

XI Congreso Internacional de Ordenación del Territorio

Transición Territorial

Transiciones ecológicas, energética, demográfica, alimentaria, económica...

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Nuevos marcos para el desarrollo territorial

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“Si un solo aleteo de una mariposa puede provocar un tornado, también pueden hacerlo todos los aleteos anteriores y posteriores de sus alas, así como los de millones de otras mariposas, por no mencionar las actividades de innumerables criaturas más poderosas, especialmente de nuestra propia especie;

Si el batir de las alas de una mariposa puede desencadenar un tornado, también puede impedirlo. Si el batir de las alas de una mariposa afecta a la formación de un tornado, no es evidente que su batir sea el origen del propio tornado y que, por tanto, tenga algún poder sobre la creación o no del tornado.

En términos más generales, propongo que, a lo largo de los años, las minúsculas perturbaciones no aumentan ni disminuyen la frecuencia de aparición de diversos fenómenos meteorológicos, como los tornados: lo más que pueden hacer es modificar las secuencias en las que se producen”.

Edward Lorenz,
“Previsibilidad: puede el batir de las alas de
una mariposa en Brasil provocar un tornado en Texas?”, 1972

El título de este Congreso Internacional, “Transición Territorial”, lleva por subtítulo *Transiciones ecológicas, energética, demográfica, alimentaria, económica...*

Esta lista inacabada demuestra que la lista de desafíos a los que ha de hacer frente la humanidad sigue siendo larga .

Las grandes corrientes de pensamiento filosófico, espiritual y religioso siempre han cuestionado la **relación entre el hombre y su espacio vital**.

Los **científicos** empezaron a ocuparse de las amenazas que pesaban sobre la biosfera en **los años cincuenta**. Se elaboraron las primeras convenciones internacionales sobre el medio ambiente y luego surgió la idea de celebrar una conferencia mundial.

Los **Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno** se reunieron en Estocolmo en **1972** y siguieron celebrándose conferencias sobre el futuro del planeta.

Para imaginar nuevos marcos de desarrollo territorial, es posible trazar la **evolución del pensamiento** y de **la acción** que se ha producido a **escala internacional – mundial et regional, europea – en este ámbito**.

I. LA TOMA EN CONSIDERACIÓN DEL TERRITORIO A ESCALA MUNDIAL: UNA CONTINUIDAD DE PENSAMIENTO Y DE ACCIÓN

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I. LA TOMA EN CONSIDERACIÓN DEL TERRITORIO A ESCALA MUNDIAL: UNA CONTINUIDAD DE PENSAMIENTO Y DE ACCIÓN

El examen de los textos adoptados en las grandes conferencias y cumbres mundiales de las Naciones Unidas y de los programas de su Asamblea General

- el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Medio Ambiente (PNUMA)
- el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo (PNUD)
- el Programa de las Naciones Unidas para los Asentamientos Humanos (ONU-Hábitat), en particular (otros:

muestra que las cuestiones relativas al futuro de los territorios se toman en consideración en relación con el medio ambiente y el desarrollo sostenible.

Organismos especializados como la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Agricultura y la Alimentación (FAO) y la Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura (UNESCO) también desempeñan un papel importante en el fomento de la gestión sostenible de los territorios.

1. Las Conferencias internacionales sobre medio ambiente y desarrollo sostenible

Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Humano, Estocolmo, Suecia, 5-16 de junio de 1972



The building in Stockholm, Sweden, which hosted the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, 16 May 1972. UN Photo/Yutaka Nagata

Declaración de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Humano

La Declaración proclama que

“El hombre es a la vez obra y artífice del medio que lo rodea, el cual le da el sustento material y le brinda la oportunidad de desarrollarse intelectual, moral, social y espiritualmente” (Preámbulo, I, 1).

El texto afirma: “Debe aplicarse la planificación a los asentamientos humanos y a la urbanización con miras a evitar repercusiones perjudiciales sobre el medio y a obtener los máximos beneficios sociales, económicos y ambientales para todos” (Principio 15);

“En las regiones en que exista el riesgo de que la tasa de crecimiento demográfico o las concentraciones excesivas de población perjudiquen al medio o al desarrollo, o en que la baja densidad de población pueda impedir el mejoramiento del medio humano y obstaculizar el desarrollo, deberían aplicarse políticas demográficas que respetasen los derechos humanos fundamentales y con” (Principio 16).

Plan de Acción para el Medio Humano

El área de acción “Planificación y ordenación de los asentamientos humanos desde el punto de vista de la calidad del medio”, formula dieciocho recomendaciones para orientar la conducta de la comunidad internacional. Una de ellas afirma:

“La planificación, el mejoramiento y la ordenación de los asentamientos urbanos y rurales exigen un enfoque, a todos los niveles, que abarque los aspectos todos del medio humano, tanto del natural como del creado por el hombre” (Recomendación 1).

Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Ambiente y el Desarrollo (CNUMAD), Río de Janeiro, Brasil, 3-14 de junio de 1992



Líderes mundiales reunidos en la 'Cumbre para la Tierra' en Río de Janeiro, Brasil, 13 de junio de 1992. Foto ONU/Michos Tzovaras

Declaración de Río sobre Medio Ambiente y Desarrollo

La Declaración reconoce

“la **naturaleza integral e interdependiente de la Tierra**, nuestro hogar” (Preámbulo)

y proclama **principios de aplicación universal** para ayudar a orientar la acción internacional sobre la base de la responsabilidad ambiental y económica, entre ellos que:

“los seres humanos constituyen el centro de las preocupaciones relacionadas con el desarrollo sostenible” y “tienen **derecho a una vida saludable y productiva en armonía con la naturaleza**” (Principio 1).

El Programa Agenda 21

El Programa Agenda 21 esboza los medios financieros, institucionales y de otro tipo necesarios para tomar medidas en una serie de ámbitos, entre ellos:

- “Fomento del **desarrollo sostenible de los recursos humanos**” (Sección I, Capítulo 7) y
- “**Enfoque integrado de la planificación y la ordenación de los recursos de tierras**” (Sección II, Capítulo 10).



Cumbre Mundial sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, Johannesburgo, Sudáfrica, 26 de agosto-4 de septiembre de 2002



El Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas, Kofi Annan, con Nelson Mandela, Cumbre Mundial sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, Johannesburgo, Sudáfrica, el 3 de septiembre de 2002. Foto ONU/Evan Schneider

Declaración de Johannesburgo sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible

La Declaración afirma que los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno, representantes de **los pueblos del mundo se comprometen a**

- **“cumplir** con el Plan de Aplicación de las Decisiones de la Cumbre Mundial sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible”,
- **“acelerar** la consecución de los objetivos socioeconómicos y ambientales en los plazos que allí se fijan” (párrafo 36).

Plan de Aplicación de las Decisiones de la Cumbre Mundial sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible

El Plan de Aplicación abarca un conjunto de actividades y medidas que deben adoptarse para lograr un desarrollo respetuoso con el medio ambiente.

- Capítulo III “Modificación de **las modalidades insostenibles de consumo y producción**”
- Capítulo IV, “Protección y gestión de **la base de recursos naturales del desarrollo económico y social**”



Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, Río de Janeiro, Brasil, 20-22 de junio de 2012



Pabellón de exposiciones y eventos relacionados con la Conferencia Río +20, Río de Janeiro, Brasil, 13 de junio de 2012. Foto ONU/Maria Elisa Franco

Documento final “El futuro que queremos”

El documento final adoptado por la Conferencia presenta una “**Visión Compartida**” de los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno.

Los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno expresaron su “determinación de revitalizar la voluntad política de la comunidad internacional para **alcanzar los objetivos de desarrollo convenidos internacionalmente**, incluidos los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio, y avanzar por la senda del desarrollo sostenible” (párrafo 18).

Cumbre de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible, Nueva York, Estados Unidos, 25-27 de septiembre de 2015



Discurso de Barack Obama, Presidente de los Estados Unidos de América, en la Cumbre de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Desarrollo Sostenible. Nueva York, Estados Unidos, 27 de septiembre de 2015. Foto ONU/Mark Garten

Agenda para el desarrollo después de 2015: “Transformar nuestro mundo: la Agenda 2030 para el Desarrollo Sostenible”

La Agenda de Desarrollo Sostenible es “un **plan de acción** en favor de las personas, el planeta y la prosperidad”. También tiene por objeto fortalecer la **paz universal** dentro de un concepto más amplio de la libertad. En ella se afirma:

“Este plan será implementado por todos los países y partes interesadas mediante una alianza de colaboración. [...] Estamos decididos a tomar las medidas audaces y transformativas que se necesitan urgentemente para reconducir al mundo por el camino de la sostenibilidad y la resiliencia [...].

Los 17 Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible y las 169 metas que anunciamos [...] demuestran la magnitud de esta ambiciosa nueva Agenda universal. [...] son de carácter integrado e indivisible y conjugan las tres dimensiones del desarrollo sostenible: económica, social y ambiental [...] estimularán durante los próximos 15 años la acción en las siguientes esferas de importancia crítica para la humanidad y el planeta” (preámbulo).

La Cumbre sobre los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio, Nueva York, 20 a 22 de septiembre de 2010, concluyó con la adopción de un Plan de Acción Mundial titulado “Cumplir la promesa: unidos para lograr los Objetivos de Desarrollo del Milenio” y anunciar una serie de iniciativas para hacer frente a la pobreza, hambre y enfermedad.



Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible

Objetivo 1. Poner fin a la pobreza en todas sus formas y en todo el mundo

Objetivo 2. Poner fin al hambre, lograr la seguridad alimentaria y la mejora de la nutrición y promover la agricultura sostenible

Objetivo 3. Garantizar una vida sana y promover el bienestar de todos a todas las edades

Objetivo 4. Garantizar una educación inclusiva y equitativa de calidad y promover oportunidades de aprendizaje permanente para todos

Objetivo 5. Lograr la igualdad de género y empoderar a todas las mujeres y las niñas

Objetivo 6. Garantizar la disponibilidad y la gestión sostenible del agua y el saneamiento para todos

Objetivo 7. Garantizar el acceso a una energía asequible, fiable, sostenible y moderna para todos

Objetivo 8. Promover el crecimiento económico sostenido, inclusivo y sostenible, el empleo pleno y productivo y el trabajo decente para todos

Objetivo 9. Construir infraestructuras resilientes, promover la industrialización inclusiva y sostenible y fomentar la innovación

Objetivo 10. Reducir la desigualdad en los países y entre ellos

Objetivo 11. Lograr que las ciudades y los asentamientos humanos sean inclusivos, seguros, resilientes y sostenibles

Objetivo 12. Garantizar modalidades de consumo y producción sostenibles

Objetivo 13. Adoptar medidas urgentes para combatir el cambio climático y sus efectos [Reconociendo que la Convención Marco de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Cambio Climático es el principal foro intergubernamental internacional para negociar la respuesta mundial al cambio climático]

Objetivo 14. Conservar y utilizar sosteniblemente los océanos, los mares y los recursos marinos para el desarrollo sostenible

Objetivo 15. Proteger, restablecer y promover el uso sostenible de los ecosistemas terrestres, gestionar sosteniblemente los bosques, luchar contra la desertificación, detener e invertir la degradación de las tierras y detener la pérdida de biodiversidad

Objetivo 16. Promover sociedades pacíficas e inclusivas para el desarrollo sostenible, facilitar el acceso a la justicia para todos y construir a todos los niveles instituciones eficaces e inclusivas que rindan cuentas

Objetivo 17. Fortalecer los medios de implementación y revitalizar la Alianza Mundial para el Desarrollo Sostenible

Reunión Internacional “Estocolmo+50: Un planeta sano para la prosperidad de todos - nuestra responsabilidad, nuestra oportunidad”, Estocolmo, Suecia, 2-3 de junio de 2022



La Reunión conmemoró la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre el Medio Humano de 1972 y celebró **50 años** de acción medioambiental mundial.

Reconociendo la importancia del **multilateralismo** para hacer frente a las tres crisis planetarias que amenazan su futuro: el **cambio climático**, la **pérdida de biodiversidad**, y la **contaminación**, el evento aceleró la implementación de la Década de Acción de las Naciones Unidas para los Objetivos de Desarrollo Sostenible, incluida la Agenda 2030 para el Desarrollo Sostenible, el Acuerdo de París sobre el Cambio Climático, el Marco Mundial de la Biodiversidad Post-2020, y alentó la adopción de planes de recuperación ambiental como resultado de la pandemia de la COVID-19.

Se trataba de reconocer la **responsabilidad intergeneracional** como piedra angular de una política sólida. Sin embargo, no se consideró la cuestión del “territorio” como tal.

2. Las Conferencias internacionales sobre los asentamientos humanos

Los textos adoptados en el marco de las Naciones Unidas y de su Programa de Asentamientos Humanos (ONU-Hábitat) se refieren a los **asentamientos humanos** como tales.

Primera Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre los Asentamientos Humanos – Hábitat I, Vancouver, Canadá, 31 de mayo - 11 de junio de 1976



Vista de una reunión en la sala de conferencias,
10 de junio de 1976 Vancouver. Foto ONU/Yutaka Nagata

La Conferencia fue el resultado de las reflexiones sobre la urgencia de encontrar soluciones a los problemas a los que se enfrentan los asentamientos humanos.

Declaración de Vancouver sobre los Asentamientos Humanos

La Declaración señala que “la condición de los asentamientos humanos **determina en gran medida la calidad de la vida**, cuyo mejoramiento es indispensable para la satisfacción plena de las necesidades básicas, como el empleo, la vivienda, los servicios sanitarios, la educación y el esparcimiento” (preámbulo).

La Declaración afirma: “La adopción de **políticas de asentamientos humanos** que sean audaces, significativas y eficaces, y de estrategias de planificación espacial que se ajusta en forma realista a las condiciones locales; “La creación de asentamientos más habitables, atractivos y eficientes, en que se reconozcan la escala humana, el patrimonio y la cultura de los pueblos” (I, 1. b)

Segunda Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre los Asentamientos Humanos – Hábitat II, Estambul, Turquía, 3-14 de junio de 1996



Secretario General de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre los Asentamientos Humanos (Hábitat II), exposición en la Sede de la ONU en Nueva York, 7 de febrero de 1996. Foto ONU

La Conferencia abordó dos temas principales: “Vivienda adecuada para todos” y “Asentamientos humanos sostenibles en un mundo en proceso de urbanización”.

Declaración de Estambul sobre los Asentamientos Humanos

La Declaración afirma que los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno reconocen la necesidad de abordar las tendencias mundiales en los ámbitos económico, social y medioambiental para “permitir la **creación de un mejor entorno de vida** para todos” (párrafo 7).

Agenda Hábitat

La Agenda establece los **objetivos y principios** que los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno suscriben para orientar su acción: “La calidad de vida de todas las personas depende, entre otros **factores económicos, sociales, ecológicos y culturales**, de las condiciones físicas y las características espaciales de nuestras aldeas, pueblos y ciudades. El **trazado y la estética de las ciudades, las pautas de utilización de la tierra, las densidades de población y de construcción, el transporte y la facilidad de acceso** para todos a los bienes, los servicios y los medios públicos de esparcimiento tienen una importancia fundamental para la habitabilidad de los asentamientos.

Esto es **especialmente importante para las personas vulnerables y desfavorecidas**, que a menudo tienen dificultades para conseguir vivienda y para participar en las decisiones acerca del futuro de sus asentamientos. La necesidad de pertenecer a una comunidad y la aspiración a vecindarios y asentamientos más habitables por parte de la población deberían orientar el proceso de diseño, ordenación y mantenimiento de los asentamientos humanos. Entre los objetivos de esta labor figuran la protección de la salud pública, la creación de condiciones de seguridad, la educación y la integración social, la promoción de la igualdad y el respeto a la diversidad y la identidad cultural, la mejora del acceso para las personas con discapacidad y la conservación de edificios y distritos de importancia histórica, espiritual, religiosa y cultural, el respeto del paisaje local y el respeto y el cuidado del medio ambiente local” (Capítulo II, párrafo 30).

El título “**Asentamientos humanos sostenibles**” (Capítulo III, B), se refiere a la protección y el mantenimiento del “patrimonio histórico, cultural y natural, en particular las modalidades tradicionales de habitación y de asentamiento, según corresponda, de los indígenas y otros grupos, así como los paisajes y la flora y la fauna urbanas en los espacios abiertos y las zonas verdes” (Capítulo III, párrafo 43).

Tercera Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre la Vivienda y el Desarrollo Urbano Sostenible – Hábitat III, Quito, Ecuador, 17-20 de octubre de 2016



El Secretario General Ban Ki-moon, inauguración de la Conferencia de las Naciones Unidas sobre Vivienda y Desarrollo Urbano Sostenible: Hábitat III, 16 de octubre de 2016, Quito. Foto ONU/Eskinder Debebe.

Nueva Agenda Urbana: Declaración de Quito sobre Ciudades y Asentamientos Humanos Sostenibles para Todos

La Declaración señala: “Según las previsiones, **la población urbana mundial prácticamente se duplicará para 2050**, lo que hará de la urbanización una de las tendencias más transformadoras en el siglo XXI. Las poblaciones, las actividades económicas, las interacciones sociales y culturales, así como las repercusiones ambientales y humanitarias, **se concentran cada vez más en las ciudades**, y ello **plantea enormes problemas** de sostenibilidad en materia de vivienda, infraestructura, servicios básicos, seguridad alimentaria, salud, educación, empleos decentes, seguridad y recursos naturales, entre otros” (párrafo 2).

Nota: “Al reorientar la manera en que se planifican, se diseñan, se financian, se desarrollan, se administran y se gestionan las ciudades y los asentamientos humanos, la Nueva Agenda Urbana ayudará a poner fin a la pobreza y al hambre en todas sus formas y dimensiones, reducir las desigualdades, promover un crecimiento económico sostenido, inclusivo y sostenible, lograr la igualdad de género y el empoderamiento de todas las mujeres y las niñas a fin de aprovechar plenamente su contribución vital al desarrollo sostenible, mejorar la salud y el bienestar humanos, fomentar la resiliencia y proteger el medio ambiente” (párrafo 5).

Los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno adoptan la “Nueva Agenda Urbana como un ideal colectivo y un compromiso político para promover y hacer realidad el desarrollo urbano sostenible, y como una oportunidad histórica para aprovechar el papel clave de las ciudades y los asentamientos humanos como impulsores del desarrollo sostenible en un mundo cada vez más urbanizado” (párrafo 22).

Plan de aplicación de Quito para la Nueva Agenda Urbana

La Nueva Agenda Urbana establece que para promover “un desarrollo urbano ambientalmente sostenible y resiliente”, los Jefes de Estado y de Gobierno se comprometen a:

- “promover la creación y el mantenimiento de redes bien conectadas y distribuidas de espacios públicos de calidad, abiertos, seguros, inclusivos, accesibles, verdes y destinados a fines múltiples, a incrementar la resiliencia de las ciudades frente al cambio climático y los desastres, como las inundaciones, los riesgos de sequía y las olas de calor, a mejorar la seguridad alimentaria y la nutrición, la salud física y mental y la calidad del aire en los hogares y el ambiente, a reducir el ruido y promover ciudades, asentamientos humanos y paisajes urbanos que sean atractivos y habitables, y a dar prioridad a la conservación de especies endémicas”;
- “prestar especial atención a las zonas urbanas donde existen deltas fluviales, costas y otras áreas especialmente vulnerables desde el punto de vista ambiental, poniendo de relieve su importancia como proveedores de ecosistemas que proporcionan importantes recursos para el transporte, la seguridad alimentaria, la prosperidad económica, los servicios de los ecosistemas y la resiliencia”, y a “integrar las medidas necesarias en la planificación y el desarrollo urbanísticos y territoriales sostenibles”;
- “preservar y promover la función social y ecológica de las tierras, incluidas las zonas costeras que dan apoyo a las ciudades y los asentamientos humanos, y a fomentar soluciones basadas en los ecosistemas para garantizar pautas de consumo y producción sostenibles, a fin de que no se sobrepase la capacidad regenerativa de los ecosistemas” y a “promover el uso sostenible de la tierra, a mantener unas densidades y una compacidad adecuadas al ampliar las zonas urbanas a fin de prevenir y a contener el crecimiento urbano incontrolado y prevenir los cambios innecesarios del uso de las tierras y la pérdida de tierras productivas y de ecosistemas frágiles e importantes”;
- “apoyar la prestación local de bienes y servicios básicos y a aprovechar la proximidad de los recursos, reconociendo que la utilización intensa de fuentes distantes de energía, agua, alimentos y materiales puede plantear problemas de sostenibilidad, como la vulnerabilidad a las alteraciones en el suministro de servicios, y que el proveimiento local puede facilitar el acceso de los habitantes a los recursos” (párrafos 67-70).

– “**apoyar la prestación local de bienes y servicios básicos** y a aprovechar la proximidad de los recursos, reconociendo que la utilización intensa de fuentes distantes de energía, agua, alimentos y materiales puede plantear problemas de sostenibilidad, como la vulnerabilidad a las alteraciones en el suministro de servicios, y que el proveimiento local puede facilitar el acceso de los habitantes a los recursos” (párrafos 67-70).

Con el fin de promover la “Planificación y la gestión del desarrollo espacial urbano”, el Plan de aplicación establece en particular lo siguiente:

– “**Reconocemos los principios y las estrategias de ordenación territorial y urbana** que figuran en las Directrices Internacionales sobre Planificación Urbana y Territorial adoptadas por el Consejo de Administración de ONU-Hábitat en su resolución 25/6, de 23 de abril de 2015”;

– “**Aplicaremos una planificación integrada** que se proponga conciliar las necesidades a corto plazo con los resultados deseados a largo plazo de una economía competitiva, una calidad de vida elevada y la sostenibilidad del medio ambiente. También nos esforzaremos por hacer flexibles nuestros planes para poder adaptarlos a la evolución de las condiciones socioeconómicas. Aplicaremos estos planes y los evaluaremos de manera sistemática, y nos esforzaremos por aprovechar las innovaciones tecnológicas y generar un mejor entorno de vida”;



- “Apoyaremos la aplicación de políticas y planes de ordenación territorial integrados, policéntricos y equilibrados, alentando la cooperación y el apoyo recíproco entre ciudades y asentamientos humanos de diferentes escalas, fortaleciendo la función de las ciudades y localidades de tamaños pequeño e intermedio en la mejora de los sistemas de seguridad alimentaria y nutrición, proporcionando acceso a servicios, infraestructuras y viviendas sostenibles, asequibles, adecuadas, resilientes y seguras, facilitando vínculos comerciales eficaces en todo el espacio continuo entre zonas urbanas y rurales, y garantizando que los pequeños agricultores y pescadores estén asociados a mercados y cadenas de valor locales, subnacionales, nacionales, regionales y mundiales. Apoyaremos también la producción agropecuaria en las zonas urbanas, así como la producción y el consumo responsable, local y sostenible y las interacciones sociales, mediante el establecimiento de redes propicias y accesibles de comercio y mercados locales como opción para contribuir a la sostenibilidad y la seguridad alimentaria”;
- “Alentaremos la aplicación de políticas de planificación urbana y territorial, incluidos planes metropolitanos y entre ciudades y regiones, a fin de promover las sinergias e interacciones entre las zonas urbanas de todos los tamaños y su entorno periurbano y rural, incluidas las que abarquen ambos lados de una frontera, apoyaremos la preparación de proyectos de infraestructura regional sostenible que estimulen una productividad económica sostenible y fomentaremos un crecimiento equitativo de las regiones urbanas en la continuidad entre entornos urbanos y rurales.

En este sentido, promoveremos los mecanismos de cooperación intermunicipal y las alianzas entre las zonas rurales y urbanas sobre la base de los territorios funcionales y las zonas urbanas como instrumentos eficaces para realizar tareas administrativas municipales y metropolitanas, prestar servicios públicos y promover el desarrollo local y regional” (párrafos 93-96).



II. EL ENFOQUE TERRITORIAL Y DEL PAISAJE DESARROLLADO POR EL CONSEJO DE EUROPA: UNA EXPERIENCIA INTERNACIONAL REGIONAL

En el marco europeo, los trabajos desarrollados por el Consejo de Europa en el ámbito de la ordenación del territorio y del paisaje constituyen una experiencia internacional regional que ha dado lugar a avances conceptuales, normativos y prácticos.

1. El enfoque de la ordenación del territorio

Las **actividades de ordenación del territorio** del Consejo de Europa se iniciaron en 1970 en Bonn (República Federal de Alemania) con la primera Conferencia Europea de Ministros responsables de ordenación del territorio. Tienen su origen en una **preocupación expresada** por la Asamblea Consultiva del Consejo de Europa a principios de los años 60, que se plasmó en la presentación de un informe titulado “La ordenación del territorio: un problema europeo” en mayo de 1968.

La Secretaría General del Consejo de Europa ha organizado **diecisiete Conferencias Europeas de Ministros responsables de ordenación del territorio (CEMAT)**, preparadas por un Comité de Altos Funcionarios a petición del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa por invitación de uno de sus Estados miembros, sobre diversos temas.

Conferencia Europea de Ministros responsable de ordenación del territorio



- “Los fundamentos de una política europea de ordenación del territorio”, Bonn, República Federal de Alemania, 1970
- “Los objetivos de una política europea de ordenación del territorio”, La Grande Motte, Francia, 1973
- “Urbanización y ordenamiento territorial”, Bari, Italia, 1976
- “El desarrollo de las zonas rurales en Europa”, Viena, Austria, 1978
- “Evaluación y perspectivas de la planificación espacial en Europa”, Londres, Reino Unido, 1980
- “Perspectivas para el desarrollo y ordenamiento de las regiones marítimas europeas”, Torremolinos, España, 1983
- “La evolución del proceso de toma de decisiones en la planificación espacial”, La Haya, Países Bajos, 1985

- “El uso racional del suelo: fundamento y límite de nuestro desarrollo”, Lausana, Suiza, 1988
- “Instrumentos para el uso racional de la tierra”, Ankara, Turquía, 1991
- “Estrategias para el desarrollo sostenible en el marco de la ordenación del territorio en Europa más allá del año 2000”, Oslo, Noruega, 1994
- “Desarrollo sostenible del espacio europeo y protección de los recursos hídricos”, Chipre, Limassol, 1997
- “Estrategia común para la ordenación del territorio y el desarrollo sostenible para Europa”, Hannover, Alemania, 2000
- “Implementación de estrategias y perspectivas para el desarrollo territorial sostenible del continente europeo”, Ljubljana, Eslovenia, 2003
- “Redes para el desarrollo territorial sostenible del continente europeo – Construyendo puentes a través de Europa”, Lisboa, Portugal, 2006
- “Los desafíos del futuro: el desarrollo territorial sostenible del continente europeo en un mundo cambiante”, Moscú, Federación Rusa, 2010
- “Democracia territorial: el papel de la participación pública en el proceso de planificación espacial sostenible del continente europeo”, Nauplia, Grecia, 2014
- “Áreas funcionales: mejora del potencial local en las políticas de desarrollo territorial en el continente europeo”, Bucarest, Rumania, 3 de noviembre de 2017

Documentos básicos adoptados por las Conferencias Europeas de Ministros responsables de ordenación del Territorio (CEMAT) y el Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa

- Recomendación (84) 2 del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa a los estados miembros sobre la **Carta europea de ordenación del territorio** (6ª CEMAT 1983)
- Plan europeo de ordenación del territorio (8ª CEMAT 1988)
- Recomendación (2002) 1 del Comité de Ministros a los estados miembros sobre los **Principios Directores para el Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible del Continente Europeo** (12ª CEMAT 2000)
- Declaración de Ljubljana **La dimensión territorial del desarrollo sostenible** (13 CEMAT 2003)
- Resolución No. 1 **Asociaciones público-privadas en materia de políticas de desarrollo territorial** (13 CEMAT 2003)
- Resolución No. 2 **Formación de autoridades responsables del desarrollo territorial sostenible** (13 CEMAT 2003)
- Resolución No. 3 **Prevención de inundaciones y mejor coordinación de todas las actividades destinadas a minimizar los riesgos y consecuencias de inundaciones catastróficas** (13 CEMAT 2003)

- Iniciativa y Declaración sobre el Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible de la Cuenca del Río Tisza/Tissa, firmada por los Ministros responsables de la Planificación Territorial de Hungría, la República Eslovaca, Rumania, Serbia y Montenegro, Ucrania (13 CEMAT 2003)
- Guía de observación del patrimonio rural europeo (13 CEMAT 2003)
- Declaración de Lisboa Redes para el desarrollo territorial sostenible del continente europeo: puentes a través de Europa (14 CEMAT 2006)
- Resolución No. 1 Desarrollo policéntrico: promoción de la competitividad y fortalecimiento de la cohesión (14 CEMAT 2006)
- Resolución No. 2 Gobernanza territorial: aumentar el poder a través de una mejor coordinación (14 CEMAT 2006)
- Resolución No. 3 La Agenda Territorial de la Unión Europea en coordinación con la CEMAT (14ª CEMAT 2006)
- Glosario de ordenación del territorio (14ª CEMAT 2006)
- Declaración de Moscú Los Retos del Futuro: Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible del Continente Europeo en un Mundo Cambiante (15 CEMAT 2010)
- Resolución No. 1 La contribución de los bienes esenciales al desarrollo territorial sostenible del continente europeo (15 CEMAT 2010)

- Resolución No. 2 Carta Paneuropea del Patrimonio Rural: por un desarrollo territorial sostenible (15 CEMAT 2010)
- Resolución No.1 Declaración de Nauplia Promover la democracia territorial en la planificación regional (16 CEMAT 2014)
- Resolución No.2 La contribución de la CEMAT a la consecución de los objetivos del Consejo de Europa (16 CEMAT 2014)
- Resolución No. 1 Áreas funcionales, valorización del potencial local en las políticas de desarrollo territorial en el continente europeo (16 CEMAT 2017)
- Resolución No. 2 Declaración El futuro de la CEMAT (16 CEMAT 2017)



El noción de ordenación del territorio

Como establece la Recomendación (84) 2 del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa a los estados miembros sobre la Carta europea de ordenación del territorio:

“El concepto de ordenación del territorio es a la vez **una disciplina científica, una técnica administrativa y una política** concebida como un **enfoque interdisciplinario** y global cuyo objetivo es **un desarrollo equilibrado de las regiones** y la organización física del espacio según un concepto rector”.

