



Strasbourg, 26 April 2021

COUNCIL OF EUROPE LANDSCAPE CONVENTION

LATVIA

NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION



© Photo: Miks Uzans

0. General information

1. Name of the State/Region concerned

State
LATVIA / LETTONIE
Region (for the Regions concerned)
...

2. Official responsible for the Convention

Name
Ministry of Environmental Protections and Regional Development
Institution
Ministry of Environmental Protections and Regional development
Address
25 Peldu street
Postcode
LV1494
City
Riga
E-mail
dace.granta@varam.gov.lv
Website
www.varam.gov.lv

Name
Dace Granta
Institution
Ministry of Environmental Protections and Regional development
Address
25 Peldu str
Postcode
LV1494
City
Riga
E-mail
dace.granta@varam.gov.lv
Website
www.varam.gov.lv

3. Official responsible for answering this questionnaire

Name
Dace Granta
Address
25 Peldu street
Postcode
LV1494
City
Riga
E-mail
dace.granta@varam.gov.lv
Website
www.varam.gov.lv

4. Does the State participate in the Council of Europe Conference for the implementation of the Convention?

Yes No

5. Has the Convention been signed or ratified by the State?

Yes No

If yes, indicate:

Date of signing

29.11.2006.

Date of ratification in the State, title and content of the document

01.10.2007. Eiropas ainavu konvencija

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Date of deposit of the ratification at the Council of Europe

...

Are there different official linguistic versions of the Convention?

Yes No

...

Is (are) there official translation(s) in the language(s) of the State/Regions?

Yes No

<http://likumi.lv/ta/lv/starptautiskie-ligumi/id/1265>

Is (are) there unofficial translation(s) in the language(s) of the State/Regions?

Yes No

...

Is there a specific territory (or territories) to which the Convention is not applied, according to its Article 15?

Yes No

...

6. If the questionnaire is being completed by a regional authority, has that authority adopted the Convention through a specific legal act?

Yes No

7. Landscape responsibilities of the administrative entities

First administrative level (name of entity at State level)

National

Landscape responsibilities?

Yes

No

Landscape policy is in the competence of the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, but as landscape management is rather interdisciplinary some of questions are also in the competence of Ministry of Agriculture and Ministry of Culture.

Second administrative level (name of the entity)

Regional (Planning region)*

*not an administrative division

Landscape responsibilities?

Yes

No

Currently, landscape planning at the regional level is included in Kurzeme, Zemgale, Riga, Vidzeme and Latgale regions planning documents which provide advices on landscape issues to local (municipal) development planning documents.

Landscape planning is a part of spatial development planning process, but isnt mandatory. Existing situation in landscape inventory, assessment and planning in Latvia varies highly from region to region, and from municipality to municipality because the situation with qulified specialists and financing is different.

Third administrative level (name of the entity)

Local (municipality)

Landscape responsibilities?

Yes

No

Landscape planning and management occurs at the municipal level as practical activities (maintenance and improvement), but also as research and establishment of legal framework.

Landscape planning is a part of spatial development planning process, but isnt mandatory. Existing situation in landscape inventory, assessment and planning in Latvia varies highly from region to region, and from municipality to municipality because the situation with qulified specialists and financing is different.

Reference to an official administrative map of the State/region:

http://www.varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/pasv/

Commentary

(if useful, explain here other factors relevant to the organisation of the State/Region not included above)

Administrative divisions of Latvia (valid since 1 July 2009). According to the Administrative territorial reform of Latvia,

Latvia has one-level municipalities - 110 municipalities and 9 independent cities with their own city council and administration.

1. General provisions

1.1. Definitions

1.1.1. Landscape

1.1.1.1. Landscape

8. Is the term 'landscape' defined in your language?

Yes No

If yes, describe the common meaning / usage of any other words for 'landscape'; provide the specific context in which each word is used (e.g. spatial planning)

Language

Latvian

Word

ainava

Meaning

In Latvia landscape is seen as a physical-geographical complex and the embodiment of traditions, customs and aesthetic qualities of historical and cultural heritage. It is an evidence of both the historic and modern relationships between humans and the environment.

In the past, it was considered as a kind of natural beauty and a place which must be protected due to evidences of the uniqueness of the nature and cultural heritage.

Nowadays the term "landscape" in general society is mostly used for characterising beautiful places, which are nice to visit. Lately, the landscape ecology approach has been applied as well to develop policy plans for particular areas and regions. The state policy stress on wider look at landscapes, including urban and everyday landscapes as well.

Reference

...

Context

commonly used in different contexts: daily language, science, arts, spatial planning

Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

9. Is the legal definition of 'landscape' in your State/Region different from that of the Convention?

Yes No

1.1.2. Landscape policy

1.1.2.1. Landscape policy

10. Is the legal definition of 'landscape policy' in the State/Region different from the Convention?

Yes No

1.1.3. Landscape quality objective

1.1.3.1. Landscape quality objective

11. Is the legal definition of 'landscape quality objective' in the State/Region different from that of the Convention?

Yes No

1.1.4. Landscape protection

1.1.4.1. Landscape protection

12. Is the legal definition of 'landscape protection' in the State/Region different from that of the Convention?

Yes No

1.1.5. Landscape management

1.1.5.1. Landscape management

13. Is the legal definition of 'landscape management' in the State/Region different from that of the Convention?

Yes No

1.1.6. Landscape planning

1.1.6.1. Landscape planning

14. Is the legal definition of 'landscape planning' in the State/Region different from that of the Convention?

Yes No

1.2. Scope

1.2.1. Scope

1.2.1.1. Scope

15. Is the scope of the Convention reproduced in a formal document of the State/Region?

Yes No

If yes, provide details of the document

Title

...
Reference/Website

...
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Use the free text commentary to summarise the scope of 'landscape' set out in this document and whether specific references are made to particular areas (e.g. natural, rural, urban, peri-urban etc., and to land, water - inland water and marine areas - and aerial).

Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (Latvia 2030) is hierarchically the highest national-level, long-term planning document adopted by Parliament (2010).

Latvia 2030 outlines 7 development priorities (development of culture space, investment in human capital, change of paradigm in education, innovative and eco-efficient economy, nature as future capital, perspective of spatial development, innovative government and participation of the society).

Spatial Development Perspective defines Spaces of National Interest, including outstanding areas of nature, landscapes and cultural history territories where its unique values are concentrated which form the identity and international recognisability of Latvia and its different regions.

