



**EUROPEAN LANDSCAPE CONVENTION**  
**LANDSCAPE AWARD OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

*7th Session – 2020-2021*

**APPLICATION FORM**

## **Presentation**

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

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

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

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

*We would be very grateful if you could send no later than **30 January 2021** the following elements of the candidature file (20 pages maximum) established for your country on the basis of the proposals forwarded to you by the Ministries:*

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

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*Please note that:*

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

*For further information please visit the Landscape Award section of the Council of Europe website: [www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention](http://www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention)  
[www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award](http://www.coe.int/en/web/landscape/landscape-award)*

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## I. STATE CONCERNED AND APPLICANT

<b>1. State</b>	Poland
<b>Represented by</b>	Andrzej Szweda-Lewandowski
<i>Address:</i>	General Directorate for Environmental Protection Wawelska 52/54, 00-922 Warsaw, Poland + 48 22 579 21 00
<i>Telephone:</i>	kancelaria@gdos.gov.pl
<i>E-mail:</i>	General Directorate for Environmental Protection Wawelska 52/54, 00-922 Warsaw, Poland + 48 22 379 21 00
<b>2. Applicant</b> <i>Name of the local, regional authority(ies) or NGO(s)</i>	Silesia Province Landscape Park Complex (Zespół Parków Krajobrazowych Województwa Śląskiego - ZPKWŚ)
<b>Represented by</b>	Ms Hanna Pompa – Obońska (Director of ZPKWŚ)
<i>Address:</i>	Ignacego Krasickiego 25 42-500 Będzin www.zpk.com.pl
<i>Telephone:</i>	32 267 44 82
<i>E-mail:</i>	biurozpk@zpk.com.pl

## II. PRESENTATION OF THE PROJET

### 3. Name of the Project

"Protection of the valuable non-forest habitats and landscapes characteristic for the area of Orle Gniazda Landscape Park"

### 4. Location of the Project

Kraków-Częstochowa Upland  
Orle Gniazda Landscape Park  
refuge "Ostoja Olsztyńsko-Mirowska (240015)",  
refuge "Ostoja Złotopotocka (240020)",  
refuge "Ostoja Kroczycka (240032)",  
refuge "Ostoja Środkowojurajska (240009)"

### 5. Summary of the Project (10-12 lines)

The comprehensiveness of the actions undertaken under the Project allowed for reaching satisfactory landscape, environmental, cultural and historical effects. Conducting model operations from the field of sustainable planning and landscape management contributed to revealing and emphasizing calcareous hills with rock outliers constituting a unique component characteristic on the national and European level. Thermophilous non-forest habitats were protected, restored and preserved; the developed methods for nature conservation and combating invasive alien species are being reproduced by institutions of a similar operational profile. The knowledge, experience and results of the Project are widely distributed and popularized within the framework of conferential, educational, informational, publishing and promotional activities of ZPKWŚ in Poland and abroad.

### 6. Photo representing the Project (high definition – JPEG 350 dpi) and name of the author of the photo please

Milena Piątkowska

### 7. Website of the Project (if exists)

[www.lifezpkws.pl](http://www.lifezpkws.pl)

### III. CONTENT OF THE PROJECT

8. **Start of the Project** month  year   
*The project must have been completed at least three years previously*

9. **Partners**

Kroczyce municipality Batalionów Chłopskich 29 42-425 Kroczyce  
Łazy municipality Traugutta 15 42-450 Łazy  
Niegowa municipality Sobieskiego 1 42-320 Niegowa  
Ogrodzieniec municipality Plac Wolności 25 42-440 Ogrodzieniec  
Olsztyn municipality Plac Piłsudskiego 10 42-256  
Pilica municipality Żarnowiecka 46 a 42-436 Pilica  
Wolbrom municipality Krakowska 1 32-340 Wolbrom  
Zawiercie Town Hall Leśna 2 42-400 Zawiercie  
Żarki municipality Kościuszki 15/17 42-310 Żarki  
The State Forests National Forest Holding Forest Inspectorate Olkusz Łukasińskiego 3 32-300 Olkusz  
The State Forests National Forest Holding Forest Inspectorate Siewierz Łysa Góra 6 42-470 Siewierz  
The State Forests National Forest Holding Forest Inspectorate Żłoty Potok Kościuszki 2 42-253 Janów  
Provincial Police Headquarters in Katowice Lompy 19 40-038 Katowice  
Polish Mountaineering Association 00-666 Warsaw