La Carta menciona la dimensión europea y las características de la ordenación del territorio:

Su dimensión europea

La ordenación del territorio contribuye a una **mejor organización del territorio europeo** y a la búsqueda de **soluciones para los problemas que sobrepasan el marco nacional** y trata así de crear un **sentimiento de identidad común**, teniendo en cuenta las relaciones Norte-Sur y Este-Oeste.



Sus características

El hombre y su bienestar, así como su interacción con el medio ambiente, constituyen el centro de toda preocupación de la ordenación del territorio, cuyo objetivo es el de ofrecerle un marco y una calidad de vida que aseguren el desarrollo de su personalidad en un entorno organizado a escala humana.

La ordenación del territorio debe ser democrática, global, funcional y prospectiva.

- *Democrática*: debe ser realizada de forma democrática para asegurar la participación de la población afectada y de sus representantes políticos.
- *Global*: debe tratar de asegurar la coordinación de las distintas políticas sectoriales y su integración por medio de un enfoque global.
- *Funcional*: debe tenerse en cuenta la existencia de conciencias regionales basadas en unos valores, una cultura y unos intereses comunes, y estos a veces por encima de las fronteras administrativas y territoriales, teniendo en cuenta las realidades constitucionales de los distintos países.
- *Prospectiva*: debe analizar las tendencias y el desarrollo a largo plazo de los fenómenos y actuaciones económicos, ecológicos, sociales, culturales y medioambientales y tenerlos en cuenta en su aplicación.

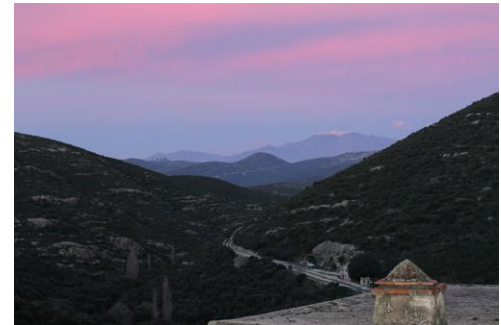


Su aplicación

La ordenación del territorio debe **tomar en consideración** la existencia de **numerosos poderes de decisión individuales e institucionales** que influyen en la organización del territorio, el **carácter aleatorio de todo estudio prospectivo**, las **limitaciones del mercado**, las **peculiaridades de los sistemas administrativos**, la **diversidad de las condiciones socioeconómicas y del medio ambiente**. Debe, sin embargo, **tratar de conciliar** estas influencias del modo más armonioso posible.

Los objetivos fundamentales definidos por la Carta son:

- el **desarrollo socioeconómico equilibrado** de las regiones;
- la **mejora de la calidad de vida**;
- la **gestión responsable de los recursos naturales y la protección del medio ambiente**;
- la **utilización racional del territorio**.



La realización de los objetivos de ordenación territorial

La realización de los objetivos de la ordenación del territorio es esencialmente **una tarea política**. Numerosos **organismos privados y públicos contribuyen** a desarrollar o a modificar la organización del espacio. La ordenación del territorio es **el reflejo de una voluntad de integración y de coordinación de carácter interdisciplinario y de cooperación entre las autoridades afectadas**. También implica la **participación de la población**.

Los Principios directores para el Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible del Continente Europeo

La Recomendación Rec (2002) 1 del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa a los Estados miembros sobre los Principios Directores para un Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible del Continente Europeo considera que estos Principios constituyen

“un documento político” y

“una estrategia coherente para el desarrollo integrado y regionalmente equilibrado del continente europeo

que, basándose en los principios de subsidiariedad y reciprocidad, refuerza la competitividad, la cooperación y la solidaridad de los entes locales y regionales a través de las fronteras, contribuyendo así a la estabilidad democrática de Europa”.

El Comité de Ministros recomienda que se utilicen y apliquen de forma adecuada en los proyectos de ordenación territorial y que se continúe el desarrollo de los servicios gubernamentales y administrativos regionales para facilitar una mejor integración territorial de las distintas partes de Europa.



European Conference of Ministers responsible for
Regional Planning (CEMAT)

Guiding Principles for Sustainable Spatial Development of the European Continent



adopted at the 12th Session of the European Conference of
Ministers responsible for Regional Planning
on 7-8 September 2000 in Hanover

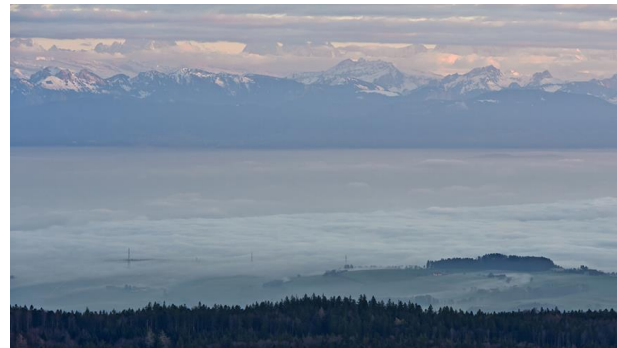
Principios directores del Desarrollo Territorial Sostenible del Continente Europeo

- I. La contribución de los Principios directores a la puesta en práctica de una **estrategia de cohesión social** del Consejo de Europa
- II. La política de ordenación del territorio en Europa: **nuevos desafíos y perspectivas** de nivel continental
 1. Las **relaciones intercontinentales** como elementos estratégicos para la ordenación del territorio en Europa
 2. La **pluralidad de culturas**
 3. Los **grandes espacios europeos** como bases de mutuo apoyo y cooperación
 4. Integración entre los **antiguos y los nuevos Estados miembros** del Consejo de Europa
- III. El papel fundamental del **sector privado** en la ordenación territorial
- IV. **Principios** de una política de ordenación sostenible para Europa
 1. Promoción de la **cohesión territorial** mediante un desarrollo socioeconómico más equilibrado y de la mejora de la competitividad
 2. Fomento del desarrollo generado por las **funciones urbanas** y mejora de las **relaciones campo-ciudad**

3. Promoción de una **accesibilidad** más equilibrada
4. Desarrollo del **acceso a la información y al conocimiento**
5. Reducción de las **agresiones al medio ambiente**
6. Valoración y protección de los recursos y del **patrimonio natural**
7. Valoración del **patrimonio cultural** como factor de desarrollo
8. Desarrollo de los **recursos energéticos** y mantenimiento de la seguridad
9. Promoción de un **turismo de calidad** y sostenible
10. Limitación preventiva de los efectos de las **catástrofes naturales**

V. Medidas de ordenación territorial para espacios específicos de Europa

1. Los **paisajes**
2. Las **zonas urbanas**
3. Las **zonas rurales**
4. Las **zonas de montaña**
5. Las **regiones costeras e insulares**
6. Los **eurocorredores**
7. Las **cuencas fluviales y vegas**
8. Las **zonas de reconversión**



9. Las regiones fronterizas

VI. Fortalecimiento de la cooperación entre los Estados miembros del Consejo de Europa y participación de las regiones, de los municipios y de los ciudadanos

1. Posibilidades de concepción de una ordenación territorial orientada al desarrollo en Europa
2. Desarrollo de actividades de cooperación a escala europea sobre la base de los Principios Directores
3. Cooperación horizontal
4. Cooperación vertical
5. Participación efectiva de la sociedad en el proceso de ordenación territorial

Los Principios Directores procuran adecuar las expectativas económicas y sociales del territorio a sus funciones ecológicas y culturales, y contribuir así a un desarrollo espacial a gran escala, sostenible y equilibrado. Su aplicación requiere una estrecha cooperación entre los responsables de la ordenación del territorio y los responsables de las políticas sectoriales que influyen en las estructuras espaciales a través de sus decisiones.

La Declaración de Ljubljana sobre la dimensión del desarrollo sostenible, adoptada en la 13ª Sesión de la CEMAT, considera:

“El territorio es un **sistema complejo**, que comprende no sólo espacios urbanizados, rurales y otros, como suelo industrial, sino también la naturaleza en su conjunto y el ambiente en el que vive el ser humano.

Es el soporte y marco esencial para el establecimiento y la actividad del hombre y, por lo tanto, la **base del desarrollo sostenible**. El desarrollo territorial es, pues, un instrumento esencial en la consecución del objetivo del desarrollo sostenible”.

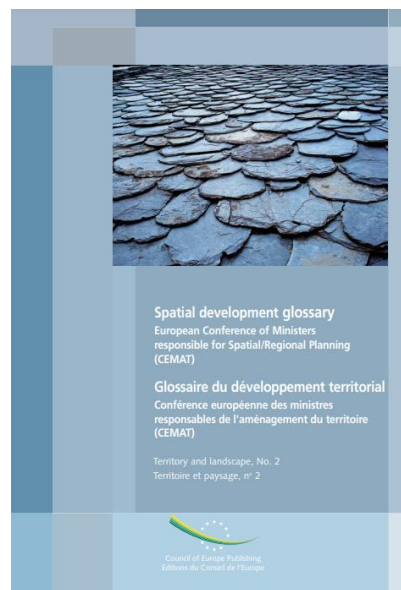
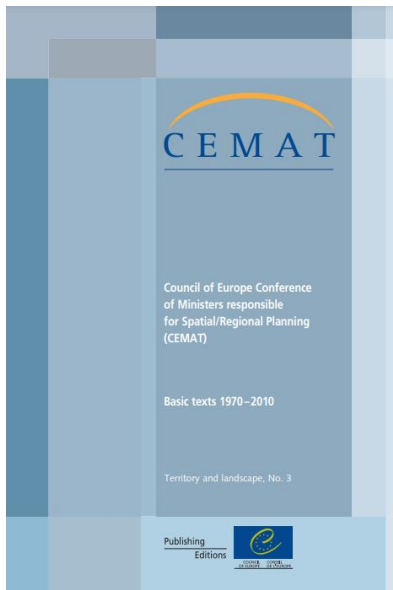
Las Conferencias Europeas de Ministros responsables de Ordenación del Territorio, preparadas en el marco de las reuniones del Comité de Altos Funcionarios y de los Seminarios internacionales CEMAT, han desempeñado **un papel importante en la promoción de políticas de ordenación del territorio** adaptadas a los grandes cambios del contexto de la Gran Europa.



Publicaciones sobre la CEMAT

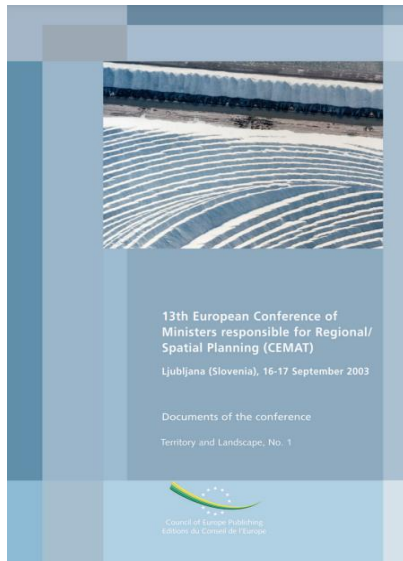
Textos de referencia

- Consejo de Europa, [Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for regional/spatial planning \(CEMAT\) – Basic texts \(1970-2010\)](#) [Conferencia de Ministros de Ordenación del Territorio del Consejo de Europa (CEMAT) - Textos básicos 1970-2010)], CoE Serie Territorio y Paisaje, 2010, No. 3
- Consejo de Europa, [European Rural Heritage Observation Guide – CEMAT](#) [Guía europea para el seguimiento del patrimonio rural – CEMAT], 13 CEMAT (2003) 4. Otras lenguas: [francés](#) | [inglés](#) | [griego](#) | [italiano](#) | [ruso](#) | [español](#) | [sueco](#)
- Consejo de Europa, [Spatial development Glossary CEMAT](#) [Glosario de Ordenación del Territorio CEMAT], CoE Serie Territorio y Paisaje, 2007, No. 2



Actas de las Conferencias Ministeriales de la CEMAT

- Consejo de Europa, **[13th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Regional/Spatial Planning \(CEMAT\), Ljubljana \(Slovenia\), 16-17 September 2003](#)** [13ª Conferencia de Ministros de Ordenación Territorial del Consejo de Europa], Ed. CoE, Serie Territorio y Paisaje, 2005, No. 1
- Consejo de Europa, **[14th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning of the Council of Europe \(CEMAT\) \(Lisbon, Portugal, 26-27 October 2006\)](#)** [14ª Conferencia Europea de Ministros responsables de la Ordenación del Territorio/Espacio], Ed. CoE, Serie Territorio y Paisaje, 2009, No. 86
- Consejo de Europa, **[15th European Conference of Ministers responsible for Spatial/Regional Planning of the Council of Europe \(Moscow, Russian Federation, 8-9 July 2010\)](#)** [15ª Conferencia europea de ministros responsables de la ordenación del territorio], Ed. CoE, European Spatial/Regional Planning and Landscape Series, 2012, No. 94

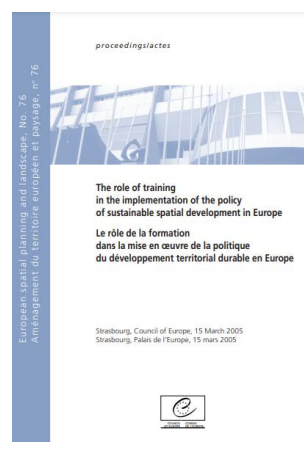
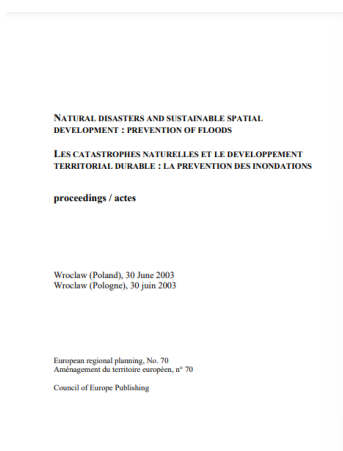


Actas de los Seminarios Internacionales CEMAT

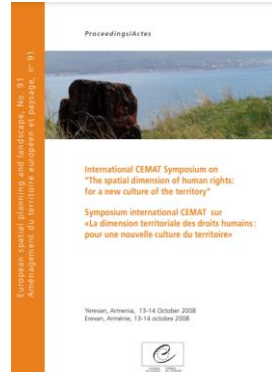
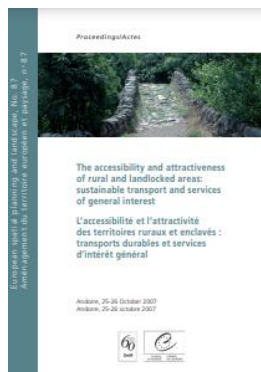
- [Integration of the greater European spaces \(Thessalonica, 25-26 June 2001\)](#) [“Integración de los grandes espacios europeos”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2002, No. 65
- [Landscape heritage, spatial planning and sustainable development \(Lisbon, 26-27 November 2001\)](#) [“Patrimonio paisajístico, ordenación del territorio y desarrollo sostenible”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2003, No. 66
- [The role of local and regional authorities in transnational co-operation in the field of regional/spatial development \(Dresden, Germany, 15-16 May 2002\)](#) [“El papel de los entes locales y regionales en la cooperación transnacional para el desarrollo regional y la ordenación del territorio”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2003, No. 67
- [Spatial planning for the sustainable development of particular types of European areas: mountains, coastal zones, rural zones, flood-plains and alluvial valleys \(Sofia, 23-24 October 2002\)](#) [“Ordenación del Territorio para el Desarrollo Sostenible de los Espacios Especiales Europeos: Montañas, Zonas Costeras, Zonas Rurales, Cuencas Fluviales y Valles Aluviales”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2003, No. 68
- [Sustainable spatial development: strengthening intersectoral relations \(Budapest, 26-27 March 2003\)](#) [“Desarrollo espacial sostenible: Reforzar las relaciones intersectoriales”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2003, No. N° 69



- [Natural disasters and sustainable spatial development: prevention of floods \(Wroclaw, 30 June 2003\)](#) [“Catástrofes naturales y desarrollo territorial sostenible: prevención de inundaciones”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2004, No. 70
- [Spatial development governance: institutional co-operation network \(Yerevan, Armenia, 28-29 October 2004\)](#) [“Gobernanza territorial y redes de cooperación institucional”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2006, No. 73
- [The role of training in the implementation of the policy of sustainable spatial development in Europe \(Strasbourg, France, 15 May 2005\)](#) [“The role of training in the implementation of sustainable spatial development policy in Europe”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2006, No. 76
- [Networking for sustainable spatial development of the European continent \(Moscow, Russian Federation, 26 September 2005\)](#) [Creación de redes para el desarrollo espacial sostenible del continente europeo], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2006, No. 79
- [Urban management in networking Europe \(Bled, Slovenia, 17-18 November 2005\)](#) [“La gestión urbana en una Europa en red”], CoE Serie ordenación territorial/regional europea, 2006, No. 80



- [The accessibility and attractiveness of rural and landlocked areas: sustainable transport and services of general interest \(Andorra la Vella, Andorra, 25-26 October 2007\)](#) [“Atractivo y accesibilidad de los territorios rurales y sin litoral: transporte sostenible y servicios de interés general”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2009, No. 87
- [Challenges and strategies for metropolises and metropolitan regions in a context of growing globalisation with regard to economic, social, environmental and cultural development \(Saint Petersburg, Russian Federation, 26-27 June 2008\)](#) [“Retos y estrategias de las metrópolis y regiones metropolitanas en un contexto de creciente globalización, en relación con el desarrollo económico, social, medioambiental y cultural”], CoE Serie Ordenación del Territorio Europeo, 2009, No. 90
- [The spatial dimension of human rights: for a new culture of the territory \(Yerevan, Armenia, 13-14 October 2008\)](#) [“La dimensión territorial de los derechos humanos: por una nueva cultura del territorio”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2009, No. 91
- [A comprehensive approach to balanced sustainable spatial development of the European continent](#) [“Un enfoque global del desarrollo espacial equilibrado”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2010, No. 92
- [Vision for the future of Europe on territorial democracy: landscape as a new strategy for spatial planning... Another way to see the territory involving civil society...](#) [“Visiones para el futuro de Europa sobre la democracia territorial: El paisaje como nueva estrategia de ordenación territorial”], CoE European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 99



2. La protección, gestión y ordenación del paisaje

Adoptado por el Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa en Estrasburgo el 19 de julio de 2000 y abierto a la firma en Florencia el 20 de octubre de 2000 , el **Convenio del Consejo de Europa sobre el Paisaje** se inscribe en un espíritu de “**transformación**” territorial.

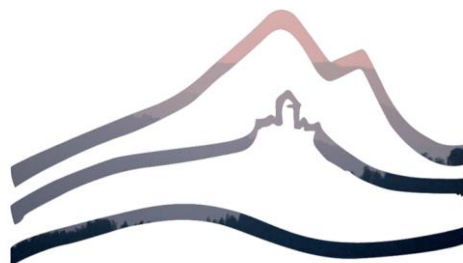
Los Estados miembros del Consejo de Europa, signatarios del Convenio, constataron que

“**la evolución** de las técnicas de producción agrícola, forestal, industrial y minera, así como de la ordenación del territorio, el urbanismo, los transportes, las redes, las prácticas turísticas y de ocio y, de manera más general, **los cambios** económicos mundiales siguen acelerando, en muchos casos, **la transformación** de los paisajes”,

y se declararon

“**deseosos de lograr un desarrollo sostenible** basado en **un equilibrio armonioso** entre las necesidades sociales, la economía y el medio ambiente” (preámbulo).

El Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa ha adoptado recomendaciones y otros textos de referencia, que constituyen un “derecho del paisaje”:



Recomendaciones del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa y otros textos de referencia sobre el paisaje

Recomendaciones del Comité de Ministros del Consejo de Europa

- Recomendación N° R (79) 9 La identificación y evaluación de los paisajes naturales con vistas a su protección
- Recomendación N° R (95) 9 La conservación de los sitios culturales integrada en las políticas paisajísticas
- Recomendación Rec(2002) 1 Principios Directores para el desarrollo espacial sostenible del continente europeo
- Recomendación N° R (2008) 3 Directrices para la aplicación del Convenio
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2013)4 El sistema de información de la Convenio y su glosario
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2014)8 La promoción de la concienciación sobre el paisaje a través de la educación
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2015)7 Material didáctico para la educación sobre el paisaje en las escuelas primarias
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2015)8 Los paisajes transfronterizos
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2017)7 La contribución de la Convenio al ejercicio de los derechos humanos y la democracia en una perspectiva de desarrollo sostenible

- Recomendación CM/Rec(2018)9 La creación de fondos públicos para el paisaje
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2019)7 La integración del paisaje en las políticas relativas a los territorios rurales en transición de la agricultura y la silvicultura a la energía y la demografía
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2019)8 Paisaje y democracia: la participación de los ciudadanos
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2021)12 Integración de la dimensión paisajística en las políticas sectoriales
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2021)11 Paisaje y agricultura
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2021)10 Urbanismo y paisaje
- Recomendación CM/Rec(2021)9 El paisaje y las responsabilidades de los agentes para un desarrollo sostenible y armonioso

Textos adoptados por la Conferencia de las Partes sobre la aplicación del Convenio del paisaje

- Declaración (2019) Reconocimiento profesional de los arquitectos paisajistas
- Memento (2019) Hacia enfoques integrados de la vigilancia del paisaje
- Memento (2019) La piedra seca en el paisaje, ancestral e innovadora, para territorios sostenibles



La noción de paisaje

– El Convenio define el paisaje como

“una parte del territorio tal como la perciben las poblaciones, cuyo carácter resulta de la acción de factores **naturales y/o humanos** y **sus interrelaciones**” (artículo 1, a).

Esta definición refleja la idea de que **el paisaje evoluciona** bajo la acción de las fuerzas naturales y del ser humano.

– Los Estados firmantes del Convenio reconocen que el paisaje es

“en **todas partes** un elemento importante de la calidad de vida de las poblaciones: en las zonas urbanas y en el campo, en los territorios degradados como en los de alta calidad, en los espacios notables como en los de vida cotidiana vida” (preámbulo).

Así, el texto se aplica a **todo el territorio** – áreas terrestres, aguas interiores y marítimas – y se refiere a áreas naturales, rurales, urbanas y periurbanas. Los paisajes de alta calidad y “cotidianos” son, como los paisajes degradados, tomados en consideración (artículo 2).



– Los Estados firmantes de la Convención

indican que están

“convencidos de que el paisaje constituye **un elemento esencial del bienestar individual y social**”,

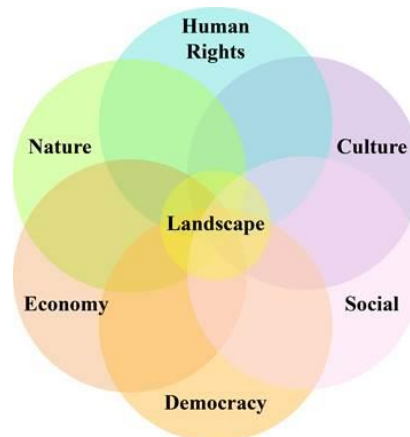
señalando que el paisaje

“contribuye significativamente al interés general, en los planos **cultural**, ecológico, ambiental y social, y que constituye un recurso favorable a la **actividad económica**, cuya adecuada protección, gestión y desarrollo puede contribuir a la **creación de puestos de trabajo**” (preámbulo).

se muestran conscientes

“de que el paisaje contribuye al desarrollo de las culturas locales y de que representa un componente fundamental del **patrimonio cultural** y **natural** de Europa, contribuyendo al desarrollo del ser humano y a la consolidación de la identidad europea”

“de la importancia del paisaje a escala mundial como **componente esencial del entorno de vida** de los seres humanos” (preámbulo).



“The landscape flower”
Council of Europe, Design Adrien D.

El concepto de paisaje, tal y como lo define el Convenio, se ha ido introduciendo progresivamente en la **legislación nacional** de los Estados Partes del Convenio, y ha sido adoptado por las **autoridades públicas** nacionales, regionales y locales, así como por la **población**.

En el contexto de la Unión Europea, la **Directiva 2014/52/UE del Parlamento Europeo y del Consejo**, de 16 de abril de 2014, por la que se modifica la Directiva 2011/92/UE sobre la evaluación de los efectos de determinados proyectos públicos y privados en el medio ambiente establece:

“A fin de proteger y promover el patrimonio cultural, que incluye los lugares y paisajes urbanos históricos, que forman parte integrante de la diversidad cultural que la Unión se compromete a respetar y promover, [...] las definiciones y principios establecidos en el Consejo correspondiente de los convenios de Europa, en particular [...] **el Convenio Europeo del Paisaje** de 20 de octubre de 2000 [...], puede resultar útil”. Agrega que “para una mejor conservación del patrimonio histórico y cultural y del paisaje, es importante considerar los impactos visuales de los proyectos, es decir, la modificación de la apariencia o vista del paisaje natural o construido y de las áreas urbanas, en el contexto de evaluaciones de impacto ambiental” (preámbulo, párrafo 16).



Las políticas de paisaje

El Convenio tiene por objeto **promover la protección, gestión y planificación de los paisajes** (artículo 3), especificando que cada Parte aplica sus disposiciones

“según su propia división de poderes, de acuerdo con sus principios constitucionales y su organización administrativa, y de conformidad con el principio de subsidiariedad” y “de conformidad con sus propias políticas” (artículo 4).

El Convenio **define los términos** “protección”, “gestión” y “ordenación del paisaje” (artículo 1).

- “**Protección de paisajes**” incluye “acciones para la conservación y mantenimiento de aspectos significativos o característicos de un paisaje, justificados por su valor patrimonial que emana de su configuración natural y/o de la intervención humana”.
- “**Gestión del paisaje**” incluye “las acciones encaminadas, en una perspectiva de desarrollo sostenible, al mantenimiento del paisaje para orientar y armonizar las transformaciones inducidas por los cambios sociales, económicos y ambientales”.
- “**Ordenación del paisaje**” incluye “actuaciones con un marcado carácter prospectivo especialmente dirigidas a mejorar, restaurar o crear paisajes”.

La mayoría de los paisajes requieren una combinación de los tres modos de acción, y algunos de ellos requieren cierto grado de intervención.