1.3. Aims

1.3.1. Aims

1.3.1.1. Aims

16. Has a landscape policy been defined?

Yes No

If yes, provide details of this policy

Does the policy integrate protection, management, and planning ?

Yes
 No

Is a ministry or a national/regional authority responsible for the application of this policy?

Yes
 No

If so, what is the name of the ministry or authority (in the latter case, name also the related ministry)

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

Website of the ministry and/or authority

www.varam.gov.lv

The Landscape Strategy was elaborated in cooperation with other ministries, planning regions, as well as universities and NGOs and a working group was established. We had intense discussions in this working group, because some experts wanted to set strict requirements for landscape planning, while others argued against them by stressing out the need for flexibility. For example - a question of landscape planning in the municipalities - is it mandatory or not? Therefore a compromise was reached –landscape planning is integrated in the spatial planning process and final decision about the necessity of landscape planning is taken by the municipality. This was decided because the professional and financial capacity of municipalities differs significantly: some bigger cities have designated positions for landscape architects and planners, whereas some municipalities have only basic administrative staff.

The Landscape Policy Strategy was approved by the Government of Latvia in the year 2013. Two main priorities were defined in this Strategy:

Improvement of landscape governance and legislative framework;

Building of understanding about landscape values and enhancement of education, expert training and research in the field of landscapes.

An assessment report of the landscape policy of Latvia was developed in the year 2020. The report included information related on implementation of ELC at different planning levels.

Are landscape management and planning policies integrated into other relevant policies?

Yes
 No

Nature protection policy.

Latvias nature protection system is specified in law On Specially Protected Nature Territories, entry into force 07.04.1993. This law defines:

Categories of Protected Territories, including Protected Landscape Areas

Procedures for Establishment of Protected Territories

Ensuring the Preservation of Protected Territories

Financing of Preservation, Maintenance and Protection of Protected Territories

Land Ownership and Land Use Rights

9 Protected Landscape Areas have been created in Latvia. But at the same time, they are Natura 2000 sites and nature management plans were elaborated, that include landscape assessment and measures for landscape development.

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/59994-on-specially-protected-nature-territories>

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2. National measures

2.4. Division of responsibilities

2.4.1. Government

2.4.1.1. Government

17. In the government structure does responsibility for the Convention belong to a single Ministry?

Yes No

18. Is there a specific department in this Ministry that is dedicated to landscape?

Yes No

19. Is there regular consultation and exchange between the ministry/authority responsible for landscape policy and other ministries/authorities responsible for territorial and related policies?

Yes No

20. If there is no single ministry/authority responsible for landscape policy, which ministries/authorities jointly exercise responsibility for different elements of landscape policy? (several choices possible)

- Agriculture
- Climate change
- Communities
- Cultural heritage
- Culture (general)
- Ecology – biodiversity
- Economy
- Education
- Energy
- Environment (general)
- Foreign affairs
- Forestry
- Infrastructure
- Interior
- Leisure and recreation
- Mineral extraction
- Natural Heritage
- Nature conservation and protection
- Public works
- Research
- Rural Development
- Spatial planning
- Sustainable development
- Tourism
- Transport
- Water management
- Advertising
- Other (specify)
- ...

21. Is there regular formal consultation and exchange of views between the different ministries/authorities that may share responsibilities for landscape policy?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to add any additional relevant information about how responsibilities for landscape policy are exercised within the national government.

The Ministry of Culture is responsible for cultural monuments.

The Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for agricultural and forest areas.

2.4.2. Other actors (organisations and institutions)

2.4.2.1. Other actors (organisations and institutions)

22. Are there public (or equivalent) landscape organisations and institutions active and/or responsible in the field of landscape (landscape observatories, landscape councils, landscape centres and institutes, etc.)?

Yes No

23. Are there private landscape organisations and institutions active and/or responsible in the field of landscape?

Yes No

If yes, list the key organisations at the different administrative levels

Organisation
Latvian Fund for Nature
Administrative level

- National
- Regional
- Local

Type of organisation

- Consortium
- Museum
- NGO
- Private organisation/company
- Professional organisation
- Professional research institute
- Research Institution
- Voluntary organisation
- Other

Nature protection, landscape development, education

Activities

The mission of the Latvian Fund for Nature is to preserve biological diversity in Latvia. To achieve this, the LFN is engaged in practical activities to preserve the environment and to educate society about the importance of biological diversity.

To achieve its mission in the long-term perspective, the Latvian Fund for Nature carries out activities in five programme directions:

Nature conservation policy - the main goal is to promote integration of environmental protection and nature conservation concerns in the legislation of Latvia, support the creation of local and national NGOs and promote collaboration among NGOs.

Educating society about nature – the main goal is to inform society about environmental protection, nature conservation and sustainable development issues.

Biological diversity and ecosystems – the main goal is to carry out activities to maintain biological diversity in forests, the agro-environment, the coastline, mires and freshwaters, as well as to involve society in these activities and shaping society's opinion regarding the impact of different economic activities on the environment.

Protected species and habitats – the main goal is to carry out activities that help to maintain favourable conservation status for endangered species and habitats and also involving society in these activities.

Specially protected nature areas – the main goal is the planning and management of specially protected nature areas as well as involving society in these activities. https://www.ldf.lv/en/list_of_projects

Membership type

- Restricted (e.g. Professional qualification/practice)
- Selective/elective (e.g. by appointment)
- Open (e.g. by subscription)
- Other

...

E-mail

E - mail: ldf@ldf.lv

Website

www.ldf.lv

Organisation

...

Administrative level

- National
- Regional
- Local

Type of organisation

- Consortium
- Museum
- NGO
- Private organisation/company
- Professional organisation
- Professional research institute
- Research Institution
- Voluntary organisation
- Other

...

Activities

Project "Landscape tell"

Membership type

- Restricted (e.g. Professional qualification/practice)
- Selective/elective (e.g. by appointment)
- Open (e.g. by subscription)
- Other

...

E-mail

...

Website

...

24. Is there legislation that regulates the landscape activities of professional and/or voluntary organisations?

- Yes No

Use the free text commentary to add any relevant additional information about other organisations working in the landscape context.

Latvian Association of Landscape Architects LAAA)

Objectives:

Promoting and developing knowledge, technical expertise and responsibility in the professional performance of landscape architecture

Bringing together landscape architects, students and specialists working in related industries to encourage, maintain and further develop the architectural traditions of Latvian landscapes;

Publish the achievements of Latvian landscape architecture and become a copyright of specialists;

Cooperate with other organisations in Latvia and the world.

