National Symposium on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe in Georgia

Interministerial Round Table: Integration of the landscape into policies

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National Symposium
on the implementation of the
European Landscape Convention
of the Council of Europe
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Interministerial Round Table:
Integration of the
landscape into policies

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Mr Levan Kharatishvili
Deputy Minister of Culture and Sport of Georgia

Mrs Nino Gventsadze
Head of Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, on behalf of

Ms Irma Kavtaradze
Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia

Mr Cristian Urse
Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons
Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mrs Krisztina Kincses
Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention
Mr Levan Kharatishvili  
*Deputy Minister of Culture and Sport of Georgia*

Firstly, I would like to express our warm gratitude and deepest appreciation to the Council of Europe, and personally to Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, the Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, for organising this important event dedicated to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia. Secondly, I would like to extend thanks to the representative of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and in particular to Mrs Nino Gventsadze, Head of the Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, for her co-operation.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation, and in particular to Mrs Manana Vardzelashvili, Head of International Relations Unit, as well as to Mrs Rusudan Mirzikashvili, Head of the Tbilisi City Municipal Department for Urban Development.

Furthermore, I would like to extend my sincerest thanks to all the participants from different State Parties for their willingness to share their experience regarding the implementation of the convention. Last but not least, I would like to thank to Mr Cristian Urse, Head of Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi, for his participation in the event.

I am convinced that the European Landscape Convention is an essential tool for managing the ever-increasing change in our environment and creating sustainable landscapes for present and future generations. As the Convention embraces all the natural, rural and urban areas, exceptional as well as everyday or poor quality ones, I believe it is of utmost importance to engage different authorities and specialists in fulfilling it. Thus, I hope this National Symposium will be fruitful for enhancing collaboration at the national level.

I look forward to our further co-operation and thank you once again for your support in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

Thank you for your kind attention.
Mrs Nino Gventsadze  
*Head of the Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia*, on behalf of

Ms Irma Kavtaradze  
*Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia*

On behalf of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, allow me to express our gratitude to the Council of Europe for initiating and organising this event on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and confirm our appreciation to our colleagues for their co-operation.

The Ministry is happy to host this event targeted at implementation of the Convention at national level, sharing the best European practice of integration of landscape-related issues in the sectoral policy and the provision on the ground for inter-agency dialogue and co-ordination.

Our Ministry is in charge of the elaboration and implementation of the spatial and urban planning of Georgia, as well as construction policies and, therefore, we clearly see the necessity of the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia confirms its readiness for further co-operation in terms of the Convention’s implementation.

Thank you.
Mr Cristian Urse  
Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi

Mr Urse welcomed participants and presented the activities of the Council of Europe field office in Tbilisi.  
The co-operation programmes of the Council of Europe support Georgia in upholding and promoting the Council of Europe's values of democracy, human rights and rule of law. The Council of Europe Action Plan for Georgia 2016-2019 is based on these principles.  
He wished the participants every success for the results of the Symposium.
Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons  
*Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, I would like to express our great pleasure at being in Georgia at the National Symposium for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and would particularly like to convey our appreciation that you have hosted this event in the historical city of Tbilisi.

We extend our thanks to:

- Mr Levan Kharatishvili, Deputy Minister of Culture and Sport of Georgia;
- Mrs Irma Kavtaradze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia;
- Mrs Nino Gventsadze, Head of the Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia;
- Mrs Rusudan Mirzikashvili, Head of the Tbilisi City Municipal Department for Urban Development;
- and Mrs Manana Vardzelashvili, Head of the UNESCO and International Relations Unit and Mrs Marina Tumanishvili, Chief Specialist, National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia,

for their highly appreciated co-operation in the organisation of this event.

I am also very grateful that the representatives from Finland, France, Hungary, Latvia and Serbia have been able to join this event which is intended to implement the provisions of the Convention on "Mutual assistance and exchange of information" for the establishment of landscape policies. The Parties to the Convention indicated their wish to establish a new instrument dedicated to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes, considering that the landscape is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere, in everyday areas as well as in areas of outstanding beauty. The Convention applies not only to the countryside but also to urban areas; not only to areas of high quality, but also to degraded ones. The Parties acknowledge that the quality and diversity of landscapes constitute a shared resource to which protection, management and planning are vital to contribute.

To date, 39 Council of Europe member States have ratified the Convention and two States have signed it. Georgia ratified the Convention on 15 September 2010 and we appreciate very much the work in process for its implementation.

Landscape has indeed an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields and constitutes a resource that can promote economic activity and contribute to job creation. It is therefore important to establish strategies, policy documents and regulations to ensure that the landscape dimension is taken into account; it is important to adopt legal and financial instruments, and to develop new forms of co-ordination, both horizontal and vertical.

This Symposium intends to provide the opportunity to learn more about experiences of States Parties in promoting landscape policies here. Thank you for your attention.
Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear colleagues,

First, I would like to thank the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and the Ministry of Culture and Sport of Georgia.

Thank you to the hosting state, for your contribution to the implementation of the Convention by the organisation of this Interministerial Round-Table, creating the extremely important opportunity for mutual assistance, in accordance with Article 8 of the Convention. It is a pleasure to exchange information on the topic of integration of the landscape into policies.

‘Landscape’ means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of action and interaction.

Allow me to cite Count Pál Teleki who introduced the significance of the landscape in a way that is understandable in public life:

“The landscape is not just an image, not an appearance according to a picture. The landscape is also a kind of creative life that creates mountain, vegetation, man, body, soul, thought, feeling, work – creating new, enriching the world, bringing life to a personal line.”

This Symposium aims to discuss the topic integration of the landscape into policies at national level.

We will draw from our common knowledge, acknowledging the best practices.

I wish you every success for our common work.

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Introduction
Presentation of the European Landscape Convention

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons
Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe

“The landscape...
... has an important public interest role in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and constitutes a resource favourable to economic activity and whose protection, management and planning can contribute to job creation;
... contributes to the formation of local cultures and... is a basic component of the European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being...;
... 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;
... is a key element of individual and social well-being and... its protection, management and planning entail rights and responsibilities for everyone.”

Preamble of the European Landscape Convention

Adopted in Strasbourg by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 19 July 2000, the European Landscape Convention was opened for signature by the Organisation’s member States in Florence on 20 October of that year. As the first international treaty devoted exclusively to all aspects of landscape, it addresses the Council of Europe’s key challenges in the areas of human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The Council of Europe member States signatory to the Convention have declared themselves “[c]oncerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment”. The Convention is therefore the first international treaty devoted to sustainable development, with the cultural dimension a particularly relevant factor. Although each citizen must, of course, contribute to preserving the quality of the landscape, it is the authorities that are responsible for establishing the general framework that enables that quality to be assured. The Convention accordingly lays down the general legal principles that must guide the adoption of national landscape policies and the establishment of international co-operation in this area.

To date, 39 Council of Europe member States have ratified the Convention: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Two States have also signed it: Iceland and Malta.

2. Website of the European Landscape Convention: www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention
The Convention states that it is open for signature by the Council of Europe member States and that the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe. The Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers can invite the European Community and any European State that is not a member of the Council of Europe to accede to the Convention by a majority decision as provided in Article 20.d of the Council of Europe’s Statute and by the unanimous vote of the States Parties entitled to hold seats in the Committee of Ministers.

The Convention provides that existing competent Committees of Experts, set up under the Council of Europe’s Statute, shall be designated by the Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers to be responsible for monitoring its implementation. This is currently the task of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDPPC) which discusses, in particular, the results of the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention. After each of its meetings, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe forwards a report on the work carried out, and on the operation of the Convention, to the Committee of Ministers.

The aim of the work programme in support of the implementation of the Convention is to ensure the monitoring of its application, promote international co-operation, gather examples of good practice, promote knowledge and research, raise awareness and foster access to information. The meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, which are regularly organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with a host country, aim to conduct in-depth analyses of certain matters associated with that implementation. Several issues of the Council of Europe journal Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory have been devoted to the subject of landscape. The references of the work carried out by the Council of Europe since the adoption of the Convention are mentioned below, and the documents are available at the Council’s European Landscape Convention website.1

The Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers has demonstrated its full support for the Convention and its implementation. Firstly, it adopted the Convention in Strasbourg on 19 July 2000 before it was opened for signature by the Organisation’s member States. It has since adopted four other fundamental texts on its implementation: Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention;2 Resolution CM/Res(2008) on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe; Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary; Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting landscape awareness through education; Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on pedagogical material for landscape education at primary level; Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on Transfrontier Landscapes; and Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of human rights and democracy with a view to sustainable development.3

The Convention and the basic texts concerning its implementation contribute to promoting legal recognition of the landscape, ensuring that the landscape dimension is taken into account in national and international policies, and developing international co-operation.

The legal recognition of landscapes

The Convention defines landscape as “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”. It also provides that each Party shall undertake “to recognise landscapes in law 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 landscape is recognised irrespective of whether it is of exceptional beauty, since all forms of landscape have a bearing on citizens’ quality of life and should be taken into account in landscape policies. The scope of the Convention is extensive: it applies to the entire territory of the Parties and relates to natural, urban and peri-urban areas, including land, inland water and marine areas. It therefore concerns not just remarkable

3. The documents mentioned in this document are available at the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention website: www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention; www.coe.int/Conventioneuropeennedupaysage; The proceedings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention can be found in the Council of Europe’s “European spatial planning and landscape” series: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications. Books published by Council of Europe Publishing: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications; The Council of Europe journal Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory: www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/futuropa-magazines

4. http://rm.coe.int/16802f80c6
5. http://rm.coe.int/16806a4938
landscapes but also ordinary everyday landscapes and degraded areas.

Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention sets out a “Suggested text” for use as guidance for public authorities when implementing the convention. It states that a specific national ministry should be responsible for implementing landscape policy and for interministerial co-ordination in the area; that it should organise consultation with civil society and the assessment of landscape policies by an ad hoc body; that, in collaboration with the other ministries and with public participation, it should regularly develop and review a national landscape strategy, laying down the guiding principles of landscape policy, describing the paths taken and the goals pursued, in order to protect, manage or plan landscapes.

It provides that this Landscape Strategy should be made public and that ministries whose activities influence landscapes should liaise with departments responsible for implementing landscape policy in the course of their activities, and regularly report on their landscape policy.

It also provides that regional and local authorities should have staff familiar with landscape issues in order to implement landscape policy in their spheres of competence, taking landscapes into account at their respective territorial levels. The text reiterates that landscape policy is a responsibility shared between the national authorities and regional and local authorities, in keeping with the principle of subsidiarity.

The documents entitled “Landscape in languages and laws in the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention” and “Landscape Lexicon: richness and diversity of words, texts and approaches to landscape in Europe” compile information on the meaning of the word landscape in the languages of the States Parties to the Convention, and in the legal texts adopted in connection with implementing the convention.

Various studies dealing with sustainable development and drawing attention to the role of landscape in the lives of human beings and societies have been carried out.

See in particular on this subject:

The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development (social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches)”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002;
- “Landscapes and individual and social well-being”, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003;
- “Landscape and society” Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006;
- “Multifunctional Landscape”, Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011;
- “National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities”, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016;
- “The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy”, Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017.

The following publications bring together thematic reports on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

  - Landscape and social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches,
  - Landscape and individual and social well-being.
- Council of Europe, “Landscape facets”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012:
  - Landscape and ethics.

The Council of Europe journal Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory:

- “Landscapes: the setting for our future lives”, Naturopa, 1998, no. 86;
- “European Landscape Convention”, Naturopa, 2002, no. 98;
- “Landscape through literature”, Naturopa/Culturopa, 2005, no. 103;
- “Landscape and public space”, Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory, 2014, no. 3.

Taking account of the landscape dimension in national and international policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake, at national level, to establish and implement landscape policies on the one hand, and to integrate landscape into its other policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on landscape on the other. They also undertake to co-operate by taking into account the landscape dimension in international policies and
programmes and to recommend, where relevant, that landscape considerations be included in them.

**The establishment and implementation of the landscape policies**

The Convention states that “landscape policy” means “an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscape”. Among its “general measures”, it also provides that each Party shall undertake “to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of [the] landscape policies”. In particular, Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention contains a set of theoretical, methodological and practical guidelines intended for Parties to the Convention who wish to draw up and implement landscape policies on the basis of the Convention.

The Convention provides a definition of the terms “protection”, “management” and “planning” of landscapes:

- “protection” means actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity;
- “management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes;
- “planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

**See in particular on this subject:**

The proceedings of the following Meeting of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002;
- “Landscape and society” Ljubljana (Slovenia), 11-12 May 2006;
- “Visions for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning”, Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012.

The publication:

  - Landscape and innovative instruments,
  - Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives,
  - Landscape and public participation.

**Awareness-raising, training, education, landscape identification and assessment, setting landscape quality objectives and implementing landscape policies, “specific measures” to promote landscape policies**

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake “to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of specific measures”. The “specific measures” to promote landscape policies are outlined below.

**Awareness-raising**

This is about increasing awareness of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them, among civil society, private organisations and public authorities.

On the occasion of the First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe, which was held on 20 October 2017, local authorities were invited to participate, “general measures” to promote landscape policies

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake “to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of [the] landscape policies”. It accordingly demands a responsible, forward-looking attitude on the part of all players whose decisions influence landscape quality, and therefore has consequences in many policy and action areas, both public and private.
celebrate the landscape 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” (Article 5.a of the Convention). Numerous events were held on this occasion.

See in particular on this subject:
The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:


The publications:

  – Landscape and awareness-raising, training and education;
► Council of Europe, “Landscape facets”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012:
  – Landscape and children’s education;
► Council of Europe, “Landscape dimensions”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017:
  – Landscape and primary and secondary education.

The 21st Council of Europe Meeting of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, “Landscape and education”, will be held in Tropea, Calabria (Italy), on 3-5 October 2018.

Identification and assessment

It is necessary to enlist the help of all players concerned to improve knowledge of landscapes and ensure that landscape identification and assessment procedures are guided by exchange of experience and methodology between Parties at European level.

See in particular on this subject:
The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

► Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002;

The publications:

  – Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives;
Council of Europe, “Landscape facets”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012:
- European local landscape circle studies.

Defining landscape quality objectives

The aim is to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation. The term “landscape quality objective” means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings.