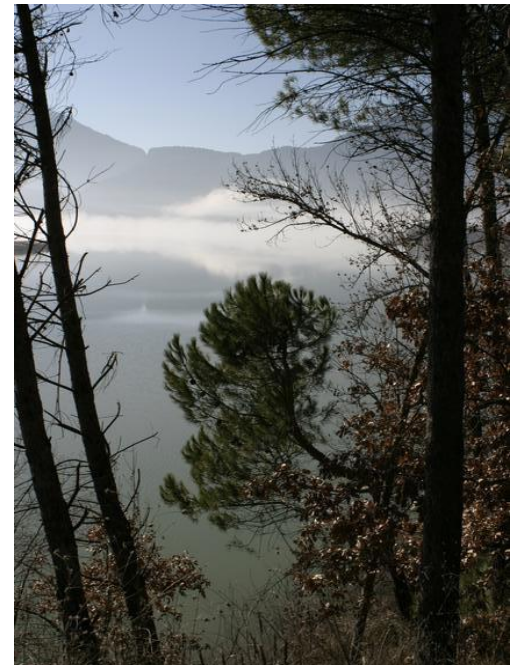
Al ratificar el Convenio, las Partes se comprometen a implementar “medidas” generales y específicas a nivel nacional:

- “el reconocimiento jurídico del paisaje como componente esencial del medio ambiente de vida de las poblaciones, expresión de la diversidad de su patrimonio cultural y natural común, y fundamento de su identidad”;
- “definir e implementar políticas de paisaje dirigidas a la protección, gestión y ordenación de los paisajes, impulsando medidas específicas” [sensibilización; entrenamiento y educación; identificación y calificación; objetivos de calidad del paisaje; implementación];
- “establecer procedimientos para la participación del público, las autoridades locales y regionales, y otros actores interesados en el diseño e implementación de políticas de paisaje”. El Convenio indica que los Estados firmantes se muestran así deseosos de “responder al deseo de la ciudadanía de disfrutar de paisajes de calidad y de desempeñar un papel activo en su transformación”, considerando que su protección, gestión y ordenación implican “derechos y deberes de todos” (preámbulo);
- “integrar el paisaje en las políticas de ordenación del territorio, urbanismo, culturales, medioambientales, agrarias, sociales y económicas, así como en otras políticas que puedan tener una incidencia directa o indirecta sobre el paisaje” (artículos 5 y 6).
















































La Recomendación CM/Rec(2008)3 del Comité de Ministros a los Estados miembros sobre lineamientos para la implementación del Convenio, incluye un conjunto de **lineamientos teóricos, metodológicos y prácticos para la implementación del Convenio**. Está destinado a las Partes del Convenio que se fijan el objetivo de elaborar e implementar **una política de paisaje** sobre la base del mismo. Los siguientes nueve principios generales tienen por objeto, entre otras cosas, proporcionar orientación sobre algunos de los artículos fundamentales del Convenio.

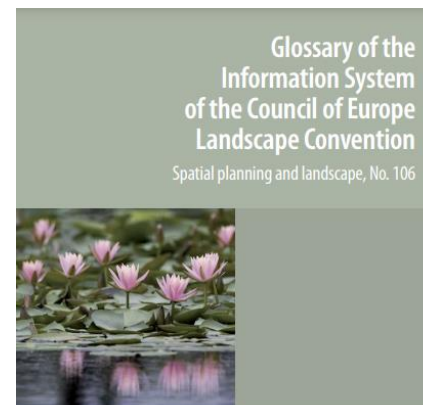
Principios del “enfoque de paisaje”

- 1. Considerar todo el territorio*
- 2. Reconocer el papel fundamental del conocimiento*
- 3. Promover la conciencia*
- 4. Formular estrategias para el paisaje*
- 5. Integrar el paisaje en las políticas territoriales*
- 6. Integrar el paisaje en las políticas sectoriales*
- 7. Implementar la participación pública*
- 8. Cumplir con los objetivos de calidad paisajística*
- 9. Desarrollar la asistencia mutua y el intercambio de información*



Con el fin de asegurar el intercambio de información y el seguimiento de la implementación del Convenio, el **Sistema de Información del Convenio del Paisaje del Consejo de Europa** proporciona acceso en línea a la información relativa a las políticas nacionales y regionales desarrolladas por las Partes del Convenio a favor del paisaje. Los informes, nacionales y regionales, de los Estados Parte del Convenio sobre su implementación están disponibles en este marco. Se ha producido un **Glosario** para explicar ciertos términos utilizados.

▶ Albania		▶ Lithuania	
▶ Andorra		▶ Luxembourg	
▶ Armenia		▶ "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"	
▶ Austria		▶ Malta	
▶ Azerbaijan		▶ Republic of Moldova	
▶ Belgium		▶ Monaco	
▶ Bosnia and Herzegovina		▶ Montenegro	
▶ Bulgaria		▶ Netherlands	
▶ Cyprus		▶ Norway	
▶ Croatia		▶ Poland	
▶ Czech Republic		▶ Portugal	
▶ Denmark		▶ Romania	
▶ Estonia		▶ Russia	
▶ Finland		▶ San-Marino	
▶ France		▶ Serbia	
▶ Georgia		▶ Slovak Republic	
▶ Germany		▶ Slovenia	
▶ Greece		▶ Spain	
▶ Hungary		▶ Sweden	
▶ Ireland		▶ Switzerland	
▶ Iceland		▶ Turkey	
▶ Italy		▶ United Kingdom	
▶ Latvia		▶ Ukraine	
▶ Liechtenstein			



Una **Plataforma de Información** de la Convenio presenta el trabajo realizado sobre los temas principales del Convenio.



Definition of Landscape



Landscape policies



Landscape integration



International co-operation



Exemplary projects

Las conferencias del Consejo de Europa sobre la aplicación del Convenio, las reuniones de trabajo y los simposios nacionales organizados en el marco del programa de trabajo del Convenio han fomentado el **intercambio de experiencias a escala internacional**.

A lo largo de los años, se han realizado **avances significativos en la aplicación de políticas de paisaje a escala nacional, regional y local.**

– **se han adoptado estrategias gubernamentales, planes de acción o planes sectoriales:** Estrategia Nacional de Paisaje de Andorra 2012-2015, 2016-2020, 2021-2035; Estrategia de Armenia para la Preservación, Gestión y Planificación del Paisaje 2004; Estrategia Nacional de Paisaje de Hungría 2017-2026; Estrategia Nacional de Paisaje de Irlanda 2015-2025; Estrategia de Política de Paisaje de Letonia 2013; Diseño del Paisaje de Suiza 1998, 2020; Planes Sectoriales de Paisaje de Luxemburgo 2021; Plan de Acción de Paisaje de Bélgica/Región de Flandes 2020-2024....

– **se han creado fondos para el paisaje** (Suiza...);

– **se ha adoptado legislación sobre el paisaje** (España, Finlandia, Francia, Italia, Polonia, Suiza...);

– **se han incluido disposiciones sobre el paisaje en la legislación y políticas relativas a:** **ordenación territorial** (Armenia, Chipre, Estonia, Grecia, Noruega, Países Bajos, Polonia, Portugal, Rumanía, Eslovenia...); **urbanismo** (Bélgica/Región de Bruselas Capital, Francia, San Marino...); **arquitectura** (Armenia, Portugal...); **medio ambiente y naturaleza** (España, Italia, Suiza...); **zonas rurales y agricultura** (Italia...); **medio ambiente y naturaleza** (Austria, Azerbaiyán, Bélgica/Región Valona, Dinamarca, Georgia, Letonia, Macedonia del Norte, Moldavia, Polonia, República Eslovaca, San Marino, Eslovenia, Turquía, Reino Unido...); **cultura y patrimonio cultural** (Dinamarca, Finlandia, Italia, Letonia, Lituania, Macedonia del Norte, Polonia, Suecia, Reino Unido...); **infraestructuras** (Francia...)...

- *se han creado marcos de coordinación interministerial* (República Checa...);
- *se han puesto en práctica mecanismos de articulación de las políticas entre los niveles nacional y regional* (Francia, Serbia...).

En España, las comunidades autónomas (Andalucía, Aragón, Asturias, Baleares, País Vasco, Canarias, Cantabria, Castilla y León, Cataluña, Extremadura, Galicia, Madrid, Murcia, Navarra, La Rioja, Valencia...) han adoptado marcos legislativos y reglamentarios relativos al paisaje; algunas de ellas han adoptado estrategias de paisaje (Andalucía, Mallorca...) y creado un observatorio (Cataluña, Canarias...).

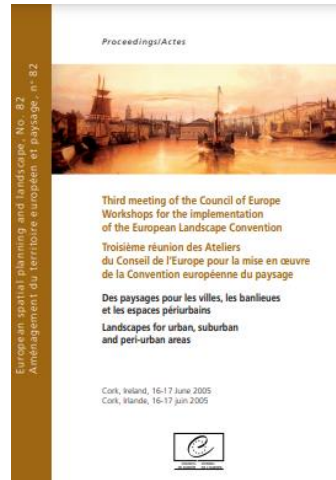
Basadas en objetivos compartidos, estas políticas promueven **la calidad de un entorno de vida común.**



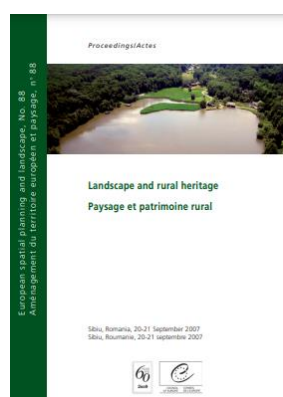
Publicaciones relacionadas con el Convenio del Paisaje del Consejo de Europa

Actas de las Reuniones del Consejo de Europa de los Talleres para la implementación del Convenio

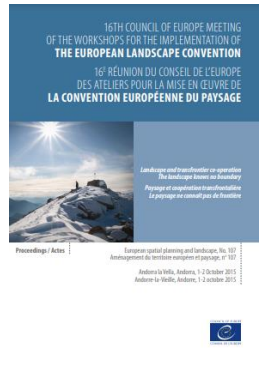
- “**Landscape policies: contribution to the well-being of European citizens and to sustainable development (social, economic, cultural and ecological approaches); landscape identification, evaluation and quality objectives, cultural and natural resources; awareness-raising, training and education; Innovative tools for the protection, management and planning of landscape**” (Strasbourg, France, 23-24 May 2002), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2006, No. 74
- “**Integration of landscapes in international policies and programmes and transfrontier landscapes; Landscapes and individual and social well-being; Spatial planning and landscape**” (Strasbourg, France, 27-28 November 2003), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2006, No. 72
- “**Landscapes for urban, suburban and peri-urban areas**” (Cork, Ireland, 16-17 June 2005), CoE de Europa, European Spatial Planning Series, 2007, No. 82
- “**Landscape and society**” (Slovenia, Ljubljana, 11-12 May 2006), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2007, No. 83



- **“Landscape quality objectives: from theory to practice”** (Gerona, Spain, 28-29 September 2006), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2007, No. 84
- **“Landscape and rural heritage”** (Sibiu, Romania, 20-21 September 2007), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2009, No. 88
- **“Landscape in planning policies and governance: towards integrated spatial management”** (Piestany, Slovakia, 24-25 April 2008), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2009, No. 89
- **“Landscape and driving forces”** (Malmö, Sweden, 8-9 October 2009), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2010, No. 93
- **“Landscape and infrastructures for the society”** (Cordoba, Spain, 15-16 April 2010), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2013, No. 95
- **“Multifunctional landscape”** (Evora, Portugal, 20-21 October 2011), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 97



- “CoE **Landscape Award Forum of National Selections** – Sessions 2008-2009 and 2010-2011” (Carbonia, Italy, 4-5 June 2012), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 98
- “**Landscape and driving forces**” (Thessalonica, Greece, 2-3 October 2012), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 99
- “CoE **Landscape Award European Landscape Convention** - Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013” (Cetinje, Montenegro, 2-3 October 2013), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 100
- “CoE **Landscape Award European Landscape Convention** - Council of Europe Landscape Award Forum of National Selections – 3rd Session 2012-2013” (Wroclaw, Poland, 11-12 June 2014), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2014, No. 101
- “**Sustainable Landscapes and Economy: on the inestimable natural and human value of the landscape**” (Urgup, Turkey, 1-2 October 2014), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2015, No. 104
- “**Landscapes and transfrontier co-operation: Landscape knows no border**” (Andorra la Vella, Andorra, 1-2 October 2015), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2016, No. 107



- “CoE **Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 4th Session 2014-2015**” (Budapest, Hungary, 9-10 June 2016), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2019, No. 108
- “**National policies for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention: challenges and opportunities**” (Yerevan, Armenia, 5-6 October 2016), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2019, No. 109
- “**The implementation of the European Landscape Convention at local level: local democracy**” (Brno, Czech Republic, 5-6 September 2017), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2018, No. 110
- “CoE **Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 5th Session 2016-2017**” (Daugavpils, Latvia, 19-21 June 2018), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2018, No. 113
- “**Landscape and Education**” (Tropea, Italy 3-4 October 2018), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2019, No. 114



Proceedings / Actes : European spatial planning and landscape, No. 108
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 108
Budapest, Hungary, 9-10 June 2016
Budapest, Hongrie, 9-10 juin 2016



Proceedings / Actes : European spatial planning and landscape, No. 109
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 109
Yerevan, Armenia, 5-6 October 2016
Yerevan, Arménie, 5-6 octobre 2016



Proceedings / Actes : European spatial planning and landscape, No. 110
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 110
Brno, Czech Republic, 5-6 September 2017
Brno, République tchèque, 5-6 septembre 2017



Proceedings / Actes : European spatial planning and landscape, No. 113
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 113
Daugavpils, Latvia, 20-21 June 2018
Daugavpils, Lettonie, 20-21 juin 2018



Proceedings / Actes : European spatial planning and landscape, No. 114
Aménagement du territoire européen et paysage, n° 114
Tropea, Calabria, Italy, 3-4 October 2018
Tropea, Calabre, Italie, 3-4 octobre 2018

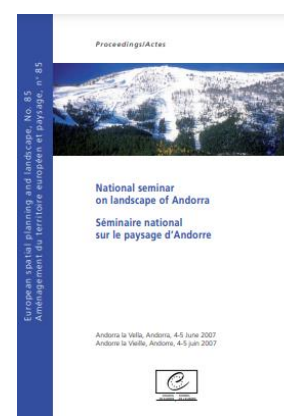
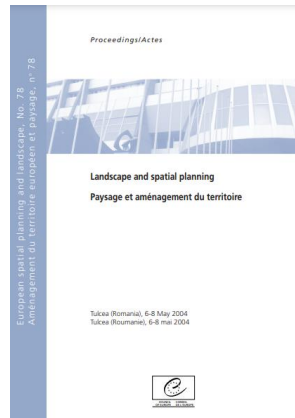


- “**Water, landscape and citizenship in the face of global change**” (Sevilla, Spain, 14-15 March 2019), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2019, No. 116
- “**Landscape integration in sectoral policies**”, « *L'intégration du paysage dans les politiques sectorielles* » (Lausanne, Switzerland, 19-20 October 2020), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2021, No. 118
- “**CoE Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 6th Session 2018-2019**” (Geneva, Switzerland, 21-22 October 2020), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2021, No. 119
- “**Landscape policies! Strategies, Action plans and Policy documents for landscape quality**” (Palma de Mallorca, Spain, 6-8 October 2021), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2021, No. 123
- “**CoE Landscape Award Forum of National Selections - 7th Session 2020-2021**” (Bergamo, Italy, 28-29 April 2022), CoE, European Spatial Planning Series, 2021, No. 124

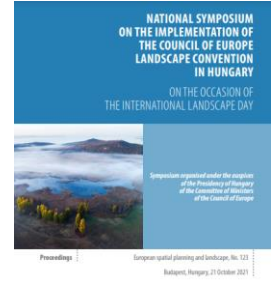
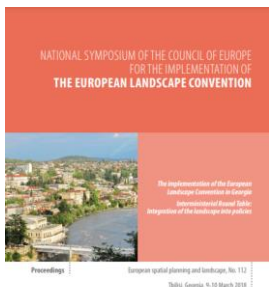


Actas de las reuniones del Consejo de Europa para la aplicación del Convenio a nivel nacional

- “*Spatial planning and landscape in **Armenia***” (Yerevan, Armenia, 23-24 October 2003), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2006, No. 75
- “*Spatial planning and landscape*” (**Moscow, Russian Federation**, 26-27 April 2004), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2006, No. 77
- “*Landscape and spatial planning*” (Tulcea, **Romania**, 6-8 May 2004), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2006, No. 78
- “*The contribution of **Albania** to the implementation of the European Landscape Convention*” (Tirana, Albania, 15-16 December 2005) (Tirana, Albanie, 15-16 décembre 2005), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2006, No. 81
- “*Landscape of **Andorra***” (Andorra la Vella, Andorra, 4-5 June 2007), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2008, No. 85
- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**: Drawing landscape policies for the future*” (Trebinje, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 25-26 January 2018), CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2018, No. 111

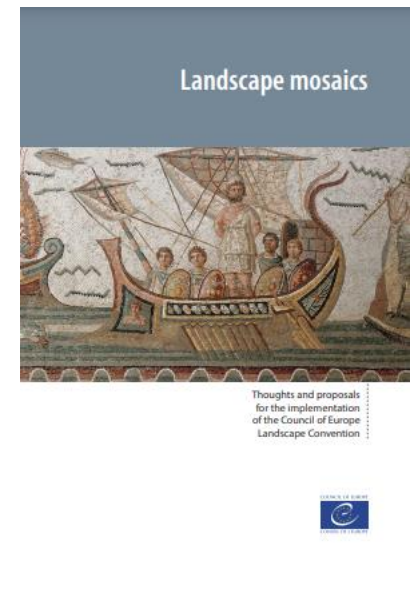
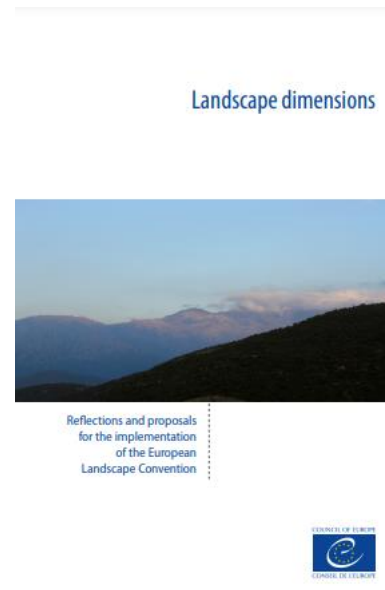
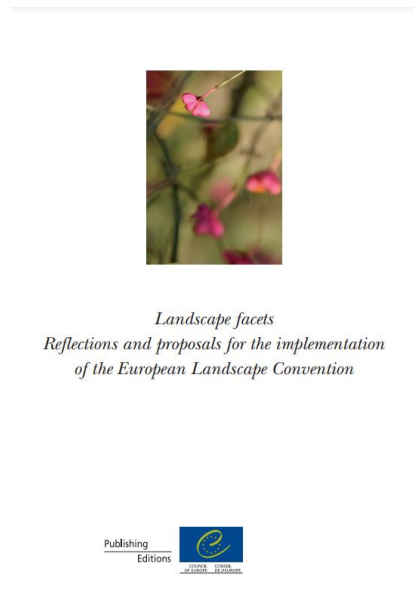
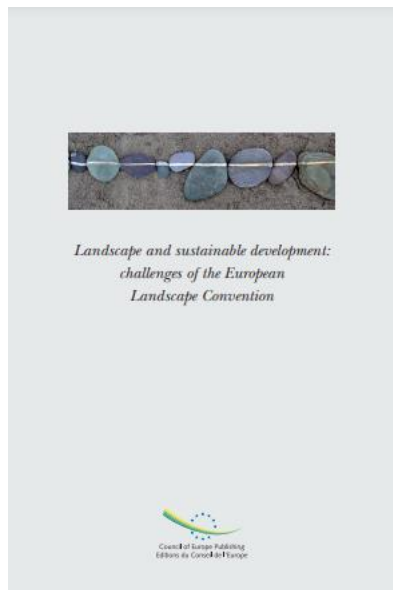


- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Georgia: Interministerial Round-Table: Integration of the landscape into policies*” (Tbilisi, Georgia, 9-10 March 2018), [CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2019, No. 112](#)
- “*Integrated approach to landscape protection, planning and management in Croatia*” (Zagreb, Croatia, 19-20 October 2018), [CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2018, No. 115](#)
- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in France: Landscapes from here and elsewhere, diverse perspectives on some landscape approaches at different scales, on both sides of borders*” (Strasbourg, France, 26-27 November 2019), [CoE, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2020, No. 117](#)
- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Hungary*” (Budapest, Hongrie, 21 octobre 2022), [Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2020, No. 124](#)
- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Greece*” (Kastraki, Kalampala, Trikala, Greece, 6-8 April 2022), [Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2022, No. 125](#)
- “*The implementation of the European Landscape Convention in Armenia: Landscape Convention for kids*” (Erevan, Republic of Armenia, 8-10 June 2022), [Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2022, No. 126](#)



Obras temáticas del Consejo de Europa

- **Landscape and sustainable development:** challenges of the European Landscape Convention, Ed. del Consejo de Europa, Strasbourg, 2006
- **Landscape facets:** reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, Ed. del Consejo de Europa, Strasbourg, 2012
- **Landscape dimensions:** Reflections and proposals for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, Ed. del Consejo de Europa, Strasbourg, 2017
- **Landscape mosaics:** Thoughts and proposals for the implementation of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, Ed. del Consejo de Europa, Strasbourg, 2022



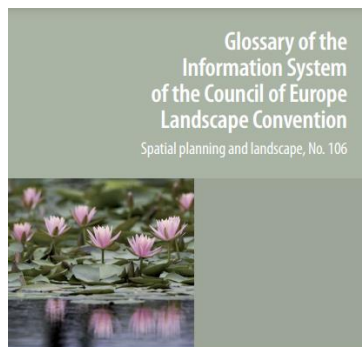
– [Glossary of the Information System](#) of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, [CoE](#), European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2018, N° 106

– [Council of Europe Landscape Convention: Contribution to human rights, democracy and sustainable development](#), Ed. del Consejo de Europa, 2018

– [Landscape education activities](#) for primary schools: Pedagogical booklet, Ed. del Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2021, No. 121

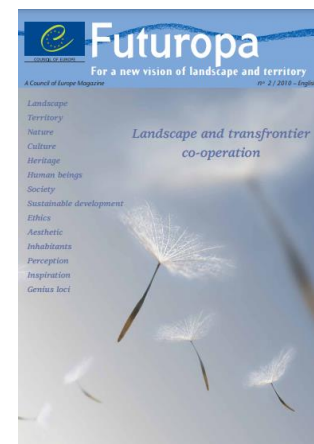
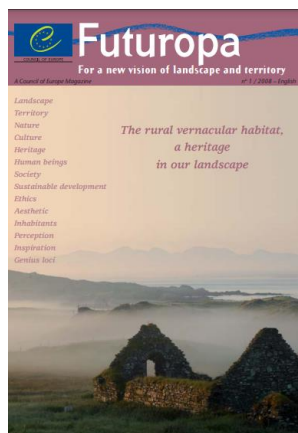
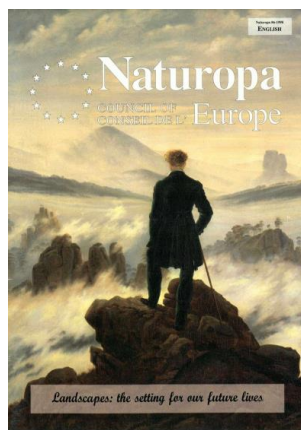
Linguistic versions:

[Arabic](#) | [Armenian](#) | [Bulgarian](#) | [Croatian](#) | [English](#) | [Estonian](#) | [Finnish](#) | [French](#) | [Greek](#) | [Hungarian](#) | [Italian](#) | [Latvian](#) | [Lithuanian](#) | [Polish](#) | [Norwegian](#) | [Portuguese](#) | [Romanian](#) | [Russian](#) | [Serbian](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Swedish](#) | [Turkish](#)



Revista Naturopapa/ Futuropapa del Consejo de Europa

- Land and problems, Naturopapa, 1997, N° 85
- Landscapes: the setting for our future live, Naturopapa, 1998, No. 86
- European rural heritage, Naturopapa, 2001, N° 95
- The European Landscape Convention, Naturopapa, 2002, No. 98
- Town and sustainable development, Naturopapa, 2003, N 100
- Landscape through literature, Naturopapa/Culturopapa, 2005, No. 103
- The rural vernacular habitat, Futuropapa, 2008, N° 1
- Landscape and transfrontier co-operation, Futuropapa, 2010, No. 2
- Public Space and Landscape: The Human Scale, Futuropapa, 2012, N° 3



El Convenio prevé la concesión de un “Premio del Paisaje del Consejo de Europa”.

Esto constituye un reconocimiento a la política o medidas adoptadas por los entes locales y regionales o las organizaciones no gubernamentales en relación con la protección, gestión y desarrollo sostenible de sus paisajes, demostrando una eficacia duradera y pudiendo así servir de ejemplo a otros entes locales. Se han definido cuatro criterios para la concesión del Premio: desarrollo territorial sostenible, ejemplaridad, participación y sensibilización.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
1st Session 2008-2009

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
2nd Session 2010-2011

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
3rd Session 2012-2013

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
4th Session 2014-2015

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
5th Session 2016-2017

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
5th Session 2016-2017

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
6th Session 2018-2019

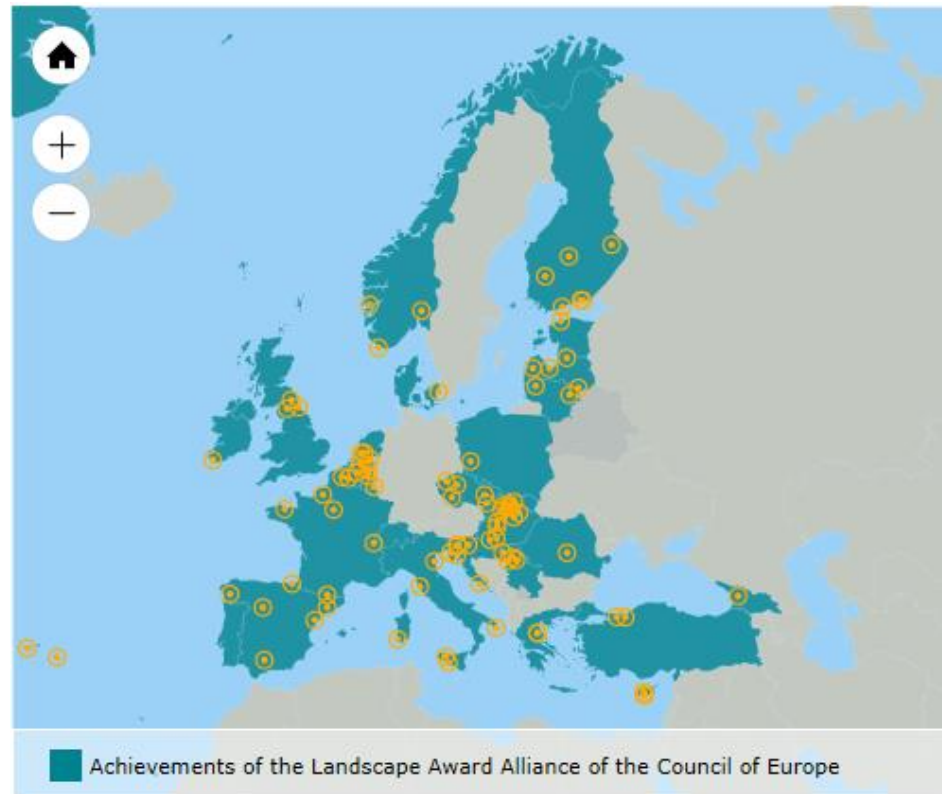
This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

European Landscape Convention
Landscape Award of the Council of Europe
7th Session 2020-2021

This poster features a grid of 12 small photographs showing various landscapes and people. The text on the left describes the award's purpose and criteria. At the bottom, there are logos for the European Landscape Convention and the Council of Europe.

La **Alianza para el Premio del Paisaje** reúne los logros ejemplares presentados por los Estados Parte en el Convenio en el marco de las sesiones del Premio.

Estas son verdaderas fuentes de inspiración y muestran que es posible promover la dimensión territorial de los derechos humanos y la democracia mejorando las características paisajísticas del entorno de vida de las poblaciones.



<https://www.coe.int/fr/web/landscape/landscape-award-alliance>

European Landscape Convention The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe



Adopted by the Council of Europe in 2000, the European Landscape Convention (ELC) No. 105 was signed for application by the signatory member States in Vienna on 20 October of that year. As the first international treaty devoted exclusively to all aspects of landscape, it addresses the needs of citizens and challenges in the areas of human rights, democracy and the environment.

- It is an important public interest tool in the cultural, ecological, environmental and social fields, and contributes to ensure transparency in decision-making and where protection, management and planning can contribute to joint initiatives...
- It is an important part of the quality of life for people everywhere in urban areas and in the countryside, in developed areas as well as in areas at high altitude, in areas recognised as being of outstanding interest as well as sensitive areas...
- It is a key element of individual and social well-being and... its protection, management and planning under legal and organisational arrangements.



The Landscape Award Alliance of the European Landscape Convention, through its regional award schemes, provides the States Parties to the Convention and makes people aware of the importance of landscape. The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, through its award schemes, ensures that it is possible to provide the cultural dimension of human rights and democracy by improving the landscape through its program awarding.