2019 LAAA organised the first Latvian Landscape Architecture Award.

www.laaab.lv

info@laaab.lv

2.4.3. Networks

2.4.3.1. Networks

25. Are there networks for collaborating about landscape?

- Yes No

Use the free text commentary to add any relevant additional information about landscape networks.

...

2.4.4. Relationship between different actors

2.4.4.1. Relationship between different actors

26. Does the Ministry responsible for landscape policy interact with other actors concerned with landscape?

- Yes No

If yes, what type of consultation has been established between the different actors concerned with landscape?

27. Does the Ministry responsible for landscape policy organise official conferences on landscape?

- Yes No

28. Does the Ministry responsible for landscape policy organise meetings on landscape?

- Yes No

Title

Meetings of participants of the National Landscape Award

Frequency

Every two years

Between

Municipalities, Universities, NGO

Documentation

-

Website

http://varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/tap/ain_pol/eiropas_padomes_ainavu_balva/?doc=18320

Description

Applicants for the National Landscape Award present their projects.

29. Does the Ministry responsible for landscape policy prepare questionnaires on landscape?

Yes No

30. Does the Ministry responsible for landscape policy organise other activities on landscape?

Yes No

Title

Landscape Award- National Selection

Frequency

Every two years.

Between

Municipalities, NGO

Documentation

...

Website

http://varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/tap/ain_pol/eiropas_padomes_ainavu_balva/?doc=18320

Description

...

31. Do other ministries/authorities interact with actors concerned with landscape?

Yes No

How?

The Ministry of Culture organises cultural heritage days, which are also dedicated to cultural and historical landscapes.

32. Do other actors concerned with landscape interact independently of government?

Yes No

How?

NGOs has written submissions to the Lavia government, for example, on the cutting of tree avenues during road repairs.

2.5. General measures

2.5.1. Legal recognition of concepts

2.5.1.1. Recognition of landscapes in law

33. Is landscape the subject of one or more articles of the National Constitution (or equivalent text)?

Yes No

34. Is landscape the subject of a specific law?

Yes No

35. Is landscape addressed by any other laws?

Yes No

If yes, what are they?

Law

On Protection of Cultural Monuments

Date

19920310

Subject matter

Cultural monuments are a part of the cultural and historical heritage – cultural and historical landscapes and individual territories (ancient burial sites, cemeteries, parks, places of historical events and the activities of famous persons), as well as individual graves, groups of buildings and individual buildings, works of art, facilities and articles with historical, scientific, artistic or other cultural value and the preservation of which for future generations is in conformity with the interests of the State and people of Latvia, as well as international interests.

Description

Law acknowledges that cultural monuments might be composed by a complex objects meaning cultural and historical landscapes

URL

<http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=72551>

translation available in right side menu under the British flag
Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Law

Law On Specially Protected Nature Territories

Date

19930302

Subject matter

(1) The subject-matter of this Law are specially protected nature territories (hereinafter protected territories).
(2) Protected territories are geographically specified areas that, in accordance with a decision of competent State authorities and administrative bodies, are under the special protection of the State and are established, protected and managed for the purpose of:
protection and preservation of natural diversity (rare and typical natural ecosystems; living environment of protected species; original, beautiful landscapes characteristic of Latvia; geological and geomorphological formations, etc.); ensuring supervision of scientific research and the environment; and preservation of territories significant for the recreation, education and instruction of society.
(3) Protected territories shall be categorised as follows: strict nature reserves, national parks, biosphere reserves, nature parks, nature monuments, nature reserves, protected sea territories and protected landscape areas.

Description

Law defines Protected Landscape Areas as territories remarkable for original and diverse landscapes. The objectives of such territories shall be to protect and preserve characteristic landscape and such landscape elements, which are significant for ensuring ecological functions of protected species and biotopes, for the cultural environment and landscapes characteristic of Latvia and the landscape diversity, as well as to ensure the preservation of environment appropriate for recreation of society and for tourism, and environment friendly management.

URL

<http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=59994>

translation available in right side menu under the British flag
Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Law

Spatial Development Planning Law

Date

20111013

Subject matter

The purpose of this Law is to ensure such spatial development planning that would raise the quality of the living environment, ensure sustainable, effective and rational use of territories and other resources, as well as targeted and balanced development of economy.

Description

Law allows specific planning document - thematic plan – a spatial development planning document solving specific issues related to the development of separate sectors (for example, transport infrastructure, layout of healthcare institutions and educational establishments) or specific themes (for example, layout of engineering networks, valuable landscape areas and risk territories) according to the planning level

URL

<http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=238807>

translation available in right side menu under the British flag
Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

36. Is there a legal code that consolidates all the applicable texts relating to landscape?

Yes No

37. Are there jurisprudent decisions regarding the implementation of the Convention?

Yes No

2.5.2. Landscape policies

2.5.2.1. Landscape policies

38. Have landscape policies been established that are aimed at landscape protection, management and planning, based on the Convention definition?

Yes No

If yes, identify the policy

Policy

Landscape Policy Strategy 2013-2019

Description

Policy objective - multi-use and high-quality landscapes which (1) improve quality of life in whole Latvia and (2) promote economic activity and recognition of places, regions and state, as well (3) ensuring biological diversity. Priority tasks - landscape governance improvement by (1) defining competences of the institutions involved in the landscape management and (2) integrating the landscape policy in territorial development planning.

To ease potential administrative and financial burden of implementation of the guidelines in municipalities in the coming years a gradual approach is highlighted in the policy.

The guidelines in Latvian language are available at: <http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/view.do?id=4427>

2.5.3. Procedures for participation

2.5.3.1. Procedures for participation

39. Are there specific procedures for the regional authorities to participate in public decisions about landscape?

Yes No

40. Are there specific procedures for the local authorities to participate in public decisions about landscape?

Yes No

41. Are there specific procedures for the general public to participate in public decisions about landscape?

Yes No

42. Are there specific procedures for other parties to participate in public decisions about landscape?

Yes No

2.5.4. Integration into policies

2.5.4.1. Integration into policies

43. Are landscape issues included in other policy areas at a national, regional or local level?

Yes No

If yes, what are the policies and how is landscape included in them?

44. Are landscape issues included in policies on agriculture?

Yes No

Date

20160916

Title

Latvia - Rural Development Programme (National) 2014-2020

Description

By Rural Development Programme European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development support is implemented in Latvia.

The main objective of programme is investment, which will be directed towards increase of the economically active and market-oriented holdings, shifting support to increase the competitiveness of agricultural holdings, as well as to encourage the development of cooperation in agriculture and forestry.