See in particular on this subject:

The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives, using cultural and natural resources; Awareness-raising, training and education”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002;

The publication:

  - Landscape identification, assessment and quality objectives.
  - The implementation of the landscape policies

It is necessary to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

According to Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, in order to implement landscape policies a general planning and development process should be introduced. This should use specific instruments and provide for the landscape dimension to be included in sectoral instruments. It notes that instruments are already being employed in several countries and each can be a model for either creating new instruments or improving existing ones. The main categories are landscape planning (landscape study plans included in spatial planning); the inclusion of the landscape in sectoral policies and instruments; shared charters, contracts and strategic plans; impact and landscape studies; evaluations of the effects of operations on landscape not subject to an impact study; protected sites and landscape; relationship between landscape and regulations concerning the cultural and historic heritage; resources and financing; landscape awards; landscape observatories, centres and institutes; reports on the state of the landscape and landscape policies; and the management of trans-frontier landscapes.

Consultation and decision-making meetings are held by the Council of Europe member States at national, regional and local level with the support or participation of the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention – the Council of Europe –, in order to foster debate and the adoption of policies for the implementation of the Convention. These policies make it possible to promote horizontal co-operation between ministries, vertical co-operation between tiers of government and/or cross-cutting co-operation between the authorities, professionals, the population and the private sector.

See in particular on this subject:

The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape”, Strasbourg (France), 23-24 May 2002;
- “Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”, Piešťany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008;
- “National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities”, Yerevan (Armenia), 5-6 October 2016;
- “The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy”, Brno (Czech Republic), 5-6 September 2017.

Two reports on the landscape dimension of the public policies and international programmes were presented at the 9th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention: “Report on public landscape funding” and update of the Report “Selected funding opportunities to support the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”.10

Integrating landscape to other policies that may have a direct or indirect impact on it

The Convention provides that each Party shall undertake “to integrate landscape to 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”.

According to the Convention, developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production

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techniques and in regional planning, town planning, transport, infrastructure, tourism and recreation and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases led to the degradation, standardisation or transformation of landscapes. It points out that many rural and peri-urban areas in particular have undergone, and are continuing to undergo, far-reaching changes and deserve great attention both on the part of the authorities and the public.

See in particular on this subject:
The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Landscape and spatial planning”, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003;
- “Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”, Cork (Ireland), 16-17 June 2005;
- “Landscape and rural heritage”, Sibiu (Romania), 20-21 September 2007;
- “Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”, Piešťany (Slovakia), 24-25 April 2008;
- “Landscape and driving forces” (climate change and the new energy paradigm, the “Globalscape”, landscape and social transformations, production systems and consumption patterns), Malmö/Alnarp (Sweden), 8-9 October 2009;
- “Landscape, infrastructures and society”, Córdoba (Spain), 15-16 April 2010;
- “Multifunctional landscape”, Evora (Portugal), 20-21 October 2011;
- “Visions for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning”, Thessaloniki (Greece), 1-2 October 2012;
- “Sustainable landscapes and economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape”, Urgup (Turkey), 30 September, 1-2 October 2014.

The publications:

  - Landscape and spatial planning;
- Council of Europe, “Landscape facets”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2012:
  - Landscape, towns and peri-urban and suburban areas,
  - Landscape and transport infrastructure: roads,
  - Road infrastructures: tree avenues in the landscape;
- Council of Europe, “Landscape dimensions”, Council of Europe Publishing, 2017:
  - Landscape and wind turbines,
  - Landscape and leisure,
  - Landscape and economy,
  - Landscape and advertising.

The Council of Europe journal Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory:

- “Landscape through literature”, Naturopa/Culturopa, 2005, no. 103;
- “Vernacular rural habitat, a heritage in our landscape”, Futuropa, for a new vision of landscape and territory, 2008, no. 1.

Two reports on the integration of the landscape dimension to agriculture policies, as well as regional and town planning policies, were presented at the 9th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention: “Drawing agricultural landscapes for the sustainable and harmonious development of territories” and “Towards a grammar for European landscapes”.11

The development of international co-operation

The Contracting Parties undertake to co-operate in catering for the landscape dimension in international policies and programmes, and to recommend as appropriate the inclusion of landscape considerations in these policies and programmes. They accordingly undertake to co-operate in respect of technical and scientific assistance and exchange of landscape specialists for training and information, and to exchange information on all matters covered by the Convention.

The Council of Europe organises this co-operation through its Conferences on the European Landscape Convention. Held since 2001 at the Palais de l’Europe, they enable progress to be made on implementing the Convention.12 Representatives of the Parties to the Convention and signatory States participate in them, as do representatives of the main Council of Europe bodies: the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Conference of Non-Governmental Organisations with participatory status at the Council of Europe. Also present with observer

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The Celebration of the 10th anniversary of the European Landscape Convention 2000-2010 – New challenges, new opportunities, was held in Florence, Italy, on 19-20 October 2010.
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications
status are representatives of Council of Europe member States that are not yet Parties or signatories, as well as international governmental and non-governmental organisations with an interest in the subject.

The results of the discussions held at the meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and the meetings of the Working Groups responsible for drawing up draft recommendations, thematic reports produced by Council of Europe experts formulating action proposals, and proposals made by the juries of the Council of Europe Landscape Award are presented at these Conferences with the aim of preparing draft decisions, which are then submitted to the steering committee responsible for the Convention.

The development of transfrontier co-operation

Transfrontier landscapes are the subject of a specific provision: “The Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes”. Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention also pays particular attention to the management of transfrontier landscapes.

The Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)8 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on transfrontier landscapes considers that it is important for appropriate consideration to be given to landscape and its environmental, cultural, social and economic values as a development factor for local societies, and recommends that the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention “promote co-operation focusing on transfrontier landscapes by encouraging local and regional authorities to work together to draw up, where appropriate, joint landscape-enhancement programmes for implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on transfrontier landscapes”, and calls on the Parties concerned to “inform the other Parties to the Convention, in the framework of the Council of Europe Information System on the European Landscape Convention, of the co-operation programmes drawn up and put in place, in order to foster an exchange of experiences between the Parties”.

See in particular on this subject:

The proceedings of the following Meetings of the Workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:

- “Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes”, Strasbourg (France), 27-28 November 2003;
- “Landscape and transfrontier co-operation: the landscape knows no boundary”, Andorra la Vella (Andorra), 1-2 October 2015.

The publication:

  - Landscape and policies, international programmes and transfrontier landscapes.

The Council of Europe journal, Futura, for a new vision of landscape and territory – “Landscape and transfrontier co-operation”, 2010, no. 2.

A Report on “Regional approaches to sustainable landscapes and green economic growth”, covering activities of the Regional Environmental Centre (REC) Caucasus for Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, was presented at the 9th Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention.

The promotion of international co-operation, mutual assistance and the exchange of information

To ensure exchanges of information and monitoring of the implementation of the Convention in the various member States of the Council of Europe, a document setting out the landscape policies pursued in the member States has been produced on a regular basis and presented on the occasion of the Council of Europe Conferences on the European Landscape Convention.

The use of the European Landscape Convention Information System, set up pursuant to Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the European Landscape Convention Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary, permit access online to information concerning national and regional policies that have been developed. The glossary has been produced in order to explain certain terms employed and thus provide access keys for authorities, organisations or citizens seeking useful information on landscape policies.

The States Parties to the Convention are invited to make use of this Council of Europe Information System

16. https://rm.coe.int/16802fc144
and its glossary in the context of their co-operation, to work together on developing it further and to continue to exchange information on the matters covered by the provisions of the Convention, in order to promote an awareness of landscapes and the policies relating to them.

**Recognition of exemplary projects: Landscape Award and the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe**

The European Landscape Convention provides for a Council of Europe Landscape Award which recognises policies or measures adopted by local or regional authorities or non-governmental organisations to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape which have proved lastingly effective, and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. On 20 February 2008, the Council of Europe’s Committee of Ministers adopted Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. The award and special mentions are conferred every two years on the basis of a Committee of Ministers’ decision following a proposal by a jury and the Council of Europe steering committee tasked with monitoring the implementation of the convention. Four criteria have been established for the conferment of the Council of Europe Landscape Award: sustainable territorial development, exemplariness, public participation and awareness-raising.

A section of the Convention website, entitled “Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance of the European Landscape Convention”, is devoted to a presentation of national award-winning projects. These extremely important awards are real sources of inspiration and show it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people’s living environment. Depending on the case, they 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. These projects foster “landscapes for living”, in urban and peri-urban areas; “landscapes to discover”, through the provision of roads or country paths; “historical and living landscapes”, 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.

The Committee of Ministers adopted, on 27 September 2017, the Resolution CM/Res(2017)18 on the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe. It gathers the exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention, showing that it is possible to promote the territorial dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape features of people’s surroundings.

**Sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe**

Five sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe have been held: Session 1 (2008-2009), Session 2 (2010-2011), Session 3 (2012-2013), Session 4 (2014-2015) and Session 5 (2016-2017). The sixth Session (2018-2019) is now under way.

The awards, special mentions and acknowledgments have been conferred on the basis of decisions by the Committee of Ministers, based on the recommendations of the Council of Europe steering committee responsible for monitoring the implementation of the convention (Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape – CDCPP), and prepared by an International Jury. In accordance with the rules, the awards are presented by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe or his/her representative at a public ceremony.

See also:
- [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/home](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/home);
- [www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance);

**Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections**

Biennially organised by the Council of Europe in co-operation with an hosting state, the “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forums” aim to highlight the selections made at national level within the framework of the Landscape Award, as sources of inspiration. See in particular on this subject:

The proceedings of the following Meetings of the workshops for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention:
- “Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 1st Session 2008-2010 and 2nd Session 2010-2011”, Carbonia (Italy), 4-5 June 2012;
“Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013”, Wroclaw (Poland), 11-12 June 2014;


**Conclusion**

Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention states that “[t]he concept of landscape is undergoing a period of rapid and profound change accompanied by significant advances”. It notes that the European Landscape Convention and the documents relating to its implementation “have led to developments in numerous European States, not only in their national and regional legislation but also at various administrative levels, as well as in methodological documents and experiments with active participatory landscape policies”. It further notes that “[t]his situation has come about both in States which have long been active in this area and which have tried and tested landscape policies and instruments, and in States which are not yet at that stage”. Finally, it points out that the Convention “is used as a benchmark by some countries to initiate a process of profound change in their landscape policies; for others it constitutes an opportunity to define their policy”.

Landscape has been gradually introduced into governmental political agendas; an extensive international co-operation network in support of the implementation of the Convention has developed; the concept of landscape as defined by the Convention is being increasingly recognised by authorities and citizens; new forms of co-operation are emerging between the different tiers of government – national, regional and local – and between the ministries or departments of the same state or region; landscape-specific working structures (observatories, centres or landscape institutes) are being set up; landscape-specific laws and regulations are being adopted; states and regions are co-operating beyond their borders in the case of frontier landscapes; national landscape awards referring to the Council of Europe Landscape Award have been launched; university programmes have been developed with reference to the Convention and summer universities on landscape are being organised; biennials, landscape festivals and exhibitions based on the principles of the convention are being held; and communities and non-governmental organisations are feeling increasingly involved and becoming active.

As a thoroughly modern concept, landscape combines the four elements of sustainable development: natural, cultural, social and economic. It is also a constantly evolving story. As a unique setting and meeting place for populations, it is a key factor in the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of individuals and societies. As a source of contemplative and creative inspiration, it takes us on a journey through time, space and imagination.

Governments wishing to implement the principles of good governance need to consider the inestimable value of landscape for human beings and include the landscape dimension in their national and international policy-making. It is also up to each individual to respect the landscape and take care of it – both its appearance and its substance – for both current and future generations.

**Website of the Convention**

www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention
www.coe.int/ConventionEuropeennedupaysage

Powerpoint presentation: https://rm.coe.int/16807b5676
The Preamble says that States wish to provide “a new instrument devoted exclusively to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe”. It applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, urban and peri-urban areas, whether on land, water or sea. It concerns remarkable landscapes… and also ordinary or everyday landscapes and degraded areas.

Landscape is recognised irrespective of its perceived value, since all forms of landscape are crucial to the quality of the citizens’ environment and deserve to be considered in landscape policies.

Why?
The developments in agriculture, forestry, industrial and mineral production techniques, together with the practices followed in town and country planning, transport, networks, tourism and recreation, and, at a more general level, changes in the world economy, have in many cases accelerated the transformation of landscapes.

The Convention expresses the Member States’ concern to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment.

It aims to respond to the public’s wish to enjoy high quality landscapes.

Status
Parties to the Convention: Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom (39 ratifications).

Signatories states: Iceland, Malta (2 signatures).

Other Council of Europe Member States: Albania, Austria, Germany, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Russian Federation.

Other States non Member of the Council of Europe Protocol (STCE n°219) 1st August 2018 Contribute to the global debates on sustainable development (United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development) and habitat.

Scope
The Preamble says that States wish to provide “a new instrument devoted exclusively to the protection, management and planning of all landscapes in Europe”. It applies to the entire territory of the Parties and covers natural, urban and peri-urban areas, whether on land, water or sea.

It concerns remarkable landscapes… and also ordinary or everyday landscapes and degraded areas. Landscape is recognised irrespective of its perceived value, since all forms of landscape are crucial to the quality of the citizens’ environment and deserve to be considered in landscape policies.
Definitions

“Landscape” means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.

“Landscape policy” means an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes.

“Landscape quality objective” means, for a specific landscape, the formulation by the competent public authorities of the aspirations of the public with regard to the landscape features of their surroundings.

“Landscape protection” means action to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity.

“Landscape management” means action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, so as to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes.

“Landscape planning” means strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes.

Council of Europe Working Programme

The work done to implement the European Landscape Convention by the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe is aimed at:

1. Monitoring implementation of the Convention;
2. Drafting guidelines/recommendations;
3. Collecting examples of good practices;
4. Promoting international co-operation;
5. Fostering knowledge and research;
6. Raising awareness;
7. Fostering access to information.

Council of Europe

Aims of the Convention

National level: promote protection, management and planning of landscapes;
International level: promote international co-operation on landscape issues.

Council of Europe

National level: Contracting Parties undertake to implement five specific measures

1. Awareness-raising: increasing awareness among the civil society, private organisations and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.
2. Promotion in training and education:
   - training for specialists in landscape appraisal and landscape operations;
   - multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sector and for associations concerned;
   - school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values that the landscape has and the issues raised by its protection, management and planning.
3. Identification and evaluation:
   - mobilising those concerned in order to reach a better knowledge of landscape, guiding the work of landscape identification and evaluation through exchanges of experience and methodology between the Parties at a European level.
4. Setting landscape quality objectives:
   - defining landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation.
5. Implementing landscape policies:
   - introducing policy instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

Recommendation CM/Rec(2013)4 on the European Landscape Convention

Information System of the Council of Europe and its glossary

Recommendations that States Parties to the Convention:

- use the Information System, with its glossary, in the framework of their cooperation, and co-operate to develop it;
- continue to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the Convention in order to promote knowledge of landscapes and landscape policies, in view of enhancing the quality of people’s lives, taking care of their surroundings.