- Within Europe you will find part of an initiative for frequent maintenance of human rights and democracy.
- Whether natural or cultural, visible or invisible, physical or built, perceived, or unperceived, there are always opportunities for landscape awarding. It is not only about awarding landscape which is important, but also the way of awarding it.
- The award of landscape awards can be used as a tool to promote and improve the development of the awarding and the awarding of the award and the award of the award competition. It is not only about awarding landscape, but also the way of awarding it.
- Together they provide the quality of our European Landscape Convention. The awarding of landscape awards can be used as a tool to promote and improve the development of the awarding and the awarding of the award competition. It is not only about awarding landscape, but also the way of awarding it.
- It is a pleasure to bring together the awarding of the awarding. I hope that you will enjoy awarding it. It is a pleasure to bring together the awarding of the awarding. I hope that you will enjoy awarding it.



www.coe.int/EuropeanLandscapeConvention
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European Landscape Convention THE LANDSCAPE AWARD ALLIANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

European spatial planning
and landscape, No. 105



European Landscape Convention THE LANDSCAPE AWARD ALLIANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

European spatial planning
and landscape, No. 120
Volume 2



–The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe - Volume 1, Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2017, No. 105

–The Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe - Volume 2, Consejo de Europa, European spatial planning and landscape Series, 2021, No. 120

Conclusión

Las **transiciones** ecológica, energética, demográfica, alimentaria y económica, en un **contexto de crisis geopolíticas** que generan graves sufrimientos humanos y daños ambientales, representan un verdadero **desafío** para un planeta que debe mantener su capacidad para albergar y alimentar a sus siete mil millones de habitantes, y nueve mil millones proyectado para 2050.

La inteligencia humana, los conocimientos acumulados durante milenios, la posibilidad de apoyarse en las nuevas tecnologías, la inteligencia artificial y las nuevas formas de explorar y conocer la Tierra y otros planetas, pueden **acompañar estas transiciones** y allanar el camino avances entusiasmantes.

Dotados de recursos materiales e inmateriales extremadamente preciosos, los territorios contienen **valores**, naturales y culturales, infinitamente ricos que pueden conducir a un futuro más equilibrado y armonioso para las sociedades.

Corresponde a los poderes públicos preocupados por una **gobernanza “humanista”** tomar en consideración la cuestión del desarrollo territorial, con su interfaz “encarnada” representada por el paisaje.

Para imaginar un futuro que concilie razón y emoción, sería posible definir un nuevo objetivo de desarrollo sostenible del territorio, con el paisaje como horizonte...

La primera flor en flor del espacio, llevada a bordo de la Estación Espacial Internacional por el astronauta americano Scott Kelly, representa un símbolo.



Primera flor en flor del espacio, @ Scott Kelly/Nasa, 2016

Alianza para el Premio del Paisaje

FRANCE

The Parc de la Deûle, Lille Métropole



© Quentin Sarnet

The idea for the Parc de la Deûle first emerged in the 1960s, but met with local objections and was abandoned. Twenty years later, the project resurfaced and this time was positively received. In 1995, a plan was formalised by Simon-JNC International to design the entire park. Work started in 1999 and, from the very outset, one of the key issues was the protection of the quality of the drinking water which supplies a third of the metropolis with water. As well as being working waterways, the Deûle and Sechin canals are host to biotopes of great ecological interest. In the past the park suffered from a lack of identity because of the way in which the land had been divided up. The new developments in the area reapportioned the land between Lille and Lens, which created a link between these urban areas and an array of new social, biological and economic opportunities. The existing attributes of the landscape were used to redevelop the space without reinventing it. The project had three main components: nature rediscovered (La Gîte in Santes), a transformation of industrial wasteland; nature tamed (Les Ansereuilles in Wavrin), a reconciliation of the urban and rural world with agricultural and leisure environments close together; and nature imagined (The Mosaic Garden in Houplin), reflecting the different cultures of Lille's communities. There has been constant interaction between the locals and the park users from the start, as both groups will be ensuring the maintenance and success of the space in the future.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 1st Session of the Award 2008-2009 on the organisers of the project, considering that it fulfils the criteria for the award concerning sustainable territorial development, exemplariness, public participation and awareness-raising, and bearing in mind the success of the links between urban space and rural space, as well as the important commitment of all those involved in the cleaning up and new use of the landscape.

The Cristina Enea Park,
San Sebastián City Council



© Linajeros Cruz



The Cristina Enea Park was originally constructed as a private park in the 1890s, but came to be donated to the city of San Sebastián by the Duke of Mandas. Since 1995, the city council has been involved in the conservation, protection and management of this historic, romantic park. These efforts form a part of the wider Green Plan project for the whole city, which seeks to restore and restructure the landscape of the area as an essential part of San Sebastián's landscape planning. During its long history, the park had suffered a gradual decline. Under the guidance of objectives set by the municipality, the project restored the park's landscape and pathways as well as its flora and fauna whilst maintaining and reinforcing the essential characteristics of the town. Some of the steps taken include: preventing soil erosion, reconstructing deteriorating paths, providing adequate rainwater and sanitary systems, restoring deteriorating buildings and stopping the uncontrolled spread of vegetation. The park combines sustainable policies with urban quality and encourages biodiversity within the urban area. The value of the project is twofold: it preserves both the park's cultural and natural heritage, and it protects the park both as a romantic setting and a place of biodiversity.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 1st Session of the Award 2008-2009 on the organisers of the project, considering that it responds to the four criteria for the award as regards sustainable territorial development, exemplariness, public participation and awareness-raising, and acknowledging the excellent results of the long-term planning carried out with a view to the qualitative promotion of the urban landscape whilst bearing in mind socio-cultural elements.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The tourist trail marking system, Czech Tourist Club



© Tourist Club tchèque



The Czech Tourist Club has a long tradition: in 2008, it celebrated its 120th anniversary and nature conservation and landscape have been part of its objectives since 1922. A campaign of marking and maintaining tourist routes has been underway since the creation of the organisation. The project's goal is to improve access to the landscape and the relationship between people and their surroundings. Tourist routes have been marked on tourist maps and walking routes have been complemented by skiing and cycling alternatives. Forty-eight accommodation facilities have also been set up to support expanding tourism. The marking of the tourist trails is mainly done by volunteers and the tourist club can still boast the largest voluntary force in the country. The organisation is youth driven, with more than 10 000 members below the age of 26. Apart from the tourist trails, the tourist club has been involved in various other projects such as the establishment of Tatransky National Park after an agreement with Poland in the 1920s and the 2006 opening of a museum in the former Jewish synagogue in Bechyně.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Czech Republic

FINLAND



© Aarre Leskinen

The landscape management of the Hämeenkyrö National Landscape Area, City of Hämeenkyrö



The Landscape Management of Hämeenkyrö National Landscape Area project is composed of three separate development schemes: Hämeenkyrö's National Landscape, Environmental Management in the National Landscape and Hämeenkyrö Landscape Tourism. These activities are managed by an array of local and regional associations, as well as national organisations. Hämeenkyrö is one of the 27 landscapes identified as a national landscape in 1992. Landscapes are places of particular cultural, historical and natural significance to the nation. Hämeenkyrö is characterised by its traditional rural scenery, which inspired Frans Eemil Sillanpää, who received the Nobel Prize for literature in 1939, and who was keenly aware of the position of the human being in the natural world. A national landscape management plan was developed, which prescribed certain measures including: identifying value and problem factors in the landscape, as well as landscape and forest management. In 1999, the Mahnala village school became the Environmental School and in 2003 it was awarded Green Flag accreditation. Environmental management is at the forefront of the project, with the objective of reviving diverse aquatic life, cultural landscapes and nature conservation to preserve the biodiversity of the area. Tourism is also of great importance in maintaining the socio-economic balance of the community and local amenities, and a range of activities have been developed to support it.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.

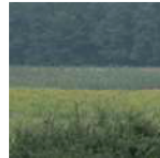
Landscape Alliance – Finland

HUNGARY

The Implementation of the Complex Nature Conservation and Landscape Management Programme in the Zámoly Basin, Public Foundation for Nature Conservation Pro Vértes



© Gábor Kiss



The Pro Vértes Foundation was founded in 1991 and became a public foundation in 1994. Originally its main aim was to resolve problems of heritage protection, natural as well as cultural, in the face of increased privatisation. Its main activities today are: landscape management, nature conservation, environmental education and awareness-raising, the protection of national monuments as well as ecotourism, which underpins the work. A major part of the nature conservation and landscape management programme is the preservation and maintenance of residual sites of natural or close-to-natural areas which have suffered from the effects of intensive agriculture, industry or transport. Measures undertaken include the re-establishment of water supplies to the moorlands around the Vértes that had been threatened by draining, and the introduction of a herd of Hungarian Grey cattle to manage the grasslands in a natural way. Landscape management also includes the protection of architectural monuments in the region, such as the Geszer House. Education and awareness-raising are an essential part of the programme. When a research programme was started to assess the effects of mowing in grasslands, the results were made available to the public through education, short courses and ecotourism.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Hungary



© Archives des Parcs de Val di Cornia

The Val di Cornia Park System,
Val di Cornia

The aim of the Val di Cornia Park System is to support local sustainable development of the economy and social progress through the use of readily available culture and the environment. In order to fulfil this objective, there is a body within the Val di Cornia district council which aims to bring the governing processes closer to local and regional development in order to adapt the means to the needs. This body is responsible for administration, environment and labour policies as well as for culture and cultural heritage. The Parchi Val di Cornia S.p.A is an entirely publicly owned joint stock company, which has been entrusted by the municipalities to implement the measures advised by the local institutional body. These include the creation and management of reception services to enhance the visitor experience (visitor centres, centres for experimental archaeology and environmental education, nature trails and walks of archaeological interest, museums and tours). They also include measures to manage associated services such as bookshops, hostels and car parks. This business-led management of cultural and natural assets provides a unified force promoting historical and environmental resources, which is self-sustainable through the money generated from tourism. Through the project the population was made aware of the region's mining past and shown how the mining heritage had been successfully transformed to tourist activities.



Landscape Alliance – Italy

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.



© GEF II Project Archives

The Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management Project, Association for the Conservation of Nature



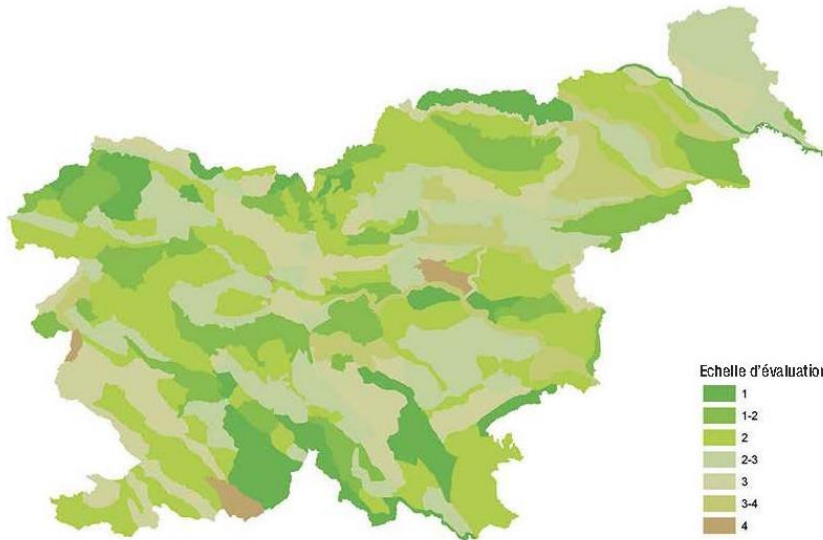
Turkey stretches over a vast area and contains four distinct biogeographic zones. Providing adequate protection for all landscapes poses a great challenge, as 75% of all European plant life is represented in the country. Since 2000, the Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management Project has been promoting the assessment and analysis of protected areas and their potential threats. Effective, intersectoral, participatory planning, as well as the sustainable development of protected areas, was carried out successfully. In order to achieve this, work was divided into three main spheres: attempts to strengthen the national framework for biodiversity conservation; the development of prototypes for protected area management and project management and monitoring. The work allowed for a review of legal and regulatory frameworks regarding the environment, and the monitoring of the biodiversity whilst continuing a campaign for increased national awareness of biodiversity. The project has had an impact in two important areas: the creation of a national institution for landscape and the institutionalisation of nature conservation.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Türkiye

SLOVENIA

Evaluation des paysages slovènes



The regional distribution of landscape types in Slovenia, University of Ljubljana, Biotechnical Faculty, Department of Landscape Architecture

The Regional Distribution of Landscape Types project was launched in order to create an extensive inventory of Slovenian landscapes. Landscape characteristics and conditions were recorded and categorised according to this information, providing the basis for protection as well as guidelines for development and conservation. This project was run by the Department of Landscape Architecture in the Biotechnical Division of the University of Ljubljana. The project was commissioned by the Spatial Planning Directorate, which is responsible for the national spatial management of Slovenia. The Regional Distribution of Landscape Types project compiled, through extensive fieldwork, records with photographs and definitions of all Slovenian regions. The landscapes were then divided into units and a typological classification was conducted. These data produced a complete picture of the contemporary Slovenian landscape. In a time of great change, owing to increased internationalisation, this information was used to guarantee that town and country planning takes into account the need for protection, management and planning of the landscape. The results can now be used for a great variety of endeavours, such as marketing Slovenia as a tourist destination and creating new policies for agricultural development and heritage protection.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe congratulated the organisers of the project and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration.

Carbonia : the landscape machine,
 Joint Committee of the Municipality of Carbonia, City of Carbonia



© Ville de Carbonia



The project, Carbonia: the landscape machine, aims to regenerate a 20th century modernist, urban and mining landscape which, after the closing of the mines in the 1970s, suffered extensive decline. In 2001 the town was recognised as an important example of a “rationalist” urbanism that deserved to be preserved and developed. In order to achieve this, a plan of action was created. The city refocused its efforts on the promotion of research and higher education, and began the conversion of the industrial sector, by focusing on non-polluting clean energy, and improving the abandoned mining landscape by developing it for research, culture and industry. The great Serbariu mine was reclaimed and rehabilitated; 16 buildings, shafts and galleries were transformed. The Italian Centre of the Culture of Coal now has its headquarters in the heart of the former mine. Since the beginning of the project the negative demographic trend in the city has been contained and employment has increased by 12%.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention for the 2nd Session of the Award 2010-2011 on the project’s organisers, noting in particular the exhaustive and multi-scale development of the project. The Committee of Ministers considered that this exemplary achievement, which aims to regenerate a 20th-century modernist, urban and mining landscape in a sustainable development perspective, amply fulfils all the criteria of the Landscape Award, proving that sustainable territorial development can be achieved by public participation on all levels and accompanied by extensive awareness-raising. The use of its historical resources to create a new identity, based on research and sustainable tourism, has provided a model for the development of urban landscapes. The work on the mine was accompanied by a revival of the whole city with the restoration of public squares, roads and monuments. This regeneration of the urban fabric of Carbonia has created a new cultural identity for the city. This project is a perfect example of the sustainable development of an urban landscape, with extensive international implications for the redevelopment of other urban and industrial degraded areas.

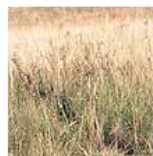
Landscape Alliance – Italy

SLOVAKIA

Grant programmes for local communities to shape their surroundings into a place where they are happy to live, Ekopolis Foundation



© Dusan Kubicka, TBS-JUS, Martin



The Ekopolis Foundation introduced a systematic support tool, in the form of grant programmes, for local communities which wish to improve their urban and rural landscape. These subsidies were designed to turn national and political strategies into concrete actions. The Foundation established six types of subsidies: “Public spaces”, “Green belt grants”, “Greenways”, “People for trees”, “Living trails” and the “Tatra Fund”. It provides financial and technical assistance as well as training, which enables the local population to invest in a long-term plan of maintenance and upkeep of its landscape. The project’s main aims are to increase the aesthetic and environmental value of the landscapes, to motivate civic participation, and to preserve natural and cultural heritage, as well as providing people with the tools to interpret and create a link to their heritage. Some 142 projects have benefited from funding amounting to a total of €998 000. While the financial contribution was of great importance, there was also a strong focus on awareness-raising. The Ekopolis Foundation supplied organisations as well as the public with the means to shape their urban and rural landscape into an enjoyable place to live.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention for the 2nd Session of the Award 2010-2011 on the project’s organisers, considering that it constitutes an exemplary project in view of its successful and unique results. It has helped to mobilise the local populations and provide them with financial resources to improve the quality of their own landscapes. Its effects have been extensive, with project sites all over the Slovak Republic contributing to sustainable territorial development. Public participation and awareness-raising are at the very core of the actions carried out, the local populations undertaking the long-term management of their landscapes to ensure they provide an environment in which the inhabitants are happy to live.

Landscape Alliance – Slovakia

Education and awareness-raising: city, territory, landscape, Generalitat of Catalonia and Landscape Observatory of Catalonia



© Generalitat de Catalunya



The project, education and awareness-raising: city, territory, landscape was developed by the Catalan Ministry of Education, the Catalan Ministry of Town and Country Planning and Public Works, and the Landscape Observatory of Catalonia. It promotes the education of young people in Catalonia aged between 12 and 16, in the fields of landscape and territory. The project is based on two types of teaching material: leaflets and a website offering interactive activities. Through providing compulsory education on the theme of territory and landscape, the authorities aim to build a new culture of territory and a feeling of responsibility for landscapes. The programme includes an important analytical component, aimed at encouraging the students to feel connected to, and relate directly with, the landscape that surrounds them. The leaflets were distributed to all secondary schools in Catalonia, to a total of 450 000 students. At the same time, teachers were trained on the topic of landscape to enable them to take full advantage of the teaching material. The project is concerned with long-term sustainable development, to change the way that individuals think about landscape and thus to avoid its future degradation.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 2nd Session of the Award 2010-2011 on the authors of the project, considering that it is an exemplary achievement, aiming to forge a new territorial culture and a feeling of responsibility vis-à-vis the landscape. Considering its quality and scope, this creative educational project provides an excellent model for any other similar scheme. It recognises that the landscape is in constant evolution and that educated citizens are better able to deal with future challenges. Its diversity and richness promote responsibility amongst citizens and it provides an exemplary model for education based on public participation and awareness-raising.

UNITED KINGDOM

The Durham Heritage Coast, Durham Heritage Coast Partnership



© Mike Smith



The area of the Durham Heritage Coast has made a remarkable recovery since 1993, when it was still used as a dumping site for waste from the local coal industry. Through the project “Turning the Tide” the coast has entered into its own and has embraced its geological, natural and historical heritage which supports increasing numbers of tourists. Through this project the spoil heaps have been removed from the shores, foot and cycle paths have increased access to the area and the re-creation of biotopes has increased the flora and fauna. The improvement of the inshore waters has been a main priority and these efforts have also been extended to integrate adjoining areas to create an Integrated Coastal Management Zone. The social needs of the area are the focus of constant attention, and the sustainable economic development is supported by a social and economic regeneration involving public participation and tourism. Guided walks and tourist paths do not only introduce visitors to the value of the Durham Heritage Coast but also allow the local population to reconnect to their home and fully appreciate their heritage.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention for the 2nd Session of the Award 2010-2011 on the organisers of the project, considering that it is a fine example of the rehabilitation and regeneration of a coastal area previously marked by distinct degradation. Characterised by sustainable territorial development, exemplariness, public participation and awareness-raising, the project achieved extraordinary results through mobilising local populations, creating a regenerated landscape and a new identity. It forms an excellent model for the regeneration of other degraded coastal areas.

Landscape Alliance – United Kingdom

BELGIUM

The Landscape Route of the Escaut Plains Natural Park, Escaut Plains Natural Park



© Parc naturel des Plaines de l'Escaut



The Landscape Route of the Escaut Plains Natural Park is not an ordinary tourist route, as it aims to introduce its visitors to the richness and diversity of the landscape, making them aware of the important role that landscape plays in natural economic, cultural and political development. It can be accessed by bike, car or on foot. The landscape route stretches through several municipalities and even into France, and is marked with signposts. These signs provide visitors with information about their surroundings, and an insight to a world of new knowledge to better understand and appreciate the landscape. This route is open to everyone: locals who wish to become better acquainted with their surroundings, or tourists who wish to benefit from a more complete understanding of the natural park. The project, which aims to identify truly remarkable sites, was carried out in close co-operation with colleagues from the communities concerned for the park.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project considering it an exemplary landscape trail which aims to allow locals as well as visitors to discover the richness and the diversity of the landscape before them and to make them aware of the important role landscape plays in the natural, cultural, economic and political developments of a region.

Landscape Alliance – Belgium



© Antonia Theodsiou

The hazel orchards in the village of Polstypos,
Polstypos Community Council

The village of Polstypos has a long tradition of hazel orchard cultivation. As this practice has declined in recent years, measures have been taken to support local farmers: old footpaths have been extensively repaired using traditional dry stone construction methods. The project not only contributes to the diversification and to the development of the economy, but also improves environmental awareness, tourism and recreation. By using the traditional techniques of dry stone construction, the farmers have the opportunity to expand their activities through increased accessibility to the hazel orchards, while preserving the beauty of the landscapes and contributing to biodiversity. Local people were involved in every stage of the project: from learning and then using the ancient art of dry stone construction to the reconstruction of the footpaths and tourism facilities. The project has brought back to life a village which had been destined to decline, and is an invaluable example of a way of using natural resources and settings to generate prosperity without sacrificing an area's charm.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it is a fine example of a project aimed at revitalising a rural landscape with the support of the population, using local natural and cultural resources and traditional techniques.

CZECH REPUBLIC



© Julia Tabikova

The Čehovice landscape, Prostějov district in Moravia, Regional Land Office Prostějov

The landscape of Čehovice results from a project of territorial ecological rehabilitation, aimed at reversing the major transformations of the landscape brought about by the reassignment of plots of land after the Second World War. The landscape was unable to retain water, which in turn led to a decrease in biodiversity and an increased risk of erosion and flooding. In order to combat these problems, a project of land consolidation was launched which involved restoring rural roads, natural vegetation and various other natural and historical elements. To achieve ecological stability, a biocentre with bio corridors was developed, along with the creation of a wetland, the planting of various trees and the reintroduction of species of vegetation that had disappeared. Due to the extensive renovation work conducted on these badly exploited lands, the area now boasts an array of birdlife, from wild ducks to herons. The water table has been stabilised, and there is no longer a risk of drought in the dry seasons. For the local population, the “green island” has become an oasis for recreation, and school children can visit the area to learn more about their landscape.



Landscape Alliance – Czech Republic

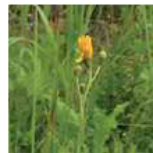
The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it is a fine example of the successful rehabilitation of a degraded area, revitalising the area's biodiversity, for the benefit of the local economy and the well-being of the population.

FINLAND

The management of endangered traditional biotopes and the preservation of the traditional rural landscape, Finnish Association for Nature Conservation



© Esa Aalto



The project aims to manage endangered traditional biotopes and preserve the traditional rural landscape. This landscape is among the most diverse and the most threatened in Finland, taking into account that 28% of the endangered species live there. A large number of volunteers, about 500 people, have been involved in the project, producing a wide landscape diversity in three years. The landscapes include semi-natural dry or mesic grasslands and also Baltic coast zones. Traditional methods are used in these zones such as: reaping, hay-harvesting, tree-clearing and creating pastures for livestock. The outcome has been very positive: many of the endangered species have spread into these new rural areas and the aesthetic appeal of the rural landscape has been improved. Beyond the objective of protecting the areas, the project also played a vital role in terms of informing and educating the public about the importance and the value of traditional landscapes and their management. Volunteers have helped those involved to become more aware of their own ability to improve the quality of landscapes and has led to an increased respect for their environment.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project, considering it a fine example of the regeneration of a living traditional landscape, rich in biological diversity, and implemented with the greatest respect for the environment and landscape values.

Landscape Alliance – Finland

FRANCE



© Gérard Dufresne

Landscape Alliance – France

The Port aux Cerises open air leisure centre, Joint Committee for Investigation, Planning and Management of the Port aux Cerises Outdoor Leisure Centre



The Port aux Cerises open air leisure centre covers 160 hectares and receives more than 1 million visitors each year. The area was recovered from hosting a waste pile in the 1960s, and was converted into an urban natural space with a focus on equality and to increase the quality of life. The reason for its great success is that the people who were to actually use it were consulted in the planning phase as to their needs and desires. It hosts a wide variety of activities designed to let the visitors escape from the urban environment. It is under constant change and construction and not one part is left to chance but the land is moulded in order to exactly suit its purpose and the aspirations of the users. The leisure centre offers a wide variety of recreational activities, each catering for individual desires but also following the centre's general theme. The facilities on offer include swimming pools and a mini-train to allow visitors to move about the area easily.

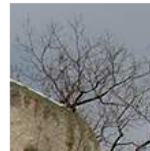
The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: considering it a fine example of the successful planning of a degraded landscape and of its adaptation to the changing times for the well-being and quality of life of the population.



© Gábor Kiss

The traditional stone culture of the Bükkalja landscape, Beehive Rock Nature Conservation and Cultural Association

The project in the Bükk National Park is designed to maintain and preserve the traditional stone culture of the Bükkalja landscape with its characteristic beehive rocks. A review of the landscape was conducted with the aim of producing a database of the valuable features of the landscape which will underpin the preparation of a legislative framework to protect the rocks. Through this, 72 beehive rocks have been identified and examined as well as marked with their exact GPS co-ordinates, thus preventing their locations from being lost in the future. Apart from the purely archival task of the project, an extensive effort has been made to rehabilitate the rocks.



The project included eliminating invasive species, such as the locust tree, and introducing indigenous species, such as oak, maple and fruit-bearing trees. The clearing of the rock formations has rendered them easily accessible and highly visible which, aided by nature trails with informative signs, has made the region an important tourist attraction. The local population is able to better appreciate their landscape for ecotourism. Moreover, the re-creation of this traditional landscape has inspired the local population to take good care of and value these remarkable rocks.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it constitutes an exemplary achievement based on the validation of geological heritage, which has enabled the re-creation of a traditional landscape supported by new socio-economic forces, benefiting the local population.

NETHERLANDS



© Wanne Roetmeijer

Landscape Alliance – Netherlands

The Dutch Landscape Manifesto, Foundation Landscape Manifesto

The landscape manifesto project was designed to highlight the importance of the landscape and to improve the quality of the Dutch landscape. The Foundation Landscape Manifesto proves a strong force for “landscape enlightenment”, through promoting the involvement of citizens, an exchange of knowledge between organisations, improving the quality of landscape planning, as well as an analysis of the current maintenance tools, searching for sustainable financing within the government. Forty-seven organisations collaborate to raise awareness and co-ordinate efforts to support landscape maintenance.



Through reuniting a group of non-governmental organisations with different objectives, but all sharing the same concern for the landscape, the Foundation Landscape Manifesto has managed to increase the authorities' and the public's awareness of landscape. This step creates a force which uniformly works to implement the European Landscape Convention by whatever tools are at its disposal, whether this means improving landscape policies or “Landscaping your courtyard” campaigns.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it is an exemplary project which enables the sharing of expertise, the awareness and mobilisation of citizens, in order to support the sustainable territorial development of the landscape.

NORWAY

The Herand Landscape Park, County Government of Hordaland



© Ane Bysheim



Herand is a small village in rural Norway with a population of 230 people. It is a typical place which was threatened by waves of rural depopulation and farm closure, which has happened in the Norwegian countryside over the last few years. However, this village managed to make use of its magnificent landscape as a resource for attracting domestic and international tourists. Instead of facing decline, it has an increasing population and wealth, which is supported by the production of local foods and crafts, developed to boost the already fully fledged geotourism. Working in conjunction with the appeal of the natural, cultural and historic landscape, additional activities, such as lodging, skiing, hiking and fishing, enhance the tourist appeal of the area. Old, unused buildings have been converted to fulfil a new purpose. The local population is deeply involved in this project and actively participates to enhance the village, as its livelihood depends on it to a large extent, and also because its very identity is at stake.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it is a fine example of a citizen's initiative, deriving from the inhabitants of a rural village who took care to make use of their history and traditions in a dynamic perspective.

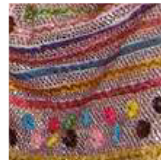
Landscape Alliance – Norway



© Dejan Mitic

The landscape of Backi Monostor village, “Podunav” Backi Monostor

The village of Backi Monostor is located on the outskirts of the Gornje Podunavlje Special Nature Reserve that is host to a number of preserved indigenous biotopes which harbour a rich flora and fauna. It is close to the Croatian and Hungarian borders and the village is a place of multi-ethnicity where different cultural expressions are promoted and are a part of the unique environment which makes Backi Monostor attractive to tourists. These features are encouraged where actions are taken to increase its attractiveness. Old houses are rehabilitated through traditional methods, and become “ethno houses” and old crafts are taught to young people, so that they can be employed in their home village as well as provide support for the blossoming tourist industry. The flood plains are not only a resource for tourism but also play a more direct role in the socio-economic welfare of the region. They provide drinking water, flood protection and sustainable forestry and fisheries. For this reason, workshops and seminars are regularly held for adults and children to give them first-hand knowledge of landscape management. An increasing number of young people have since chosen to remain in the area to be proud representatives and promoters of their village to visitors.