Great emphasis is placed on activities related to economic growth, the environment and climate objectives, such as investment, support for organic farming, agri-environmental measures to promote knowledge and areas with natural constraints.

Provision

While acknowledging the significance of landscapes in various ways (cultural landscape, productive landscape, lifestyle, recreation and tourism etc.) programme also considers potential threats for landscapes (insufficient forestation or radical deforestation, increase of low-valued agricultural lands, erosion, and fragmentation of valuable biotopes) and gives recommendations on considerable limitations of jeopardizing actions in specific areas (Natura 2000, Specially Protected Nature Areas, areas with erosion or fertility loss risks).

Regulations

...

Instruments

As key criteria for support - Good Agricultural and Environmental Conditions must be considered

Reference

...

Website

https://www.zm.gov.lv/public/files/CMS_Static_Page_Doc/00/00/00/68/59/LAP2014-2020_versija_2.2..pdf

in Latvian language

Uplaud PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level

National

45. Are landscape issues included in policies on climate change?

Yes No

46. Are landscape issues included in policies on communities?

Yes No

47. Are landscape issues included in policies on cultural heritage?

Yes No

48. Are landscape issues included in policies on culture?

Yes No

49. Are landscape issues included in policies on ecology and biodiversity?

Yes No

50. Are landscape issues included in policies on economy?

Yes No

51. Are landscape issues included in policies on education?

Yes No

52. Are landscape issues included in policies on energy?

Yes No

53. Are landscape issues included in policies on the environment?

Yes No

Date

20140326

Title

Environmental Policy Guidelines 2014 - 2020

Description

The Guidelines have five thematic parts – the air, the water, the land, the nature and the climate – where the problems and solutions for environmental issues are defined.

The Guidelines suggest to do long-term society education, information and co-operation in implementation of environmental activities, as well as to foster the co-operation between state institution and entrepreneurs, to increase the efficiency of environmental protection institutions and to integrate the environmental issues in different sectors policies.

Provision

Key thematic threads (which correlate with landscape issues):

- environmental and nature protection;
- air protection;
- climate change;
- water resources and the Baltic Sea;
- environmental pollution and risks;
- environmental health;
- environmental monitoring

Regulations

Latvias nature protection system is specified in law On Specially Protected Nature Territories

Entry into force 07.04.1993.

This law defines:

Categories of Protected Territories, including Protected Landscape Areas

Procedures for Establishment of Protected Territories
Ensuring the Preservation of Protected Territories
Financing of Preservation, Maintenance and Protection of Protected Territories
Land Ownership and Land Use Rights

9 Protected Landscape Areas have been created in Latvia. But at the same time, they are also Natura 2000 sites. The protection of habitats in these areas is therefore a priority and the development of infrastructure is limited.

Instruments

...

Reference

...

Website

<http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=265262> (in Latvian language)

<https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/59994-on-specially-protected-nature-territories>

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Level

National

54. Are landscape issues included in policies of foreign affairs?

Yes No

55. Are landscape issues included in policies on forestry?

Yes No

Date

19980428

Title

Latvian Forest Policy

Description

Latvian Forest Policy is the highest normative document in forestry sector. It was developed in accordance with H1 resolution of the MCPFE Helsinki conference which defines sustainable forest management.

Provision

Forest policy aim in the social sphere is to balance general public and forest owners' interests with regard to the social value of forest uses.

Forest policy objective in regard of landscapes considers preventing the reduction of forest cover by placing limits on uncontrolled transformation of wood areas and promoting sustainable management to protect productivity and values of forests.

Regulations

...

Instruments

...

Reference

...

Website

<https://www.zm.gov.lv/mezi/statiskas-lapas/nozares-strategijas-politikas-dokumenti/latvijas-meza-politika?nid=328#jump>

in Latvian language

Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level

National

56. Are landscape issues included in policies on infrastructure?

Yes No

57. Are landscape issues included in policies on leisure and recreation?

Yes No

58. Are landscape issues included in policies on geology and mineral extraction?

Yes No

59. Are landscape issues included in policies on advertising?

Yes No

60. Are landscape issues included in policies on nature conservation and protection?

Yes No

Date
19930407
Title
Law on Specially Protected Nature Territories https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/59994-on-specially-protected-nature-territories
Description
Latvias nature protection system is specified in law On Specially Protected Nature Territories E. This low defines: Categories of Protected Territories, including Protected Landscape Areas Procedures for Establishment of Protected Territories Ensuring the Preservation of Protected Territories Financing of Preservation, Maintenance and Protection of Protected Territories Land Ownership and Land Use Rights
Provision
9 Protected Landscape Areas have been created in Latvia. But at the same time, they are also Natura 2000 sites.
Regulations
...
Instruments
...
Reference
...
Website
https://likumi.lv/ta/en/en/id/59994-on-specially-protected-nature-territories
Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)
Level
National

61. Are landscape issues included in policies on public works?

Yes No

62. Are landscape issues included in policies on rural development?

Yes No

Date
20160916
Title
Latvia - Rural Development Programme (National) 2014-2020
Description
By Rural Development Programme European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development support is implemented in Latvia. The main objective of programme is investment, which will be directed towards increase of the economically active and market-oriented holdings, shifting support to increase the competitiveness of agricultural holdings, as well as to encourage the development of cooperation in agriculture and forestry. Great emphasis is placed on activities related to economic growth, the environment and climate objectives, such as investment, support for organic farming, agri-environmental measures to promote knowledge and areas with natural constraints.
Provision
While acknowledging the significance of landscapes in various ways (cultural landscape, productive landscape, lifestyle,

recreation and tourism etc.) programme also considers potential threats for landscapes (insufficient forestation or radical deforestation, increase of low-valued agricultural lands, erosion, and fragmentation of valuable biotopes) and gives recommendations on considerable limitations of jeopardizing actions in specific areas (Natura 2000, Specially Protected Nature Areas, areas with erosion or fertility loss risks).

Regulations

...

Instruments

...

Reference

...

Website

https://www.zm.gov.lv/public/files/CMS_Static_Page_Doc/00/00/00/68/59/LAP2014-2020_versija_2.2..pdf

in Latvian language

Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level

...