The Information System is a “toolbox” helping to provide mutual technical and scientific assistance through the collection and exchange of landscape experience and research, as provided for in Article 8 of the Convention on mutual assistance and exchange of information.
**Council of Europe**

**Strategies and policy instruments in favour of the landscape**

**Andorra**: National Landscape Strategy of Andorra 2016-2020 – Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Sustainable Development; Ireland: National Landscape Strategy for Ireland 2015-2025 – Ministry for Arts, Heritage and the Gaeltacht; Hungary: National Landscape Strategy (2017-2026) – Ministry of Agriculture; Latvia: Landscape Policy Strategy - Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development; Switzerland: The Swiss Landscape Convention; Landscape 2020 – Federal Office of the Environment; Netherlands: Agenda Landscape – andchep/lijk vrijruimtewonen voor iedereen; Portugal: The National policy on architecture and landscape; Armenia: Architectural criteria’s protection of landscape character identity of settlement; Provision of the measures for the implementation of the European Landscape Principles of landscape planning in mountainous regions; Introduction of principles are defined by the European Landscape Convention relating to training and education in the higher education systems; ... Finland, Lithuania...

**2. Drafting guidelines/recommendations**

Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to member States for the implementation of the Convention

- Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)8 on promoting landscape awareness through education
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)9 on the implementation of Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention on transfrontier landscapes
- Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)7 on the contribution of the European Landscape Convention to the exercise of democracy and human rights, within a perspective of sustainable development.

**Appendix 1 - Examples of instruments used to implement the European Landscape Convention**

Instruments are already being put to use in several countries and each of them can be a model for either the creation of new instruments or the improvement of existing ones. The main categories of instruments are:

- landscape planning: landscape study plans included in spatial planning;
- inclusion of the landscape in sectoral policies and instruments;
- shared charters, contracts, strategic plans;
- impact and landscape studies;
- evaluations of the effects of operations on landscape not subject to an impact study;
- protected sites and landscapes;
- relationship between landscape and regulations concerning the cultural and historic heritage;
- resources and financing;
- landscape awards;
- landscape observatories, centres and institutes;
- reports on the state of the landscape and landscape policies;
- transfrontier landscapes.

**Introduction**
- apply the principles of human rights and democracy in landscape policies;
- guarantee the right to participation by the general public, local and regional authorities, and other relevant parties including non-governmental organisations, with an interest in the definition, implementation and monitoring of landscape policies;
- include the “landscape”, as defined by the Convention, in indicators of sustainable development relating to environmental, social, cultural and economic issues;
- implement the principle of non-regression in order to ensure that landscape policies can only be subject to continuous improvement.

Council of Europe

3. Collecting examples of good practice:
“the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance”

The Landscape Award recognises a policy implemented or measures taken by local and regional authorities or non-governmental organisations to protect, manage and/or plan their landscape which have proved effective in the long-term and can thus serve as an example to other territorial authorities in Europe. The Award thus contributes to the stimulation of those working on a local level and to the encouragement and recognition of exemplary landscape management. It is conferred by the Committee of Ministers, on proposals from the Committee of Experts responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Convention.

Criterion 1 – Sustainable territorial development
Criterion 2 – Exemplary value
Criterion 3 – Public participation
Criterion 4 – Awareness-raising

Council of Europe

I. The exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention in the framework of the sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and acknowledged by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe are part of the “Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe”

Council of Europe

1. Belgium
2. Croatia
3. Cyprus
4. Czech Republic
5. Finland
6. Hungary
7. Italy
8. Latvia
9. the Netherlands
10. Norway
11. Slovakia
12. Slovenia
13. Spain
14. United Kingdom

Council of Europe

The Parties undertake to co-operate in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures taken under other articles of the Convention, and in particular:
- to render each other technical and scientific assistance in landscape matters through the pooling of experience, and the results of research projects;
- to promote the exchange of landscape specialists for training and information purposes;
- to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the Convention.

Transfrontier landscapes
Transfrontier landscapes are covered by a specific provision: the Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes.

Council of Europe

- to encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes.

Council of Europe

Criterion 3 – Public participation
 Criterion 4 – Awareness-raising

Council of Europe

- to promote the exchange of landscape specialists for training and information purposes;
- to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the Convention.

Transfrontier landscapes
Transfrontier landscapes are covered by a specific provision: the Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes.

Council of Europe

6. Transfrontier landscapes
Transfrontier landscapes are covered by a specific provision: the Parties shall encourage transfrontier co-operation on local and regional level and, wherever necessary, prepare and implement joint landscape programmes.

Council of Europe

Resolution CM(2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers on The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe

Resolves that:
1. The exemplary achievements presented by the States Parties to the European Landscape Convention in the framework of the sessions of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and acknowledged by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe are part of the “Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe”
2. The Parties are invited to encourage media coverage of the Council of Europe Landscape Award Alliance to raise public awareness of the importance of landscape.

65 achievements
Introduction

Workshops 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…”

Workshops 2-3 October 2013, Cetinje, Montenegro, “The future of the territories, landscape identification and assessment: an exercise in democracy”

Workshops 20-21 October 2011, Evora, Portugal “Multifunctional landscapes”

Workshops 20-21 October 2011, Evora, Portugal “Multifunctional landscapes”

Workshops 4-5 June 2012, Carbonia (Sardinia), Italy “Forum of national landscape selections for the Council of Europe Landscape Award – 1st and 2nd Sessions”

Workshops 20-21 September 2007, Sibiu, Romania “Landscape and rural heritage”

Workshops 28-29 September 2006, Girona, Spain, “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”

Workshops 1-2 October 2014, Urgup, Turkey “Sustainable landscapes and economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape”

Workshops 16-17 June 2005, Cork, Ireland “Landscape for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas”

Workshops 20-21 September 2007, Sibiu, Romania “Landscape and rural heritage”

Workshops 27-28 November 2003, Strasbourg, France – Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes – Transfrontier landscapes – Individual and social well-being – Spatial planning and landscape

Workshops 20-21 September 2007, Sibiu, Romania “Landscape and rural heritage”

Workshops 25-26 April 2008, Piestany, Slovak Republic “Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”

Workshops 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia, “Landscape and society”

Workshops 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia, “Landscape and society”

Exhibition on “Landscape through the eyes of the children of Armenia”

Swedish National Heritage Board

Workshops 15-16 April 2010, Cordoba, Spain “Landscape and infrastructure for society”

Swedish National Heritage Board

Workshops 28-29 September 2006, Girona, Spain, “Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”

Swedish National Heritage Board

Workshops 8-9 October 2009, Malmo, Sweden “Landscape and driving forces”

Swedish National Heritage Board

Workshops 11-12 May 2006, Ljubljana, Slovenia, “Landscape and society”

Swedish National Heritage Board

Workshops 2002 23-24 May, Strasbourg, France – Landscape policies: the 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 – Landscape Award

Workshops 2002 23-24 May, Strasbourg, France – Landscape policies: the 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 – Landscape Award

Council of Europe

Exhibition on “Landscape through the eyes of the children of Armenia”

Council of Europe
5. Fostering knowledge and research for landscape policies

Landscape and sustainable development: challenges of the European Landscape Convention
- Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes;
- Transfrontier landscapes;
- Education; Individual and social well-being; Spatial planning and landscape
CoE Publishing, 2006

6. Raising awareness

1967
Standing Committee of Experts for the conservation of nature and landscape
1997
Naturopa magazine of the Council of Europe
‘Nature and the different religions’
Introduction

Contemporary societies throughout the world are confronted and will be brought increasingly to deal with phenomena and events that bring into question the values of their civilizations and ideals of their philosophies. A unique setting and meeting place for populations, landscape is a key factor in the physical, mental and spiritual well-being of individuals and societies. Any government wishing to implement the principles of good governance needs to give due emphasis to landscape in its local, regional, national and international policies.

Council of Europe

CoE “Futuropa for a new vision of landscape and territory” Magazine

– “Landscapes: the setting for our future lives” (Naturo, 1998, n° 6)
– “The European Landscape Convention”, (Naturo, 2002, n° 38)
– “Landscape through literature” (Naturo, 2005, n° 102)
– “Vernacular habitat, an heritage in the landscape” (Futuropa, 2009, n° 1)
– “Landscape and transfrontier co-operation” (Futuropa, 2010, n° 2)
– “Landscape and public space” (Futuropa, 2015, n° 3)

First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe

20 October 2017

The First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe, inspired by the European Landscape Convention, invited local authorities, in Europe and beyond, to celebrate the landscape 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”, and to develop policies.

The Council of Europe encourages, in particular, the establishment of procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of landscape policies, considering that its protection, management and planning “entails rights and responsibilities for everyone”.

7. Fostering access to information

www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention
www.coe.int/Conventioneuropeennedupaysage

Conclusions

– the landscape is progressively included in the political agenda of governments;
– the concept of landscape, as defined by the Convention, is becoming more and more recognised in public policies at national, regional and local levels as well as by populations;
– new forms of co-operation are developed between different levels of authorities (national, regional and local) and between ministries or departments of one State or region;
– specific working structures for landscape (observatories, centers or landscape institutes) have been created;
– specific laws and regulations referring to landscape have been developed according to the provisions of the Convention;
– States or regions co-operate beyond their borders for transfrontier landscapes;
– an important network of co-operation at international level has been developed, for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention.

– national landscape awards and landscape days that refer to the European Landscape Convention have been launched;
– university programmes have been developed with a reference to the Convention and summer universities on landscape are organised;
– biennale landscape festivals and exhibitions are organised and films referring to the European Landscape Convention prepared.

The Council of Europe contributes to find solutions that will enable the society of tomorrow to live in an environment that gives scope for its full development.

– the First International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe, inspired by the European Landscape Convention, invited local authorities, in Europe and beyond, to celebrate the landscape 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”, and to develop policies.

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– biennale landscape festivals and exhibitions are organised and films referring to the European Landscape Convention prepared.

The Council of Europe contributes to find solutions that will enable the society of tomorrow to live in an environment that gives scope for its full development.
Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia

Mrs Marina Tumanishvili
Chief Specialist, National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia

Powerpoint presentation in Georgian language: http://rm.coe.int/16807b5559
ივრის მდინარე

საქართველოში ყველაზე გრძელი მდინარე — ალაზანი მონადირებულად აღემინალობს. მისი სიგრძე 390 კილომეტრად შეადგენს. მომხრეთში აგებული იყოფა და ზღვის დონიდან 1761 მეტრის სიმაღლზე ჩაქვსა. ალაზანის მტირალას მთა ზღვის დონიდან 1761 მეტრის სიმაღლეზე ჩაქვსა და ქობულეთს შორის მდებარეობს.

მეტი არ შეგიძლიათ გაცნობოთ, რამდენი წყალს აკეთებს ალაზანი. მისი ფართობი 11800 კვადრატული კილომეტრია. თავდაპირველად, ალაზანი ძირითადად კლიმატური ფაქტორებით იკვებება. მომხრეთში აგებული იყოფა და ზღვის დონიდან 1761 მეტრის სიმაღლზე ჩაქვსა.
1. ძირითადი კატეგორია
2. განსაკუთრებული იმითაც, რომ წელს დაარსდა.
3. საქართველოს დაცული ტერიტორიების სისტემა ერთ-ერთი მნიშვნელოვანი ინსტრუმენტია.
4. სტუმრობს საქართველოს უცხოელ ვიზიტორთა დიდი ნაწილი.
5. საქართველოში 14 ნაკრძალი მოქმედია, რომლთა საერთო ფართობი 141 473 ჰექტარია.
6. პირველი ოფიციალური ნაკრძალია, ლაგოდეხის ნაკრძალი.
7. მცხეთის რეგიონში დღეს იქნება.
8. საქართველოს კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის დაცვის ეროვნული სააგენტო.
9. 1912 წლიდან უკავშირდნენ.
ლანდშაფტის განთავისუფლება ისტორიულად ჩამოყალიბებული ბუნებრივი გარემოს შენარჩუნება და მისი იერსახის ბუნებრივი გარემოა.

ესთეტიკური ღირებულების მქონე ბუნებრივი, სასოფლო ან ურბანული ტერიტორია, რომლის რეჰიმებიდან, ყოველ კონკრეტულ შემთხვევაში, მოქმედებს ამკრძალავი ნორმა.
In the framework of the Tentative List of cultural heritage sites, the Tbilisi Cultural Heritage General Zones project, implemented by the State Agency of Georgia on the Protection of Cultural Heritage, the project aimed at:

1. Identification and documentation of cultural heritage sites.
2. Preservation and restoration of cultural heritage sites.
3. Promotion of cultural heritage sites as tourist destinations.

The project was carried out in collaboration with the World Heritage Centre of UNESCO and involved a comprehensive study of the cultural heritage sites of Tbilisi.

The project's achievements included:

- Identification of over 100 cultural heritage sites.
- Preservation of several historical buildings and monuments.
- Promotion of Tbilisi as a cultural destination.

The project was a significant step towards the protection and promotion of Tbilisi's cultural heritage.

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საქართველოს კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის დაცვის ეროვნული სააგენტო

• დაემატების მიზნით სამოქმედო-განათლების სამსარედ საჭირო პროექტების შექმნა
• მაგალითურ სამუშაო და გაზაფხული მეცნიერებათა საპროექტირებლო პრობლემების გაგზავნა
• პროექტის დაწყების მხარდაჭერით საადაზილებლო პროცესის დაწყების საფუძვლები
• განათლების სისტემაში კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის გაძლიერების გზით
• განათლების სისტემაში ავტომოდელი მემკვიდრეობის მცირე გარემოს მაგალითები

საქართველოს ევროპული საზოგადოების კონვენციის გამოცხადებით

• საქართველოს კულტურული მემკვიდრეობის დაცვის ეროვნული სააგენტო

Thank you for your attention!
The highest summit of Georgia is Shkhara. At 5,201 m above sea level, it is situated on the highest section of central Caucasus, the Bezengi wall. Geographers and alpinists refer to it as the "Svanetian Alps". It is covered with glaciers and snow. "Shkhara" in Svanetian means white line.

Articles effective in the Constitution of Georgia regarding the issues of protection of natural and cultural environment.

The Constitution of Georgia indicates the following:

• Everyone shall have the right to live in a healthy environment and to use the natural and cultural environment. Everyone shall be obliged to protect the natural and cultural environment.

• Taking into account the interests of current and future generations, the State shall guarantee environmental protection and rational use of nature in order to ensure a safe environment for human health and maintain sustainable development of the country, in line with the ecological and economic interests of society.

• Everyone shall have the right to complete objective and timely information about environmental conditions (Article 37, paragraphs 3,4,5).

• The following shall fall within the exclusive competence of supreme state authorities of the country: land, minerals, and natural resources legislation (Article 3, paragraph 1).