Landscape Alliance – Serbia

The candidature was presented by Serbia as Signatory State of the European Landscape Convention and, on 28 June 2011, Serbia ratified the convention. The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it constitutes a fine example of a citizen’s initiative, deriving from the inhabitants of a rural village who took care to make use of their history and traditions in a dynamic perspective.

SLOVENIA

“We are making our landscape”, Slovenian Association of Landscape Architects



© Petra Vertelj Nared



The project “We are making our landscape” was established in order to disseminate information about landscapes in the period just after the European Landscape Convention entered into force in Slovenia. In order to achieve this goal, it intended to change the way that people perceive landscape. The project focused on education, and through education changing how people experience and relate to their environment. Through teaching workshops and training, the project promoted landscape awareness in children as well as in adults, taking into consideration that our lifestyle and our attitude towards the environment directly influence the landscape where we live. An art and photography competition was held among primary schools and kindergartens, which encouraged the children to become aware of their surroundings. This competition involved an exhibition and several prizes were awarded which encouraged awareness of, and reflection on, landscape. Through education, the project validated long-term benefits, such as sustainable development and the reinforcement of measures tending to achieve as well as maintain quality landscapes.

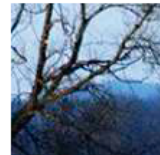
The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project: it is an innovative and exemplary project of educational promotion, and awareness-raising in young people from an early age, highlighting the importance of a sustainable territorial development of the landscape.

Landscape Alliance – Slovenia

Preserving ecological value in the landscape of the Szprotawa River Valley, Lower Silesian Association of Landscape Parks



© Association de Basse-Silésie de parcs paysagers



The project allowed the promotion of the following: conservation of plant communities classified as *Molinion* and *Arrhenatherion elatioris*; conversion of a former Soviet airbase into wetland meadows covering 500 hectares; implementation of measures to raise and maintain groundwater level at the protected site; preservation of traditional land management practices on the protected site (polders); re-establishment of nesting grounds for aquatic and wetland birds; removal of Soviet military earthworks; suspension of the planting of weeping willows; establishment of an eco-agricultural programme and grazing by cattle, sheep and horses; re-establishment of the use of meadows for pasture to preserve low peat bogs; long-term vocational activity among the Roma population to counter poverty and exclusion; preservation of bird sanctuaries for species listed in Appendix I of the Birds Directive and in the Polish Red Book; conversion of the heating system from traditional coal-based to eco-friendly biomass-based in the headquarters of the Lower Silesian Association of Landscape Parks and in the village of Wysoka.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 3rd Session of the Award 2013-2014 on the organisers of the project, considering that it meets the four criteria of the rules on the Award. The integrated approach goes beyond the single dimension of biodiversity and associates nature with culture and population. Thus the project offers a model that others might follow. It shows a good level of participation by the parties concerned in both decision-making and land management. The farmers and beekeepers are stakeholders; the project has also enabled apparently conflicting economic interests to be reconciled. The aesthetic dimension is present and enables the awareness of different generations to be raised effectively. The environment is also taken into consideration: the project relates to the rehabilitation of a former Soviet military base, as well as to increased use of biomass as a source of energy. The involvement of Roma in the decision-making process and, in future, in the management of the restored land is particularly favourable. In dealing with the issue of minority populations and their involvement in land management, this project represents progress in "living together" at European level which should be applauded.

**The rebirth of the Alto Belice Corleonese region through the recovery of lands confiscated from the mafia organisations,
LIBERA, Associations, names and numbers against mafias**



© LIBERA, Association noms et chiffres contre les mafias



Libera's mission is to regain liberated lands which were illegally seized by mafia organisations, starting with the creation and empowerment of social, independent and rural co-operatives. Located in these lands, they are able to sustainably manage their business activities, which thus contributing to the creation of induced employment, as well as spreading a virtuous economic system. This project determines the enhancement of landscape, culture, local identity, material and immaterial heritage based on legality, social justice and responsible and sustainable tourism. The "Placido Rizzotto-Libera Terra Co-operative" was the first initiative of this kind in the region of Alto Belice Corleonese. This project concerned the recovery of an area of more than 500 hectares confiscated by mafia organisations which had been illegally seized by them and abandoned for many years, as well as rural buildings and historically relevant manor farms. Libera has promoted a recovery and requalification action on these assets, focusing particularly on the enhancement in terms of nature maintenance and protection and rural and landscape recovery.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 3rd Session 2012-2013 for "Strengthening democracy" to the project of the revival of Alto Belice Corleonese that relates to the recovery of land from mafia organisations, which was illegally seized by them. This project of great interest encompasses a combination of the Council of Europe's principles: human rights, rule of law and democracy. Landscape is both the instrument and the result. The project is as much political as economic, and produces a landscape which highlights the local identity and culture. It restores the cultural dimension of the landscape and the quality of the natural environment. Organic production and local processing of farm products, the development of renewable energies and the restoration of the heritage all provide job opportunities for vulnerable populations. The outstanding level of volunteer mobilisation is one of the project's strong points.

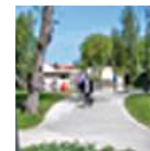
LITHUANIA

U-parks, U-turns we love, Utena district Municipality



© District de la municipalité d'Utena

Landscape Alliance – Lithuania



Utena is the tenth-largest town in Lithuania with a population of 34 000 (2012). Between 1960 and 1990 this industrial town was endowed with a living landscape preserving nature (a system of rivers, lakes and valleys) over an area of 140 hectares. Continued systems of preserved natural areas are ecologically important, but their aesthetic and recreational functions were not recognised. Between 1990 and 1998 the State embarked on a process of private property restoration and land privatisation. The municipality made great efforts to save these areas as public spaces. Combining the protection and management of the unique landscape to gain the recreational potential of the area, Utena District Municipality developed city gardens in the town centre (2005), the banks of the Krašuona River in a densely built-up residential area (2009), and the Dauniškis (2005) and the Vyžuona (2010) parks which are now large central recreational areas (total area 50 hectares).

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 3rd Session 2012-2013, for "Giving attention to the urban landscape as a common good" to the authors of the project for its great value in favour of democracy. This project is of great interest because it counterbalances the wave of land privatisation that followed the end of the Soviet era. Here, public land regains its importance and can be enjoyed by everyone on a daily basis since its reclamation of a public park network in urban areas. This system of urban parks is a fine exercise in landscape planning as applied to individual and collective well-being. The landscape is regarded as a common good, enabling participatory practice to be developed. This achievement undeniably has a sustainable development dimension. The involvement of the Landscape Architects' Association and the use of parks as "teaching areas" for future professionals is particularly interesting.

The Gate of Gornje Podunavlje,
 NGO Podunav, Backi Monostor



© Srđan Čičovački



The main goal of the project is the sustainable development of the entire region through ecotourism and rural tourism development, which includes the engagement of the whole local community, bringing social and economic well-being through nature and landscape preservation. The connection of local culture and historic heritage that is in harmony with nature, and its promotion as an ecotourist and rural tourist destination, provides a social, cultural and aesthetic sustainability. That also provides a chance for a new quality development through new ways of preserving nature and traditions and new jobs for local people. The project is a partnership between local and regional institutions, including the non-governmental and civil sector – that is, the local community.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 3rd Session 2012-2013 for "Contributing to European ideals" to the authors of the project for bringing attention to the urban landscape as a common good. The location of the "Gate of Gornje Podunavlje" project on the banks of the Danube in the historic region of Backi Monostor has enabled some particularly interesting cross-border and multi-ethnic objectives to be pursued. The attention given to the Serb, Croat, Hungarian, Roma and Šokci heritages with a view to a shared European identity was particularly appreciated. This project reflects a public commitment to better economic and social well-being and, at the same time, to the preservation of the character of the landscapes. Within a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve, this project takes a well-adapted integrated approach. The development of cross-border ecotourism, in conjunction with a return to agricultural production geared to traditional diets, is helping reduce the numbers of young people leaving the countryside.

BELGIUM

Hoge Kempen National Park, Regionaal Landschap Kempen en Maasland vzw

In the early 1990s, the situation in the Hoge Kempen region was as follows: its four coalmines were on the point of closing and the landscape was intersected by roads and fragmented, due to poor spatial planning. Several smaller nature reserves existed in the area but were separated from each other. The creation of the Hoge Kempen National Park (started in 1998, opened in 2006) turned this trend around. It is the framework that brings together every stakeholder or involved party. It is the tool for spatial and visual unification of the several nature reserves into a combined heathland and forest area of 5700 hectares. It is also a means of combining local economic activities and the chance of employment for socially vulnerable people, the blossoming of biodiversity, integrated landscape quality and sustainable tourism. It is a supported bottom-up approach.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. Hoge Kempen National Park uses an integrated approach which enables greater coherence and defragmentation in an area from which the mining industry has departed, and gives it new impetus. The park, adjacent to a garden city, remains faithful to the principles of such cities, fostering cooperation and stimulating the parties concerned. This project is intended to increase public interest in the protection and enhancement of this landscape.



© Paysage régional Kempen en Maasland asbl



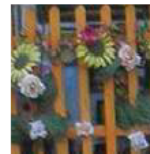
Landscape Alliance – Belgium

CZECH REPUBLIC

Environmental education in the town of Strakonice year by year or “Pilgrimage through the Contemplative Landscape”, Municipality of Strakonice



© Municipality of Strakonice



The nominated educational project of the town of Strakonice is a set of inter-related one-year thematic cycles focusing on the landscapes of the Strakonice, Blatná and Vodňany districts. Each sub-project demonstrates the uniqueness of the landscape in a natural, cultural and historical context and the way to read and understand the history of the region. In the complex approach of sustainable development it explains the need for protection and functional management of landscapes as a mutually interlinked and influenced setting. Through its comprehensive nature, the project increases general awareness about the South Bohemia region and helps people to gain a healthy self-confidence and respect for the place where they were born and where they live. Every thematic cycle is accompanied by a quotation from the book “The Contemplative Landscape” (*Země zamyšlená*), written by a local artist Ladislav Stehlík (1st edition, 1947). Comparisons between this text, which is over 50 years old, and the situation today provide an inspirational view of the development of the landscapes of South Bohemia.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The environmental education project of the town of Strakonice, a national pilot project, is an on-going process of an enduring nature, one which takes account of previous management. It brings all generations together through a series of “thematic cycles” referring to the intangible values of the places concerned (history and legend, poetry, painting, folk arts...) in order to give a better description of the landscape and “give it a soul”. The growing awareness of the sense of belonging to a “European” landscape is interesting. Active public participation in the restoration and maintenance of “small” heritage was appreciated.

Landscape Alliance – Czech Republic

FINLAND

The Landscape Projects of Hyypä Valley, City of Kauhajoki, Hyypä village association, Finnish Forestry Centre/Public Services, Unit of South and Central Ostrobothnia



© Association du village d'Hyypä



The authors of the projects have implemented major and long-term landscape maintenance. The base project, entitled “The Establishment of the Hyypä Valley Landscape Conservation Area”, led to the following achievement: a Preservation Plan, including definitions of the special landscape features and values, and numerous illustrated instructions for preservation actions. Co-operation and several confidence-building measures were developed among the 1 200 landowners and villagers, the local municipality, regional and state authorities, specialist organisations, enterprises, international volunteers and local associations. 41.5 hectares of landscape maintenance operations have also been implemented and permanent action groups for landscape maintenance and a discussion forum for villagers, associations and authorities have been established. Finally, a Landscape Conservation Area in Hyypä, founded by the Ministry of Environment in the autumn of 2009, has been given juridical status.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The actions developed in the Hyypä Valley for landscape involve a wide variety of players. The public is treated on the same level as the public authorities and citizens are involved in the definition of objectives, implementation of activities and monitoring of the results achieved. The strong point of this achievement is the deep involvement in the activities of both volunteers and the national forestry department. The projects carried out have helped highlight the value of landscapes and to promote the social and aesthetic values of the communities concerned.

Landscape Alliance – Finland

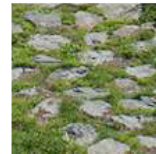
FRANCE



© Alexandre Petzold

The Grand Pré Park, City of Languieux

A contemporary park in the small town of Languieux, Grand Pré links the town centre with Saint Brieuc and the wide horizons of the Yffignac Bay. The project creates a strong, friendly place that features elegant views in a new urbanity. The town, fragmented by suburban housing, has a new urban quality. This is expressed on the one hand through a social project, which gives importance to a public space that generates diversity and exchanges between people and, on the other, through composed views and materials that recreate the visual relationship with the surrounding landscape and landmarks. Grand Pré Park became the new centre of attraction of a town in the making.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The Grand Pré Park occupies 12 hectares between an urban and a natural landscape. It is therefore a convivial place restoring its coherence to a fragmented area of land. It opens up links with the surrounding villages and spaces. This park is suitable for many recreational uses and offers an opportunity to engage in educational activity to promote sustainable development. The aim of the project is to express a new urban quality, and it has altered the “workers’ dormitory” image of Languieux. It strives to offer areas where it is easy for people to meet, irrespective of their social background.

Landscape Alliance – France

HUNGARY

The Complex Landscape Rehabilitation and Development Programme in the Gerecse Mountains and the Által Creek Valley, Association for the Restoration and Development of the Által Creek Valley (Tata)



© Péter Csonka



The Association for the Restoration and Development of the Által Creek Valley was established in 1995 in order to promote the preservation and sustainable utilisation of the environment and rich natural/cultural heritage of the Által Creek Valley, a former industrial site struggling with numerous environmental challenges. Following its initial efforts that were aimed at protecting water quality, the association made its activities more complex in 2002 when it decided to embark on the complex rehabilitation and development of the Gerecse Mountains and the Által Creek Valley on the basis of ecological considerations. An outstanding achievement is the creation of the Gerecse Nature Park based on the sustainable use of natural/cultural heritage and born out of the joint action of 29 communities in the region and other affected organisations. The association, whose members are local, performed all operations from planning to implementation in a systematic manner and with the involvement of other stakeholders.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The long-term complex landscape rehabilitation and development programme in the Gerecse Mountains and the Által Creek Valley, carried out by a non-governmental organisation, combines protection of the environment with responsible tourism. Through a comprehensive approach, a former mining site has been rehabilitated and damaged ecosystems restored. The involvement of numerous – public and private – partners has made an everyday landscape extraordinary, conducive to the development of ecotourism. The landscape has been planned in line with the European Landscape Convention. This simultaneously environmental and social project has enabled the public to return to former practices. The high level of participation and quality of governance were appreciated.

IRELAND



© Heritage Council

Landscape Alliance – Ireland

The Bere Island Conservation Plan, The Heritage Council and the Bere Island Project Group

The aim of the Bere Island Conservation Plan is to shape the sustainable future of the island. It demonstrates the value of a landscape approach to island management. In line with the European Landscape Convention, the conservation plan was developed with the full involvement of the Bere Islanders, who were proactive in developing strategies to protect and manage their landscape. It has resulted in a series of projects inspired by its vision, informing and shaping policy at the regional, national and European levels. The Conservation Plan has also become a model of best practice for other European islands.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The Bere Island Conservation Plan is a sound plan representing an exemplary approach and fulfilling all the criteria for the Council of Europe Landscape Award, particularly where public participation and awareness-raising are concerned. It involves various participants (local people, universities in the framework of the Erasmus programme, the army, etc.). The project brings nature and the economy together and offers waste management solutions. It is subject to integrated management using the resources available, and is linked to every sector of island life. While the depopulation of rural areas is a problem on a European scale, it has precisely resulted in stabilisation of the island's population. This project has the right dimension and sets a useful example.

The Dzintari Forest Park, Jurmala City Council



© Ojārs Martinsons

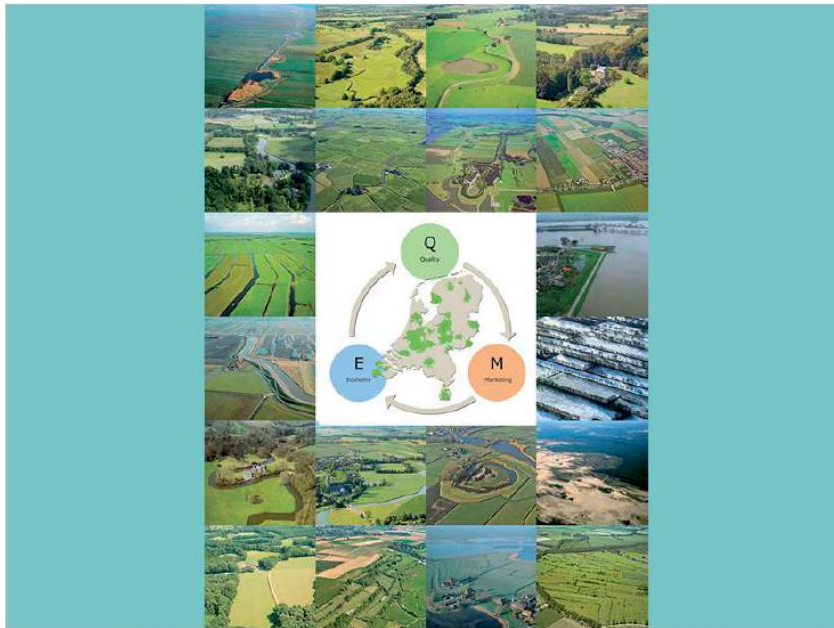


Jurmala's Dzintari Forest Park is unique due to its location, because its 13-hectare natural enclave is located in the centre of the city of Jurmala. The park's greatest assets are 200-year-old pine tree groves and habitats, which are preserved intact, notwithstanding the rapid development of surrounding areas. The construction of public structures around this area of nature significantly increased the number of visitors before the construction of the park. This increase in traffic might have degraded the park landscape in the city centre. For that reason the idea was to arrange the natural landscape according to the new situation and incorporate nature into a city infrastructure and preserve natural and different aspects of the territory. The wild look which the Forest Park preserves makes it a place for recreation and holidays to be enjoyed by all. The infrastructure objects in the park are evenly distributed along all the park territory. Its infrastructure elements allow people to move around above ground by means of an elevated wood-plank walkway. The most important active recreation element is a roller-blade path, which is located in centre of the park. Skaters and pedestrians are separated by a pedestrian bridge. Within the park there are also skateboard parks, street-ball courts, a sightseeing tower and playgrounds.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. Dzintari Forest Park aims to preserve a natural enclave of 13 hectares in the city centre. This planning of the urban landscape for recreational and leisure purposes has successfully made room at this site to accommodate pedestrians and skateboarders. The development of democratic processes to satisfy public aspirations in terms of quality of the environment is greatly appreciated.

NETHERLANDS

Planning policy for conservation and sustainable development of 20 national landscapes in the Netherlands, Stichting Nationale Landschappen (NGO)



© Paysage national Stichting

Since 2006, local and regional organisations have joined forces to protect landscape qualities and stimulate sustainable development in the 20 most valuable cultural landscapes in the Netherlands. Much has been invested in improving recreational facilities and accessibility and in raising public awareness. The project was initiated and financially supported in the first few years by the national government. Recently a new non-governmental organisation has been formed to secure protection and management in the future and improve co-operation of all parties involved, including local and regional authorities and private investors. This organisation (*Stichting Nationale Landschappen*) is a non-profit foundation with an executive office of its own (*Servicenet Nationale Landschappen*). New projects were set up and new ways of financing were organised.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The planning policy for conservation and sustainable development of 20 national landscapes covers a significant expanse of exceptional landscapes considered to be representative of the Netherlands. The identification of such landscapes is certainly within the scope of the European Landscape Convention.

Landscape Alliance – Netherlands

PORTUGAL



© Filipe G. Teixeira

The Furnas Landscape Laboratory (Furnas LandLab), Azores Regional Directorate of the Environment

The intensification of dairy farming in recent decades has led to the eutrophication of Furnas Lake. Therefore, to restore its water quality, a legally binding Furnas Watershed Plan was adopted in order to effect a major change in soil use. It was the turning point in the landscape management and economic activities of the last few decades. Since 2007 about 300 hectares of agricultural land within the watershed were bought by the Government of the Azores, which enabled the management team to implement an ambitious plan. Furnas Landscape Laboratory, a future multifunctional forest landscape, was created to act as a large experimental ground, the first of its type in the Azores, to implement new ecological restoration techniques, economic activities and management practices, promoting a widespread public involvement, to achieve sustainability at all levels (ecologic, economic, social, cultural and aesthetic). There have been many concrete achievements since 2007 and the project is on-going with no conclusion date.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The Furnas Landscape Laboratory represents an example of good practice which will be useful to other States. The regaining of water quality, return to a kind of agriculture more respectful of the natural substrate and the eradication of invasive species are the project's strong points. The project, which certainly corresponds to the spirit of the European Landscape Convention, gives off a feeling of high energy. Activities were on a huge scale and required numerous resources, provided by many volunteers and, to some extent, European Structural Funds.

Landscape Alliance – Portugal

ROMANIA



© Fondation ADEPT

Landscape Alliance – Romania

Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania,

Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection Foundation (ADEPT)

The project of the Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection Foundation (ADEPT) was implemented in the period between May 2006 and March 2009, financed under the Darwin Initiative and co-financed by Orange Romania and the UK Government (Defra). The project was initiated in the Târnava Mare area as a response to the threats to the semi-natural landscapes in Southern Transylvania which stemmed both from land abandonment and agriculture intensification as well as from lack of recognition. The goal was to facilitate the conservation and traditional management of the Târnava Mare semi-natural landscape, while increasing local benefits through the sustainable use of ecosystems. The project met its targets and developed a wider significance, with an impact on national and EU policy towards High Nature Value Farmland (HNVF) areas.



The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. This project on Agricultural Development and Environmental Protection in Transylvania is of interest as it combines economics and ecology. The aim is to perpetuate an agricultural system which promotes biodiversity. The approach adopted presents a level of integration which would deserve to be increased. The ADEPT Foundation has involved several participants and brought national and European, public and private partners into action. Ultimately, this project should be able to incorporate landscape quality objectives.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Salvage, revival and operation of the forest railway in the landscape of Cierny Balog, Ciernohronska železnica NGO



© Agence slovaque de l'environnement



The project "Salvage, Revival and Operation of the Forest Railway in the Landscape of Cierny Balog" won the Landscape Award of the Slovak Republic 2012 for bringing the people back to their landscape through the revival of a technical monument, for restoring the identity of Cierny Balog Region and for retaining its cultural heritage. The project is an exemplary model of how people can really make a positive change to a decaying landscape through the bottom-up approach. A large number of enthusiasts and volunteers, local citizens, as well as invited experts, have renewed the original vision by combining their enthusiasm, wisdom, memory, efforts, time, expertise, money, planning abilities, and management skills. The object was the purpose and the operation of the historic forest railway, which was facing destruction because of an arbitrary official decision that was taken last century. The people were able to persuade everybody that the forest railway adds value to their landscape as a main artery of their region. The forest railway, a symbol of sustainable wood-cutting practice of previous generations in the region, today represents the living historic form of the landscape, which has contributed significantly to the characteristic appearance, new life opportunities, prosperity and reputation of the Cierny Hron Valley in Slovakia.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. The salvage, revival and operation of the forest railway in the landscape of Cierny Balog project concerns the highlighting of a technical aspect of the heritage, the forest railway of Cierny Balog. The involvement of 1 500 volunteers was appreciated. The magnificent Carpathian landscape forms the backdrop.

SLOVENIA

The Landscape and water-management restoration of Škocjanski Zatok nature reserve, DOPPS, BirdLife Slovenia



© Borut Mozetic/DOPPS – BirdLife Slovénie



The project aimed to recreate the typical coastal wetland landscape of Škocjanski Zatok Nature Reserve, the largest brackish wetland in Slovenia, after the decay it suffered in the 1980s. This resulted in the restoration of the semi-natural coastal wetland ecosystem, landscape and its natural processes. It thus remedied the environmental problems of the past, and assured the conservation and development of the typical brackish and freshwater habitats supporting fauna and flora of European and national importance with a strong exemplary value, as well as the organisation of the wetland centre – a nature reserve open to the public. Visitors from within Slovenia and elsewhere can now enjoy the area for education, recreation and a unique nature experience. Awareness was raised in the local community, which participated in the project with a positive attitude – this also contributed to a better quality of life and the sustainable development of the Slovenian coast.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. This landscape and water-management restoration project relating to Škocjanski Zatok nature reserve concerns a coastal wetland. Thanks to the project, urban and industrial sprawl have been successfully halted, something very important in this limited coastal area. Managed by BirdLife Slovenia, the project has benefited from significant national and European Union (LIFE) support, without which it would be impossible to curb urban and industrial pressure. It clearly shows public participation in the planning process and a good level of public awareness. The planning process incorporates nature protection and attention to the landscape.

Landscape Alliance – Slovenia

SPAIN

The sustainable revitalisation of the protected landscape of Geria, Consortium for the defence and promotion of the landscape of Geria



© Consortium pour la défense et la promotion de l'espace de la Geria

Landscape Alliance – Spain



Geria is an exceptional volcanic farmland for its outstanding landscape and heritage values. It is exemplary for the combination of human intervention and environmental sustainability. The area went into decline in the late twentieth century due to the expansion of the service economy that has adversely affected agriculture on the island of Lanzarote. To reverse this trend, public and private participants have tried to create a new framework and have implemented actions to achieve a new appreciation of its unique history and its economic opportunities. A campaign to raise awareness of the revitalisation of the area's heritage, innovation in the field of food and wine, active tourism and land rehabilitation are all ways of preserving an agricultural system which is the only one of its kind in the world.

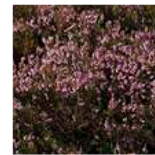
The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. This project relates to an outstanding landscape with few equivalents in Europe. The landscape can be maintained only through stubborn human effort without mechanical assistance. The revitalisation of this site, which has UNESCO Biosphere Reserve status, is the outcome of a rigorous approach combining environment, aesthetics and economics. Not only is wine-growing viable, it also creates jobs. The decision to engage in sustainable agri-tourism is helping to revitalise the landscape. Public participation is strong at every level of decision making, and awareness is raised of all aspects of landscape and environment.

UNITED KINGDOM

The South Pennines Watershed Landscape Project, Pennine Prospects



© Steve Morgan/Perspectives Pennines



The South Pennines Watershed Landscape Project seeks to tell the story of the landscape in terms of both the historic and the natural environment. More than a million people live in or around the South Pennine uplands, located between Leeds and Manchester, yet the site can still feel remote, wild and exhilarating. Its unique landscape has been an inspiration to artists and writers from the Brontës to Ted Hughes. There are significant pressures – for example, the peat resources are in the front line of the battle to mitigate climate change. Engaging local communities through projects based on science, archaeology and creative arts has improved understanding of the value of the landscape. Pennine Prospects, a rural regeneration non-government organisation, worked with volunteers and provided training to enable more people to be directly involved in caring for this fragile landscape.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe recognised the great value of the project. Located close to major cities, the South Pennines Watershed Landscape Project fully meets the Landscape Award criteria and complies with the provisions of the European Landscape Convention. This area is made available to many and varied urban populations. The complex project is representative of the long and sound tradition of integrated work on the landscape in the United Kingdom. It represents a textbook example of public awareness-raising. Landscape planning is a process which necessitates constant efforts and investments. The progress made needs to be consolidated and continued on an on-going basis. The many participants in this project are encouraged to develop it further.

Landscape Alliance – United Kingdom

HUNGARY

The Borderless co-operation of local communities for the landscape heritage of the “Fabulous” Hetés,

The villages of Bödeháza, Gáborjánháza, Szijártóháza, Zalaszombatfa (Hungary), the villages of Genterovci, Kamovci, Radmožanci, Žitkovci, Mostje, Banuta (Slovenia), Greenways Methodology Association and the Iron Curtain Trail Association



© Andrea Bedo

Landscape Alliance – Hungary

Ten villages located on the Hungarian-Slovenian border were involved in a programme for this area of the former Iron Curtain, a key aspect of which was a pilot project, implemented between 2013-2014, for the protection and sustainable management of the landscape. The programme aimed to restore the links between the populations on both sides of the border and to promote enhancement of the area concerned. The historical and natural features of the landscape were identified and analysed with the participation of local authorities. The appeal to the knowledge of populations revealed the richness of the landscape and its components, both natural and cultural. A network of greenways for walkers and cyclists was also established to enable the local population, visitors and tourists to discover the landscape's richness.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 4th Session of the Award 2014-2015 to the organisers of the project. Won by the Hungarian villages of Bödeháza, Gáborjánháza, Szijártóháza and Zalaszombatfa, and the Slovenian villages of Genterovci, Kamovci, Radmožanci, Žitkovci, Mostje and Banuta, with the support of the Greenways Methodology Association and the Iron Curtain Trail Association, the project helped, through work on landscape, to restore and strengthen transfrontier relations between the two populations separated in the past by the Iron Curtain. The joint process of rehabilitation of the areas concerned has developed favourably, thanks to awareness-raising campaigns on the need to protect, manage and sustainably plan a shared and valuable landscape. Appropriate local resource mobilisation and encouragement of local village authorities to play a central role in policy dialogue are important features of the achievement. The significant and characteristic natural and historical features of the landscape were surveyed, identified, assessed and documented, with the participation of the population. Local knowledge was used to highlight the different opportunities and potential of the landscape – not only environmental and cultural but also social and economic – so that the populations and visitors have the opportunity to appreciate it. The establishment of fora, workshops and a common area called the “Friendship Park” has helped restore closer relations between the populations concerned. The creation of a cross-border network of greenways for walkers and cyclists is another symbolic element of the project.