63. Are landscape issues included in policies on spatial/regional planning?

Yes No

Date

20100610

Title

Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030

Description

Strategy includes Spatial Development Perspective and Future Spatial Structure of Latvia

The task of the spatial development perspective of Latvia is to determine policy directions for sustainable and balanced development of the state territory, attaining full use of the economic potential of regions, improvement of the quality of life of inhabitants, preservation and skilful use of natural and cultural and historical values. On the basis of this position, the spatial development perspective puts emphasis on three main aspects:

- a) accessibility and mobility possibilities,
- b) settlement as the economic development, human life and work environment; and
- c) spaces of national interest – unique specific territories, which are significant for the development of the whole country

Provision

One of the objectives of Spatial Development Perspective is:

to preserve the originality of Latvia – the diverse natural and cultural heritage, typical and unique landscapes.

Regulations

...

Instruments

...

Reference

...

Website

http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/dokumenti/pol_doc//LIAS_2030_en.pdf

Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level

National

Date

...

Title

...

Description

Five Planning Regions are obliged to develop sustainable development strategy of the planning region, including the spatial perspective

Provision

see point
Regulations
...
Instruments
...
Reference
...
Website
...
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)
Level
...

64. Are landscape issues included in policies on sustainable development?

Yes No

Date
20100610
Title
Sustainable Development Strategy of Latvia until 2030 (Latvia 2030) is hierarchically the highest national-level, long-term planning document.

Description
Latvia 2030 outlines 7 development priorities (development of culture space, investment in human capital, change of paradigm in education, innovative and eco-efficient economy, nature as future capital, perspective of spatial development, innovative government and participation of the society).

Provision
Spatial Development Perspective defines Spaces of National Interest, including outstanding areas of nature, landscapes and cultural history territories where its unique values are concentrated which form the identity and international recognisability of Latvia and its different regions.

Regulations
...
Instruments
...
Reference
...
Website
https://www.pkc.gov.lv/sites/default/files/inline-files/LIAS_2030_en_1.pdf
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)
Level
National

65. Are landscape issues included in policies on tourism?

Yes No

Date
20140703
Title
Latvian Tourism Development Guidelines 2014 to 2020
Description
Policy is aimed at sustainable tourism development
Provision
Landscapes are considered as important advantage, resource and brand
Regulations
...
Instruments

...
Reference

...
Website
<http://likumi.lv/doc.php?id=267332>

in Latvian language
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level
National

66. Are landscape issues included in policies on water management?

Yes No

67. Are landscape issues included in other policies?

Yes No

Date

20161117

Title

National long-term thematic plan for the coastal area of the Baltic Sea public infrastructure development 2011-2017

Description

Policy aims at sustainable development of coastal areas and communities

Provision

Coastal landscapes are considered as critical value and development resource

Regulations

...
Instruments

...
Reference

...
Website
<http://polsis.mk.gov.lv/documents/3634>

in Latvian language
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Level
National

Use the free text commentary to add any additional information about ways in which landscape issues are included in other relevant policy areas at National, Regional and Local levels.

-

2.6. Specific measures

2.6.1. Awareness raising

2.6.1.1. Awareness raising

68. Have steps been taken to raise awareness of the value of landscapes, their role, and changes to them?

Yes No

If yes, please provide details of the relevant awareness raising initiatives for each sector

Initiative

Since 2017 Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, together with the National Library has been organising its first public campaign for the implementation of a Landscape strategy.

The activity is entitled Latvian Landscape treasures – yesterday, today and tomorrow.

The activity of citizens was astonishing in the first phase of the campaign – more than 1,000 proposals for the title landscape treasure were received during first two months. Taking into account the visual and cultural values landscape, experts selected 243 of 1,000 proposals that were submitted for electronic voting on the website of National Library.

After voting 50 landscape treasures were selected.

During this campaign:

five regional travelling exhibitions, including both historical and current time photos of 50 Latvian landscapes, were launched, together with discussions in the five regions;

joint exhibition and gala event “Freedom – Landscape – Us” was organised in the National Library of Latvia with 400

participants;

the electronic storage of Landscape treasures <https://ainavudargumi.lv> was presented and officially published for the general public.

In total, the travelling exhibition has been viewed in 25 places in Latvia by almost 15,000 spectators.

MEPRD conducts consultations with the Ministry of Culture on the creation of a new section, "Cultural and Historical Landscape of Latvia", in the Latvian Culture Canon.

Target group

Civil society

Private organisations

Public authorities

Responsible institution

Ministry of Environmental Protections and Regional Development

Description

The key idea is to encourage everyone to look at the landscapes in the rhythm of time and jointly identify the treasures of Latvian landscape, educate and inform about Latvian landscapes and their values.

Reference (publications, documentation...)

...

URL

<https://ainavudargumi.lv>

Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Examples

...

69. Have key documents of the Convention (e.g. guidelines, reports etc) been translated into your language(s)?

Yes No

If yes, specify

European Landscape Convention

yes

Language

Latvian

URL

<http://likumi.lv/ta/lv/starptautiskie-ligumi/id/1265>

Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Resolution CM/Res(2008)3 on the rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

yes

Language

Latvian

URL

[http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?](http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/Darb_jomas/TAP/doc//Konkursa_EPAB_nolikums_101212.doc)

[file=files/text/Darb_jomas/TAP/doc//Konkursa_EPAB_nolikums_101212.doc](http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/Darb_jomas/TAP/doc//Konkursa_EPAB_nolikums_101212.doc)

Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Recommendation CM/Rec(2008)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the guidelines for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention

no

Language

...

URL

...

Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Council of Europe reports on the European Landscape Convention

no

Language

...

URL

...

Uplaod PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

Other key documents

no
Language
...
URL
...
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

70. Are there any major regular landscape events?

Yes No

If yes: provide information about main events

Event
National Selection on Landscape Award
Responsible institution
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Subject matter
Selection of the Latvian candidate for the Landscape Award of EC
Description
The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has organised the National Selection of the Landscape Award of the European Council since 2010. T

In order to make the applications available to the general public, all submitted applications have been published on the website of our Ministry. Since 2014, applications have been evaluated by an inter-institutional evaluation committee that includes representatives from different ministries and NGOs (for example, the Association of Latvian Local Governments and the Latvian Landscape Architects' Association)

Each project is first evaluated in accordance with the four criteria set out in the Resolution of the Council of Europe. The National evaluation committee has decided that these criteria should be supplemented by specific criteria for Latvia: from this 2018 all applications will be evaluated in the context of landscape planning. Each member of the evaluation committee has the right to assign one additional point to the project with a specific contribution in the field represented by the member of the commission.
Scale
National
Web site
http://varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/tap/ain_pol/eiropas_padomes_ainavu_balva/?doc=18320
Frequency
Every two years
Date
...
Location
Latvia, Riga
Target group
 Public
 Professional
 Educational
 Administration
 Scientific
 Other
Municipalities, NGO
Organiser
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
Audience
Municipalities, NGO
Funding
Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

71. Are there specific publications devoted to landscape (e.g. books, journals, newsletters, articles etc.)?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

Title
The electronic storage of Landscape treasures <https://ainavudargumi.lv>
Language(s)

Latvian and English

Format

Electronic

Type

Electronic storage

Audience

General public

Description

Landscape treasures are sites and areas – in Latvia’s countryside, villages and cities – which are considered to be of special worth to Latvia, regardless of their protection status or splendour. They are landscapes which cause us to stop in our daily rush and which make us want to experience them again. They contain a special message that we want to write into Latvia’s history and pass on to our children and grandchildren.