The European Council recognised the ratification of the European Landscape Convention by Georgia, and the importance of the Convention for the country.

Constitution of Georgia

Notification of the European Landscape Convention by Georgia and the importance of the Convention for the country

• European Landscape Convention was signed in Georgia on 11 May 2010; the country ratified the Convention on 25 September 2010.

• The European Council recognised the ratification of European Landscape Convention on 03 January 2011, now considered the date of entry into force of the Convention.

• European Landscape Convention is critical for all countries which have ratified it, including Georgia. The Convention supports and stimulates countries to understand the importance and value of landscapes situated on the territory of the countries at the national as well as European level. Such global vision plays a significant role in proper evaluation of the landscapes' value and promotes achievement of higher levels of its protection.

• Georgia as a country which ratified European Landscape Convention, and, according to the Convention provisions, is "awake that the landscape contributes to the formation of local cultures and that it is a basic component of the European natural and cultural heritage, contributing to human well-being and consolidation of the European identity", and Georgia is "concerned to achieve sustainable development based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between social needs, economic activity and the environment".

Introduction
System of Protected Areas of Georgia

The System of protected areas of Georgia is one of the important instruments for ensuring the protection of Georgian landscapes.

In the history of creation of protected areas in Georgia, Lagodekhi reserve represents the first example. It is the first official reserve located on the territory of Georgia, in Kakheti region. It was created in 1912.

In 1996, the Parliament of Georgia adopted the law, “The system of protected areas”, which created a legal framework for the creation of protected areas.

There are six categories of protected areas in Georgia:
- State reserve;
- National park;
- Natural monument;
- Managed reserve;
- Protected landscape;
- Territory of multifaceted use.

At present, the total area of Georgian protected areas equals 522,133 thousand hectares, including the land area comprising 498,379,710 hectares, and territory with a water surface of 23,753 hectares.

The largest lake of Georgia – Paravani lake

Paravani lake, situated in the Samtskhe-Javakheti region, is situated at 2,073 m above sea level. Its volume is 91 m³, area – 37.5 sq. km, maximum depth – 3.3 m.

The driest area in Georgia – Eldari lowland

Situated on both banks of the river Ivri. Minimal precipitation is observed in this area – 250-300 mm per annum. Eldari lowland is the only place in Georgia characterized with a semi-desert landscape and is the most drought-stricken area in the country.

The longest river of Georgia – Alazani

The Alazani river is fed by underground waters, rain water and snow. The length of the river equals 390 km, the area of the basin is 11,800 sq. km.

The largest lake of Georgia – Paravani and the Alazani valley landscape

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Introduction

Georgian landscape and nature, as the key touristic resources of the country

- The distinguished nature of Georgia represents the key touristic resource of the country. The majority of foreign visitors come to Georgia for its very distinguished landscape and nature. Flora and fauna of Georgia preserves dozens of animal and plant species which are included in the “Red list”.
- State reserve - is the main category of protected areas; within the boundaries of such areas any type of economic activities are prohibited, for the protection of natural eco-systems and their scientific research. At present, there are 14 reserves functioning in Georgia, with the total area of 141,473 hectares. This includes Lagodekhi, Borjomi and Vashlovani reserves.

Lagodekhi reserve is also distinguished as it includes almost 2/3 of plant varieties observed in Georgia. Moreover, this is the biggest reserve, with a total area of 4,868 hectares. This reserve is situated on the southern slopes of the Main Mountain Range of Caucasus.

Borjomi reserve is also one of the largest reserves, it was created in 1935 for the preservation of unique forests and Caucasian noble deer. It covers 14,820 hectares.

The oldest protected area on the territory of Georgia – Lagodekhi reserve.

Lagodekhi reserve

Vashlovani reserve – a complex reserve in the Khevi district municipality, situated over the Shiraki plateau, in the far eastern part of Georgia. It was declared a reserve in 1998. Total area: 2,860 ha; area covered with forests – 1,626 ha, remaining parts are desert and ravines.

Vashlovani reserve

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Monuments and landscapes included in UNESCO list

Gelati monastery

Monuments and landscapes included in UNESCO list

Nokalakevi architectural-archeological complex
Setting historic landscape protection zones in accordance with the law of Georgia on "Cultural heritage"

- Historic landscape protection zones are a natural, rural or urban territory of historical, cultural and aesthetic value which has been fully or partially developed as a result of human activity throughout the period of historical development or which represents the natural environment of individual cultural properties developed throughout history.

- Objects of determining Historic landscape protection zones is to preserve and restore the appearance of historical development or which represents the natural environment of individual cultural properties developed throughout history.

- According to the regime effective in the Historic landscape protection zone, the following is mandatory: to preserve the natural environment and water reservoirs, to free up the landscape from distorting buildings and structures, and plants with no cultural value, to protect and regulate the vegetation cover, to ensure the natural restoration of forest and greenery, and to protect meadows and other areas against landslides and floods.

- According to the law of Georgia on "Cultural heritage" - "If an area falls within several protection zones, a prohibitive legal norm shall apply in each particular case."
Panoramic views of Telavi historic landscape

Monuments and landscapes submitted by Georgia to UNESCO’s Tentative List
Cultural landscape of Vardzia-Khetvisi Oloda

Landscape protection zone for Tbilisi historic part,
Historic development protection and development regulation zones – existing

Historic landscape protection zone of Mtskheta - existing
(Genereal protection zones for Mtskheta cultural heritage, 2012)

Issues of protection of historic landscape within the urban environment
Protection zone for Mtskheta historic landscape
(Under the context of cultural heritage protection zones, 2012) - existing

Historic landscape protection zone of Mtskheta - existing
(Draft historic-cultural master plan for Mtskheta, 2018)


Draft general protection zones for Telavi cultural heritage, prepared according to the order of the Ministry of Economy within the Urban Development Project

Batumi Landscape - recreational zone and garden-park monument (project, 2005)
Draft historic-cultural master plan for Batumi

Landscape protection zone for Tbilisi historic part,
Historic development protection and development regulation zones – existing

Raneri Landscape - recreational zone and garden-park monument (project, 2005)
Draft historic-cultural master plan for Batumi

Issued landscape protection zone of Tbilisi (Draft, 2018)

Monuments and landscapes submitted by Georgia to UNESCO’s Tentative List
Cultural landscape of Vardzia-Khetvisi Oloda

Historic landscape protection zone of Mtskheta - existing
(Genereal protection zones for Mtskheta cultural heritage, 2012)


Draft general protection zones for Telavi cultural heritage, prepared according to the order of the Ministry of Economy within the Urban Development Project

Panoramic views of Telavi historic landscape
Thank you for your attention!

Mount Ushba in Svaneti

Information on the involvement of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia in the implementation process of the European Landscape Convention was provided in the 2016-2017 report published by the Agency.

Prospective goals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia

• To improve landscape protection via the elaboration of mechanisms of monitoring over the compliance with the effective legislative acts;
• To enrich methods for teaching landscape protection issues in the educational system;
• To draw particular attention to the landscape protection provisions envisaged under the legislative acts in the process of preparation of urban development projects;
• To promote the European Landscape Convention and to introduce the Convention to the wider public;
• To develop a national landscape protection policy for Georgia.

Information on the establishment of the International European Landscape Day by the European Council on 20 October 2017 that is provided on the website of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

Monuments and landscapes submitted by Georgia to UNESCO’s Tentative List

Information on the involvement of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia in the implementation process of the European Landscape Convention was provided in the 2016-2017 report published by the Agency.

Landscape issues reviewed by the Ministry of Economy, under the projects developed based on tender

Draft documentation on spatial-territorial planning of Svaneti-Mestia municipality – 2017

Information on the involvement of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia in the implementation process of the European Landscape Convention was provided in the 2016-2017 report published by the Agency.

Information on the establishment of the International European Landscape Day by the European Council on 20 October 2017 that is provided on the website of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

Information on the establishment of the International European Landscape Day by the European Council on 20 October 2017 that is provided on the website of the National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia.

Thank you for your attention!
Session 1

Institutions and policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Recognising landscapes in law
Experience of Hungary: National Landscape Strategy (2017-2026)

Mrs Krisztina Kincses
National Representative of the European Landscape Convention, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

The Hungarian Government approved the National Landscape Strategy for the period 2017-2026, in 2017. By the Government Decision 1128/2017 (20 March), the Government:

- calls on the Minister of National Development to take the principles of the National Landscape Strategy into account for the planning of investments in transport infrastructure and tourism;
- calls on the ministers concerned to support volunteers and civil organisations engaged in landscape protection;
- calls on the Minister of the Prime Minister’s Office to provide for the gradual setting up of the Chief landscape architect system;
- calls on the Minister of Agriculture to report every three years on the implementation of the Strategy to the Government (the first report is due 30 June 2020).


Legal basis

In Hungary, the European Landscape Convention took effect on 1 February 2008 by the Act CXI of 2007 on the promulgation of the European Landscape Convention that was signed in Florence on 20 October 2000. The primary responsibility for the implementation of the Convention lies with the Ministry of Agriculture. The Minister responsible for nature conservation shall provide for the implementation of the Convention in agreement with the minister responsible for cultural heritage protection, and in co-operation with the Ministers responsible for Territorial Development and for Spatial Planning.
Under the management of the European Landscape Convention National Co-ordination Working Group, a joint work programme applying to all ministries concerned was drawn up to achieve the goals and fulfill the tasks laid down in the convention. The document entitled Work Programme for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention (2013-2017) set the development of the Hungarian Landscape Strategy as an “extremely important” task.

In order to implement this task, the Ministry of Agriculture initiated the development of the strategy at the time of the formulation of the National Environmental Programme. In June 2015, the National Assembly approved the 4th National Environmental Programme for the period between 2015 and 2020. The development of the “National Landscape Policy and Strategy Integrating the Protection, Management and Planning of Landscapes” is stipulated in Chapter 8.7, entitled European Landscape Convention of the Nature Conservation Master Plan annexed to the programme.

Workflow

As the first step, the European Landscape Convention National Co-ordination Working Group organised an extended meeting in March 2015 and made a SWOT analysis.

On 2 December 2015, a Workshop on the proposed National Landscape Strategy was organised jointly by the Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights and the Ministry of Agriculture. It focused on two topics:
- the analysis and evaluation of the condition of the Hungarian landscape;
- the role and responsibility of public administration in landscape formation.

The event created the opportunity for research institutions, universities and civil organisations to make proposals regarding the National Landscape Strategy to safeguard the nation’s common heritage. The participants could also send their comments in writing.

On 11 December 2015, the Ministry of Agriculture proposed the convocation of an intra-ministerial and an inter-ministerial working group for the constructive implementation of this task. The technical preparatory work relied on wide-ranging technical and inter-ministerial co-operation.

Mission of the strategy

The landscape is represented in the strategy documents developed and approved in the past ten years, although it is represented only indirectly and not in the ternary system of protection-management-planning.
of the European Landscape Convention. For the review of the interfaces of the Landscape Strategy, priority was given to those that determine territorial development, sustainability, natural and environmental condition and the development directions of utilisations relying on natural configurations.

Considering the principles and the tasks presented in the preamble and laid down in the articles of the convention, the mission of the first Hungarian National Landscape Strategy can be summarised as follows:

- Development of a complex holistic landscape approach, and having it acknowledged generally.
- The landscape generally must be made an underlying approach element of sectoral policy areas and functions, not only the areas and functions with outstanding values.
- The condition of the landscape and the triggering effects must be handled together through revealing causal interrelationship and thereby demonstrating the need for taking responsibility for landscapes.

The National Landscape Strategy emphasises the change in land use and land cover on both protected and unprotected areas.

**Structure and content**

The National Landscape Strategy is being developed in compliance with the criteria of policy strategies. However, its fundamental purpose and mission resulting from the European Landscape Convention is to develop a horizontal vision which goes beyond the given policy areas and to devise a medium-term strategy to achieve its vision. Within the meaning of Government Decree 38/2012 (12 March), a policy strategy is a medium-term strategic document for achieving the vision of a given policy area.

The structure of the strategy analysis and evaluation of the situation will address: measurable objectives, required actions and their preconditions; follow-up and evaluation largely following the requirements of the applicable government decree.

This strategy reviews how Hungary fulfils international expectations, and presents the most dominant landscape formation processes. It shows the condition of Hungarian landscapes and the drivers that determine their condition.

**Vision**

The vision of the strategy outlines the future condition of Hungarian landscapes and Hungarian landscape policy. It considers that land use relies both on landscape configuration and its assets.

**Policy objectives**

The overall policy objective considers that responsible land use is based on landscape configuration and assets.

The following horizontal principles consider general protection of natural resources and cultural heritage; wise and rational use of areas and the mitigation of the impacts of climate change and adaptation to it.

**Strategic objectives and sub-objectives**

The strategic objectives and sub-objectives are the following:

- Laying the foundations for land use based on landscape configuration and assets:
  - Establishing the framework for land use based on landscape configuration and assets;
  - Monitoring changes in land use;
  - Integrating land use, based on landscape configuration and assets, into decision-making;
  - Integrating a complex approach to landscape into research activities.
- Liveable landscape – liveable settlement – wise land use:
  - Compact, climate-friendly settlements that preserve values;
  - Infrastructures fitted into the landscape;
  - Production functions based on landscape configuration and assets;
  - Recreational functions based on landscape configuration and assets;
  - Better functioning regulatory and protective functions.
- Enhancing landscape identity:
  - Improving awareness and social responsibility;
  - Improving social participation;
  - Developing education and training related to landscape.

**Guarantees for the implementation**

The operational programmes for 2014-2020 have been taken into account when defining objectives and intervention areas. A major part of actions for the fulfilment of the objectives is, or can be, linked to operational programmes financed from European Union funds. At the end of the budgetary period of the European Union and the beginning of period of planning the following budgetary period, attention should be paid that the objectives specified in the strategy are involved among the planning criteria. Additionally, ensure that the strategy contains actions that do not require allocated funds in the budget but can be achieved as part of the existing tasks through a change of approach or attitude.
It is important that, according to the order of strategic management by the government, the new strategies and the existing strategies that are reviewed should integrate the requirement for responsible land use, based on landscape configuration and assets, and should incorporate the actions (94 measures) specified for the objectives into the sectoral policies.

**Follow-up and evaluation**

The strategy determined measurable indicators and the milestones for the follow-up of its implementation. Indicators suitable for the review of the achievement of objectives and sub-objectives were selected taking relevant data into account. It is necessary to note that the monitoring of the landscape differs from the follow-up of the objectives of the strategy, even if some indicators overlap.

Interim evaluation must be made every three years in a report on the implementation of the strategy to the government, and the subsequent evaluation must be made within one year of its implementation.