© Andrea Bodo

The most important added value of the project lies in the fact that, through the landscape, the people of ten Hungarian and Slovenian villages have co-operated on both sides of the border for the quality of their surroundings, as defined in the European Landscape Convention. They have thus fulfilled the ideals and values promoted by the Council of Europe and, for this reason, the award was attributed to all the villages concerned, from both Hungary and Slovenia. The award was also attributed to the Greenways Methodology Association and to the Iron Curtain Trail Association for the excellent work achieved.

CZECH REPUBLIC

The service tree, the tree of the Slovácko Region, Municipality of Tvarožná Lhota and NGO International Exchanges (INEX) – Voluntary Service of the White Carpathians

The project aimed to restore the cultural landscape of the Slovácko region, focusing on the cultivation, dissemination and promotion of traditional fruit trees, and in particular the service tree (*Sorbus domestica*), with the participation of local authorities and people of the region, often volunteers. It has revealed the importance of this species, which had almost fallen into oblivion, but which had economic importance in the past and was also an outstanding characteristic feature of the regional landscape. The project made it possible to co-ordinate the rescue of species of ancient fruit trees, particularly the service tree, by appealing to the participation of residents, local and regional authorities and other partners. Several achievements have been completed: a Service Tree Museum, educational trails and an arboretum were built; a gene pool was created from rare fruit trees and old fruit trees were treated. Seedlings were obtained and grown, and then trees were planted within the network of the regional system of ecological stability (an essential part of a green infrastructure in the Czech Republic). More than 100 villages of the Slovácko Region – the traditional seat of the service tree – have subsequently followed this approach.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 4th Session of the Award 2014-2015 on the organisers of the project. It enabled the restoration of the cultural landscape of the Slovácko Region through the regeneration and promotion of the historical fruit tree species, the Service tree. Central to this effort is the participation of the local residents and community partners. The large and diverse number of activities emanating from this truly local project is a great example of how an idea can keep evolving. It demonstrates the power that awareness-raising campaigns, when supported by co-operation between local and regional authorities, can have for the restoration of a landscape, in a sustainable development perspective. Highlighting the contribution of traditional fruit tree species to the feature of landscapes in many territories, the project represents an important source of inspiration for promoting the protection of the traditional fruit trees' gene pool diversity. It thus becomes an excellent example of grass root efforts to mitigate the negative effects on globalisation of landscape, standardisation and market commercialisation of agriculture.



© Vít Hrdoušek

Landscape Alliance – Czech Republic

Liptovská Teplička: protection of unique historical landscape types, Village of Liptovská Teplička



© Lucia Vačková



The project aims to preserve specific features of the village of Liptovská Teplička and its habitat and the character of the local landscape, which is a mountainous agricultural area, as part of a type of unique historical landscape in the Carpathian Mountains. In the first half of the 17th century, local people cleared the surrounding forest to build a system of narrow terraced fields, which today cover an area of 350 hectares around the village. There are also the unique historical parts of the settlement, with a set of preserved wooden farm buildings, barns, and a total of 419 potato cellars that still perform their original function. The municipality of the village has been developing a long-term effort to preserve the original character and functionality of the landscape. These activities bring benefits to the population in terms of the preservation of its cultural and historic values. The project promotes the maintenance of ecological balance, strengthens local identity and boosts the local economy through the promotion of sustainable tourism, respecting people and their surroundings.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention for the 4th Session of the Award 2014-2015 on the organisers of the project. The project, jointly operated by the Agricultural Co-operative of Liptovská Teplička and the self-employed farmers of the village, made possible the preservation of a mountainous agricultural landscape with unique and significant features. The preservation of the character and functionality of this outstanding agricultural landscape has played a key role in the economic activity of the village, allowing it to remain inhabited despite its mountainous location, which renders access difficult. The combined use of traditional farming methods, still practised in the nearby village fields, and modern methods used on high altitude slopes, makes possible an efficient and sustainable practice of agriculture, respecting the history of these places. The preservation of innovative agricultural practices, and the efforts made by the ancestors of the villagers, is a source of inspiration for villages and small towns which wish to develop sustainably, by enhancing traditional landscapes.

The Sénia Territory Millennium Olive Tree Landscape, Taula del Sénia Mancomunidad



© José Barea



Besides geography, history, language and culture, it is the preservation of some 4 800 millenary olive trees – with trunk circumferences of more than 3.5 metres at 1.30 metres above the ground – that characterises and gives unity to the territory of Sénia. Almost all of these trees are of the Farga variety, probably the oldest cultivated variety in the world, with high quality oil but with a low production capacity. They are part of a traditional olive tree landscape, known as the “sea of olive trees”. This landscape, in which traditional agricultural activities are carried out, consists of terraced fields, dry stone constructions, and unique flora and fauna, and offers an outstanding example of the interaction between natural and human factors. The programmes implemented to strengthen the intrinsic value of ancient olive trees and landscape helped achieve positive results through the collaboration of public and private sectors.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe conferred a special mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention for the 4th Session of the Award 2014-2015 on the organisers of the project. It enabled the conservation of the millennium olive trees and the management of the “sea of olive trees” landscape they created. The know-how, traditional agricultural practices and the natural and cultural heritage for the cultivation of olive trees have thus also been preserved. The concerns expressed by the local population about the fate of some 4 800 ancient olive trees – threatened by economic pressures, speculation and classified as “at risk” – has led the authors of the project to establish a partnership between local and regional administrations, individuals and enterprises. This strong cooperation between the public and private sectors has led, through restoration and sustainable territorial management, to the protection of the olive trees and the preservation of an exceptionally characteristic landscape. Awareness-raising initiatives have helped strengthen the understanding of stakeholders of the inestimable value of these historic trees. Favorable economic prospects have also resulted. This achievement is thus a major source of inspiration for the traditional Mediterranean landscape of olive groves.

Landscape Alliance – Spain

BELGIUM

The enhancement of the natural site and landscape of Hof ter Musschen,

Commission on the environment of Brussels and its environs ASBL



© CEBE – Geneviève Vermoelen



The Hof ter Musschen project aimed to preserve, enhance and animate an old rural and typical landscape to the east of Brussels. Located just outside the regional territory, this site of high biological and landscape value is composed of a farm, wet meadows, reed beds, wooded areas, wastelands, orchards and a mill. Part of a 17th century Brabant farm, Hof ter Musschen ceased agricultural activities in 1979. It is bordered to the south by the Woluwe River, and by a main road heading towards the city. Threatened both by the extension of the St. Luc University campus and urbanisation, the Hof ter Musschen project has been a true fight for citizens to safeguard and protect its historical and biological values. Since 1990, the Brussels Committee on the Environment and Surroundings Association, ASBL, in partnership with local and regional stakeholders, has ensured sustainable management of the landscape, organising scientific-level study days as well as awareness-raising actions: rehabilitation of the bakery, mowing, osier beds, beekeeping, school activities and guided tours. These activities have helped revive the landscape and for it to evolve favourably.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The project has helped preserve an ancient rural landscape threatened for years by the urbanisation of the surrounding areas. Playing a key role in the sustainable development policy in the region, it owes its existence to the initiative of residents eager to save the Hof ter Musschen and to protect its important landscape values, both historical and biological. Since 1990, the Commission on the Environment of Brussels and its environs, in partnership with local and regional actors, has supported the sustainable management of the site and conducts awareness-raising campaigns among the school population and the general public. The outstanding achievements and actions performed will thus help protect, manage and plan the landscape for the benefit of present generations and pass it on to future generations.

Landscape Alliance – Belgium

CROATIA

Ecomuseum Blaca Hermitage, Cultural Centre of Brač



© Kristijan Brkić



The project, which concerns the Ecomuseum Blaca Hermitage and its surrounding landscape, aimed to enhance a former monastic complex. Now a contemporary museum, it captures the local identity and immerses visitors in the local history and culture, allowing them to enjoy a landscape of exceptional aesthetic value. The Hermitage was built in the 16th century next to the caves in the cliffs in the isolated canyon on the southern side of Brač Island. Its great natural, cultural and aesthetic values were recognised by the island's people, local authorities and national institutions, all of which contributed to its inclusion in the national Tentative List for subsequent inclusion on the Unesco List of World Heritage. The project serves as an outstanding example of sustainable heritage preservation in a region with the highest degree of landscape appreciation. Between 2007 and 2011 the complex was renovated and extensive interdisciplinary research has been carried out. The project is continuously improved upon with new curatorial programmes and restoration works.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. Because of its great cultural value, the Ecomuseum Blaca Hermitage, a former monastic settlement, has powerfully strengthened local sustainability and inhabitants' sense of belonging to a place. The measures taken to facilitate access to the site during its renovation led to the development of walking trails and bike paths, allowing the enjoyment of the landscape. The project is thus a particularly positive experience of enhancement of a landscape surrounding a historical monument.

Landscape Alliance – Croatia

CYPRUS

Development of the Historical Centre of Agios Athanasios Municipality, Municipality of Agios Athanasios



© Costas Efthivoulou



The project for the construction and re-planning of the central square of the Municipality of Agios Athanasios included a series of measures to improve the living conditions of the inhabitants. It was completed in three phases: the first phase was to divert the main road, as well as the construction of parking areas; the second phase included the construction of the new square for pedestrians which provides safe access to the Municipal Building for elderly and disabled people, a new children's play area and improved landscaping of the surrounding areas; the third phase included the restoration of old buildings in close proximity to the central square and the creation of a library, a municipal youth centre, an arcade and a folklore museum.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The main aim of the project, central to the municipality's sustainable development policy, made possible the improvement of citizens' quality of life through the renovation of the municipality's historic centre. Some of the major interventions led to improved safety of the road network in the area and the provision of a pleasant space with useful amenities for both young and old to enjoy. A lively public discussion took place around the project design to enable the public to take ownership and build consensus on which plans to adopt. The public use of the new central place attests to the effectiveness of collaboration in improving urban landscapes.

Landscape Alliance – Cyprus

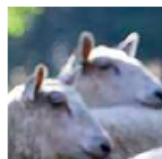
FINLAND

The “Bull by the Horns”: grazing in nature and landscape management,

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment for Central Finland



© Tomi Aho/Agency for Rural Affairs



The “Bull by the Horns” project organised landscape management for areas that are particularly valuable in terms of ecology in the regions of Central Finland, South Savo, Pirkanmaa, Central Ostrobothnia and Ostrobothnia. This resulted in management arrangements being established for 220 hectares of threatened traditional rural biotopes, and the rare species contained therein. The project helped build networks of co-operation, through which landowners of valuable sites made grazing agreements with livestock owners. At the same time, efforts were made to prevent the harmful overgrowth of landscapes, and local people were encouraged to manage landscapes in the concerned area. Funding of management initiatives was provided by a special support fund under the agri-environmental aid agreements. The project was administered by the Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment of Central Finland and a wide range of partners – including public authorities, associations and individuals – have participated in its realisation.

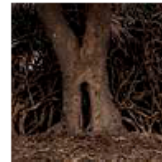
The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The project provides landscape management to guide the development of highly valuable natural areas across a number of regions. It includes a wide variety of partners (authorities, associations and citizens) and has forged co-operation networks. These steps have led owners of valuable sites to make agreements with grazing livestock owners and to management arrangements being established for more than 200 hectares of threatened traditional rural biotopes. Operations aimed at preventing overgrowth and subsequent degradation of landscapes, have also been conducted. The project demonstrates the importance of involving all stakeholders concerned, and notably local people, in the appropriate management of the landscape and in their commitment to carry on the aims of a project even after termination of its initial financing.

Landscape Alliance – Finland

**Agricultural Park of Paduli,
Open Urban Laboratory**



© «Lovo» – studio écri, «Il Nido» – LUA, «La Tana» – Yacine Benseddik



In the far eastern strip of Italy there is, in the lands called the Middle Lands, an extensive and majestic centuries-old olive grove, named Paduli. The rural project, “Living the Paduli”, results from an idea involving local communities, associations and inhabitants in the development of a multifunctional rural park. Famous since the XVIIth century for the production of lamp oil which was used for street lighting in European capitals, the area later suffered from a persistent state of abandonment. It was an ideal place to experiment with new ways of caring for the environment, and activating new models of production. The “Open Urban Laboratory”, brought together local stakeholders and a large number of experts from all over Italy to collaborate on the idea of creating a rural park. A bottom-up approach raised a new awareness of the landscape’s value. Through the Urban Workshop of the Middle Lands, “Living the Paduli” it has encouraged young people to practise innovative agricultural management techniques.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The rural project, led by the local communities, associations and inhabitants, made possible the creation of a multifunctional rural park allowing the restoration of the largely abandoned olive grove. The aim was to develop new methods to care for the land and to enhance the landscape’s value in the minds of the local population. A collaborative work, co-ordinated by the “Open Urban Laboratory”, involved the local stakeholders and a large number of experts from Italy. Using a bottom-up approach, the project has raised new awareness of the landscape’s value in its inhabitants and persuaded young people to practise innovative management activities.

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



© Artis Gustovskis



The project illustrates the solutions adopted by the city of Kuldīga to promote and preserve its landscape, for the benefit of present and future generations. The exceptional value of the town results from the fact that it is a meeting point of nature and culture. Its centre, on the banks of the River Venta, is both the site of Natura 2000 and registered on the Tentative List of UNESCO. The project primarily aimed to improve the landscape and especially the ecological condition of the river, reducing pollution and conducting cleaning operations of its banks. It sought to restore and enhance the natural and cultural landscape of the city and increase public awareness. It contributed to the promotion of the image of the city and the Venta Valley as a landscape of great value.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The project has promoted the image of the city of Kuldīga in the Venta Valley. The work done by the municipality, with the support of local and European partners and appropriate planning and management, thus enhanced an exceptional landscape. Depollution and cleaning of the river and its banks contributed to the preservation of the natural and cultural values of the urban landscape. As a result, the quality of life of the local population and the ties that bind them to their city have been strengthened.

THE NETHERLANDS

National Project: New Dutch Waterline, Board of the New Dutch Waterline



© Marco van Middelkoop of the company Aerophoto-Schiphol



The New Dutch Waterline is a military line of defence designed in 1815 to protect the economic and financial heart of the Netherlands. The concept of inviting water into the land, using subtle engineering techniques, originates from the 12th century. During the Second World War the concept of a waterline as defence system proved to be useless and was abandoned. The redevelopment of this unique cultural landscape, consisting of 60 fortresses, 5 fortified towns and over 1 500 smaller buildings, all located in the central part of the country, was announced by the government as a national project in 1999. The New Dutch Waterline was chosen because of its unique character and the complex spatial and administrative task required. In order to transform the New Dutch Waterline into an identifiable spatial entity, new functions – related to leisure, water management, agriculture, nature and commerce – were identified and developed.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The project has transformed a military line of defence, stretching a total of 85 kilometres, into a quality landscape highly valued by the population and visitors. It provides for multiple activities, including agriculture, leisure and tourism. The project is a very interesting and innovative example of landscape restoration by the reinstatement of old abandoned military structures and preservation of historical and cultural heritage.

Landscape Alliance – The Netherlands

TURKEY

Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management in the Camili Basin, Camili Environmental Protection and Development Association



© Sitki Eraydın



The Camili Basin was selected as one of the four pilot sites of the Biodiversity and Natural Resources Management Project which was implemented by the Camili Environmental Protection and Development Association, with the help of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in collaboration with the World Bank and the support of the Global Environment Facility (GEF), from 2000 to 2008. Through the project, many activities such as policy and programmes, training and awareness-raising, implementation and monitoring, were realised. Within this context, a participatory management plan was prepared, and training and awareness-raising programmes were carried out for local people and schoolchildren. Local people were supported both technically and financially to develop alternative economic activities. In addition, a visitor centre and bird watching towers were constructed, and a local ecotourism and beekeeping committee was established. Collaboration with the project of the Turkish National Commission for UNESCO led the Camili Basin to join the World Biosphere Reserve Network in 2005.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe acknowledged and praised the great value of the project presented for the 4th Session 2014-2015 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. As a result of the project, an inter-sectoral, participatory and sustainable management plan has been prepared and is being implemented. Training, education and awareness-raising programmes have also been carried out for local people and schoolchildren. In addition, technical and financial assistance has been provided to involve the local population in landscape-related projects, offering new economic prospects. The project illustrates how the precautionary management of natural resources and biodiversity contributes positively to enhancing the landscape, which is considered an essential component of people's surroundings.

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



© Daugavpils City Council photo archive

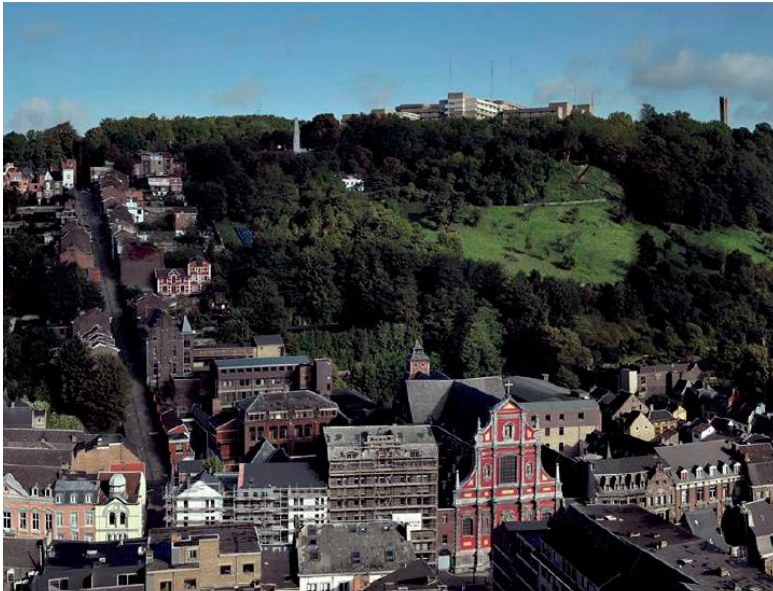


Daugavpils Fortress is the last 19th-century bastion-type fortification complex in Latvia in relatively good condition. After the Soviet Army left the fortress, the area (approximately 2 square km) was not used; it became an abandoned, degraded and unattractive space in the urban environment. The initiative of the local municipality was to define the territory of Daugavpils Fortress as a part of the city for development, including it in all planning documents. Several projects in the Fortress were successfully implemented as part of the Daugavpils City Development Programme “*Mana pils – Daugavpils*” (“My Castle – Daugavpils”), 2008-2014. All these factors created preconditions for the preservation and rational use of this urban monument of state significance as a unique cultural and historical heritage in its transformation into an administrative, cultural, recreational, business and tourism centre. Several initiatives were implemented: the restoration of the water tower to create the Daugavpils Fortress Cultural and Information Centre; reconstruction of the old Arsenal and improvement of the adjacent territory to create the Daugavpils Mark Rothko Art Centre; development of public infrastructure of the complex by improving streets and setting up technical engineering networks; and maintenance of the fortress ramparts.

The Committee of Ministers conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention, for the 5th Session of the Award 2016-2017 to the organisers of the project. The Award was attributed for regeneration of a degraded symbolic landscape. “Regeneration of Daugavpils Fortress to Preserve Cultural and Historical Objects” is a large-scale project which has helped people regain ownership of a highly symbolic landscape. It has enabled a new urban landscape to be created and has contributed to providing various services that are beneficial to public well-being.

BELGIUM

The Hillside of the Citadel in Liège: 1999-2010. From an Enclosure to a Network, City of Liège



© Luc Gilson Light



Lying on the edge of the historic city centre, the hillside of the Citadel covers approximately 86 hectares of the southern slopes of one of the steepest hills lining the Meuse valley. Hidden away in this extensive, uninterrupted ensemble of terraces, orchards, woods, paths and gardens is an outstanding heritage of almost 70 monuments and five listed sites. For almost 20 years, the public and the authorities have been working together to protect and enhance the whole area. The project has focused on confirming the public use of these outstanding sites, while conserving them and implementing innovative and integrated management methods. In 2010, a collection of 18 developed sites, linked by 13 kilometres of footpaths, was laid out and made available for tourists to discover this historic and natural heritage, and as a leisure area for city centre residents.

The Committee of Ministers conferred a special mention for “Public participation” of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention, for the 5th Session of the Award 2016-2017 to the organisers of the project. “The Hillside of the Citadel in Liège: 1999-2010. From an Enclosure to a Network” is a conservation and development project with public involvement, focusing on the redevelopment of an urban landscape composed of historical, cultural and natural heritage, and ensuring easier access to the site. From the outset, the project benefited from considerable public participation.

Regeneration of the landscape and archaeological Park of the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento,
 Archaeological and Landscape Park of the Valley of the Temples of Agrigento
 Department of Cultural Heritage and Identity of Sicily



© Giovanni Leto Barone-Eric Vandeville-Silvia Guerzoni

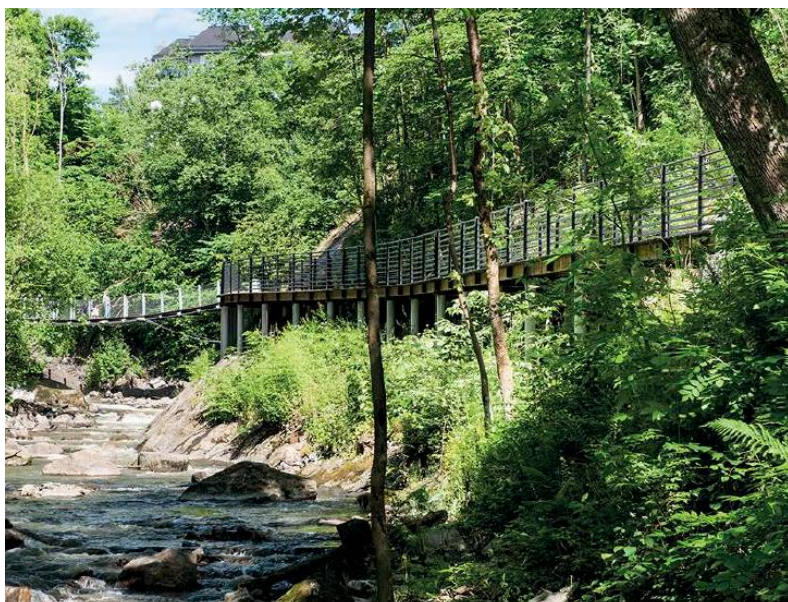


The landscape regeneration project is the result of co-operation between public and private partners within the exceptional setting of the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento. Declared a UNESCO World Heritage site in 1997, the Valley of the Temples hosts one of the Mediterranean's major archaeological complexes, surrounded by an agricultural landscape of rare beauty, mainly composed of centenary olive and almond trees. To further the sustainable development of the park resources, park authorities have co-ordinated the actions of public and private partners, recreating high-quality traditional products and using ancient agronomic practices of Sicilian tradition. Their aim was to combine production, protection and enhancement of the territory, thanks also to the refurbishment of important infrastructure such as the old temples railway. The project thus combines knowledge, co-operation, development, protection and enhancement.

The Committee of Ministers conferred a special mention for "Sustainable development and social reintegration" of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, for the 5th Session of the Award 2016-2017 to the organisers of the project. "Regeneration of the Landscape and Archaeological Park of the Valley of the Temples in Agrigento" is an excellent example of a link between the enhancement of archaeological features recognised at international level and the development of an innovative agrarian economy, based on age-old knowledge. Using the restored access paths, both the local community and the many visitors may profit from this outstanding site, appreciating its landscape and the high quality of the local products.

NORWAY

Alna Environmental Park: a blue-green corridor of biodiversity, recreational opportunities and sustainable urban water management, Municipality of Oslo, Agency for Urban Environment



© Eivind_Rohne



In 2002, a report described how the Alna River and its surroundings could be enhanced and used in the revitalisation of the living environment in Groruddalen. The Alna River represents the defining topographical line through the Grorud Valley and the idea was to reinforce the Valley's blue-green structure by reopening most of its watercourse. The underpinning idea was that of landscape ecology: an open, self-cleansing watercourse that has value as a recipient, is able to maintain ecological diversity, and is a recreational resource for the local population and the city in general. The project has transformed nearby residential and natural areas to an accessible park and recreation area, and has become an important social and health project in an area in need of good meeting places. The water has become a "natural magnet", and the Alna River has emerged as a living and vibrant waterway where people congregate and meet. The city council gave the project political recognition by adopting the Municipal Master Plan for the Alna Environmental Park in May 2013.

The Committee of Ministers conferred a special mention for "Social cohesion and respect for the environment" of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, for the 5th Session of the Award 2016-2017 to the organisers of the project. "Alna Environmental Park: a blue-green corridor of biodiversity, recreational opportunities and sustainable urban water management" contributes to the quality of the living environment of a large urban population who have been involved in securing the future of a peri-urban landscape. This significant achievement integrates a demonstrably sustainable development dimension for the benefit of present and future generations' well-being.

SLOVAK REPUBLIC



Hriňovské lazy: landscape of values, Town of Hriňová

The unique Hriňová landscape complex is an example of the interaction between man and landscape in the spirit of the European Landscape Convention. The project is aimed at preserving people's traditional way of life, which is in harmony with the landscape in various settlements, and creating the conditions for all stakeholders to co-operate in land management and local development. To this end, the town of Hriňová has taken various steps and implemented certain measures to conserve this unique landscape, and to preserve both its cultural and historical value and characteristic features with a system of historical agrarian landscape structures. The presence of the population, which is part of the landscape, is a necessary condition to maintain the lively, functional, authentic and prosperous landscape conveying a sense of identity.



The Committee of Ministers conferred a special mention for "Preservation of a unique landscape under threat" of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention, for the 5th Session of the Award 2016-2017 to the organisers of the project. "Hriňovské lazy: landscape of values" testifies to the ability of the local community to take in hand the destiny of its everyday landscape, which offers breathtaking features. Its long narrow furlongs for cultivation are amongst the few remaining in Europe. The achievement links the fundamental dimensions of the landscape: cultural, economic, ecological and social.

Landscape Alliance – Slovak Republic

ANDORRA

Management of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Cultural Landscape Category, Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley Management Plan Steering Committee



© Susanna Simon



The Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley is a unique example of cultural landscape. Sculpted by glaciers and shaped by human effort, the valley is a fine example of the full and outstanding splendour of nature and humankind working together. Covering an area of 4 247 hectares, it brings together the age-old achievements of the women and men of a very particular mountain country, Andorra. The main interest of the valley lies in the great density of both natural and cultural heritage assets in an excellent state of conservation. The very wide range of conditions and microclimates which result from the variations in altitude and aspect means that there is a great variety of soils, vegetation and, hence, landscapes, which contribute to the valley's great wealth of habitats, fauna and flora. As the last place in the country without a road, the Madriu-Perafita-Claror valley is home to a wide range of landscapes, which are preserved as the product of nature and the imprint left by humankind.

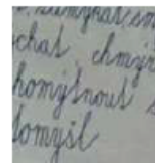
The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. The project "Management of the Madriu-Perafita-Claror Valley, included on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the Cultural Landscape Category" benefited from the exemplary involvement of the authorities and the local population who wished to promote a sustainable landscape, maintained by farming and tourism which respect the high-quality natural and cultural environment.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Education of Children in Heavily Industrialised Landscapes, Elementary School in the city of Most



© Elementary School, Svážná, Most



The project involves the comprehensive, long-term approach of a school to educating children in heavily industrialised and completely transformed landscapes. The city of Most, where the school is situated, experienced a very difficult period in its history when, following a government decision in 1964 to prioritise surface coal mining, the town was, with the exception of a small part, entirely demolished. Its residents were relocated to the newly built town just a few hundred metres from the original municipality. The immediate landscape was badly affected by surface coal mining: much of the surrounding landscape was composed of large opencast mines and slag heaps (spoil tips). But it also included reclaimed and re-cultivated areas and newly created landscapes, home to the autodrome, hippodrome, aquadrome and aerodrome, as well as the Benedikt and Matylda recreational zones, which are the pride of Most. The elementary school teaches children to understand and solve environmental issues and to comprehend the interrelationship of the sustainable use of natural resources, the landscape and a healthy environment, and to see them in their historical context. The school also raises children's awareness of how they can contribute to the care of the landscape in which they live.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. "Education of Children in Heavily Industrialised Landscapes" is an exemplary model of education and awareness raising of pupils living in highly industrialised areas. The achievement makes it possible to develop a sense of belonging to a landscape and a responsible attitude towards the environment and future generations. Founded on awareness and active participation, this educational approach encourages children to act as citizens who care for the future of the landscape.

