to the Convention. The Award is conferred every two years and the files presenting applications must reach the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe.

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

*We would be very grateful if you could send no later than **30 January 2019** the following elements of the candidature file (20 pages maximum) established for your country on the basis of the proposals forwarded to you by the Ministries:*

- by E-mail, the Application form completed to: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int; susan.moller@coe.int;*
- by post, a copy of the Application form completed together with a CD-Rom, DVD or USB key, containing the all the additional material to: Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Council of Europe, Agora (A4-15V), F- 67075 STRASBOURG Cedex.*

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Please note that:

- participation to the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is only open to local and regional authorities and their groupings and non-governmental organisations, as stated in the Resolution CM/Res (2008)3, Appendix, Article 2;*
- the application form must be completed in all its parts, in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English or French);*
- the materials submitted must be copyright-free, for use by the Council of Europe in communications aimed at promoting the Award or any other publications or activities relating to the Convention. The Council of Europe undertakes to cite the authors' names;*
- files that are incomplete or fail to comply with the rules will not be taken into consideration.*

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

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I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

1. State

	Norway
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<i>E-mail:</i>	Liv.Kirstine.Mortensen@kmd.dep.no

2. Applicant

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

	The municipality of Farsund, proposed by Vest-Agder County Council
	The Farsund Municipality has been the initiator and political foundation for the work since 1976. They work together with a number of regional and local authorities, institutions, associations and volunteers.

Represented by

Address:

	Ms. Britt-Mari Langerud
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<i>Telephone:</i>	(+47) 992 66 676
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Represented by

Address:

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	Ms. Torill Folkestad
<i>Address:</i>	Vest-Agder County Council P.O. Box 517 Lund N-4605 Kristiansand
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<i>E-mail:</i>	tfo@vaf.no

II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

3. **Name of the Project** Lista a unique landscape and partnership
4. **Location of the Project** The coastal district of Southern Norway, Farsund Municipality
5. **Summary of the Project**

Farsund Municipality has from 1976 systematically worked to protect, manage, communicate and develop the unique natural and cultural values at Lista in cooperation with local volunteer groups, associations and regional authorities. At the same time, society has undergone extensive modernization and change in way of life.

Lista has one of the most abundant birdlife in Norway and numerous very rare plants. The different landforms, sand dunes, lakes, wetlands, grazing areas and forests provide suitable resting areas, 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 old methods. The municipality of Farsund has established a unique partnership that safeguards this.

Lista is a unique landscape - diverse and compact with a distinctive light. Through 40 years of targeted work, Lista has been taken care of as an attractive landscape for residents and visitors. Resulting in a great variety of experiences in this multifaceted natural and cultural landscape with rich biodiversity.

6. **Photo representing the Project**



Proud landmark the Lista Lighthouse Station. Photo by: Flyt Norge - Arild Nielsen

7. **Websites of the Projects**

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

III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

8. Start of the Project: 1976.

It was a political initiative from the municipality of Farsund in 1976 to work with the protection, management, planning and restoration of the Lista landscape in a holistic and sustainable way. This has led to a number of initiatives and projects to constantly improve the landscape at Lista. A number of projects have been completed since 1976, but the partners are constantly developing and implementing new ideas and projects. Such as the bike trail Vita Velo that will be completed in 2019 with high standard architectural facilitation like the «Norwegian Scenic Routes».

9. Partners

Farsund Municipality, Lista Farmers' Union, The Foundation of Listeskøyta, Lister Local Branch of NOF BirdLife Norway, Local primary and secondary schools, Lista Bird Observatory, Visitor Centre Wetland Lista, Lister Outdoor Council, The Coastal Park of Lister, Vest-Agder Museum - Lista, Vest-Agder County Council, The County Governor of Agder, Local volunteers

10. Financing bodies

Farsund Municipality, Vest-Agder County Council, The County Governor of Agder, Various private Foundations and Funds, National Grants earmarked various initiatives which local and regional authorities can apply for.

11. Central aims of the Project

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 cooperation with local volunteer groups, associations and regional authorities.

12. Outcome

«Lista strendene» (7 beach- and sand dunes areas) were permanently protected as a landscape protection area in 1987. Several important water and wetland areas were permanently protected in 1987-88 and constitute the Lista Wetland System included in RAMSAR. The lake Slevdalsvannet was protected in 2005 and an extensive nature restoration to repair the wetland system was carried out in 2014. The Coastal Trail with signage and dissemination of the nature-, cultural heritage and landscape values and the history of the areas was completed in 2015. The work with the Coastal Trail included restoration of stairs and wrought iron pullings/railings along old historical paths like 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. The house of the lighthouse keeper has since 1987 been a showroom for local, national and international art named «Kunstpunkt Lista». Lista Bird Observatory started in 1990 the observation of resting and migrating birds at Lista lighthouse. They invite children, students and others to participate in their activities.