50 Latvian landscape treasures have been selected with the help of the residents of Latvia and landscape experts. They can be seen at the exhibition, in the slide show and repository of landscape treasures www.ainavudargumi.lv. Each of Latvia’s five planning regions is characterised by ten landscape treasures.

All 50 landscape treasures were photographed so there would be a record of them during Latvia’s centenary year.

That storage also includes historical photographs and memories sent by residents.

Frequency

...

Editor

Latvian National Library

Website

<https://ainavudargumi.lv>

More information

...

72. Have one or more landscape awards been instituted at international/national/regional/local level, apart from the Convention award?

Yes No

If yes, provide information about main awards

Award

Latvian Landscape Architecture Award

Level

National

Description

In 2019, the Latvian Association of Landscape Architects organized the first Latvian Landscape Architecture Award. 81 projects were announced for the competition.

<https://www.fold.lv/en/2019/09/first-latvian-landscape-architecture-grand-prix-awarded-to-the-riga-canal-side-greenery/>

Total of 81 submissions were entered for the Latvian Landscape Architecture Award (LAABA) this year and evaluated by a national and an international jury. James Hayter, President of the International Federation of Landscape Architects and head of the LAABA international jury, comments the jury’s decision: «We believe this is truly an example of international excellence. This project demonstrates that wonderful things can be created when various professions work together. This project holds importance not just for Riga and Latvia, but for all of Europe and even the world. It is an example of the highest calibre, and the jury decision was unanimous. For these reasons, we award the Grand Prix to the Canal-side Greenery – the green corridor of Riga.»

Responsible institution

Latvian Association of Landscape Architects

Rules

<http://www.laaab.lv/laaba-balva/nolikums/> (in Latvian)

URL of the rules and regulations

...

Reference to the Convention

Yes

No

Web site

www.laaab.lv

Examples

<http://www.laaab.lv/laaba-balva/pieteikumi-2019/>

Evaluation

Yes

No

Landscape awards

The Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development has organised the National Selection of the Landscape Award of the European Council since 2010. T

In order to make the applications available to the general public, all submitted applications have been published on the website of our Ministry. Since 2014, applications have been evaluated by an inter-institutional evaluation committee that includes representatives from different ministries and NGOs (for example, the Association of Latvian Local Governments and the Latvian Landscape Architects' Association)

Each project is first evaluated in accordance with the four criteria set out in the Resolution of the Council of Europe. The National evaluation committee has decided that these criteria should be supplemented by specific criteria for Latvia: from this 2018 all applications will be evaluated in the context of landscape planning. Each member of the evaluation committee has the right to assign one additional point to the project with a specific contribution in the field represented by the member of the commission.

73. Are there any forums for discussion about landscape?

Yes No

74. Are there any social networks that specifically discuss landscape issues?

Yes No

75. Is official landscape information publicly accessible on internet sites?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

Website

Official homepage of Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

Type

Information on activities and legal frameworks/regulations

Subject

Publicly available information related to landscape issues, approaches, planning, management, protection and knowledge

Description

Links to regulations; summaries on and updates on events and publications.

Contact point information.

URL

http://www.varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/tap/ain_pol/

Other websites

e.g. homepage of Landscape Architects Association

<http://www.laab.lv/jo15/index.php?lang=lv>

in Latvian language

2.6.2. Training and Education

2.6.2.1. Landscape appraisal and operations

76. Have measures been taken to promote specialist training in landscape in public or private bodies?

Yes No

If yes, what form does this training take?

Measures for spatial planners

...

Measures for town planners

...

Measures for landscape architects

Project Transferring the Programme of Continuous Professional Development for Landscape Architects in the Baltic Sea region (01.09.2013. līdz 01.09.2015.)
(CPD-LA (Nr. LLP-LdV-TOI-2013-LT-0138))

Partners:

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University (VGTU)

www.vgtu.lt

Lithuanian Association of Landscape Architects (LALA)

www.lkas.lt

Latvian Association of Landscape Architects (LAAL)

www.laab.lv

Federation of German Landscape Architects (BDLA)

www.bdla.de

The aim of the Project was to transfer the programme of CPD from Federation of German Landscape Architects (BDLA) to Lithuanian and Latvian professional environment through engagement of Lithuanian and Latvian landscape associations. The objectives of the project were:

Gain an in-depth understanding of training needs among landscape architects and their employers based on good practice of BDLA VET system;

Transfer and adapt the learning material to national and cultural environments;

Create training modules and corresponding training methods for a full training offer in landscape architecture;

Select and train the trainers to run the CPD programme;

Test and verify quality of the CPD-LA materials.

Measures for architects

...

Measures for engineers

...

Measures for public administrators

...

Measures for lawyers

...

Measures for geographers

...

Measures for technicians

...

Measures for other professionals

...

77. Has financial or other support for training been set up?

Yes No

Description

All state universities and programmes which deal/include courses on landscape issues have study places that are funded from the state budget.

Additionally various scholarships and mobility programs.

URL

...

78. Are there special Bachelor/Master degree programmes on landscape?

Yes No

Description

Latvia University of Agriculture

Bachelor studies

Bachelor studies included in higher professional study program of Landscape Architecture and Planning

Master studies

Master of Architecture in Landscape Architecture

This programme aims to prepare professional and creative specialists for solving definite problems in landscape

architecture or in the sectors related to landscape and the environment. The programme includes compulsory study courses in Landscape Architecture Theory, Landscape Sciences, Landscape Inventory, Historical Landscape Quality, Sustainable Community Development, Landscape Ecology and Analysis.

URL

<http://www.llu.lv/en/landscape-architecture>

79. Are landscape diplomas recognised?

Yes No

Description

The diploma holders work in all kinds of architecture, design, research companies. Master's degree entitles graduates to continue studies in a respective Doctoral study programme at universities in Latvia or abroad.