10. **Financing bodies**

50% - the European Commission (I Financial Component LIFE+: Nature and Biodiversity)  
45% - National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management in Warsaw;  
5% - own contribution (ZPKWŚ budget) including contributions of the municipalities in the area of Orle Gniazda Landscape Park where the Project was implemented

## 11. Central aims of the Project

- developing model operations in the field of sustainable planning and landscape management;
- realization of the premises of the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora;
- conservation and complex protection of approximately 100 ha of valuable non-forest habitats (xerothermic and rock grasslands) in Orle Gniazda Landscape Park in the area of Kraków-Częstochowa Upland, in the territory of four NATURA 2000 refuges: refuge "Ostoja Olsztyńsko-Mirowska (240015)", refuge "Ostoja Złotopotocka (240020)", refuge "Ostoja Kroczycka (240032)", refuge "Ostoja Środkowojurajska (240009)";
- protection, conservation, improvement and restoration of natural, landscape, cultural and historical values of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland;
- protection of valuable and endangered biodiversity and the unique geo-diversity of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland;
- conservation and protection of 6.5 ha of rock grasslands from unrestricted climbing traffic;
- protection of domestic flora by removal of invasive alien species - giant knotweed - from the area of 1.5 ha;
- protection of non-forest habitats threatened with the intense penetration of the area by humans in 11 tourist hubs and the most frequently visited spots by erecting tourist infrastructure;
- conservation of the endangered breeds of farm animals (sheep and goats), restoration of flock-tending farming culture, maintaining the local traditions and customs related to flock-tending economy, developing and indicating new methods and techniques for flock-tending economy;
- activating the local community (in the area of nine municipalities where the Project was implemented) by introducing community to the subject of natural environment conservation and indicating directions for engaging in rational agricultural economy and tourism;
- reducing the threat of anthropogenic impact on the environment in the most valuable areas of Natura 2000 refuges: refuge "Ostoja Olsztyńsko-Mirowska (240015)", refuge "Ostoja Złotopotocka (240020)", refuge "Ostoja Kroczycka (240032)", refuge "Ostoja Środkowojurajska (240009)" through preventative actions in the form of patrols carried out by Wildlife Services, police force and State Forests services;
- Expanding and improving state of the knowledge concerning conservation of open, semi-natural ecosystem achieved through organizing meetings with the local community and conducting educational workshops;

## 12. Outcome

- protection and conservation of the unique landscape of Jura - the upper Jura limestone formations forming a mosaic of hills and scenic rock outliers;
- developing new methods and measures for active protection and for combating invasive alien species which constitute an example of sustainable landscape policy;
- distribution of the acquired knowledge and experience in the field of active nature conservation on the national and international level, reproducing methods developed by other institutions;
- activating local authorities and community in implementation of actions for the benefit of landscape and biodiversity conservation;