**Achievements**

Taking the list of objectives of the strategy into account, and the principles laid down in the European Landscape Convention, among others, two inter-ministerial working groups began their operation in 2017 in order to monitor the changes to landscapes, and to establish a chief landscape architect system in public administration.

**Actual challenges**

- A new Work Programme for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention will be adopted for the period 2018-2022, based on the objectives of the National Landscape Strategy 2017-2026.
- An Action Plan will be adopted taking into account the date of the interim evaluation of the strategy.
- The Hungarian Government should express the consent to be bound by the Protocol amending the European Landscape Convention (Council of Europe, Treaty No. 219) by adopting a new law and depositing the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
- The Ministry of Agriculture has started a National Programme of State Nature Conservation with the title “Strategic assessments supporting the long-term conservation of natural values of community interest as well as the national implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020”. The main aim of the project is to continue and improve data collection, monitoring and research related to biodiversity. This National Programme will support policy-making by development of the decision-making process.

The four closely related project elements (Nature, Ecosystem Service, Landscape character, Green Infrastructure) will produce the following elements:

- thematic maps on ecosystem status of natural and close-to-natural ecosystems;
- national priority list of ecosystem services;
- assessment of the contribution of ecosystem services to human well-being and socio-economic evaluation of ecosystem services;
- national methodology and model for the mapping and assessment of ecosystems and ecosystem services;
- range maps;
- habitat maps;
- national survey of bird species nesting in Hungary;
- refined methodology for monitoring and assessment the conservation status of 45 habitat types;
- preparing species’ management plans, updated prioritised action framework;
- updated conflict map of power lines threatening birds;
- national GIS database of landscape character units;
- guidelines for the classification of landscape character types;
- methodology for the delimitation and protection of landscape character units at local level;
- national GIS database of the Green Infrastructure Network;
- national restoration prioritisation framework;
- target areas of conservation.

Powerpoint presentation: [http://rm.coe.int/16807b555a](http://rm.coe.int/16807b555a)
Government Decision 1128/2017 (20 March) on the National Landscape Strategy for the period between 2017 and 2026

The Hungarian Government approved the National Landscape Strategy for the period 2017-2026 by the Government Decision 1128/2017 (20 March), the Government:

- calls on the Minister of National Development to take the principles of the National Landscape Strategy into account for the planning of investments in transport infrastructure and tourism;
- calls on the ministers concerned to support volunteers and civil organisations engaged in landscape protection;
- calls on the Minister of the Prime Minister’s Office to provide for the gradual setting up of the chief landscape architect system;
- calls on the Minister of Agriculture to make a report every three years on the implementation of the strategy to the Government (the first report is due 30 June 2020).

The mission of the strategy

The mission of the first Hungarian National Landscape Strategy can be summarised as follows:

- Development of a complex, holistic landscape approach, and having it acknowledged generally;
- The landscape generally must be made an underlying approach of several policy areas and functions, not only the areas and functions with outstanding values;
- The condition of the landscape and the triggering effects must be handled together, through revealing causal interpersonal and thereby demonstrating the need for taking responsibility for landscapes.

The National Landscape Strategy emphasises the change in land use and land cover on both protected and unprotected areas.

The place and role of the National Landscape Strategy within the Hungarian planning scheme

The National Landscape Strategy is integrated in the context of the European Landscape Convention, and with the Nature Conservation Master Plan stipulated in the National Landscape Policy and Strategy – Decision 27/2015 (17 June) of the cabinet.

Structure, content

Time frame: 2017-2026 (a medium-term strategy)

Structure:

- In compliance with the criteria of policy strategies according to Government Decision 38/2012 (12 March) on strategic management by the government:
  - analysis and evaluation of the situation;
  - measurable objectives;
  - required actions and their preconditions;
  - follow-up and evaluation.

Content:

- How Hungarians satisfy international expectations;
- The most dominant landscape formation processes;
- The condition of Hungarian landscapes, and;
- the drivers that determine their condition;
- how Hungary satisfies international expectations;
- required actions and their preconditions;
- measurable objectives.

The National Landscape Strategy covers the whole territory of Hungary. The measures typically affect or may potentially cover the whole country.

Comprehensive situation analysis

Hungarian landscape in 19th and 20th centuries

The evolution of the Hungarian landscape policy

Drivers determining the condition of Hungarian landscapes:

- Quantitative and qualitative change in needs: expansion of the Landscape-related set of Hungarian regulatory and planning means;
- Economic incentives and funding schemes defining the type and state of Hungarian landscapes.

The condition of Hungarian landscapes

SWOT analysis

Authorisations

European Landscape Convention (Art. 09 of 2007) on the proclamation of the European Landscape Convention was signed in Florence on 20 October 2000. The minister responsible for nature conservation shall provide for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in agreement with the minister responsible for cultural heritage protection in co-operation with the ministers responsible for territorial development and spatial planning.

European Landscape Convention National Co-ordination Working Group:

- Work Programme for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention (2013-2021); 2013-2021;
- The development of the Hungarian landscape strategy as an ‘extremely important’ task.

4th National Environmental Programme – Decision 27/2015 (17 June) of the National Assembly on the National Environmental Programme for the period between 2015 and 2020.

The development of the “National Landscape Policy and Strategy Integrating the Protection, Management and Planning of Landscapes” is stipulated in Chapter 8.7 European Landscape Convention of the Nature Conservation Master Plan annexed to the Programme.

Work flow

SWOT analysis 2015 March;

WOK: Workshop (organised by Office of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights and the State Secretariat for Environmental Affairs):

- analysis and evaluation of the condition of the Hungarian landscapes;
- the role and responsibility of public administration in landscape formation;
- Convening of an intra-ministerial and inter-ministerial working group Strategic Environmental Assessment

Technical fields participating in the preparatory work:

- terrestrial protection, nature conservation, environmental development, agricultural development, forestry;
- water management, National Water Strategy;
- heritage values, protection of archaeological heritage, World Heritage, spa planning, settlement affairs;
- energy management, mining;
- raw minerals, geological agents;
- water management, National Water Strategy.

The Hungarian Government approved the National Landscape Strategy for the period 2017-2026;
II. Liveable landscape – liveable settlement – wise land use

4. A national programme of state nature conservation with the implementation of the European Landscape Convention and the 2021 Strategy for Landscape Conservation at national, regional and local levels.

Follow-up and evaluation

Sub-objective I.1: Establishing the framework for land use based on landscape configuration and assets, resource/resource

- Setting up a database containing spatial data of landscape configuration
- The methodology for categorising the landscapes in Hungary based on landscape character
- Digital base of national landscape character areas
- The methodology for the delineation of landscape character areas at regional and local development level
- The methodology for specifying quality objectives and management principles for national landscape character areas
- The methodology for specifying quality objectives and management principles for regional landscape character areas
- The availability and implementation of a compact settlement model planning guide
- The availability and implementation of a climate-friendly settlement model planning guide
- Methodology for landscape-scale heritage protection

Actual challenges

1. New work programme for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention for the period 2016-2020
2. An action plan taking the date of the interim evaluation of the strategy into account
3. A new law on the protocol amending the European Landscape Convention and depositing the instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
4. A national programme of state nature conservation with the title “Strategic Assessments supporting the long-term conservation of natural values of community interest” as well as the national implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020?

Policy objectives

The overall objective:

- Responsible land use based on landscape configuration and assets.

Horizontal principles:

- General protection of natural resources and cultural heritage;
- Wise and rational use of areas;
- The mitigation of the impacts of climate change and adaptation to it.

Strategic objectives:

1. Laying the foundations for land use based on landscape configuration and assets.
2. Improving awareness and social responsibility.
3. Improving social participation.
4. Developing education and training related to landscape.

Vision

Vision of Hungarian landscapes

- Utilisation of the environmental elements typical of the landscape in sustainable and integrated utilisation
- Valuable traditional land uses are sustained, degraded sites are recovered
- Semi-natural and developed areas, as well as land use associated with production, are managed by a balanced and innovative way
- The proportion of built-up areas is low, does not increase or increases only to the extent of the population growth, is related to compact sustainable settlements
- The settlements and the heritage assets are harmoniously embedded in the landscape

Vision of landscape policy

- The government handles landscape policy in a holistic way
- System-level management and monitoring of the processes that form the landscapes become routine
- Planning results in sustainable and balanced area uses
- A general and differentiated protection of all landscapes of the country is implemented
- The economic incentives are designed to promote landscape changes in a positive direction
- Landscape potential is exploited without threatening landscape character and its values
- The population has developed a strong landscape identity, efficiently co-operates in issues connected to landscape

Guarantees for the implementation

The operational programmes for 2014-2020 have been taken into account when defining objectives and intervention areas.

A major part of actions for the fulfillment of the objectives is, or can be linked to operational programmes financed from EU funds. At the end of the EU budgetary period and the beginning of the period of planning the following budgetary period, attention should be paid to the objectives specified in the strategy are involved among the planning criteria.

Additionally, ensure that the strategy contains actions that do not require allocated funds in the budget but can be achieved as part of the existing tasks through a change of approach or attitude.

It is important that, according to the order of strategic management by the government, the new strategies and existing strategies that are reviewed should integrate the requirement for responsible land use, based on landscape configuration and assets, and should incorporate the actions (ME measures) specified for the objectives into the sectoral policies.

The National Landscape Strategy emphasizes the change in land use and land cover on both protected and unprotected areas.

Advantages

- Taking the list of objectives of the strategy, the principles laid down in the European Landscape Convention, among others, two inter-ministerial working groups began their operation in 2017 on the following:
  - monitoring the changes of landscapes,
  - establishment of a chief landscape architect system in public administration.

Achievements so far

- KEHOP-4.3.0-15-2016-00001
  - Strategic Assessments supporting the long-term conservation of natural values of community interest, as well as the national implementation of the EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020
  - Beneficiary: Ministry of Agriculture
  - Timeframe: October 2016 – October 2017 (project preparation)
  - November 2017 – December 2020 (implementation)
  - Budget: HUF 1.07 billion (EUR 3.45 million)
  - Funding: 85% ERDF + 15% national
KEHOP-4.3.0-15-2016-00001

The four closely-related project elements will produce the following:

- Thematic maps on the ecosystem status of natural and close-to-natural ecosystems;
- National priority list of ecosystem services;
- Assessment of the contribution of ecosystem services to human well-being, socio-economic evaluation of ecosystem services;
- National methodology and model for the mapping and assessment of ecosystems and ecosystem services;
- Range maps;
- Habitat maps;
- National list of bird species nesting in Hungary;
- Refined methodology for monitoring and assessment of the conservation status of bird species;
- Preparing species’ management plans, updated Prioritised Action Framework;
- Updated conflict map of power lines threatening birds;
- National GIS database of landscape character units;
- Guidelines for the classification of landscape character types;
- Methodology for the delimitation and protection of landscape character units at local level;
- National GIS database of the Green Infrastructure network;
- National restoration prioritisation framework;
- Target areas of conservation.
Experience of Latvia: Implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Mrs Kristīne Kedo
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Mrs Dace Granta
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Latvia is one of the greenest countries in Europe: it signed the European Landscape Convention in 2006 and ratified it in 2007. The elaboration of the Latvian national Landscape policy was begun in 2008. It is underlined in the first long-term planning document of the State – Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia up to 2030, approved by the Parliament in 2010 – that landscapes are one of the most valuable components of the Latvian cultural and natural heritage at national level. The Spatial Development Perspective of this Strategy defines preservation of natural and cultural heritage and landscapes as one of the main targets to be achieved.

In order to implement the Strategy and the European Landscape Convention, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development (MoEPRD) was set as the responsible authority for elaboration of a Landscape Policy Strategy (Landscape Strategy). Therefore a Working Group was established in 2011 and information on the development of the strategy was placed on the Ministry’s website, to ensure public participation.
The Working Group concluded that the current landscape management is ineffective and the existing situation in landscape inventory, assessment and planning varies highly from region to region, and from municipality to municipality. There were intense discussions in this Working Group, because some experts wanted to set strict requirements for landscape planning, while others argued against them by stressing the need for flexibility.

The Landscape Strategy was approved by the government in 2013 and its overarching aim is “To identify and plan the necessary measures and define the competences of the parties involved in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”. Two main priorities were defined as “Improvement of landscape governance and legislative framework” and “Building of understanding about landscape values and enhancement of education, expert training and research in the field of landscapes”.

The most important actions of the Landscape Strategy are:

- definition of valuable landscapes at national and local level;
- preparation of landscape plans for nationally valuable landscapes;
- preparation of an electronic landscape atlas;
- preparation of suggestions for improvement of legislative framework in spatial planning;
- preparation of guidelines for evaluation, management and planning of landscapes at local level;
- organisation of different activities for society regarding landscapes.

The first mid-term evaluation of the Landscape Strategy was carried out and a report was prepared by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development in 2017. This report includes information related to the implementation of priorities of the strategy and the implementation of the Convention in local municipalities. At local level there are many practical activities on the implementation of the Convention, such as site greening, joint landscaping, competitions for the most treasured house and others. These activities are mostly planned and implemented in the short or medium term (up to seven years). The Ministry devoted particular attention to finding out how the local governments work with the landscape planning in long-term spatial development documents.

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has evaluated the inclusion of landscape planning and management aspects in Spatial Development Strategies, which set long-term spatial development priorities, as well as Land-use or Territorial Plans, which contain zoning for use of the territory. During the development of this report, the Ministry found that almost all Spatial Development Strategies of local government (around 80%) have defined the framework for preserving landscapes. There is a tendency that the municipalities near the capital describe the value of landscapes less frequently than the average of all Latvian municipalities. This can be explained by the more active use of the territory in the area near the capital of Latvia, and the willingness of municipalities to avoid discussions about the protection of areas with high landscape value.

More than 90% of the Territorial Plans include general conditions for the preservation of landscapes, but only 50% of these Plans have spatially defined valuable landscapes with specific conditions. In addition, some municipalities have developed thematic Landscape Plans that serve as the basis for developing other planning documents. However a new approach to landscape assessment in Latvia is needed: to date, the assessment of landscapes was mostly done in the field by experts: the general public just faced to the consequences of these researches. Therefore the conclusions of experts tend not to be accepted by the general public or are widely discussed.

The Ministry recognised that the national selection for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is an important instrument for raising awareness of the importance of landscapes for local municipalities and the general public. It has organised four national selections for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe and the number of participants has doubled each time. There were two nominees in 2012; four nominees in 2014 and eight in 2016. In the 5th Session of Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, Daugavpils Fortress Regeneration Project was granted the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. For the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, the ministry is organising the national selection in five regional contests, to encourage smaller initiatives to participate and share their achievements.