URL

...

80. Are PhD scholarships for projects focusing on landscape available?

Yes No

81. Other

Yes No

Add any additional information about measures to promote specialist training.

...

2.6.2.2. Multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape

82. Are there specialist multidisciplinary training programmes in landscape policy, protection, management and planning, for other professionals from the private or public sectors?

Yes No

83. Describe/list examples of the key multidisciplinary training programmes available to each sector

Programme

...

Description

...

Website

...

Target group

Public sector

Private sector

Scientific

Associations

Other

...

84. Training for other professions

...

2.6.2.3. School and University Education

85. Have measures been taken by the ministry/authority responsible for education to promote school and university courses which address the values of landscapes and the issues raised by their protection, management and planning?

Yes No

If yes, what form do these measures take?

Name

Ministry of Education and Science

Description of measure

Several budget places and scholarships for students in different programs (Geography, Landscape Architecture, Spatial Planning)

Is adoption of the measure obligatory?

Yes

No

Web site / URL

...

86. Measures for the kindergarten

Yes No

87. Measures for the primary school

Yes No

88. Measures for the secondary school

Yes No

89. Measures for the undergraduate university (Bachelor)

Yes No

Description

various subjects/courses on landscape issues in bachelor programs for architects, landscape architects, geographers

Website/URL

...

90. Measures for the postgraduate university (Master/PhD)

Yes No

Description

various subjects/courses on landscape issues in master/phd programs for architects, landscape architects, geographers, spatial planners

Website/URL

...

91. Measures for lifelong learning

Yes No

92. Other measures

Yes No

Name

...

Description

various subjects/courses on landscape issues in professional school on horticulture

Website/URL

...

93. Describe/list examples of the key courses available to each group

94. Key courses for the kindergarten

Yes No

95. Key courses for the primary school

Yes No

96. Key courses for the secondary school

Yes No

97. Key courses for the undergraduate university (Bachelor)

Yes No

Description

1

Landscape architecture history
Landscape design
Landscape planning
2
Landscape geography
Landscape ecology
List educational institutions providing the courses
1
Latvia University of Agriculture
2
University of Latvia
Estimate no of participants
...
Estimated year
...
Website/URL
...

98. Key courses for the postgraduate university (Master/PhD)

Yes No

Description
1
Innovations in Landscape Architecture
Historical Landscape Quality
Landscape Ecology and Analyses
Landscape management
Landscape Architecture Technologies
Landscape Sciences
Landscape Inventory
Landscape Design
—
2
Landscape geography
Territorial planning
Landscape ecology
List educational institutions providing the courses
1
Latvia University of Agriculture
2
University of Latvia
Estimate no of participants
40
Estimated year
2016/2017
Website/URL
...

99. Key courses for the lifelong learning

Yes No

100. Other key courses

Yes No

101. Are there other training bodies which provide qualifications in landscape-related fields?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide further details about examples of good practice in school and university education.

...

2.6.3. Improving knowledge

2.6.3.1. Landscape identification

102. Is identification of landscape required by law/regulation?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

Law/regulation
Landscape Policy Guidelines 2013 - 2019
URL
http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/dokumenti/pol_doc/telp_plan//VARAM_pamn_21062013_ain.pdf
Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)
Requirement
To identify typical and unique landscapes to the whole territory of Latvia.
Description
Policy suggests identifying typical and unique landscapes on the whole territory of Latvia in the period until 2019
Form
list of 50 nationally important valuable landscapes
Legal definition
Novērtēts Latvijas ainavu potenciāls, izdalot nacionālas nozīmes ainaviski vērtīgās teritorijas
Translation
Assessed potential of Latvian landscapes and landscapes of national significance are identified
Geographical Scope
 All territory
 Particular areas

103. Is there an official process for the identification of landscapes in your territory?

Yes No

104. Is there any other non-official process for the identification of landscapes in your territory?

Yes No

If yes, at what administrative level does this occur

Level
 National
 Regional
 Local
Presentation
Most recent activity: "Landscape Treasures" (original title in Latvian language "Ainavu Dārgumi")
Reference URL
<http://ainavudargumi.lv/>

105. What are the contents of each system used to identify landscape (whether required by law/regulation or not)?

System
...
Responsible institution
...
Organiser
...
Scale
 National
 Regional
 Local
Geographical Scope
 All territory
 Specific areas
Categories (Article 2)
 Natural
 Rural
 Urban
 Peri-urban
Categories (other)
 Outstanding

- Everyday
- Degraded
- Other
- ...
- Documentation
- Maps
- GIS
- Photographs
- 3D
- Other
- ...
- Reference/URL
- ...

106. Is there a specific methodology and mechanism used to identify landscapes?

Yes No

If yes, provide details

Name

"Landscape Treasures: yesterday, today, tomorrow"

Description

Main idea behind the activity (initiated by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development, National Library, Ministry of Culture) is to map 50 remarkable landscapes of Latvia. The method allows anyone to submit the candidate (to name, shortly describe and mark on the map specific place/landscape) later the submitted amount will be narrowed down to 50 by experts' selection and public vote. Activity is ongoing and is closely related to Latvia's centenary and Landscape Policy targets to identify unique landscapes in the whole territory of Latvia.

Developer

Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development of the Republic of Latvia

Reference/Website

<http://ainavudargumi.lv/>

Upload PDF file (max. 20 Mo)

107. Are the results of this work made widely available for public?

Yes No

If yes,

How are they disseminated?

It's foreseen to run the webpage of activity (ainavudargumi.lv) for several years, also account in social media and information on Ministry's homepage.

Final (mobile) exhibition to take place in 2018 in various places around Latvia.

Use the free text commentary to give further details about landscape registers or inventories as appropriate.

...

2.6.3.2. Landscape analysis

108. Are landscape characteristics, and the forces and pressures transforming landscapes, systematically analysed?

Yes No

109. Are the results of this work widely available to the public?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to give further details.

...

2.6.3.3. Taking note of changes to landscape

110. Has a programme been established to monitor changes to landscape?

Yes No

111. Have a methodology and a mechanism been established to identify the forces and pressures acting on landscapes?

Yes No

112. Are the results of this methodology and mechanism widely available to the public?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to give further details about assessment and monitoring methodologies.

...

2.6.3.4. Landscape assessment

113. Are the values assigned to identify landscapes by interested parties and the population concerned incorporated in specific landscape programmes and assessment methodologies?

Yes No

114. Are the results of this methodology widely available for the public?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to give further details about the use of values.

...