- implementing the Project on the trans-provincial level (Silesia and Little Poland provinces);
- protection, restoration and improvement of thermophilous habitats (approximately 100 ha), xerothermic and rock grasslands *Festuco – Brometea* (6210) containing *Galium cracoviense* (2189) endemic species and the spatially and dynamically connected coppices of juniper distributed in xerothermic grasslands and moorlands (5130);
- protection of approx. 6.5 ha of rock grasslands (6210 - 1) and calcareous rock walls containing crevice vegetation, including communities of *Potentilletalia caulescentis* (8210) from unrestricted climbing traffic - restoration of climbing trails and anchors and descent posts, minimizing penetration of rock summits by climbers which will positively influence condition of rock grasslands;
- protection and conservation of *Cochlearia polonica* (2109) endemic species;
- protection of domestic flora and fauna by taking actions aimed at elimination of invasive alien species (IAS) - giant knotweed (*Reynoutria sachalinensis*) from the area of valley "Dolina Wodąca" (1.5 ha) - refuge "Ostoja Środkowojurajska" - developing new methods for combating invasive alien species - giant knotweed; distributing the knowledge acquired in this field on national and international level;
- implementation of the premises of international, national and regional acts, incl.:the Council Directive no. 92/43/EEC dated 21st of May 1992, the Berne Convention of 1979, The Nature Conservation Act, the Regulation of the Minister for the Environment concerning conservation of species, Polish Red Data Book, regional red lists of hazards and other;
- reducing the threat of anthropogenic impact on the environment in the most valuable areas of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland by introducing preventative patrols in cooperation with police, Forest Watch and ZPKWŚ units;
- protection of the natural habitats in Jura region threatened with anthropogenic impact on the environment through channelling tourist traffic - erecting tourist infrastructure in 18 tourist hubs and most frequently visited spots;
- purchase of 10.8698 ha of environmentally valuable areas and committing those lands to goals related to nature conservation;
- maintaining local traditions/customs related with flock-tending economy, developing and indicating new methods and measures for flock-tending economy;
- increasing participation of the local community in maintaining local traditions and customs as well as interesting tourists in flock-tending and active nature and landscape conservation;
- formation of homesteads interested in breeding sheep and goats and prospective future grazing in the open areas in certain smaller towns in the area of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland and outside of it;
- expanding the ecological awareness of the residents and participants of the classes;
- carrying out informational, educational, publishing and promotional activities;
- activating local authorities and community through introducing them to the subject of nature conservation and indicating directions for engaging in rational agricultural and tourism economy;
- establishing cooperation on national and international level with the purpose of developing effective forms and methods for protection and conservation of the thermophilous habitats;
- distributing and popularizing knowledge concerning conservation of open ecosystems and methods for combating giant knotweed;
- establishing long-term cooperation with town halls and municipality offices, services and

organizations engaged in nature conservation and local residents which will effectively contribute to implementing protective measures;

- implementation of the Project and its results increased the interest of subsidizing units in conservation of open ecosystems.

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

##### 13. Sustainable territorial development

*Is the project part of a sustainable development policy?*

*Does it contribute to the enhancement of environmental, social, economic, cultural or aesthetic values of the landscape? How?*

*Has it successfully countered or posed a remedy to any pre-existing environmental damage or urban blight? How?*

The Project is a part of the sustainable development policy. The Project contributed to social and economic development of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland through activating local community - residents, local governments, tourists, children and the youth as well as the employees of emergency and law enforcement services and non-governmental organizations in accordance with the equal opportunities and non-discrimination principle, including accessibility for persons with disabilities. No significant inequalities based on sex were confirmed in the area of the Project implementation. Tasks realized under the Project concerning raising environmental awareness encouraged seeking alternative, environment-friendly, sources of income through becoming active and involved in the activities from the field of active nature conservation which positively influenced the development of rural tourism, gastronomy and commerce as well as the services related to tourist traffic management and simultaneously contributed to improvement of the living conditions of the local community.

Thermophilous species and habitats are one of the most valuable and endangered components of the Polish and European natural environment. Without implementing protective measures those ecosystems can disappear within several decades. The social and economic changes of the latter half of the XX century (intensification of farming, pollution and contamination of environment, development of invasive species, unprofitability of using farming country) led to the gradual deterioration of landscape and natural wealth (overgrowing of Jura hills containing rock outliers, growth and development of invasive and expansive species, loss of environmentally valuable locations). The Project was the answer for these undesirable changes. In accordance with international, national and local law acts the Project protected, restored and preserved valuable and unique landscape and natural values of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. By activating farmers and promoting extensive agricultural economy (flock-tending economy) the Project is contributing to conservation and protection of the traditions and culture of the region.

The realized activities are one of the main forms of counteracting natural environment degradation and loss of its resources, reducing biodiversity and loss of the unique landscape. The implemented tasks restored natural habitats (ecosystems) and species sanctuaries in the protected areas to proper state. Stopping the negative effects of the overgrowth of valuable semi-natural open ecosystems by carrying out various complex activities: removal of undergrowth of trees and bushes, removal of tree stumps and rootstock, grazing, removal of invasive alien species (giant knotweed), cleaning up illegal landfills, channelling climbing



and tourist traffic, environmental monitoring and preventative patrols, contributed to revealing and emphasizing white rock formations, growth and improvement of the existence of thermophilous fauna and flora as well as to the improvement, restoration and development of the priority habitats of the xerothermic grassland type. The cooperation with local governments inhibited the advancing and illegal holiday home development in the vicinity of the ecosystems under protection.