In the vein of awareness-raising and involvement of the general public and municipalities, it is important to mention that on 18 November 2018 we will celebrate Latvia’s Centenary – 100 years as an independent country. A Celebration programme with more than 100 events and campaigns is being prepared and one of these events is dedicated to landscapes. Since the middle of 2017, the ministry has been organising a public campaign, “Treasured landscape values of Latvia – yesterday, today and tomorrow”, for identification...
of treasured landscape values. The campaign is organised in three phases:

- **Phase 1** – Public participation (submission of landscape treasures; voting and selection of 10 landscape treasures per region, or 50 treasures for the whole country; donation of historical and actual photos, sharing memories and future wishes);
- **Phase 2** – Development of electronic storage for landscape treasures;
- **Phase 3** – Regional discussions and gala forums with exhibitions.

In the first phase of the campaign the activity of citizens was astonishing – more than 1,000 proposals for landscape treasures were received during the first two months. Taking into account the visual and cultural values, landscape experts selected 243 of the 1,000 proposals that were submitted for electronic voting on the website of National Library. There were 46,000 votes during two months and a dedicated board of landscape experts summarised them and developed a list of 10 treasured landscape values for each of the five planning regions. In the concluding part of the first phase, additional information, photos, memories and wishes for the future was collected. Over three months, 959 photos and 72 personal memories about landscape treasures were submitted by citizens.

Currently a mobile exhibition with historical and contemporary photos and descriptions of 50 treasured landscape values is being prepared. It will be ready by August 2018 and will be put on display back-to-back with regional discussions on the value and importance of landscapes. This will be held in all five regions in September 2018. To summarise the findings of regional discussions and to celebrate the beauty of Latvian landscapes, a gala forum will be organised in the National Library for 400 participants. All 50 landscape treasures and collected information will be incorporated in electronic storage which will be a present for the Centenary of Latvia in November 2018. It is also planned to make this electronic storage available in English in early 2019.

We hope that these activities will be a good stimulus also for local municipalities to include the values of the landscape set by the society in their development planning documents and to develop necessary measures to save these landscape values. And we believe that this electronic storage will serve as a basis for the collection of memories, stories, events, notable persons, historical photos, as well as wishes for the future and actions needed for maintenance of these values in future!

Powerpoint presentation:
http://rm.coe.int/16807b555b
Activities in local municipalities

A lot of practical activities on the implementation of the convention, such as site greening, joint landscaping, competitions for the most treasured house and others - mostly planned and implemented in the short or medium term up to 7 years

A long-term challenge (over 7 years) - landscape planning in spatial development documents:

- Spatial Development Strategies
- Territorial plans
Public participation – unexpected activity in 1st phase

- ~1,000 applications for landscape treasures
- 243 landscape treasures for voting
- ~46,000 votes
- In total 959 photos and 72 personal memories about landscape treasures were handed in

2 months
2 months
3 months

Spatial Development Strategies
- The importance and value of landscapes have been described by about 80% of local municipalities.
- There is a tendency that municipalities near the capital describe the value of landscapes less frequently than the average of all Latvian municipalities.

Territorial plans
- More than 90% of the Territorial plans include general conditions for the preservation of landscapes.
- Only 50% of these plans have spatially-defined valuable landscapes with specific conditions.

Thematic plans
- Some municipalities have developed thematic landscape plans that serve as the basis for developing other planning documents.

Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
- 4 national selections
- Number of nominees double each time
- The Regeneration Project of Daugavpils Fortress on the 5th Session of Landscape Award of the Council of Europe is granted the Landscape Award.
- For 6th Session of Landscape Award of the Council of Europe, Latvia is organising the national selection in 5 regional contests.

Daugavpils Fortress

Identification of landscape treasures
1st phase – Public participation –
- submission of landscape treasures;
- voting and selection of 10 landscape treasures per region or 50 treasures for the whole country;
- handing in historical and current photos, sharing memories and future wishes.
2nd phase – Development of electronic storage for landscape treasures.
3rd phase – Regional discussions and gala forum with exhibitions.

National selections of Landscape Award
- 2012
- 2014
- 2016

Spatial Development Strategies

Thematic plans

Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

Daugavpils Fortress

Identification of landscape treasures

Territorial plans

Public participation – unexpected activity in 1st phase

- ~1,000 applications for landscape treasures
- 243 landscape treasures for voting
- ~46,000 votes
- In total 959 photos and 72 personal memories about landscape treasures were handed in

2 months
2 months
3 months
Walks among the landscaped parks and squares in a long history of different cultures - September

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Republic of Latvia

More information: www.ainavudargumi.lv

Thank you very much for your attention!

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Session 2

Instruments for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: identification, assessment, quality objectives
Experience of France: Implementing landscape quality objectives

Mr Gilles de Beaulieu
Policy Officer for Landscapes, Directorate of Housing, Urban Planning and Landscapes, Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition, France

Incorporation into French law

The concept of landscape quality objectives was initially incorporated into the French Town Planning Code. In March 2014, the Law on Access to Housing and Renovated Town Planning (Loi pour l’accès au logement et un urbanisme rénové, the ALUR Act) made landscape quality objectives compulsory in Territorial Cohesion Strategies (Schémas de cohérence territoriale, SCOTs).

A Territorial Cohesion Strategy is a town planning document which sets out broad strategic guidelines on housing, mobility, commercial development, the environment and landscape, which are then replicated at local level in local land-use plans.

Thus, in line with the landscape quality objectives introduced in the Territorial Cohesion Strategy, the Local Urban Plan must also, at its own level and in compliance with the principle of subsidiarity, provide detailed guidelines for the protection, management and/or landscaping structures at local level.

Subsequently, the concept of landscape quality objectives was incorporated into the Environment Code. The Reclaiming Biodiversity, Nature and Landscape Act (Loi pour la Reconquête de la biodiversité, de la nature et des paysages) of 8 August 2016 introduced a chapter specifically dealing with landscape. As well as defining “landscape quality objectives” (objectifs de qualité paysagère - OQP), this chapter requires them to be included in the charters of National Regional Parks and treats them as a landscape policy tool.
Feedback

Regarding planning, our discussions with local stakeholders, including the Federation of Territorial Cohesion Strategy (Fédération des schémas de cohérence territoriale), have shown that the concept of landscape quality objectives is little understood. It is perceived as being too abstract and therefore difficult to translate into practice. So, although the statutory obligation is met, and territorial cohesion strategies do in fact contain landscape quality objectives, they often take the form of policy statements which are too general to generate any real momentum.

One explanation for this situation can be found in the history of landscape policies which initially relied on a purely aesthetic and heritage-based approach. The first piece of legislation on landscape was the Act of 1930, which is still in force today and establishes the principle of classification and listing of natural sites and monuments. Even now, landscapes are too often viewed as beautiful, sacrosanct objects and not seen as being an asset to be developed, and an instrument for tackling the challenge of ecological, social, environmental and other transitions.

A further explanation for the current situation lies in the method of transposition. Incorporation into French law was carried out on a strategic level of planning. In France, however, there is a strict hierarchy of norms, based on a top-down logic which inhibits local project development. As a result, landscape quality objectives are disconnected from the operational level and the local and regional project approach of which they are meant to be a reflection. Similarly, landscape quality objectives are insufficiently underpinned by a methodology based on consultation with citizens, which is difficult to organise on such small territorial scales. The issue then arises of how to strike a balance between technocratic expression and the expression of public will.

Shift in landscape policies

From this perspective, incorporating the European Landscape Convention into French law has created tension between two different mind-sets. On the one hand, there is a fundamentally centralist approach, even though devolution has transferred decision-making powers from the state to local authorities; on the other hand, there is a citizen participation approach which raises the question of how decisions are made.

This tension has helped to drive change. By introducing a section on “landscape” into the Environment Code, for example, the Reclaiming Biodiversity, Nature and Landscape Act of 8 August 2016 has enabled landscape policies to break free from the restrictive regulatory framework of urban development and planning, and to forge an alternative route.

It has helped re-focus landscape policies at the operational level, and to restore the close link between landscape policy objectives and local and regional projects. Landscape policy objectives are thus understood as a blueprint formulated through landscape analysis and local consultations, and which serve as a benchmark for the implementation of local action plans.

Powerpoint presentation:
http://rm.coe.int/16807b5558
The act of 1930 establishes the principle of classification and listing of natural sites and monuments. Landscapes are too often viewed as beautiful, sacrosanct objects by elected representatives.

The statutory obligation is met, and SCOT, do contain landscape quality objectives. It is perceived as being too abstract and therefore difficult to translate into practice.

The law introduced a chapter specifically dealing with landscape into the Environment Code as well as defining “landscape quality objectives”.

The ALUR act made landscape quality objectives compulsory in Territorial Cohesion Strategies. The local land-use plan must also, at its own level, provide detailed guidance on the protection management of landscape structures at local level.

One explanation for this situation can be found in the history of landscape policies.

Feedback

The concept of landscape quality objectives is little understood.

- The act of 1930 establishes the principle of classification and listing of natural sites and monuments.
- Landscapes are too often viewed as beautiful, sacrosanct objects by elected representatives.
A further explanation for the current situation lies in the method of transposition

- Incorporation into French law was carried out on a strategic level of planning.
- As a result, landscape quality objectives are disconnected from the operational level and the local project approach of which they are meant to be a reflection.
- Consultation with citizens is difficult to organise on such small territorial scales.

Shift in landscape policies

Re-focus landscape policies at operational level.

Change the hierarchy of norms based on a top-down logic which inhibits local project development.

The landscape plan, an operational project tool.

- The landscape plan is a state support provided to each region to build their local project.
- It is a call for tender managed by the environment ministry and rewards 15 laureates per year.
- A landscape plan club gathers all the laureates together and encourages them to share their experiences.
- A national valuation of the local actions is conducted.
Session 3
Landscape awareness, training and education
Experience of Finland: Landscape awareness, training and education

Mr Tapio Heikkilä
Senior Environmental Counsellor,
Ministry of the Environment, Finland

Landscape is an excellent tool when considering the relationship between humans and their environment. We are surrounded by landscapes, in nature and in towns, in the countryside and in suburbs. The landscape is both a concrete phenomenon and a subjective concept. According to the European Landscape Convention, “Landscape means an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”.

Landscapes consist of numerous layers that reflect human history. Both positive and negative actions have left their trace on the landscape. When people become aware of the positive, valuable, elements of the landscape, we tend to believe that they will preserve these features or even act to produce more of these elements. When people see different kinds of damage in the landscape, we believe that they will act to repair the damage. Of course, this is an optimistic view, and it often does not come true for many economic, social and individual reasons.

If we strive, nevertheless, to reach this optimum outcome, what is most important is that a high number of people exhibit a strong enough will to try to make a difference. When society demonstrates this kind of will, the matter at hand takes on political importance, and this catches the eye of decision makers.

The general will to manage and preserve different landscape values requires broad but also detailed knowledge of the subject. This can only be achieved through education and training. These are the essential starting points of awareness. When people’s awareness of landscapes is raised, this will automatically increase the pressure to produce new information on landscape-related issues.
However, to reach this point requires a number of steps at different levels.

**Steps to bring about awareness of landscapes**

In early childhood, parents have a critical role in a child’s development. These early years are also important in how the child’s individual identity will develop. In this process, the landscapes surrounding the child play an integral part.

During early childhood education, the child learns skills for examining and interpreting his surroundings (that is the landscape), either with the help of his parents or in kindergarten. In Finland, it is common in some kindergartens to keep children outside most of the day, whether in gardens, parks, forests or other natural areas.

Primary and secondary schools also play a central role in educating children about landscapes. Different subjects can include teaching on landscapes and present differing viewpoints about them. Additionally, teachers can go deeper into landscape topics during thematic days. Another possibility is schools that specialise in nature-related subjects. Finland has a network of these specialised nature schools, where school groups can spend a day exploring nature and landscapes. See: www.luontokoulut.fi/en

Higher education, such as in high schools and universities, can be either academically independent (when the goal is to produce scientific researchers) or it can fulfil the direct needs of society by graduating well-trained professionals for different work. At universities, landscape courses are offered in different departments and landscape issues can be included in different subjects. Typical subjects are geography and landscape architecture. Turku University even has a small school for landscape research.

When landscape issues begin to appear regularly in public discussions, and gain both theoretical and practical attention, educational institutions will very quickly offer teaching in this field. One practical example of this in Finland is the Rural Women’s Advisory Organisation that nowadays has over 20 full-time landscape specialists throughout the country. The starting point for this was in 1995 when, for the first time, the Finnish Government made a decision on nationally valuable landscape areas. At the same time, the European Union’s agri-environmental support system came into operation. Farmers began to get financial support to manage semi-natural habitats and maintain the cultural values of countryside landscapes. From this, it was evident that there was a need to provide guidance for farmers.

Every year, the Ministry of the Environment also arranges professional training on landscape issues. This includes landscape training and negotiation days for environmental and heritage administrations and their associated co-operation partner organisations.

In addition to these educational achievements, all efforts made by different non-governmental organisations (NGOs) are important. These efforts vary from voluntary practical work on landscape management to taking action to influence land-use plans.

To generate awareness of landscape issues requires the active involvement of different stakeholders and the production of information at different levels of administration. It is important that the issues are discussed in different media. Landscape is a very practical concept because its phenomena are easy to visualise. Through photography and other media, good and bad examples can be easily demonstrated, both to the general public and politicians. Civil society has to be provided with information on landscapes and the public has to be given the opportunity to participate in discussions on the issues. Interaction in this sense is extremely valuable.

**Some interesting examples in Finland of raising awareness of landscapes**

This section includes some examples of projects and initiatives that have been successful or noteworthy in raising awareness of landscapes. The examples highlight achievements by different stakeholders, such as authorities, NGOs, schools and academic institutions. All actors are important, and they have different roles in awareness-raising, whether separately or in cooperation with others.

**Cultural heritage makers**

European Heritage Days date back to 1984, when France began to arrange open-door events for historical monuments. Soon thereafter, many countries started to organise their own similar events and, in 1991, the Council of Europe established the European Heritage Days. In 1992, Finland began to participate as well.

The theme for this year is European Year of Cultural Heritage. One of the planned events is a heritage education initiative – The Heritage Makers’ Competition – which was originally launched by Finland. School groups at all levels can take part in this competition through projects on cultural heritage and landscapes. The last winner in the competition in Finland was the Keravanjoki School with its project Stone Bridge. The project consists of a story, a video and a puzzle, all of which were planned and produced by the 13-year-old schoolchildren. The old stone bridge is an important monument that is part of the local landscape and a pleasant place to visit and meet friends.
Green Year 2016

Green Year 2016 was launched in Finland by the Ministry of the Environment, but the main organisational work was done by the Finnish Association of Landscape Industries. The patron of the year was the President of Finland, Sauli Niinistö.