2.6.4. Landscape quality objectives

2.6.4.1. Landscape quality objectives

115. Are specific methodologies and mechanisms (programmes/tools/measures) used to define landscape quality objectives?

Yes No

116. Are the results of this methodology and mechanism widely available for the public?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to give examples of how landscape quality objectives have been formulated.

landscape quality objectives are defined for several territories within thematic studies or thematic planning

2.6.5. Implementation

2.6.5.1. Implementation

117. Have instruments been introduced aimed at protecting, managing and/or planning the landscape?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to add any relevant additional information about the monitoring and regulation of change to landscapes.

No additional instrument been developed after the European Landscape Convention, obligations and procedures what are relevant to landscape matters are connected to other legal acts (like on nature protection, heritage protection, spatial planning etc.).

3. International co-operation

3.7. International policies and programmes

3.7.1. International policies and programmes

3.7.1.1. International policies and programmes

118. Is there co-operation with other countries at national/ regional/local level for the consideration of the landscape dimension in international policies?

Yes No

119. Is there co-operation with other countries at the national/regional/local level for the consideration of the landscape dimension in international co-operation programmes?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide any further information about the incorporation of landscape considerations in international policies and programmes.

...

3.7.1.2. International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe

3.7.2. International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe

3.7.2.1. Has your State/Region organised a International Landscape Day of the Council of Europe?

120. Have any events been organised in 2018?

No

121. Have any events been organised in 2019?

No

123. Have any events been organised in 2020?

No

3.8. Mutual assistance and exchange of information

3.8.1. Technical and scientific assistance

3.8.1.1. Technical and scientific assistance

122. Are there any examples of technical and scientific assistance in landscape matters?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide any further information about European technical and scientific assistance and, if possible, examples of good practice.

...

3.8.2. Exchange of landscape specialists

3.8.2.1. Exchange of landscape specialists

124. Are there examples of the exchange of landscape specialists, in particular for training and information purposes?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide any further information about the exchange of landscape specialists and, if possible, examples of good practice.

...

3.8.3. Exchange of information

3.8.3.1. Exchange of information

125. Are national, regional and local documents translated into other language(s)?

Yes No

126. Are there specific international actions in place to support the exchange of information (conferences, seminars, workshop, networks, exchange of publications, exhibitions, joint projects, EU projects, etc.)?

Yes No

127. Is your State a member of governmental international organisations working on landscape?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide any further information about exchange of information and, if possible, examples of good practice.

...

3.9. Transfrontier landscapes

3.9.1. Transfrontier landscapes

3.9.1.1. Transfrontier landscapes

128. Are there mechanisms to encourage transfrontier co-operation at national, regional and local levels?

Yes No

129. Are there joint transfrontier landscape initiatives?

Yes No

Use the free text commentary to provide any further information about local and regional transfrontier co-operation.

Kuldigas municipality participates in intermediate project UL2L (7 Partners):

<https://www.interregeurope.eu/ul2l/>

Zemgale Planning Region participated in the project ENGRAVE together with Lithuania.

3.10. Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

3.10.1. Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

3.10.1.1. Landscape Award of the Council of Europe

130. Did your State/Region ever participate in the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe?

Yes No

If Yes, provide details

Session 1 (2008-2009)

...

Session 2 (2010-2011)

...

Session 3 (2012-2013)

Dzintari Forest Park, Jurmala City

Jurmala municipality

Session 4 (2014-2015)

The town of Kuldīga in the Venta Valley: preserving a unique landscape for future generations

Kuldīga municipality

Session 5 (2016-2017)

Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects, Daugavpils City

Session 1 (2008-2009)

The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions: Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian singing festival

Kocēni Municipality

Session 2 (2010-2011)

...

Session 3 (2012-2013)

...

Session 4 (2014-2015)

...

Session 5 (2016-2017)

...

131. How is the candidate for the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe selected?

Method of selection and rules

open call to submit candidates by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development

National selection for the Council of Europe Landscape Award in Latvia

Landscape management, planning and development issues are being increasingly emphasized since European landscape convention came into force in Latvia in the year 2007. Many municipalities recognize value of landscape and pay particular attention to their integration in the public space, but during the economic crisis that began in 2008, project development was limited due to lack of finance.

Therefore the "history" of the European Landscape Award in Latvia is short and a special National Landscape Award has not been established. But every 2 years a selection of applicants for the European Landscape Award is organized on a national scale.

In year 2008 and 2010 none of Latvian authorities or groupings considered their activities would qualify for this Award.

In year 2012 two local municipalities participated in the national selection of tender for European Landscape Award. In year 2014 four, but in year 2016 eight local municipalities took part on national selection of Landscape Award.

Evaluation Commission of the project proposal was set up by the Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional

Development. This Commission included representatives from Nature protection department, Spatial planning and Environmental protection department, ministry of Culture, State Inspection for Heritage Protection and NGOs - Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments and Latvian Association of Landscape Architecture as well. All applications were evaluated on the basis of rules governing the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe. Each criterion was evaluated from 1 to 2 points. In addition, each member of the Commission could give extra point for the particular importance of the project.

URL of the rules

http://www.varam.gov.lv/in_site/tools/download.php?file=files/text/Darb_jomas/TAP/doc//Konkursa_EPAB_nolikums_101212.doc

in Latvian

Website

http://www.varam.gov.lv/lat/darbibas_veidi/tap/ain_pol/eiropas_padomes_ainavu_balva/?doc=18320

Has the impact of selection been assessed?

...

132. Has the impact of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe been assessed?

Yes No

If Yes, summarise the conclusions of this assessment

Summarise the conclusions of this assessment

Since 2010 Latvia have organized 6 national selections for Landscape Award.

The first national selection in the year 2012 was won by the town Jurmala.

The second national selection in the year 2014 was won by the town Kuldiga.

The next national selection was won by the project Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress, which was the best on European level and was granted the Landscape award of Council of Europe. It was great and a significant contribution for public engagement because the gala event was organised in cooperation with the Council of Europe in the town of Daugavpils.

National selection for Landscape Award of CoE is very important for local municipalities and also the general public.

Add any information useful regarding the Landscape Award.

A national selection is organized by Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development during each session. All applications are evaluated by an inter-institutional commission that includes representatives from planning region, others ministries and NGOs.

It is important to involve regional level and all applications are first evaluated by planning regions. After that each application receives additional points from the other members of the commission.

133. Photo for the cover page of the Report

Picture available on the website.

134. Optional: Mention the name of the author and of the photo credit (©)

Photo: Miks Uzans