Furthermore, through its informational, promotional and educational activities the Project contributed to raising the level of ecological awareness of the society concerning environment conservation as well as conservation of the tradition, culture and history of this region. Additionally, the Project was and remains the tool for activating local authorities and community through introducing them to the subject of natural environment conservation and, simultaneously, through indicating directions for engaging in rational agricultural policy and tourism. The realized scope of the project activities significantly contributes to improving and expanding the knowledge concerning conservation of open ecosystems, the increased level of engagement of the local community in maintaining the local traditions and customs and to the increased interest in flock-tending and active nature conservation among tourists.

The complexity, comprehensiveness and effectiveness of the realized project activities positively influenced reinforcement of natural, social, economical, cultural and aesthetic values of the landscape and improvement of the condition of the deteriorated environment.

#### **14. Exemplary value**

*Can the project be considered of exemplary value? Why?*

*Which are the good practices that it implemented?*

The Project constitutes a model of good landscape practices for others to follow. The demonstrative character, intensity and the modernness of the realized activities presented, developed and reinstated the scheme for implementation of protective measures in the area of open habitats and species and simultaneously indicated the template for use of the flock-tending economy as an instrument of nature conservation and maintaining the traditions and culture of Jura.

It must be emphasized that the widespread practice of grazing sheep in the area of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland vanished in the beginning of the latter half of the XX century. As a result several generations of the residents of this region did not have the opportunity for acquiring knowledge and experience regarding the flock-tending economy. Indicating techniques, measures and methods for engaging in this activity in contemporary times was one of the important components of realizing grazing. We should recall that the social and economic transformation of the latter half of the XX century resulted in the increased prominence of the expansion of forest and shrubbery communities. Over the last few years, as a result of discontinuation of the agricultural use of the land and felling trees for renewable fuel, the characteristic features of the Jura landscape began to disappear. Meter by meter rock formations were mercilessly obstructed by shrubbery and forest. The succession of trees and bushes resulted in overshadowing and the changes to humidity and thermic conditions of habitats leading to subsiding and vanishing of photophilous ecosystems along with precious species of plants and animals. Furthermore, the memory of the traditions of the people living here for many generations slowly faded away along with the old landscape of Jura. Over the span of several decades the unique features of those places, formed over the course of centuries of natural and cultural processes intermingling, continued to vanish. More and more frequently we were aware of the loss of the extraordinary and precious values of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. Grazing carried out under the Project popularized the knowledge concerning grazing, including its use as an instrument of nature conservation. The

actions carried out within the framework of the Project expanded the ecological awareness of the local community and significantly raised the level of acceptance for the realized tasks. The activities carried out allowed us to reintroduce and popularize grazing in the region of Jura.

On the grounds of the realized tasks we expanded the knowledge and experience concerning the subject of protection of xerothermic and rock grasslands and the methods of eliminating invasive alien species - giant knotweed.

The mobile grazing became the example to follow for the selected institutions engaged in nature conservation activities (other LIFE+ beneficiaries engaged in grazing, sheep breeders from the Silesia province) as well as for the natural persons wishing to take up flock-tending once again.

Numerous individuals residing and coming to Jura, after noticing the first results of field works, were increasingly frequently and eagerly inquiring field agents and ZPKWŚ employees about the possibility for becoming involved in grazing. The inquiries primarily concerned the appropriate breed of sheep, adequate animal staffing, grazing period and the possibility for engaging in grazing within the framework of nature conservation projects. In each instance they were educated about the purposefulness of sheep and goats grazing as an effective method of active nature protection and the opportunity for maintaining regional customs related with flock-tending economy.

Furthermore, the methods and means for combating giant knotweed (IAS) developed under the Project became the template for other institutions engaged in elimination of this species from natural environment.

The comprehensiveness of the actions taken under the Project allowed us to reach satisfactory landscape and environmental effects. The template developed under the Project can be successfully reproduced in other areas with a similar characteristic. The cooperation with other beneficiaries, institutions with a similar operational profile in Poland and in Europe (Czech Republic, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Hungary, Slovakia and Italy) guarantees that the applied and developed methods/actions will be reproduced and utilized in other locations and under other projects in the area of the European Union. Until this day other LIFE+ projects, institutions engaged in nature conservation, representatives of local governments and natural persons (sheep breeders and residents of Jura) turn to ZPKWŚ with a request for sharing the experience acquired in those fields, mainly in the field of grazing, but also the experience concerning logging, grubbing-up and removal of giant knotweed.