The goal of the Green Year was to encourage individuals, organisations and companies to act for a better, greener and more pleasant environment. In 2016, the theme was Sustainable Finnish Landscapes and the slogan was “My Landscape – in the town and in the countryside”. Numerous stakeholders organised over 400 events in 70 municipalities. The events ranged from guerrilla gardening to park planning in towns. A competition was held where people sent in their photos and stories about their favourite landscapes. Hug a Tree Week was also an enormous success, and many people took a huge number of selfies and published them on social media sites. Social media seems to be a very convenient and effective way to spread information on landscape experiences.

The very first Green Year was held in Finland in 1985. The most recent one was the sixth such year. The next step is the initiative for the European Green Year 2020.

Finnish landscapes in photographs

The Finnish Association of Professional Nature Photographers celebrated its 100-year anniversary in 2017 by publishing a four-book series on Finnish landscapes. Additionally in 2017, the association arranged a photo competition “My Landscape” that was open to everyone. Over the course of the year, people sent in their landscape images and every month the best photos were nominated by a jury. The public’s favourites were chosen by an open vote. Almost 44,000 photos were submitted to the competition by 7,500 amateur and professional photographers. Over one million votes were cast by more than 35,000 people for photos that were taken all around the country.

Landscape Observatory of Finland

The Landscape Observatory of Finland was established in 2016. It is a consortium of several universities, governmental and public institutions and non-governmental organisations. The aim of the observatory is to encourage a more open and holistic view of the landscape. To this end, it works to promote research, discussion, participation and actions on landscape issues. Furthermore, the observatory supports the involvement of all stakeholders and partners in the planning and management of landscapes.

The Landscape Observatory recently completed an assessment of how the European Landscape Convention has been implemented in Finland. In the coming years the conclusions of the assessment will guide the work of the observatory. International co-operation partners include other European landscape observatories and the non-governemental UNISCAPE.

Powerpoint presentation:
http://rm.coe.int/16807b5557
Landscape Awareness, Training & Education

- Training and education are the starting points for raising awareness of landscapes;
- Education & training on different levels:
  - early childhood
  - primary and secondary schools
  - high schools and universities
  - professional level
  - NGOs, civil society and others
- Knowledge: producing information for different media;
- Participation and interaction;
- Visualisation of landscape-related phenomena: good and bad examples, results of landscape management.
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Landscape Awareness, Training & Education

Some Examples in Finland

- **Cultural Heritage Makers**
  - European Heritage Days/ European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018: competition for children and youth
- **Green Year 2016**
  - theme year organised by the Finnish Association of Landscape Industries, Ministry of the Environment & other stakeholders
- **Landscape Award of the Council of Europe**
  - Best Landscape Project of Finland
- **Landscape Observatory of Finland**
  - New project for research & awareness-raising

Green Year 2016

Theme: Sustainable Finnish Landscapes

- **Slogan:** My landscape – in town and in the countryside
- **Co-operation with NGOs, authorities, municipalities, citizens**
- **Over 400 events in 70 municipalities**
- **Social media successful tool**
- **Initiative:** European Green Year

Landscape Award of the CoE

- **In Finland:** open competition The Best Landscape Project of Finland
- **Finnish candidate for the European Landscape Award**
- **Minister of the Environment declares the winner and awards honorary prizes at an open landscape symposium**
- **2008:** Landscape Management of Hämeenkyrö National Landscape Area
- **2010:** Management of endangered traditional biotopes
- **2012:** The Landscape Projects of the Hyyppä Valley
- **2014:** Bull by the Horns: Grazing in nature and landscape management.
- **2016:** “Shepherding Weeks”
- **2018:** Competition open until 7.9.2018

- **The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe**

Cultural Heritage Maker 2017

Kerava Stone Bridge/ Keravanjoki School

Green Year 2016

Theme: Sustainable Finnish Landscapes

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- **The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe**

2012: The Landscape Projects of the Hyyppä Valley – Landscape Conservation Area

- **In Finland:** open competition The Best Landscape Project of Finland
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- **The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe**
2016: “Shepherding Weeks”
~ Voluntary work for valuable landscapes

Landscape Observatory of Finland

- Consortium for Landscape Observatory established 2016;
- European Landscape Convention starting point;
- 8 Universities and research institutions, National Board of Antiquities, Ministry of the Environment, 2 NGO’s (landscape architects and cultural heritage researchers);
- Co-operation with UNISCAPE & CIVILSCAPE;
- Next steps: defining goals, project plans, funding.
Session 4

Participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies
Experience of Serbia: Landscape policies

Mrs Biljana Filipovic Dušić
Assistant Minister responsible for International Co-operation,
Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, the national focal point responsible for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Serbia, Serbia

Mrs Jasminka Lukovic Jaglicic
Director Advisor, Regional Economic Development Agency, Sumadija and Pomoravlje (REDASP), Serbia

Landscape is our common resource: all landscapes in Europe are one beautiful mosaic and our efforts in planning and protecting their unique beauty, in saving their natural and cultural identity, will be important for future generations.

Serbia has progressed in the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and is very much committed to adopting landscape policies at national and regional level.

We have established procedures for the participation of the general public and local and regional governments, and also for raising awareness among civil society and public authorities; we are promoting training and education with Belgrade University, involving not only our students, but also exchanging experience and organising training with international universities and schools, on landscape issues.

After ratifying the European Landscape Convention, we recognised landscapes in national laws, regulations and policies, representing an important contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe’s objectives: promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law, and seeking common solutions to the main problems facing European society today.
National Symposium on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe in Georgia

The opening of Chapter 27 in the negotiation process with the European Union, which covers the environment and climate change policy, remains the best chance we have to harmonise the regulations with the EU aquis related to environment, nature conservation, biodiversity.

So far, landscapes are recognised in several existing laws:

- Law on Nature Conservation (Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia No. 36/09, 88/2010 and 14/2016), regulates the protection and conservation of nature, biological, geological and landscape diversity;
- Law on Environmental Impact Assessment;
- Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia, for the period 2016-2020;
- National Strategy for Sustainable Use of Natural Goods (Official Gazette of RS No. 33/2012);
- Biodiversity Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2011-2018 (Official Gazette of RS, No. 13/2011);
- National Sustainable Development Strategy;
- National Strategy for Approximation of the Environment of the Republic of Serbia (Official Gazette of RS 80/2011);
- National Programme for Environmental protection (Official Gazette of RS 12/2010);

The following documents, created in the period from 2010 to 2017, are relevant for establishing the landscape policy:

- Spatial plan of the Republic of Serbia from 2010 to 2020. Chapter 1.3.4 of the Spatial Plan is dedicated to landscape protection and management. This chapter provides the establishment of Landscape Study (Landscape characterisation).

There are three areas for which the development of Landscape Study is foreseen:

- areas designated from the point of view of natural values;
- areas whose landscape quality or present physical structures are significant for future development;
- areas under special pressure of development.

Further activities include the creation of three documents supported by the Project Fund for Institutional Development (PROFID), financed by the Swedish Agency for International Development:

- Baseline Study/Review of compliance of the existing regulations with the European Landscape Convention. It represents the first result of the project “Development of the draft Action Plan for the Implementation of the European Landscape Convention”;
- Rulebook on the criteria for identifying the landscapes and the method of assessing their significant and characteristic features (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, No. 119/17 of 29.12.2017);

The legal basis for drafting and for the adoption of the Rulebook on the criteria for identifying the landscapes and the method of assessing their significant and characteristic features (“Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia”, No. 119/17 of 29.12.2017) are the following:

- Law on Nature Protection (Article 26, paragraph 5) stating that the criteria for landscape identification and the conditions for evaluation of their significant and characteristic features is stipulated by the minister;
- Law on Ratification of the European Landscape Convention;
- Law on Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia (SPRS), specifying that the strategic priority is characterisation of the landscape of Serbia.

Other activities

It was a great challenge for Serbia to participate in the selections for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. Even before becoming a Party to the Convention, Serbia applied with the Project “The Gate of Gornje Podunavlje, NGO Podunav”, Backi Monostor. A Special Mention of the Committee of Ministers was given to Serbia, for “Contributing to European ideals”. The location of the “Gate of Gornje Podunavlje” Project on the banks of the Danube in the historic region of Backi Monostor has enabled some particularly interesting cross-border and multi-ethnic objectives to be pursued. The attention given to the Serb, Croat and Hungarian heritages, with a view to a shared European identity, was particularly appreciated. This Project reflected a public commitment to better economic and social well-being and, at the same time, to the preservation of the character of the landscapes. Within a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, it had a well-adapted, integrated approach. The development of cross-border ecotourism, in conjunction with a return to agricultural production geared to traditional diets, reduced the number of young people leaving the countryside.
In 2017, Serbia submitted the Project “Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve: a tool for sustainable development” for the Council of Europe Landscape Award, delivered by the NGO Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica. Supporting Serbia’s attempts to adopt the European Union Habitats Directive and the protection of two endangered cattle species, this Project facilitated the development of a management and development plan, detailing protection methods and new opportunities for the Reserve. Nature conservation in Serbia was predominantly based on the traditional approach of isolating protected areas from human activity in and around these areas. Previously, nature conservation organisations lacked the capacity to work with modern approaches such as those promoted by the directive. In view of the rapprochement of Serbia to the European Union, there was a need to introduce these new approaches, including participatory management planning, the identification, designation and management of protected areas, and linking nature conservation with the wider perspective of rural development.

Several other on-going projects promote the protection of landscapes:

- Interreg Trans-border Co-operation Project with Slovenia, Croatia and Hungary, supported with European Union Funds, aiming to secure ecological and landscape diversity of the future UNESCO trans-border biosphere reserve, Mura Drava Danube. This area, along three rivers, connects almost a million hectares of natural and cultural heritage in a unique and most important ecological corridor in Europe;
- “Building capacities of Central Serbia and the Province of Vojvodina for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention”;

Identification, classification and description of landscape character types of Sumadija and Pomoravlje, Backa and Srem regions and creating a mechanism for strategic management and preservation of landscapes; recognition of these landscapes as development resources which contribute to the establishment of local and regional identity; recognition of the value and attractiveness of Sumadija and Pomoravlje landscapes for investments in tourism, agriculture and rural development, preservation of nature and biodiversity, environmental protection, cultural landscape protection etc.; creating the landscape spatial database; creating the website; contributing to proper understanding of the European Landscape Convention by local authorities, institutions, organisations, public and private sector, and civil society organisations.

Examples of public participation can also be given:

- organisation of the International Co-operation Day in Kragujevac, as one of the REDASP’s promotional activities dedicated to the continuation of the implementation the European Landscape Convention in Serbia;
- a National Conference was organised as the conclusion of the project: “Golija, a transition from planning to development”. Participants agreed that all interested parties in the project were striving to change the lives of local populations for the better, through strategic development of Golija Nature Park, and this implied not only preservation of natural and cultural heritage, but also economic progress of the region as a whole;
- a Project was led by the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Telecommunications of the Republic of Serbia and funded by the European Union and the Government of Switzerland through the European PROGRES programme with EUR 300,000. The project aims to create conditions for sustainable development of Golija Nature Park;
- promotion and co-operation with the countries from the Region with similar landscape policies.

Conclusion

There is an on-going transformation of the planning system in Serbia, along with expectations in acquiring its legitimacy and establishing greater efficiency of practice in planning and managing the development. The planning system and the relevant legislation will be recognised on the basis of the European Union strategic framework, regulations and instruments. These circumstances represent an advantage and convenience for the development of sustainable landscape planning, and their co-ordination with, and integration into, the planning system in Serbia.

Powerpoint presentation:
http://rm.coe.int/16807b5677
Belgrade Workshop

The European Landscape Convention was ratified in May 2011:
- Focus of the Convention: to promote the protection, management and planning of landscapes;
- Through the round of national workshops organised after ratification, the general public was encouraged to take an active part in all local/national activities related to landscape protection and management;
- Landscapes were recognised in national Laws and regulations and policies, representing an important contribution to the implementation of the Council of Europe’s objectives: promoting democracy, human rights and the rule of law and to seek common solutions to the main problems facing European society today.

Belgrade Workshop

The following documents, created in the period from 2010 to 2015 in the Republic of Serbia, are relevant for establishing the landscape policy:
Spatial plan of the Republic of Serbia from 2010 to 2020. The chapter 1.3.4 of the Spatial Plan is dedicated to landscape protection and management. This chapter provides the establishment of Landscape Study (landscape characterisation).

Competent authorities informed the public of the structure of the documents (Spatial Plan, Rulebook, Action Plan) through public discussions, media campaigns and consultations.

Other activities
- Local authorities actively participated in the election of projects that participated in the Council of Europe Landscape Award;
- Different sector representatives from Ministries and institutions (Institute for Nature Conservation, Institute for Architecture, Faculty for Forestry and Landscape, Province authorities...), involved in the National working group for implementation of ELC, regularly meet in order to take decisions about landscape policies, priorities, etc;
- Public participation on regional level is provided through active involvement of Regional Development Agencies; their role is in initiating projects, creation of strategies and local landscape policies;
- Participating in cross-border projects through INEREG Trans border Co-operation Project with Slovenia, Croatia, Hungary, supported with EU Funds, among other, is the establishment of the future UNESCO trans-border Biosphere Reserve Mura Drava Danube. Organising the transnational workshops, presentations, site visits involving different stakeholders and citizens from all 5 countries.

Recognising Landscape in National regulations

- Law on Environmental protection of the Republic of Serbia
- Law on Nature Conservation ( "Official Gazette of the Republic of Serbia " No. 36/ 09, 88/2010 and 14/2016), regulates the protection and conservation of nature, biological, geological and landscape diversity;
- Law on Environmental impact Assessment
- Spatial Plan of the Republic of Serbia, for the period 2016-2020
- National Strategy for Sustainable Use of Natural Goods ("Official Gazette of RS " No. 30/2012);
- Biodiversity Strategy of the Republic of Serbia for the period 2011-2018 (Official Gazette of RS, No 13/2011);
- National Sustainable Development Strategy;
- National Strategy for Approximation of Environment of the RS (Official Gazette of RS 80/2011);
- National Programme for Environmental protection (Official Gazette of RS 12/2010);
- Rulebook for characterisation of landscapes and their specific features (napisati broj sl. glasnika)
Celebrating landscape day in rural schools

Territory of Sumadija and Pomoravlje administrative Districts

Increasing capacities of Sumadija and Pomoravlje districts for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

Project supported the identification, classification and description of landscape character types of 2 regions and created a mechanism (basis) for strategic management and preservation of landscapes.

Objectives of the project were presented to the general public and 13 local governments, in order to show that these landscapes are development resources which contribute to the establishment of local and regional identity.