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 functions 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 hectares of Vest-Lista agricultural area was designated as Selected Agricultural Landscapes in 2009. In 2018, the agreement was expanded to 1100 hectares in this voluntary protection for managing and maintaining the natural- and cultural treasures in the areas.

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

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

13. 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 realized that social and economic developments 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 large cultural historical time 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 the farmers, who from the national level were met with the expectation of modernization of agricultural operations. The Municipality recognized the need to create a common understanding of the values in the landscape and establish consensus on 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 creation based on the Lista landscape 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 open up for visitors and protect these valuable landscapes.

From the late 1980s, the shores, lakes and wetlands at Lista have been a protected landscape with associated plant and bird sanctuaries (nature reserves). Several parts of the Lista landscape also have RAMSAR status. West Lista agricultural area is part of «Selected Agricultural Landscapes», a national program run by the Directorate of Agriculture, and is 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 prioritized when conflicts of interests arise.

14. Exemplary value

The project is of exemplary value in the way Farsund Municipality has coordinated the various groups of actors in order to solve the conflicts of interest that started to emerge in the 1970s between modernization and conservation within agriculture, industrial development, housing, etc.

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

Through dialogue, solutions have been found to the challenges and user conflicts that have occurred. The different actors have seen the need to coordinate all the interests in the best possible way so that Lista can be further developed in an attractive way. Many stakeholders were involved and expressed their interests. Instead of prohibitions within the various management areas, positive adaptation strategies are made to divert traffic and activities.

Farsund Municipality has coordinated the 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 so that the many good ideas have been carried out to the benefit of society as a whole.

The extensive nature restoration of Slevdalsvannet is a particularly inspiring example how very damaged nature can be rewilded. A few years after the restoration was completed, several of the disappeared bird species have returned.

15. Public participation

A central part of the process has been to establish dialogue among different user groups in the 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. The first report that came out of the Municipality's initiative in 1976 laid the foundation for an overall strategy on the involvement and participation of all those concerned.

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

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

16. Awareness-raising

In all the projects carried out at Lista from 1976, the process itself has effectively 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 lake Slevdalsvannet, 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.

Farsund Municipality started the activities at Lista Lighthouse Station, Nordberg fort and Listeskøyta Coastal Cultural Center as voluntary dissemination work done by local enthusiasts. They are now developed into attractive visiting and communication centres in close cooperation with regional authorities and Vest-Agder Museum - Lista.

Information about the landscape at Lista and the protection values can be found in many places at Lista. The visiting 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 birds observation sheds. The majority of the projects contain various permanent modern communication measures to make the landscape values more visible. That is, measures such as outdoor information signs, audio guides available on mobile phones, guided tours, multimedia exhibitions etc. All information is also online.

A special focus area has been the awareness raising among children and young people. This includes various activities where children and young people can participate actively in bird watching and bird marking, archaeological excavations, ancient craft traditions, sailing the old boats, etc. Or they can simply go out and experience the landscape, the light and weather conditions at Lista through attending a walk or bike ride along the waymarked trails.

The guided tours organized by the Visitor Centre Wetland Lista are especially valuable as awareness raising, because the dedicated intermediaries here can direct the information specifically to the group they bring with them and their interests. These tours are a nice combination of active participation and knowledge dissemination. All the museums also use different physical activities as part of their dissemination when they guide different groups around.

V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

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

Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons
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Additional material included on one USB key:

- ✓ Text PDF format. NORWAY Presentation Lista: a unique landscape and partnership
- ✓ Photos in JPEG 350 dpi high definition:
 1. «Proud landmark the Lista Lighthouse Station»,
Photo: Flyt Norge - Arild Nielsen
 2. «Art in the landscape at Lista lighthouse»,
Photo: Inge Eikeland
 3. «Elongated beaches and high sky at Bausje»,
Photo: Tore Haus
 4. «Traces in the landscape, the Penne petroglyph field»,
Photo: Berit Hessel
 5. «Pebblestone coast at Lista lighthouse»,
Photo: Tore Haus
 6. «Modern agriculture in ancient cultural landscape at Vest-Lista»,
Photo: Christian Landmark
 7. «Boatsheds in Verevaagen harbor»,
Photo: Tore Haus
 8. «The bird life defies the elements at the Lista beaches»,
Photo: Jonas Langbraaten
 9. «Green pasture in Fuglevika»,
Photo: Siri Skagestein
 10. «Demanding clearing work for the small farmers at Joelle»,
Photo: Oskar Puschmann
- ✓ Posters *PDF format high definition or JPEG 350 dpi high definition*
 1. «Coastal Trail information at Lista Lighthouse Station»,
By: Farsund Municipality, Lister Outdoor Council and Gjensidige Foundation
 2. «Coastal Trail information - Husebysanden»,
By: Farsund Municipality, Lister Outdoor Council and Gjensidige Foundation
- ✓ Video: Lista a unique landscape and partnership
We have submitted the video in two different formats. Mpeg2 as requested and mp4 which we recommend used if possible due to higher quality.