The conducted Project activities constitute a package of practical "know how" information which is successfully reproduced and emulated in other locations and different projects in Europe and Poland. Information, including monitoring data, compilations etc. concerning the Project are publicly available. The reports concerning implementation of project activities are discussed during the conferences organized by ZPKWŚ and under the cooperation within the framework of networking (presentations on the national and international forum, among the scientific circles, local authorities, in schools and within the community). The acquired experience and developed practices are used by other institutions of a similar profile and by ourselves in realization of similar tasks. The acquired data and experience became a template and contributed to perfecting the methods and means of protecting thermophilous biocenoses and elimination of invasive species.

## 15. Public participation

*Does the project actively encourage the public's participation in the decision-making process? How?*

*Is the project in line with the wider policies implemented by national, regional or local authorities?*

The conducted educational, promotional, informational, publishing and preventative activities also produced positive results for conservation of landscape, nature and culture of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. These activities contributed to reducing the threat of anthropogenic impact on the environment of the most valuable areas and expanded the ecological awareness of the residents and tourists visiting the area.

Information concerning the Project, including the results of environmental monitoring, are publicly available. The reports related to implementation of the Project are cyclically discussed during the conferences organized by ZPKWŚ - Sympozjum Jurajskie (The Jura Symposium), Międzynarodowa Szkoła Ochrony Przyrody Obszarów Krasowych (International School for Protection of Karstic Areas), training courses for farmers within the framework of Natural Rural Network etc.

The conclusions drawn from the conducted monitoring serve ZPKŚ to realize similar tasks and the acquired experience and the collected data are a model for the conservation of open ecosystems as well as for the removal of giant knotweed.

The cooperation under the ZPKWŚ established within the framework of networking resulted in our project being presented on numerous occasions in front of various audiences, on the national and international forum, among scientific circles, local authorities, in schools and within community.

With utmost certainty the cooperation with various entities during implementation of the Project allowed for the increase in the ecological awareness concerning protection of valuable non-forest habitats in the unique area of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. During realization of individual tasks an ongoing cooperation was established with town halls and municipality offices, village administrators, services and organizations related with nature conservation and local residents (incl. cooperation through procuring permits for engaging in works on plots of land, carrying out preventative patrols, and conducting inspections in the areas covered by the Project). During the field excursions to external entities the information concerning the Project, its premises and the produced results were relayed on an ongoing basis.

The conducted meetings and talks with the local authorities and community allowed for expansion of the ecological awareness, demonstration of the natural and landscape value of the areas of Kraków-Częstochowa Upland and impressing the importance of engaging in active conservation in this area.

After familiarizing themselves with the subject of the Project and noticing the first results of fieldwork the residents were more frequently and eagerly talking with employees of ZPKWŚ. Primarily they were more boldly inquiring about implementation of the Project and were with great passion and sentiment talking about the past farming economy in the area. In numerous instances they were emphasizing that they are very pleased that the actions have been taken to uncover the calcareous outliers and that the livestock has returned to the selected areas of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. The older generation unambiguously let it be understood that for them the image of grazing sheep and goats brings back the memories of childhood and that the animals are an inseparable element of the tradition and culture of this region.

The educational and promotional activities produced positive effects for conservation of species and habitats covered by the Project, contributed to the reduction of the threat of

anthropogenic impact on the environment of the most valuable xerothermic areas in the Silesia province and expanded the ecological awareness of residents and tourists visiting this region. A major increase was recorded in involvement of the local community and authorities in maintaining local traditions, customs and interest in flock-tending and active nature protection among the community, including residents and the tourists coming to the region from Silesia, Poland and from abroad. The total number of 5 550 individuals took part in educational and scientific activities. The participants represented all age groups (pre-school institutions, schools of all levels of education, organized groups - the youth, the middle-aged and the elders).