FINLAND

“Shepherding Weeks”, Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland



© Pirjo Honkasalo



The “Shepherding Weeks” project represents a unique concept that combines landscape management and an experience-rich holiday, developed by Metsähallitus Parks and Wildlife Finland’s Southern Finland regional unit in Koli National Park. During shepherding weeks, volunteer shepherds take care of a herd of sheep for a week, as they perform landscape management in national parks and conservation areas. The week is subject to a charge, in exchange for which the shepherds get to stay in an old house in the midst of breathtaking scenery. The payment is used to cover the costs of landscape management and the maintenance costs of the buildings in the area. The operations are organised in co-operation between Metsähallitus, volunteer shepherds and sheep farmers. Thanks to Shepherding Weeks, valuable traditional rural landscapes are maintained and public awareness of the importance of landscape has increased.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. “Shepherding Weeks” is a remarkable project for the upkeep of a rural and woodland landscape. The commitment of citizens enables pastoral areas to be maintained, which is fundamental for the region’s ecological and agricultural future. This commitment is also essential to the preservation of traditional rural buildings, which contribute to the quality of the landscape.

Landscape as a Link, Saint-Paul, La Réunion, France



© Agence Folléa-Gautier paysagistes-urbanistes

Landscape Alliance – France



Further to the Western Landscape Plan, launched in the island of La Réunion by the central government in 1997, the community of municipalities of the west coast territory (covering an area of 53 000 ha), drew up a Landscape Charter in 2007. The charter sets out landscape quality objectives based on a landscape development grid. The overall aim is the development of “breathing spaces” on the coastline and urban interface areas, between built-up areas and nature. In 2009, the community of municipalities finalised an inter-municipal development plan for urban interface areas. At the same time, the central government produced an atlas of landscapes in La Réunion, highlighting landscape issues. While these landscape policy tools were taking shape, the regional authority implemented a model approach to development by using the creation of the Route des Tamarins as a pilot project to promote other actions in favour of a quality landscape – especially along its particularly sensitive northern section, where a town surrounded by natural areas made up of wetlands and gorges (Saint-Paul) is followed by a headland including a savannah landscape that is also protected (Cap la Houssaye). In this context, the landscape project that was carried out over a 12-year period has both reinvented the urban interface area outside Saint-Paul and brought the savannah landscape of the headland to the fore as a natural breathing space for the population.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. “Landscape as a Link” testifies to the ability of a group of institutions and citizens to optimise landscape integration of a road into the landscape within the specific context of the tropics, where biodiversity is magnified by climatic factors. The development carried out has contributed to the well-being of local residents and enables them to use the landscape in a manner in harmony with the abundance of nature.

Developing “Water Codes” in Larissa City Centre: the “Sculpted River” of Larissa, Municipality of Larissa



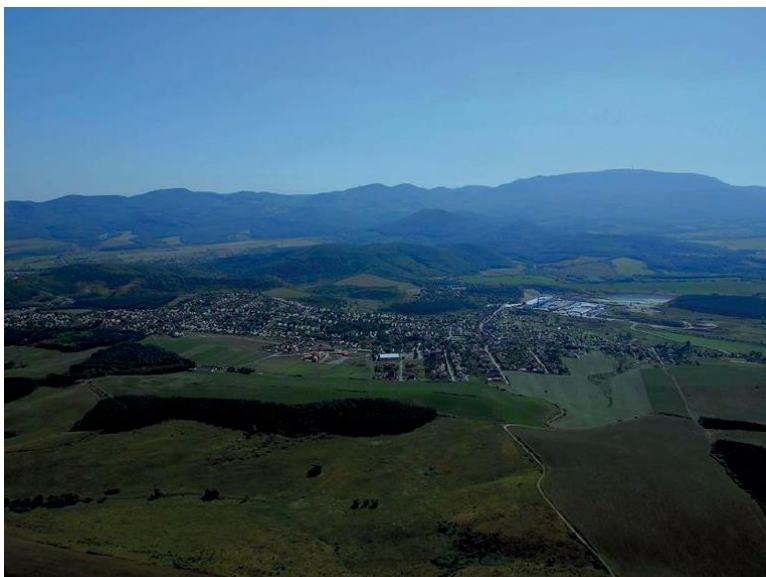
© D. Kalipodas



The project, which gives the keys to understanding the territory's history, aims to create a new landscape identity for the city of Larissa, based on the lost physical and historical landscape of a theatre dating back to the 3rd century BC, the remains of which were recently unearthed in the centre of the city. It will involve local communities and evoke memories of a distinctive agricultural landscape, such as the plain of Thessaly with the Pinios River and its surrounding mythical mountains. The urban sculptor Nella Golanda wanted to create a new identity for the city of Larissa, based on the ancient city theatre. In order to achieve these goals, she proposed a design for a “sculpted river”, a symbol of the lost link between the city and its river (Pinios) which emphasises the different landscapes of Thessaly, the uplands and the lowlands, along its route.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. “Developing Water Codes in Larissa City Centre: the Sculpted River of Larissa” is an acknowledgment of the continuity of a landscape, from ancient times until today. The project provides keys to understanding the history of the area and fits into a territory “sculpted” by artistic practices which highlight the significance and role of water, essential in an urban setting. The city has regained its former distinction with a landscape that attests to the past, for the benefit of the residents' quality of life.

HUNGARY



© Somogyi-Toth Daniel

Landscape Development and Community Sample Programme for a Pleasant Village,

Local Government of Mátraderecske, Roma Minority Local Government of Mátraderecske

The main focus of this programme is to use landscape as a territory that contributes to human well-being and as a resource for sustainable economic activity. Thanks to the potential of the landscape and its natural, cultural and historical assets, new regional opportunities have opened up: the preservation of existing jobs and the creation of new ones; a reliance on the strong solidarity of locals; the conservation of local Palóc traditions; the strengthening of the power of the local community and reinforcing its local identity by familiarising people with local cultural, historical and natural assets.



The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. "Landscape Development and Community Sample Programme for a Pleasant Village" is a positive example of landscape development and regional economic development. It has resulted in a return to traditional farming, population stabilisation and enhanced local viability.

Landscape Alliance – Hungary

SERBIA

Protection and management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve: a tool for sustainable development, Nature Conservation Movement of Sremska Mitrovica



© Sinisa Graovac



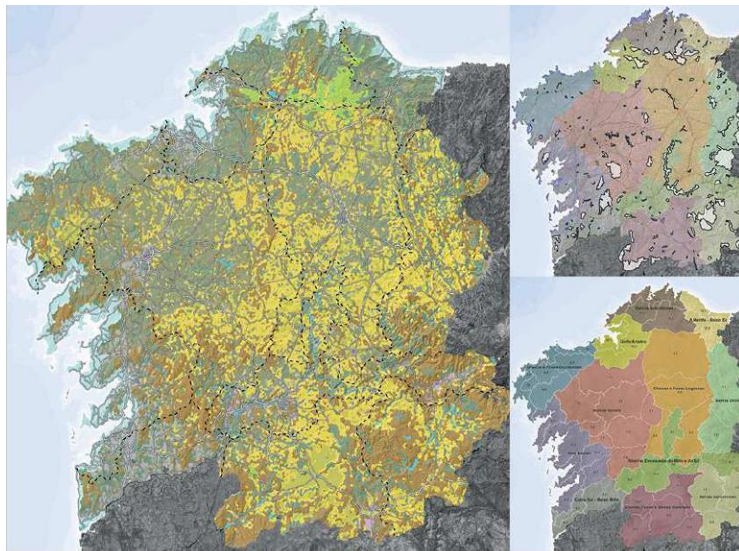
Landscape Alliance – Serbia

Supporting Serbia's attempts to adopt the European Union Habitats Directive and the protection of two endangered cattle species, this project facilitated the development of a management and development plan, detailing protection methods and new opportunities for the reserve. Nature conservation in Serbia was predominantly based on the traditional approach of isolating protected areas from human activity in and around these areas. Nature conservation organisations lacked the capacity to work with modern approaches like those promoted by the directive. In view of the rapprochement of Serbia to the European Union, there was a need to introduce these new approaches, including participatory management planning, the identification, designation and management of protected areas, and linking nature conservation with the wider perspective of rural development.

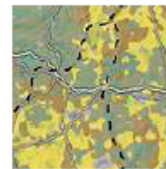
The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. "Protection and Management of Zasavica Special Nature Reserve: a Tool for Sustainable Development" has promoted the public's awareness of natural habitats and its participation in initiatives to protect ecosystems and biodiversity in a way that is particularly favourable to the sustainable development of the rural environment.

Landscape inventory of Galicia: public participation for landscape characterisation and planning,

Institute of Land Studies, Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of the Government of Galicia, Spain



© UsosUnidades, ABIP, MapaGA



The Landscape Inventory of Galicia is a technical document focused on the first stage of landscape planning, namely on landscape analysis and diagnosis. It includes: delimitation of landscape areas and identification of landscape types in each area; zoning of landscape units and delimitation of areas of special landscape interest; inventory of landscape values; identification of degraded areas; analysis of the characteristics of each type of landscape, and of the forces and pressures transforming them. The first stage of the inventory involved the identification of 258 landscape types, resulting in the delimitation of 28 350 landscape units by means of a semi-automatic classification method. Citizens' opinions were taken into account from the beginning of the process and included in the final results. Particular note was taken of those analyses in which public opinion plays a key role, such as characterisation of landscape types and identification of special interest areas and degraded areas. In order to enhance the effectiveness of the participatory process, the opportunities offered by new geospatial information technologies have been exploited and a geographic information system (GIS) that can be used online by citizens has been developed. The information collected through this system was processed jointly with those of the experts and technicians, and enabled the development of the inventory.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged and praised the great value of each project presented for the 5th Session 2016-2017 of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention and recommended making it well-known to the general public for its exemplary value, and as a source of inspiration. "Landscape Inventory of Galicia: Public Participation for Landscape Characterisation and Planning" has seen strong public participation in a process of identifying and characterising landscapes with a view to developing a landscape atlas of the Galicia region. It is a decisive step towards the development of landscape action strategies.

Landscape Alliance – Spain

Renaturation of the watercourse of the River Aire Republic and Canton of Geneva

and the following partners:

Switzerland

Municipalities: Bernex, Confignon, Perly-Certoux and Onex;

Environmental Associations: Association for the Protection of the Aire and its tributaries (transfrontier); ProNatura Geneva; World Wide Fund for Nature-Geneva;

Association of inhabitants: "Living in Lully";

Farmers' association: AgriGenève, Union Vegetable Market of Geneva;

Office: "Superpositions" Group;

France

Federation of municipalities of Genevois: Archamps, Haute-Savoie, in a spirit of transfrontier co-operation, in accordance with Article 9 of the European Landscape Convention



© Fabio Chironi

Landscape Alliance – Switzerland



The project consists of the morphological revitalisation of the watercourse of the Aire, which was channelled between the end of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century, with the aim of restoring its space of freedom and wanderings to meet environmental and protection objectives against flood hazards. Since the river flows in a heavily urbanised plain, the project also had a social purpose, offering the population new places of relaxation and

walking in the direct vicinity of the city of the Geneva. Led by the service of renaturation of the rivers of the Republic and Canton of Geneva, it was implemented by the group "Superpositions", composed of engineers, biologists and landscape architects. The approach was to let the new river shape its own bed by giving free rein to the effect of erosion, while transforming the old canal into a linear park with walks and public squares. This "large landscaped garden" is greatly appreciated by the citizens.

The Committee of Ministers conferred the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention to the organisers of the achievement, within the framework of the 6th Session of the Award 2018-2019.

Presented by the Republic and Canton of Geneva, the project constitutes a multidisciplinary and concerted intervention of high quality to reconfigure the river bed of the River Aire, and to renature the course of the river in a peri-urban and urban territorial area. While allowing for the prevention of floods and the reconstitution of ecosystems favourable to animal and plant life, this living landscape has also become a space for walks and recreation, as well as a meeting place appreciated by people.

The transnational dimension of the watercourse represents an invitation to continue transfrontier co-operation to enhance the landscape.

Recognised for its great value, and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Community activities day, "Let's do it!" Estonian Fund for Nature

Every year since 2008, on the first Saturday in May, the community activities day, "Let's do it!", takes place all over Estonia. This is the day of collective action to enhance the landscape. The project was launched and run by a non-governmental project team, which has successfully involved a vast number of voluntary participants. In 2008 the project started with a countrywide action of cleaning up illegally-dumped rubbish. In 2009 local communities gathered together to generate good ideas for sustainable local development. Building on that, since 2010, different collective actions (in Estonian: *talgud*) are taking place all over the country. The project has led to a large number of actions to protect and manage the landscape. Every community, organisation or citizen, can participate in deciding what needs to be done and invite other people to join the initiative. Since 2008, there have been more than 14,700 different landscape management interventions engaging over 433,600 participants. These actions took into consideration the cultural and aesthetic dimensions of the place and improved the quality of the environment. Thanks to the project, local communities have become stronger and the public has become more aware of landscape values in the context of sustainable development.



The Committee of Ministers conferred a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention to the achievement, within the framework of the 6th Session of the Award 2018-2019.

The project demonstrates that landscape approaches can foster public participation and an awareness of sustainable development issues. Its participative and unifying process has made it possible to mobilise the population around a great diversity of local actions. The bottom-up approach that was followed represents a remarkable example of raising public awareness of the need for a healthy landscape.

Recognised for its great value, and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.



© Jardin de Laagna. Photo de participant volontaire

Landscape Alliance – Estonia

Establishment of the Kotka National Urban Park City of Kotka



© Patricia Broas



The Kotka National Urban Park, located along the Kymijoki River and on the coast of the Gulf of Finland, is made up of neighbourhoods built in vast green spaces, connected by ecological corridors. It covers an area of 2,675 hectares and connects the most important sites of the city of Kotka, to create a uniform network that is easy to navigate. It connects the most significant sites in the city of Kotka to make a network of paths which are easy to walk. It includes a complete set of landscapes – with both natural and cultural components –, and recreational areas that the city is committed to preserving. In 2014, the Ministry of the Environment approved the request of the city to create a national urban park. The status of national urban parks is specified in the Finnish Land Use and Building Act. The concept of a Finnish national urban park, a real tool for sustainable land-use design, was given the European Garden award in the category Large Scale Green Concepts by the European Garden Heritage Network in 2014.

The Committee of Ministers conferred a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention to the achievement, within the framework of the 6th Session of the Award 2018-2019.

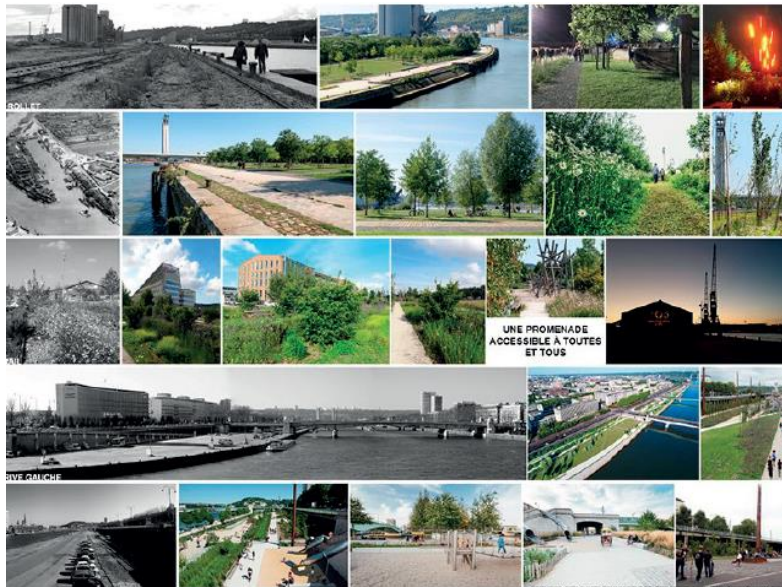
The project has shown that landscape considerations have successfully guided the planning process, with public participation from the initial stages of the project. Pre-existing, sometimes degraded, landscape features have been rehabilitated and integrated into a coherent large-scale spatial network constituting a combination of green and blue spaces (rivers, marine and submarine areas), connected by ecological corridors. Housing blends harmoniously with the surrounding nature. The achievement has contributed positively to the quality of daily life and well-being of the population.

Recognised for its great value, and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

The specific status of National Urban Parks, defined by the Land Use and Building Act of Finland, is also a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Finland

Reconquering the quays of the Seine in Rouen,
 through the development of a large river promenade
 City and Metropolis of Rouen, Normandy



© Jacqueline Ostry et Associés

The planning of the left bank of the Seine in Rouen, covering over 3 kilometres in the heart of the city, is part of a vast project to reclaim disused land on both sides of the river. Industrial and port activities were developed there, following the Second World War and until the early 1980s. Their progressive decline gave way to sterile spaces with polluted soils and subsoils. The location of the quays provided the city with a development opportunity, and it seemed important to give the quays a second life. The creation of the river promenade now reconnects the two banks of the river with the historic city centre, enabling inhabitants to reclaim these spaces and rediscover a forgotten part of their urban landscape.

The Committee of Ministers conferred a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention to the achievement, within the framework of the 6th Session of the Award 2018-2019.



The project demonstrates the capacity of the landscape approaches to promote the urban development of a river zone. It enabled the revitalisation of abandoned and degraded spaces in urban areas, while respecting ecological, environmental, social and cultural values. Traces of the industrial and port vocation of the site have been saved. The project is part of a vast process of rehabilitation of wasteland on both sides of the river, which has encouraged restoration of the ecological balance; it represents a factor in the attractiveness of the territory and the positive development of the metropolis. A long river walk now reconnects the two river banks to the city centre, allowing the population to reclaim these spaces for their well-being, as a place of recreation and conviviality.

Recognised for its great value, and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Between Land and Water, “Another Way of Owning”
 The Men of Massenzatica Consortium

The Men of Massenzatica Consortium is a collective ownership project dating back to the Middle Ages, now legally recognised by the Italian Republic under Law No. 168/2017. Established as a consortium in 1896, it constitutes a reference point for protecting and tending to the landscape of the Po delta. Over time, the project has prioritised the generation of a sense of community and brotherhood over individual growth. It has promoted opportunities to undertake and strengthen social capital, while controlling water resources and combating intensive land use. Research and awareness work have been carried out since 2010. The project has developed innovative agricultural practices to counter the depopulation of rural areas and strengthen social cohesion. It is thus possible to transmit a shared heritage to future generations. By proposing a new “landscape pact”, the consortium promotes the values of sustainability, justice and belonging, expressing the multiple identities of Europe and its communities.



The Committee of Ministers conferred a Special Mention of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe’s European Landscape Convention to the achievement, within the framework of the 6th Session of the Award 2018-2019.

The project testifies to the great success of the landscape approach in promoting social cohesion. The Men of Massenzatica Consortium is part of a multi-secular form of property organisation adapted to the socio-economic realities of the current rural world in an evolving context, in order to fight the prevailing rural exodus. The project promotes the sense of community, offering entrepreneurial possibilities through the practice of an environmentally friendly agriculture. The permanent control of the water level, as well as the efforts to fight intensive exploitation of the land, contributes to the maintenance of the social capital. By proposing a new “pact for the landscape”, the achievement allows a lively and harmonious landscape to be passed on to future generations.

Recognised for its great value, and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.



‘identity space’ of the lands of the Pomposa Monastery

Landscape

Paesaggio: spazio identitario



Landscape Alliance – Italy

BELGIUM

Wortel and Merksplas Colony: a cultural landscape revalued Vzw Kempens Landschap



© Wim Verschraegen

Landscape Alliance – Belgium



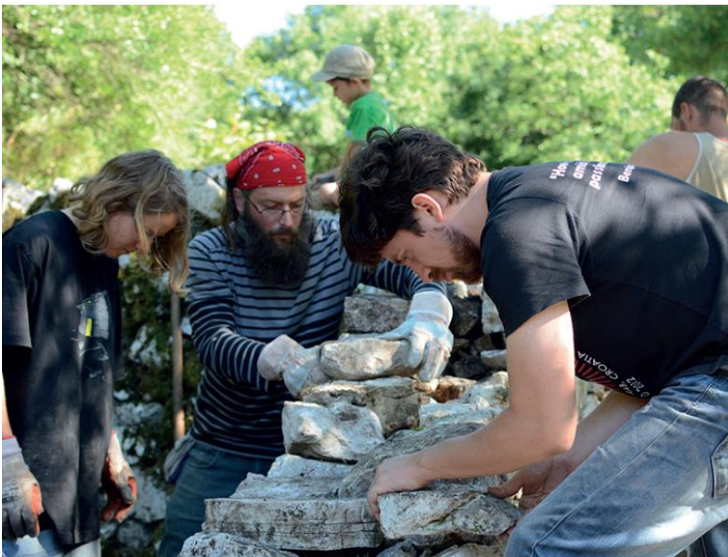
Wortel and Merksplas Colonies together form an exceptional cultural landscape. This 1,000-hectare, man-made compartmental landscape, developed in the 19th century, consists of open and closed areas, farmland, forest and nature reserves. No less than 32 kilometres of historical lanes and other linear elements, such as canals and hedges, divide the territory into orthogonal forms. Some of the remaining heaths and fens illustrate how, with no external influences, this landscape was before the creation of the colonies. Following more than 150 years of agricultural practices, the territory became largely untended. The area was briefly under threat, until citizens were mobilised. Over recent decades, public authorities and associations have successfully worked together to secure and restore the identity and unity of both colonies. Thus, everyone can continue to enjoy this historical landscape.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged the great value of the achievement presented for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention 2018-2019, and the importance to make it well-known as a source of inspiration.

In accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

Dragodid: preserving the dry-stone masonry techniques of the Eastern Adriatic

4 Grada Dragodid



© Nevena Keresa



Dragodid is an education, training and awareness-raising project on the dry stone heritage of Croatia and the Eastern Adriatic. It is led by 4 Grada Dragodid Association, a non-governmental organisation consisting mostly of young professionals and students of heritage and landscape-related disciplines (architecture, ethnology, landscape architecture, agriculture, in particular). The initial phases of the project were completed in 2013, and several steps have been taken since then: establishment of a heritage information portal; institution of an inventory of dry stone buildings and landscapes; publication of handbooks on fundraising, awareness-raising and legal issues; development of a regular programme of public workshops; and an inscription of dry stone art in the National Register of Cultural Goods. The association continues to work for the protection of Croatia's landscapes.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged the great value of the achievement presented for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention 2018-2019, and the importance to make it well-known as a source of inspiration.

In accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

Multifunctional Seaside Park in Limassol Limassol Municipality



© Socrates Massouras



In 1970, the government and the municipal authorities of Limassol launched a reclamation project involving some coastal areas of the city of Limassol, by expanding the land into the sea, in order to cope with erosion, to protect buildings along the beach, and to create a large seaside park. The existing seafront, which was a kilometre long and 65 metres wide, had to be modified to integrate it into the new modern face of the downtown, following a unified design. The reconstruction required land use planning including notably: the plantation of local species resistant to high temperatures; the development of a system to use recycled water from the sewage system for irrigation; the construction of diverse infrastructures (a bike lane along the main road, a small amphitheatre, loungers, walkways, playgrounds and seating areas, skateboard area, pontoons and pedestrian decks); as well as the installation of a lighting system. This development took into account the existing green spaces, playgrounds, fountains and sculptures.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged the great value of the achievement presented for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention 2018-2019, and the importance to make it well-known as a source of inspiration.

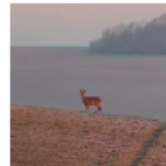
In accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

Landscape Futures

University of Copenhagen



© Kirsten Klein



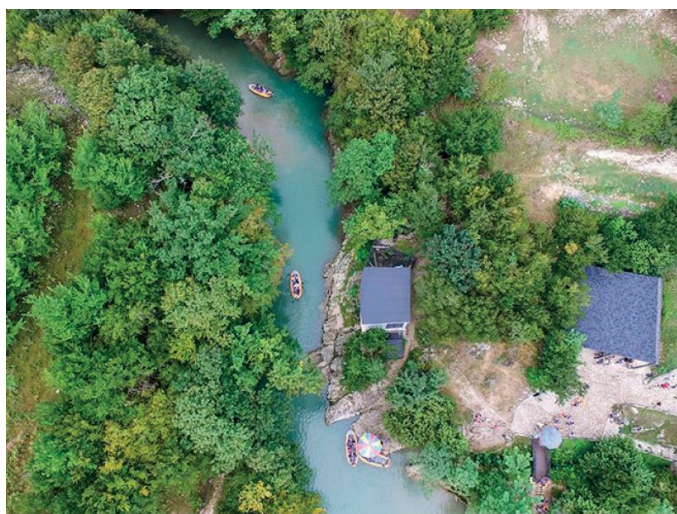
"Landscape Futures" is the name of a project carried out between 2013 and 2018 with the aim of placing the future of rural landscapes on a multidisciplinary agenda and renewing Danish countryside planning. The project was organised by 18 partners, including 11 Danish municipalities and the Danish Hunters Association, each leading a landscape action. The results of the work carried out have been published in the book, "Landscape futures – Visions and plans for the countryside", Bogværket, 2019. Other research activities which are presented in the book entitled "European landscape in transition: implications for policy and practice" (Cambridge University Press, 2018) draw on the project. These actions have had obvious impacts on municipal planning and landscape management. A general framework for a more integrated, involved and proactive approach to rural landscape planning, called "Landscape strategy-making", represents a major methodological outcome.

The Committee of Ministers acknowledged the great value of the achievement presented for the 6th Session of the Landscape Award of the Council of Europe's European Landscape Convention 2018-2019, and the importance to make it well-known as a source of inspiration.

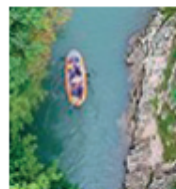
In accordance with Resolution CM/Res (2017)18 of the Committee of Ministers, the project is thus part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Council of Europe.

Landscape Alliance – Denmark

Martvili Canyon Sustainable Development Martvili Municipality



© Lasha Gigauri, Agence des aires protégées de la Géorgie



The Martvili Canyon received the status of Natural Monument in 2013, and an administration in charge of the monument was created in 2015. Previously, the site was only known locally and, due to the lack of suitable management, it became degraded: illegal fishing and poaching were taking place, and the flora was damaged. In addition, due to the lack of infrastructure, the safety of tourists was not assured. The situation has changed rapidly since 2015, when the Agency of Protected Areas of Georgia started, in the framework of a co-operation with the Municipality of Martvili, to implement a project of sustainable development for the area. The canyon now has a visitor centre, quays, a shelter for boats, walking trails, bridges and viewpoints. A 19th-century water mill has been restored and a flood-warning system has been installed for the River Abasha. In addition, large quantities of plastic bottles and packaging have been removed and the place is now totally clean and safe. The Government of Georgia granted boating rights to the local company, Oputsokhi, which purchased boats and set up services to welcome visitors.

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Recreation of Lake Karla Region of Thessaly



© Ministère de l'Environnement et de l'Énergie de la Grèce



The Recreation of Lake Karla is currently the largest environmental project in the Balkans, implemented by the Region of Thessaly. It concerns the creation of a wide wetland area of 3,800 hectares, designed to reverse the adverse environmental conditions that were caused when the lake was drained. This local development project, launched in 2009, is of national importance, with multiple positive effects for the lake area. It was implemented with financial support from European funds, the Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks and the Region of Thessaly. As a result of the project, the region's water supply has been facilitated, flood protection and irrigation of arable land has been improved, and agri-tourism could develop.

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HUNGARY

The Landscape revitalisation initiative in the spirit of the Pogányvár Landscape Charter

Local governments of: Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracsa, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár



© Mike Smith



From 2011, the municipalities of Pogányvár – Zalaszentmárton, Dióskál, Egeraracsa, Esztergályhorváti, Kerecseny, Orosztony, Pacsa, Zalasabar, Zalavár –, jointly developed a complex landscape-oriented revitalisation project for their territory, in order to preserve and sustainably use the traditional heritage of Zala county. On the initiative of the local government of Zalaszentmárton, the nine municipalities approved a programme and signed the Pogányvár Landscape Charter (*Pogányvári Karta*), Hungary's first landscape charter. An adaptive management of the microregion's landscape has been implemented, promoting the quality of life for the inhabitants.

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Landscape Alliance – Hungary

LATVIA

The origin of the Latvian cultural traditions. Dikļi, the birthplace of the Latvian song festival Municipalité de Kocēni



© Municipalité de Kocēni



Dikļi, a small village in Latvia, was first mentioned in historical documents in 1436. In the past, this territory was inhabited by the Livonians who chose the mountains Grebu and Bļodas as their settlements. It is well-known in the cultural history of Latvia: the Latvian theatre traditions started there in 1818. In 1864, Juris Neikens, a clergyman and writer, organised the first ever singing festival in the grounds of the vicarage (now *Mount Neikenkalns*), laying the foundation for the beautiful Latvian tradition which is now included in the UNESCO List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. Dikļi is a place where nature and cultural heritage meet, and one of the few places where all the records of the most important cultural events and facts of Latvian history are kept. The project has promoted the archaeological site and the historical monuments of national importance with regard to their landscape.