Raising awareness helped the local people recognise the value and attractiveness of Sumadija and Pomoravlje landscapes for investments in tourism, agriculture and rural development; preservation of nature and biodiversity; environmental protection; cultural landscape; protection etc.

Local authorities, institutions, organisations, public and private sector, and civil society organisations, recognised the benefits of landscape planning and economic valorisation of landscapes, for their effective use.

Raising awareness in schools

The exhibition of children's drawings: “The landscape I love and dream”

on the occasion of the 2017 International Landscape Day

Other examples of public participation activities

- Organisation of the International Landscape Day in Kragujevac, as one of the REDASP’s promotional activities dedicated to the continuation of European Landscape Convention implementation in Serbia.

- National Conference organised as a finalisation of the project: “Golija, a transition from planning to development”. Participants agreed that all interested parties in the project were striving to change the lives of the local population for the better, through the strategic development of Golija nature park, which implies not only preservation of natural and cultural heritage, but also economic progress of the region as a whole.

- Promotion and co-operation with the countries from the Region, with similar landscape policies.

“Golija – A transition from planning to development”

The exhibition of children's drawings: “The landscape I love and dream”

on the occasion of the 2017 International Landscape Day

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Raising awareness helped the local people recognise the value and attractiveness of Sumadija and Pomoravlje landscapes for investments in tourism, agriculture and rural development; preservation of nature and biodiversity; environmental protection; cultural landscape; protection etc.

Local authorities, institutions, organisations, public and private sector, and civil society organisations, recognised the benefits of landscape planning and economic valorisation of landscapes, for their effective use.

Raising awareness in schools

The exhibition of children's drawings: “The landscape I love and dream”

on the occasion of the 2017 International Landscape Day

Increasing capacities of Sumadija and Pomoravlje districts for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

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Local authorities, institutions, organisations, public and private sector, and civil society organisations, recognised the benefits of landscape planning and economic valorisation of landscapes, for their effective use.
The “Golija” Nature Park project promoted early public participation through the “Dialogue with relevant stakeholders” technique in the early stage of the planning process.

This was within the formal early public inquiry procedure in order to harmonise conflicting proposals in the early planning stage, to receive good-quality information on the conditions issued by the relevant authorities, to devise planning solutions and to raise the level of public participation by providing feedback.

Around 180 stakeholders participated in these meetings.

Awareness-raising process, Golija

- As a part of the awareness-raising process, an art competition, “My Golija”, was organised in five primary schools in Golija (one in each LSG). 102 pupils participated.
- The drawings were exhibited and prizes awarded during Action Plan Public Forum and served as an inspiration to stakeholders for the visioning process.
- In addition, information was provided to the public on each key event and a project movie was prepared. The Action planning process and formulation of management model was also intended to raise awareness of stakeholders and their identification with their territory.

THANK YOU!
Closing speeches
The European Landscape Convention represents the first and most important tool dedicated to the protection, management and planning of all kinds of landscapes in Europe. The Convention supports and stimulates the Parties of the Convention to understand the significance of the value of landscape in the prism of sustainable development. This approach marks out the landscape as a core potential for socio-economic development, encouraging attention to improve the environmental and heritage conditions which could become a guarantee to protect the European quality of life and well-being.

Such a global vision plays a significant role in the proper evaluation of landscape value, and promotes the achievement of higher levels of protection.

By ratifying the Convention in 2010, Georgia declared its full readiness to achieve the sustainable development goals, based on a balanced and harmonious relationship between socio-economic needs and environmental and cultural dimensions.

Such an approach requires the engagement of all the national and regional authorities, including relevant state organisations, field institutions, local communities and NGOs at all levels of spatial planning, to ensure the proper protection and adequate usage of the landscape with a long-term perspective.

While, the regional development has, in recent years, been one of the priorities of state policy, it remains crucial to activate the participatory involvement of all stakeholders in the process of the elaboration of the Spatial Development Documentation, with a view of establishing the integrated approach of a management system.

Therefore, we would like to express our deep appreciation to the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, who continuously support and lead the State Party in improving the remaining gaps in the implementation of the Convention. This National Symposium, jointly implemented by the Council of Europe and Georgia, as Party to the Convention, the Ministry of Sustainable Development of Georgia and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of Georgia, held in Tbilisi, Georgia on 9-10 March 2018, has been a most interesting and useful experience for the Georgian audience. The Council of Europe representatives and the national focal points from different countries shared their approaches, achievements and challenges in the process of the implementation of the Convention. It was also very important to gather many stakeholders together in order to focus and discuss the multidimensional approaches of integrated management, and ways to deepen collaboration in order to ensure the proper implementation of the European Landscape Convention and achieve the main goals of sustainable development for the country. The co-operation network, established between the institutions during the Symposium, can be considered one of the most practical results of the event.

During the two-day Symposium, the participants had an opportunity to visit two attractive historical landmarks in Dmanisi and Asureti, to better understand the diverse and rich potential of Georgia that should be developed, considering all the features of the landscape, to turn it into the economical driver for the local population and the country in general.
On behalf of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, allow me once again to confirm our gratitude to the Council of Europe for initiating and organising this National Symposium on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, and to express our appreciation to our European and Georgian colleagues for their co-operation.

We had an opportunity to familiarise ourselves with the different aspects of the Convention, thanks to the presentations introduced here. Information on the relevant methodology, involvement of the interested parties, vertical and horizontal links in inter-agency communication, spatial and urban planning and the Convention’s implementation process attracted the particular interest of the audience.

In the context of the Convention, interesting and useful presentations were presented on many issues. Particularly significant are the vertical and horizontal links of the methodology, the involvement of stakeholders, the different hierarchical levels of spatial and urban planning and the implementation of the Convention.

We strongly believe that the best practice and experience shared by our European colleagues will greatly contribute to the implementation of the Convention in Georgia, as well as in elaboration of the National Landscape Strategy and the relevant Action Plan.

The Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia will continue co-operation with different parties in the process of implementing the Convention.

We are very happy to receive such positive feedback on this Symposium and let me once again express our gratitude for your effective facilitation.
Mrs Krisztina Kincses  
Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, Hungary

Ladies and gentlemen,

Dear colleagues,

We are at the closure of the Symposium. The central theme of the Interministerial Round-Table was: Integration of the landscape into policies.

During the day, speakers presented very good examples of national policies. I hope – indeed, I am sure – we all have new ideas of how to integrate the landscape into national-level policy, and thus how to improve the quality of life. I hope everybody will return home full of new plans and enthusiasm for policy development.

I would like to highlight the importance of mutual assistance, sharing best practice with all the Parties to the Convention.

To conclude, I want to thank again the Secretariat of the European Landscape Convention of the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, the Ministry of Culture and Sport of Georgia, and the speakers from Georgia, Latvia, Finland, France and Serbia, and not least, all the participants of the meeting, for their contribution to this fruitful Symposium.
Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of all the participants, I wish to thank the authorities of Georgia for their warm hospitality. It was an immense pleasure to participate in this event and to discover the historical landscapes of Georgia.

I would like to say again a very special thank you to the authorities of Georgia for their hospitality and greatly appreciated co-operation. I was also very pleased to meet all the participants in this event.

I thank the Representatives of the Ministry of Agriculture of Hungary, the Ministry of the Environment of Finland, the Ministry of Ecological and Solidary Transition of France, the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of Latvia, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection of Serbia, for their presentations on the experiences of the national policies of their States and their contributions to the debates.

I would like also to emphasise the importance of the keynote presentation on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia. We appreciate the vision developed by Georgia in order to value the Georgian landscape with its exceptional natural and cultural features, and are convinced that the national network of the representatives of the ministries and institutions responsible for landscape policies in Georgia will be of fundamental importance in promoting this process.

Thank you for your attention.
Programme
The National Symposium on the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia was
organised in Tbilisi, Georgia (address: Tech Park Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA), 7, Inovatsiebi
str., Okrokana, Old Tbilisi District, 0105, Tbilisi) on 9-10 March 2018, by the Council of Europe – Secretariat
of the European Landscape Convention, Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of
Europe – in co-operation with the Ministry of Culture and Sport and the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable
Development of Georgia, within the context of the Work Programme of the European Landscape Convention
of the Council of Europe.

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 Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation,
San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”,
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 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, with the aim of promoting European landscape protection, management and planning
and to organise international co-operation. It is the first international treaty to be exclusively devoted to all
dimensions of the landscape. The Convention 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. To date, 39 Council of Europe member States have ratified the Convention:
Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic,
Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg,
Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak
Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, Turkey, Ukraine
and the United Kingdom. Two states have signed the Convention: Iceland and Malta.

Acknowledgments

The Secretariat of the Council of Europe would like to thank the Government of Georgia for its hospitality
and co-operation, and the Parties to the Convention attending the Symposium for their contribution to the
exchange of information according to the provisions of the Convention.
Objectives

The Symposium aimed to present the European Landscape Convention and to discuss its implementation at national level.

For the purposes of the convention:

‘Landscape policy’ means “an expression by the competent public authorities of general principles, strategies and guidelines that permit the taking of specific measures aimed at the protection, management and planning of landscapes”.

‘Landscape’ means “an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors”; ‘Landscape protection’ means “actions to conserve and maintain the significant or characteristic features of a landscape, justified by its heritage value derived from its natural configuration and/or from human activity”; ‘Landscape management’ means “action, from a perspective of sustainable development, to ensure the regular upkeep of a landscape, in order to guide and harmonise changes which are brought about by social, economic and environmental processes”; and ‘Landscape planning’ means “strong forward-looking action to enhance, restore or create landscapes”.

The Symposium aimed to promote the implementation of the Convention in Georgia.

The Convention states notably in its Chapter II:

Article 5 – General measures
Each Party undertakes:

a. to recognise landscapes in law 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;

b. to establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection, management and planning through the adoption of the specific measures set out in Article 6;

c. to establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies mentioned in paragraph b above;

d. 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 6 – Specific measures

A. Awareness-raising
Each Party undertakes to increase awareness among the civil society, private organisations, and public authorities of the value of landscapes, their role and changes to them.

B. Training and education
Each Party undertakes to promote:

a. training for specialists in landscape appraisal and operations;

b. multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for professionals in the private and public sectors and for associations concerned;

c. school and university courses which, in the relevant subject areas, address the values attaching to landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning.

C. Identification and assessment

1. With the active participation of the interested parties, as stipulated in Article 5.c, and with a view to improving knowledge of its landscapes, each Party undertakes:

a. i) to identify its own landscapes throughout its territory;

ii) to analyse their characteristics and the forces and pressures transforming them;

iii) to take note of changes;

b. to assess the landscapes thus identified, taking into account the particular values assigned to them by the interested parties and the population concerned.

2. These identification and assessment procedures shall be guided by the exchanges of experience and methodology, organised between the Parties at European level pursuant to Article 8.

D. Landscape quality objectives
Each Party undertakes to define landscape quality objectives for the landscapes identified and assessed, after public consultation in accordance with Article 5.c.

E. Implementation
To put landscape policies into effect, each Party undertakes to introduce instruments aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape.

Moreover, the Convention states, in Article 8 – Mutual assistance and exchange of information:

The Parties undertake to co-operate in order to enhance the effectiveness of measures taken under other articles of this Convention, and in particular:

a. to render each other technical and scientific assistance in landscape matters through the pooling and exchange of experience, and the results of research projects;

b. to promote the exchange of landscape specialists, in particular for training and information purposes;

c. to exchange information on all matters covered by the provisions of the Convention.
Websites

- **European Landscape Convention**
  - www.coe.int/
    - EuropeanLandscapeConvention
  - www.coe.int/
    - Conventioneuropeennedupaysage

- **Ministry of Culture and Sport of Georgia**
  - www.culture.gov.ge

- **Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia**
  - www.economy.ge

Venue

The National Symposium will be held at Tech Park Georgia’s Innovation and Technology Agency (GITA), 7, Inovatsiebi str., Okrokana, Old Tbilisi District, 0105, Tbilisi.

Participants

The National Symposium is aimed at national government officials, representatives of local and regional authorities, universities, professionals, public and private governmental and non-governmental organisations, working in the fields of landscape and sustainable management, with its environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions.

Working languages

The working languages are Georgian and English. Interpretation will be provided.

Programme

The programme will be available on the Council of Europe website of the European Landscape Convention at the following address:
www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention

The proceedings of the National Symposium will be published in the Council of Europe’s “European Spatial Planning and Landscape” series:
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/symposium
www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/publications

Organisers

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FRIDAY 9 MARCH 2018

Opening session

Welcome speeches
Mr Levan Kharatishvili, Deputy Minister of Culture and Sport of Georgia
Mrs Nino Gventsadze, Head of the Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development on behalf of Ms Irma Kavtaradze, Deputy Minister of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia
Mr Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi
Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, Hungary

Introduction

Presentation of the European Landscape Convention
Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe

Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia
Mrs Marina Tumanishvili, Chief Specialist, National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation of Georgia

Session 1

Institutions and policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention
Recognising landscapes in law

Experience of Hungary: National Landscape Strategy (2017-2026)
Mrs Krisztina Kincses, National Representative of the European Landscape Convention, Ministry of Agriculture, Hungary

Session 2

Instruments for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: identification, assessment, quality objectives

Experience of Latvia: Implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Latvia
Mrs Kristīne Kedo, Head of Spatial Planning Policy Division, Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia
Mrs Dace Granta, Senior Expert, Spatial Planning Policy Division, Spatial Planning Department, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, Latvia

Session 3

Landscape awareness, training and education

Experience of Finland: Landscape awareness, training and education – experiences in Finland
Mr Tapio Heikkilä, Senior Environmental Counsellor, Ministry of the Environment, Finland

Session 4

Participation of the general public, local and regional authorities, and other parties with an interest in the definition and implementation of the landscape policies

Experience of Serbia: Landscape policies
Mrs Biljana Filipovic Dušić, Assistant Minister responsible for International Co-operation, Ministry of Agriculture and Environmental Protection, National
focal point responsible for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Serbia, Serbia
Mrs Jasminka Lukovic Jaglicic, Director Advisor, Regional Economic Development Agency, Sumadija and Pomoravlje, Serbia

Discussion

Closing speeches

Mr Kakha Potskhishvili, Deputy Head of Spatial Planning and Construction Policy Department, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, Georgia

Mrs Manana Vardzelashvili, Head of the UNESCO and International relations Unit, National Agency for Cultural Heritage Preservation, Georgia

Mrs Krisztina Kincses, Deputy Chair of the Council of Europe Conference on the European Landscape Convention, Hungary

Mrs Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons, Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention, Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) of the Council of Europe

SATURDAY 10 MARCH 2018

Study visit of the Dmanisi site and Asureti settlement.
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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 concern 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

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.

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