The conducted activities actively encourage the society to participate in the decision-making process. The Project contributed to reaching the goals presented in the strategic documents binding on the international level (incl. European Landscape Convention - through conservation of the landscape, landscape management and landscape planning), national level (incl. "The programme of conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity along with Action Plan for the period 2015-2020", National Regional Development Strategy 2030 - indicating e.g. the acceleration of the transformation of the economic profile of Silesia), regional and local levels incl. Silesia Development Strategy - Silesia Province 2030: strategic goal C - Silesia Province as a region of high environmental and spatial quality;

Strategy for the nature conservation in the province of Silesia up to the year 2030: STRATEGIC GOALS: Conservation and protection of areas with high landscape value as well as stopping degradation of landscape and restoration of spatial order etc.

## **16. Awareness-raising**

*Is the project effectively increasing public awareness of the importance of landscape in terms of human development, consolidation of European identity, or individual and collective well-being? How?*

We have to be aware that "within the Silesia province an extraordinary diversity of the landscape exists resulting mainly from the diversity of natural characteristics (primarily geological, geo-morphological and hydrological) and anthropogenic characteristics (primarily related to various forms of using the lands and the varying degree of naturalness and anthropogenic processes affecting the space within the province). Simultaneously, the areas of inimitable and unique landscape and natural value exist (incl. the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland and Orle Gniazda Landscape Park) and the protected areas in the province constitute more than 20% of the surface. The fact that the idea of establishing landscape parks emerged in relation to the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland and that Orle Gniazda Landscape Park is one of the oldest parks in Poland is the proof of the uniqueness of this region. Thus we may conclude that the awareness and identity of the landscape were always functioning in the society whereas the implementation of the Project could emphasize this awareness, also in the context of the European landscape values.

Integrated conservation of nature, landscape and cultural heritage resulted in positive social reception of the results produced in the landscape. The sustainable economy under the Project, particularly the economy aimed at conservation of the existing and unique values in the form of calcareous rock outliers as well as the vast hills distinguishable in the landscape, allows for broader possibilities of continuing the activities developed under the Project. This rank of the landscape was positively consolidated within the awareness of the residents in relation to experiencing space in regards to the qualities of the domestic landscape. This fact also constitutes the foundation for strengthening the European identity understood as the cooperation in the field of protecting and preserving natural, landscape and cultural values which is supported by the European funds and the foundation for perpetuating good practices

in the field of the activities adopted to protect and preserve valuable areas. Implementation of the Project, including development of protective measures and methods for their implementation and the results of the conducted works, contributed to the better reception of the Project on the part of the local community, the local authorities and the organizations engaged in nature conservation. Such perception of our operations results in easier procurement of permits for subsequent fieldwork from the authorities. After witnessing the first results of fieldwork (revealing rock outliers, livestock grazing) the residents of Jura and the visitors realized the importance of implementing protective measures and carrying out protective works because discontinuation of mowing and grazing of these areas will over the span of few years result in the expansionary, unrestricted secondary succession and the resulting loss of landscape, natural and cultural values of the region and, in consequence, in the loss of this landscape for future generations.

Impressing upon the local community that conservation and improvement of the landscape, natural and cultural values of the Jura region may influence the economical standing of the community without deteriorating the condition of natural environment and the landscape may be another effect. Constantly raising the ecological awareness regarding conservation of landscape, nature, history, tradition and culture is a common lesson on the subject of respecting the environment. Expanding the ecological awareness of the society significantly improved the acceptance of the realized tasks. The conducted works impress upon the society the importance of cooperation and the role people play in realization of a number of well-coordinated operations from the field of environment protection and conservation of the landscape and cultural heritage of the Kraków-Częstochowa Upland. During all the organized meetings and discussions the importance of the human-landscape cooperation has been indicated.

## V. ADDITIONAL MATERIAL

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

*Maguelonne Déjeant-Pons*

*Executive Secretary of the European Landscape Convention*

*Head of Division, Agora (A4-15V), Council of Europe*

*F-67075 STRASBOURG, Cedex*

*Tel: +33 (0) 3 88 41 23 98*

*E-mail: maguelonne.dejeant-pons@coe.int*

- Text (20 pages max.): *PDF format*

- Photos (10 max.): *JPEG 350 dpi high definition*

- Posters (2 max.): *PDF format high definition or JPEG 350 dpi high definition*

- Video (15 min max.): *mpeg 2 format - It is recommended to present a video (even of amateur quality).*

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