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Landscape Alliance – Latvia

Formation and consolidation of natural framework urbanised territory of Telšiai city

Administration of Telšiai District Municipality



© Algirdas Zebrauskas



The natural urbanised territory of Telšiai city, in north-west Lithuania, is located on seven hills on the banks of Lake Mastis. With funds from the European Union and the Lithuanian Government, more than 20 projects were carried out with the aim of cleaning up the previously polluted northern bank of the lake, consolidating the city's setting, and restoring the link between the territory and the lake. These projects, complex and interdependent, have considered the geographic location of the city and its natural and cultural values. Each quarter in the centre of the city has been renovated, and the ensemble now forms a functional and attractive historical site. After cleaning the northern shore of the lake, a modern recreation infrastructure was established, significantly improving the quality of life for the population. This new environment now attracts investment, both in the city and its surroundings, while promoting sustainable development.

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LUXEMBOURG

Another landscape for Vianden

Union for the Development and Management of the Our Nature Park



© Caroline Martin



Surrounded by the beautiful nature of the Luxembourg Ardennes, the town of Vianden lies at the foot of an imposing castle and represents a cultural and historical attraction in Our Nature Park, in the north of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. In recent centuries, intensive agriculture and forestry have marked the landscape. The slopes around Vianden, often steep and difficult to cultivate, had become scrubland or reforested with conifers. These factors led to the almost total disappearance of the attractive views of the city and the castle. In addition, the city park with its network of paths, was no longer maintained. Considering this evolution, the project aimed to improve the quality of a traditional landscape.

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Landscape Alliance – Luxembourg

Lista, a unique landscape and partnership The municipality of Farsund, Vest-Agder County Council



© Flyt Norge, Arild Nielsen



Since 1976, the municipality of Farsund has been systematically working to protect, manage and promote natural and cultural values of the coastal district of Lista, with the co-operation of regional authorities, as well as local volunteer groups and associations. Targeted work, conducted for more than 40 years, has helped shape a multi-faceted and rich landscape. Lista has many species of birds and rare plants. The various forms of relief (sand dunes, lakes, wetlands, pastures and forests) provide birds with suitable resting, nesting and wintering grounds. The preservation of these precious coastal and marine ecosystems requires landscape management and the use of traditional agricultural methods. Bathed with a specific light, the area is attractive for both the inhabitants and the visitors, who can discover and appreciate the landscape.

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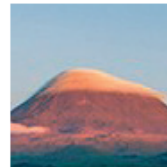
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Landscape of the Pico Island vineyard culture

Joint Regional Government of the Azores, Regional Direction of the Environment



© José Feliciano



Pico Island, the main island of the central group of the Azores archipelago, is geographically far from the western-most part of Europe. In 1996, responding to land abandonment and the declining population, the regional government of the Azores developed an innovative landscape policy, based on the specific characteristics of the island. The volcano, the highest mountain of the Azores and all Portugal, the rocky volcanic nature of the soil, and the traditional culture of the vineyards were considered in promoting the natural and cultural assets of the island, as a basis for sustainable development. The regional government promoted land use planning, addressing the need to stop the decline of the population and to welcome visitors. The landscape policy, implemented in a continuous and co-ordinated way, was the starting point for revitalising the socio-economic structure of the territory. This led to the marketing of local products outside the region, on an international level. The aim was to promote the traditional characteristics of the landscape and to rehabilitate the rural and built heritage assets. The policy has shown that it is possible to transform a remote ultra-peripheral region into a vibrant, attractive, sustainable and exemplary territory.

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**Spatial Plan for a special-purpose area
“The Cultural Landscape of Sremski Karlovci”**

Urban and Spatial Planning Institute of Vojvodina,
Provincial Secretary for Urban Planning and Environmental Protection,
Government of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina



© Vladimir Pihler, Novi Sad



Acknowledging the inherited values embodied in the landscape, and seeking to mitigate the negative spatial development trends resulting in urban sprawl, illegal construction and inappropriate land use, the project aimed to create a spatial development strategy. The objective was to enhance the image of the historical town of Sremski Karlovci, giving priority to settlement concerns linked to the landscape. The first conceptual framework for spatial planning in Serbia was designed for this project, providing a model for the application of the European Landscape Convention. The area considered by the planning document covered an area of 64.16 square kilometres, including diverse landscape on the forested slopes of the Fruska Gora mountain and one of the widest alluvial plains of the middle Danube (*Koviljsko-Petrovaradinski rit*). The contact zone between these two dominant spatial entities has determined the form of the landscape, characterised by the compact morphology of the historical town, and the particularities of its agricultural surroundings. The activities undertaken aimed to realise the full potential of the landscape and to identify the landscape quality objectives, with the purpose of creating a new spatial development strategy.

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SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Safeguarding and restoration of the baroque landscape of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary

Calvary Fund Civic Association



© Archives du fonds du Calvaire



The project was implemented by the Calvary Fund Civic Association with the aim of saving and restoring the baroque landscape and architectural complex of the Banská Štiavnica Calvary. The calvary complex is part of a site included in the UNESCO World Heritage List. It consists of a total of 23 separate sacral buildings – three churches, 17 chapels and three other objects on the central axis on the Scharffenberg hill. The project realisation began shortly after the baroque calvary area was included, in 2007, in the World Monuments Watch List of 100 Most Endangered Sites. The Calvary Fund Civic Association has helped to restore the degraded area of Calvary Hill, bringing back, following extensive reconstruction, its original baroque appearance. At the same time, the association helped restore life in a symbolic religious landscape that, once again, is a destination for the faithful and numerous visitors. The implementation of the project has preserved immense cultural, architectural, artistic and historical treasures, both outside the monuments and in their interior: decorations, frescoes and sculptures.

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Landscape Alliance – Slovak Republic

The Meadow orchards and landscape Municipality of Kozje



© Barbara Ploštajner



The extensive use of agricultural land in meadow orchards helps maintain a traditional agricultural landscape by contributing significantly to the preservation of biodiversity. The meadow orchards of the protected area of Kozjansko Regional Park are among the most important special conservation areas in Europe (Natura 2000), because they represent a natural environment necessary for many endangered rare bird species. Changes in farming practices, lack of land maintenance, economic and social transformations, which are processes threatening this habitat type, were halted with pro-active measures. The adoption of a holistic approach has helped protect nature and enhance the landscape, developing quality agriculture favourable to the local economy. The meadow orchards, and the apples grown there, have become a symbol. The local population, the managers of the protected area and non-governmental organisations, work together for this landscape.

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Landscape Alliance – Slovenia

The landscape of Bolonia Cove: research, planning and intervention
 Andalusian Historical Heritage Institute
 of the Department of Culture of the Local Government of Andalusia



© Jesús Granada



In order to comply with the provisions of the European Landscape Convention, a series of actions – research, planning and intervention – have been undertaken in support of the landscape of Bolonia Cove, considering its natural and cultural heritage. Visitor itineraries have been designed to reveal the richness of the site. The project considered the complex and relational nature of the landscape, as perceived by the inhabitants and visitors. The accessibility conditions have been improved and new interpretive materials have been produced. The project is part of a broader strategy to protect and manage the landscape, in order to improve its quality. It has helped to promote the participation of local stakeholders and to establish genuine interinstitutional co-operation.

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TURKEY

Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas

Department of Landscape Architecture, Faculty of Forestry, Duzce University



© Osman Uzun



The Yeşilirmak Basin Landscape Atlas aimed to identify the landscapes of the area, to analyse their characteristics based on natural and cultural values of the territory, as well as the dynamics and pressures that transform them. The project was launched in 2012 and was undertaken in three main stages: study, inventory and landscape assessment; constitution of a database; analysis of landscape functions, with the definition of indicators and the evaluation of landscape features. A meeting to launch the project was held in Amasya, and workshops were then organised, with the participation of government agencies, non-governmental organisations and the general public, in Samsun, Tokat and Çorum. Training and finalisation of the work was held in Ankara. A map, indicating sectoral guidelines, has been drawn up.

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Landscape Alliance – Türkiye

UNITED KINGDOM

The Sill: National Landscape Discovery Centre, Bardon Mill, Northumberland Northumberland National Park Authority



© Northumberland National Park Authority



The Sill National Landscape Discovery Centre is an accessible destination for anyone wishing to explore the wilderness of the Northumberland National Park and the wider north-east of England, as well as the Scottish Borders. This centre is named after the internationally renowned geological site, Whin Sill, located nearby. Throughout the year, it offers a comprehensive programme of activities and events to: help nurture the current and next generation of landscape enthusiasts; open up access to the countryside to everyone; and ensure that these last wild places can be preserved, and the communities within them continue to thrive. The centre acts as a hub, a safe and accessible destination for everyone, particularly for families, young people, and people with disabilities. With more than 150,000 visitors a year and nearly 30,000 people participating in a variety of activities about the landscape, the centre has quickly become one of the main open-access attractions in the north-east of England.

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Biodiversity in the city: Bergamo and the Astino Valley

Foundation della Misericordia Maggiore of Bergamo



© Gabriele Rinaldi



The project consisted of reclaiming and planning, through public-private partnerships, the landscape of the Astino Valley, a precious area of 60 hectares located just outside the city of Bergamo. Rich in history and biodiversity, the area had fallen into a state of disrepair and neglect in recent decades, despite the introduction of development restrictions.

In 2007, responding to the desire of the local community to safeguard and enhance this area, the Foundation della Misericordia Maggiore (MIA) of Bergamo acquired the Astino monastery and the adjacent land, in order to restore the complex and sustainably regenerate its landscape. An intense dialogue with a wide collaboration resulted in 2017 in the underwriting of a plan agreement.

The project foresaw: the restoration of the monastery and farms, the castle and the surrounding paths; the creation of educational itineraries in the Wood of Happiness (*Bosco dell'Allegrezza*); the reintroduction of traditional crops based on organic farming methods and an irrigation network; and the creation of a local branch of the Bergamo botanical garden. A series of cultural, educational and training events were organised. Specific measures were taken to integrate disadvantaged people. By restoring the strong identity and social significance of these sites, the project has fully restored the Astino Valley for the benefit of all the inhabitants of Bergamo and the valley.

In keeping with a long tradition of solidarity carried on by the Fondazione della Misericordia Maggiore of Bergamo, the project has succeeded in enhancing a historic landscape to create a landscape turned towards the future. Combining tradition and novelty, it has promoted a sustainable territorial development considered in its environmental, cultural, social and economic dimensions. The landscape of the Astino Valley and its monastic complex have been preserved at the city's doorstep. Continuing the work initiated by the monks, the authors of the project have developed contemporary agricultural and forestry management methods that promote biodiversity. The cultural heritage has been restored, social ties have been forged, and jobs have been created with the strong involvement of the local population. Soft traffic modes have been implemented. Awareness-raising activities and education promote a real landscape awareness. The close co-operation between the different actors, based on an ethical charter, confer to this project an eminently exemplary value.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Italy

BULGARIA



© Diana Pavlova

Landscape Alliance – Bulgaria

The Salt of Life

Bulgarian Biodiversity Foundation

The "Salt of Life" project was implemented in the area of Lake Atanasovsko, one of the main biodiversity hotspots in the Black Sea biogeographical region. The lake is part of the Burgas wetland complex, one of the three most important wetland complexes for waterbirds along the Bulgarian Black Sea coast. The beautiful and colourful Lake Atanasovsko, as it is known today, is largely the result of the symbiosis between man and nature: a major modification for the purpose of salt production has made the site rich and significant. At a time when the coast is undergoing increasing urbanisation, the lagoon is of strategic importance for the conservation of biological diversity on the Black Sea coast.



The actions carried out have made it possible to halt the long-term trend that was leading to the degradation of these lagoons, priority habitats for many species. Work was developed to raise public awareness of the high value of the salt marshes (Natura 2000 network sites), hence the project's motto, "Salt of Life". The project has involved a wide range of people who are now aware of the richness of the region and the benefits that result from protecting the area. The understanding and respect for the processes taking place in the lake, the biodiversity, the Bulgarian sea salt and the fascination for the process of salt extraction have improved. Most valuable of all, an emotional connection between the people and the lake has been nurtured.

The operation achieved the preservation of the landscape of the coastal lagoon of Atanasovsko Lake, a witness of the symbiosis between man and nature. It has strengthened the public's attachment to the ecological, social and cultural values of this exceptional landscape that has undeniable aesthetic appeal. The hydraulic system has been carefully restored. This attractive site has become the preferred venue for cultural and artistic events, such as the salt festival. Born from the involvement of the scientific world, local associative organisations, inhabitants of the region and political decision-makers, the achievement has revealed a landscape that improves the quality of life for the populations of both people and birds, while supporting the local economy.

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FINLAND

Bothnian Bay Coastal Meadows Management

Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment,
North Ostrobothnia



© Jorma Pessa



The exceptionally extensive coastal meadows of the Bay of Bothnia have been restored to preserve their landscape and habitats. These were the result of the traditional agriculture that was practised there, but the evolution of agricultural practices had led to their degradation. Thanks to the project, more than 4,000 hectares have been restored.

An operating model for the management of the coastal areas was first developed involving identification of valuable coastal meadow sites, identifying suitable measures for restoring them to the target state, and finding a local farmer to implement these measures with funding via agri-environmental support. The use of this operating model, based on the experience gained in pilot sites, has been successfully extended to a large territory.

The success of the project means that the vast traditional coastal meadows of the Bay of Bothnia have been restored to their former lustre through extensive and long-term co-operation. Similar measures and methods can also be applied elsewhere in Finland and in other States.

The strong co-operation between nature conservation authorities, landowners, farmers and local organisations has resulted in the restoration of a landscape of 4000 hectares of coastal meadows with maintenance practices dating back to the 15th century. Farmers have been able to benefit from agri-environmental measures to revitalise the rural landscape of the Bay of Bothnia. Awareness-raising initiatives have helped to familiarise new generations with traditional agriculture. The project represents a noteworthy example of solidarity between local actors, in order to preserve the history of a unique landscape.

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Landscape Alliance – Finland

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

The Land of Bees KRAJ Civic Association



© KRAJ Civic Association



The Land of Bees is a project focusing on education in the field of beekeeping, which is one of the European Union's priority themes. The association has built a unique education centre and now operates educational apiaries for professionals and the general public. It organises experimental programmes for all types of schools, with day camps and activities during which it systematically raises public awareness of the importance of bees and natural pollinators for the environment. Beekeeping courses for beginners and free courses for the long-term unemployed are provided. Material assistance and training for graduates in the sale of beekeeping products is also provided.

Engaged in social entrepreneurship, the association has founded a wax processing workshop and a carpentry workshop for the production of beehives. People from socially disadvantaged backgrounds and marginalised groups are involved and learn how to process beekeeping products. Vocational training is also offered, which helps to develop co-operation in the region and support community life. By extending bee families in the landscape and creating territories favourable to pollinators, it contributes to increasing the biodiversity of the landscape.

The project contributes to the sustainable preservation of a landscape by addressing the serious environmental problem of pollinator decline. It aims to ensure pollination by bees and other natural pollinators. The project promotes the making of a landscape designed for bees, developing a sustainable beekeeping method and provides professional training. Awareness-raising, education and training activities strengthen the link with the landscape and are a real source of inspiration for the local population. The project contributes to the creation of a socio-economic space for job creation based on local honey and bee products. It thus promotes social cohesion in a previously neglected area.

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Landscape Alliance – Slovakia



© Damijan Simčič, Zoso

Landscape Alliance – Slovenia

Brda Tourist Destination Development

Municipality of Brda, Institute for Tourism, Culture, Youth and Sport

The Municipality of Brda covers two thirds of the entire terraced landscape that stretches in western Slovenia between the River Soča, Mounts Sabotin and Korada and the Friulian plain. The pursuit of the best wine-growing and fruit-growing produce resulted in terrace-building on the hillsides. This long history and tradition are preserved to this day, and are promoted by the responsible spatial planning policy of the municipality. This policy fosters the quality of the terraced landscape as well as the traditional and predominantly manual agricultural work, integrating the old with the new.



The exceptional landscape with its olive trees, vineyards and fruit trees (cherry trees in particular) represents an asset for sustainable tourism based on the discovery of traditional cultivation methods, forms of inter-generational co-operation on farms and the valorisation of local products. The character of the landscape is presented in the context of the products offered for sale (wine, olives, fruit), which helps to enhance them.

The restoration and maintenance of Brda's terraced agricultural landscape, combined with the conservation of local varieties and the promotion of traditional products, demonstrates the importance of preserving the identity of a landscape full of history. The restoration of the cultural heritage and the development of agri-tourism have positively contributed to supporting the economic activity of the commune in a sustainable development perspective. The participatory approach in the decision-making process has contributed to the success of the project. The population, as well as visitors, can now appreciate the landscape and its quality products.

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© Ali Kemal Birinci & Kansu Alkan

Dokuma Park, a culture, nature and art park for society Antalya Kepez Municipality

The foundations of the Antalya Cotton Weaving and Spinning Mill were laid in the 1950s, becoming the first industrial facility in Antalya, with an area of 250,000 m². Many people worked there for long hours and, until its closure in 2003, the factory became a place of memory for the stories of the workers, their families and friends. In 2005, the owners of the factory handed over the rights to the administration of that time, which then handed over the use rights to a foreign company to build a shopping centre. In 2009, the new administration of the municipality of Kepez recognised the importance of this space for the collective memory of the city and spent several years fighting in court to recover the legal rights to the land and return it to its rightful owners, the citizens. This position was of great importance as the recovery of the land would allow the preservation of a natural and cultural landscape.

Focusing on the common interest, in collaboration with a management that defends its values, the city council convened a diverse working group. The resulting report served as a master plan for the creation of this centrally located park, a plan that protects the interests of society as a space accessible to all. There is now a common platform for raising awareness and engaging local citizens as active participants and owners of the park. This represents an essential guarantee for a sustainable future in terms of maintaining the ecosystem qualities and socio-cultural characteristics of the park.

By deciding to create a park dedicated to linking nature and culture on the site of a disused spinning mill complex, the municipality of Kepez has put at the disposal of the inhabitants a vast cultural and leisure space that can be appreciated by all. The different components of the park – a botanical garden, museums, a library, social spaces – have been restored and converted, thus preserving the memory of the place. The project was carried out with respect for civic and ethical values, and a participatory approach was followed from the beginning of the process. An interactive governance platform allows citizens to become actively involved in the future of this living landscape. The mayoral decision to prefer a park to a shopping centre has been fully vindicated.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Türkiye

Landscapes are speaking Latvian Fund for Nature



© Latvian Fund for Nature



The project, dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the Latvian State, is based on a vision of the future landscape of Latvia, defined by experts from the Latvian Fund for Nature. It is forward-looking, respecting the past. It envisages a landscape where people live and work sustainably, preserving the natural and cultural heritage. The future landscape of Latvia – the one that new generations will see and live in – is created and decided now. Therefore, the main objective was to create ways for the vision to become reality by raising awareness in society about the impacts that today's actions have on the landscapes of the future.

The project consisted of the following elements: a communication campaign where elements of the landscape "speak" through voice-overs of famous Latvian actors and musicians (www.ainavasruna.lv); practical tips "What I can do to help", which included simple actions that most people could incorporate into their daily lives; and "Then and now", an exciting virtual journey to visit familiar landscapes from a hundred years ago through a collection of old postcards and corresponding contemporary photos. People were encouraged to submit their own photos for the exhibition. The campaign was complemented by activities on sustainable landscape management at individual, farm and local community level. Actions were developed in the form of fact sheets and educational materials. The results of research entitled "Landscapes speak. Changes in Latvian landscapes and their values in the last century" by the University of Vidzeme, received wide media coverage. The vision and main objectives of the project are contained in a Landscape Manifesto (<https://ainavasruna.lv/ainavas-manifests>).

This project reflects a strong commitment of the involved actors to raise awareness, on a large scale, of the importance of the Latvian landscape for people and visitors. It made it possible to raise stakeholders awareness of the importance of the landscape and the impacts that today's actions can have on tomorrow's landscape. A broad communication campaign proposed ways to preserve biodiversity and manage the landscape. The general public, professionals and public authorities were invited to consider the transformations of the landscape, in order to take care of it. A large virtual exhibition has aroused great interest.

Recognised for its great value, the Project is part of the Landscape Award Alliance of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, as a source of inspiration.

Landscape Alliance – Latvia

NORWAY



© Trude-Søllen

Landscape Alliance – Norway

A living landscape: the Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark

Municipalities of Solund, Fjaler, Askvoll and Hyllestad

The Fjord Coast Regional- and Geopark brings together the inhabitants of four municipalities who are acting together to preserve, enhance and promote the nature and culture of their region. The work carried out is part of a long-term sustainable development perspective, from an environmental, cultural, social and economic point of view. With a sheep society's practical knowledge of the Old Norwegian sheep husbandry, people can learn to produce their own food while protecting the threatened coastal moor.



The inhabitants work together to maintain one of Europe's oldest cultural landscapes with its diversity of species. They pass on to new generations a traditional method of farming. Sheep roam the moors all year round and the burning technique is used. The park is pursuing a project to preserve the buildings associated with the local coastal cultural heritage. In addition to the initial results – food production, preservation of a threatened landscape and health benefits – the co-operation has created a sense of cohesion, belonging and integration among the inhabitants, which has given meaning to the word 'we'.

The project is part of a wider process of preserving a landscape that has been shaped by man for over 5,000 years. By re-establishing the traditional breeding of the Old Norwegian Sheep, the Hardbakke Old Norwegian Sheep Society, a cooperative run by the inhabitants of the Fjord Coast region, has made it possible to rediscover the richness of this ancient breed. Jobs based on traditional, environmentally friendly forms of production have been created and the work carried out has enhanced ancestral practices that current generations are rediscovering. Based on a bottom-up approach, the project is the result of a strong commitment from the local population. By preserving the richness of a unique landscape, it has created a dynamic that is based on a lasting alliance between man and nature.

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POLAND

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

Complex of Landscape Parks of the Silesian Voivodeship



© Milena Piatkowska



The project has enhanced the landscape with its environmental, cultural and historical features. Sustainable planning and management of the landscape revealed and enhanced the limestone hills with rocky outcrops which are a unique feature at national and European level. Non-forest thermophilic habitats have been protected, restored and preserved; nature conservation methods have been developed and invasive non-native species have been controlled, thus setting an example to be followed. The knowledge, experience and results of the project were promoted at conferences, and the education, information, publication and promotion activities of the Silesian Voivodeship Landscape Park Complex (Zespół Parków Krajobrazowych Województwa Śląskiego) were presented, both in Poland and abroad.

The project is part of a policy of sustainable and inclusive development of the Krakow-Częstochowa plateau, contributing to the social and economic development of the population. The landscape awareness-raising activities promoted, and the forms of participation developed, have led to the search for alternative sources of income that respect the natural and cultural environment. Active conservation of the landscape and the development of rural tourism that promotes gastronomy and the sale of local products have helped to improve the living conditions of local communities.

Through the introduction of exemplary landscape planning and management operations, the project has helped to protect a unique landscape of the Upper Jura which consists of a mosaic of picturesque hills and rocks. It has preserved valuable habitats and endemic species that were threatened by agricultural intensification, by various forms of pollution and invasive species. The actions carried out to raise the local actors' awareness on the territory's history, the values of its natural and cultural resources, as well as traditional farming and livestock practices, have fully placed the issue of sustainable territorial development at the centre of their concerns.

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Landscape Alliance – Poland

Herdade da Contenda, a tale of resilience for nature,
Municipality of Moura, Alentejo



© Daniel Pinheiro



The project implemented a landscape policy in an area called Herdade da Contenda (Contenda Estate, 5,270 hectares) belonging to the local authority of Moura, which borders Spain. The importance of this cross-border landscape dates back to the Middle Ages, when it was managed as a community. It was the subject of disputes between Portugal and Spain, and the vast property was divided between the two countries at the end of the 19th century.

Managed by the municipality, the Portuguese part was later leased for agriculture. Its overexploitation led to its decline, loss of biodiversity, abandonment and the degradation of the landscape. The local authority, in collaboration with the forestry services and the Institute for the Conservation of Nature and Forests, has implemented policies for the regeneration and enhancement of the landscape, transforming it into an attractive area and rich from an ecological point of view.

The adopted management practices have made it possible to enhance the landscape for the benefit of all. For example, it has been a concern to promote the use of machinery and adequate equipment in forest interventions; plantations on contour lines; the development of a regular census of hunting and protected species; respect for nesting periods; and the protection of natural regeneration.

The landscape policy implemented in the Contenda Estate has reversed the trend that was leading to its decline. The conservation status of this *montado* landscape has been improved through appropriate management and planning, with a remarkable participatory approach. The dissemination of scientific knowledge on its intrinsic values has enabled local actors to become its best protectors. By restoring degraded landscapes, the project ensures sustainable use of the forests, contributing to climate change reduction, and preserves endemic species. It also promotes educational and pedagogical practices in the field of ecology. Its economic dimension in terms of sustainable agriculture, animal breeding, beekeeping and hunting is certain. The domain of Contenda is also particularly popular for relaxation and recreation.

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Landscape Alliance – Portugal

The Gardens Park

- known as Padurice Giroc Park, and Lidia Park -
Timisoara, Romania



© Daltana Iacobescu, Sebastian Puraci

Landscape Alliance – Romania

The Gardens Park

Timișoara City, Timiș County

The Garden Park is also known as "Little Forest Giroc Park" and "Lidia Park". In 2010, a sparse forest area was identified for a landscape project based on a functional adaptation of the area. The vegetation was mainly from a disused nursery, and this was considered an appropriate backdrop for the landscape development. The concept for the new park was inspired by the words of a local resident. To the question "What kind of park would you like to have?" he replied: "I grew up here and I always wanted it to be... a garden."



The park was designed according to a stylistic composition "a theme within a theme". Given the generous space available, the idea emerged to create not one but several gardens, and this inspired the conceptual name of the project "A Park with Gardens - The Park of Gardens". The project thus offers a tour of European garden styles, ranging from classical to modern gardens. The elements introduced have a unity in the resulting landscape diversity: the "English Medieval Garden" contains a Celtic knot within a labyrinth; the "Biblical Garden" contains a round parterre divided by a green cross hedge; the "Italian Garden" reveals Tuscan influences of red brickwork along a path; the "Modern Garden" has outdoor tables and sun loungers on the surrounding lawn; the "Spanish Garden" is a classical monastic garden; the "Greek Garden" has a mini amphitheatre at its centre; and the "Romantic Garden" has a rose collection, a water lily lake and ornamental rockeries. The public can thus enjoy an attractive park in its urban landscape.

This creative project has improved the quality of people's lives. The landscaping facilitated circulation in the park's paths and promoted individual and collective well-being by providing a park for relaxation and leisure. The project has taken full account of the environmental, social, cultural and economic values of the urban landscape in a sustainable development perspective. It is one of the largest green spaces recently developed in the city, promoting interest in the variety of gardens, the diversity of species, and in particular that of the varieties of roses.

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SWITZERLAND

Val Bregaglia, a landscape culture to meet the challenges of the future, Municipality of Bregaglia



© Roberto Molola

Landscape Alliance – Switzerland



Val Bregaglia has a long-established culture of landscape, an awareness and willingness to intervene carefully in the landscape. This landscape sensitivity is deeply rooted in the population and is also supported by the municipal authorities. With the merger of five municipalities in this Alpine valley in 2010, landscape and built heritage quickly emerged as central elements of the overall strategy formulated for the valley. As a result of this commitment, the municipality was awarded the prestigious Wakker Prize in 2015 by the Swiss Heritage Association, attributed to municipalities that can boast a high standard of urban development.

In 2017, the valley was hit by a deadly landslide and debris flow, causing extensive damage in the Bondo and Promontogno areas. The prevailing landscape culture in the municipality has led it to ensure that new infrastructure for protection against natural hazards is well integrated into the landscape. A competition was launched in 2019 and the selected project, entitled "Strata", proposed an ambitious landscape integration programme with the creation of a network of dry stone walls and the use of stones brought into the valley by the landslide. This example demonstrates how a rational approach to landscape planning based on the characteristics of the territory can appropriately address challenges.

The landscape culture is well anchored in the concerns of this municipality of the Swiss Alps. In order to meet the socio-economic needs of the population and to repair the damage caused by natural disasters, the municipality has integrated the landscape dimension into its land use and town planning policies. The aim is to preserve the environment and the building culture of the valley. Based on a participatory approach of the stakeholders, the action undertaken shows that a landscape approach makes it possible to face contemporary challenges, in the forefront of which is climate change.

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